

The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

February 2014
Volume 55, Number 2

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March 2014 Issue

Deadline

Sunday February 9, 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

Unitarian 
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Church of Ft. Lauderdale

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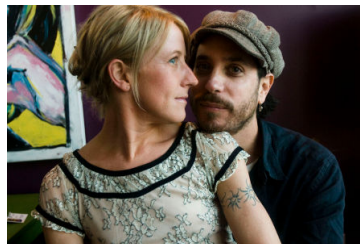
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Established in 1958

LifeNet4Families Workday
Saturday February 1 at 8:45am
Reach out and go to Page 6



LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program



Labyrinth Cafe Concerts
Presents
Danny Schmidt and
Carrie Elkin

Saturday February 8 at 7:30pm
Concert Info Page 7

BOLD Justice Ministry Team Assembly

Tuesday February 18
at 7:00pm
Be BOLD - Go to Page 6



Third Friday Vespers Service
Friday February 21 at 7:00pm
Service info on Page 5



OFFICIAL NOTICE

Annual Budget Meeting
Sunday February 9 at 12:45
All Voting Members are urged to attend
as we approve our budget for 2014

OFFICIAL NOTICE

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



I recently got around to reading the winter edition of the UU World and I was struck by the diversity of ideas expressed in it. This diversity reflects the variety of issues and concerns that call for the attention and action of our collective religious body (as represented by the Unitarian Universalist Association), our separate congregations and we individual Unitarian Universalists.

One article written by Kimberly Paquette especially moved me. She describes how important the presence of a Unitarian Universalist ministry was to her when she was away from home for the first time during US Army basic training when she was 20 years old.

She describes some of the appalling realities she experienced as a young woman in military service. She experienced a great deal of isolation in a male-dominated environment. She learned that as a woman she had to prove herself over and over again in the face of disrespect. She was surrounded by many men who believed that women have no place in the military. She states that sexual harassment was "the unspeakable norm" in that world. She also describes the thought control that was enforced on her and other recruits. In order to survive she had to avoid challenging authority and keep her opinions to herself. She learned that total compliance was her only chance for making it through the training at all. Among other things she was threatened with disciplinary action for having a rainbow bumper sticker on her car.

She then goes on to express how very grateful she was for the Unitarian Universalist congregation that she found in a nearby community. She describes her experience there as providing her with a life-saving breath of fresh air. "The Sunday service was the only hour of my week when I could be my true and whole self. It was the only time I was called by my first name."

Her touching words remind me of the importance of keeping the Unitarian Universalist chalice burning, even in unlikely places, so that our religion is available to as many seekers as possible.

During our strengthening the tribe stewardship campaign. We have reminded ourselves of the importance of making sure that our church will be here for those who will need us and our tradition in the future. Kimberly Paquette's story resonates with and reinforces that important obligation.

Victor Garlock

Strengthening the Tribe

As we approach our annual budget meeting, we are asking all members, friends and frequent guests to please renew and strengthen your commitment to the church and to turn in your pledge forms as soon as possible if you have now done so yet. If you have not received your Strengthening the Tribe 2014 Stewardship campaign brochure and pledge form, please see Gary Ladka or Ken Beier at the church or visit the home page at www.uucfl.org for printable versions of these items. We are hoping for a strong 2014 program year at the church, and we need your support to make that happen. We ask that you give careful and meditative thought as to how much UUCFL means to you and how much it will mean to future seekers of our faith here in Ft Lauderdale as you consider your pledge and your part in making our collective dreams possible for the church. Please turn in your pledge forms to Gary or Ken or by mail to the church as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity.



The Stewardship Committee

Rev. Gail's Space

Our Rev. Gail Tapscott is currently on a well deserved sabbatical to gain further Enrichment and knowledge to bring back to us in future services and classes. In this month's article, Rev Gail shares her latest adventures on the road.

Visiting Winter and its Joys and Concerns

I am not among you regularly at the moment but as the song said, "you are always on my mind." I went to the UU Fellowship of Winston-Salem, NC on Jan. 26 and will likely go to All Souls in DC on Feb. 2. I find connections and get ideas about church wherever I go.



I wanted to visit winter but you know what they say "be careful what you wish for" and it is not just a bromide. I wanted to see how I handled cold now and I wanted to see snow again but now it is possible that I may have to stay an extra day in NC if the roads are icy in the morning. As I write, I am set to take train to DC in the morning but as my sister, brother-in-law and I huddle by their artificial log fire and sip hot tea we don't know if we will feel safe venturing out to get me to the station in the morning.



