Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton

The Unicorn

May 1, 2024 Vol.74, Issue 17



Board Corner

Navigating in coastal waters requires following the red and green channel markers. Seeing the next marker gives us a sense of comfort. But what happens when we can't see the next marker?

Cont. on pg 6





From The Minister

Reverend Kathy's May article will be posted separately this month.

What else is inside?

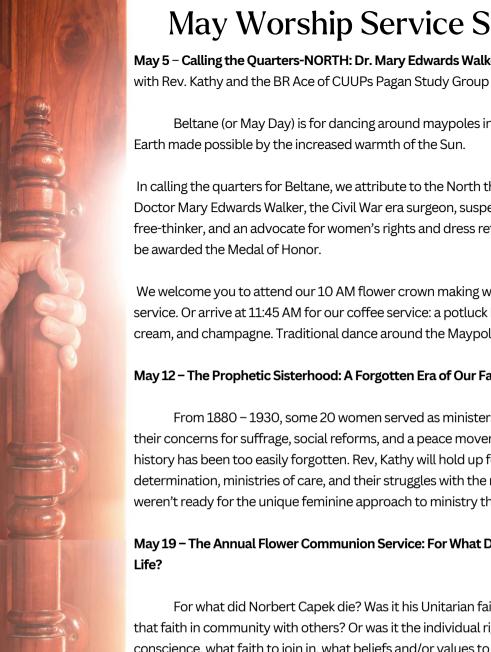
<u>Upcoming Services &</u>
<u>Share the Plate</u>
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Featured Events for May

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

Calendar & Classifieds

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May Worship Service Schedule

May 5 - Calling the Quarters-NORTH: Dr. Mary Edwards Walker

Beltane (or May Day) is for dancing around maypoles in honor of the fertility of the Earth made possible by the increased warmth of the Sun.

In calling the quarters for Beltane, we attribute to the North the amazing achievements of Doctor Mary Edwards Walker, the Civil War era surgeon, suspected spy, prisoner of war, a free-thinker, and an advocate for women's rights and dress reform. She is the only woman to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

We welcome you to attend our 10 AM flower crown making workshop, 10:30 AM UU worship service. Or arrive at 11:45 AM for our coffee service: a potluck brunch with strawberries, cream, and champagne. Traditional dance around the Maypole around 12:15 PM.

May 12 - The Prophetic Sisterhood: A Forgotten Era of Our Faith Tradition

From 1880 - 1930, some 20 women served as ministers in our faith, bringing to pulpits their concerns for suffrage, social reforms, and a peace movement. This important era in UU history has been too easily forgotten. Rev, Kathy will hold up few of their stories of courage, determination, ministries of care, and their struggles with the religious institution that weren't ready for the unique feminine approach to ministry they pioneered.

May 19 - The Annual Flower Communion Service: For What Did Norbert Capek Give His Life?

For what did Norbert Capek die? Was it his Unitarian faith and the freedom to practice that faith in community with others? Or was it the individual right to choose, as a matter of conscience, what faith to join in, what beliefs and/or values to hold?

May 28 - Memorial Day Sunday - To Be Announced



A community driven initiative aiming to improve Delray Beach's behavioral health by building deeper community connections. The Healthier Delray Beach Initiative strives to serve as a trusted advocate for the behavioral health needs of the Delray Beach community by creating awareness, encouraging acceptance and equity, and developing a system of care.

Share the Plate Offering



Donate using link https://donorbox.org/support-uufbr or QR code "Please write Share the Plate in the comment section when you make your

online gift."

Fellowship Events



GAME NIGHT FRIDAY NIGHT MAY 3RD AT 7:00 PM

Join us in the Osias Hall for an evening filled with fun. Play interactive group and board games! Pizza and bottled water will be provided, or you can bring the beverage of your choice. Please RSVP via email to Trish Bobbing at Deliver2trish@gmail.com

Sharex Events



Contra dance

May 18th, 2024 \$10 admission \$5 Students Doors Open @ 6:30 PM Lesson/Mixer@ 7 PM Dance @ 7:30 PM located at UUFBR 2601 St. Andrews Blvd Boca Raton, FL, 33434

External Events



Our friends at **Healthier Delray Beach** are working with another excellent local nonprofit, **Pathways to Prosperity**, to organize an unforgettable evening: **Champagne Notes & Velvet Tones - A Night of Jazz Fundraiser on Saturday, May 11, 2024 @ 6:30 pm!**

