

The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

November 2013
Volume 54, Number 10

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December 2013 Issue
Deadline

Sunday November 10, 2013

Submit articles to:

submission@uucfl.org

Editor

Gary Ladka

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upon request.

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Fort Lauderdale

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Established in 1958

LifeNet4Families Workday
Saturday November 2 at 8:45am
Cast your LifeNet to Page 6



UU-WE is Here! (UU - Wisdom and Enlightenment)

UU-WE Series: Expressions of Hope

Saturday November 2 at 7:00pm

There is More Hope...Somewhere (Page 6)

Please bring friends - Public Welcome!!



Labyrinth Cafe Concerts Presents
Red Molly

Saturday November 9 at 7:30pm

Sing Your Way to Page 7

Third Friday Vespers Service
Friday November 15 at 7:00pm
Service info on Page 5



"Developing a Path to Spiritual Maturity"
Adult Religious Education Series with Rev. Gail

Continues on Tuesdays Through November at 7:00pm
Let the spirit move you to page 5

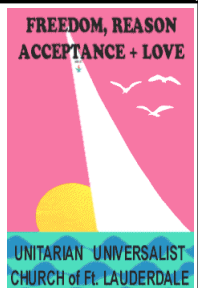
Strengthening the Tribe
Campaign is On!

You Need the Church
The Church Needs You
Find Our Shared Strength on page 3



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

The southeast Unitarian Universalist cluster held its annual meeting on October 19. We convened at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Palm Beaches. Six of us attended representing the UUCFL tribe.



The theme of the cluster meeting with UUA Southern Region Director, Rev Kenn Hurto was "Dream Builders; deepening connections between our congregations". Simply taking part in the cluster meeting contributed to a sense of common faith and purpose for the 45 or so representatives of about ten different Unitarian Universalist congregations who attended. Beyond the participation experience itself we talked about the ties that bind us together as a wider Unitarian Universalist community.

Each of our congregations gather together regularly to affirm the essentials of our faith. There are certain ideas that matter to all of us. Ideas such as that we don't just tolerate, but affirm a diversity of belief among us. That we are committed to a belief in the sanctity, worth and dignity of all people. We share a commitment to the care of and reverence for our earth and all of the life it supports. These are some of the threads that weave together the tapestry that is our wider Unitarian Universalist faith community.

It was good to spend time in collaborative discussions with leaders from other Florida Unitarian Universalist congregations. We shared our victories and frustrations, our joys and are concerns. We rediscovered that we have a lot in common and that although we may feel that our local problems are unique they usually are not, and we really can learn from each other and support each other.

Back here in Fort Lauderdale on Sunday, October 20. UUCFL held a service and luncheon during which we participated in discussions around this year's stewardship theme "Strengthening the Tribe". Deepening our sense of community with each other and affirming our commitment to our church are central to this year's theme. "Strengthening the Tribe" is more than a clever phrase. These words nicely express both the benefits and responsibilities entailed in being a part of our church.

The discussions around our lunch tables were lively and provocative. Many ideas emerged and your Board of Trustees will be discussing and processing these at an upcoming board retreat. Meanwhile, pledge forms were distributed and we encouraged each other to do all we can to financially support our church home. Pledge forms and other information will be mailed to members and friends who were not able to be present during this service and discussion. Please take the time to think about what our church means to you. Carefully consider your level of financial commitment and if at all possible, do a little bit more this year. If your financial situation doesn't allow for an increase please consider giving some time as a volunteer. Your time can be a great contribution to our community life.

Community among congregations was the theme of the cluster meeting. Community within our congregation was the theme of our stewardship Sunday. Both events highlighted the blessings and the importance of being in supportive and collaborative relationship with each other in our religious tribe.

Victor Garlock

Rev. Gail's Space

What is Streaming on Your Feed



Despite closing in on truly becoming an elder, I feel like I have been learning new skills and opening to new experiences at a breakneck speed in the last few years. I embraced motherhood for the first time at 64 and lived with an animal (dog) in my home for the first time ever at 65. I started teaching at the college level for the first time at almost 66 and had to learn challenging new online skills as well as a whole new approach to teaching. Then last spring at 67, I took the plunge and opened a Facebook account. Now just a couple of days before writing this I am exploring the mysteries, wonders and frustrations of my first iPhone. I haven't even explored Twitter, Google+ or Instagram and already I think there is so much information streaming on my feeds that I am overwhelmed. Oh, and I also finally acquired a flat screen HD TV and blue ray player which means I could literally entertain myself to death in the privacy of my own home.

I am keeping an open mind about all this. I do find watching movies or anything much more engaging with the HD. I love knowing what my younger relatives look like and finding out on Facebook that some of them share a lot of interests with me. I enjoy seeing pictures of far away places that friends and family are exploring. I love some of the progressive political and cultural sites that stream me hot off the press information but I often ask myself how I am really processing all this information. I find honestly that I seem to have less time to make phone calls and actually talk to some of my friends in other places. Even my sister and I can be aware of and comment on each other's activities without talking let alone visiting. She always posts pictures of her newest art work and my brother in law puts up pictures of his lovely wood working projects. Going to North Carolina to actually visit their studios does not seem as necessary as it once did and yet FB is not going to let us watch Netflix movies together and engage in real time critiques of what we see. We are not exploring the wonderful world of North Carolina BBQ on Facebook.

