

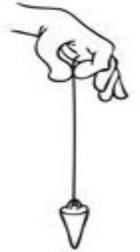
Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Ormond Beach

REV. LYN'S PLUMB LINE

I found myself walking the beach in Daytona the other day, a blustery, windy day that whipped up both the ocean's waves but also the loose sand, the dry sand, on the beach's edge as well. Fine particles of sand got in my eyes and nose and mouth and hair and clothing. Irritating, discomforting, but still I persisted. I persisted because I could walk on that famous very firm and unyielding wet sand area, sand so strong and stable a car's wheels do not sink in and indeed one can even race a vehicle across it without kicking up much of that secure sand. A ceramist friend of mine gave it a technical name for the unique kind of sand bonding found here. Amazing!



Isn't it a little bit like our lives? There always seems to be irritating sand blowing at us, but if we are grounded in the secure sand, we can persist. It can give us the firm footing we need to walk our path with surety and trust. A bond we can rely on to allow us to take secure steps.

Well, I have been walking along the path of your particular beach, both physically and metaphorically within this congregation these last two months. And I have found that even though there are minor sandy-like irritants, this congregation does definitely stand on very firm ground, a strong grounding you can both celebrate and in which you can trust.

So let us together work on those irritants, by either thinking of and implementing ways to eliminate them or at least to learn to minimize them. Calm the winds a bit perhaps. I am hearing that so many of you are willing to do that. We are beginning to work on things like forming better right relations with one another, and taking a more thorough and inclusive look at our children's Religious Education program, honing our Social Justice work and considering what staff relations could be, whether it is RE staff, office staff or music staff—and a few other things as well.

I am indeed enjoying working with you all, for you have shown that you are appreciative of me and of each other and are willing to commit yourselves to the various tasks that make this congregation tick. It makes for a very productive environment!

Many blessings,
Rev. Lyn



In Memory of Steve Segner— “With sadness, we report the death on July 25th of Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida board member Steve Segner. Steve was a valued long-time member of the UU congregation in Ormond Beach and a founding member of the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Florida (now UU Justice Florida). He was an effective lobbyist and his dedication to our work for Justice was untiring. He will be missed.”

(Posted--Bud Murphy, August 4, 2015)

A special remembrance of Steve will take place at our December 4th potluck, one of his favorite UU activities.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Thoughts from our Semi-Annual Meeting

In the past two years, I believe we've accomplished a good deal together. But there is still much we can do to make our UU a haven for individuals seeking what we have found in our principles—freedom of thought; a responsible search for truth and meaning; a place to work for justice for all persons; a place to explore the wonder and meaning of our being on this planet; and a place to work for positive change in our world.

I have some recommendations for the future that I hope you and our next President and Board may find of value. First, I recommend that our annual meetings should include an overview of a basic plan for the coming year. Nominees for the incoming Board could meet several Saturday mornings before they are elected to talk and plan for the coming year, but doing so can save a month or two of "getting up to speed" for the Board as a whole. It also assures that we're working toward common goals.

Recommendation Two has to do with intentional planning – longer range, strategic planning. With it we have time to think about both the future that will "just happen" like AC systems and carpets wearing out, and the future that we want for ourselves and for future UU's. Such planning can help us avoid some unnecessary surprises and keep our focus on our future, making it easier to for recommendation one to become a reality.

Recommendation Three is a little different but definitely related. A congregation our size survives basically on the volunteer effort and financial support of its members, backed by the help of a minister and very small paid staff. Mostly we pitch as volunteers to do what needs to be done. Growing a congregation requires an extra measure of personal devotion to achieving our mission, and creating a sound financial base. We'd be wise to create a planned giving program which could help bring our longer range plans to fruition.

The list could go on, but we all need to be involved in writing it— which takes us back to the business of intentional thinking, dreaming, planning and continually recreating our UU Congregation.

