

Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Ormond Beach

THE ORLANDO MASS SHOOTING—

Like people everywhere, I am horrified and distraught at the news of the killings at an Orlando gay night club. What is even more distressing is that this is but the latest in a long line of mass shootings. Our thoughts go to the victims, both the dead and the survivors, and the people close to them. May they find comfort and strength.

Unfortunately, this is the kind of violence that is predictable when hatred and fear are aroused by demagogues and when firearms are easily available. There are about 100 gun deaths per day in the United States. Only mass shootings are newsworthy. This is madness.

May all people of good will, people of all faiths and no faith, renew our determination to end racism, end demonization of those of other faiths, end homophobia, and create a society where access to lethal weapons has some rational control. Otherwise we will wait helplessly for the next atrocity.



--Rev. Peter Morales, UUA President

A Message from our New Minister

Dear All,

My heart is with you in the aftermath of yesterday's news from Orlando. I am holding you in the light as you take in the horror of what has transpired.

You may be feeling angry, sad, and frustrated. You may be pondering the root cause of such a tragedy. You may be feeling hopeless about the broken world we live in.

Make plenty of space for your thoughts and feelings. Find a trusted person with whom you can share. While doing so, keep in mind and heart the only things that will bring healing and restoration to this world are your love and compassion.

What can bring hope, courage and strength in times like these is the warmth of community found in congregational life. I know you will be there for each other. If anyone feels they need to be in touch with me, please contact Cathy Jackson in the office .

With faith, hope, and love,
Pastor Kathy

STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE

“June is LGBTQ Pride Month, a time when cities across the U.S. celebrate and affirm the diversity of sexual orientations and gender identities with pride festivals and parades of all varieties. Since last year’s victory for nationwide marriage equality with the U.S. Supreme Court decision on June 26, 2015, there has been a backlash against LGBTQ rights with laws rolling back the anti-discrimination policies and particularly targeting transgender people in places like North Carolina and Mississippi.



With origins in the national marriage equality movement, the Unitarian Universalist Standing-on-the-Side-of-Love campaign is committed to working for LGBTQ equity at large. Despite a series of victories across the country, we know LGBTQ people continue to face discrimination, marginalization and violence.

[The latest, of course, is the June 12th horrific slaughter at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando.]

Each of us has worth and dignity— worth includes our gender and our sexuality. As Unitarian Universalists, we not only open our doors to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities— we value diversity of sexuality and gender and see it as a spiritual gift. We create inclusive religious communities and work for LGBTQ justice and equity as a core part of who we are. *All of who you are is sacred. All of who you are is welcome.*”

(Unitarian Universalist Association <http://www.uua.org/>)

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE – Saints and Poets

There’s something about summer that slows us down. Now and then, we give ourselves permission to step back from our usual striving mode and just be. Maybe it harkens back to childhood and the annual release from routine that school vacations or family vacations brought. Maybe it’s an ancient and actual biological response to heat or the lingering light that creates a kind of lazy lethargy. Whatever its origins, it seems to be something of a necessity for many of us humans merely being.

I was reminded this morning, watching the sun rise, of lines from Thornton Wilder’s play, *Our Town*, one I’ve directed several times in various schools where I’ve taught. It’s a play that has had the power to make real changes in the lives of the students who played the roles even though they were not yet eighteen. You may remember the play. It’s set in a small New Hampshire town a few years more than a hundred years ago from 2016. Life was slower, yes, but in so many ways, the differences are superficial. Wilder eschews all kinds of theatrical “rules” by using a stage manager talking directly to the audience, inviting a guest lecturer to give a geological and sociological history of the town, interrupting the action of plot to comment or to fill the viewers in on background, sometimes even turning the clock back to show the beginnings of something that’s happening in the stage now.

The first act is called “Daily Life” and true to its title, shows the apparently banal realities: milk and newspaper deliveries, school assignments, work plans, talk about the weather, gossip, choir practice, the town drunk. We’re introduced to the boy and girl next door, the children of the newspaper editor and the town doctor, George and Emily, entering their adolescence.

The second act is called “Love and Marriage,” and we see the forces of nature bringing the young man and woman together in ways they only dimly understand, to begin a family.

