The Unicorn



August 1, 2023 Vol.65, Issue 8



Board Corner

Inquiring Minds Want To Know

Judy Keiser

Remember the National Enquirer? Inquiring minds around UUFBR want to know the five W's: Who, What, When, Where, and Why? Here are a few answers from July:





From The Minister

What the World Needs Now Is... Connection

As I write, it is the last week in July. A week ago, Don and I returned from our long-awaited trip to Europe. I can't thank you all enough for affording me this time off. Abroad and unplugged in some of the most beautiful countryside I've ever seen, it was deeply restorative.

AUGUST SERVICES
SHARE THE PLATE
BOARD CORNER
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COMMITTEES

Sunday Services August 2023

August 6 – "Service to our Fellowship: Gratitude for the Gifts We Give Each Other" with Rev. Kathy and Co-President Judy Keiser

This will be an interactive service; please come prepared with someone in mind - a fellow member or a friend, past or present – whom you would like to thank for enriching our UUFBR community.

August 13 - "The Five Smooth Stones of Liberal Religion" with Rev. Kathy

In the mid-20th century, James Luther Adams gave us an elegant notion of what "liberal" theology is; Rev. Kathy will explore how it remains descriptive of our faith tradition today.

August 20 - "Freedom 'Of' or Freedom 'From' Religion" with Rev. Kathy

What brings us to Unitarian Universalism? Rev. Kathy will explore this question in the context of life-span faith development.

August 27 - "Our Keystone Principle" with Rev. Kathy

Unitarian Universalism's 4th Principle calls us to a 'responsible search for truth and meaning." It has been interpreted as the Keystone Principle. In this vein, Rev. Kathy will speak about a different way of viewing our 7 Principles.

Share The Plate Recepient





The current recipient of Palm
Beach County. Half of our Sunday
plate collections will go to their
youth program which provides
nature tours to urban children
without access to Florida's
natural wonders.

Share-The-Plate seeking suggestions and members!

In December 2006, we began sharing our Sunday Collection Plate with the wider community in a **Share-The-Plate** program. After starting this program, contributions to the plate doubled. Half of each collection helps to pay the bills at UUFBR, and the other half goes to the Share-the-Plate Fund. When the Fund reaches \$1000, that \$1000 is given to a nonprofit organization.

All recipients of this program are nonprofits suggested by UUFBR members; often these are active participants with the particular organization.

In 2022, we shared the plate with All People's Day, the American Red Cross, Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA), Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA), Florida League of Women Voters Education Fund, Boca Helping Hands and Propel. This year we have given to P.E.A.C.E. (People Engaged in Active Community Efforts), Safe Harbor Center and we are currently collecting for Inspiring Connections Outdoors, a program of the Sierra Club which helps urban youth get out into nature.

As a UUFBR member, if you would like to suggest an organization to be a recipient of Share-The-Plate contributions, please click on the following link for a PDF form that can be printed, completed, and returned to any **Community**Service Team member or the UUFBR office – admin@uufbr.org (561) 482-2001:

Share-The-Plate Suggestion Form (PDF)

It is important to note that the ministries and work of UUFBR are primarily funded through annual pledges made by our members and pledging friends. We conduct a once-a-year pledge drive in the winter and this year our members and friends committed to giving \$157,775 to UUFBR. The total income budgeted for this year (April – March) is \$245,150.

If you're interested in joining our Share-The-Plate team, please reach out to Jennifer Ligeti (561) 239 – 1662 or NiffLig@gmail.com. We'd love to have you! Currently, Bett Willett and Susan Dubbin serve on this team with Jennifer.



Board of Trustees
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Paul Libert/ Sandy Troiano
trustees@uufbr.org
https://groups.google.com/uufbr-board

Inquiring Minds Want To Know cont.

WHO was around? While Rev. Kathy took a well-deserved vacation, the Worship Team organized wonderful layled services. Our Admin Assistant Ruth competently maintained all our regular weekly communications. Our Treasurer Bill, with Robert, continued training our new outside bookkeeping service on our procedures.

