

Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Ormond Beach

REV. LYN'S PLUMB LINE

Happy New Year! This is the time when our culture encourages us to make resolutions for the brand new year. We vow to try to better ourselves. We promise to better engage with others and the community and even the world at large. It is a hopeful time of year where we are invited to carry the Christmas messages of peace and good will to all and make it a reality. At this time I would like to share with you a reading from UU Rev. Richard Gilbert, now retired.



It is called "Gentleness in Loving" where he talks about a far less than perfect time between him his young son. It reads (slightly adapted):

"I sent him to bed tonight because I had not been pleased with him today. But more, I had work to do, and loving takes time – time away from work, and words and worlds. It had been a day of raised voices – his and mine – of arguments never resolved and orders not obeyed and words of blame and little of love. A vicious cycle – and who to break it? If only he would . . . If only she would. . .

The words, I suppose, are sounded from sunup in China to sundown in America, from equatorial jungles to frozen igloos. Hard words, words of judgment. They are spoken or thought between husband and wife, parent and child, friend and friend, neighbor and neighbor. The vicious violence of the spirit needing no whip to sear the soul, needing only a thoughtless word or an unintended deed to cast its wreckage on the landscape of a life.

Tomorrow's dawn brings with it another day for gentleness in loving, as if today's harshness has never been (at least it may be forgiven and forgotten).

May it find me in a mood for gentleness, for there is only one to break the vicious cycle, only one whose words can set the tone, whose actions can clear the way for gentleness in loving.

May the next good night be said in celebration of the day and anticipation of the night. Forgive me, my son."

My wishes for you here at UUCOB is that it may be so for you all as well, so our New Year together can be one of peace, good will and . . . gentleness in loving one another.

--Rev. Lyn

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Happy New Year!

It will be a busy one, with lots of changes and new challenges for us as a congregation. It will present new opportunities for each of us as members and friends for making our UU “. . . a safe harbor where people (we and others) may explore diverse ideas and beliefs and be a force for a better world.”

As one of our favorite hymns suggests — “Don't be afraid of some change.” The best way I know to not be afraid of change is to embrace it, mold it, nurture it, grow it, and savor the fruits of our intellect, sense of purpose, passions, and labors of love. The beautiful part is that we each get to choose our labors of love.

Here are some of the possibilities immediately ahead:

- 1) Our Nominating Committee will soon be seeking nominees for positions on our Board of Trustees and officers for election in April.
- 2) Our current treasurer is seeking a person interested in serving as assistant treasurer.
- 3) Our current chair of the Building and Grounds Committee indicates he will not be available to serve in that position in the future, and would welcome a co-chair to assist during the remainder of the current fiscal year (through April 2016.)
- 4) A vacancy exists for persons interested in serving as chair or co-chair of the Action for Social Justice Committee for the remainder of the current year. (If interested please give me a call.)
- 5) Each standing committee welcomes members of the congregation to join them throughout the year.
- 6) The next president of the Board of Trustees will need to appoint or re-appoint chairs for each of the 12 standing committees of the Congregation after May 1 (with agreement of the Board.)

If I may assist you in getting involved, please let me know. Thanks for all you have done and will do in the future.

--Bill

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

January 3-- Rev. Lyn Plumb, “Covenant: From Sinai to Ormond Beach”

The history of the concept of covenant, that is sacred promises, in both Judaic and Christian traditions can give us insights into what this word has evolved to mean for us UU's today and why it is becoming more and more important for us today.

Service Leader: Marilou McKemie

January 10-- Rev. Lyn Plumb, “Fierce Grace”

Present-day spiritual guru Ram Das has coined this term as a way to describe how to deal with difficult times in our lives. Rev. Lyn will explore how this idea can be helpful for us UU's when we find ourselves in times of loss, pain and even despair.

Service leader: Enda Nolan

January 17, Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

The choir will sing three anthems in response to readings by Dr. King on meeting hatred with love, on refusing to allow critics to dictate delays in seeking justice, and on the dream of an America that provides for all of its citizens the opportunity for a life unblighted by the shadow of prejudice

Service Leader: Dan Gribbin

January 24 -- Rev. Lyn Plumb, "Scarcity vs. Abundance"

Do we operate, run our lives, around a concept of scarcity, of fear that there is not enough – of anything – or around a concept of abundance, of openness to all life's possibilities? We will ponder these questions.

