The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

January 2013 Volume 54, Number 1

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February 2013 Issue
Deadline
Sunday January 13, 2013

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

Unitarian \(\frac{1}{2}\) Universalist Church of Ft. Lauderdale

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Established in 1958



New Years Day 2013 Mini Retreat

Tuesday January 1 at 12:00pm Ring in the New on Page 2

January is Building and Grounds Cleanup Month
Stay after service each Sunday to help make
our church home even more beautiful
See Page 6 for a list of Dates and Projects





Labyrinth Café Concerts Presents : Four Shillings Short

Saturday, January 12 at 7:30pm Concert info Page 7

Third Friday Vespers Service Friday, January 18 at 7:00pm At your service on Page 3





Please stay after service on Sunday, January 6 to participate in our Budget Preview Workshop - Come with your creative and positive ideas



Your Genius Within By Victor Garlock

Thursday January 24 at 7:00pm Unlock more info on Page 5

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.



From Your Board President - New Beginnings



Happy New Year Everyone! It's time for resolutions. Now I know there are people who don't believe in resolutions. I understand why you might not believe in it. A lot of times we make really hard resolutions, that we probably could never keep, and then when we don't we feel bad. Well that's not the resolution's fault; it's our fault for choosing to change things we can't really do!

Most of you are aware already that I am looking for work again. Sigh, yet again, at the holidays I will be looking for work. I'm writing this shortly after getting the news that New Year means new job for me. Considering everything I think I am remarkably cheerful. I guess I fell into the trap of believing that I could have my job for years and years. I remember that my Mom and Dad were able to keep jobs for very long time, but it's a new world and a new economy, so like expecting myself to do something I've never been

able to do before as a resolution, I was a bit foolish expecting this job to work out better than the others have for the last 15 years or so. I have to move into acceptance and I am working on that. I am working on applying for everything within 100 miles and farther if need be. I hope I can continue working from home, but I don't have my hopes up too high. So this New Year will be really new for me, so I have some resolutions. I resolve to come to Sunday Service as often as possible. This is imminently doable, because it's what I always do. It took years to form the habit of regularity. I've noticed that my mood is improved by attending service. This year I am going to try to make all of the Vespers Services too. I meet new people, I like that. I learn new things. I hope to host many social events in my apartment. I will make lots of soup for people and learn new recipes to share. I can't wait to get to meet more people. I resolve in 2013 to be diabetes free by following my doctor's instructions. I know that sounds unlikely but I was only .05 away on my last test, so I think I can do it. My unrealistic resolutions are to start exercising daily and grow the church double. I want to double us on account of that would fix the budget, this is entirely unrealistic, so I will need all your help. If you know someone who ought to be coming to church, bring them. I need every one of them. Wouldn't it be cool if we did it? We'd be famous, with the UUA asking us what our best practices were. Totally unrealistic, let's do it anyway. Happy New Year!

Myra Symons

New Years Day 2013 Mini Retreat

Please join us for a few hours of reflection of the year past, and planning for the year ahead. There will be time for solitary and group meditation, journal writing, and sharing.

Date: January 1, 2013 Place: UUCFL Multipurpose Room

Time: Noon to 5 pm Cost: \$15.00

The event is being organized by John Shearer and Douglas Paul with help from Rev. Gail and members of the Sunday Services committee. Please call John at 859-358-0095 or Douglas at 954 739-8879 to reserve a space. You can also reserve a space by e-mail to me at Cobidante7@hotmail.com.

John Shearer

UUA President Peter Morales Issues Statement on the Connecticut School Massacre

December 14, 2012

The Rev. Peter Morales, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), issued the following statement on Friday, December 14, 2012, in response to the day's tragic events in Newtown, Connecticut:

"I am shocked and profoundly saddened by the news of the massacre at a school in Newtown, Connecticut. My deepest condolences go out to the families and friends of those who lost their lives today. I know of nothing more tragic than a young life cut short by violence. This is a time for embracing one another and helping each other find strength and solace.