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to indulge in the rich sounds of jazz and contribute to a worthy cause. Pathways to Prosperity is dedicated to strengthening communities by providing education and social services to raise school performance for children and increase economic opportunities for families. The Healthier Delray Beach Initiative strives to serve as a trusted advocate for the behavioral health needs of the Delray Beach community by creating awareness, encouraging acceptance and equity, and developing a system of care. Find out more here: https://bit.ly/4aE3KyS

News from the IT Team:

Videos now on YouTube + UUFBR Podcast channel

Did you miss Sunday service? You can now watch it online afterwards on YouTube at https://youtube.com/@uuboca. YouTube is a more convenient way to share video than Facebook, so please look for our videos there from now on. We've also uploaded Sunday services all the way back to November 2022.

But wait, there's more! We are now posting Sunday services to a podcast as well, so you can download them to your phone or other device and listen wherever you are. Find our UUFBR podcast here:

https://open.spotify.com/show/471DbNMXTl9ECu0PFoHq8L

As always, please send your technology and social media questions to itteam@uufbr.org.

It was a perfect spring day, made even better by the hard work of over two dozen volunteers who helped with the Great American Cleanup at University Woodlands Park! On Sunday, April 21st, generations united for an early Earth Day. Inside, they crafted upcycled tote tie-dyed tote bags, and used toilet paper rolls to teach about the World Serpent from Norse legends. Outside, they collected over sixty pounds of trash and loose litter for proper disposal. Thank you, participants!



REGARDS, Erich Landstrom

Melodies of May



Jules Massenet and Gabriel Fauré. They were two remarkable composers born in France in the 19th century. Funny enough, they were born on the same day, May 12th, 3 years apart. Their music resonated with themes of love, compassion, and interconnectedness of all beings, making them perfect companions for the month that also hosts Mother's Day.

Jules Massenet was known for his operas that delve into love and humanity. Pieces like "Méditation" from the opera "Thaïs", and "Clair de Lune" from "Werther" (not to confuse with Beethoven's or Debussy's "Clair de Lune"), tap into our

emotions, inviting us to reflect on our inner selves and connect with each other. Massenet's music embodies the spirit of exploration and discovery. His mother, Adélaïde, was his first piano teacher. After taking piano lessons with her, he was able to enter the Paris Conservatorie at the age of 11.

Gabriel Fauré was celebrated for his tranquil compositions that offer solace and comfort. His works like the "Requiem" and the "Pavane" have a sense of serenity, reminding us of the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Fauré's melodies foster a sense of unity and belonging.

Despite their different backgrounds and styles, both composers contributed to the rich mosaic of human experience; their music celebrates the beauty of individual expression while emphasizing our shared humanity.

Massenet's orchestrations and Fauré's delicate melodies also evoke the natural world, reminding us of our responsibility to protect and preserve it for the future generations. Their music inspires us to cultivate a deeper connection with nature and to strive for environmental justice. Just as mothers nurture and support us, their music envelops us in warmth, reminding us to cherish connections and show compassion.

As we commemorate the birthdays of Massenet and Fauré, let's celebrate not only their musical contributions but also the timeless values they represent.

Marina Machado Music Director

Board Corner Continued



Click <u>here</u> to view Board Minutes. You must be a Member and sign in.

Board of Trustees
Rajeev Arora
Claire Smith
Co-Presidents
Patrick Larson, VP, Facilities
Judy Keiser, Secretary
Bill Jensen - Treasurer
Trustees at Large
Rajeev Arora /
Carole Stephens/ Claire Smith/
Howard Prentice/ Rick Troiano/
Lynn Smith
trustees@uufbr.org
https://groups.google.com/uufbr-board

We rely on the GPS or paper charts, and have faith that eventually, the next marker will appear on the horizon, even if the wait is agonizingly long.

Congregational life is usually like following familiar, well-marked channels. We know where we're headed and what route will take us there safely. Right now, our Fellowship is in uncharted waters. Everything feels new, even familiar patterns, and no-one really knows what to expect.

The current Article II/7 Principles discussions are one example. As a congregation, UUFBR did not focus on the UUA bylaws revision until late in the process, so we've missed some channel markers. And lacking a congregational focus, the discussion process has been silo'ed and contentious.

The good news? As a congregation, we're paying more attention now than we have in years to our place in the larger UU world. And even better news: we're starting to work together to discern our congregational values and find common ground.

