

CRAIG'S COLUMN

To applaud or not to applaud? That is a question many of us have pondered during the course of a Sunday service. At times, applause can feel awkward, but not applauding when everyone around is doing so can also feel awkward.

It's appropriate for an audience to applaud at the end of a performance. But a congregation is not an audience, and the words and music shared during a service are usually not considered to be a performance.

But sometimes a musical offering seems to cry out for applause or even a Hallelujah! When someone shares a spectacular joy, applauding can seem like a way of sharing and celebrating their joy. At other times, applause can interrupt the mood or change the feeling the musician was hoping to leave us with.

A norm of no applause ever would be inappropriate. But a norm of applauding after every musical offering would also be inappropriate.

You may have noticed that I rarely applaud during the service, but I always applaud after the postlude.

My hope is that we strike a balance between always applauding and never applauding. One way to do that might be to hold our applause until the end, i.e. after the postlude. That's the custom with symphonies—how many of us have felt foolish by misjudging the end and applauding too soon?

We might also consider occasionally offering a Hallelujah or even an Amen. Once, when I gave a Mother's Day sermon that suddenly and unexpectedly expressed a strong feminist perspective, a woman in the choir loudly exclaimed "Yes!" and gestured with her hand to further emphasize her delight and approval. Her response added to the experience.

Last month I attended a delightful play, a romantic comedy at the Daytona Playhouse. At the end of every act except one there was enthusiastic applause. After that one act, though, applause just didn't seem called for or appropriate. A few people applauded, but I noticed that most of us didn't. No one needed to tell us. We had discerned and trusted our discernment that applause wasn't called for that time. I hope we will similarly learn to trust our sense of when applause is called for and when it's not.

--Craig



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — The Thankful Season

The span of time from Thanksgiving through the year-end holidays I think of as the thankful season. It's time to recount the blessings of the year — time to prepare for the opportunities to bless and be blessed in the new year.

I count among my most prized blessings each year the UU experience —the search for it and the finding. The immediate sense of belonging I felt —and feel. I prize you— us —and the continuing challenge of considering ideas unlike my own, the accommodation that rubbing my mind against others delivers. I prize knowing that we can surmount any challenge, any difficulty, together in good faith with mutual respect.

I count as personal blessings those things that you generously do individually and together that are not intended for me personally but cement our sense of beloved community and serve those others that I cannot. I count as blessings the devotion and caring work of every member of our Board, our staff, our Pastor, our committees, our members — you.

In this new year, I wish you every opportunity that you may seek or wish for — I hope beneficence will rule your relations with others — I wish you peace and joy. Thanks for being you and being here.

--Bill

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

January 5, 2014— Rev. Craig C. Roshaven "Decades Service: Hopes & Dreams for 2014"

Some UU Congregations hold a "Decades Service" as the 1st service of the New Year. We will invite one individual from each decade of life to share his/her goals, hopes and dreams for the coming year.

January 12, 2014— Rev. Craig C. Roshaven "Why I Don't Believe in a Personal God"

This Sunday's sermon topic is at the request of Phil Green, who successfully won the bid for a sermon topic of his choice at last fall's auction.

January 19, 2014— David Roth "Honoring the Life and Work of Martin Luther King, Jr."

Folksinger David Roth will be with us for a service in song honoring the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. He will return on Wednesday evening, January 22, for a 7 p.m. concert at our UU sanctuary.

January 26, 2014— Rev. Craig C. Roshaven "To Be a Welcoming Congregation"

The Welcoming Congregation program as administered by the UUA helps congregations to be welcoming to individuals who self-identify as Lesbians, Gays, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, or Queer. If we are to truly everyone, we must do more than just be politically correct. We must put ourselves in the way of change and reduce the gap between how we think we should feel and how we actually feel.

February 2, 2014— Rev. Craig C. Roshaven "Spiritual Teachings of Earth Centered Tradition"

In 1995, a sixth source was added to the Principles and Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It states that the living tradition shared by UUs draws from "Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature."

THE ALLIANCE

December was a whirlwind month for the Alliance. On six Tuesdays in November and December, Alliance members met and made crafts to sell to the congregation to make money for our annual Christmas Giving Project. On the third Sunday in December, we prepared a soup and sandwich luncheon for the congregation. Nearly sixty people ate the delicious soups prepared by Gaia Davies and Ashara Watkins. Many other people prepared delicious desserts, and I saw many happy and satisfied diners relaxing and enjoying each other's company. The proceeds went to support our Giving project.

