The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

July 2018 Volume 60, Number 7

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August 2018 Issue
Deadline
Sunday, July 8, 2018
Submit articles to:
submission@uucfl.org

Editors

Valerie Bressler Gary Ladka

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A Center for Liberal Religious Thought and Social Action in Fort Lauderdale

Unitarian (4) Universalist

Church of Ft. Lauderdale

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Established in 1958

Eclectic Mind Shoppe (New Format) - 1:00pm



2nd Sundays
Spiritual Philosophy.
July's topic: Carl Sandburg.
3rd Sundays
Plarning
(Making sleeping mats
for the homeless)
4th Sundays
Casual Contemplation
It's Eclectic on Page 5

Society for Creative Anachronism Ex Opus Event at UUCFL

Saturday July 7
Doors open at 8:00am
Find out more at
www.exopus2018.com





All Church Work Day
Saturday July 14 at 8:00am
WE REALLY REALLY REALLY NEED YOU!!
WE MEAN YOU!!

Please Help Work Your Way to Page 7

Minister's Listening Sessions

Monday July 16 at 1:00pm Wednesday July 18 at 7:00pm Monday July 23 at 7:00pm Monday July 30 at 1:00pm Listen here - Go to Page 2





Lammas Celebration Saturday July 28 at 7:00pm Mas info on Page 7

Unitarian Universalist Church of Ft Lauderdale
Mission Statement:

To come together as a caring community and sanctuary for seekers of spiritual growth, truth, and meaning.



President's Message

Happy July All,



This is the month we celebrate the birth of our nation on July 4th with many things that go boom, scaring the heck out of our furry friends. I think it is a good time to reflect on the original unofficial motto of the United States, "E Pluribus Unum," or "Out of Many, One". I don't mean this in a political sense, but as a celebration of the diversity of our society and of our congregation.

Our citizenship is made up of people from everywhere. I have worked in places where work instructions were printed in three languages. Our congregation attracts people from many paths; I sometime jokingly refer to myself as an escapee of the Catholics. I now am a Pantheist and Pagan but I may change my mind, my journey isn't over. We have humanists, Buddhists, Christians, Seekers, and "I don't know yet" people in our seats.

We have different ethnicities, nationalities, gender identities, beliefs, and many other differences, but we are one. If we all can agree on the 7 principles, however much we struggle with them, we are one out of many. As a quote attributed to Ferenc Dávid (also known as Francis David) says, "We need not think alike to love alike."

Namaste and Blessings,

Marty McAnulty





It has been two years since Rev. Susan hosted open-ended conversations with members and friends to receive feedback, answer questions, hear our concerns, and get our ideas about UUCFL.

This July, there will be four opportunities to participate in a Minister Listening Session -- two in the daytime (1-3 on Mondays July 16 and 30) and two at night (7-9 on Wednesday July 18 and Monday, July 23).

Please plan to participate. If you cannot, feel free to send email (susan.smith.uu@gmail.com) or snail mail, or contact her for an appointment.

Rev. Susan





Susan Moss is once again honored to carry on David Fisher's annual tradition of the UUCFL Poetry Service (begun in 2004) on Sunday, July 22. As before, she's requesting that members and friends submit a copy of your favorite poem (could be your own creation or another poet's) for presentation during the service. Please include a brief note telling her how the poem speaks to you and/or how it came into your life. She'll let you know by mid-July regarding inclusion in the service. E-mail Susan at ozwoman321@aol.com

Monday Yoga With Victoria is Back!

Starting Monday July 1 at 7:30 pm, Victoria Abbott will resume her weekly yoga classes in the Multipurpose Room. We know lots of you have missed these classes, so we hope to see you soon with mat in hand.



Rev. Susan's Space

"The chasm that lies between where we are now and the self-supporting, self-governing force for good that we hope to be can only be forded if we start building the bridge on this side." That was the last thing I wrote in my June column – a column that has been mentioned more than any other in my career. How do we build that bridge?

It was Einstein who gave us the saying "doing the same thing repeatedly and expecting different results is the definition of insanity." No one knows if he was thinking about churches, but I would not be surprised. For almost 75 years, we have watched while church attendance and relevance have declined and doggedly kept doing the same thing. We will build the bridge from where we are now to where we want to be using new techniques and materials.



