

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation



## Ormond Beach

### A NOTE FROM OUR MINISTER: Covenant—Our January Worship Theme

Choosing this month's theme of Covenant was no accident. As a congregation, we will be working on developing a Covenant of Right Relations which I hope will be ready for adoption at our annual meeting in April. What will this document entail?



Covenant, as I have said many times simply means a promise. A Covenant of Right Relations is a promise we make as a congregation to love, respect, honor, and value one another. And sort of like marriage vows, we promise to do this in good times as well as difficult times. As many of you know, the difficult times are sometimes the most challenging in keeping our promise of right relationship. But those of you who have been married or in a committed relationship for many years know it is the intentional promise of your vows to be good to each other that gets you through the hard times. Let us also remember that just like the reality of any committed relationship, we are not always 100% successful at being good to each other; however, when we learn to ask forgiveness and grant forgiveness, when we are humble and don't cling too tightly to outcomes, when we listen to understand rather than respond, then we are able to mend broken promises.

Our Covenant of Right Relations will be a document which spells out the promises we intend to keep with each other and how we will keep them. Over the next few months, and with the help of UUA Regional resources, Evan Rivers, Cliff Jackson and I will lead you through the process of developing a Covenant of Right Relations unique to our congregation. This month, I will be preaching about the unique UU history of covenant, and later I will be offering educational opportunities to learn more about right relationship. I hope you will seek the opportunity to be involved in and be part of this important work.

Yours in faith,  
Rev. Kathy



### New Members Sign "The Book"

On December 3rd, four of our newest UUCOB members "signed the Book"—our traditional record of our members, dating back to 1953, when our church society was first established. From the left are Rev. Kathy Rickey, Mike Downey, Ginnie Downey, Janet Hamer, Debbie Thompson, and our congregation's president, Joan Thate.

**Seven Dangers of Human Virtue:**

1. **Wealth without work.**
2. **Pleasure without conscience**
3. **Knowledge without character**
4. **Business without ethics**
5. **Science without humanity**
6. **Religion without sacrifice**
7. **Politics without principles**

--Mahatma Gandhi

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN—New Year's Resolutions?**

I'm not fond of our culture's attaching the beginning of each new year to the idea of resolutions. Resolutions, especially those we are supposed to make — like run five miles a day, eat only nutritious but bad tasting foods, never take a more than five-minute shower, always be a cheerful blessing to everyone we meet, stay calm and carry on, save money, stop wasting time on the Internet, and, incidentally, lose twenty-five pounds. Almost always, these vows end up as guilt-producing lists that haunt us.

Never, by the way, should you post resolutions on your refrigerator door unless you're a glutton for guilt or are so rigidly disciplined a person that the list becomes a self-righteous pat on the back every morning, in which case, I doubt you have a whole passel of friends.

Yesterday my son posted the words from the graphic above on his Facebook page, and these words of Gandhi took on a different cast for me from the earlier times I had read and thought about them. They had, when I read them earlier, seemed to be abstract ideals for humanity, like our UU Principles, which are so lofty and idealistic that I have to translate such major ideals down to what seem like little specifics to fit my spectacularly ordinary life.

But something hit me as I read the list anew. I thought I could maybe redefine the idea of resolutions away from the petty and self-referential to something higher and finer—but still livable, applicable to events like going to the grocery store or the gas station, or, more important, working, or being present with those people closest to me. It's the second part of the list—the conscience, the humanity, the sacrifice, the character, etc.—that could be the simple/incredibly complex standards against which I could measure any action.

I also noticed that the measurement terms are interchangeable. Wealth without principles works just fine, as does science without conscience, or knowledge without humanity, etc. The idea is to strive for being the most humanely ethical person you can manage to be in any given moment, and know that, by virtue of being human, it will always be a resolution rather than a reality, but a resolution that makes sense.

--Joan Thate

**Upcoming Pulpit Presentations—****December 31—Ellen Nielsen and the Congregation, "Concerns and Joys of 2017"**

On the last day of 2017, we will look back at this eventful year and re-visit our most serious personal concerns and our greatest personal joys. This service will include audience participation and brief periods of silent meditation as well as music of consolation and celebration.

**January 7—Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, "The Cambridge Platform: Origin of Our Covenantal Faith"**

The Cambridge Platform originated in 1648; it was a document establishing the promise of strangers, one to another, who were to be together and worship together in the Colonial American wilderness. Let us explore the foundations covenant in Unitarian Universalism today.