"This is just the latest horrific act of gun violence targeting innocent lives. Whether it's the mall shooting in Oregon or the mass murders in Aurora, Colorado or the shooting of Gabrielle Giffords and others in Tucson, Arizona or the Columbine school killings, these instances of violence continue to erupt in America. It is an additional tragedy that today's killings occurred in an elementary school where our youngest and most vulnerable spend their day. All Americans must reflect humbly and work to change the conditions that allow such violence to take place.

"We must rededicate ourselves to creating a society where differences are resolved without violence, where the mentally unstable do not have ready access to lethal force, where violence is not glorified, and where we can live, love, and work in safe places. Our task as a religious people committed to compassion and to peace is to show a better way."



Rev. Gail's Space

The Church We Yearn For

Church life is perhaps a bit more challenging than usual in these days of world wide economic and environmental challenges. The recent election seemed like really good news on a number of progressive causes but it is really hard to read the American public. While Cable TV pundits of all stripes are saying that national politics may not favor the Republicans for many cycles to come, the GOP is still in total control of many states. The same big money people and SuperPacs that sunk so much money into the presidential election are putting huge arsenals to work on anti-union and other non progressive legislation that could have a



negative impact on the opposition in the long run. I always note that many liberals and progressive folk sit back and take a long break when a big election is over. More conservative voters and thinkers, however, stay active and on alert at all times.

The problems we face at the local, state, national and worldwide level are huge, intertwined and often very polarizing. The challenges faced by our churches are similar. In a UU church one of the major challenges to numerical growth seems to be that may people who share our basic view of the world say they don't feel a need to be part of a religious organization to practice their values. However, everyone needs community and the more we are able to model a truly caring community the more likely we are to attract and keep that increasing demographic known as the "nones" i.e. those professing no current religious affiliation. I believe that Town meeting conversations to air our views and differences on practical matters and smaller group interaction in classes and social interactions are some key ways to create a deeper sense of community.

Even if you have never taken a class or participated in a non- Sunday social event, I strongly suggest that 2013 be the year that all that changes. Let new experiences here change you and then work together to change the church, the denomination and the community. It is such fun to have an opportunity to start over each and every year. May 2013 be a year of growth, change and challenge for all of us.

Blessings,

Rev. Gail

Vespers Services 2013

Vespers are held the third Friday of each month starting at 7PM. It is a time for music, readings, and quiet meditation that generally lasts 40-45 minutes followed by fellowship over wine and cheese.



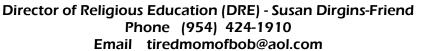
January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17
There will be no vespers during the summer months (June, July, August)
See www.uucfl.org/vespers/







Religious Education





Happy New Year! Hopefully, your black eyed peas will bring you good luck for the coming year. There have been so many things to be grateful for this past year, and yet so many things to mourn. Our little church community has been blessed with wonderful new folks coming in, lots of stimulating services, fun social gatherings, great music (if I can toot my and Dot's horns) insightful religious education and a renewed social justice ministry. On the flip side, we have lost some members, our finances are not the best, and our lovely building is in constant need of some upgrade or other. All in all, I think the scales tip generously toward the positive. In the world at large, the blessings have been less obvious. We did get a person with a better social conscience than some others elected to the highest office in the land, the wars our country is involved in are winding down, and for some Americans, the economy is getting better. The other side of the scale still involves lots of unrest in the Middle East, woman all over the world who are not treated like humans, poverty, hunger and homelessness, and in our country, several mentally ill people who were not being taken care of and ended up murdering lots of people with assault weapons. The tip of these scales seems less bright. I think that if we can keep our eyes and hearts focused on the road ahead and start to be more demanding of those who have the power, we can make a change. When the march on Washington to ban assault weapons happens in the not so distant future, I hope that I can fill up my car with our members. When Bold Justice has its Nehemiah Action in the spring, I hope we can bring at least 50 of our members to

push for jobs and education. Write a letter, call a politician, and stop buying products from companies who ill treat their employees and the environment. It is time for us to start being loud and attention getting. If the squeaky wheel gets the oil, let's start squeaking!!