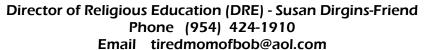
Here are a few of the best things going for your consideration:

- 1. **Give away more money.** Congregations that either split the non-pledge donations they receive each week or give the whole non-pledge collection away to worthwhile causes find that giving doubles and even triples not only to the collection plate but also in pledging. (And we must provide a way to give electronically on Sunday morning.)
- 2. **Worship together; learn together.** Families do not want to be divided on Sunday mornings when they are having a rare opportunity to be together, so congregations are finding they are enlivened and deepened by going to a time for intergenerational worship and a time for faith development for all ages.
- 3. **Stand up at social hour.** I've never known a growing church that sat down at social hour because this discourages mingling and works against utilizing that time to learn about programs of the congregation, sign up for opportunities, meet newcomers, and participate in creative activities.
- 4. **Rename the congregation.** Yes, the name "church" is off-putting to many folks, and many congregations dump their denominational titles and use a simpler name that bespeaks their values (Pathways, Mosaic, Thoreau Woods, Sacred Journey, Hope, All Souls, etc.).
- 5. **Get our values out front.** Literally, we need to find ways to let people know who we are and what we believe in as they drive by even if someone has to hold a sign on the sidewalk.
- 6. **De-emphasize Sunday morning worship.** The current issue of our *UU World* magazine has a great article about a congregation that started inviting people to social hour when they realized that folks were really excited about UUism but not so much about attending a service. I once knew a congregation that drew their organizational chart as a spiral with church members in the middle and every organization that they supported/partnered with/gave space to represented on the spiral.

Rev. Susan





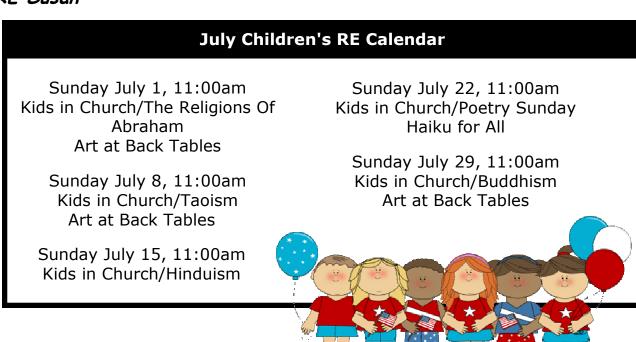




The month of July will find Reverend Susan exploring The Mystery in several different world religions. Children will be attending the entirety of these services, but not just to sit in the pews. There will be time for that, but then there will be a time when they, and adults who choose to join in the fun, will go to the tables in the back and work on artistic endeavors that reflect the subject at hand. Perhaps they will be creating drawings of what the God of the ancient Hebrews might have looked like, or on another Sunday, creating a mask representing the ancient Hindu gods, or maybe finally putting together a totem pole of all of the various representations of "God". There will be drawing materials, paper to cut, feathers and other decorative things to use to embellish, and all the children will need to add are their imaginations. Since I am officially "off", they will also need some of the adults to come back and join them and encourage them, and work on something that might inspire them. We want our kids to be part of our congregation and learn what actually goes on during the whole service, and we all want to figure out what will be the best way to get families of all types to want to come to church more often. In August, as a final goodbye to summer, we will be having mini field trips on Sundays for our families. We will hit the beach, a nature center, and other places our hearts might take us. I hope to see you all as often as you can find your way to us.

Love and blessings,

DRE Susan



Loaves and Fishes - Brief Break

Loaves & Fishes, UUCFL's Christian group, will be taking a break while facilitator Cathy Waltz travels to visit family. The group will begin meeting

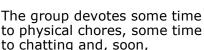


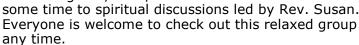
again and continuing their exploration of the parables on Sunday, July 22nd at 9:30am. Cathy will send the scripture verses and text before the meeting. It has been suggested by Grandfather that perhaps one of the members could facilitate a discussion (or more) in the future. Please contact Cathy at 954-801-4101 to become involved.

