

The Unicorn



July 1, 2024
Vol.76, Issue 19



Board Corner

June was a busy and challenging month at UUFBR. In preparing for General Assembly, we spent much time and energy on weighing the merits of amending or not amending Article II of the Unitarian Universalist Association Bylaws.

[Cont. on pg. 8](#)



From The Minister

My General Assembly Experience

Ministers and Credentialed Religious Educators are delegates unto themselves at General Assembly. I take my vote as seriously as I do as a U.S. citizen, although I admit, I don't enjoy sitting through hours of plenary sessions, especially when it's virtual.

[Cont. on pg. 9](#)

What else is inside?

[Upcoming Services & Share the Plate Recipient](#)

[Featured Events for July](#)

[July Birthdays & Anniversaries](#)

[Calendar & Classifieds](#)

July Worship Service Schedule

July 7 – “Love Never Ends” - Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey

Rev. Kathy will speak about why the new iteration of Article II moves us forward as a faith for our times and why it is important, as is this congregation’s mandate, to continue to uphold the Seven Principles.

July 14 – “Means and Ends” with Rev. Kathy

What happens when we mistake the means by which we live our highest aspirations as the aspirations or ends in themselves? Why is this an important distinction spiritually and in congregational life?

July 21 – “Creating Trauma-Informed Faith Communities” with Dr. Laura McGuire

Rev. Kathy invites Dr. McGuire to our pulpit. Dr. Laura McGuire heads the National Center for Equity and Agency, a group of expert consultants on trauma informed care, restorative justice, and understanding interpersonal violence. Dr. McGuire is also a seminarian pursuing UU ministry.

July 28 – “First Harvest” – Worship Team

Celebrate the late summer harvest festival of Lammas/Lughnasadh together with UUs

Share the Plate Offering



League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County Education Fund The Education Fund is committed to ensuring voters have the information they need to successfully participate in every election to learn more please go to their website <https://lwvpsc.org/>

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 JULY 5TH AT 7:00 PM

Looking for some fun on a Friday night? Come to Game Night, where you can socialize with other gamers, play interactive group and board games. Pizza and bottled water will be provided. You can also bring the drink of your choice. Please reserve your spot and pizza by sending an email to Deliver2trish@gmail.com.

Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser and Sauciest Chef Competition



The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton invites the community to a Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser featuring the "Sauciest" Chef Contest on Sunday, July 28, 2024, from 1 PM to 5 PM. The event will take place in the Osias Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton, located at 2601 St. Andrews Blvd. (approximately a half-mile north of Glades Rd., next to University Woodlands Park).

This family-friendly event will feature a delicious spaghetti supper complete with a fresh lettuce salad with a choice of ranch or vinaigrette dressing, warm bread rolls and butter, serving of spaghetti with choice of tomato or creamy sauce, sprinkle toppings, and a cold beverage.

Attendees will also enjoy a silent auction and a 50-50 raffle throughout the afternoon.

The highlight of the event is the "Sauciest" Chef Contest, where local chefs will compete to create the best spaghetti sauce. Guests will have the opportunity to sample each sauce and vote for their favorite. The winning chef will be awarded the title of "Sauciest Chef" and a special prize.

Get a heaping helping of spaghetti, and give a heap of help to UUFBR. Suggestion donations are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12, and can be given online at givebutter.com/saUUciestchef or at the door.

Barbara Jensen

Born in St. Louis, Missouri Barb is the youngest of 4 children having 2 older sisters and an older brother. Except for her 2 sisters, the majority of her extended family was male – 11 male cousins! Perhaps that is one reason why she developed a close relationship with her maternal grandmother - and an appreciation of beautiful jewelry! Barb's early life was spent with her friends and family horseback riding, rooting for the St. Louis Cardinal's baseball team, appreciating music learned from her father who played piano on Cunard cruises to Europe, and loving her dogs. All of these childhood influences have molded Barb into the lovely Matriarch we know her to be at UUFBR.