And as we welcome Rev. Kathy back, we ask members and friends to continue to be part of the action in worship and all our programs. We have a great pool of talent ,and we'd love to add YOUR skills to our volunteer roster!

WHAT happened? When Patrick, our VP of Facilities, left for his own well-deserved vacation, the A/C in the Sanctuary did too! We're weighing whether to replace the system or just repair the faulty components. Meanwhile the fan in Osias seems to be working fine to keep the Sanctuary cool.

During July your Board continued working on improving access to information, accuracy of financial data, projects related to our music program, and discerning the best way to utilize our facilities in view of Boca's restrictive zoning rules. In other, sadder, news, we lost two valued members of our community: Stover Snook and Harriet Schuman. These losses remind us of how important each member is to us all.

WHEN did UUFBR sleep? Only in the deep of night – the rest of the time, the place was full, thanks to our amazing Sharex leaders who support organizations that educate, entertain, and support our neighbors. The HAF summer arts camp produced two very successful shows, the contradance group became a regular, and many other community groups continue to enjoy our facilities. The Silec Family Group has officially ended their operations at UUFBR, but the universe immediately sent us not one but TWO possible replacements. And events like First Friday Fun Night and other social activities fill the days with ways to connect.

WHERE can we go to feel accepted and appreciated? Anywhere at UUFBR, whether in person or on Zoom. Our hybrid and online events, supported by our incredible Tech Team and many willing Zoom hosts, are extraordinary. We're unusual among churches in our continued commitment to expand our circle of care beyond our geographic neighborhood. We gathered for two Congregational Conversations in July on Zoom as well as in person. And we continue to welcome remote participation in worship, meetings of the Board of Trustees and committees, and our many social programs. We encourage you to attend from wherever you are, and invite others to join you, as we continue to build close and authentic relationships "beyond geography."

WHY does UUFBR exist? This is the most important of the Five W's. Why do YOU need UUFBR to exist? We need to keep asking this existential question and listen to each other's answers. As your board chooses our next ministry and sets in motion the congregational work to clarify our mission, vision, and core values, we'll be asking each member and friend to consider the WHY of your relationship with this community. Please share your thoughts with the inquiring minds on your Board – we want to know!

From the minister... Reverend Kathryn Tew Rickey



What the World Needs Now Is...Connection cont.

Yet, you the members and friends of UUFBR were not far from my mind. In fact, in two weeks I visited more churches than I have in a lifetime, and it always brought to mind our contemporary congregational life and how different our theology and governance is from the hierarchical seats of power represented by the cathedrals of the 10th through 16th centuries. In fact, the pulpit pictured here says it all. When I came upon it in Cologne, Germany, it caused me a moment's ironic laughter at the thought of preaching from it in a UU setting.

One thing to note about the physicality of what I call this flying golden pulpit: most of the people attending this cathedral in earlier centuries would have been illiterate. Therefore, visuals were important in conveying not only biblical stories and stories of saints and heroes of early Christendom, but visual impacts also had to convey ecclesiastical power and authority as divinely conferred on the Catholic (meaning universal) Church. For example, on the inside of the umbrella–like structure over the priest's head, there is a depiction of a dove, wings spread against the sun's rays which represents the Holy Spirit, an aspect of the Trinitarian Godhead believed to be the divine breath of inspiration.



An elaborate gold leafed pulpit raised above the pews for acoustical effect, accessible by a winding staircase.

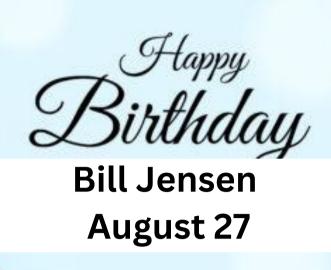
Thus, I could not completely escape my religious vocation as I visited these many old churches in Europe. Yet, it was humbling for me to think of the centrality of the church in people's short, often arduous lives of centuries past, and how important it could be as a source of hope and meaning. While we might critique Rome for its excesses, these cathedrals no doubt fortified the faithful by engaging the imagination and enlarging the spirit.