In a related event, one of my favorite real time places where I can also be checking my various streams of information just went away. The little Urban Brew coffee shop off Himmershee where I spent many happy hours reading, working, often met church members for meetings or counseling sessions is no more. There is still a Brew in the Victoria Park Shopping Center and it is a good place to work on the laptop but it is not cozy and it is not nearby. I miss the old idea of a Village Square or a real Main Street where you run into people you know and where even people you don't know feel oddly familiar. Am I just nostalgic for the past? No, such places still exist. I visit them on occasion. Santa Fe and Flagstaff, two places I once lived in and still visit often offer that experience. Some cities have reinvented their downtown areas or created new ones and many small towns have managed to resist surrender totally to the big box stores and mall mania.

The street life I love is not dead, just not easy to find in the place I live and work in. I continue to wish we could find more ways of creating more of these interactive and community building experiences through the church. Classes, choir, our holiday parties and continuing the coffee hour experience through lunches together offer some of these comforts but I am convinced we can do more. Valerie Heller is planning an alternative Black Friday Experience for the day after Thanksgiving that sounds like such an opportunity. We have an early December all church holiday party coming up that you won't want to miss. The "Let's not bother to carve a Pumpkin and just hang out and be silly party" in October will live in infamy as one of UUCFL's more stellar moments, so if you missed that one make sure to be at the November and December events. Check your Journey and cUUrrious cUUrrier and the website for details. You don't have to spend all your time with your streaming feeds. Come share fun and bitching with some other opinionated and amusing folks at UUCFL.

Blessings,
Rev. Gail

Strengthening the Tribe

If you have not received your Strengthening the Tribe 2014 Stewardship campaign brochure and pledge form, please see Rev. Gail, 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 Rev. Gail, Gary or Ken or by mail to the church as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity.



The Stewardship Committee



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



As I write this, we are nearly there. The newly renovated RE wing of the church is almost ready for prime time. The paint is done and makes the rooms so much brighter. We are still waiting for our new, more colorful carpet and the installation of modern technology and we will be off and running. I have to thank Gary Ladka and Steve Lange for their stewardship of this project.

Without the hard work of Steve and Gary this update of the facility would not have happened. I also want to thank our great kids for putting up with less than ideal circumstances for their Sunday mornings at church. I am grateful to our Board and the congregation for their ongoing support of our small but mighty children's

RE program because when the number of children in a church RE program drops, some churches have eliminated children's RE. They feel that the cost is not justified by the numbers. What they fail to understand is, if you have no program, it cannot grow and will never be. A growing and thriving RE program will help grow our church, and that is something that we all want. With our new digs, we are here and ready in an even better way than we were in the past. Do you know someone with kids who might fit in with us?

Encourage them to visit-invite them-PROSELYTIZE!!! On the home front, encouragingly, we have many energetic young adults in our congregation now, and I am psyched and ready for the impending baby boom. Come on guys, let's fill this place!!

Love and Blessings

DRE Susan

November Children's Religious Education Schedule

Sunday November 3, 11AM

Sunday November 10, 11AM

Sunday November 17, 11AM

Regular Children's RE

Sunday November 24, 11AM

Hanukkah, Thanksgiving Celebration



Come to Our 3rd Friday Vespers Services

Thanks to Jim Giblin for stepping in and presenting October's ghostly Vespers-it was agreed that it was one of the best Vespers yet!



Condolences to our own Tom Karneth on the loss of his beloved mom. Tom will be presenting his "Eclectic Poetry, Prose and Jazz" later in the year. Please join us on Friday November 15 for "Reverie". Vernon Allen will be presenting some classic poetry, classical music, and as always, we will have wine, cheese and good conversation.

Info or questions, DRE Susan Dirgins-Friend (954) 424-1910

Developing a Path to Spiritual Maturity Class



Even if you missed the first couple of sessions, please join us for the remaining six gatherings of our class on Spiritual Maturity. Expanding on this year's dual themes of Strengthening our Tribe and Developing Spiritual Maturity, Rev. Gail is using the ideas of the Perennial Philosophy and a set of Perennial Practices to take attendees on a journey that could take you to a deeper place in your life. The sessions and topics being covered in November and December are:

Nov. 5 - Cultivating Emotional Wisdom

Nov. 12 - Living Ethically

Nov. 19 - Concentrating and Calming Your Mind

Nov. 26 - Awakening Your Spiritual Vision

Dec. 3 - Cultivating Spiritual Intelligence

Dec. 10 - Expressing Spirit in Action

We are asking for a donation of \$10 per class or if you would like to commit to all six remaining sessions you can pay a one time fee of \$55. If you having financial challenges, just talk to Rev. Gail about a scholarship in return for some volunteer contributions to the church. Please join us on these upcoming Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. You will learn some new skills and make some new friends. Call Rev. Gail at 954-288-4245 for more information.

