

The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

DECEMBER 2011
Volume 52, Number 10

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January 2012 Issue

Deadline

Sunday December 11, 2011

Submit articles to:

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upon request.

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

**Unitarian
Universalist**
Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue
Oakland Park, Florida 33309
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Established in 1958



A Course in Miracles
Continues
Mondays at 7:00pm

**ChildNet Adopt-a-Wish Program
Returns to UUCFL**
Ride your sleigh to Page 7



Labyrinth Café Concerts
Presents:
Karen Mal/Laurie McClain
December 3, 2011
(first Saturday) at 7:30 pm
Page 7 has more concert details



CUUPS Yule Celebration
Saturday, December 17 at 7:00pm
"Yule" know all about it after visiting Page 6



Holiday Gathering/Deck the Church
Sunday, December 18 at 12:15pm
Fa La La La La, La La Page 4

Christmas Eve - Special Service
Saturday, December 24 at 6:00pm
(See Back Cover for Info on This and
Other Church Services for the Holidays)



NOTICE

THANK YOU
FOR NOTICING THIS
NEW NOTICE

YOUR NOTICING IT
HAS BEEN NOTED

You May Now Return To Twittering

Official Notice

Congregational Budget Meeting
Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 1:00pm
2012 Finalized Budget will be Presented
For Voting by Membership

From Your Board President

*"If you see no reason for giving thanks,
the fault lies in yourself."*

Native American Proverb (Minquass)



For some of us, the holidays come upon us unexpectedly fast. Busy with the day-to-day business of making a living, and keeping up with personal and social obligations, many of us struggle with being present in the moment.

Because we are so busy, the practice of showing gratitude and acceptance, though important, is often ignored.

If you celebrate Thanksgiving, this is a perfect time to reflect on the gifts you have in your life.

My greatest gifts are the personal friendships I have, and the people I am in community with – these make up my family.

I can recall the generous behavior of these people during the times in my life when I have felt either overwrought or filled with great joy, and someone was there either to lift my spirits or share my happiness.

I am fortunate to have loving people in my life.

I am also fortunate to have a fulfilling job and to be able to live independently. I hope that you have as many reasons to be grateful this holiday season.

Allow yourself some quiet time to think on the matter – some time, in a moment of solitude, for warm thoughts of thankfulness to arise.

In such a moment, I suspect that UUCFL will figure in your reflections... either in an image of our beautiful property, or our Sunday Services, or the faces of friends you meet when you walk through the church doors every Sunday.

I have completed my UUCFL 2012 Pledge Form with a thankful spirit – so pleased to contribute to the church I call home, with members I call family.

If you have not yet made your pledge, take a quiet moment for yourself, and, after you have reflected on what our church and membership mean to you, complete your form and submit it with gratitude.

Colette Saucier

I like to compare the holiday season with the way a child listens to a favorite story.

*The pleasure is in the familiar way the story begins,
the anticipation of familiar turns it takes,
the familiar moments of suspense,
and the familiar climax and ending.*

~Fred Rogers

Words from the Board



This month there have been a number new issues brought before your Board of Trustees recently, and as always, they come with volunteer opportunities for anyone interested in serving our community.

First up is our incredible church newsletter *The Journey*. Gary Ladka devotes a phenomenal amount of time and effort into getting this vital

part of UUCFL communication put together, published, and out to our community every month and our gratitude for that runs deep. We are looking for someone to assist with dropping off and picking up finished Journeys from Kinko's in order to facilitate this process for him.

If you can lend a hand, please see Gary, Douglas Paul or Reverend Gail.

If that brought to mind horrible images of paper cut perils, perhaps you can avail yourself of some of the other projects around our building instead. See myself or Douglas to help with our "space assessment" project. Our first challenge is to identify the different purposes and uses for each room (for ourselves and our renters) to make them as comfortable as possible and increase their efficiency.