Regardless of creed, doctrine, or theology, all religions provide a path, a journey, or a practice that leads us to something more, something beyond the confines of our atomistic reality and thought. Most major religions call us to imagine our best selves, our best existence, not as lone wolves but as people in community, connected and sharing in a vision that approximates a heaven on earth.

Having since returned home to the States to news of organized hate and violence targeting our faith communities, it occurs to me that perhaps part of the problem is the trend in our society to isolate rather than commune. What the world needs now is connection, community, care, hope, and meaning. A religious community is not a panacea for all that we suffer but it checks all the boxes when it comes to nourishing souls. Therefore, let us as a congregation resist the urge to hunker down and isolate ourselves in a scary world. Rather, let us prepare wisely for being a congregation in a scary world that offers open arms to those seeking hope, meaning, and little bit of heaven on earth.

In Faith and Love,

Rev. Kathy





FIRST FRIDAY FUN NIGHT AUGUST 4TH 7:00-9:00 PM

August 4th is First Friday Fun Night here at UUFBR - also known as Game Night.

We invite you all to join us from 7 to 9 pm in the Osias Hall for board games, Dominoes, fun group games and Bingo. You are welcome to bring your favorite game if you have one! Snacks and beverages will be provided.

We hope you can join us!
Please RSVP via email to
membership@UUFBR.org
to let us know you're coming.

THE COMMUNITY UU CHURCH OF PLANO TEXAS WAS ATTACKED WITH A FIREBOMB ON JULY 23. IT MAY BE RELATED TO A HATE GROUP THAT INTERRUPTED A PREVIOUS CHURCH SERVICE. THE CHURCH IS STILL STANDING, AND THE CONGREGATION HAS REQUESTED, THROUGH THE ASSOCIATION OF UU ADMINISTRATORS, THAT FOLKS SEND THEM CARDS, SO THAT CAN COVER THEIR SANCTUARY WALLS WITH NOTES OF LOVE AND CARE.

COMMUNITY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF PLANO

2875 E. PARKER ROAD





PLANO, TX 75074







SIDE WITH LOVE!



Spare a thought for our coffee service, please!

Would you mind next time you go grocery shopping, to please pick up an extra treat to share on Sunday? We can always use a backstock of low-cost snacks, like mini-muffins, donut holes, pound cakes, frozen fruit, etc. Day-old is fine—we keep them in the freezer until needed. Thanks kindly!



On Sunday, July 23, a Congregational Conversation was held, with meetings after the service in the Sanctuary, and in the evening at 7:00 by zoom. About 22 people attended one of the two meetings

The purpose of the conversation was to familiarize the congregation with the Board's ongoing exploration of our next ministry. Among other points of agreement, the groups indicated a preference for a full-time minister, with a slight preference for an Extended Interim Minister and several votes of confidence with whatever the Board's decision.

Miss the meetings but would still like to be heard? Take an extra ten days to respond with your thoughts to have your voice heard! Respond by e-mail to Trustees@uufbr.org.



your tech questions. Join us in the Osias Hall







August 14 Death Cafe



Death Café meetings take place on the SECOND Monday of each month starting promptly at 7:30 on Zoom. Each meeting will run until 9:00 pm. Attendance is open to all, but there will be a waiting room, and due to the sensitive nature of the topics discussed, latecomers will not be admitted.