Certainly, rain and storms and hurricane threats can cause cancellations in S. Fl. but there is nothing quite like a snow day or an icy street that can cause skids. So I may be getting a few more adventures than I bargained for on this trip north. Those of you on my Facebook feed have heard more than you likely needed to hear about the theft of my relatively new iPhone at the tail end of my train ride up here but that seems to have been resolved. However, the loss was an unexpected expense and missing the train would be another. It has also been said that "life is what happens while we are busy making other plans" and I certainly am feeling that way.

However, the alternative to opening myself to this duality of adversity and adventure would be stagnation and boredom and I kind of think boredom is the original sin. I am sure that DC, whenever I get there, will bring many new adventures and insights. I hope all of you will open yourselves to the new experiences of different preachers and presenters and the added member responsibilities of functioning for a while with no minister handy. It will not be what you expect, it may not always be pleasant or fun but it will be different and it could be amazing. Keeping learning, growing and pushing the envelope as long as you are breathing is my philosophy. Blessings on all of you for being open to the journey and to your place in the interdependent web.

Rev. Gail

Availability During Sabbatical



I will not be dropping off the face of the earth during my sabbatical periods. Everyone has access to my phone number 954-288-4245 and my email revgailtapscott@aol.com. In cases of personal or church emergencies I can of course be contacted. I would prefer that you speak to Victor, Gary or another church leader first but I am not going to refuse to take calls. If you do need to contact me I ask that you give me a clear idea of what the issue is and the level of urgency rather than just saying you need to talk to me. I hate calling into the unknown.

Rev. Gail



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



This is the month that inspires us to celebrate Love. We celebrate romantic love mostly, and those of us that have a romantic partner will give and get chocolates, cards, romantic dinners, and even the occasional poem. Some of us also remind the other folks that we love that we love them; these can be friends, family members and close neighbors. This year I am going to try and spread the love a little farther than I usually do. I remember when my daughter was a young teen, and she would come home on Valentine's Day loaded up with treasure. Those of you who know her, know that she is beautiful, sassy, and full of her own specialness. Boys and girls both let her know how much she was loved, and of course, she scored at home also. I often wondered about some of the other girls and boys at school; I wondered about the ones who went home with nothing, no acknowledgment that they too were loved. I am going to make the effort this year to let someone else know that they are loved also. We say as Unitarian Universalists that "We Are Standing on the Side of Love". It is our theme, our mantra. We use it on signs to show our support for different types of social injustices that we want to see corrected. I say that during this month of St. Valentine, we make it a more personal mantra. Choose someone or two at work, in your neighborhood, or here at UUCFL who may not get any concrete indication that they are loved, and let them know. Hug them, get them a card, a chocolate, or invite them to dinner.

Let us Stand on the Side of Love, one person at a time.

Love and Blessings
DRE Susan

February Children's Religious Education Schedule

Sunday February 2, 11AM

Super Sunday!!

Sunday February 9, 11AM

Love Lesson

Sunday February 16, 11AM

Presidents

Sunday February 23, 11AM

Regular RE



Join Us for 3rd Friday Vespers!**February 21 at 7:00pm**

We had an inspiring evening on January 17 with Tom Karneth and "Eclectic Poetry, Prose and Jazz" at Vespers.



We heard interesting readings and wonderful music and afterwards we enjoyed wine and snacks and good conversation. Vespers services are short (45 minutes) and contain readings, music and meditation.

Please join us on Friday February 21 at 7PM for our Vespers service. Cam Enright and Jim Giblin are putting something together that we know will be fabulous.

In January we had eighteen people for Vespers, so in February, let's try to see if we can fill the room to bursting!!!

See www.uucfl.org/vespers/

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

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.



cUUrious cUUrrier – If you are not receiving our weekly email newsletter, the cUUrious cUUrrier, visit our website at www.uucfl.org and click on "Weekly Email Broadcast" to sign up

Welcoming/Membership Committee

Music Notes

The New Year began with the choir singing "Happy Birthday" to somebody well known to all members of UUCFL. The "Question of Tempo" was sung a capella, a lively rendition to begin the year on an upbeat note.

The birthday celebration that evening was a time to be remembered for the rest of my life with so many friends from my present and past gathering to wish me well. I thank all those who worked hard to make this wonderful gathering successful. I also thank the people who traveled long distances to join the party. It was so great to see all of you. Your cards and gifts are now my treasures. Many many thanks.