The Board was requested to hold a special congregational meeting to vote on certain listed motions opposed to the proposed UUA bylaws amendments. In planning for that meeting, scheduled for May 19, Board members and other congregational leaders have headed in a new direction, incorporating deep listening and communal discernment. These are different channel markers than we're used to.

First, two discernment workshops gave us practice listening to each other to understand, not to persuade or convince. We affirmed, acknowledged and reflected, using "I" statements, listening with curiosity, and asking clarifying questions. It was not easy – truly listening is hard work! And it was slow - but turning a ship, or building new habits, takes time. And the more challenging the conversations, the more important it is to slow down and listen.

Board Corner cont.

Second, a two-part process gave everyone a chance to express their views about the revisions, whether negative or positive. The process involved reading together through the current and proposed bylaws. Then people were invited to share significant complaints and compliments about the proposed revisions. As each speaker shared, others expressed their sense of agreement, disagreement, or need for more discussion, using colored cards. This helped discern areas of the strongest consensus and most disagreement.

The lengthy process continued into the second day, as the facilitators sought to fulfill their goal of hearing all voices and opinions. The next step will be to hold further discussions between now and the congregational meeting.

Is the process perfect? No. It is a messy and clumsy experiment, an attempt to steer away from a binary view of this disagreement and toward an unfamiliar collaborative approach.

Is it efficient? No. This process is inherently slow, seeking "thorough and complete" rather than "quick and expedient". In addition, both sets of gatherings exposed a steep learning curve in terms of logistics and technology.

Is it effective? Only time will tell; this process is not "one and done". We will keep on this collaborative tack, and we encourage everyone to keep reaching out and engaging with each other with curiosity and compassion. From the process of building consensus will come the wisest communal decisions, whether at the congregational or denominational level, steering us in the direction of our own Beloved Community.



Committees ZOOM links & descriptions

Board of Trustees

1st Thursday at 7:15 pm Rajeev Arora, Claire Smith copresidents@uufbr.org

Use this link to join on Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/93768534897? pwd=WEFNODZBV21Bc25sQWVjUGImRzdmdz09

Meeting ID: 937 6853 4897 Passcode: 114338

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=bU5nSGUvOEwzaVh10EJT d2xBZjRRQT09

Meeting ID: 932 8631 8047, Password: 867418

The Legacy Group

Third Sunday @ 1 pm
Group contact: Judy Keiser Zoom Host: itteam@uufbr.org

Use this link to join on Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/98795244584? pwd=d1NuVzZnM05ycDkwVWtQQnJyUm1PQT09

Meeting ID: 987 9524 4584 Passcode: 388278

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

Staff Meeting

Tuesday at 12:00 pm Group contact: Ruth Amisial admin@uufbr.org

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

Use this link to join on Zoom:
https://zoom.us/j/97964263833?
pwd=THIEemRLdzFDUG1BU3JHTHk0TWU2dz09

Meeting ID: 979 6426 3833 Passcode: 047897 One tap mobile: +13126266799,,97964263833#

Worship Committee Meeting

Bi-weekly on Wednesday at 5:00 pm Group contact: <u>Bill Jensen</u> wmjensen44@gmail.com Zoom Host: itteam@uufbr.org https://zoom.us/j/94556595523?

pwd=cDE3VkwvMUNSVXo2N3pra0drV25UZz09

Meeting ID: 945 5659 5523 Passcode: 540050 One tap mobile +13052241968,,94556595523# US

Endowment Committee

2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm Group Contact: Mitch Major: mitchmajor@earthlink.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/i/92039364170?

pwd=RzRMdjVWOGITMEJjVDU2V0JFTFJQdz09

Meeting ID: 920 3936 4170[1] Passcode: 361129 One tap mobile: +19292056099,,92039364170# US (New York)

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/95

432721616?pwd=dWNySFF5bTdoN3JSYi9JT1hBTEs0Zz09

Meeting ID: 954 3272 1616 Passcode: 575795

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 further notice
RECouncil@uufbr.org
This group organizes activities for families with children and
promotes religious education for all ages.