Love and Blessings, DRE Susan



January Children's Religious Education Schedule

Sunday January 6, 11AM Christianity

Sunday January 13, 11AM Christianity

Sunday January 20, 11AM Martin Luther King Jr. Lesson

Monday January 21, 9AM
Martin Luther King Jr. Workday
Location to be determined

Sunday January 27, 11AM Islam

Remember, children start every Sunday in church before retiring to the RE wing for religious education.

Lifenet 4 Families Update

Once again, our little church is doing pretty big things.

From December 17-21, we hosted the Christmas food distribution for Cooperative Feeding Program at our church. Many families were able to get a holiday food box and gift card from the



CFP. With our long circular driveway, our property is well suited for the task. We should be proud. For those who keep bringing in the food for the baskets, thank you, thank you. Labyrinth Café is an especially good provider. Any little bit helps, so if all you can bring is a can of tuna, you are helping someone less fortunate than your self. Our January workday is Saturday January 5. Meet at the CFP at 8:45 to have fun and do good. Our February workday will be February 2.

Questions or info DRE Susan (954) 424-1910 tiredmomofbob@aol.com

A Practical Look at World Religions



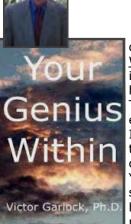
Based on many new insights and resources she has been exposed to in her new part-time career as a Professor of World Religions, Rev. Gail will offer a completely new approach to the why and how of learning about the religiously pluralistic world we all live in this winter. Starting on Wednesday Feb. 13 and Education running for 8 sessions this class will try to look at other traditions in terms of how

they might help enhance our lives as Unitarian Universalists and also help us live in a world where being conversant with a range of world views is really a life and death matter. I hate to be in conflict with the Choir. If a significant number of choir members express interest in this class, I can consider changing the day to Thursdays. I will be teaching at Strayer on Tuesday nights so that is not an option. Mark you calendar's now to broaden your horizons. There will be lectures, discussions, readings and spiritual practices. Please speak to Rev. Gail Tapscott at 954-288-4245 if you have further questions.

Rev. Gail

Presentation on Your Genius Within

Thursday, January 24 from 7 PM to 9 PM in the church sanctuary



Come join our own Victor Garlock for a discussion of his book Your Genius Within; understanding sleep, dream interpretation and learning self hypnosis.

The book is about finding and empowering your genius within. It's about the power of your inner mind to greatly expand your understanding of yourself and the people around you. You will enter the worlds of hypnosis. sleep and dreams, where you will learn how much of your mental power remains unused and locked inside.

This presentation is for those of you who missed Victor's Sunday service talk and book signing last August. Even if you were there, this two-hour session will be a more extensive discussion of the fascinating topics of hypnosis, sleep and dreams. There will also be time for dream sharing. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.

A \$10 donation to the church is suggested. But, of course, everyone is welcome.

Victor Garlock

Music Notes

As promised in last month's article, December was rich with music both familiar and not so well known.



The Choir sang on the 9th with Hanukkah music and the 16th with carols. Our Christmas Eve service had a different format but included several traditional carols led by the choir and a lovely setting of "O Holy Night". Dot dusted off several of her favorite Christmas Noels and one postlude from a Suite given to her by a friend from the Netherlands who was studying at Brandeis many years ago.

Rev. Opal Murray presented a Kwanzaa service on December 30 with special guests and music to fit the principals of the day.

Looking ahead to January, the New Year service music will be provided by the folk singers group "Four Shillings Short" on January 6. Martin Luther King Day will follow on the 13th with a Peace theme. Rev. Gail's series on World Religions begins on January 20 and 27th. The Choir Sundays for the New Year are yet to be determined. They will be announced in time.