--Bill

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

November 1— Rev. Lyn Plumb, All Souls Day Memorial Service

Let us remember and celebrate the lives of departed loved ones in our lives the Mexican way, the "Day of the Dead"— celebrated two days after All Hallows' Eve. Many people feel this day is more lighthearted, more accepting and more engaging— not somber and heavy. All are invited to **bring pictures or mementoes of departed loved ones** for a place of honor, and we will light candles in their memory. Be prepared for much brightness and even some Spanish singing.

Service Leader: Denise Carter

November 8— Pierre Louis, "How to be a Gentleman, When the Rest of the World is Wearing Baggy Pants"

The presentation centers on how to maintain a level a civility, inclusiveness, and respect in today's society. Louis is a decorated US Marine Corps Officer and a Gentleman. Retiring after a distinguished 21 years in the Marines, he became Youth Director for the Boys and Girls Clubs for over 200 at-risk youth in Daytona Beach.

Service Leader: Cliff Jackson

November 15— Rev. Lyn Plumb, "Civility: Where Art Thou?"

One hears tales where incivility seems to be raising havoc, anger, retaliation and generally ill-feelings in our world today. Where might it happen even close to home, and more importantly, what can all of us do to strive to be in right relation with each other?

Service Leader: Patty Devine Alsobrook

November 22— Rev. Lyn Plumb and Debbie Hanson, “The Guest at Your Table”

At this Thanksgiving time, we will celebrate an intergenerational service where our children will remain with us in the sanctuary for the whole service and ably assist various adults in introducing the UU Service Committee’s fundraising “Guest at Your Table” program. Be there to learn about this important social justice program and how you can contribute to it.

Service Leader: Chris Ringue

November 29— Rita Scheeler, "LGBT Rights--We're Not Finished Yet"

The Supreme Court’s gay marriage decision was welcome, but many issues remain for the LGBT community.

Service Leader: Carolyn West

NEW SEARCH BEGINS

On September 20th our congregation elected four members of the new Ministerial Search Team— Evan Rivers, Renny Roker, Joan Thate, and Carolyn West. Subsequently, our Board of Trustees appointed three more team members— Rhonilee Bachschmidt, Cliff Jackson, and Teresa Webb. Cliff Jackson will serve as chair and contact person, communicating with our Board, our congregation, the UUA and potential candidates.

The Team has begun laying the groundwork in the search to find a new “settled” or permanent minister for our UU who would begin next fall. Some initial tasks include updating the Congregational Record (CR), which is basically a lengthy application form describing our UU in detail. We will post this form on the UUA website, hopefully by December 1st —when potential ministerial candidates begin looking at applications there.

In addition, team members are revising and updating the Information Packet, describing our UU, including lots of photos and specifics about aspects of our congregation and about the surrounding community. We know that our UU and the greater Ormond Beach/Daytona Beach area are highly attractive, so we hope to emphasize our strengths. The revised Packet and other information will soon be available on our UUCOB website. Our Search Team intends to make the process of seeking a new minister as transparent as possible, with lots of communication with the congregation. (Of course, we must also respect the privacy of potential ministerial candidates.) Soon we plan some listening sessions in Room 2 to take place after the Sunday service and coffee hour, so please plan to join us then for some good discussion.

--Your Ministerial Search Team

**“GIRLS ON THE RUN” — November 15th Share-the-Plate**

“Girls on the Run” inspires elementary and middle school-age girls to be joyful, healthy and confident. The Volusia County Schools after-school program uses a curriculum that creatively integrates running with helping girls learn to embrace who they are and what is important to them. They learn about teamwork and building healthy relationships in order to “positively connect with and shape the world.”

Our contributions will help provide running shoes and snacks for girls participating in the program in low-income neighborhoods. These girls would not otherwise have adequate shoes to participate in this essential part of the program. Additional opportunities for us to contribute are available by attending school meetings and cheering the girls on during the semi-annual 5k run. We can make a difference for local girls so they can make a difference in the world. Please be generous with your Share-the-Plate contribution on November 15.