Service Leader: Linda Kalaydjian

**January 14—Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, “Covenant: Walking Together Today”**

Covenant simply means promise. Our Unitarian Universalist history of being together in right relationship (whether successfully or not) is the foundation of our promise to one another. What does this mean for us today? What does it look like to live out a covenant of right relations in our congregation today?

Service Leader: Bill Ternent

**January 21— Rev. Janet Onnie, “Five Smooth Stones” (pulpit exchange)**

Rev. Onnie is minister at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Marion County and has been serving there since 2011. She is president of the Florida chapter of the UU Ministers Association. Her undergraduate degree is from the Royal School of Music in London; she also was as principal flutist for the Bermuda Philharmonic. In 2008, Rev. Onnie earned a Masters of Divinity at the Florida Center for Theological Studies and had completed post-graduate work at the University of Chicago and at Starr King at the University of California-Berkeley.

Service Leader: Denise Carter

**January 28— Rev. James Shoopman, “The Care and Feeding of Your Local Pastor”**

The idea behind this sermon is that the relationship with the pastor takes careful nurture, like caring for a farm or a garden, calling for sunlight, water, fertilizer and so forth. I do feel called to encourage loving and helpful relationships between clergy and congregations.

Service Leader: Chris Gruner

**THE ALLIANCE—A New Year Begins**

December was a busy month for Alliance members, highlighted by our very successful Christmas Giving Project. Our recipients are sixteen teenagers who, for their own safety, are living in group homes. Each of them received two movie passes, lunch certificates to Chipotle and Golden Corral, plus generous gift certificates to Bealls Outlet. They will also have fun with movie nights at home, complete with sweets and treats for everyone in a huge laundry basket filled with these goodies for both group homes.

Thank you to everyone in the congregation who supported this effort by buying Christmas gifts and treats at our crafts table. The cookie sale was also a great success, and all those delicious treats sold out quickly. As always, our Christmas tree, gaily decorated with all of the donated new socks, is now standing proudly on the stage. It symbolizes our love and caring for the less fortunate in our community, and the socks will be donated to needy families.

Our Christmas Eve supper was well attended, and we hope to establish it as a new tradition. Spending time with our UU family, enjoying a good meal together, topped off with a delicious traditional trifle—what a way to end our busy year!

To raise additional funds to benefit our UU and local charitable organizations, we will be scheduling future “soup lunch” Sundays at our January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will also establish the Share-the-Plate partners for 2018. Please come and join us at our monthly meetings at noon on the second Thursday of each month. We have a good time while serving our church and our larger community. Happy New Year to everyone!

--Jeanne Young

## 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 problems of hunger and poverty. This year, Second Harvest continues to provide food assistance to evacuees from Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. In addition, Central Florida's Second Harvest is an official collection point for non-perishable food donations for Puerto Rico itself, where thousands are still without adequate shelter, power, food or clean water.

Second Harvest collects food donated 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, and operates distribution centers in six Central Florida counties. Distribution centers send the food to programs such as soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and programs which provide better nutrition and food security for children. Because of economies of scale, Second Harvest can turn every dollar which is donated into up to \$9.00 worth of food. **Please be generous on January 21<sup>st</sup>** when we share our offering with Second Harvest.

--Ellen Nielsen

## FIRST STEP SHELTER TAKES A BIG STEP! — Homeless Shelter Breaks Ground

Ground Breaking for the First Step Shelter took place on December 13<sup>th</sup> with some 75 attendees. Several county and city elected officials offered comments, the police provided an honor guard, and cameras flashed as shovels of dirt tossed aside the first ground in the spot that will become a shelter for homeless adults. The new shelter is located on International Speedway across from Red John Road and the county jail. In addition to a warm bed and a hot meal, the shelter staff will offer help in several areas, including health care and job training.



The cold morning was a chilly reminder of those sleeping on the ground in the lonely places around our neighborhoods. Several speakers made comments to assure the audience that their goal is to have the shelter completed by the end of 2018.

The ceremony was a glorious celebration after five years of hard work. Several attendees were the folks who have been working to build a shelter for homeless adults for ten years or more. Father Phil from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church— who was referred to as the “bull dog of F.A.I.T.H” — represented our interests. Site drawings of the facility to be built were available as were plans for the garden plot designed by our own UU congregation. We were assured that there will be clean water access available to the garden site.