Aside from donating your time, have you committed your financial support to UUCFL during our Stewardship campaign? If you haven't already turned in your pledge card, please see any member of the Board or Rev. Gail for a new form or to turn one in. You may also email your pledge amount to cuurios.cuurier@earthlink.net. Your Board and financial team are depending on these figures in order to create an accurate and financially responsible to keep our Church operating at the best of its ability.

UUCFL has also recently acquired new renters, a Korean Seventh-Day Adventist congregation. So far any issues and concerns brought from the Board to this group have been responded to expeditiously. We have also voted to modify the arrangement with current renters, the International Baptist Mission Church, to include use of the Sanctuary as their community grows.

Please address any further concerns to the Board.

The UUCFL Board wants to thank Steve Lange for the tremendous amount of dedication he has shown as the chairperson of Buildings and Grounds. He will be stepping down as chair at the end of the year but the hard work of the B&G volunteers continues on!

Finally, there is a change to your elected Board.

Unfortunately for us, Douglas is no longer able to serve as Treasurer. A new Treasurer has been appointed by the board to serve until the next election.

It is my pleasure to reintroduce to you...*drumroll*...

Bill Schoolman! (Bill...This is what happens if you are absent during a Board meeting. Just kidding!)

If you would like to see what *really* happens when your Board of Trustees convenes, please join us on the second Monday of every month at 7 p.m.

Alexis Blasenheim, Secretary

Rev. Gail's Space

Creative Sacrifice

This time of year as we end a period of reflecting on our lost loved ones (Halloween and All Souls), being grateful for our blessings (Thanksgiving) and move to considering the rebirth of wonder, peace and newness into our lives (Christmas, Hanukkah and New Years), we need to reflect honestly on what we are willing to offer and indeed perhaps sacrifice to keep our religious community alive, viable and welcoming. How many places are there in your life where you can bring all of who you are to the table? Many of us have families who are problematic and even the healthiest of families aren't always approving of all the choices we make in our lives. Most of us find ourselves in workplaces or living spaces where we are forced to be a bit closeted as it were in some way. Perhaps we have to hide something major about our identity like our sexual identity, or our religious or political identity. Other times we just need to dress differently or present ourselves in ways that may seem a tad phony to us. We are in these situations all our lives.



While certainly not always achieving this as fully as we would like, at its best Unitarian Universalism in general and UUCFL in particular strive to be a place where you can show up and bring all of who you are- your strangeness, your confusion, your lack of success, your tremendous success, your doubts, your insecurities and your contradictions. This is a pretty great gift. What are you willing to do and to sacrifice to make sure that we are always here and equipped to continue providing this sanctuary to those already there and those still trying to find it?

By fulfilling your pledge of support from last year and offering up your generous and sacrificial pledge of financial and hands on support for 2012 you are making the world a better place for yourself and others.

We have already lost our administrative support position this year. If we don't come much closer to our goal for 2012 pledges you may lose some portion of your ministerial services as well. Some churches manage pretty well for a while with reduced staffing services but the toll on volunteer energy is tremendous and eventually leads to total burn out. This congregation has always been very staff dependent and I have so far seen no trends in a different direction. I am happy to continue serving you in a slightly reduced time capacity for a time but I cannot offer full services if I am not compensated at a full time rate. I encourage all of you to submit your pledge forms if you have not yet done so and to try to pay as much of last's year's pledge as you are able. Then please plan ahead to attend the Jan. 15 Budget meeting to express your views about honoring the congregation's stated goal of maintaining excellent Sunday offerings as the main congregational priority. I believe we have the power to create the future we want.