Cathy Waltz

Daytime Group Meets on Wednesdays

Daytimers is a community of members who have Wednesday free from 1:00 - 3:00pm.





Our activities and purpose will morph as decided by the group. Contact me at Stcavish12@gmail.com.

Molly St Cavish

Eclectic Mindshoppe 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays at 1:00pm

Change has come and it is named Eclectic MindShoppe.

OK, so that's not new, but this is:

the services we offer after Sunday worship will now be under the Eclectic MindShoppe umbrella.





Here's the calendar:

1st Sundays - Open

2nd Sundays – Spiritual Philosophy. July's topic: Carl Sandburg.

3rd Sunday – Plarning (Making sleeping mats for the homeless)

4th Sunday – Casual Contemplation (formerly known as Vespers. Vespers is dead. Long live Vespers!)

Rev. Opal Murray - opalom18@gmail.com

Lifenet 4 Families/Cooperative Feeding Program



Thank you to all the folks who are taking home the reusable bags and filling them with much-needed food for the Lifenet 4 Families pantry. A big thanks to our UU Sisterhood for taking over this project and collecting and transporting the food to the pantry. Remember that if you want a chance to volunteer, you can work with our fellow UUs from River of Grass on the 2nd Saturday of every month at their scheduled workday in the pantry, from 9:00-11:00am, at 1 NW 33rd Terrace, Lauderhill FL 33311. If you would like to volunteer at another time you can contact Lifenet directly; their phone number is (954) 792-2328 and the website is lifenet4families.org. Keep Filling Those Bags! Let's keep up the momentum! Pick up your bag in the sanctuary lobby, add food and return. Thanks to all!

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalists

There are seven principles which Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly 2018 is Complete Enjoy Major Highlights Streamed Online

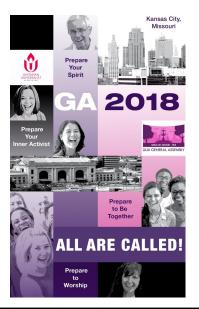
General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates.

This year, GA offered more than 175 programming selections over the course of five days.

Major worships this year were lead by UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Rev. Sofia Betancourt, and this year's General Assembly Ware Lecturer was Brittany Packnett, a leader at the intersection of culture and justice. We also recommend watching the Opening Ceremony and the always emotional Service of the Living Tradition.

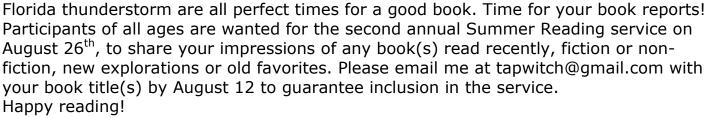
Streaming video of events is available at www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2018

Next year's GA will be June 19 - 23, 2019: Spokane, WA



Summer Reading Service

Here we are in the height of summer, and along with enjoying the cookouts, the road trips, and the respite from driving the kids to and from school, I hope everyone is heeding the advice of their long-ago English teachers and hitting that summer reading list. A day at the beach, a long summer evening hanging out in the backyard, or even an afternoon in your favorite rocking chair while riding out a south



Valerie Bressler



cUUrious cUUrier and Journey Newsletters-

If you are not receiving our weekly email newsletter, the cUUrious cUUrier or a mailed copy of The Journey newsletter visit our website at www.uucfl.org and click on "Subscribe" to sign up

Name Tags -

If you have not yet received a name tag lanyard, please sign up in church on Sundays. You have a choice of designs between a picture of the church and a chalice. Please wear your name tags each Sunday so our veterans and our newer members and visitors recognize each other better.



Coming CUUPS Events

CUUPS Study Group takes place every Thursday at 7:30pm at the Church. \$2 Suggested donation. Bring healthy snacks to share.

July 5, Topic: - Persephone with Wysteria the Wyld.

July 12, Topic: Wren, Wysteria the Wyld, Sam, and Weston facilitate a class

in Magical Bartending: For when just one spirit isn't enough.

July 19, Topic: Pagan Crafting - Clothes Pin Fairies.

July 26, Topic: Lammas Meditation & Ritual Planning.