Barb has a few “constants” in her life. One, which she never fails to mention, is that growing up, her family always had dogs - 2 collies and a variety of other breeds. When she was a college student studying Anthropology at the University of Kansas, Barb adopted Kelly from the Lawrence, Kansas Humane Society. Kelly was part collie and part German Shepard, not a small lap dog at all. One day, when Kelly was a puppy, she ran into someone's apartment and Barb had to go look for her. Guess who lived in that apartment? - Bill Jensen! He was a graduate student at the time.

When a German Shepard “finds you”, you are bound to pay attention quickly. And Bill did. Soon enough Bill was teaching Barb to play bridge. A friendship began, then a Romance and marriage followed... as did the dogs, rooting for the Cardinals and playing bridge. Barb and Bill stayed in St. Louis and had 2 children – a boy (Tim) and a girl (Becka). Her family has always come first and it still does. That is a guiding principle in how she lives her life. Barb's role as mother, wife, and nurturer was very important to her and her family and it is also important to our UUFBR congregation. Like a tree that stands steady and strong, she focused on raising independent children with good values who could support themselves and lead fulfilling lives. She extended herself in that same way in nurturing exchange students for many years while her children were growing up. Barb still has a special friendship with the family from Turkey whose daughter she hosted for an entire school year.

Barb wanted a spiritual home for her family when her children were young. She is of Jewish heritage and Bill was from a Christian home. She started going to the Eliot Unitarian Universalist Chapel in St. Louis because of their Woman's Alliance. She laughs about it because she never made it to one of the Alliance meetings but she did learn about the UU principles. Barb refers to herself as an ethical humanist and believes in being a good person, giving to others and living with compassion. Those are the values she lives not only in her family life but with everything she does here at UUFBR. Her heart is always big.

The UU was a good fit for Barb's family and once they joined the local congregation, they became lifelong UUs. They lived in St. Louis, Missouri for 30 years and then moved to Emporia, Kansas to be near Bill's family. There, Barb and Bill were the founding members of a small UU congregation. When Barb and Bill decided to move to Boca Raton, Barb was adamant about living near a UU congregation. Lucky for UUFBR, Barb found us.

Barb is a very generous person with her time, energy and resources. She was on the Board for her daughter's ballet school and was a primary fund raiser for the school. She was the treasurer of the Lyon County, Kansas Democratic party and a very active member. If someone is in need and Barb can help, she will and continues to do that.

At UUFBR Barb has been a leader in every way. She spearheaded and was the key organizer of the flea markets we held every year, an exhausting task that she managed well. She was a Co-President and a Board of Trustee member many times, kept our kitchen stocked with after service nibbles, participated in the silent auction, hosted many dinners at her home, welcomed new interim ministers, and donated time and money for major capital improvements. Barb has always contributed time and resources where needed.

It is often hard to describe someone like Barb. She is a "dynamo" with a giant heart and yet, she is so humble in doing all of it. A strong, gentle and steady woman who quietly makes the world a better place for everyone. She doesn't shout, or clamor for a place in the spotlight. Instead, she is always there, calm and strong, quietly providing the strength for her family and her community, knowing when to bend and when to hold steady. She gives her time, her energy and her loving support to those of us who are a part of her life.

Today, Barb and Bill are the proud parents of 2 children, 3 grandchildren, and a dog named Ziggy. They hold a reputation as a notable bridge partnership not to be underestimated!

We are so fortunate to have her as part of our UUFBR matriarch, a wise woman among us. Sometimes, our greatest gifts walk quietly into our lives and it is up to us to acknowledge and appreciate them and to be grateful. We are grateful for Barb.

Written By
Donna K. Musial

Gustav Mahler's Musical Legacy

July marks the birth of one of the most influential composers and conductors in classical music: Gustav Mahler. Born on July 7, 1860, Mahler's contributions to the world of music are extensive and enduring. His symphonies, known for their emotional depth, complexity, and innovative use of orchestration, continue to captivate audiences worldwide.



Mahler was born in Kaliště, a small village in Bohemia, which was then part of the Austrian Empire. His early life, marked by the deaths of several of his siblings and the struggles of living in a rural, multi-ethnic region, deeply influenced his music, which often explores themes of mortality, existential angst, and the human condition. Mahler showed prodigious musical talent from a young age, entering the Vienna Conservatory at just fifteen. His music shows the combination of this exposure to the rich musical traditions of Vienna, and his deep love for nature and philosophy.