--Linda Sanders

COME ONE! COME ALL— November 6th “Harvest Picnic” Potluck/Fundraiser Fun

Our UU Marketplace offers a fantastic fund-raiser for our congregation and a fun-filled evening!! This major fundraiser for 2015 will culminate with a gala on Friday, November 6th, beginning at 6:00 pm. Be sure to sign up for this special potluck to enjoy our fun-filled activities:



- Our “Harvest Picnic” Potluck Supper
- Book Signing --**POSITIVITY: Your Key to Success** by Renny Roker
- Marketplace Last Minute Shopping
- Special Musical Entertainment
- “Best Desserts” Contest and Silent Auction
- Live Auction with Exciting Items for Sale
- Fun for All!

The Marketplace phase of the fundraising event will open on Sunday, October 25, at tables displaying the “Buyer Sheets” for the more than 35 meals, events, and services that have been donated by our members and friends. The Marketplace tables will also be open on Sunday, November 1st —remaining items will also be available during the November 6th event. Members have been extremely generous in offering a wide variety of special meals, exciting events, and interesting services for purchase through the Marketplace.

The evening of Friday, November 6th, will also be filled with exciting fundraising and entertainment as well. The evening will begin with a delicious “Harvest Picnic” Potluck supper that will feature fried chicken and a lot of delicious appetizers, side dishes, salads, and desserts donated by our members. Sign-up sheets for the Potluck dinner will be on the Marketplace tables in the sanctuary. Drinks and beverages will also be available. Guests are asked to provide their plates and utensils for the dinner.

During the evening, our UU member, Renny Roker, will be selling and signing his recently published book, **POSITIVITY: Your Key to Success**. Renny will donate a portion of the book sales to UUC OB. Dan Gribbin and friends will provide entertainment during the evening, and remaining Marketplace items will be available for “last minute” purchases.

This year a “Best Desserts” Contest and Silent Auction feature some luscious sweets— cakes, pies, cookies, brownies— prepared by some of our UU’s great cooks. These items will be available for purchase through the Silent Auction. The three desserts that garner the highest bids will win the contest. Winners can take home the winning desserts, or they can consume these irresistible treats on the spot!

The evening will be “topped off” by an exciting Live Auction of some very special items – including “A Week at Dick Pepper’s house in Kalispell, Montana, near Glacier National Park”; “A Week in Denmark” with Philip and Betty Green; A “Sailing Charter on the Halifax River” from Carolyn West; original artwork by our UU member Don Kennedy; and the chance to choose a Sunday sermon topic for Reverend Lyn Plumb. Renny Roker will serve as our auctioneer.

Last year’s Marketplace fundraiser generated over \$5,500 in support of our Congregation’s budget and activities. Let’s all come together for a great evening of food, fun, fellowship, and fundraising to help insure the continued growth and service for our Congregation as we move ahead to achieve our goals and mission.

--Preston & Susan Garrison, Co-Chairs

WANTED! Does anyone have a laptop computer they don't need which they could give to the UU for our projector cart? If so, please contact Patty Tugas.

ALLIANCE NEWS: A Busy Fall Ahead

Fund-raising projects have kept us busy this past month. The Alliance served lunch at the Pagan Pride Day celebration and we donated all proceeds, \$101.00 to the UU treasury. At our October meeting, we passed the hat and collected money to buy cat food in memory of our beloved member, Donna Jordan. We donated 688 pounds of food to Sophie's Circle to be distributed to needy pet owners to help them feed their pets. We also voted to host another brunch at Easter for the UU Auction/Marketplace, and we hope that many people will sign up. We will serve a delicious meal for everyone, and children will eat for free.

