

The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

March 2015
Volume 56, Number 3

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March 2015 Issue
Deadline
Sunday March 8, 2015
Submit articles to:
submission@uucfl.org

Editor
Valerie Heller

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and Social Action in
Fort Lauderdale

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Church of Ft. Lauderdale

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Established in 1958



LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program

LifeNet4Families Workday
Saturday March 7 at 8:45am

See page 2

Labyrinth Cafe Concerts
Presents
No Fuss and Feathers
Roadshow

Saturday March 14
at 7:30pm
See Page 6

*****Special Labyrinth Café Extra*****

Dar Williams!
With opening act
We're About 9
Saturday, March 28
7:30 PM
See page 7



Welcome Spring!

*And remember to set your clocks forward one hour on
Sunday, March 8, 2:00 am*

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.

FREEDOM, REASON
ACCEPTANCE + LOVE



President's Message

Generosity Begets Generosity



Thanks to all who participated thus far in the Budget planning for 2015 and our Long Range Planning for 2015 band on. We have a vision of a thriving church of the future. At this point it is important to acknowledge that this future is very reliant on generous gifts from members and friends of our past. Through their lives' work and the helpful guidance of the Endowment Board, Rev. Gail, various other capital drives and individuals, these UUCFL visionaries saw to it that the church would be blessed with funds for the future and a building and grounds that we own because of their spirit of generosity. That being said, they entrusted us- UUCFL present- to continue our church and movement, and without their generosity we would be facing much different decisions at this point in our history, and we might not even be here. We need to always be mindful and respectful of that as we move forward with their help and never take this for granted. We each need to look deeply and cultivate our own spirit of generosity as we enjoy the church and all it offers for us, and strive to become those visionaries who were our members past, who allow us to be here now.

We voted to pass a budget this year with a large deficit. We also agreed that our physical space needs some repairs and upgrades, so together we delegated some of these funds for that purpose as well. We looked to the future and voted to pass our Long Range Plan, which will require further investment. To be sustainable, these investments can not rely as heavily on the past. The big picture requires more investment from the current congregation in all areas of treasure, time and talent. Our talented Treasurer, Donna Gutierrez, showed us how we could solve our budget imbalance in simple terms- with our current membership, if each of us invested \$13 a week more in the church, the deficit would go away completely. The price of a pizza. I am going to say that we could all find \$13 a week that we waste somewhere and that a reinvestment in the church is worth well more than whatever that spending would get you elsewhere. I am increasing my pledge to help toward that goal and I hope you will too. (Please let Donna know if you can as well.) It is the least we can do to honor the people of our past who looked toward the future for all of us- in addition to their pledges to sustain the church at the time, some of them gave tens of thousands and, in some cases, hundreds of thousands of dollars to make it possible for the church to be here for us now. Our vision should be not only for ourselves, but it must also be for the people who will seek us in the future. Our predecessors have shown us how valuable that vision and spirit of generosity can be.

We also need a generosity of volunteerism. There are many things that need doing around the church and your involvement is essential. It makes us feel good to do good work. Let us know what the church means to you by letting us know what you would like to do to help the church be a better place for all of us.

Gary Ladka

LifeNet 4 Families/CFP Update

Thanks to those who came out to volunteer in February. Our March work day is scheduled for Saturday March 7. Meet at CFP at 9AM. Thanks to everyone who keeps the baskets in the lobby filled up. Every donation helps, even that single can of tuna.

Info or questions, DRE Susan

tiredmomofbob@aol.com (954) 424-1910



LifeNet4Families

Cooperative Feeding Program

Rev. Gail's Space

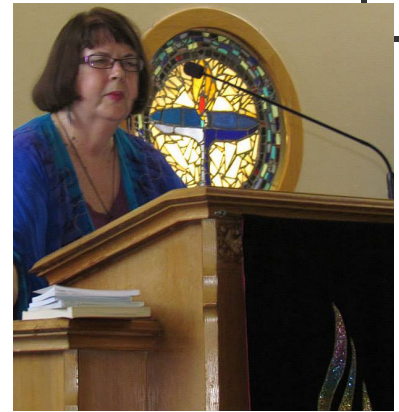
If you attended last month's service on Aging Well in the Coming Grey Dawn, you are already well aware of many of the political and social national and international implications of a rapidly aging population, especially in western countries. The aging of the U.S. population is already affecting, and will continue to affect, everyone across all generations. In this March column, however, I would like to address this issue from a slightly more personal perspective. On March 10 this year, I will celebrate my 69th birthday, which means I will be moving into my 70th year. When I was a little girl I would have thought of this as being an old lady. Now, however, we have the amazing 82 year old Ruth Bader Ginsberg still writing brilliant opinions and dissents for the Supreme Court. We have Hillary Clinton likely running for President of the United States and she would be right about 70 on the day she would take the oath of office if she wins.