The F.A.I.T.H. organization is made up of 32 Volusia County churches and other non-profit organizations. A Research to Action meeting took place on December 15<sup>th</sup> to plan for realizing the 2018 initiatives of mental health/addiction and education, selected at the December 4<sup>th</sup> Community Problems Assembly.

--Leigh Montgomery and Harry White

## **A GOOD READ— *Testimony: The Transformative Power of Unitarian Universalism***

Available from the Unitarian Universalist Association bookstore, *Testimony* offers a “Dynamic collection of personal stories from people whose lives have been dramatically changed by Unitarian Universalism. Some have returned from the brink of despair, others have found renewed purpose and discovered the saving power of community. Together these vignettes paint a portrait of the real, felt impact of Unitarian Universalism. Readers can find a new appreciation for the ways Unitarian Universalism makes a tangible difference in the lives of real people who are struggling.” The anthology is edited by Rev. Meg Riley, senior minister at the Church of the Larger Fellowship.



Published in October 2017, the book is available for \$14 through local bookstores or at the UUA website.

## **LIFE LONG LEARNING— Program for January**

The Life Long Learning programs for 2018 will be varied and include topics related to philosophy, history, the arts and archaeology as well as science and education. Each program includes time for audience questions and comments. **Program are scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.**

### **“Why the Visual Arts Do Not fit the Bell Curve”— Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

Well-known local artist Don Kennedy will focus on a major two-faceted historical development in the visual arts. Historically, the art world has seen work representing two contrasting, highly varied categories of representation: photo-realism and abstraction.

Don Kennedy retired from the Volusia School System where he served in teaching, guidance, and sports coaching. He completed his B.S. and M.A. degrees from Murray State College in history, fine arts, and education as well as graduate studies at the University of Hawaii, Miami Ohio University, Stetson University, and Florida State University. In the art world, Kennedy has received numerous awards from juried exhibitions and has conducted workshops at various art centers and universities.

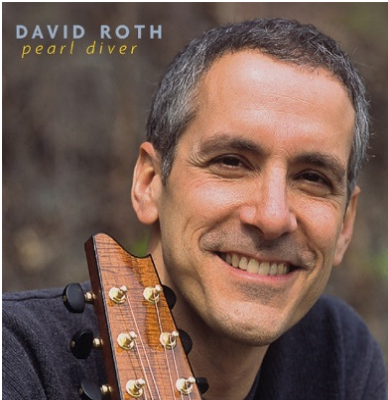
### **“Artificial Intelligence”— Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**

Dr. Massood Towhidnejad will show us how Artificial Intelligence (AI) and autonomy are becoming a major component of our day-to-day lives. First, Dr. Towhidnejad will explain how intentionally or unintentionally, we are interacting with the different applications of AI. Then he will help us briefly explore some of the different techniques and methods that are used in various AI applications. Finally, he will discuss some of the myths and aspirations about what Artificial Intelligence can do for us now or in the future, including an effort to build a human robot.

Dr. Masood Towhidnejad is a Professor of Software Engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Dr. Towhidnejad received his Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from the University of Central Florida in 1990. His teaching and research interests include STEM education, software engineering, software quality assurance and testing, autonomous systems, and Air Traffic Management. He has also served as a Faculty Fellow at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, and a Visiting Research Associate at the Federal Aviation Administration.

--Tom Hilburn and Dan Kennedy

## DAVID ROTH RETURNS! — Concert is set for January 17<sup>th</sup>



Popular folksinger/songwriter David Roth returns for another excellent concert on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at our UU. Local singer/songwriter Dan Gribbin will open for Roth. The concert is a fundraiser for our Unitarian Universalist Congregation and promises an evening of enjoyable music and lots of fun.

Peter Yarrow (of Peter, Paul and Mary) praised Roth's music: "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."

Wednesday, January 17 at 7 pm. Tickets are only \$10 but seating is limited. Call 386-956-1813 for reservations.

## CONCERT BY LIVERPOOL LIVE— "A Tribute to the Beatles"

The "Tribute to the Beatles" concert featuring **Liverpool Live** to benefit the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach will take place on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> with doors opening at 6:00 pm. The 90-minute performance begins at 7:00 pm. A complimentary glass of wine or soft drink will be provided during the intermission.

The event will be held at our UU and is being promoted to the public through newspaper advertising, websites, and posters, so tickets will go fast! Only 180 tickets at \$30.00 each are available.