The third act, of course, is titled “Death and Dying,” and Emily, only 29 years old and now the mother of her own children, dies. We see her joining the passive dead buried in the town cemetery when she asks the stage manager to confirm her sense that she can relive parts of her life. He tells her she can, but recommends that she choose the least important day of her life or she won’t be able to stand it.

She chooses her 12th birthday, and soon realizes the stage manager was right. She finds herself pleading with her mother to “look at me as though you really saw me” and painfully learning— “So all that was going on and we never noticed.” As she asks to be taken back to her grave, she poignantly asks the stage manager, “Does anyone ever realize life while they live it, every, every moment?” The stage manager has to admit it. “No.” He pauses and then adds, “The saints and poets, maybe. They do some.

Summertime— Maybe we can step back and allow the saint and poet in each of us to realize life.

--Joan Thate

LONG-TIME SERVICE AWARDS

We celebrate the 15-years-plus commitment to our UU of our long-time members. On May 29th six of those special people received a silver pin commemorating their service to our congregation.

FROM LEFT: Barb Eveleigh,
Travis Gordon, Judy Gordon,
Reinhold Schlieper, and
Denise Carter
(Not pictured Natalie Miller)



GOOD BYE TO REV. LYN

On June 12th we said good bye to our interim minister, Rev. Lyn Plumb, who began with us in September 2015. We thank her for the help and guidance that she gave us during her time with us. We wish her all the very best in the future, especially now that she has time to be with those twin grandbabies!

AT LEFT: Congregational president Joan Thate presents Rev. Lyn with tokens of our thanks and our very best wishes.

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

June 26— Rita Scheeler, “My Story”

The story of my life seemed simple, but how wrong could I be!

Service Leader: Linda Kalaydjian

July 3— “The Original Americans”

This unusual “4th of July” service celebrating Native Americans will include our RE children as well as contributions from Marion Ahlstedt and Dan Gribbin as well as Preston and Susan Garrison.

Service Leader: Ellen Nielsen

July 10— Dan Gribbin, “Unitarianism & American Transcendentalism”

An amazing flowering of thought in the period 1830-1850 goes back to William Ellery Channing, who endowed Unitarianism with key ideas which Ralph Waldo Emerson then refined through the prism of Romanticism, with its emphasis on individualism, imagination, and Nature as a symbol of spirit for humankind. Emerson’s idea that we have an innate sense of the good and the true by virtue of our status as human beings is a refinement of Channing’s notion that God speaks to us individually and that God’s will is put into action by our free will.

Service Leader: Patty Alsobrook

July 17— Susan Garrison, “Our Feathered Friends”

It has been said, that once you really see and know birds, you are never alone. Through music, meditation, conversation, and a brief message, we will explore the winged and wild world of birds, our relationship with them, and what they can teach us. Come with an open mind and a willing heart. You may never look at our feathered friends quite the same way again.

Service Leader: Rita Scheeler

July 24—Rev. Joe Wolfe, “My Prison Ministry”

Rev. Wolfe’s experiences in prison, his escape attempts and years in solitary confinement led him to the five powerful mystical experiences—The Five Signs—that transformed his life. In this inspiring inside talk with an agnostic’s journey from victim turned victimizer to victor, we journey along with him from skepticism to trust—in the potentiality of each and every individual.

Service Leader: Cliff Jackson

July 31— Linda Kalaydjian, “Animal Intelligence/Animal Rights”

How smart are animals? How should their intelligence affect the way we treat them? To what extent do they have feelings? Linda Kalaydjian and Ellen Nielsen will explore these questions, and some of the answers may surprise you. Please bring a photo or memento of an animal you love for a “Blessing of the Animals” ceremony.

Service Leader: Ellen Nielsen



Thank You for Your Consideration

Many of our members and friends have serious allergies to perfumes and scented products. To make our building comfortable for all who enter, please refrain from wearing them to our Sunday service and to our other UU activities. Thanks!



JOIN US FOR THE 5TH SATURDAY WORKDAY— With Cookout to Follow!