On December 23rd Alliance Members sponsored a Christmas cookie sale. A wonderful assortment of cookies was prepared by Alliance members and many congregation members bought cookies for themselves, friends and neighbors.

Our Tuesday craft days will continue throughout the year. Rhoni Bachschmidt will lead us in our craft adventures. We will be meeting on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Our fourth principle, "We affirm and promote a free and responsible search for truth and meaning", will be the topic for discussion at the end of our business meeting in January. We are always looking for new members, so please join us. Our mission is to reach out to our local community, help each other here in our church, and to have fun! Alliance meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at noon. I hope to see you at the January 10th meeting.

--Jeanne Young, Alliance President

SECOND HARVEST—Our January Share-the-Plate Partner

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: Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia. This organization's mission is to fight hunger in Central Florida by providing access to food and other grocery products in order to meet the need, promoting and supporting the development of our partner agencies' ability to fulfill their missions, mobilizing leaders and communities by bringing visibility to the invisible problem of hunger and poverty, and developing more holistic and county-specific solutions to hunger in Central Florida.



To achieve these goals, Second Harvest collects and distributes 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 at distribution sites in six Central Florida counties. In Volusia County, food is distributed at the Second Harvest Food Bank at 320 North Street. From the distribution centers, food is passed on to programs such as soup kitchens, homeless shelters, shelters for battered women and children, afterschool programs, and a program which provides needy children with weekend snack packs. In Orange County, Second Harvest operates a culinary training program. Because of economies of scale and its innovative and efficient programs, Second Harvest is able to turn every dollar which is donated into up to \$9.00 worth of food.

For more information, including personal stories about the one in five Central Floridians who are now or will be facing hunger this year, see the Second Harvest website at www.centralfloridafoodbank.org

--Ellen Nielsen

LIFE-LONG LEARNING — Special Focus on Our UU Faith

We will have several Life-Long Learning opportunities this winter that focus specifically on where **we** came from. Rev. Craig C. Roshaven will offer a series of four afternoon sessions to help us explore our own UU faith.

Most of us have heard the saying: “Unitarians think man is too good for God to condemn, and Universalists think God is too good to condemn man.” For some of us, that is about as much as we know about the two strands that came together to create Unitarian Universalism. However, many of us would like to know much more about both of these traditions and understand how our liberal religion came to be what it is today. The Life-Long Learning committee is proud to offer an opportunity to deepen your knowledge of our faith.

Rev. Roshaven, an ordained UU minister for many years and a graduate of a Unitarian Universalist seminary, will present four informative sessions open to everyone. The programs will be presented in Room One at UU from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons. The subjects and dates of the sessions are as follows:

January 15th —Unitarianism

January 22nd —Universalism

January 29th —The Five Smooth Stones of Liberal Religion

February 19^t —How to Develop Your Personal “Elevator Speech” to Explain Your Faith to the Uninitiated

Rev. Roshaven loves to teach, and those who attended his presentation on Frederick Schleiermacher learned that he is very skilled, and loves interaction with the audience. These will be lively learning experiences for all who choose to come.

—Who Are We and Where Did We Come From?

As part of the Life-Long Learning — Evolution of American Culture series, our January evening program will examine major developments in American education from 17th Century colonial days to the present from a standpoint of cultural influences. Background reading material is located near the building front door. Dan Kennedy will be conducting the program session from 7:00 to 8:30 pm on Thursday, January 9, 2014.

Unlike many congregations, our UU members and friends often have grown up in the cultures where the beliefs and customs of the places we have lived were anything but homogenous. Members of the Life-Long Learning Committee have just completed a longer study of how the idea of God has evolved and how that evolution grew out of circumstances “on the ground.”

Now many of us might find it fascinating to take a look at how the culture of our nation has evolved and to compare how this evolution has affected our lives. We will look at how the American culture has changed through a series of discussions—one a month— beginning in January and continuing through May. Each segment of the series will focus on one aspect of our culture. Relatively short advance readings will be helpful for those who attend the sessions. They will be sent by e-mail to those who request them, and some printed copies will be available for those who do not get e-mail. The meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Room One.