In addition, we are gearing up for another Christmas giving project. We are in the process of choosing a group or a needy family to adopt, and we will make the final decision at our next meeting. We will also host a few fund-raising events to pay for this wonderful cause— including our annual Christmas cookie sale and our crafts sale during December after services, as well as hosting a soup lunch in December. Our crafts group is also gearing up for our Christmas sales. If you would like to join in on the fun, see Rhoni Bachschmidt.

Due to the upcoming rummage sale, our next Alliance meeting will be moved to the THIRD Thursday in November, which will be on the 19th. We are always looking for new members. Please check us out, and attend our next meeting, where we will serve lunch for \$5.00—quiche, salad and a dessert—a delicious meal shared with friends. All proceeds will go toward the Christmas Giving Project. I hope to see you then!!

--Jeanne Young

F.A.I.T.H. BEGINS A NEW YEAR OF SOCIAL ACTION

The FAITH Team at our UU is dedicating this year's FAITH effort to long-time social justice advocate Steve Segner, who passed away earlier this year. Team members held cottage meetings in September to gather information about the social issues our UU members care about the most. We have sorted through this information and selected the issues to bring to the Problems Assembly on October 26th. Criminal Justice reform was chosen as the top priority of this year's effort. FAITH has already made progress on this issue last year, including the legal establishment and use of civil citations in lieu of police arrests of non-violent youthful offenders. Legislation to make civil citations available throughout the state has now been introduced in the Florida Senate. We found that Housing and Education were selected as the second and third place issues. We added healthcare since it only missed a "top three" place by one vote. We will take our results to the Problems Assembly for consideration.

We can see why the criminal justice system is such a concern. Young offenders are often given harsh sentences before they are even old enough to understand the implications of their actions. "By 2010 Florida had sentenced more than 100 children, many as young as thirteen years old, to life in prison without parole for non-homicidal offences." Bryan Stevenson outlines this shocking fact in his best-selling book *Just Mercy*. Poor parenting, racial violence, domestic abuse, poverty, neighborhood crime, unemployment, poor schools and cracks in the criminal justice system can all converge to produce this shocking result.

We have our work cut out for us. We need everyone's help and there will be more opportunities to be involved. We will keep you posted.

--Leigh Montgomery

Catch up on Letters to the Editor

If you have been away for the summer and missed seeing the articles in the *News-Journal* by friends and members of UUCOB, you have likely missed out on some very good discussion. Contributors since May 2015 include Preston Garrison, Leigh Montgomery, Marti King, Roger Patterson, Panos Stroumpis, Marilyn Sapsford, and Patty Tugas. You can catch up by visiting our website: <http://www.uuormond.org/more/letters-editor/>

FALL RUMMAGE SALE— Make More Room in Your Closets and in Your Garage!

You have another wonderful chance to clean out your closets and clear out that garage. And you can be doing good deeds at the same time! The UU fall rummage sale will take place on **November 13 and 14**. Now is the time to plan the items you will donate. Bring them to UU on **Thursday, November 12**, between 8 am to 4 pm if possible. Please be sure that your items are clean and in good condition, with suggested prices if you can determine them.

We need many volunteers all that day to help with unloading, sorting and pricing. Jewelry can be brought in sooner, for help with pricing. Donation receipt forms will be available for you to fill out. If you need help getting your things to the UU building or advice about storing them with a fellow UU until November 13, call Cliff Jackson at 677-7687 or e-mail: reelseeker@aol.com

We also need extra card tables or long tables if you can loan them. Please bring them Thursday, November 12 and mark them with a masking tape underneath that says "not for sale" and your name. Volunteers are needed for helping at the sale on Friday and Saturday. Hours are 8 am -- 4 pm on Thursday and 8 am -- 2 pm on Friday and Saturday. Cleanup of our sanctuary is important Saturday afternoon. We especially need strong helpers to get leftover items ready for removal, on Saturday afternoon. Please sign up for part or all of any of the three days, using the sign-up sheet on the table. We are going to bring our own lunches, and we usually bring extra to share with each other. It's an opportunity to work together and have fun at the same time.

