

# The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

**November 2014**  
**Volume 55, Number 10**

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**November 2014 Issue  
Deadline**

**Sunday October 12, 2014**

Submit articles to:

**submission@uucfl.org**

**Editor**

Gary Ladka

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

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LifeNet4Families  
Cooperative Feeding Program

**LifeNet4Families Workday**  
**Saturday November 1 at 9:00am**  
Work your way to Page 5



**Labyrinth Cafe  
Concerts  
Presents  
Grant Peeples  
and Jeff Black**  
**Saturday November 8**  
**at 7:30pm**  
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**Third Friday Vespers Service**  
**Friday November 21 at 7:00pm**  
At Your Service on Page 2

**Winter is Coming - Register to SWIM!**



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

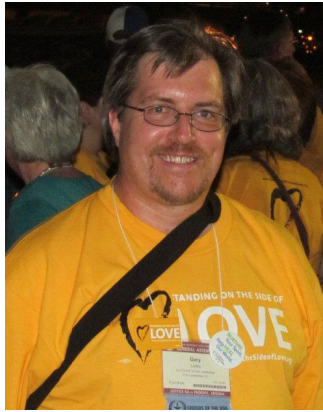
Unitarian Universalist Church of Ft Lauderdale  
Mission Statement:

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



## President's Message

### Planning to Planting Seeds



As Phase 2 of our Long Range Planning wraps up, we are excited to hear the results and all of the great ideas that come out of our gatherings and surveys. The attendance and participation have been really encouraging from our first meeting together with Rev. Randy Becker back in September, through the 3 "cottage meetings" held at the church with our leaders acting as moderators and scribes and the submission of the in-depth hard copy and online surveys. Rev. Randy is busy compiling the data and will return on December 7 to share some of the findings and suggestions that are shown to resonate the most with people who have participated in the exploration process. I would like to thank Bill Schoolman and all of the moderators and scribes who worked very hard to bring this program to the church.

After this comes the challenging part which is the prioritizing and implementation phases of the Long Range Plan that we accept as our path forward. We are going to need the energies of all of the people in the congregation to make these dreams a reality.

We will be retaining Rev. Randy to help guide us, but it will ultimately be up to us to make things happen. I know we can do it together so I am asking for you to seriously consider your commitment to lend a hand in all of the areas that you can.

I am also going to make this continued request of all of you because it will make a huge difference in our spirit and our connections as we move forward as a church family.

Please make your best effort to attend Sunday Services as much as you are possibly able to. We have our other things that we participate in at the church, but Sunday Morning is our family time together—no matter what the service is about. You can go to the beach or brunch on Sundays also, but go after service...and sometimes we even have lunch for you here! The place has a whole different feeling when the room is full than it does if it is half-full with a different group each week. If one of the things we will want to be in the future is attractive to new members, your smiling face is part of that attraction.

That first time visitor might be looking for you for that necessary connection and think what that might mean for you and the church as well.

***Gary Ladka***

### Join Us for 3rd Friday Vespers - November 21 at 7:00pm



Looking for a way to close your off your week or kick start your weekend? Want a smaller, more meditative worship experience? Does drinking wine and enjoying fellowship with your UUCFL friends sound compelling? Come to Vespers! This month's service will be provided by our own Tom Karneth.

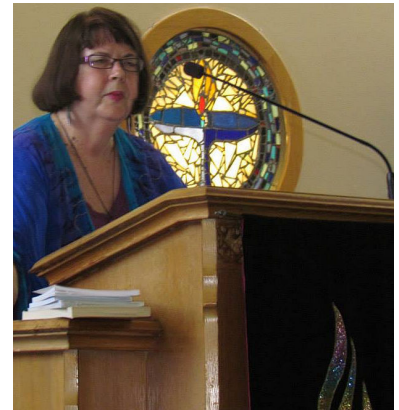
Vespers is our third Friday service that combines readings, music and meditation in a small group setting. It is a short service at 7 PM, usually 45 minutes long. These services may include poetry, prose, music, singing, occasional live music, occasional dance, and meditation. The service is followed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