Age is a confusing topic right now. For some people who had the right kind of job and planned well, we have an unprecedented moment when they can retire early and perhaps enjoy many years of good health, travel and volunteer work. For the vast majority of Baby Boomers, however, the very concept of retirement is pretty alien, both based on our financial situation and our personal unwillingness to get out of the game.

When I was growing up in Mississippi, I got pretty mixed messages about aging. On the one hand, most women did not dye their hair or get "work" done or, God forbid, run around wearing blue jeans as we all do now. On the other hand, my eccentric elderly aunts all owned their own business and they all just kept working and working. Two of them ran a little boarding house, one had a dress shop and one ran a cafe. They all worked well into their 80's. My older male relatives were either farmers or ran small businesses and they too tended to work until they literally could not leave their beds. My own parents, however, retired right at 62 and though for about 10 years did a lot of volunteer work, they were never gainfully employed again. Many of my friends who were school teachers or worked for the government retired as early as 55. Some of those folks went on to other smaller or very different careers and some have traveled or done a lot of volunteer work. Many other friends my age, especially ministerial colleagues of all stripes, keep working in churches until they are 85 or older. They tend to move on to tiny churches or part time positions as they get older but it appears to be very hard to get a minister out of the pulpit as long as they can hold on to one.

Even though as part of the Long Range Plan I am now set to move on from UUCFL in June of 2016, please don't for a minute think that I plan to retire from ministry. For one thing, I really can't afford to retire in a fashion that I would find acceptable financially for a while yet. Secondly, so far at least, my mind is much too active. A dear friend of mine said she felt I might literally be a danger to myself and others if I really retired. I am of course going to be spending some of my time over the next 16 or so months looking at future options for me to stay active in the Unitarian Universalist movement in one way or another as it changes and morphs into something new and different. I hope I can be sharing my ideas from the pulpit and in classes and talks for many years to come. It just will not be in Ft. Lauderdale. Meanwhile, this congregation will be working with a new developmental minister who among other things will be able to look at everything about the church with a new pair of eyes. So big changes are coming for all of us. This can be both exciting and scary. I am sure we are all fit for the journey.

Blessings. *Rev. Gail*

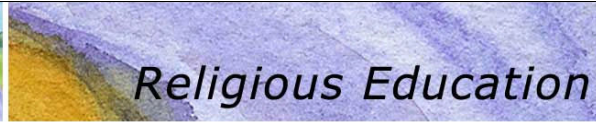


Adult RE on Hiatus for March

The winter class on Spirituality, Science and Health attracted a small but loyal group. I plan to show a couple of videos for after-church enrichment sessions later in the spring. I will not be offering a new Adult RE class until mid-April and am still scouting around to figure out what that will be. Stay tuned for the April newsletter and a flyer to learn what the next adult learning and sharing opportunity will be. I love doing these classes and hope more of you will join me.

Rev. Gail





Director of Religious Education (DRE) - Susan Dirgins-Friend
Phone (954) 424-1910



We had a lot of fun celebrating "Chinese New Year" in children's religious education on February 15. We talked about what animals we were all born in "the year of," and as this is the year of the sheep, or goat, we made lanterns (red of course) decorated with pictures of goats (luckily we have friends in upstate New York who have a goat farm and they were happy to oblige with ultra cute pictures of the goats). We feasted on spring rolls, which looked good and tasted good, and the traditional Chinese New Year food, dumplings, or potstickers as they are also known. Due to being massacred by our inept cooking, they did not look so good, but, as the kids were very brave in giving them a try, they were all devoured as well. We discussed all the traditions of the holiday, and focused on how family-oriented the celebrations are. The kids worked very hard making their lanterns and all participated in the ongoing discussion about what we were doing. All in all, it was a great day. Some of you may be wondering, why celebrate Chinese New Year? Why indeed? It is a cultural holiday, and as such, an important window into a culture that some of our children know little or nothing about. Is it important to learn about other cultures? You bet! Part of learning to understand, accept and, yes, not fear others is to learn about them, to see them as people who are similar to us. They have families, they love food, they appreciate animals, and oh yes, they wear red underwear during Chinese New Year. I think that this is my favorite Chinese New Year tradition. Who knows—superstition, hmmm, I don't know, but I think that it is worth the possible good luck, and besides, who doesn't love to wear red!