One sad note was that Nancy Laign, one time Office Administrator here at the church was at the party, but died suddenly very soon after. Our sympathy is sent to Nancy's family. I, for one, will miss her.

January continued with the Choir presenting the South African song "Freedom Is Coming" at the January 19 service. This was a tribute in memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. The month wrapped up with guest David Roth charming all with his original songs of life.

Moving into February, we will hear the Choir singing "Love Changes Everything". This service promises to be rich with music as Bishop SF Makalani-MaHee will be the guest speaker. Choir will embellish the February 23 service when Rev. Dr. Jerry Stephenson will be preaching. The music will include Mozart's beautiful "Ave Verum Corpus" which may remind some of their backgrounds in more fundamental churches.

Our organist, Charlie Prather, continues to be absent while the neuropathy in his hand is being treated. As soon as he can feel his fingers, he will be back to support our hymn singing once more. We look forward to that time. While we await your return, we will send healing thoughts for your recovery.

While Rev. Gail is on part of her Sabbatical, we are experiencing a sample of several other styles of leadership provided by the Sunday Services Committee under the guidance of Rev. Opal Murray and Jim Giblin, co-chairs. Your comments to either of these hard-working members will be welcome, but you must attend services to make an informed opinion.

Suggestions for the music program are also welcome. Talk with Dot after services to

Dot Muise, Director of Music



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





LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program

LifeNet 4 Families/Cooperative Feeding Update

Keep filling the lobby baskets, and join us on February 1 for our Saturday workday at LifeNet. There is work to do making food boxes, filling shelves, and occasionally working in the kitchen or dining room serving the clients. We are also still hosting the daily food box distribution until they find a more permanent solution.

We will also be presenting the Annual Empty Bowls Dinner to support LifeNet, so keep your eyes open for details on that future event.

Info: DRE Susan (954) 424-1910 tiredmomofbob@aol.com
Susan Friend

BOLD Justice Ready for Action

I'm pretty excited. This year we've committed to get 55 people to the BOLD (Broward Organized Leaders Doing) Justice! Nehemiah Action on April 3rd (last year we had 45 people!). I think this year we can not only meet, but exceed our goal. We have more people in our congregation involved in BOLD Justice! than ever, including our new Justice Team Members Nicole Rivera and Doug Paul! On the 18th of February at 7:30pm we'll be having the BOLD Justice Ministry Team Assembly right here in our own church which will have representatives from all the member congregations. On the 18th of March will be BOLD Justice's Rally to get everyone pumped up and informed for the Nehemiah Action. I'd like to see us give a record turn-out!

Yours in Justice,
Lore Bernier



Environmental Movement Movie to be Screened at Film Festival Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival Presents: 'A Fierce Green Fire - The Battle for a Living Planet'

The first big picture exploration of the environmental movement – grassroots and global activism, both history and successes. Premiered at Sundance Film Festival 2012.

Narrated by Robert Redford, Meryl Streep, Ashley Judd, Van Jones, and Isabel Allende

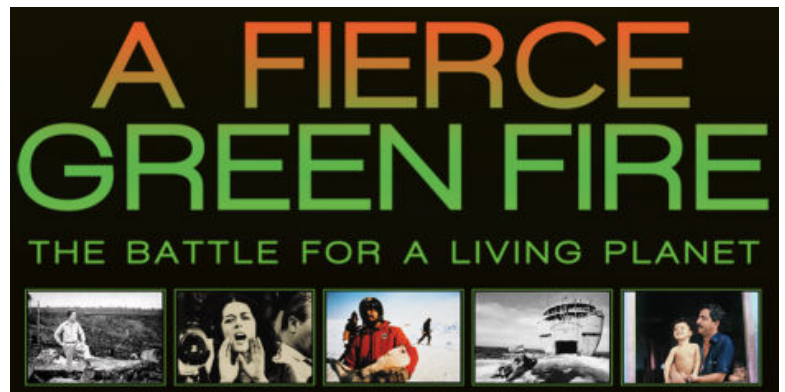
<http://www.afiercegreenfire.com>

Presented by the Fort Lauderdale
Friends Meeting Quakers

Producer Mark Kitchell will be here for Q&A
Saturday February 15, 2014 7:00 PM
Cinema Paradiso
503 SE 6th Street
Fort Lauderdale FL 33301

Tickets – www.fliff.com
(954) 525-3456

Adults - \$10, Students, Seniors - \$8, Members - \$6





Labyrinth Cafe Concerts Presents Danny Schmidt and Carrie Elkin Saturday, February 8 at 7:30pm

If the chemistry between Danny Schmidt and Carrie Elkin seems especially sparkful, they come by it honestly, as they are a rare breed: a romantic partnership in real life, not just musical life. And the two together on stage makes for a classic case of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts.