"A symphony must be like the world. It must contain everything". His works are characterized by their vast scale, intricate detail, and emotional intensity. Each symphony is a journey, exploring a wide range of human emotions and experiences. His Symphony No. 1 ("Titan"), finished in 1888, is notable for its innovative structure and use of folk melodies. It begins with a mysterious introduction, followed by a series of movements that depict scenes from nature, rural life, and existential struggle. Symphony No. 2 ("Resurrection"), one of Mahler's most famous works, deals with themes of death and the afterlife. It culminates in a powerful choral finale that expresses hope and redemption.

In addition to his work as a composer, Mahler was a renowned conductor. He held prestigious positions with the Vienna Court Opera and the New York Philharmonic, among others. His interpretations of both his own works and those of other composers were celebrated for their intensity and insight. Mahler's music was not widely appreciated during his lifetime, but his reputation grew significantly after his death. Today, his symphonies are central to the orchestral repertoire, and his influence can be seen in the works of later composers like Shostakovich, Britten, and Bernstein.

Mahler's exploration of the human condition, his search for meaning, and his profound connection to nature align closely with values we all share. His Ninth Symphony, in particular, often seen as a contemplation of death and transcendence, reflects a strong commitment to the continuous search for truth and meaning.

Mahler's ability to capture the full range of human emotion and experience in his music invites us to reflect on our own lives and the broader human experience, encouraging us to embrace the complexity and beauty of existence, and reminding us of the power of music to touch our souls, to bring us together, and to inspire us to seek deeper understanding and connection in our world.

Board Corner Continued



Click [here](#) 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>

This included a Special Congregational Meeting and vote, May 19, on directing our delegates how to vote at General Assembly. The result was 46 to 31 in favor of voting no on amending Article II. The near split vote was disconcerting but in the process, we learned to dialogue better, and we also had three delegates representing UUFBR at General Assembly for the first time in many years. We await the delegates' report on their first-time experience of General Assembly. This year it was 100% virtual attendance.

In the meantime, we know the proposed amendment to Article II passed by more than 80% of delegate votes. Please see elsewhere in this issue a description of the new iteration of Article II which represents the covenant by which we are in relationship with over 900 other UU congregations across the country.

It is now time to discern how to move forward together with this major change and explore how we will be in covenant with our fellow congregations, especially as we are called to center love in the midst of our values. Just as important, will be finding creative ways to move into an inspiring and exciting future while we also honor our past

Meanwhile, we feel sharply the impending end of Rev. Kathy's interim ministry with us. Think for a moment how much we have changed during her two year ministry with us, the storms we have weathered, and how much we have grown in understanding the importance all we do as a congregation.

In going forward, we will continue to keep our options and our search open for a minister who would be a good fit for our community. Remembering Robert Frost's "The Road not Taken," we still have many roads to explore, roads that come with these questions:

Who have we become, and who will we become as the future unfolds before us?

How can we each bring our best to the table while we are a lay-led congregation?

How do we understand and express our different spiritual paths and practices as we learn to put love at the center of the UU values we live into the world?

What does it mean to live our values into the world?

The Board's responsibility to the congregation is a fiduciary one, with all that entails. We can only move forward as the congregation wants to move. We look forward with anticipation that we will all move into the remainder of the year arm in arm and heart to heart.

Be sure to join us every Saturday at 2pm in Rockberger to help the Board and other leaders map our future.

In faith,

Claire Smith

From the minister...

Reverend Kathryn Tew Rickey



My General Assembly Experience cont.

For me, there's an excitement and sense of fellowship that comes from being in a convention hall with thousands of delegates that makes the tedium of General Assembly business tolerable. Nonetheless, I did attend all four General Sessions and voted accordingly.

I want to hold up one item of business at Session IV that I feel is important to be aware of – the Responsive Resolution expressing support of the October 7 Hostages. First a Responsive Resolution is described in the UUA Bylaws as:

“Responsive resolutions are brief, advisory statements that express the sentiment of the delegates. They must be in response to a substantive portion of a report by an officer or committee reporting to a regular General Assembly, per Section 4.16.”