Love and blessings,

DRE Susan



February Children's Religious Education Schedule

Sunday March 1, 11AM

Gardening

Sunday March 8, 11AM

Daylight Savings Time

Sunday March 15, 11 AM

St. Patrick's Day

Sunday March 22, 11AM

Spring Awakening

Sunday March 22, 11AM

Palm Sunday/Passover

Rev. Gail Tapscott will host a movie on homelssness issues, along with an information and strategy meeting at the UUCFL on Saturday night, March 7, time TBD. Please join Gail in her tireless striving to advocate for the rights of the least fortunate in our community.

Clergy Takes Congress to Lunch

On January 21, 2015, Unitarian Universalist clergy joined Bend the Arc [a Jewish Partnership for Justice] in a staged interfaith die-in during lunch in the Longworth cafeteria on Capitol Hill in front of members of Congress and their staff.

This demonstration was meant to bring the issues of the #BlackLivesMatter movement (from police brutality and militarization to racial injustices everywhere) directly to Congress' table—specifically calling attention to the deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Aiyana Stanley-Jones, and others. And that is exactly what they did.

Nearly 50 clergy members and people of all faith backgrounds acted together to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s brave and peaceful activism.

For more information, contact multicultural@uua.org

Music Notes



Our wonderful choir will be singing on March 8 and March 22. Special reminder to choir

members—March 8 Daylight Savings Time begins, time to set your clock ahead one hour.

We are sorry to see Myra move to North Florida and we will miss her. She has been able to fill in on alto or tenor parts. Who else can say that? We wish her the best as she joins her brother at his large house.

Susan Friend is in contact with the directors of local UU choirs to arrange the annual combined choir programs that have been so well-received in former years. The Tri-Choir presentation is expected to be scheduled in April or May, to be coordinated with the other churches involved. Watch for further information next month.

March is not a big celebration month for UUs as St. Patrick's Day and Palm Sunday do not suggest special music. Instead, we aim for Easter, the first Sunday in April. We promise to raise some Alleluias and Glorias on that day.

It is not too late to join the choir for the rest of the church year through May, but it does require your dedicating Wednesday evening for choir rehearsal from 6:45 to 8:00 PM on a regular basis, as well as working on your part during the rest of the week with the recorded guidelines provided by Susan. Harmony and expression do not happen by magic!

Latest word from Charlie is that he is resting at his hotel in L.A. as he waits to begin new treatments. We miss your organ accompaniments to the hymns and hope you can return to us feeling much better soon.

Dot Muise, Director of Music

**Labyrinth Café Concerts Presents
No Fuss and Feathers Roadshow**

Saturday March 14 at 7:30pm

<http://www.wearetheyayas.com/#!/no-fuss-and-feathers-roadshow/c1xef>

**No Fuss and Feathers
Roadshow**

is an in-the-round, "heck-of-a-good-time" collaborative project hatched award-winning songwriters Carolann Solebello, Karyn Oliver and The Yayas (Catherine Miles and Jay Mafale). It's like getting three bands for the price of one when there friends share the stage: A dynamic, cohesive cocktail of delicious harmonies, infectious rhythm and spontaneous hilarity.



by

Individually, the four are nationally touring performers that have charted at the top of Folk and Americana radio and appeared on stage at some of the most respected festivals. Collectively, they are an incorrigible bunch of musical co-conspirators bent on giving their audience an unforgettable show. "It was like your new best friends had sat down and they were playing and singing right to your heart—and your funny bone! A talented foursome with an awesome vocal blend, NFFR showed how four friends, performers and songwriters could turn our stage into Home."