At the beginning of each session, the speaker will give a short introduction that broadly presents the major movements in the evolution of the aspect of the culture for discussion that evening. Then open sharing and discussion will follow. On January 9th Dan Kennedy will present a program on the evolution of education as the first of these sessions. The rest of the sessions are planned as follows:

February 13th —Social Evolution with Nancy Scherr
 March 13th —Economic Evolution with Jim Rothweiler
 April 10th —Political Evolution with Jean Scott
 May 8th —Religious Evolution with Joan Thate

We hope that you will join us for all of the series, but since the programs will not be sequential, attend as many as appeal to you.

--Joan Thate

NOTES FROM THE BACKROOM –Religious Education

This is the time of year for looking backwards and forward. The old year seems like a bouquet of children with laughing faces, learning and enjoying their time together. We have expanding our regulars and have welcomed returning guests. Feedback has been very positive on the program and the new curriculum.

The big new event of the year was the reopening of the toddler room, which greatly expanded the age range that we are able to serve. Our summer program of volunteers from the congregation sharing their skills and interests was also very successful and thanks again to all participants. Wish list for next year: finding someone to help us develop a teen program. One thing is certain in the year to come— everyone will be getting older. Happy New Year!

--Debbie Hanson



Conner's Angel

A BIG THANK YOU!

When you arrived at our UU in the first part of December, you probably noticed how clean and shining the place was. We give our thanks to the “Outside Crew” who spent hours working on sprucing up the parking lot, sidewalks, and other parts of our grounds. The crew included Peter Remington, Kurtland Davies, Preston Garrison, Chris Gruner, Bill Ternent, Mike List, Walter Dobbs and Ann Matteson.

If you peeked inside our kitchen lately, you’ll have noticed how clean and sparkling it is. Thanks to the “Kitchen Crew” that included Joan Thate, Jeanne Young, Ashara Watkins and Gaia Davies. Please take time to admire the handiwork of these dedicated folks and give them your hearty thanks! Then volunteer for the next crew!

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

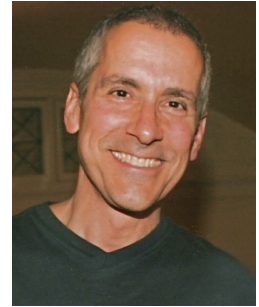
The Welcoming Congregation Committee is starting the process to get an updated version of the certificate currently on the wall near where our coffee is served. Our Board of Trustees voted unanimously to bring the matter before the congregation as soon as possible so that the UUA in Boston will allow us to proceed. During this updating process, we will be presenting various programs to educate the congregation about LGBTQ issues. We hope also to present a LGBTQ Sunday service and a film series on the second Friday of the month. Stay tuned for further developments.

--Rita Scheeler

FOLKSINGER HONORS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Folksinger David Roth will be with us on Sunday morning, January 19, for a service in song honoring the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. He will return on Wednesday evening, January 22, for a 7 p.m. concert at our UU sanctuary.

David's inspirational work has been recognized by Peter Yarrow (of the group Peter, Paul and Mary): "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."



David will be giving workshops at the Posi (as in "Positive") Music Festival in Orlando prior to coming up to Ormond Beach. I will attend the festival and very much look forward to getting to know David and sharing our mutual love of folk music. Cliff Jackson, a big fan of David's music, will assist with transportation for David on January 19 and with the myriad details of staging the concert on January 22.

A modest \$10 per ticket will allow as many of our UU members and others in our community as possible to attend the event. Please make it a point to obtain your ticket from Dan Gribbin (386-956-1813) or Cliff Jackson and to consider inviting others to enjoy music and refreshments beginning at 7 p.m. on January 22. It's going to be a memorable night.

--Dan Gribbin

HELP WANTED

Rev. Roshaven would like to expand the number of lay service leaders and enhance their role in our Sunday services. Support will be offered to lay leaders in form of worship resources, training, and feedback. Service leaders are also welcome at Program Committee meetings (usually the second Monday of the month), especially when we are considering changes to the Order of Service or possible sermon topics. Interested? Call Rev. Roshaven at (817) 657-2976 or e-mail him at CRoshaven@uuma.org.

DENONMINATIONAL AFFAIRS NEWS

On February 21- 22, 2014, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Vero Beach will host "Communities Coming Together"— a two-day conference featuring 16 inspiring speakers. Topics will include Healing of the Earth by Restoring Rights, Healing the Earth through Song, and Healing Ourselves in Body and Spirit. See the full conference schedule and registration links at http://healingourworldandourselves.org/?page_id=121#1

The Saturday morning panel "Learn, Love and Act" will feature members from the UU Service Committee, the UU Ministry for Earth, UU Justice Florida and UUs for a Just Economic Community (representing Move to Amend). For this 2nd annual conference, speakers will address the following questions: How do you see the problem of climate disruption in relationship to the earth and her most basic relationships with us and the rest of creation? And what is your view of the solution?" The specific focus will be possible ways of dealing with food and water concerns. Speakers will comment from the perspective of their own disciplines as they relate their own field to climate and environmental issues.

