

Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Ormond Beach

A WORD FROM OUR MINISTER — The Fruits of Our Imagination

The month of January brings us the worship theme of Imagination—there could not be a better time for it. We are going to need our imaginations, our creativity, our vision to step bravely and wisely into 2021. The New Year will challenge us to stay healthy as COVID-19 infections continue to spike. We will persist in social distancing and staying home much more than we might want to do. We will wait patiently for our turn to get the vaccine, or if we choose not be vaccinated, then we will wait patiently for the infections to subside enough to move freely in public again.



It will most likely be months yet before we gather face-to-face again as a congregation. The challenges continue as we endure the ongoing stress and anxiety of widespread disease. However, our imagination can be useful as we begin to see a bit of light at the end of the dark tunnel this pandemic. To bolster our flagging spirits, we will need to imagine the new normal ahead.

And what might the new normal be? What if we imagined it to be a shared awareness of the extent to which we are interconnected and interdependent? What we do, what we say, how we act in the world makes all the difference to the well-being of others. Might we begin to understand that one small act of kindness and solidarity — like wearing a face mask in public — can easily save lives? Might we see in the information we've learned and images we've seen during the pandemic how the "-isms" that exist among us increase the risk of disease for some more than others— the -isms of age, race, and class that make living at the margins dangerous? Might we begin to understand the need to change systems and institutions which keep people on the margins? We can begin with ourselves and our awareness of problems that may have escaped our notice.

In 2021, I believe we can expand our moral imagination by participating in the Racial Justice Programming scheduled this month:

Wednesday, 06 January, 4:00 p.m. -- "Treemonisha" an opera by Scott Joplin

Saturday, 16 January, 10:00 a.m. -- Discussion of the Netflix film "13th"

Wednesday, 20 January, 4:00 p.m. -- "God's Stepchildren" a film by Oscar Micheaux

Saturday, 23 January, 10:00 a.m. -- "Widening Our Circle of Concern" – A discussion of the experience of people of color within our faith tradition.

These presentations via Zoom are designed to give insight into the social landscape in which people of color live and have their being. While all of us share in the same society, often people of color experience life from the margins – from places of greater than average difficulty and risk. As a congregation, let us participate in these events by sharing our insights into these works so that we might gain better perspective on the justness of our society. Through these insights, we might begin to imagine what a world without margins looks like.



Treemonisha

In faith and love,
Rev. Kathy

OUR PRESIDENT'S PEN—A Wish for the New Year

Recently I was given an early Christmas present— a book titled *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackey. This book came at the right time with words of kindness and wisdom.



When the New Year comes, I am usually at a loss not only to find a resolution that I can keep, but also one that has meaning for me. However, in this little book, kindness and hopefulness abound, and I believe I found my New Year's resolution in some of its words. Here is a little excerpt:

"I've discovered something better than cake" (said the mole)

"No, your haven't" said the boy

"I have", said the mole

"What is it?"

"A hug. It lasts longer"

My New Year's resolution this year will be to give to you a virtual hug every day, and I bet I will be similarly "hugged" in return. With this hug, I wish everyone a healthy and hearty New Year.

--Julie Hilburn

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

January 3— Rev. Kathy Rickey, "As the Spirit Moves"

With a late change in schedule, Reverend Kathy will see what percolates for this first Sunday of 2021. Certainly, it will involve imagining a new normal for the New Year.

Service Leader: Patty Alsobrook

January 10— Rev. Kathy Rickey, "Moral Imagination and Risking the Impossible"

Contemporary ethicist, Sharon Welch speaks to the Ethics of Risk, which is the practice of struggling for a better world even when there is no guarantee of improvement in our lifetime. To give up the struggle, she says, is the death of our moral imagination. How do we stay in struggle?

Service Leader: Rita Scheeler

January 17— Rev. Kathy Rickey, "Rev. Dr. William Barber, II and Moral Mondays"

Dr. Barber is the architect of the Moral Mondays movement and author of *The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement Is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear*. On the eve of MLK Day, let us look at a contemporary leader in the continuing struggle to defend the civil rights of the poor, the disenfranchised, and the marginalized in our country.

Service Leader: Rita Scheeler

January 24— Dr. Dan Gribbin, "Richard Wright: An Amazing Life Journey"

Richard Wright was one of the most prominent African-American writers of the 20th century, a man whose career exemplifies the pressures inherent in writing about race in America. Having left the South during the Great Migration, Wright endeavored, from the late 1930s on, to give America and the world a true sense of the tragic struggle of blacks in America. His self-exile in France speaks volumes about the pressure he was under to hew to the demands of the politics of time, pressure coming from both sides of the racial divide.