Service leader: Linda Kalaydjian

January 31 – Kurtland Davies, "Beyond Stewardship"

A call to move back to a time in our history when we were in kinship with each other and nature.

Service Leader: Gaia Davies

SECOND HARVEST—Our January Share-the-Plate Partner

The Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida is a private, nonprofit organization that collects, stores, and distributes donated food to more than 500 partner agencies in six Central Florida counties. Second Harvest fights hunger by providing access to food and other grocery products to meet the need, bringing visibility to the invisible problem of hunger and poverty.



Second Harvest collects food and distributes it to shelters for battered women and children, after-school programs and others in need. The food donations come from a variety of sources such as grocery stores and restaurants, farmers, packers and shippers of fresh fruits and vegetables, and the USDA Commodity program at distribution sites in six Central Florida counties. Distribution centers send the food to programs such as soup kitchens, homeless shelters needy children with weekend snack packs. Because of economies of scale and innovative, efficient programs, Second Harvest can turn every dollar which is donated into up to \$9.00 worth of food. Please be generous on January 17th when we share our offering with Second Harvest.

--Ellen Nielsen

OUR MINISTERIAL SEARCH — A New Phase Begins

The search to find a new "settled" or permanent minister for our UU is reaching a new phase. Team members updated our Congregational Record (CR), a lengthy application form describing our UU in detail. It is "live" on the national UUA website as of December 1st —a time when many potential ministerial candidates look at applications in their search for a new church to serve. In addition we have posted an extensive Information Packet on our own website. It describes our UU church in detail, including lots of photos and specifics about our congregation and the surrounding community. We hope that you will take a look at it there—see <http://www.uuormond.org/members1/ministerial-search-committee>. To access the Search information, you will need to use our user I.D. and password. If you have forgotten those, please contact the Web Team.

Thank you for taking part in the Sunday listening sessions this past November and we hope that all members will participate in future listening sessions. Our Search Team hopes to make the process of seeking a new minister as transparent as possible. At the same time, we must also respect the privacy of potential ministerial pre-candidates during this next phase of the search process. However, please feel free to chat with us at any time. Members of our Search Team include Rhonilee Bachschmidt, Cliff Jackson, Evan Rivers, Renny Roker, Joan Thate, Teresa Webb, and Carolyn West.

THE ALLIANCE—Busy Holidays



Alliance members had a very busy time during the December holiday season. The new UU Christmas tree we purchased was set up in the sanctuary. To decorate, the congregation generously donated many pairs of colorful brand-new socks for residents at the Domestic Abuse Shelter.

Our crafts group sold jewelry and many homemade items for Christmas giving to family and friends. Our annual Christmas Cookie sale on December 20th brought a lively response from congregation. All proceeds from our sales went to buying Christmas gifts for sixteen teenagers who are living in group homes in DeLand.

Alliance members will sponsor a soup lunch on January 10th following our morning service. All proceeds will go to the Family Renew Community, the shelter for homeless families in Volusia County. Please join in on the good food and make new friends.

Our members would like to buy something new for our building and are looking for ideas about what is needed most. Some suggestions already include new outdoor deck furniture, new round tables for our potluck dinners, or a washing machine. If you have an idea of what would be useful, please come to the next Alliance meeting and tell us about your ideas. We meet the second Thursday of the month at noon.

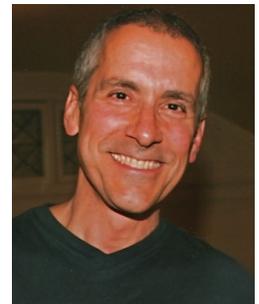
Please join us. We are always looking for new members.

—Jeanne Young, Alliance President

DAVID ROTH— Well-known Folksinger at UU on January 15th

Folksinger David Roth will be with us on Friday Evening, January 15, for a 7:30 p.m. concert at our UU sanctuary. (See note about tickets below.)