Blessings,

Rev. Gail



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



For the record, I am giving everyone permission to spend less over the holidays, but get more. By "getting more" I mean, more love, more fun, more time. We all know the feeling of watching kids tear into a huge pile of gifts without even really considering each one, and then when they reach the bottom of the pile, there is a moment of "is this all?" We need to all give up the "I must buy _____ (fill in the name) a gift; he/she always gives me something". Perhaps this is the year to suggest a drink or dinner together, and forget the gifts. If they insist, thank them profusely, but don't feel compelled to run out and get them something, and for heaven's sake, don't feel guilty. We all have too much stuff anyway. Should we give up all gift giving? No, I am not advocating that. There is nothing better than finding the perfect gift for someone. I am advocating the rejection of the craziness that makes us all poorer, monetarily and spiritually. I am starting to sound like a broken record, but, really, invite friends for dinner at your place, or, to share the cost, have a potluck. Host a cookie party, a tree decorating party, or a party to light the menorah on the first night of Hanukkah. Invite a group of friends to go look at holiday lights, followed by some hot cider. Spend the increasingly small amount of free time that you have with those you love and care for, rather than with a bunch of stressed out folks at the mall. Sitting and enjoying each other is one of the things all humans seem to love. Speaking of which, for those of you who missed the "Harvest Moon Party", it was really a special time. The potluck dinner was superb, featuring Jack Bellick's amazing Coq au Vin. Savannah's carnivorous boyfriend Pablo gave it a huge thumbs up. We had to keep adding tables because so many folks showed up. If I sound like I am trying to rub it in if you weren't there, I am. You have another chance on December 18. After our holiday Sunday service, we will be having our annual Holiday Party. There will be a potluck lunch, ornament making, caroling, tree decorating, and lots of fellowship. Don't be one of those who can only look at the pictures.

Love and Blessings, *DRE Susan*

December Children's Religious Education Schedule

Sunday December 4, 11AM
 Regular RE
 Kids Start in Church

Sunday December 11, 11AM
 Rehearsal for holiday service
 Kids Start in Class

Sunday December 18, 11AM
 Annual Holiday Service
 Kids attend the service

Saturday December 24, 6PM
 Annual Christmas Eve Service
 Kids attend the service

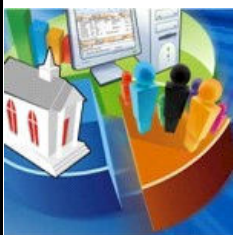
Sunday December 25, 11AM
 NO RE

Sunday January 1, 11AM
 NO RE

Happy Holidays to All From Everyone in the UUCFL Religious Education Department



UUCFL Finance Notes



As we approach the close of the fiscal year please do send the remainder due on your pledge for the year. Your pledge helps keep the church operating and we depend on getting the amount pledged.

If you have financial reasons which make it difficult for you to fulfill your pledge please let Rev. Gail know so that we may adjust our books to accommodate.

This is also the time to make your pledge for 2012. Many of you have done so already – thank you. For those who have not yet made a pledge for 2012 please do so in the next week or two.

The congregation workshop on 11/20 was well attended. The process used to arrive at the budget for 2012 was shared with attendees. There were many questions and thoughtful suggestions which resulted in a single budget that will be presented for approval at the Annual Congregation Budget meeting in early January. Many thanks to those who attended as well as to members of the Finance committee who spend many hours helping us get to this outcome.

Finally, due to a new job situation, I had to resign from the Treasurer role at church. I will still continue to serve on the Board of Trustees until the end of my term in May. Bill Schoolman has kindly agreed to serve as the UUCFL Treasurer. I would like to thank Ronnie Van Sickle for her tremendous support during my time as Treasurer. I am also happy to announce that Bill Cox and Elaine Elle have stepped-up to fulfill bookkeeping and money-handling functions at the church. Please be sure to thank these folks for their hard work and the many hours of volunteer time that they provide.

Douglas Paul

Board Announces Additions to Nominating Committee

Our bylaws call for a 6 person Nominating Committee consisting of 3 voting members elected by the congregation and 3 voting members appointed by the board.

For 2012, in addition to Nicole Shulman, Christian Herrera and Judy King who were elected by the congregation; Joe Lawson, Cam Enright, and Gary Ladka have been nominated and approved by the Board to join the committee. This committee will serve to suggest leaders to fill positions on the Board of Trustees, the Endowment's Board and the 2013 Nominating Committee.



Your Board of Trustees

Music Notes

I must look back to October 30. The Halloween service with Bob Vandivort and Dave Williams was fantastic, hauntingly fitting for the occasion!