--Cliff Jackson

ON HALLOWEEN—Cleanup Day at UU on October 31st

Come out on Saturday, October 31st and help our UU building keep looking spiffy. There will be something important for everyone. I have a list of tasks started for the outside, and Joan Thate will direct you with work inside. Please come ready for work and fun together with our UU friends. We'll be going at it from 9 a.m. to noon.

--Peter Remington



LIFE LONG LEARNING—A Complex Syndrome

On November 11, Dr. Allison Berard, a director and therapist at the Florida Autism Center in Daytona Beach will talk to us about the complex syndrome that is labeled autism. Come find out more about autism and how it affects individuals and their families. No LLL program is scheduled for November 25 because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS—Advancing UU Values and Caring About Climate Change

On November 7, 2015, the UU Fellowship of Boca Raton will host the **Florida SE Cluster meeting**, with guest speaker, Carey McDonald, UUA Outreach Director. The topic is "Tending & Growing our Congregations: Advancing UU Values in the World." Check <http://www.uuflorida.org/annual/index.htm> for details.

The 2nd Florida Interfaith Climate Conference meets at Northland Church, Longwood, on January 28-30, 2016. Members and friends of all faiths and ethical communities, and all who care about climate change and stewardship of the earth are invited. For more details, search "Florida Interfaith Climate Conference 2016."

November 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	2 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	3 Crafts Group: noon -2 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	4 Ma Jongg practice: 1-2 pm Piano Lessons 2:30-:6:45 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm CUUPS: 7-9 pm	5 Caring Mtg: 10 am –noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	6 Eastern Philosophy: 10 -11:30 am Auction: 6-8:30 pm	7
8 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	9 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	10 Writers Group: 10 am – noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	11 Worship Mtg.: 11 am-noon Ma Jongg practice: 1-2 pm Piano lessons: 2:30-:6:45 pm Life Long Learning: 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm	12 Rummage Sale Set-Up 8 am-4 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	13 Rummage Sale 8 am-2 pm Eastern Philosophy: 10 -11:30 am	14 Rummage Sale 8 am-2 pm
15 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	16 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	17 Crafts Group: noon -2 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	18 Ma Jongg practice: 1-2 pm Piano Lessons: 2:30-:6:45 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm CUUPS: 7-9 pm	19 Alliance: noon-2 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm Board of Trustees Mtg: 5-7 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	20 Jotter articles due Eastern Philosophy: 10 -11:30 am Exploring Metaphysics: 6-7 pm	21
22 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	23 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	24 Writers Group: 10 am – noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	25 Ma Jongg practice: 1-2 pm Piano Lessons 3:45-:7:45 pm Choir rehearsal 6-7:30 pm	26  Happy Thanksgiving N Anon: 7-8 pm	27 Eastern Philosophy: 10 -11:30 am	28 Subud Mtg: 6-9 pm
29 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	30 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm					

Upcoming Pulpit Presentations

Date	Topic	Presenter	Service Leader
October 25—	“E Pluribus Unum”	--Rev. Lyn Plumb	--Marilou McKemie
November 1—	All Souls Memorial Service	--Rev. Lyn Plumb	--Denise Carter
November 8—	“How to Be a Gentleman”	--Pierre Louis	--Cliff Jackson
November 15—	“The Individual and the Common Good”	--Rev. Lyn Plumb	--Patty Alsobrook
November 22—	“The Guest at your Table”	--Rev. Lyn Plumb	--Chris Ringue
November 29—	"LGBT Rights--We're Not Finished Yet"	--Rita Scheeler	--Carolyn West

November Birthdays

Rev. Lyn Plumb -5th

Joan Thate- 9th

Heather Ragsdale-13th

Bruce Nelson-15

Barbara Eveleigh-21st

Travis Gorgon- 27th

Marilyn Sapsford- 29th

Martha Sanders Brant 30th



The Jotter

November 2015

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach

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Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.