Another 5th Saturday workday is coming up on July 30. As we prepare to welcome our new minister in early August, we have some outdoor and some indoor chores to complete. We'll work for only two hours from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. After our tasks are finished, we will enjoy a cookout to thank everyone for their hard work all year. Please RSVP to me, so that I will know how many people will be coming. This is our last 5th Saturday workday of 2016 since the next one would fall on Dec. 31. Your efforts help to keep our church and grounds in wonderful condition. You all should be proud. Thank you all and I hope to see you July 30 at 9 a.m.

Keys— Cathy Jackson keeps a master list of everyone who has a key to the building. If you have a key but are not sure you are on Cathy's list, please see her. If you have a key that you no longer need, please turn it in to Cathy with your name with it so she can record that you've returned it. Please be careful with your UU keys. If they are lost or fall into the wrong hands, it will be very expensive to rekey the whole building.

--Rita Scheeler, Building and Grounds

SHARE THE PLATE— Domestic Abuse Council

On Sunday, July 17, 2016 we will share our collection plate with the Domestic Abuse Council. This organization began in 1976 to help women, men and children living in crisis and unsafe conditions. The Council offers temporary emergency housing for victims of domestic violence and their children —24-hours per day — every day of the year.



The Council provides emergency food, hygiene items, clothing, beds and bathing facilities. In addition, staff and volunteers offer emotional support and a safe environment to individuals who have been physically abused, threatened with abuse, or who are frightened to stay where they are but have no place else to go. They are also eligible for emergency shelter services. To call the shelter, contact local crisis hotlines lines at 386-255-2102 or a state-wide hotline at 1-800-500-1119.

Our own Alliance organization will also contribute to this charity. With our combined contributions, we will purchase much needed items on their wish list. Household articles such as paper goods, laundry items, cleaning supplies and food staples will be just a few of the necessities they always need. Please be generous **in your July 17th offering** for those who need our support. Thank you.

--Judy Gordon



Thanks to our choirmaster Dan Kerr and to our pianist, Janet Stroumpis, for their hard work and dedication to making beautiful music for us.

Dan looks very much a "cool dude" in the special shirt the choir presented to him.

Janet was as gorgeous and gracious as always, receiving our flowers of thanks.



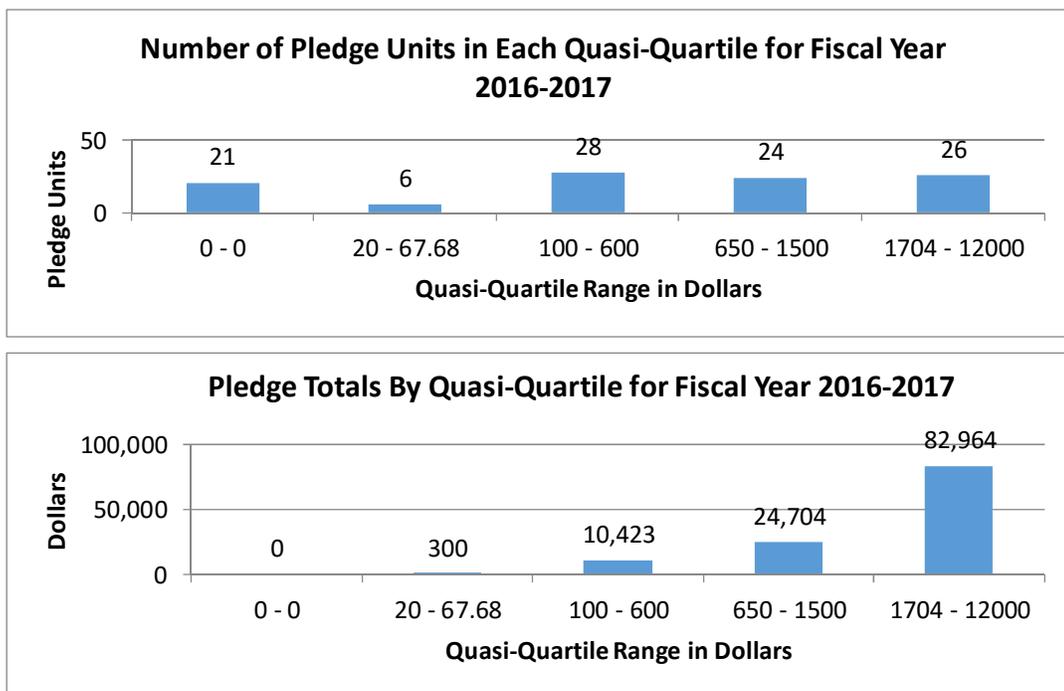
A NOTE ABOUT OUR CHOIR— To All UUCOB Members