For more Info or questions, DRE Susan Dirgins-Friend (954) 424-1910 tiredmomofbob@aol.com

## ***Rev. Gail's Space***

### **Expecting the Unexpected**

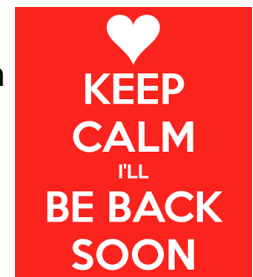
My sabbatical year will be over a little after you are reading this. We will be deep into the evaluation phase of our Long Range Planning Exercise and hopefully winding down on our Stewardship campaign to Build a Future Worthy of Our Heritage. The possibilities for 2015 and beyond are exciting but are ultimately going to be exactly what you make of them. We can have all the fantastic ideas in the world but the implementation phase is the crucial test.



We have many wonderful assets as a community and a few deficits. We own a lovely facility, we have great and loyal renters, wonderful and talented members, a loyal and committed staff and a good name in the larger community.

Some of our challenges are a history of not investing adequately in ourselves either through our own pledging or by finding ways to make ourselves better known in the community through advertising, and offering attractive events. We also could be better about getting the word out and making ourselves even more visible in the world of social justice out in the community.

It is up to each and every person to own our new Long Range Plan and to take some part in making it a reality. In the meantime let's have a rocking holiday season, have fun, party hearty and get to know each other better. Here is looking at many great times to come.



Blessings.

***Rev. Gail***

### **Spirituality And Health Class Coming In 2015**



A new adult curriculum on Spirituality and Health produced by a friend and colleague of Rev. Gail Tapscott will be offered on Tuesdays beginning in mid January. Exact times and details will be unveiled in the December Journey but jot this down now on your 2015 calendar. If there is sufficient interest, we may again offer this exciting new curriculum at both a 4:00 PM and 7:00 pm time frame.

There will be six sessions of this class.

Rev Gail will facilitate these classes which may include some audio visual material.

***Rev. Gail***





**Director of Religious Education (DRE) - Susan Dirgins-Friend**  
**Phone (954) 424-1910**  
**Email tiredmomofbob@aol.com**



Big doings here at UUCFL. Long Range planning is a very important opportunity for our community. It is our chance to take the steps that will let us take our great faith to a much larger and more diverse part of our South Florida area. It is about making UUCFL a better place for the people that are already part of the church, and trying to keep more of the people who come to visit us once, but do not return. We know that we have so many good things to offer, but sometimes we don't always put our best foot forward. It is akin to the idea that most of us don't think our homes have a smell, it is just our home; it is only someone who does not live there that can perceive it. I want to thank those of you who went to the group meetings. It is also important for you to fill out the surveys. The surveys are your chance to give your real, in depth ideas and views of UUCFL. Staff is not usually included in these projects, but our lovely community encouraged me to participate since I have been a long time member. Doug and I chose not to attend the meeting so that the other folks could feel comfortable about giving their honest opinions about how I do my jobs. I want to encourage all of you to use the surveys the same way. Please give your honest opinions about our programs here at UUCFL, whether RE, music or Sunday services. I know that Ms. Dot and the Reverend feel the same way. We all want the same thing; a thriving, vibrant faith home that offers community, spiritual growth, and a chance to make the world a better place.

***DRE Susan***

## November Children's Religious Education Schedule

**Sunday November 2, 11AM**

All Soul's/Day of the Dead

**Sunday November 23, 11AM**

Thanksgiving

**Sunday November 9, 11AM**

Veteran's Day

**Sunday November 30, 11AM**

Movie Sunday

**Sunday November 16, 11 AM**

Regular RE



**Lifenet 4 Families/CFP Update**

LifeNet4Families  
Cooperative Feeding Program

Thanks to those who came out to volunteer in October. Lots of good work was done, and I hope to see more of you this month. Our November work day is scheduled for Saturday

November 1. Meet at CFP at 9AM.