CUUPS Special Event Saturday July 28 - 7:00pm at the Church.

Lammas Celebration at Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale. Potluck Feast before the ritual.

Suggested donation of \$5.00

Edie & Marty McAnulty - CUUPS Facilitators - The MoonPath Chapter of CUUPS

Path to Membership Adult Education in September



We ask those seeking to join UUCFL to participate in an Adult Religious Education program--A Tapestry of Faith--beginning in September. On three consecutive Tuesday evenings in September, join us for a series of dynamic, interactive sessions to learn about our Faith, our History and the unique story of our congregation. Current members are welcome to attend as well. The sessions will be held on September 11, September 18 and September 25 at the church, beginning at 7:00pm until 8:30pm. Upon successful completion of the program, candidates will be eligible to join our congregation.

Contact me, either via Email larrywilkner@posteo.net or in person, to RSVP your attendance or to ask questions about the program.

Larry Wilkner, Welcoming/Membership



Building and Grounds News

Building and Grounds Workdays continue the second Saturday of each month (July 14) starting at 8:00am and going to about noon. Join us any time during that span to lend a hand in giving our church home some love.

WE REALLY REALLY --- REALLY? -- YES REALLY NEED YOUR HELP.

There are projects to be done inside and outside for all abilities. Much thanks are given to those who come out for their

tireless work inside and out on our work day.

Now that the Sanctuary air conditioning system has been completely replaced, the wall in the hallway has been replaced as well with a new material that Doug Friend discovered called "Dead Rock," which is a great sound dampening material. With that giant noisy air handler right behind that wall, it is very quiet in the hallway. A world of thanks to Doug for taking on this humongous task. Also thanks to those who made special donations to help fund this large ticket project including the IBM Church who rents from us.



The new sound system equipment is being installed. We are combining some of the still good components from our current system with some pieces from the Labyrinth Café system and some new and updated equipment to create a system that will be versatile for many uses in the sanctuary. A new dual CD-player, a blue-tooth broadcaster, wireless handheld microphones and the latest in wireless headset technology for Rev. Susan's very animated sermons are now in use. Acoustic panels have been created to baffle the sound from bouncing about the room and we thank our members and friends for heading up that project. Our world religion banners have returned on those baffles after cleaning and repair by Cathy Waltz. We will also be getting some new banners carrying UU messages. We are also shopping new sanctuary and classroom doors and we thank the new Daytime Group for their help in gathering information and preparing to meet with people during the day, which is a challenge for many of us on B&G. Once again we invite you to please lend a hand, especially on workdays, to help make our church home even more beautiful.

Building and Grounds



BOLD Justice is near the end of another year of working for our Youth, our Seniors, and our people with mental health issues. UUCFL added 35 people (with *some* help from our Black Lives Matter Alliance Broward group) to the total Nehemiah Action turnout of over 1,200.

We were not able to deal the blow to the "school to prison pipeline" that we'd hoped to, but the attention we've brought and the compromise bill passed in the Florida Legislature this year have made things better for now. (Things are considerably better in South Florida than when we started working on Civil Citations.) The new mandatory record-keeping will at least provide ammunition for another attack in the future.

What exactly did we win?

Safety in nursing homes: The Assistant State Attorney, Maria Schneider, committed to coordinate with other agencies in Broward County and the State of Florida to begin periodic unannounced inspections of nursing homes. Sheriff Israel committed to participate when those are in his jurisdiction.

Safety in Schools: The Assistant State Attorney committed to provide a written plan for what the state attorney's office is going to be doing differently when it comes to school safety. She will provide that plan by August 1.

Sheriff Israel committed to meet with us around Aug 1 to update us on what the Sheriff's office will be doing differently to protect kids in schools.

Both of these commitments come with the understanding that it will only cover what their own agency will do (i.e. not what the Broward Schools will do) and that additional changes may be implemented after the state finishes its investigation.

Safety - Mental Illness: Sheriff Israel committed to provide \$110,500 in funding to expand CIT training for his officers on how to deal with mentally ill suspects and to continue until all of his street officers are trained.

Civil Citations: Miramar Chief of Police Dexter Williams committed to get his civil citation usage up to 85% - it is currently at 76% in Miramar.

