### **Unitarian Universalist Congregation**



## **Ormond Beach**

## A WORD FROM OUR MINISTER— Expectation, Right Relationship, and F.A.I.T.H.

The worship theme for September is "Expectation" and I'm adding the dimension of "Right Relationship" to our theme. I suppose I'm creating a fusion of themes whereby this September, we re-commit to the Expectation to be in Right Relationship with each other within our congregational walls, and to be in right relationship with those outside our walls through the justice work of F.A.I.T.H. [Fighting Against Injustice Towards Harmony] Volusia County's only community organizing institute.



F.A.I.T.H. is a 501(c)(3) organization comprised of thirty congregations in Volusia County. In 1999, our own congregation was a founding member. For the twenty years since then, F.A.I.T.H. congregations have been identifying community problems through sacred conversations with their members. In these conversations, the question is asked, "What keeps you awake at night?" In other words, what weighs most heavily on our minds in the context of our living here in Volusia County? The answers to this question are gathered at house meetings across F.A.I.T.H.'s congregations. Over the years, issues such as transportation, affordable housing, youth criminal justice, youth education, addiction, and homelessness have emerged from these conversations, and through research and calls to action, as we have searched for solutions, we have moved mountains in our efforts to bring about social justice. In the past ten years, F.A.I.T.H. has asked the "powers-that-be" in Volusia County for (1) midnight bus service, (2) NARCAN-equipped police officers, (3) civil citations rather than criminal penalties for first-time youth offenders, (4) a county-run homeless shelter, (5) restorative justice practices in schools, and (6) an Affordable Housing Trust Fund. We have received them all!

Why has F.A.I.T.H. been so successful? YOU! Because F.A.I.T.H. Justice Ministry Network Members – YOU – showed up to House Meetings, Problem Assemblies, Rallies, and Action Assemblies. Because you attended those four events, brought three people with you to the Action Assembly, and because you attended the Celebratory Dinner and personally invested \$200 in F.A.I.T.H., YOU MOVED MOUNTAINS!!

Everyone in our congregation is invited to be part of the amazing justice work we do through F.A.I.T.H. Over the next few weeks, you will receive an invitation from a Team Leader in our congregation inviting you to their home or inviting you to gather at UUCOB to answer the question: "What keeps you awake at night?" In the spirit of right relationship and through fulfilling the expectation that we live out our seven UU Principles by working for justice in our wider community, I ask you to accept the invitation to enter into sacred conversations with others in our congregation and commit to being an integral part of this sacred work as a Justice Ministry Network member.

Twenty years ago, at F.A.I.T.H.'s first Action Assembly, only 400 people were gathered. Last April, over 1,600 joined the Action Assembly. This coming spring, 2020, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of F.A.I.T.H., we hope that over 2,020 people will gather-at the Peabody Auditorium. However, only YOU can make this happen—YOU are F.A.I.T.H.! Accept your invitation to a House Meeting. Answer the call to move mountains. Together, we can do it!

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Challenge, Change and Renewal



As our summer winds down, we are entering what I consider the month of renewal and of "fresh starts." I am pleased to review the schedule of upcoming activities and events that reflect the vitality and strength of our congregation and our Beloved Community.

The Board of Trustees did not meet in August, but will resume normal meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, beginning on September 19 at 5:30 p.m. UUCOB members are welcome to attend all meetings of the Board, with the exception of any closed or Executive Session meetings. Members who have concerns or issues that they want to share with the Board should contact me at least one week before the date of the Board meeting. In recognition of time constraints, please limit presentations to five minutes.

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, we welcome our interim choir director, Nathan West, who will be leading the choir for the next four months. Nathan is a music student at Stetson University, and we look forward to our choir's resuming its wonderful contributions to our worship services.

Our Life Long Learning programs will resume on September 25<sup>th</sup> with the enthralling topic of "Standing Upon the Shoulders of Giants." Drew Hilburn, who teaches physics at Mainland High School, will discuss some of the "Giants" of science who have contributed to the advances that helped make our world and society what it is today. This presentation promises to be a most enlightening one, and all are invited to attend.