Our thanks to Charlie Prather for helping with the December music program. Congregational singing is well supported with piano and organ accompaniments. We appreciate you, Charlie. We also appreciate the dedication of our choir members under the direction of Susan Friend.

Dot Muise, Director of Music

Occupying Ft Lauderdale



Occupy Ft Lauderdale/Labor Outreach holds regular meetings at UUCFL every Saturday at 4 p.m.

Let our New Year's resolution be this:

We will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word.

∼ Goran Persson ∼ Prime Minister of Sweden 1996-2006

Coming CUUPS Events



Saturday, January 19th at 7:00pm we celebrate Imbolc, the First Light of Spring, with Special Guest High Priestess Sandra

Cheryl Richardson of the Circle of Issis Rising. In Northern Europe, this was the dark time of the year when food supplies were running out and a little help from the Goddess was much hoped for. Visit www.MoonPathCUUPS.org/imbolc

Meanwhile, Thursday evening Study Groups continue. As I write this, no one is planning much yet for January, but we will eventually have a different topic and presenter for each week.

Kip, Resident Pagan

Happy New Year from Buildings and Grounds Committee!

Hope you are having wonderful holidays. After the year's activities and parties it's time to clean up and put away the stuff in appropriate places, during our First Annual Clean Up Month. We need to get rid of clutter, find appropriate places for the stuff we need, and clean and polish our building to show

hospitality to our guests and members. We have a lot to do, so we're going to do it over the January Sundays:

Jan 6: Sanctuary

Jan 13: Multi-purpose, RE rooms

Jan 20:Back room Jan 27: Our grounds

Please note that the more volunteers we have, the quicker the job, the more fun the job. Also, if you have anything that needs to be saved please be



present, or let me know - otherwise it may be misplaced.

Best Wishes,

Mark Woodpecker - Building and Grounds

ChildNet Adopt-a-Wish Program Beings Smiles to Broward Children

Our UUCFL elves came through again this year providing lots of toys and goodies to children in the ChildNet program here in Broward County through the popular Adopt a Wish drive. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity as our sleigh got loaded up for holiday surprises to brighten the spirits of those less fortunate during this season of giving.

Lore Bernier



Racial Caste System in the U.S.? Sunday, January 6 at 1 p.m.

Review of Michelle Alexander's Book, The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness. The New Press, 2010.

Following the showing of Broken on All Sides on December 2 and the review of the New Jim Crow on December 6, a "Read, Discuss then Act" group formed. Its initial meeting will cover Michelle Alexander's introduction and the first two chapters. Borrow the book through the Broward County Library system or buy it through Powell's, the unionized on-line service and join us.

The majority of young black men in American cities are locked behind bars or labeled as felons for life. Jim Crow laws were wiped off the book decades ago but today an astounding percentage of the African American community is housed in prisons or trapped in a permanent, second class status –much like their grandparents, who lived in an explicit system of control.

In this incisive critique, civil rights lawyer-turned-legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that we have not ended racial caste in the US; we have simply redesigned it. She shows that, by targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating

communities of color, the US criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control.

Alexander challenges the civil rights community and all of us to place mass incarceration at the forefront of a new movement for racial justice in America. Contact me at bob@benderworld.com or 954-531-1928.

Bob Bender

Labyrinth Café Concerts Presents : Four Shillings Short Saturday, January 12 at 7:30pm

Born in Cork, Ireland, Aodh Óg (pronounced, ayog) Ó Tuama studied Medieval and Renaissance music in



college. He received a music fellowship to study at Stanford University in 1984. Played in a group called Drivelling Druids before forming the group Four Shillings Short. (vocals, tin whistles, doumbek, spoons, gemshorn, bowed psaltery, recorders, crumhorn, many others). A multi-instrumentalist (hammered dulcimer, mandolin, mandola and bouzouki, banjo, North Indian Sitar, guitar, charango, bowed psaltery and bodhran) and vocalist, Christy Martin was born into a musical family. She played the sitar for 10 years, starting at the age of 16. Took up folk music in the '80's. Has been playing hammer dulcimer since 1993. She was formerly in a band called Your Mother Should Know.

www.fourshillingsshort.com

Reservations requested but not required:

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

\$20 at the door, 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); Advance reservations: \$17, checks (made out to the performer) received in the UU church office, c/o Labyrinth Cafe, no later than Wednesday before Saturday show.