The Assistant State Attorney committed to use her office's influence to meet a goal of getting the county usage of civil citation up to 85%. She even said they would not rest until 100% of eligible youth get a civil citation.

The Broward Sheriff's Office has enthusiastically supported the program for years.

Senior Care: The Green House Model Nursing Home project is not dead. We're still setting up a workshop in the fall.

BOLD Justice maintains an office and employs two full time organizers. A third organizer will be added soon. There are expenses for lobbying and other activities. We need not only dues from each member congregation, but also contributions from individuals for the work we do. We're asking for contributions to BOLD Justice now during our Investment Campaign. If you can, *please write a check to BOLD Justice* and give it to Marie Turner or to our treasurer, Nelson Lamis.

Then, after some down time and well-deserved rest, it will be time for House Meetings/Listening Sessions before you know it. Out of those Meetings/Sessions we'll need Social Justice Network Members to carry on with the struggle. We'll also need new blood on the research committees that decide how best to attack any new issues that are selected for the 2019 effort.

There is much work to be done! We've got to keep fighting and we need to keep growing!

Join the fight for social justice in Broward County as we "Stand BOLD -- for Justice!"

Contact Betty Brantley (betty618@bellsouth.net) or Marie Turner (emtuvel@yahoo.com). See www.uucfl.org/bold-justice (a link from the Social Justice page of the UUCFL Website) for organization history.

Directory of Staff, Board, Committee Chairs, & Affiliates

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Marie Turner emtuvel@yahoo.com954-850-4889
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Mens Group
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UUCFL Social Group
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Edie and Marty McAnulty ediemoonday@gmail.com954-559-281
UU Service Committee
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Second Monday Every Month:

6:30pm - All Committee Meeting Night •8:00pm - Board Meeting



Michael Coburn michael@coburn.org......305-409-7340

Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue

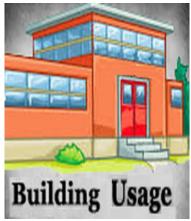
Minister: Rev. Susan M. Smith

Office 954-484-6734
Minister 318-550-8462
E-mail: uucfl@aol.com
Website: www.uucfl.org



Building Usage Scheduling

With all of the activities going on in the building, especially with all of the exciting new things coming along, it will be very important to keep a close look at the calendar to make sure we have room for all events and renters that we



have, and to have scheduling conflicts kept to a minimum. Please email me at dgriswold2001@hotmail.com with any inquiries or to schedule an event at the church. Thank you.

Dave Griswold

Expand Your UU Horizons

Learn more and how you can become more involved beyond our walls

UU Association - uua.org

UU Southern Region - uua.org/southern **UU Southeast Cluster** -

facebook.com/UUFloridaSoutheastCluster

Unitarian Luniversalist

Supports:







IN THIS CONGREGATION, WE BELIEVE:

LOVE IS LOVE

BLACK LIVES MATTER
CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL

WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

ALL GENDERS ARE WHOLE, HOLY, & GOOD

Remember the Hungry People Around Us

Please continue to fill the Food Baskets at the church with nonperishables for the LifeNet for Families |Cooperative Feeding Program.



Learn more about the CFP and other ways you can help.

Visit www.lifenet4families.org or call (954) 792-2328



"Do what we can, summer will have its flies."