Judy Keiser affection44@earthlink.net Louise Malusis Imalusis@gmail.com

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/94672062977?

pwd=ZGNEbmxxTEJwRC81ZTU0YXZ3NjBpUT09 Meeting ID: 946 7206 2977

Passcode: 720164

Pagan Study Group

First Monday @ 7:00 PM by ZOOM only
Third Monday @ 7:00 PM in person - Parker Room
Contact: Alison Rognas, cuups@uufbr.org

Zoom Host: itteam@uufbr.org
Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/98530214114?

pwd=ajcvWGZjM1ljQ1V5d3ZRSFcweFJ1UT09

Meeting ID: 985 3021 4114

Passcode: 361105

One tap mobile: +13052241968,,98530214114# US



Fire of Life Drum Circle is on hiatus for the time being.

Midweek Meditation Wednesday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Take part in this half hour of music, sharing of words to lift the spirit, time to just breathe together. This is meant to be a time of meditation and prayer. It is not a discussion group.

The ZOOM room will open at 8:00 pm for checking in and winding down until the compline service begins at 8:30pm

Zoom Host: worship@uufbr.org

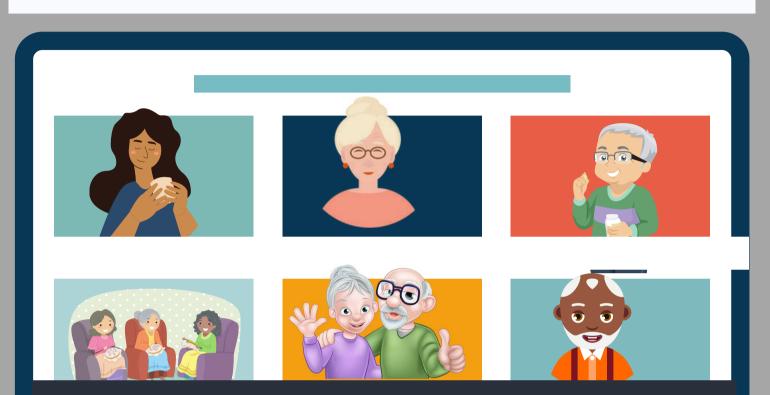
Use this link to join on Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/96434715626?

pwd=blZvdmhpTkx3T1lNWVNKUm1kalAvdz09

Meeting ID: 964 3471 5626 Passcode: 537875 One tap mobile: +16469313860,,96434715626# US

FRIDAY NIGHT HAPPY HOUR 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm





Use this link to join on Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/99727829724? pwd=aXZMSUtuSU1FOHRTY2hSS0xRc2Z3Zz09

Meeting ID: 997 2782 9724, Passcode: 818939

A virtual end of the week happy hour.

Bring your beverage and munchies!
Invite others - your place or share the link.

Healing Justice
will be meeting via Zoom on
September 9th and the 23rd, 1:00 to 2:30 pm,
to discuss the book
"Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the
Road to Multiculturalism"
by Nancy Palmer Jones.

Mistakes and Miracles, the 2022-23 UU Common Read, sparks transformative conversation about making a Beloved Community real and dismantling white supremacy in the Unitarian Universalist communities.

Zoom link will be sent out at a later date.

Hope to see you there.

Dianne Ferger

fergerdianne@gmail.com



Join UUs for Coastal Cleanup 2023 on Sunday, September 24, 2023 from 12 to 2 PM.

Marine debris is litter that somehow ends up in the ocean. Garbage from inland areas both flows and blows downstream to the coast, so cleaning up neighborhood trash from University Woodlands Park and playground prevents marine debris.

The UUFBR Pagan Study Group, in partnership with Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful and International Coastal Cleanup, will provide trash bags, buckets, grabbers and gloves. Prizes will be awarded for most trash (in pounds), most unusual item collected, and largest item collected. Registration will take place at during coffee service. You may pre-register for this event by requesting the Volunteer Registration Forms by email to CUUPS@uufbr.org

Enjoy the service, then enjoy Nature as we put the UU 7th Principle into practice: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Everyone is welcome!