In the case of the Responsive Resolution detailed in the text box below, the response was to President Sofia Betancourt's report that you can view here: <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2024/business/iii> The relevant content, goes from minute 30:00 – 32:08, although I would encourage you to view President Betancourt's entire report. The Responsive Resolution presented at Session IV is a needed critique that reminds all delegates that among UU's there are Jewish as well as Arabic peoples, related to or descended from peoples of Israel, Palestine, and other Middle Eastern countries that have been trying to find peaceful coexistence for centuries.

The brutal attack by Hamas on innocent Israelis is unforgiveable. The response by the State of Israel was swift and of reciprocal brutality. I cannot know first-hand the agony of losing relatives or the uncertainty of how friends and families in Gaza have fared. I can barely hold the thought of thousands of innocent children traumatized and orphaned at the hands of terrorists and the acts of statesmen who consider children collateral damage. Yet, it is of such socio-political complexity that I cannot opine any further than to say, I am deeply saddened and that we as Unitarian Universalists should put our words and actions to support all those who are innocent and powerless, and caught in the crossfire. Our words and actions should not discriminate nor exclude but should support all innocents regardless of their status as anything but human beings who deserve much better.

I hope you can appreciate the significance of this Responsive Resolution as we make our way forward as a diverse, pluralistic, covenanted, and transformative people of faith, aspiring ever to grow in love, spirit, wisdom, and widening circles of beloved community.

In faith and love,
Rev. Kathy

Ballot Result from General Session IV

This Responsive Resolution was adopted. It received more than 2/3 vote of support.

Responsive Resolution: UUA General Assembly Support for October 7 Hostages

Option	Votes
Adopt responsive resolution	1705 (77.0%)
Do not adopt responsive resolution	508 (23.0%)
Total	2545
Abstain	332 (13.0%)

Whereas, UUA President Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt's report* beautifully reflected upon the profound horror and loss in the Middle East, which is amplifying growing antisemitism and anti-Arabism and islamophobia in the U.S. and beyond;

Whereas, real harm that has come to and continues to be suffered by those affected by the October 7 attack;

Whereas, 120 hostages are still missing, and only about 50 are currently believed to be alive;

Whereas, a call for recognition of only the harm on one side without regard for the other creates an environment of existential threat to Jewish Unitarian Universalists; and

Therefore be it resolved that the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association (GA of the UUA) calls for the immediate release of all Hamas held hostages. Further, the GA of the UUA acknowledges the real suffering of Jews within our association and beyond. There can be no peace and no justice unless it is for all people.

* <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2024/business/iii> relevant content, minutes 30:00 – 32:08



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

[pwd=WEFNODZBV21Bc25sQWVjUGlmRzdmdz09](https://zoom.us/j/93768534897?pwd=WEFNODZBV21Bc25sQWVjUGlmRzdmdz09)

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?](https://zoom.us/j/93286318047?pwd=bU5nSGUvOEwzaVh1OEJTd2xBZjRRQT09)

[pwd=bU5nSGUvOEwzaVh1OEJT
d2xBZjRRQT09](https://zoom.us/j/93286318047?pwd=bU5nSGUvOEwzaVh1OEJTd2xBZjRRQT09)

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

[pwd=d1NuVzZnM05ycDkwVWtQQnJyUm1PQT09](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?](https://zoom.us/j/95229659211?pwd=SVJUdU93WXJLbEVhSWxuR0duNE9aQT09)

[pwd=SVJUdU93WXJLbEVhSWxuR0duNE9aQT09](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: Bill Jensen wmjensen44@gmail.com
Zoom Host: itteam@uufbr.org

Use this link to join on Zoom:

[https://zoom.us/j/94556595523?](https://zoom.us/j/94556595523?pwd=cDE3VkwvMUNSVXo2N3pra0drV25UZz09)

[pwd=cDE3VkwvMUNSVXo2N3pra0drV25UZz09](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/j/92039364170?](https://zoom.us/j/92039364170?pwd=RzRMdjVWOGITMEJjVDU2V0JFTFJGdz09)