- Tim Wilson, Voices Café.

Reservations requested but not required:

Contact Susan at OzWoman321@aol.com or 954-478-8637

\$20 at the door; \$17 advance reservations (checks made out to the performer received in the UU church office no later than Wednesday before Saturday show)...

...plus non-perishable item for our local Cooperative Feeding Program (canned meats, beans, fruits, vegetables, peanut butter, dried milk, pasta, rice, cereal, baby food and baby formula).

We are working to get the website updated and all will be revealed soon. In the meantime, we ask you now to save the following dates (February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9) and join us once again for song and camaraderie. Watch your e-mail, check our Facebook page and listen to Michael Stock's show for notice of the harmonic treats in store.

We will once again be offering a Season Pass for \$150 per person, which entitles you entrance to all concerts, a beautifully-designed Labyrinth Cafe T-shirt and premium, reserved seating!

Susan Moss, Coordinator, Labyrinth Cafe Concert Series

Dar Williams—with opening act We're About 9

Hey, all —

There are not enough Zippity's! in the world to express my excitement that Dar Williams will again be gracing our Labyrinth Café stage, on Saturday, March 28, 2015. Myra calls Dar my Elvis. Come see for yourself why I (and bazillions of others) love her so much.

The proverbial icing is the opening act, We're About 9.

Details at:

<http://www.labyrinthcafe.com/Cosponsered.html>

\$25 per person, advance reservations—payment required by Sunday, March 22, 2015

7:30 PM (doors open at 7:00 PM)

(no printed tickets, reservations held at the door). 200 seats available. This WILL sell out!

Checks (made out to UUCFL) or cash should be mailed to:

Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

Re: Dar Williams

3970 NW 21st Ave.

Oakland Park, FL 33309

Please also include your e-mail address and phone number for confirmation of receipt.

For more information, contact Susan Moss at ozwoman321@aol.com or 954-478-8637.

Coming CUUPS Events

In the Merry Month of March, Saturday the 21st, we perform our Spring Equinox Ritual, Imagine the Possibilities with Willie Wonka. There is more to this season than flowers, eggs and chocolate bunnies. Join us at 7:30 PM, dress up if you like, and bring a dish for the potluck to follow.

Thursday 7:30 PM study groups continue:

March 5: Lock & Load—a Spontaneous Ritual

March 12: Sistrum & Wand Making

March 19: Stories of Ostara and Ritual Planning

March 26: Sacred Geometry

April 2: Ecology and Paganism

There is Magick in the Air!

Kip, Resident Pagan



Expand your UU and Facebook horizons by joining the new UU Southeast Cluster page to stay informed about activities of the Cluster which encompasses participating UU congregations from the Treasure Coast to the Virgin Islands. Visit this page and click "Like" to join:
www.facebook.com/UUFloridaSoutheastCluster



Bold Justice Dates Coming Up

Rally For All Justice Network Members: Tuesday March 24

Nehemiah Action—Everyone out, and bring friends and coworkers: Monday April 20

Justice Ministry Celebration—All Justice Ministry Network Members: June 9

See Rev. Gail for details

Third Friday Vespers Service March 20 at 7:00 pm

Vespers is our third Friday service that combines readings, music and meditation in a small group setting. It is a short service at 7 PM, usually 45 minutes long. These services may include poetry, prose, music, singing, occasional live music, occasional dance, and meditation. The service is followed by wine and cheese and an opportunity to enjoy fellowship.

See www.uucfl.org/vespers/ For more info or questions, DRE Susan Dirgins-Friend (954) 424-1910



*"When daffodils begin to peer,
With heigh! The doxy, over the dale,
Why, then comes in the sweet o' the year,
For the red blood reigns in the winter's pale."*

William Shakespeare

Directory of Staff, Board, Committee Chairs & Affiliates

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Rev. Gail Tapscott.....954-288-4245

• **Director of Religious Education**

Susan Dirgins-Friend.....954-424-1910

• **Music Director**

Dorothy Muise.....954-731-8790

• **Choir Director**

Susan Dirgins-Friend.....954-424-1910

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Community Outreach/**Social Justice Committee**

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Myra Symons.....954-770-7023

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Susan Dirgins-Friend.....954-424-1910

South Florida Interfaith Worker Justice

Rev. Gail Tapscott.....954-288-4245

Webmaster

Kip Barkley.....954-784-8307

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Caring Committee

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Betty Highton.....954-484-6313

Nominating

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Religious Education

Laura Lange.....954-584-2499

Sunday Services

Opal Murray.....770-265-6242

Wisdom and Enlightenment Series

Opal Murray.....770-265-6242

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The Market Place



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The program runs between January 1 and the IRS income tax filing deadline (usually April 15) of the current year.