As always, October appears to be one of the busiest months of the year at UUCOB. In addition to all the regular services and committee meetings, special events include our October 4<sup>th</sup> First Friday pot luck dinner that will feature a craft show under the able leadership of Rhoni Bachschmidt, Neil Koch, and Julie Hilburn, and our Fall Rummage Sale on October 25 and 26. Be sure to add these events to your calendar and give your support to those who make our congregation so active.

One of our favorite "in gathering" songs that open our weekly services is "Don't Be Afraid of Some Change." We sing this opening song with great enthusiasm, but I sometimes wonder, "Do we really mean it?" Change is difficult enough when we face it in our everyday lives, but my long experience as an executive of not-for-profit organizations has taught me that change is even more daunting for organizations such as our UUCOB.

The history of our congregation is deeply imbedded in how we see and cope with the present and the future. Sometimes, even small changes can generate concerns and contention about trying something different. Contemplate for example, the newly arranged Conversation Nook (installed by our Work Day crew), or our considering the use of a projection or TV monitor system in the sanctuary, or the efforts to strengthen and expand the Religious Education program for our young people. Yet, change is all around us, and it affects us in many ways. Without change, organisms and organizations lose sight of their purpose and mission, become resistant to new ideas, and sacrifice the ability to grow and prosper. These are the challenges we face as we work to live our covenant "to seek the truth and help one another" — even as we face change as individuals and as members of our congregation.

-- Preston Garrison

#### **PULPIT PRESENTATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER**

#### September 1— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "The Meaning of a Life's Work"

Our society puts much value on the work we do and what we produce; culturally, few other aspects of our lives give as much meaning and worth than the sum of a life's work. This Labor Day weekend, let's examine the qualitative, perhaps even spiritual aspects of our working lives.

Service Leader: Rita Scheeler

#### September 8— Cliff Jackson and others, "SUUSI"

What is now the Southeastern Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute, or SUUSI, began in 1950 in western North Carolina. Two years ago, only two members of our congregation went to SUUSI, but this year there were ten of us who joined the 1000+ other UU's of all ages who met at this year's retreat. A number of our participants will share their experiences at this year's SUUSI.

#### September 15— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "Expectations and Right Relationship"

What can we rightfully expect of one another in our relationships, especially when a relationship presents a challenge to a covenanted community? Let's examine what disruptive behavior is and how to address it with compassion and with boundaries.

Service Leader: Patty Alsobrook

#### September 22— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "Expectation: The Lens on Our Reality"

Anias Nin, borrowing from the *Talmud* said "We do not see things as they are; we see them as we are." Our knowledge — particularly <u>how</u> we know things — combined with our individual experiences in life, can profoundly affect our perceptions.

Service Leader: John Horner

#### September 29— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "Expectations for a Sweet New Year"

The Jewish New Year begins at sundown, September 29. Jews celebrate with food, candle-lighting and prayer. At this service we will reflect on our expectations for the year and partake in a sampling of apples and hone Service Leader: Linda Kalaydjian

#### SHARE THE PLATE— Great Kids Explorer Club

Since 2001, the Great Kids Explorer Club has remained steadfastly dedicated to helping our neediest schoolchildren succeed in school and in life. In partnership with local schools, Great Kids volunteers provide thousands of hours of tutoring each year to at-risk children, ages 5-12, free of charge. These volunteers also provide group activities that enhance character and an array of life-enriching social skills so desperately needed to avoid the pitfalls of growing up in today's challenging world.



Local statistics indicate nearly one-third of Volusia County children fail to meet the standard in reading and math. However, Great Kids continues to help children referred to their program achieve academic success, although the program administrative costs are low. The program also supports these children as they make positive behavioral changes and develop better social and life skills. When we share our offering on Sunday, **September 15**, please be generous in your support for The Great Kids Explorer Club.

#### **CHOIR NEWS—Our Interim Director Joins Us**

This fall, while Dan Kerr is away, our interim choir director will be Nathan West, a sophomore and music major at Stetson University. He will be joining us at our first practice session Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> in order to prepare for our first performance on the following Sunday. Our choir will also be singing on September 29<sup>th</sup> as well. The anthems for September will be some of our favorites, "You Raise Me Up" and "Uma Familia" respectively. We will be singing at two services each month, October through December.