--John Horner

January 2014

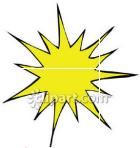
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>New Year's Day</i> CUUPS: 7-9 pm	2 Caring Committee: 10 am-noon Democracy Now: 10:30-12:30 pm Way of Mastery: 4:30-6 pm Membership Mtg. 5-6:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	3 Homeschool: 10 am-2 pm Pot Luck Supper: 6-8:30 pm	4
5 Discussion: 9:15-10:15 am Service: 10:30-11:30 am Talk About: noon-1 pm Tai Chi: 5-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	6 Positive Study: 10 am-noon Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Buddhist Sangha: 7:30-8:30 pm	7 Crafts: 10 am-1 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	8 Finance Committee Mtg. 1:30-3 pm Choir: 6-7:30 pm	9 Democracy Now: 10:30-12:30 pm Alliance Mtg. Noon- 2 pm Way of Mastery: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm Life Long Learning 7-8:30 pm	10 Homeschool: 10 am-2 pm Crystal Meditation 6-7 pm	11 Subud Meeting 6-9 pm
12 Discussion: 9:15-10:15 am Service: 10:30-11:30 am Talk About: noon-1 pm Tai Chi: 5-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	13 Positive Study: 10 am-noon Program Mtg. Noon-1 pm Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Buddhist Sangha: 7:30-8:30 pm NE Breeze due to Donna Jordan	14 Writers Group: 10 am-noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	15 Life-Long Learning (Rev. Roshaven) 4-5:30 pm Choir: 6-7:30 pm CUUPS: 7-9 pm	16 Democracy Now: 10:30-12:30 pm Way of Mastery: 4:30-6 pm Board Meeting: 5-7 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	17 Homeschool: 10 am-2 pm Movie Night: 7-9 pm	18
19 Discussion: 9:15-10:15 am Service: 10:30-11:30 am Talk About: noon-1 pm Recital 3-5 pm Tai Chi: 5-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	20 Positive Study: 10 am-noon Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Buddhist Sangha: 7:30-8:30 pm Jotter articles deadline	21 Crafts: 10 am-1 pm Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	22 Life-Long Learning (Rev. Roshaven) 4-5:30 pm Choir: 6-7:30 pm David Roth Concert 7-9:30 pm	23 Democracy Now: 10:30-12:30 pm Way of Mastery: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	24 Homeschool : 10 am-2 pm	25
26 Discussion: 9:15-10:15 am Service: 10:30-11:30 am Talk About: noon-1 pm Tai Chi: 5-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	27 Positive Study: 10 am-noon Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm Buddhist Sangha: 7:30-8:30 pm	28 Writers Group: 10 am-noon Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	29 Life-Long Learning (Rev. Roshaven) 4-5:30 pm Choir: 6-7:30 pm	30 Democracy Now: 10:30-12:30 pm Way of Mastery: 4:30-6 pm N Anon: 7-8 pm	31 Homeschool : 10 am-2 pm	

Pulpit Presentations for January 2014

Date:	Topic	Presenter:	Service Leader
Jan. 5	--"Hopes & Dreams for 2014"	--Rev. Craig C. Roshaven	--Gaia Davies
Jan. 12	--"Why I Don't Believe in a Personal God"	--Rev. Craig C. Roshaven	--Phil Elliott
Jan. 19	--"Service in Song for M. L. King, Jr." Share the Plate -- Second Harvest -- Ellen Nielsen	--David Roth	--Chris Gruner
Jan. 26	--"To Be a Welcoming Congregation"	--Rev. Craig C. Roshaven	--Rita Scheeler

January Birthdays

Ann Hall- 3rd
Susan Garrison-3rd
Phil Elliott-4th
Samantha Rivera-8th
Peter Remington-10th



Val Rellstab-11th
Dorothy Hartley-13th
Gordon Hart-25th
Tom Hanson-30th
Jack Moeller-31st



The Jotter

January 2014

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalists of the Daytona Beach Area

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Sunday Service: 10:30 am