Writers Circle Spring Semester Will be on hiatus for the July and August summer months. They will return in September

Check website calendar for details

The Writers' Circle's main purpose is to provide feedback, encouragement and support for the writing process. Members include poets, non-fiction writers, short-story writers, novelists and writers in other genres.

https://zoom.us/j/97921056462? pwd=bkhpY2R0RStOdU5yUXFWWXRjcHluZz09 Meeting ID: 979 2105 6462 Passcode: 984806



HEALING JUSTICE COMMITTEE TUESDAY AUGUST 22 7:30 pm

To further understand how racism fuels hatred and ways to continue our journey to reverse these trends.

Use this link to join on Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/95265885097?
pwd=SDA4Q2VpQytldWxsL0ZBTFAwd0INUT09 Meeting ID: 952 6588 5097

Passcode: 330269

Will be on hiatus
for the
July and August
summer months.
They will return on
September 20th.

BOOK GROUP

Meets the third Wednesday at 7:00 pm Contact: Robyn Stuart robynleestuart@aol.com



September Unicorn deadline -August 25th @ 10:00 AM send items to: publications@uufbr.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Morning Coffee & Tea
Weekly Thursday at 10:00 AM
Zoom Host:
worship@uufbr.org
Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/987774217 00?

pwd=OEhpSWYvcUtqZXkrcE9
OcGRFTOgrdzO9

Meeting ID: 987 7742 1700 Passcode: 476707

NVC Practice Circle will be on hiatus for the July and August summer months. They will return in September

NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION

Speak Giraffe?

Non Violent Communication Learning Circle



NVC is taught as a process of interpersonal communication designed to improve compassionate connection to others. It aims to support change on three interconnected levels: within self, between others, and within groups and social systems.

Second Thursday @ 12:30 PM
Contact: Judy Keiser affection44@earthlink.net
Zoom Host: worship@uufbr.org

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/92339307030?pwd=TUpHeGkyb0M0SXkyL0JqbGxNeFQ3QT09

Meeting ID: 923 3930 7030 Passcode: 642186 One tap mobile: +16469313860,,92339307030# US

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Engage in spirited group discussion of social and political issues.

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/95687792437?pwd=OWRKVnFYY2ILWng5bHk2a2xGLytwdz09

Meeting ID: 956 8779 2437 Passcode: 525671

MOVIE MATINEE DISCUSSION GROUP SATURDAYS AT 3 P.M.

Watch the selected movie at your convenience any time before we meet.
Then take part on Saturday at 3pm via ZOOM for the discussion.
You'll be glad you did!



Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/97402403939? pwd=NXM4dGhHblVpeVN3Yyt5RX FlUXJudz09

> Meeting ID: 974 0240 3939 Passcode: 8FJTV2



FIRST FRIDAY
FUN NIGHT/ GAME NIGHT

Every 1st Friday of the month join us in the Osias hall from 7 to 9 pm for games, snacks beverages but most of all lots of fun.



It's getting harder for LGBTQ+ people to feel safe in our country.

With more than 80 new anti-LGBTQ+ laws across the states this year and the extremist Supreme Court actively granting a license to discriminate against queer people in the 303 Creative case, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) has declared a national state of emergency. This unprecedented spike in statesanctioned discrimination has created hostile and dangerous environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) people.

But HRC is here to help you stay safe and aware of your rights — in whatever state you find yourself in. *Simply text "MYSTATE" to 472472 and you'll instantly receive important, topline information about the laws in your state, as well as a link to download HRC's emergency guidebook for action.

Whether you are going out of state for work or leisure — worried about safety in your current state — or headed to college in a new state soon — we want to help you understand the laws and protections for LGBTQ+ people.

We know this is a scary and confusing time — but we've got you. HRC will continue to fight back against these extremist attacks on our civil rights.

South Florida Contra Dance Society



You are invited to a contra dance!