--Bruce Nelson

#### THANKS TO OUR BUILDING & GROUNDS CREW—Maintaining Our Space, Our Place

With its rain and heat, the summer season has impacted our building. Keeping up with mildew, vines, and various other creepers has kept our grounds and work crews very busy. A special "thank you" to Dennis Alsobrook, who spent a hot morning power-washing the front of our building and removing dauber nests and the beginning of a wasp nest. Pest control and fire extinguisher service and kitchen exhaust hood check were completed. In our lovely hammock, Kurtland Davies and Walter and Dorothy Dobbins keep up their continuing efforts to contain Virginia creepers and invasive air potato vines. They pull dead palm fronds and other debris to stack for pick up. Cliff Jackson works secret mojo with A/C drains, lights, and now a new interior door.

On August 17, our crew of 16 volunteers met for more spruce up as Bruce Nelson painted railings, and Tom Hilburn painted chairs and tables. Paul Pritchard painted walls while Mike Downey and Cliff installed a chair rail in Room Two. Gaia Davies cleaned refrigerators while Mike List worked his special kitchen magic. Marilou McKemie helped figure out how to set up a new seating area while John Horner painted a door and Peter Remington supported everyone. Joyce Nelson sent our volunteers a delicious chicken salad. What a community we have!!

Further efforts are underway to refresh the appearance of our grounds and our building inside and out. Thanks to those who are beginning the research necessary to gather information for our Board to consider. If you have some ideas or input, please talk to me. This is our space, our place. We want it to be attractive, welcoming and engaging for worship and all the other activities we share.

--Susan Garrison

#### EARLY FALL HARVEST—Enjoy A "Harvest" of Creativity at Our UU

**Paintings by Yvonne:** Yvonne Seiwell has graciously agreed to present her paintings in Room One at our UU during the month of September. The show will open on Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. prior to our September First Friday potluck dinner. Please come and enjoy these paintings by a truly talented artist.

**Craft Show:** Calling all crafters to share their art either for sale or display. Rhoni Bachschmidt, Neil Koch and Julie Hilburn are planning a craft show at our UU on Friday and Saturday — October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> — in Room One. They will set up the show on Friday morning in order to open at 5:30 p.m. before the October First Friday potluck dinner. On Saturday, the show will extend from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and be open to the public.

Hopefully, you will not only show your crafts, but also demonstrate how you have made an item—which can encourage other crafters and set this show apart from other craft displays in the area. Please contact Rhoni, Neil or Julie to learn more about the details of the show and how you can participate.

#### **Game Nights in September!**



If you want to have fun at our UU, look no further than the UU Game Night! Neil Koch will be hosting the events on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays in September at from 6:00 to 8:00 pm (that's September 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>). All ages welcome, so bring family-friendly games and be ready for both casual and competitive gameplay! We will have games like Monopoly, Machi Koro as well as good family games like Disney Villainous and King of Tokyo. It's a good chance for everyone to relax, make new friends and have a good time.

#### LIFE-LONG LEARNING—Program for September

Life Long Learning programs for 2019 will be varied and include topics related to philosophy, history and the arts as well as science and education. Each session includes time for audience questions and comments. LLL programs usually take place in our Room 2 on Wednesdays, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

#### Drew Hilburn—" Standing Upon the Shoulders of Giants"—Wednesday, September 25th

In 1676, Isaac Newton attributed his advances in science to "standing on the shoulders of Giants." In this program, William "Drew" Hilburn will discuss some of these scientific giants. For example:

- Anaxagoras his descriptions of the reflective Moon and central burning Sun, set into motion an understanding of our solar system.
- Ptolemy helped solve the planets rhythmic dance across our night sky, placing the earth at the center
  of the universe.
- Roger Bacon proponent of the study of nature through empiricism and an advocate for the use of the scientific method.
- Nicholas Copernicus formulated a model of the universe that placed the Sun rather than Earth at the center of the universe.
- Galileo Galilei studied speed and velocity, gravity and free fall, and used a telescope for scientific observations of celestial objects.
- Johannes Kepler a key figure in the 17th-century scientific revolution, best known for his laws of planetary motion.