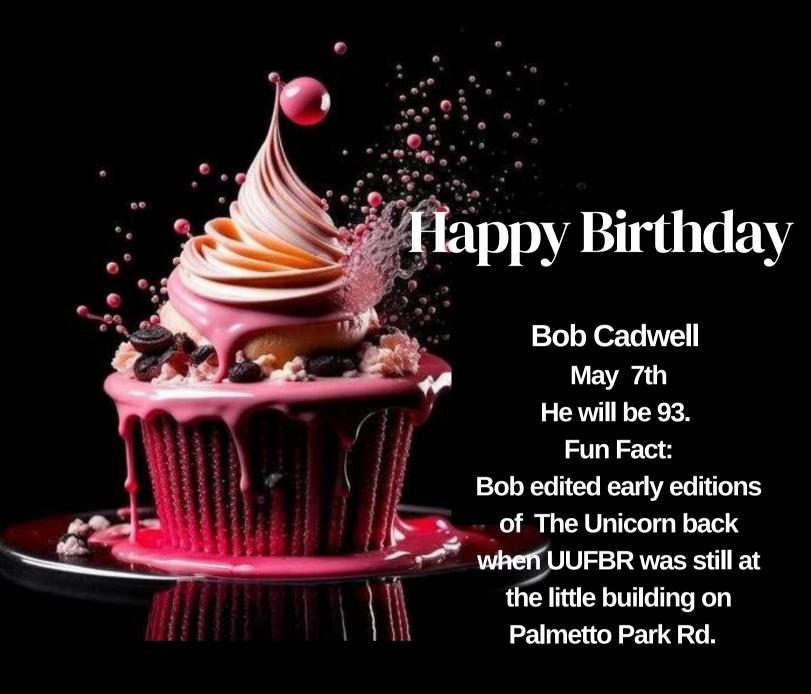
Transition Team Meeting

Monthly on second Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Use this link to join on Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/92253771301?

pwd=MmxtdUdkOGJVK3UyaGFrNWJtcnkvZz09

Meeting ID: 922 5377 1301 Passcode: 939260



Emil Kessler, May 8

Bob Schneider, May 15

Honoratha Lwiza, May 17

"Best wishes to all of you on your birthday –may you have many, many more.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Everyone is welcome!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Admin in office 10 - 3pm Ground Maint. 10am Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	2	Admin in Office 10 -3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom Game Night 7pm	4 The Forum 10am, Zoom Pagan Study Group - World Labyrinth Day walk in person Movie Discussion Group 3pm, Zoom
Admin in Office 9 -12pm Worship Service 10:30 am (Zoom also) Teen Tech Support 11:30am	Office closed Cleaning service 8am Pagan Study Group 7pm, Zoom	7 Admin in office 10 -3pm Staff Meeting 12pm, Zoom Landscape Committee Meeting 7pm, Zoom	8 Admin in office 10-3pm Ground Maint. 10am Ukulele group 2pm Worship Committee 5pm, Zoom Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	9 Nonviolent Communication Practice Circle 12:30pm, Zoom Endowment Committee 7pm, Zoom	Admin in Office 10 -3pm Save the 7 principles 3pm, Zoom Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom	11 The Forum 10am, Zoom Movie Discussion Group 3pm, Zoom
12 Admin in Office 9 -12 pm Worship Service 10:30 am (Zoom also)	Office closed Cleaning service 8am Men's group 10am Death Cafe 7:30pm, Zoom	Admin in office 10-3pm Staff Meeting 12pm, Zoom Transition Team 7pm, Zoom	15 Admin in office 10 -3pm Ground Maint. 10am Book Group 7pm Zoom Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	16	17 Admin in Office 10 -3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom	The Forum 10am, Zoom Movie Discussion Group 3pm, Zoom
Admin in Office 9 -12 pm Worship Service 10:30 am (Zoom also) Congregational Meeting after the service 12 pm in person The Legacy Group 1 pm, Zoom	Office closed Cleaning service 8am Finance Committee Meeting 2pm, Zoom Pagan Study Group 7pm in person	21 Admin in office 10-3pm Staff Meeting 12pm, Zoom Membership Committee Meeting 7:30pm, Zoom	22 Admin in office 10-3pm Ground Maint.10am Worship Committee 5pm, Zoom Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	23 Leadership develop.6:45pm, Zoom Board of Trustees meeting 7:15pm	24 Admin in Office 10 - 3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom	25 The Forum 10am, Zoom Movie Discussion Group 3pm, Zoom
26 Admin in Office 9 -12 pm Worship Service 10:30am (Zoom also)	27 Office closed Cleaning service 8am	28 Admin in office 10-3pm Staff Meeting 12pm, Zoom Healing Justice 7:30pm, Zoom	29 Admin in office 10 - 3pm Ground Maint 10am Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	30	31 Admin in Office 10 -3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom	

Classifieds