November 6, our wonderful choir sang "Come Sing a Merry Round" with all 16 singers giving their best. Again November 20 was a choir Sunday with a heartfelt "What a Wonderful World" to celebrate Thanksgiving. No matter how challenging this world may seem, we must do all we can as individuals to make it a "Wonderful World".

Special soloists included Glenda Grainger with Dave Williams accompanying her in "Birth of the Blues" and "Blues in the Night" which were requested by Rev. Gail especially for this blues service. The postlude "Good Morning Heartache" was new to me and a lovely closer for this service. Maybe if we beg, Glenda will join the choir! On November 27 we heard the beautiful violin solos with Allen Giese accompanied by Gary Gonzalez on guitar. What a treat to hear them again.

As we move into the Christmas celebrations, we will hear choir on December 4 singing Natasha Bedingfield's recent pop hit "Unwritten", specially requested by choir members. They will sing again on December 18 and December 24 at the Christmas Eve service. I believe we also will have Charlie's special Christmas music at that service, which will include lots of carols led by the choir and sung with enthusiasm by you, the congregation. There will be readings both familiar and different to help set the holiday mood. The lovely "Silent Night" sung by candlelight ends this beautiful special time together.

There will be an intimate service on December 25 as we may have a small congregation that day.

Dot Muise, Director of Music

Church Calendar!

"Toto, I don't think it's on the door any more!" Yes, it's a Google calendar on the Internet. Is your event listed correctly? Go look. Can you add this Google calendar to your smartphone? Yes. Does anyone else care if your event is not listed? Probably not.

So if you value what you are doing and want others to show up, email KipBarkley@aol.com. There is plenty of room for details and description, but not always room in our building.



Kip, Googleist

The Committee on the Ministry

In the Unitarian Universalist tradition ministry is about how we care for each other in our church community. Ministry, then, is everybody's business.

Your committee on ministry would like to hear from you about how we are doing ministry as a community. What are we doing well and what maybe not so well? The committee on ministry meets monthly with Reverend Gail to support her, and all of us in the work of ministry.



Victor Garlock, Chair

David Griswold and Mara Newman

Our phone numbers are included in the order of service

Cooperative Feeding Program/ Lifenet4 Families Update



LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program

Thanks to our dedicated group of volunteers who came out on Monday November 21 for a special holiday workday at CFP.

Our hardworking group consisted of Judy King, Larry Wilkner, Mark Woodpecker, Laura Lange, Steve Lange, Peter Lange, Caterina Turner, Ken Beier, Elaine Elle, Patty Bender, Bob Bender, Savannah Friend, Spike Friend, Pablo Salgero, and Susan Friend. Please forgive me if I left anyone off. We had a great time doing good. Spike even learned a new skill. There are not many vegetarians who know how to cut up 100 pounds of chicken!! **Our next regular workday is Saturday December 31 at CFP from 8:45 to 11:30.** I hope to see you there.

Keep filling the baskets in the lobby with non-perishable food stuffs, especially canned proteins, vegetables, fruits, milk, and peanut butter. Cash donations to CFP are always welcome too. They can do more with a dollar than you can at Publix. Please remember that the CFP is NO LONGER ACCEPTING CLOTHING.

Susan Dirgins-Friend

(954) 424-1910 tiredmomofbob@aol.com



Building the World We Dream About

I am really looking forward to the **BtWWDA** presentation in January. We are taking a break in December. December is always so busy no matter what your theological bend. There's more traffic, tourists, relatives and parties to attend to. So you can just think about **Building the World We Dream About** while going through the December gauntlet.

In January we will be watching the presentation that Tim Wise gave at the 2011 General Assembly in Charlotte. I've been exposed to this man and he's a bit outrageous. I think he is. He might have toned it down for GA. I missed him at GA due to attending another workshop that I HAD to see. He's right on the edge of what is acceptable to say; sometimes he's on the good side, sometimes not. I am certain that he will raise our consciousness a bit more.

I think it's cool that even though we are the most diverse congregation in Florida, we are still talking about it and trying to make it all a bit better. I think that we will have much to talk about after watching this presentation. I hope many of you will be there to join in the conversation.