We are also tentatively hosting the Thanksgiving food box distribution at our church and details will be forthcoming. It is an opportunity to come out and volunteer for CFP right at our church.

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

**Sunday Enrichment Times Returning**

## Life Enrichment Classes

Starting in the new year we will again offer Sunday Afternoon Enrichment classes and discussions hopefully scheduled mainly to coincide

with our bimonthly community lunches. These gatherings will start with several sessions to deepen Unitarian Universalist identity and an ability to talk about our faith to others and the later sessions will be discussions on a range of issues of interest to religious liberals and/or people on their spiritual path. We may have a few guest speakers and or facilitators.

Plan to make 2015 the year your become truly qualified to help spread the good news of our open and exciting movement.

**Music Notes**

Our interesting and varied services in October leave us with memories of Rev. Gail's "How to Write Your Own

Memoirs", followed on October 12 by Rev. Carole Yorke whose sermon on canvass gave us a whole new perspective on a sometimes dull subject of money but flavored with humor in her delightful style. Next came Rabbi Noah Kitty's revelation that there is Joy in the Torah, who knew? October wrapped up with the Annual David Fisher Memorial Poetry Service ably directed by Susan Moss. We remember fondly David Fisher's many talents within the UUCFL family and we miss him very much.

Our choir sang on October 12 "Wake Up, My Spirit" and "Money, Money, Money" which added frosting on the canvass cake. This was the first time Rev. Yorke had heard the choir and she was very complimentary of our efforts. They also sang on Poetry Sunday, a beautiful anthem, "Give Me The Splendid Silent Sun" by Butler. This piece has dissonant spots and key changes to challenge the musicianship of the singers. Aren't you proud of them?

Moving on into November we continue our varied subjects with Samhain on the second, conducted by Donna Gutierrez.

November 9 we welcome Faerie Elaine as our guest and look forward to her spiritual offering and her lovely voice.

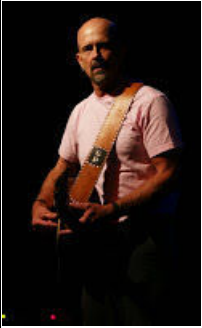
November 16 our choir will sing and again on November 30 when you will hear the poem by Emma Lazarus, "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor" set to music by Irving Berlin.

We miss Charlie Prather at the organ. He and Mario got tired of waiting for Florida to catch up with the rest of the world and they went to Maryland to get married. Congratulations you two special people!

*Dot Muise, Director of Music*



**Labyrinth Café Concerts Presents  
Grant Peeples and Jeff Black  
Saturday November 8 at 7:30pm**



"I'm a vegetarian that watches NASCAR, a tree-hugger that keeps a gun under the seat."— Grant Peeples Dubbed a "guitar-slinging poet" by Music News Nashville. A voice No Depression says "sounds like a '57 Chevy with glass mufflers..." Songs that Routes & Branches deemed "smart, strong lyrics that mean something, and say it in a way that you haven't heard before."

This finger-in-your-eye styled songwriter and 7th generation Floridian is a former expatriate. He spent 11 years on a tiny island off the coast of Nicaragua, where he installed the island's first flushing toilet. He returned in 2006 to a very different homeland. Much of his songwriting is a response to what he found when he returned. [www.grantpeeples.com](http://www.grantpeeples.com)

Thirty years of celebrated live performances and songs covered by artists as diverse as Alison Krauss, Waylon Jennings, Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, John Oates, Blackhawk and Dierks Bentley, Jeff Black is recognized as a pioneer in the modern music industry. Boston's WUMB listeners voted Jeff Black as one of the top 100 most important Folk artists of the last 25 years. After critically-acclaimed commercial releases on label homes, fan favorite independent releases on his own Lotos Nile Music imprint, song placement on numerous independent films, Black continues to evolve as an influential artist on the who's who list of post-alt troubadours. A master songwriter and performer in the tradition of the great storytellers, his passionate, soul-driven live performances of songs from his vast catalog are not to be missed. "His words and voice hold down center stage with a craft so deeply in the artistic pocket that it obscures anything outside." - No depression. [www.jeffblack.com](http://www.jeffblack.com)



Reservations requested but not required:

Contact Susan at [OzWoman321@aol.com](mailto: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).