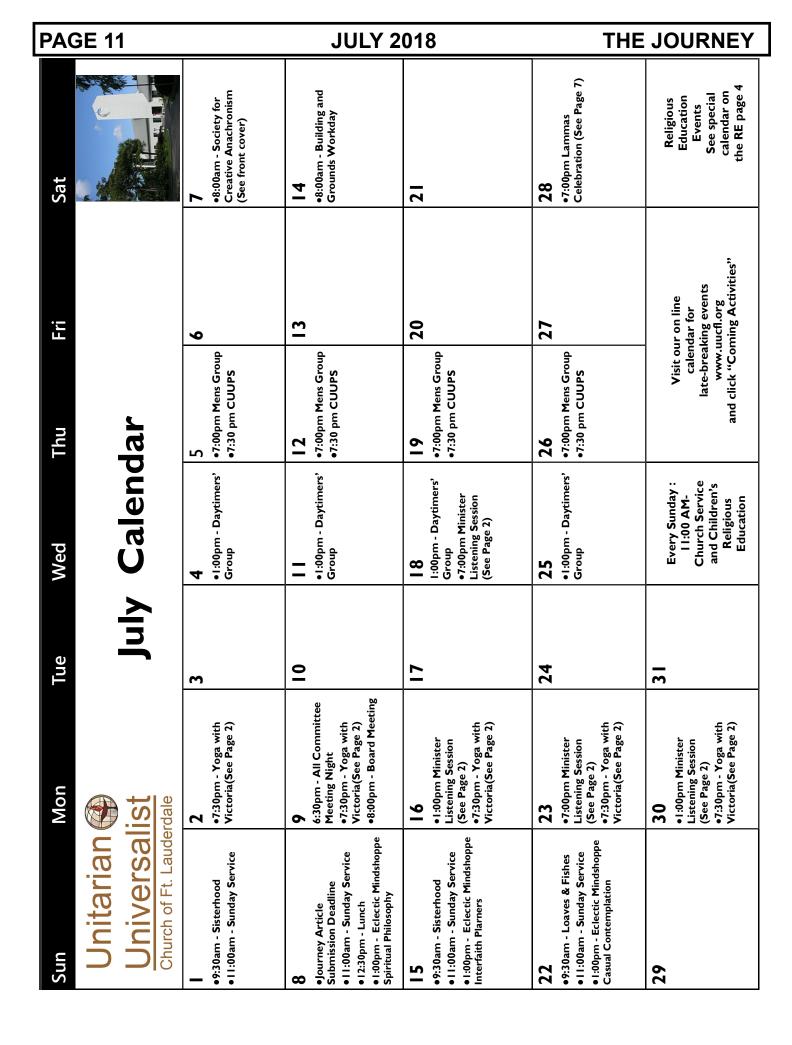
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

July Birthdays

Richard Johnson 7/4 Kip Barkley 7/5 Virginia Anderson 7/6 Jack Bellick 7/8 Roman Cisneros 7/8 Marie Turner 7/8 Susan M Smith 7/10 Annette Vafa 7/14 Laurita Abner 7/21 Bill Schoolman 7/26 Lyn Kurpiewski 7/28 Jennifer Ladka 7/28 Dan Friedman 7/30 Pat Huey 7/30



If you would like to see your birthday announced here and in the cUUrious cUUrier email newsletter, please contact the office to make sure we have your updated information in the computer



Unitarian 🛞 Universalist

Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue Oakland Park, Florida 33309

Minister: Rev. Susan M. Smith

Office Phone: 954-484-6734

Minister Phone: 318-550-8462

E-mail: uucfl@aol.com

Website: www.uucfl.org

Sundays Service & Children's at 11 am: Religious Education

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

JULY 2018

July 1 – "The Mystery and the Scriptures" by the Rev. Susan M. Smith. The First UU Source is direct experience of the Transcendent. During the month of July, we will study major world religions and their insights about the Holy through the sacred texts. We begin with the monotheism of Judeo/Christian/Islamic scriptures.

July 8 – "The Mystery and the Tao" by the Rev. Susan M. Smith. Though Taoism is a nontheistic religion, its sacred texts have much to teach about the Transcendent.

July 15 – "The Mystery and the Vedas" by the Rev. Susan M. Smith. Hinduism is polytheistic, and it is said that there are 33 million Hindu gods and demigods. What can the sacred texts of Hinduism teach us about the Holy?

July 22 – "Poetry Sunday" by Susan Moss – Susan is once again honored to carry on David Fisher's annual tradition of the UUCFL Poetry Service (begun in 2004.) As before, she's requesting that members and friends submit a copy of your favorite poem (could be your own creation or another poet's) for presentation during the service. Please include a brief note telling her how the poem speaks to you and/or how it came into your life. Please see page 2 for poetry submissions info.

July 29 – "The Mystery and the Sutras" by the Rev. Susan M. Smith. To conclude our exploration of the Transcendent through sacred texts, we turn to Buddhism, which is a nontheistic tradition with deities. What?