Myra C. Symons of the BtWWDA Task Force

CUUPS Update

Did you ever wonder what went on before Christianity, if you weren't Jewish? In this holiday season, check out your local Pagans.



This month on Saturday December 17th at 7pm, we celebrate Yule in a Slavic Tradition. This is the time of the Winter Solstice and the longest night of the year. This was a time of concern about survival. Come join us in this ancient ceremony.

Thursday Evening Study Groups continue with a different topic each night. December 1st be perform a Spontaneous Ritual. We will use anything but a script and invoke the Powers for healing and protection.

Kip, Resident Pagan

Labyrinth Café Concerts Presents:**Karen Mal/Laurie McClain - December 3, 2011 (first Saturday) at 7:30 p.m.**

Karen Mal sings. From raw sensuality to shimmering bell-like clarity, her voice is both tender and powerful, and as effortless as a waterfall. There's a river that flows between Karen and her audience. It's about love. The possibility and the unbearable beauty of it. Elusive and abundant at the same time. Based in Austin, TX, Karen has created a name for herself as a captivating singer, instrumentalist and songwriter. Ranging from charming to seductive, impressionistic to philosophical, her songs have brought her nationwide acclaim. Karen has a storyteller's voice, sifting words like she is talking to you over coffee, effortlessly rising from dusky phrases to bell-pure highs. You believe every word and note and you could listen to her sing all night long. www.karenmal.com

Laurie McClain moved to Nashville, TN, in 1997 with three daughters in tow after spending most of her life in Lincoln, Nebraska. She has managed to make a name for herself as a formidable songwriter and engaging performer on the national folk and Americana scene while raising her children, therefore touring only sparsely & sporadically around the U.S. for the last 20 years. With her three daughters raised, Laurie is now embarking on a full time music career. "Laurie turns each venue into her own living room, and each listener into a new friend with her disarming humor and passionate performance. Laurie's songs explore the themes of identity, growth, friendship and love in a way that always honors the fundamental mysteries of the human journey. In this Mecca of songwriters, she is a gem of uniqueness and authenticity." -JM Kearns www.lauriemcclain.com



Reservations requested but not required: Contact Susan at 954-478-8637

\$15 at the door; \$12 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're once again offering a season pass which includes admission to all remaining shows, as well as a Labyrinth Cafe T-shirt (designed and printed by Virginia and Erik, 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! Visit www.labyrinthcafe.com

Labyrinth Café - Upcoming Concerts

January 14, 2012 – John Wort Hannam/Rod MacDonald
 February 11, 2012 – Gurf Morlix/Sam Baker
 March 10, 2012 – Sam Pacetti/Nick Annis
 April 14, 2012 – Raina Rose/Rebecca Loebe
 May 12, 2012 – Amy Carol Webb/Kat Eggleston

Susan Moss - Labyrinth Café Concerts

ChildNet Adopt-a-Wish Program Returns to UUCFL

At a time of year when so many children are dreaming of what Santa Claus will bring them for Christmas, children in foster care are simply hoping someone will remember them this holiday. You can help make wishes come true. We will be receiving wish lists from children here in Broward County along with their age and gender, and we are asking you to pick one item on their list or to use your imagination and choose your own special gift to be presented to your child for this magical season. Please bring in all gifts in by Sunday, December 11. We had such a wonderful time with this program last year providing a whole vanload of toys not to mention the priceless smiles on children's faces. Watch for our Sleigh of Wishes (kept safe and warm in the off season by our own UUCFL Elf, Cam) in the Sanctuary, or contact Gary Ladka at 954-650-3728 to find out more. Let's fill lots of little hearts with joy this holiday.



Gary Ladka and Cam Enright - Santa's Helpers

Global Chalice Lighting from the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists

We kindle the chalice flame, symbol of our gathered community, across faiths, across cultures, beyond borders.

May it lead us from the shadows into the light, from ignorance to wisdom, from untruth to truth, from exclusiveness to inclusiveness, from mortality to immortality.