Saturday August 19th, 2023 7:00pm - 9:45pm

Lesson: 7:00pm to 7:30pm

Caller: Lou Dow Band: Steppin Stones

Unitarian Universalist

2601 St Andrews Blvd Boca Raton, FL 33434 \$10 Admission \$5 for 18 and under, students, and as needed.

Please make sure to wear soft-soled, nonmarking, shoes e.g. tennis shoes, not street shoes, and bring a snack to share if you can!







Pianist SOO JUNG KWON

Artist in Residence at FPC



Featuring Pianist

OR. STEVEN R MENTO

First Presbyterian Church
&
Nanum Concert Series
present
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free admission
Friday 18th August 2023 / 7 PM
at FPC in Coral Springs

Special Guest KATHERYN RUBIO

For more info visit us at :
www.soojpiano.com
EMAIL: soojpiano@gmail.com



Committees ZOOM links & descriptions

Board of Trustees

4th Thursday at 7:00 pm Judy Keiser, Sandy Troiano - copresidents@uufbr.org

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/93768534897?pwd=WEFNODZBV21Bc25sQWVjUGlmRzdmdz09

Meeting ID: 937 6853 4897 Passcode: 114338

Endowment Committee

2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm
Group Contact: Patricia Rogers prl17@bellsouth.net
The Endowment Fund: Sustaining the Legacy, the Continuity,
and the Future of UUFBR and our UU Principles.

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/95661758153 Meeting ID: 956 6175 8153
One tap mobile: +19292056099,,95661758153# US (New York)

Finance Committee

Third Monday at 2:00 pm Group Contact: Patricia Rogers prl17@bellsouth.net

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/93286318047?pwd=bU5nSGUv0EwzaVh10EJTd2xBZjRRQT09 Meeting ID: 932 8631 8047, Password: 867418

Landscape Committee

First Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Group contact: Celia Hirsch 561-870-3577

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/95432721616?pwd=dWNySFF5bTdoN3JSYi9JT1hBTEs0Zz09

Meeting ID: 954 3272 1616 Passcode: 575795

The Legacy Group

Third Sunday @ 1 pm

Group contact: Judy Keiser

Zoom Host: itteam@uufbr.org

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://zoom.us/j/98795244584?pwd=d1NuVzZnM05ycDkwVWtQQnJyUm1PQT09

Meeting ID: 987 9524 4584 Passcode: 388278

Membership Committee

Third Tuesday at 7:30 pm Group contact: Sharon Drew

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/93534994263?pwd=WEwwVE0wMHQzZVg2bC9TeU5NMGdwdz09

Meeting ID: 935 3499 4263 Passcode: 232167

Religious Education Council (RE Council)

RE Council is taking a hiatus until the fall 2023 RECouncil@uufbr.org

This group organizes activities for families with children and promotes religious education for all ages.

Staff Meeting

Tuesday at 12:00 am

Group contact: Ruth Amisial admin@uufbr.org

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/8707275954?pwd=T1laTDRKbTk0amFOWHlvakFoKzJ2Zz09

Meeting ID: 870 727 5954 Passcode: uVM7V0

Office hours: T,W, F 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Sun. 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

IT Team

Meets as needed

Group contact: Louis Merlin, louismerlin@gmail.com
Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/95229659211?pwd=SVJUdU93WXJLbEVhSWxuR0duNE9aQT09

Meeting ID: 952 2965 9211 Passcode: 023036

Worship Committee Meeting

Bi-weekly on Wednesday at 5:00 pm Group contact: Nick Sanchez, nicholaslsanchez@gmail.com Zoom Host: itteam@uufbr.org

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/96502101012?pwd=VIQ1MXBFVXI5bFhGRUdJZEhhMEUzQT09

Meeting ID: 965 0210 1012 Passcode: 462887

Transition Team Meeting

Bi-weekly on Wednesday at 5:00 pm

Use this link to join on Zoom:

https://zoom.us/j/96502101012?pwd=VIQ1MXBFVXI5bFhGRUdJZEhhMEUzQT09_

Meeting ID: 965 0210 1012 Passcode: 462887