Upcoming dates

(2014: December 13; 2015: January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9)

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!

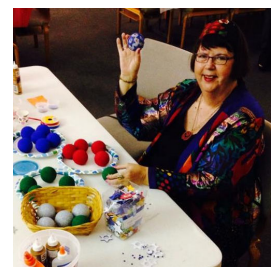
***Susan Moss, Coordinator, Labyrinth Cafe Concert Series***

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**SAVE THE DATE!!! Holiday Gathering - Saturday December 6, 7PM**

Join us for our annual Holiday Gathering at UUCFL. We will enjoy pot luck finger foods, ornament making, a chance to decorate the tree, festive holiday beverages and good conversation. This is an intergenerational gathering that gives families, singles and couples an opportunity to get to know one another better and spend a stress free holiday evening. Put on your best holiday finery, bring you favorite holiday finger food and come out for an evening of fun. Who knows, there may even be a visit from a jolly old elf!!

Info or questions, DRE Susan [tiredmomofbob@aol.com](mailto:tiredmomofbob@aol.com) (954) 424-1910



### Men's Group Open for New Members



#### MEN'S GROUP

Our UUCFL men's support group is currently open for enrollment of new members. We meet every Thursday evening from 7 PM to 8:45 PM. The primary purpose of our support group is for members to give voice to personal joys, sorrows and concerns that can only be spoken in a trust – based environment of compassionate listeners. Our group is a means for men to form more meaningful and supportive relationships with each other.

There is no fee for membership, but we do pass the basket at each meeting for donations to the church. The group recently purchased a boom box for the church which is now in the "Teen Room" where the group meets. In addition, we find other ways to be of service to our church community from time to time.

Please speak to any one of us if you're interested in joining. We are: Bill Schoolman, Jerry Waltz, Ken Howland, Larry Wilkner, Steve Lange, Tom Karneth and Victor Garlock

### Building and Grounds Update



Some Cool News - We are taking steps to "green" our energy usage.

Our first step is the replacement of all of the bulbs in our sanctuary track lighting with LED dimmable spots. These lights have the same warm color temperature as the incandescent spots they are replacing. The difference in energy use is significant. The 20 old bulbs were each 65 watts. The new bulbs giving off the same amount of light and less heat are only 13 watts each cutting the electricity to power them by an amazing 80% - plus we will see some savings on A/C from the heat factor. We will proceed throughout the building upgrading lighting to more efficient/energy saving technology.

Some Not Cool News - For those attending services and activities the week of 10/25, you noticed it being pretty warm in the sanctuary. This was not because of the Witches Ball or hot sermon topics. Our air conditioning's compressor motor seems to have shorted from within leaving us a major repair to be done. Our A/C company is searching out the part and hopefully by the time you read this, the repair will have been made. This is a large unfortunate unbudgeted expense for the church. If you are able to help contribute financially toward this repair to help offset the cost and to lessen the amount that we will have to draw on the Building Fund, please contact Donna Gutierrez our Treasurer and she will gladly accept and thank you.



### Coming CUUPS Events

By the time you are reading this, we all hope to be celebrating our very successful Witches Ball. There are no sabbats in November, we will have to make due with Turkey Day. This is a harvest feast made popular after the Civil war to promote national healing. Be sure to invite a Christian Fundie to your table and dazzle her with your Pagan blessing.

Thursday Study Groups continue.:

Oct 30: A Historical View of Ancestor Worship

Nov 6: A Year and a Day as a Rite of Passage

Nov 13: Our Witchy Journey

Nov 20: The DragonFlame Book Signing. Come meet a famous author

Nov 27: No Meeting

Dec 4: The Best Witchy Book Ever



Do come out and play next Thursday.