May the flame be a symbol of warmth, kinship, wisdom, truth and liberty.

Khublei.

Derrick Pariat - Unitarian Union of North East India <http://unitarianchurchnortheastindia.blogspot.com/>



District Executive Message



Whew! Are you getting dizzy by the whirlwind of events: The European Zone in crisis, Occupy Wall Street is now Occupy Everywhere, Alabama surpasses Arizona for mindless immigration legislation, and Florida is still near the top when it comes to foreclosures. What's it all mean? Is there any good news?

As Unitarian poet, Wordsworth, summed it up: "The world is too much with us, late and soon." I am bewildered. How do I live my Unitarian Universalist values in this maelstrom of worry? Well, there is good news: I have this community of faith to sustain me, to challenge me, to guide me. Together, truly, we are stronger!

Of late, I am looking to Cooking Together: Recipes for Immigration Justice Work, a project of our UUA (See: <http://immigrationjustice.blogs.uua.org/>). This page is designed to help us think about justice issues together. Your postings are welcome.

The other day, I came across this faith-filled prayer by the Rev. Parisa Parsa (Milton, MA.), offered at the Unitarian Universalist Vespers service at Occupy Boston on October 16. It lifted my heart. Perhaps it will touch yours. In part, she said:

"It is a thing of beauty to see people coming together across political persuasions and ages and ethnicity and just about everything else in order to say: we are all in the same boat and we are not about to let it sink! This is our world. Let's make it whole together. "We are the 99%" is the slogan of this movement. But our faith calls us to know deep in our bones what it means to be 100%.

100% born from a thread of goodness and hope that is woven through 100% of beings on this planet.
 100% able to see and cultivate that goodness in ourselves and each other.
 100% the ones in whose hands this world rests.
 100% infused with the power of divine love, forgiveness, grace.
 100% of us are destined for the arms of a love that knows no limit.
 100% of us were born and offered the breath of life from a source we cannot fully name."

The centrifugal forces at work in our society are born of greed and ignorance. They are sustained by fear and indifferent hearts. There is good news: Our faith calls us to be the ones who can love universally and to work so that all, all!, are treated justly and given an equal opportunity to thrive. Human forces created many of the ills that worry our nights. And human hands can work to change that in the hope of our days. This is ministry.

Reverend Parsa concludes:

"100% of us hold the power to turn the ship around, to mend its leaks, and repair its sails to set it right again. We need all our stories, all our hearts, all our spirits, all our anger and frustration, all our hope and laughter to make it new. Let us be together. 100%."

May we be worthy of our faith.

Rev. Kenn Hurto - Florida District Executive of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Time for a SWIM!!



Join us in Florida for SWIM, our annual intergenerational intentional camp. We work and play together, worship and learn together. We frolic in the sun with Unitarian Universalists and friends--especially awesome people like YOU! We're inviting all citizens of the UUniverse to join us. There are workshops, trips, programs for children and teens, daily worship services, serendipity every evening with music and dancing, and so much more.

We spend time at beautiful Camp Owaissa Bauer, 17007 SW 264 Street, Homestead, FL, while sampling the activities the area has to offer or just relaxing among friends. Watch for our full brochure which will include details on workshops, trips, and special events. We hope to see you in December! Visit www.swimuu.org for more details

Directory of Staff, Board, Committee Chairs & Affiliates

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• Interweave

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The Market Place

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80% of My Clients Experience Significant Changes or Results In Only Three Sessions

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H & R Block Fundraiser Continues

 The tax season is over for many of us, but Ken Wensel continues to participate in the H&R Block referral program that benefits UUCFL. Ken can be reached at 561-542-3198.