Named to the Chicago Tribune's 50 Most Significant Songwriters in the Last 50 Years, Austin, TX-based singer/songwriter Danny Schmidt has been rapidly ascending from underground cult hero status to being broadly recognized as an artist of generational significance. Danny is considered a preeminent writer, an artist whose earthy poetry manages to somehow conjure magic from the mundane, leading Sing Out Magazine to tag him: "Perhaps the best new songwriter we've heard in the last 15 years."



With her Red House Records Release, Call it my Garden, Carrie Elkin has emerged as one of the defining new voices in the world of Texas singer-songwriters, being celebrated by Texas Music Magazine as one of their artists of the year. The voice, the stories, the images, the grace, it's the complete package. But it's the power of her live performances that really have been creating an incredible buzz around this young artist. Maverick Magazine said it best, after a recent festival performance: "I have never seen a performer so in love with the act of singing. That's the gospel truth. Onstage, Elkin was simply a force of nature."

Don't miss these two great artists, sharing songs back and forth, lending their voices to each other's tunes, in harmony... and lending commentary to each other's tunes, in the form of smart-ass between-song banter. www.dannyschmidt.com www.carrieeelkin.com

Reservations requested but not required: Contact 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 Artist) received in the UU church office no later than Wednesday before Saturday show.

We're once again offering a season pass which includes admission to all remaining shows, as well as premium reserved seating and a Labyrinth Cafe T-shirt (designed and printed by Virginia and Erik, Labyrinth Cafe volunteers) - 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, and our Facebook page to give us a thumbs-up, which will then keep you informed of upcoming concerts - see you soon!

Susan Moss, Coordinator, Labyrinth Cafe Concert Series

Coming CUUPS Events



In February, there are no Sabbats that we celebrate. We will have one in March, but that is for later. There are only eight sabbats each year and 12 months.

Study Group will continue each Thursday at 7:30 PM. February 20, we celebrate a Saging of a Man. We honor him as wise with age and acknowledge him as an Elder within our Community. For a woman, this is called a Croning, but we count no more who are ready for this passage of late.

So next Thursday, do come out and play.

Kip, Resident Pagan



Dreaming and Experimenting in 2014

by Maggie Lovins, Congregational Life Consultant

As we move in 2014, many of us have new goals, new resolutions or aspirations for a new way of being. We often start off with mass amounts of enthusiasm and gusto only to have this momentum wane in the coming months. Whether this waning is due to daily life 'getting in the way', lack of motivation, or the goal not being realistically achievable, I would like to give us all a reminder to be gentle with ourselves. We as Unitarian Universalists hold ourselves, and others in most cases, to a very high standard. With this in mind we must be more comfortable with allowing ourselves to experiment and to stand on our growing edges to imagine what could be.

As Kenn Hurto explained in his last blog post on Jan. 3rd, the concept of "experi-fail" is being discussed at many levels of leadership. I like this concept for many reasons, mostly I appreciate it's permission giving. "Experi-fail" gives us 'permission' to step out in Faith, to take risks and try new things without the focus on failure, but on the adventure of discovery to come! Utilizing this thought process gives ourselves, and others, permission to unfurl our wings and see exactly how high and far we can fly, it gives us permission to go boldly into the next phase of being Unitarian Universalists. It is this part of permission giving that allows our fear or anxiety to fall away. If we were to rid ourselves of the fear of showing we are truly human and fallible, and the anxiety of possible judgment for not reaching that goal of 100% what could we dream?

Experimentation does not always spell success, but the lessons we learn from what does not work are just as valuable as the lessons of what does work. We learn what is not the right course of action for a particular situation, what variables need to be changed, and as long as we are learning, as long as we have grown from the experience then we have not failed!

If we removed the anxieties of perfection for just this year, what could we really accomplish? How deep could we really go? What good works as a Faith community could we achieve? Maybe one of our resolutions should be to experiment more and worry less about the perfection of the outcome. I invite you to ponder these questions and others that arise in your meditations on how you could use the "experi-fail" concept in your personal and congregational lives. And then, when you're ready, step out in Faith knowing that success is as great of a probability, (and maybe even more when we stop second guessing ourselves!), as failure when you allow yourself to experiment, be bold, innovative and courageous!

Want to know what's happening in the Region?