David's inspirational work has been recognized by Peter Yarrow (of the group Peter, Paul and Mary): "David has reached our hearts . . . [with] a certainty that the candle will remain lit, the hope reasserted and the dream still sung." James van Pelt, of the New Haven Folk Alliance, says: "David's pure, smooth voice, unsurpassed instrumental ability, incredible humor, and heart-piercing, intelligent lyrics brought folk music, New Age, comedy club, coffee house, and a bit of heaven all together in one unforgettable evening."



I will open with a few local favorite songs to warm up the crowd (if it's chilly out, we'll do "Wintertime Florida Blues"), and then I'll turn the stage over to David for the true warmth of his wonderful music. His new CD will be available for purchase at intermission and after the concert.

NOTE ON THE CONCERT: All proceeds from the concert will go **toward keeping troubadour David hale and happy and toward programming and other expenses at our UU Society. A modest \$10 per ticket will allow as many of our UU members and others in our community as possible to attend the event.** Please make it a point to obtain your ticket from Dan Gribbin (386-956-1813) or Cliff Jackson and to consider inviting others to enjoy music and refreshments, with the program beginning at 7:30 p.m. on January 15. It's sure to be a memorable night.

--Dan Gribbin

FOCUS ON FAITH—

The next meeting of our UU FAITH committee will take place in Room 1 on January 12 at 11 a.m. Freddie Wilson, guest speaker from FAITH, will speak on "Building Community Support Through Congregational Action."

Volusia's FAITH organization (Fighting Against Injustice Toward Harmony) continues to make progress in pressing for social justice. One issue—Civil Citations—a diversion program designed to keep minors who commit minor infractions from being arrested, came to the forefront with a bill drafted for introduction to the Florida State Legislature. Our Congregation continues to be actively involved.

Last year alone over 12,000 children eligible to receive Civil Citation were, instead, arrested, for first-time, non-serious misdemeanors like stealing a key chain. These children are now burdened with life-long criminal records that can keep them from scholarships, military service and a good job. A child given a Civil Citation and attending the required diversion program is twice as likely to stay out of trouble. Civil Citations have the added advantage of saving taxpayers the \$4500 price tag of each arrest.

Nearly sixty members of our Congregation signed a petition asking Representative Mc Burney to sign and support the passage of Senate Bill 408 drafted by Representative Trujillo. This legislation will require Civil Citations to be used more consistently statewide.

Others in the FAITH organization, along with members of our congregation, have worked hard to convince the cities to make commitments for the operating capital for Volusia Safe Harbor. FAITH sponsored three Candlelight Vigils in December on the steps of city hall in New Smyrna Beach, Daytona and Port Orange. Our UU members and friends were present. Meetings with council staff and members are ongoing.

While the cities have donated the land and the \$4,000,000 to build the facility, the project is contingent on their committing to cover operating expenses. As of December 15, the cities that have promised support are Daytona Beach Shores, DeLand, Debary, Holly Hill, Ponce Inlet, South Daytona and Orange City.

--Leigh Montgomery

INTERFAITH FLORIDA— Faith, Compassion and Climate Action

The 2nd Florida Interfaith Climate Conference takes place on January 28-30, 2016 at Northland Church in Longwood. Members and friends of all faiths and ethical communities, and all who care about climate change and stewardship of the earth are invited. Presenters include **Green For All, Energy Policy; Dr. Harold Wanless, Sea Level Rise; Matthew Fox, Creation in Our Spirituality;** and **Rev. Fletcher Harper of GreenFaith, Paris & the Poor.** For more details and registration, visit www.interfaithflorida.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION— Notes from the Back Room

Happy New Year! We have had such a wonderful time with the holidays that we would like to share with you. First, we raised \$100 at our Guest-at-Our-Table fundraiser during the coffee hour. We thank everyone who donated to help raise funds for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, which works for human rights and social justice around the world.

Second, we enjoyed our time during intergenerational services, and all the projects and rehearsals that went with them. (Thank you, Rhoni Bachschmidt, for the crowns).



Thirdly, the cookie decorating sponsored by Alliance was so much fun, parents and kids had a blast and we thank Teresa Webb for organizing it. The students made their own countdown balls for New Year's Eve and we talked about New Year's resolutions and how our principals could relate to making us and the world better. We are still working on a new curriculum and have some new ideas for the Youth Group. The year 2016 promises to be an exciting time full of growth and fun.