**ADVERTISE IN
THE JOURNEY
BUSINESS CARD SIZED AD**

**\$10.00 PER MONTH
\$100.00 PER YEAR**

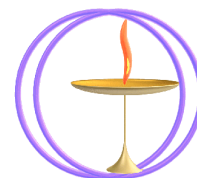
CALL 954-484-6734



The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalists

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

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



December Birthdays

Mary Bardis 12/2
Caterina Turner 12/2
Amy Ladka 12/3
Taylor Mattis 12/12
Bill Cox 12/13
Jerry Waltz 12/15
Stephen Lange 12/16
Lois Nikula 12/17
Ronnie Van Sickle 12/18
Jim Giblin 12/24
Savannah Friend 12/29



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

Remember the Hungry People Around Us

Please continue to fill the Food Baskets at the church with non-perishables for the Cooperative Feeding Program. Learn more about the CFP and other ways you can help. Visit www.feedbroward.org or call (954) 792-2328

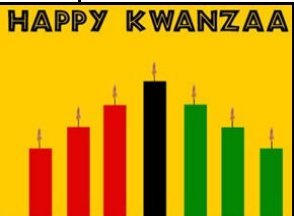




December Calendar



<p>Every Sunday : 11:00 AM- Church Service and Children’s Religious Education</p>	<p>Religious Education Events See special calendar on the RE page 4</p>		<p>Visit our on line calendar for late-breaking events www.uucfl.org and click “Coming Activities”</p>	<p>1 •7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 •7:30pm - Labyrinth Café Concert (see page 7)</p>
<p>4 •9:30am - UU Sisterhood</p>	<p>5 •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles •7:30pm - Peaceful Meditation</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 •7:00pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>8 •7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 •8:00am - Building & Grounds Workday</p>
<p>11 Journey Submission Deadline</p>	<p>12 •7:00pm - Board Meeting •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 •7:00pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>15 •7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 •7:00pm - CUUPS Yule Celebration (see page 6)</p>
<p>18 •9:30am - UU Sisterhood •12:15pm - Holiday Gathering/Church Decorating</p>	<p>19 •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles •7:30pm - Sunday Services Committee •7:30pm - Peaceful Meditation</p>	<p>20 Hanukkah begins at sundown</p>	<p>21 •7:00pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>22 •7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 •6:00pm - Christmas Eve Special Service</p>
<p>25 Merry Christmas</p>	<p>26 Kwanzaa begins SWIM thru January 1 (see page 8) •7:00pm - Membership Committee 7:00pm - Finance Committee •7:00pm - A Course in Miracles</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 •7:00pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>29 •7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 •8:45am - Cooperative Feeding Program Workday (see page 6)</p>



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

DECEMBER 2011

December 4- The Risks We Take - Rev. Gail will take a look at the double edged sword of safety and risk and how most of us come down on one side or the other in terms of how we choose to live our lives. As we enter the holiday season, she will suggest that all spiritual traditions come out in favor of risk vs safety. Our choir has some special treats in store.

December 11 - Caring for the Joneses - We have all heard the expression "keeping up with the Joneses." Surely it is clear now to all of us that this sentiment is counterproductive in our current society. In this challenging economic and social time, we need to develop a very different set of values if we are to survive and live good lives. Rev. Gail will offer some suggestions for a caring holiday rather than a consumer holiday.

December 18 - The Most Wonderful Time of the Year/Holiday Gathering - With some very special offerings from our amazing choir, DRE Susan Friend and our younger community members will offer holiday cheer and messages. Join us for special day of sharing which will include a group effort to make our church lovely for the season, special food and all round good fun into the afternoon.



December 24 (Saturday) - Christmas Eve Special Service - (6:00 PM) - Join us for your spiritual holiday fix - We plan something new for this year- An Intergenerational Holiday Play with all the usual great traditional music and a candle lighting ceremony. Cookies and cider and fellowship will follow on our patio.

December 25 - Christmas Day Sunday - A special once every 7 years Christmas Day Sunday will feature readings, music and reflection on the holiday season in our beautifully decorated sanctuary.

January 1 - The Day After - On this rare New Year's Day Service, Rev. Gail will offer reflections on resolutions, hopes, fears and how to avoid post holiday blues. We are mulling over some exciting food options to lure you in to nurse your hangover or boredom or excitement or whatever the case may be.

January 8 - A Work in Progress - An Exciting New Program by your creative Sunday Service Committee.