*Kip, Resident Pagan*

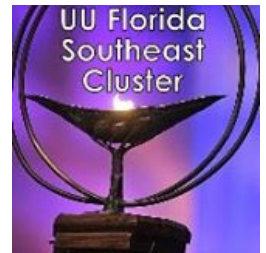




Expand your UU and Facebook horizons by joining the new UU Southeast Cluster page to stay informed about activities of the Cluster which encompasses participating UU congregations from the Treasure Coast to the Virgin Islands

Visit this page and click "Like" to join

[www.facebook.com/UUFloridaSoutheastCluster](http://www.facebook.com/UUFloridaSoutheastCluster)



## COMMIT2RESPOND

People of faith and conscience taking action for climate justice

The world is hurting. How will you respond?

We are facing a climate crisis. Climate change is already causing suffering for peoples around the world every day. Recognizing the interdependence of all life, we are called as people of faith and conscience to heal and sustain the planet we call home.

What if you could halt the rising tide of climate change?

One person can't avert the crisis that is in progress. But together we have the power to create a better world and save the only home humanity has.

Caring about our planet's future isn't a question. We are called to honor the interconnectedness of all life. As people of faith and conscience, we Commit2Respond.

### we believe

We are diverse in spiritual belief, yet united in faith that a better world is possible and that our collective power can create change.

### we commit

Beginning with our involvement in the People's Climate March in New York on September 21, 2014, we committed to join together to SHIFT energy, GROW the movement, and ADVANCE the rights of peoples impacted by climate change.

### we act

Unitarian Universalists and other people of faith and conscience have been on the frontlines of environmental justice for decades. United in collective action, connected through partnership, we will change the world.

Visit [commit2respond.org](http://commit2respond.org) to learn more and get involved.



## Directory of Staff, Board, Committee Chairs & Affiliates

### **STAFF**

#### • Minister

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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Donna Gutierrez.....971-267-9165

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Bill Schoolman.....954-565-6358

Molly St. Cavish.....954-752-5717

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

#### **Building & Grounds**

Mark Woodpecker.....954-573-0291

Steve Lange .....954-257-9262

#### **Stewardship**

Larry Wilkner.....954-646-8037

#### **Community Outreach/Social Justice Committee**

Chairperson—TBA

Interim Contact Rev. Gail Tapscott 954-288-4245

#### **BOLD Justice**

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#### **Cooperative Feeding Program**

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

#### **South Florida Interfaith Worker Justice**

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### **Webmaster**

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

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Douglas Paul.....954-739-8879

### **Library**

Joe DeAngelis.....954-973-1337

### **Finance**

Mara Newman.....954-849-3736

### **Building Usage**

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### **Labyrinth Café Concerts**

Susan Moss .....954-478-8637

### **Welcoming/Membership**

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

### **Ministry**

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

### **Nominating**

Steve Lange .....954-257-9262

### **Religious Education**

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

### **Sunday Services**

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

### **Wisdom and Enlightenment Series**

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

### **ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS**

#### • CUUPS

Edie and Marty McAnulty.....954-559-2816

#### • Endowment

Doug Friend.....954-424-1910

#### • Interweave

Nicole Rivera.....954-815-0086

#### • UU Service Committee

Noralee Traylor.....954-776-4226



## The Market Place



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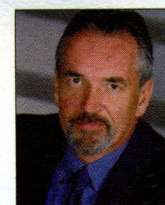
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### Remember the Hungry People Around Us

Please continue to fill the Food Baskets at the church with non-perishables for the LifeNet4Families Cooperative Feeding Program. Learn more about the CFP and other ways you can help. Visit [www.lifenet4families.org](http://www.lifenet4families.org)



### November Birthdays

**ERIK ANDERSON 11/1**  
**PHILIP MORSE 11/1**  
**KEN BEIER 11/2**  
**CORAL HORTON 11/4**  
**LINDA KARNETH 11/24**  
**DOROTHY BELICK 11/30**  
**HANNAH SOLIS 11/30**



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.