Service Leader: Denise Carter

January 31— Cliff Jackson, “Aphantasia: When the Mind’s Eye is Blind”

The world changed for Cliff when he found out he has Aphantasia— the inability to form mental images. Recent research has revealed a continuum or wide variation among individuals in their ability to visualize familiar objects or people. Cliff will share facts, findings and his own experiences related to Aphantasia. He will explain the test and bell curve so that anyone who is interested can see where they fall on that continuum. He hopes to share new meaning to the UU phrase: “We need not think alike to love alike.”
Service Leader: Rita Scheeler

Although we will NOT be meeting in person as a congregation for these Sunday services, they will be live streamed on Zoom each appropriate Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Please join us and tune in then. You can access the link for them on our website at <http://www.uuormond.org/>

UPDATES—from Our Members

I truly appreciate the condolences cards from our UU members. Thank you and hope to see you soon.

--Sunanda Sanghi

UUCOB member Don Kennedy and his wife Evie have moved to Oviedo to live with their daughter's family. There will be an estate sale at 98 Royal Palm Drive, Ormond Beach, on January 8th from 9 to 10 a.m.

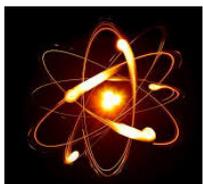
--Joanne Kennedy

Patty Tugas is recovering at Advent Hospital and would welcome calls and cards. Send to 516 Sandy Oaks Blvd. Ormond Beach, 32174. Her cell # is (386) 846 9371. For visits, contact Maureen Cook at (412) 512 4949.

--Betty Green

LIFE-LONG LEARNING—Program for January

Our Life Long Learning programs are varied and involve topics related to philosophy, history and the arts as well as science and education. Each session includes time for audience questions and comments. Although our LLL programs usually take place in our church building, because of the coronavirus, they will be presented virtually. The link to the program will be available through our UUCOB website <http://www.uuormond.org/> and you can join us there through Zoom on **Wednesdays, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.**



Dr. Mario Fusco, “The Significance of Quantum Mechanics”— Wednesday, January 27th

Dr. Fusco will discuss Quantum mechanics, one of the most successful theories devised to explain the workings of the physical world. No experiment has ever contradicted a theoretical prediction, nor has quantum theory ever failed to account for an experimental finding. However, some of its features have been dubbed as "weird" or paradoxical, even by physicists, and some people (usually non-physicists) claim it has implications for philosophy and spirituality. Examples include questions regarding the nature of reality and interconnected particles. In contrast to New Age type ideas, mainstream physicists proceed cautiously here, but this program, providing an overview of quantum physics, will discuss these fascinating issues.

Dr. Fusco has had a distinguished career in physics. He received his Ph.D. in theoretical physics from the University of California at Davis. During his career with Lockheed Martin Missile and Space, Mario held leadership positions in research and management related to space programs, NASA, NATO, and the Department of Defense. He has also served as adjunct professor at Stanford University, Menlo College, and San Jose State University. One of his interests is in the nature of possible relationships between theoretical physics and philosophical matters

--Tom Hilburn

A NATIVE PLANT THANK YOU



Lee Dunkel has asked me to let UUCOB members know how much we appreciate the use of your building for our Ormond Beach Democratic Club meetings. It has been a tremendous help, and we really appreciate it.

Your church members might like to know about the "Ormond Canopy" initiative that we are sponsoring for Florida Arbor Day on January 15, 2021. We worked with Katie Tripp, a local environmentalist, who has established a native plant nursery so gardeners and other plant enthusiasts can have a local source for finding Florida native trees, shrubs, groundcovers, etc. These plants are the best choices for Florida gardens as they provide food sources for native birds and insects that, in turn, pollinate the plants. If anyone would like to plant a tree for Arbor Day, perhaps we can help them choose natives trees to help replace some the damage done by development in our area. Please ask your members who are interested to call me at (386) 451-4056 or write to me at <marty@volusiadems.com> .

--Marty Price, OBDC President

GOD'S BATHHOUSE—Returning to UUCOB on Friday, January 15th

Last year, the Volusia-Flagler Coalition for the Homeless estimated that over 750 homeless residents live here year-round, often without basic facilities. To help meet that need, Elizabeth and Elgia Glass refurbished an old truck into a mobile unit that became God's Bathhouse. Other volunteers joined in helping to provide showers, toiletries and clean clothes to the homeless, coordinating with Halifax Urban Ministries and other agencies. God's Bathhouse came to our UUCOB parking lot on the third Fridays in September and October as guests of the Alliance, the third and fourth times they have come there this summer. Because of the Covid-19 situation, Elgia and Elisabeth are unable to offer showers since all of their churches are closed.

However, they can offer homeless individuals gently worn clothes, toiletries, snacks, and a bag lunch to take away with them. This month, God's Bathhouse will return to UUCOB. If you have gently used clothes you would like to donate, please bring them to our church parking lot on **Friday, January 15th from 10:00 to noon.**

--Helen Casoli

UU Justice Florida Sets 2021 Legislative Agenda

UU Justice Florida is a statewide justice ministry that partners with other interfaith and public interest organizations "to promote justice, equity and compassion in public policy."