--Debbie Hanson

LIFE LONG LEARNING: What's Cookin' for January and the Spring Line-up

Wednesday, January 13th from 4 to 5:30 pm— a showing of Robert Reich's documentary: *Inequality for All*
This enlightening documentary, which played in regular theaters last year, is full of eye-opening data exposing the problems of extreme income and wealth inequality in our country. We'll have time for discussion after the showing.

Wednesday, January 20th from 4 to 5:30 pm— Indian Cooking Demonstration and Tasting
Because of the space limitations in our kitchen, this cooking demo will be limited to the first 15 people to sign up for the program. The sign-up sheet will be on the back table in the sanctuary starting on Sunday, January 3. Those who attended the last cooking lesson from Padmini Prasad and UU member Sue Sanghi can tell you about the quality of the fun and the food.

Wednesday, January 27th from 4 to 5:30 pm— Dr. James Cunningham, "Perceptions Through Poetry"
Dr. Cunningham is a retired ERAU professor of the Humanities. He'll give us a short course in how poetry works and will share some of his own poems.

Sneak Preview of Upcoming Events: Look for Details in the Next Jotter:

February 10— Skip Lowry on Mark Twain's posthumously published works

February 27— Saturday symposium on Issues in Education with a stellar four person panel moderated by Dan Kennedy

March 9— Dr. Robert Fleck: Physics and Astronomy Professor at ERAU: "We Are Stardust"

--Joan Thate

January 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Happy New Year!	2
3 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	4 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	5 Crafts Group: noon -2 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	6 Piano lessons: 2:30- 6:45 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm CUUPS: 7-9 pm	7 Caring Mtg. 10 – 11 am Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	8 Potluck supper 6-8:30 pm	9 Subud Mtg: 6-9 pm
10 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	11 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	12 Writers Group: 10 am –noon FAITH Speaker: 11-12:30 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	13 Worship Mtg.: 11 am-noon Piano lessons: 2:30- 6:45 pm Life Long Learning 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm	14 Finance Mtg: 10:30-noon Alliance: noon-2 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	15 Exploring Metaphysics: 6-7 pm David Roth Concert 7:30- 10 pm	16
17 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	19 Crafts Group: noon -2 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	20 Jotter due date Piano lessons: 2:30-:6:45 pm Life Long Learning 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal 6-7:30 pm CUUPS: 7-9 pm	21 Membership Mtg 2:30- 4 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm Board of Trustees Mtg: 5-7 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	22	23 Subud Mtg: 6-9 pm
24 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	25 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	26 Writers Group: 10 am – noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	27 Piano lessons: 2:30-:6:45 pm Life Long Learning 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal 6-7:30 pm	28 Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	29	30 Work Day 9 am -noon
31 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm						

Upcoming Pulpit Presentations

Date	Topic	Presenter	Service Leader
January 4—	“Covenant: From Sinai to Ormond Beach”	--Rev. Lyn Plumb	--Marilou McKemie
January 10 –	“Fierce Grace”	--Rev. Lyn Plumb	--Enda Nolan
January 17—	Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration	--Dan Kerr and choir Share-the-Plate offering	--Dan Gribbin
January 24—	“Scarcity vs. Abundance”	--Rev. Lyn Plumb	--Linda Kalaydjian
January 31—	“Beyond Stewardship”	--Kurtland Davies Story for All Ages	--Gaia Davies

*Friday, Jan. 15: David Roth concert.

January Birthdays

Ann Hall-3rd

Susan Garrison-3rd

Phil Elliot-4th

Samantha Rivera-8th

Peter Remington-10th

Val Rellstab-11th

Dorothy Hartley-13th

Jofre Miller-17th

Kathryn Hood-22nd

Ashara Watkins-27th

Debbie Hanson-30th

Jack Moeller-31st



The Jotter

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach

January 2016

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 Cathy Jackson, Office Administrator: (386) 677-6172
 Office hours: M/W: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. & T/Th: 2:00 to 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday: 9:45 a.m. +

Rev. Lyn's e-mail: revlyn555@gmail.com
 Website: <http://www.uuormond.org>
 Children's' RE on Sunday 10:15 - 11:45 a.m.
 Carolyn West: Jotter Editor (386) 672-9352
 Discussion Group meets Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.