**Liverpool Live** is carrying on the tradition of the greatest rock and roll band in history. They love what they do, and that love is reflected in their performances. With authentic costumes and instruments, they have painstakingly studied every note, and the result is a great show! The group has played for community associations, corporate events, and sold out theaters nationwide. They recently performed before over 6,000 people at the Boca Raton Amphitheater. **Liverpool Live** gives their audiences an evening of memories, unforgettable music, and fun! Voted the #1 Tribute Show Band in Florida, the group includes past cast members from Disney World Orlando. The guys are true entertainers who completely involve the audience in their show.

This major fund-raiser will support our UUCOB's budget, programs, and services. Let's make it a great success! Invite your friends, neighbors, and members of other UU congregations to be part of this exciting event!

For tickets and information, contact **Preston or Susan Garrison** at (386) 265-1715, or by e-mail at [PJGarrisonPJG@aol.com](mailto:PJGarrisonPJG@aol.com). **Remember, that's February 2<sup>nd</sup>** at our UU, beginning at 7 pm. Don't miss it!

January 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>  <b>New Years Day</b>	<b>2</b> Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>3</b> Worship Mtg. 11 am-noon Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm	<b>4</b> Caring Mtg. 10-11 am Democracy Now: 10:15 am-noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>5</b>  <b>Pot Luck: 6- 8:30 pm</b>	<b>6</b>  Subud Mtg: 6-9 pm
<b>7</b> Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>8</b> Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Guided Meditation: 7- 9 pm	<b>9</b> Writers Group: 10 am –noon Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>10</b> Life Long Learning: 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm	<b>11</b> Democracy Now: 10:15- noon Finance Mtg.: 10:30 am-noon Alliance: noon-2 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>15</b> <b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday</b> Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Guided Meditation: 7- 9 pm	<b>16</b> Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>17</b> <b>David Roth Concert 7:8:30 pm</b>	<b>18</b> Democracy Now: 10:15- noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm <b>Board Mtg: 5:30-7 pm</b> N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>19</b> Exploring Metaphysics: 6-7 pm	<b>20</b> <i>Jotter</i> articles due Subud Mtg: 6-9 pm
<b>21</b> Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am (Share-the-Plate) Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>22</b> Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Guided Meditation: 7- 9 pm	<b>23</b> Writers Group: 10 am –noon Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Woman’s Group 1-2 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>24</b> Life Long Learning: 4-5:30 pm Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm	<b>25</b> Democracy Now: 10:15- noon Membership Mtg: 2:30-4 pm Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am Tai Chi: 4-5 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>29</b> Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Guided Meditation: 7- 9 pm	<b>30</b> Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>31</b> Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm	<b>February 1</b> Caring Mtg. 10-11 am Democracy Now: 10:15 am-noon Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	<b>February 2</b> <b>A Tribute to the Beatles concert 7-10 pm</b>	

## Upcoming Sunday Services

Theme for January: Covenant

Date:	Topic:	Presenter:	Service Leader:
Dec. 31:	"Concerns and Joys of 2017"	--Ellen Nielsen and the Congregation	
Jan. 7:	"The Cambridge Platform: Origin of Our Covenantal Faith"	--Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey	--Linda Kalaydjian
Jan. 14:	"Covenant: Walking Together Today"	--Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey	--Bill Ternent
Jan. 21:	"Five Smooth Stones" [pulpit exchange] Share-the-Plate offering with 2 <sup>nd</sup> Harvest Food Bank	--Rev. Janet Onnie	--Denise Carter
Jan. 28:	"The Care and Feeding of Your Local Pastor"	--Rev. James Shoopman	--Chris Gruner

## January Birthdays

Ann Hall-3<sup>rd</sup>  
Susan Garrison-3<sup>rd</sup>  
Phil Elliot-4<sup>th</sup>  
Peter Remington-10<sup>th</sup>  
Val Rellstab-11<sup>th</sup>

Jofre Miller-17<sup>th</sup>  
Ashara Watkins-27<sup>th</sup>  
Kathy Tew Rickey-27<sup>th</sup>  
Debbie Hanson-30<sup>th</sup>  
Jack Moeller-31<sup>st</sup>



## The Jotter

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach

January 2018

Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, Minister: [revk2rickey@gmail.com](mailto:revk2rickey@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. +

Joan Thate, President: [jbthate@gmail.com](mailto:jbthate@gmail.com)  
Carolyn West: Jotter Editor (386) 672-9352  
Website: <http://www.uuormond.org>  
Children's' RE on Sunday 10:15 -11:45 a.m.  
Discussion Group meets Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

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