[pwd=RzRMdjVWOGITMEJjVDU2V0JFTFJGdz09](https://zoom.us/j/92039364170?pwd=RzRMdjVWOGITMEJjVDU2V0JFTFJGdz09)

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

[432721616?pwd=dWNySFF5bTdoN3JSYi9JT1hBTEs0Zz09](https://zoom.us/j/95432721616?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?](https://zoom.us/j/93534994263?pwd=WEwwVE0wMHQzZVg2bC9TeU5NMGdwdz09)

[pwd=WEwwVE0wMHQzZVg2bC9TeU5NMGdwdz09](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.



Happy
Birthday
To You

***Shawn
Malaney,
July 28***

“Best wishes to you on your birthday .

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Everyone is welcome!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Office closed Pagan Study Group 7pm, Zoom	2 Cleaning service 8am Admin in office 10 -3pm Landscape Committee Meeting 7pm, Zoom	3 Admin in office 10-3pm Ground Maint. 9:30am Worship Committee 5pm, Zoom Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	4 Independence day	5 Admin in Office 10 -3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom Game Night 7pm	6 The Forum 10am, Zoom What do we want UUFBR to be and become Meeting 2pm- In person & Zoom
7 Admin in Office 9 -12pm Worship Service 10:30 am (Zoom also)	8 Office closed Men's group in person 10am Death Cafe 7:30pm, Zoom	9 Cleaning service 8am Admin in office 10-3pm	10 Admin in office 10-3pm Ground Maint. 9:30am Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	11 Endowment Committee 7pm, Zoom	12 Admin in Office 10 -3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom	13 The Forum 10am, Zoom What do we want UUFBR to be and become Meeting 2pm- In person & Zoom
14 Admin in Office 9 -12 pm Worship Service 10:30 am (Zoom also)	15 Office closed Finance Committee Meeting 2pm, Zoom Pagan Study Group 7pm in person	16 Cleaning service 8am Admin in office 10-3pm Membership Committee Meeting 7:30pm, Zoom	17 Admin in office 10 -3pm Ground Maint. 9:30am Worship Committee 5pm, Zoom Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	18	19 Admin in Office 10 -3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom	20 The Forum 10am, Zoom What do we want UUFBR to be and become Meeting 2pm- In person & Zoom
21 Admin in Office 9 -12 pm Worship Service 10:30am (Zoom also) The Legacy Group 1pm, Zoom	22 Office closed	23 Cleaning service 8am Admin in office 10-3pm Healing Justice 7:30pm, Zoom	24 Admin in office 10-3pm Ground Maint. 9:30am Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom	25 Leadership develop. 6:30pm, Zoom Board of Trustees meeting 7:15pm	26 Admin in Office 10 -3pm Friday Night Happy Hour 5pm, Zoom	27 The Forum 10am, Zoom What do we want UUFBR to be and become Meeting 2pm- In person & Zoom
28 Admin in Office 9 -12 pm Worship Service 10:30am (Zoom also) Environmental Voter project 12:15pm in person Spaghetti Dinner for Lammas CUUPS 1pm in person	29 Office closed	30 Cleaning service 8am Admin in office 10-3pm Environmental Voter project 6:30pm in person	31 Admin in office 10 -3pm Ground Maint. 9:30am Worship Committee 5pm, Zoom Midweek Meditation 8pm, Zoom			

Groups on hiatus

- Book group- return date to be determined
- Bowling- will return in the Fall
- Movie Group- will return in the Fall
- Non-Violent Communication- will return in September
- Ukulele group- will return August 14th

Check out our website for more information at

UUFBR.org or scan the QR code below



UUFBR.org

Please follow us on

[UUFBR Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Classifieds



Trisha Lester, a fellow UU Member of the Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Durham, North Carolina needs your help. She is looking for an affordable student rental or a room rental with kitchen privileges for her nephew Nico who will be attending his final year of college at Lynn University in Boca Raton, FL this fall. He's having a hard time finding affordable off-campus housing.

Please if you can help or know someone
who can contact

Trisha Lester by phone (919-971-5423)

or email

trishalester1@gmail.com