Mention the Church to any H&R Block Agent when you refer someone to make sure UUCFL receives the credit



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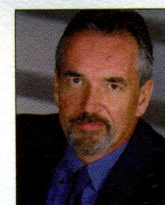
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Remember the Hungry People Around Us

Please continue to fill the Food Baskets at the church with non-perishables for the LifeNet for Families Cooperative Feeding Program. Learn more about the CFP and other ways you can help. Visit www.feedbroward.org



Please Patronize and refer the above Friends and Members of the Church as they support the us with their advertising. Make sure you tell them you saw their ad in The Journey.

March Birthdays

Vernon Allen 03/01
Simone Ryals 03/04
Gail Tapscott 03/10
Dionne Ekendiz 03/12
Susan Dirgins-Friend 03/13
Donna Gutierrez 03/13
Eileen M. Lancella 03/18
David Armstrong 03/23
Rachel P. Donelson 03/27
Helen Slavin 03/31



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

March Calendar



Religious
Education Events
See special
calendar
on the RE page 4

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 •9:30am– UU Sisterhood	2	3	4 •6:45pm– Choir Rehearsal	5 •7:30pm– CUUPS	6	7 •8:45am LifeNet4Families Cooperative Feeding Program Workday •Movie on Homeless Issues, time TBD
8 •12:30pm– Fellowship Lunch Day •JOURNEYARTICLE SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE	9 •7:00pm– Board Meeting	10	11 •6:45pm – Choir Rehearsal	12 •7:30 pm CUUPS	13	14 •7:30pm Labyrinth Café Concert (See page 6)
15 •9:30am– UU Sisterhood	16 •7:00pm– Sunday Services Committee	17	18 •6:45pm – Choir Rehearsal	19 •7:30 pm CUUPS	20 7:00pm– Vespers Service	21
22 •12:30pm– Fellowship Lunch Day	23 7:00pm– Welcoming/ Membership Committee	24	25 •6:45pm – Choir Rehearsal	26 •7:30 pm CUUPS	27	28 •7:30pm Dar Williams in concert
29	30	31				Every Sunday : 11:00 AM– Church Service and Children's Religious Education Visit our on line calendar for late- breaking events www.uucfl.org and click "Coming Activities"

Unitarian Universalist

Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue
Oakland Park, Florida 33309

Minister: Rev. Gail Tapscott

Phone: 954-484-6734

Minister Phone: 954-288-4245

E-mail: uucfl@aol.com

Website: www.uucfl.org

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

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

MARCH 2015

March 1– Who Owns the Future? Jihad vs. McWorld– Rev. Gail Tapscott will look at two possible extreme futures that we could be facing and try to help us think about some alternative options for our collective futures.

March 8– Becoming a Deep UU or a Spirituality of Your Very Own– Looking at the work of various Unitarian Universalist writers on the Spiritual life, Rev. Gail will attempt to help you see your life as a journey to create greater depth. Our choir will be performing its magic.

March 15–TBA– A guest speaker who is sure to be exciting and inspirational.

March 22–Getting Through the Wasteland– This service will offer some thoughts on life's less attractive side. Rev. Gail will address the pitfalls of both our individual lives and our lives in community. Issues of addiction and depression will be among those topics examined. The choir will be with us.

March 29–A house Divided– We are living in a country with deep divides in the areas of finance, religion and justice. Rev. Gail will try to address how having a strong UU identity can help us negotiate this scary terrain.

April 5–Easter Again– Easter and Passover are close to each other in this year's calendar, which is not always the case. Using a book called "The Prophetic Imagination" by Walter Brueggeman, Rev. Gail will try to show how these ancient holidays may have a lot to teach us in these troubled and confusing times. Our choir will sing traditional seasonal anthems and we will enjoy both Easter and Passover feasting after service.