We encourage you to take advantage of our season pass which includes admission to all remaining shows, as well as a Labyrinth Cafe T-shirt (designed and printed by Virginia and Erik Anderson, Labyrinth Cafe volunteers) and premium reserved seating. It's a wonderful way to support the UU church, our performers and the continuation of live, original music!! Please visit www.labyrinthcafe.com for further details and the artists' websites, as well as www.myspace.com/labyrinthcafe for song samples!

Susan Moss, Coordinator, Labyrinth Cafe Concert Series



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The program runs between January 1 and the IRS income tax filing deadline (usually April 15) of the current year. By June 30th, your organization will receive one convenient check with your total program reward.

Contact Ken Wensel at 561-542-3198 to participate and help the church.

Reproductive Justice: New Curriculum and Resources Available from the UUA

In light of the 2012 - 2016 Congregational Study Action Issue chosen at this year's General Assembly, a brand new six-week curriculum from the Unitarian Universalist Association titled, "Reproductive Justice: Expanding Our Social Justice Calling," will equip Unitarian Universalists with tools for effective public advocacy, tie us to our theological and historical resources, help us understand the complexities of reproductive justice, and strengthen our relationships with each other.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

For more information and to download it today, visit www.uua.org/reproductive

Caring Committee is Here for You

Do you or do you know about a church member or friend of the church in need?

Below find the Caring Committee names and phone numbers.

Don't hold your cards so close; call one of these folks and tell them what's going on in your life.

Molly Lesnick 954-587-9552 Nicole Schulman 954-942-0394

Douglas Paul 954-739-8879 Jerry Waltz 954-591-3513

Larry Wilkner 954-646-8037



UUCFL Endowment Grants Holiday Wishes

EFI was able to grant several holiday wishes this year to:

Broward Meals On Wheels to help feed seniors in our community, Child Net/ Cooperative Feeding Program to assist those in need of food and other services, The Silver Nightingale to present gentle and soothing music to those in hospice care, The Veterans Support Organization to assist veterans to live and work in our community, Two grants within our UUCFL family to help our church run smoothly, And lastly to South Florida Hunger Coalition to plant community gardens nearby.

We are grateful to acknowledge UUCFL's presence in Broward County, and thanks to the community gardens, we will watch our presence root and grow!



Ho Ho Ho,

Monica Pavlik - EFI President

Unitarian Universalist Association Southern Region



Building strong Unitarian Universalist congregations throughout the South

Want to know what's happening in the Region and your District?

The Southland Unitarian Universalist Region is a new cooperative venture between the four Southern districts of the Unitarian Universalist Association: Southeast, Mid-South, Florida and the Southwestern Conference. Join the last of our three Regional Webinar discussions on Thursday, January 17, 2013 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Eastern Time. You are urged to participate to learn more about Regionalization and the new *Generously Investing for Tomorrow* (GIFT) pilot program. GIFT will replace both the Annual Program Fund Fair Share Giving and District Dues. Our Region will embark on the GIFT program on July 1, 2013. Learn more about it. Your questions and input will be welcomed. Visit the brand new website to find out about these programs and more at www.uusouthland.org

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January Birthdays

COLETTE SAUCIER 1/4
VALERIE HELLER 1/7
DOROTHY (DOT) MUISE 1/9
CAM ENRIGHT 1/10
COOPER DONELSON 1/20
NICOLE SHULMAN 1/21
LISA MOHAN-HOLSTEIN 1/28
ELAINE ELLE 1/29
GARY LADKA 1/30
GLORIA STEIN 1/30