As Rosemary and I head north to Delaware, I want to thank you for your continued support, encouragement and compliments. They make my work with our choir very worthwhile and serve to recharge my battery. While we are gone, I am asking a favor of you. Please be my eyes and ears in Florida and help continue to find new members to build our choir. We are fortunate to add Helen Casoli, Susan Garrison and Yvonne Seiwell to our rolls this year. However, the music I am researching for the next and subsequent years will require more voices for a bigger, richer sound.

This is where you come in. Don't hesitate to brag to your friends and neighbors about our music program. I know of no other church our size that has the level of music talent we do. Where else can you find a Dan Gribbin, Martha Brant, Janet Stroumpis, Debbie Hanson, Felix Fernandez, Brian Bielick and Jon Sandberg all in one place? Add the choir, and we have quite the talent. Maybe your word-of-mouth appeals will spark others to be interested in joining our choir. Cathy Jackson has my e-mail and cell phone number in case you need to contact me with a prospective member. Just send me a name, e-mail or phone number, and I will be glad to reach out to them. See you in the fall!

--Dan Kerr

STEWARDSHIP CANVASS RESULTS — Total Pledges = \$118,390



Understanding the Graphs:

A pledge unit consists of one or two persons (taken together) who may have or may not have pledged their financial support for our UUCOB for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. The horizontal axis bars represent groups of pledge amounts in ranges of dollars as of April 20, 2016.

The groups are called Quasi-Quartiles, which are the following ranges in dollars:

\$0 through \$0; \$20 through \$67.68; \$100 through \$600; \$650 through \$1,500; \$1,704 through \$12,000

--John Horner, co-chair Stewardship Canvass Committee

July 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Friday Potluck 6-8:30 pm	2 Geho Gold workshop 9 am-noon Subud Mtg: 6-9 pm
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 <i>Independence Day holiday</i>	5 Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	6 CUUPS: 7-9 pm	7 Caring Mtg: 10-11 a.m. Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	8	9
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 Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	13 Worship Mtg: 11 am - 12:30 pm	14 Finance Mtg: 10:30 -noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	15 Exploring Metaphysics: 6-7 pm	16 Subud Mtg: 6-9 pm
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 Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm	19 Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	20 <i>Jotter</i> newsletter articles due CUUPS: 7-9 pm	21 Membership Mtg: 2:30-4 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm Board of Trustees Mtg: 5:30-7 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	22	23
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 Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	27	28 Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	29 PCDP rental: 6:30-8:30 pm	30 Special 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:
June 26--	"My Story"	--Rita Scheeler	--Linda Kalaydjian
July 3--	"The Original Americans"	--Members of our UU	--Ellen Nielsen
July 10--	"Unitarianism & American Transcendentalism"	--Dan Gribbin	--Patty Alsobrook
July 17--	"Our Feathered Friends" Share-the-Plate Partner—Domestic Abuse Council--	--Susan Garrison Judy Garden & Ellen Nielsen	--Rita Scheeler
July 24--	"My Prison Ministry"	--Rev. Joe Wolfe	--Cliff Jackson
July 31--	"Animal Intelligence/Animal Rights"	--Linda Kalaydjian	--Ellen Nielsen
August 7--	"Nature in our Lives"	--Kurtland Davies	--Gaia Davies



July Birthdays

Mike List -1st
 Carolyn West -2nd
 Natalie Miller -2nd
 Bill Abbuehl - 4th
 Kay Boyer Ryan -5th

Terri Kolaska- 10th
 Laurie Sherer -11th
 Charlie Ferguson -11th
 Janet Stroumpis- 12th
 Jan Ternent - 13th
 Ashley Moore -20th
 Jim Rothweiler -21st

Rita Scheeler -25th
 Marti King - 26th
 Shannon McLeish -26th
 Enda Nolan - 30th
 Denise Carter -31st

The Jotter

July 2016

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach



Joan Thate, Congregation President: jbthate@gmail.com
 RE teachers: Debra Hanson/Mary Wentzel: (contact UU Office)
 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. +

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

Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.