The Unitarian Universalist Southern Region is a new cooperative venture between the four Southern districts of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The goal is to consolidate staff and efforts to equip congregations with the effective leadership and training needed to build and nurture strong, dynamic congregations for the 21st century throughout the South.

Visit the brand new website to find out more at www.seduua.org/

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• 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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Social Justice Committee

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BOLD Justice

Lore Bernier.....954-670-3664

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

Nominating

Steve Lange954-257-9262

Religious Education

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

Sunday Services

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

Jim Giblin954-296-0089

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• Endowment

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

• Interweave

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

• UU Service Committee

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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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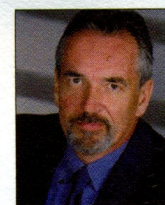
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Remember the Hungry People Around Us

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



February Birthdays

CLAIRE MOSTEL	2/1
VICTOR GARLOCK	2/12
JUDY KING	2/12
RALPH SLAVIN	2/14
REGINALD {TRIPP} PAGE	2/15
ERIC GRISWOLD	2/21
JOSEPH DEANGELIS	2/23
PETER LANGE	2/25



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 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



February Calendar



<div>Every Sunday : 11:00 AM- Church Service and Children's Religious Education</div>	<div>Visit our on line calendar for late-breaking events www.uucf.org and click "Coming Activities"</div>	<div>1014 Standing on the Side of Love</div> <div><i>Moderate rock feel, with passion and dignity</i> ♩ = 72</div> <div></div>					<div>●8:45am - LifeNet4 Families Workday (See Page 6)</div>
<div>2</div> <div>●9:30am - UU Sisterhood</div>	<div>3</div> <div>7:00pm - Special Board Meeting</div> <div>●7:00pm - Course in Miracles</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div> <div>●6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>6</div> <div>●7:30 pm CUUPS</div>	<div>7</div>	<div>8</div> <div>●7:30 pm Labyrinth Café Concert (See page 7)</div>	
<div>9</div> <div>●Journey Submission Deadline</div> <div>●12:45pm - Annual Congregational Budget Meeting - Voting Members are Urged to attend</div>	<div>10</div> <div>●7:00pm - Board Meeting</div>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <div>●6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>13</div> <div>●7:30 pm CUUPS</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Valentine's Day/ National Standing on the Side of Love Day</div>	<div>15</div> <div>●7:00 pm Film - A Fierce Green Fire/ The Battle for a Living Planet at Cinema Paradiso (See page 6)</div>	
<div>16</div> <div>●9:30am - UU Sisterhood</div>	<div>17</div> <div>●7:00pm - Sunday Services Committee</div>	<div>18</div> <div>●7:30pm - BOLD Justice Ministry Team Assembly (See Page 6)</div>	<div>19</div> <div>●6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>20</div> <div>●7:30 pm CUUPS</div>	<div>21</div> <div>●7:00pm - Third Friday Vespers Service (see page 5)</div>	<div>22</div>	
<div>23</div> <div>●1:00 pm - Occupy Ft. Lauderdale Labor Outreach, War vs. Human Needs, UUCFL Social Justice Committee</div>	<div>24</div> <div>●7:00pm - Welcoming/ Membership Committee</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <div>●6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>27</div> <div>●7:30 pm CUUPS</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>Religious Education Events</div> <div>See special calendar on the RE page 4</div>	

Unitarian Universalist

Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue
Oakland Park, Florida 33309

Minister: Rev. Gail Tapscott

Phone: -484-6734

Minister -288-4245

E-mail: fl@aol.com

Website: w.uucfl.org

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

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

FEBRUARY 2014

February 2

Bumpy Road to Enlightenment – Surprise! It's not all smooth sailing so come and be inspired By Rev. Lori Cardona as she shares valuable tools for the journey

February 9

Love is an Action Verb! - As with his past visits, expect Bishop SF Makalani-MaHee to inspire, educate and entertain when he reminds us that Love is not just a saying but more importantly Love is doing.

Our Rev. Gail Tapscott is currently on a well deserved sabbatical. While she is away gathering further enrichment and knowledge to bring back to us in future sermons and classes, Rev. Gail requests that we all make an extra effort to attend services even more regularly in support of the hard work of the Sunday Services Committee and the guests who will be gracing our pulpit during this period.

February 16

Spotlight on the Guardian ad Litem Program – Frank Shulman, Rev. Opal Murray and guests will share how this amazing program advocate for the best interest of children who have been abused, neglected and abandoned

February 23

Guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Jerry Stephenson. This will be an enlightening service not to be missed

February 14 is
National Standing on the Side of Love Day