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	뒾
Unitariar Universo Church of Ft. Laud	ılist	Januar	y Calei	ndar			HE JOURNE
Every Sunday : II:00 AM- Church Service and Children's Religious Education	Religious Education Events See special calendar on the RE page 4	I •12:00pm—New Years Mini Retreats (See page 2)	2 •6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal-Sopranos and Altos •7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal-Tenors and Basses	3 •7:30 pm CUUPS	4	•8:45am - Cooperative Feeding workday (see page 4) •4:00pm - Occupy Ft Lauderdale/Labor Outreach	EY
•9:30am - UU Sisterhood •12:30pm - Budget Workshop •1:00pm - Racial Caste System in the US? (See page 5) •1:00pm - Building and Grounds Workday? (See page 6)	7 •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles	8	•6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal- Sopranos and Altos 7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal- Tenors and Basses •7:30pm - Drumming	10 •7:30 pm CUUPS	II	•4:00pm - Occupy Ft Lauderdale/Labor Outreach •7:30 pm Labyrinth Café Concert (See page 7)	JANUARY
J3 •Journey Submission Deadline •I:00pm - Building and Grounds Workday? (See page 6)	•7:00pm - Board Meeting •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles	15	•6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal- Sopranos and Altos •7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal- Tenors and Basses	17 •7:30 pm CUUPS	18 •7:00pm - Vespers Service (See page 3)	•4:00pm - Occupy Ft Lauderdale/Labor Outreach •7:00pm - CUUPS Imbolc Celebration (See Page 6)	Y 2013
•9:30am - UU Sisterhood •1:00PM - Annual Budget Meeting (All Voting Members Please Attend) •1:00pm - Building and Grounds Workday? (See page 6)	2 I •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles •7:30pm - Sunday Services Committee	22	23 •6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal-Sopranos and Altos •7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal-Tenors and Basses	•7:00pm - Your Genius Within by Victor Garlock (see page 5) •7:30 pm CUUPS	25 •7:00pm –Social Justice Committee	26 •4:00pm - Occupy Ft Lauderdale/Labor Outreach	PA
27 •I:00pm - Building and Grounds Workday? (See page 6)	28 •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles •7:30pm - Welcoming/ Membership Committee	29	30 •6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal-Sopranos and Altos •7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal-Tenors and Basses	3 I •7:30 pm CUUPS	Visit our on lin calendar for late-breaking eve www.uucfl.org and "Coming Activiti	ents click Not the world end	GE 11



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

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

JANUARY 2013

January 6 - Starting Over - Periodically in life it seems like everything gets ripped away from us and we feel like we are back at square one. Rev. Gail will address the resilience required for this type of situation. We will enjoy the Celtic music of Four Shillings Short.

January 13 - What Would MLK Jr Do - and What Will You Do in 2013?" - Guest sermonist Judith Le Blanc will be addressing "Martin Luther King Jr on Peace, Militarism and Internationalism." This will be followed by lunch then presentations on Foreclosures, Homelessness, Mass Incarceration, Peace, Worker and Economic Justice. Group Singing led by Pink Slip. Without Struggle there is NO PROGRESS.

January 20 - A Matter of Nature - Rev. Gail will focus on some of the practical and applicable life lessons to be gained from an exploration of Tribal and Ancestor focused spiritual practices.

January 27- Exploring Lessons from Two Traditions of India - Looking at the two traditions of Hinduism and Jainism that spring from the Indian subcontinent, Rev. Gail will explore attractions these ancient systems have for modern thinkers and spiritual pilgrims.

February 3 - A Sea Change - Rev. Dr. Dorothy Emerson - Historian of Unitarian Universalists women, Rev. Dorothy May Emerson preached Rev. Gail's installation sermon here almost 14 years ago. She returns to share insights from her book in progress on the extraordinary changes brought about in the culture and in individual lives by the ferment of the 1960's.