The effort to "educate, organize and advocate" for Unitarian Universalist values includes connecting with other similar groups in order to "realize the dream of a just society, an improved global community and a sustainable earth, starting in Florida."

During the Florida Legislative session in Tallahassee this spring, UU Justice Florida will work toward specific goals in several important areas, including advocating for environmental protections, criminal justice reform, human rights, election reform, gun safety, immigration reform, as well as public health/safety and budget/tax reform. UU's throughout the state can sign up for "action alerts" and then call or e-mail their Florida House or Senate representatives to urge them to support or oppose specific proposals and bills. To see more about the specific issues and also find your representatives in the Florida Legislature or the U.S Congress, go to their website at <https://uujusticefl.org/>

Calendar for January

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | 1 New Year's Day Potluck: cancelled | 2 Music rehearsal: 10-11 am |
| 3 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am both via Zoom N. Anon: 7-8 pm | 4 Yoga: 5-7 pm | 5 Mah Jongg postponed Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm via Zoom | 6 Worship mtg.: 11 am-Noon via Zoom Racial Justice: Scott Joplin play 4 - 5:30 pm via Zoom | 7 Caring mtg. postponed Alliance mtg.: at noon via Zoom Spiritual Growth: 4:30 - 6 pm via Zoom | 8 | 9 Board of Trustees retreat: 9 am -2 pm |
| 10 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am both via Zoom N. Anon: 7-8 pm | 11 Finance mtg.: 10:30am - noon via Zoom Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: noon-1 pm via Zoom Yoga: 5-7 pm | 12 Mah Jongg postponed Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm via Zoom | 13 | 14 Spiritual Growth: 4:30 - 6 pm via Zoom Democratic Club: 6:30-7:30 pm via Zoom | 15 God's Bathhouse: 10 am-noon UU parking lot | 16 Music rehearsal: 10-11 am Racial Justice: "13 th " film discussion via Zoom IONS: 1- 4 pm |
| 17 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am both via Zoom N. Anon: 7-8 pm | 18 Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: via Zoom Yoga: 5-7 pm | 19 Mah Jongg postponed Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm via Zoom | 20 Racial Justice: "God's Stepchildren" 4 - 5:30 pm via Zoom Jotter articles due | 21 Spiritual Growth: 4:30 - 6 pm via Zoom Board of Trustees mtg: 5:30- 7 pm via Zoom | 22 | 23 Music rehearsal: 10-11 am Racial Justice: "Widening Our Circle of Concern" 10-11:30am via Zoom |
| 24 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am both via Zoom N Anon: 7- 8 pm | 25 Bag lunch w. Rev. Kathy: noon-1 pm via Zoom Yoga: : 5-7 pm | 26 Mah Jongg postponed Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm via Zoom | 27 Life Long Learning: 4:00- 5:30 pm via Zoom | 28 Membership mtg: 2:30-4 pm Zoom Spiritual Growth: 4:30 - 6 pm via Zoom | 29 | 30 Music rehearsal: 10-11 am |
| 31 Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am & Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am both via Zoom N Anon: 7- 8 pm | | | | | | |

Upcoming Worship Services

Theme for January: Imagination

| Date: | Topic: | Presenter: | Service Leader: |
|---------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| January 3-- | "As the Spirit Moves" | --Rev. Kathy Rickey | --Patty Alsobrook |
| January 10-- | "Moral Imagination and Risking the Impossible" | --Rev. Kathy Rickey | --Rita Scheeler |
| January 17-- | "Rev. Dr. William Barber, II and Moral Mondays" | --Rev. Kathy Rickey | --Rita Scheeler |
| January 24-- | "Richard Wright: An Amazing Life Journey" | --Dr. Dan Gribbin | --Denise Carter |
| January 31 -- | "Aphantasia: When the Mind's Eye is Blind" | --Cliff Jackson | --Rita Scheeler |

Although we will not be meeting together in our church building for these services, you can still join us for them. They will be live streamed on Zoom at 10:30 a.m. on each appropriate Sunday.

We appreciate our musicians and technical folks who are helping to facilitate these Zoom sessions!

You can access the Zoom link for the services on our website at <http://www.uuormond.org/>

January Birthdays

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Susan Garrison-3 rd | Helen Casoli-27 th |
| Ann Hall-3 rd | Ashara Watkins-27 th |
| Phil Elliot-4 th | Kathy Tew Rickey-27 th |
| Peter Remington-10 th | Debbie Hanson-30 th |
| Jofre Miller -17 th | Jack Moeller-31 th |



The Jotter

January 2021

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach

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Carolyn West: Jotter westwind273@bellsouth.net

Betty Green: E-News bngreen@fastmail.us

Sunday Children's RE via Zoom

Sunday Discussion Group 9:30 a.m. via Zoom

Sunday Worship Services 10:30 a.m. via Zoom

(See our website above for links)

Church administrator Cathy Jackson will be working from home; you can e-mail her or leave a message at 677-6172.