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

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



# November Calendar



**1**  
 •9:00am - Lifenet4Families  
 Cooperative Feeding  
 Program Workday  
 (See page 5)

<b>2</b> •9:30am - UU Sisterhood •12:30pm - Fellowship Lunch Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Election Day	<b>5</b> •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b> •7:30 pm CUUPS (See page 7)	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> •7:30 pm Labyrinth Café Concert (See page 6)
<b>9</b> •Journey Article Submission Deadline	<b>10</b> •7:00pm - Board Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>13</b> •7:30 pm CUUPS (See page 7)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> •9:30am - UU Sisterhood •12:30pm - Fellowship Lunch Day	<b>17</b> •7:00pm - Sunday Services Committee	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b> •7:30 pm CUUPS (See page 7)	<b>21</b> •7:00 _ Vespers Service (See page 2)	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> •7:00pm Welcoming/ Membership Committee	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> •6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>27</b> • <u>No</u> CUUPS meeting this week 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> •12:30pm - Fellowship Lunch Day	<b>Every Sunday :</b> <b>11:00 AM-</b> <b>Church Service</b> <b>and Children's</b> <b>Religious Education</b>	Visit our on line calendar for late-breaking events <a href="http://www.uucfl.org">www.uucfl.org</a> and click "Coming Activities"			<b>Religious Education Events</b> <b>See special calendar</b> <b>on the RE page 4</b>	

# Unitarian Universalist



Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue  
Oakland Park, Florida 33309

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Minister Phone: 954-288-4245

E-mail: [uucfl@aol.com](mailto:uucfl@aol.com)

Website: [www.uucfl.org](http://www.uucfl.org)

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

## The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

NOVEMBER 2014

### **November 2- Samhain and Day of the Dead -**

UUCFL Treasurer Donna Gutierrez returns to give us a unique angle on this holiday and to share a meaningful ritual. We will have a memorial altar set up. You can bring photos and small memorabilia of loved ones who are no longer with us. A solemn but beautiful service.

### **November 9 - "Faerie" Elaine Silver returns to**

**UUCFL** - With her unique expression of Truth Teachings using the medium of music and participation, Faerie Elaine will grace us. This week's offering is titled, "Peace, Love and Joy Through Singing." Elaine will talk about the attributes of peace, love and joy with a few accompanying songs for each. Congregants are encouraged to sing along to help raise the vibration.

### **November 16 - There's No Place Like Om -**

The Rev. Dr. Grace Telesco is Founder, Spiritual Director and Presiding Clergy of the Darshan Center for Spiritual Evolution. Based on the story of The Wizard of Oz, the sermon is a message about 'waking up' to our true nature - which is the Higher Self or Higher Consciousness. Using the characters from the story we will look deeper at ways to 'wake up' and find our way home...which is within.

**November 23 - Eternal Thanksgiving** - Our traditional American Thanksgiving Day mythology now comes with a lot of baggage similar to that connected to Columbus Day. However, regardless of problems with the Pilgrims and Squanto narrative, the idea of giving thanks is an eternal and universal idea. That is the line Rev. Gail Tapscott will explore in this end her sabbatical year service.

**November 30 - A Nation of Others** - One of several foci of the Unitarian Universalist Standing on the Side of Love Campaign is immigration. It has become an emotional and politically loaded subject with racial and economic overtones. At its heart however, the question of immigration is about who is us and who is them. Rev. Gail Tapscott will take a crack at this explosive subject as our great choir provides appropriate anthems.

**December 7 - Church of the Future—UUCFL Long Range Planning Phase II** - Rev. Dr. Randy Becker will be joining us again to examine some of the results of the meetings and questionnaires on the future of the church and to offer some insights on what the implications might be for us as a community moving into the unknown future. Don't miss this service that is so key for our hopes and dreams. Rev. Gail will coordinate and offer a few holiday related tidbits.