Drew Hilburn currently teaches physics at Mainland High School and has been teaching there for the last 13 years of his 24 years of experience in the classroom. He has taught physical science principles over a wide range of levels from 7<sup>th</sup> grade all the way through undergraduate college physics courses, working both in Florida and Washington State. He has also worked in a variety of leadership roles, including Branch Leader overseeing three of the nine academies at Mainland. Volusia County recognized Hilburn for his excellence in teaching science and as Mainland's Teacher of the Year.

--Tom Hilburn

#### FALL RUMMAGE SALE—Ready, Set, Go!

Our Fall Rummage sale will take place on **October 25 and 26**, with setup on Wednesday/Thursday, October 23-24. It's not too early to begin setting aside items to donate. If you have questions or need advice about storing items with a fellow UU, or if you will need help getting your donated items to the UU building, call our Chief Rummage Sale Honcho — Cliff Jackson — at 677-7687 or e-mail: <a href="mailto:reelseeker@aol.com">reelseeker@aol.com</a>







(from left) Mike & Genny Downey, Ellen Nielsen, Jon Sandberg, Martha Brant, Ludy Goodson, and Dan Gribbin





Meghan Downey, Bruce Nelson, Ellen Nielsen, Rita Scheeler, Susan Garrison, Felix Fernandez, Evan Rivers and Dan Kerr







Cliff Jackson, Jenny Nazak, Gaia Davies and Jan Taylor

We thank our members who have contributed so much time and talent to our worship services this summer!
Some of them are pictured here.

## September 2019

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: noon-1 pm Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	Worship Mtg. 11 am-12:20 pm Singing Circle: 6-7:30 pm	Caring Mtg. 10-11 am Democracy Now: 10:30- noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	Pot Luck Supper 6 - 8:30 pm	Subud Mtg: 6-9pm
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am  Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am  Tai Chi: 4-5 pm  N Anon: 7-8 pm  15  Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am  Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am (Share the Plate)	Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: noon-1 pm Prayer & Meditation: 3-4 pm Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm  16 Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: noon-1 pm Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	Writers Group: 10 am -noon Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm  17  Mah Jongg: 10 am-noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm  18  Bhagavad Gita study: 2-4 pm	Finance Mtg: 10:30-noon  Democracy Now: 10:30-noon  Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm  Democratic Club: 6:30-8 pm  N Anon: 7-8 pm  19  Democracy Now: 10:30-noon  Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm  Board of Trustees Mtg: 5:30-7 pm	Game Night: 6 – 8 pm  20  Jotter newsletter articles due	21 Subud Mtg: 6-9pm
Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm  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  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	Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: noon-1 pm Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm   Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: noon-1 pm Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	Writers Group: 10 am -noon Mah Jongg: 10 am-noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	25 Life Long Learning: 4 - 5:30 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm	N Anon: 7-8 pm  26  Democracy Now: 10:30- noon Membership Mtg: 2:30-4 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	27 Game Night: 6 – 8 pm	28

#### **Upcoming Worship Services**

Theme for September—Expectation

Date:	Topic:	Presenter:	Service Leader:
September 1	"The Meaning of a Life's Work"	Rev. Kathy Rickey	Rita Scheeler
September 8	"SUUSI"	Cliff Jackson and othe	rs
September 15 -	- "Expectations and Right Relationship" Share-the-Plate Offering with Great K	Rev. Kathy Rickey ids Explorers	Patty Alsobrook
September 22 -	- "Expectation: The Lens on Our Reality"	Rev. Kathy Rickey	John Horner
September 29 -	- "Expectations for a Sweet New Year"	Rev. Kathy Rickey	Linda Kalaydjian
October 6 Wa	ater Communion Ceremony	Ellen Nielsen and the	Congregation





# The Jotter September 2019 Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach

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Children's RE on Sunday 10:15 to 11:45 a.m.
Discussion Group meets Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday Service: 10:30 -11:30 a.m.