Rev. Gail

Music Notes

If you read the Music articles for September and October, you probably noticed that the solo scheduled on Music Sunday, September 29 was omitted due to illness.



It was rescheduled on October 20. We were happy that Vernon Allen's illness was over by then and Jerry Waltz was available that day to play the guitar accompaniment.

Thank you so much for the generous contributions donated to the David Fisher Memorial Music Fund on Music Sunday. The fruits of that special fund will soon be enhancing our Sunday program. It would be great if we could fill the church to show our appreciation of the efforts of the musicians. Violinist, Jeremy Miller, will be our guest musician for the service on November 3.

We are now getting into the holiday season with all its special music. The choir will be singing on November 10 and November 24 for the Thanksgiving/Hanukkah Service. These two special "holydays" come right together this year.

New singers have volunteered to join the choir this year. Have you seen the new faces contributing their voices to the best possible anthem choices that Susan Friend has presented to challenge us. Numbers do make a difference in the difficulty of the music which we can attempt. If you are hiding your singing abilities under a bushel, please join us to make beautiful music. Rehearsals begin at 6:45 PM every Wednesday night and are usually over by 8:15 PM. Come and try a rehearsal and get a taste of the music that is planned for this very special time in the church calendar.

December 1 we hope to have Alfredo Tamburrino, flutist, enhancing the program. Stay tuned about this next month.

We still need a volunteer librarian to help Susan keep track of the anthems, filing those we have used, counting copies of the ones we are planning for future choir Sundays. You do not need to be a singer to handle this totally unpaid job! Volunteers may speak with Susan regarding her needs in maintaining the anthem library.

Hope your Halloween will be free of visits from our local haunters!

Dot Muise, Director of Music

LifeNet 4 Families/Cooperative Feeding Update

Our next workday for CFP is Saturday November 2. We will meet at the facility on the corner of NW 33rd Terrace and Broward Blvd, (north side) at 9AM to make food boxes, fill shelves, sort food or perhaps help in the dining room. There is plenty of work to do this time of year with the volume of the holiday donations that come in. Our big news is that

we are hosting the November and December holiday food box distribution. The dates and times are November 18-22 and 25-27, 9AM-3PM and December 16-20 and 23-24, 9AM-3PM. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering for this home base event. Folks are needed to put boxes in cars, check ID cards and direct traffic. Thanks to all for filling the food baskets-keep it up, as I keep saying, every can of tuna helps.



LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program

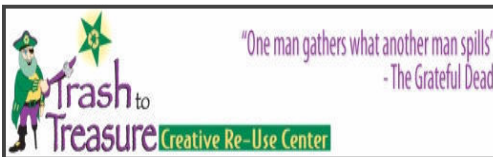
Info: DRE Susan (954) 424-1910 tiredmomofbob@aol.com

Susan Friend

UU-WE is Here! (UU - Wisdom and Enlightenment)

UU-WE Series: Expressions of Hope - Saturday November 2 at 7:00pm

Featured Guests:



Trash to Treasure, the Fort Lauderdale-based creative reuse center with the mission 'to locate clean, re-usable materials and redistribute these items as valuable educational and artistic resources'. www.trash2treasurefl.org



Bishop SF Makalani-MaHee, a veteran Minister/Artist and a transgender man who will give us a peak at his new one-man show and companion book *"Bustin' Hell Wide Open"* www.bishopmahee.com



Amy Wright Glenn, a chaplain, Doula and author of *Birth, Breath and Death: Meditations on Motherhood, Chaplaincy, and Life as a Doula* as she encourages us to live fully by embracing both the pain and joy of birth and death. www.facebook.com/AmyWrightGlenn

Tickets: advance \$15.00 or \$20.00 at the door. If possible, please bring non-perishable item(s) for local Cooperative Feeding Program. We encourage all of our members and friends to bring as many people as possible to this event which is our launch of this brand new and vibrant series here at UUCFL. Call 954.251.0251 for reservations. Refreshments will be on sale

Like you, we believe we can create a just, prosperous and sustainable community. Thank you

Rev. Opal Murray - UU-WE (UU-Wisdom and Enlightenment)

Labyrinth Cafe Concerts Presents Red Molly
Saturday, November 9 at 7:30pm



Since 2004, Americana trio **Red Molly** has been bringing audiences to their feet with gorgeous three-part harmonies, crisp musicianship, and their warm, engaging stage presence. The band consists of Laurie MacAllister (bass, banjo), Abbie Gardner (dobro, banjo) and Molly Venter (guitar). This past year, the ladies were invited to open multiple shows for music legend Willie Nelson and they performed at the venerable RockyGrass festival in CO. Their new CD "Light in the Sky" spent 20 weeks on the Americana

Music Association's Top 40 radio chart and charted as Folk DJ's #3 Top Album of 2012. In 2013, the band spent the month of March touring throughout Australia, and in August headed to Europe for the first time, for Denmark's Tonder Festival. They have also been invited to appear for the third time at NC's legendary music gathering, MerleFest. Also scheduled is a fourth appearance at the Bristol Rhythm and Roots Reunion, where in September 2012 the Bristol Herald Courier dubbed Red Molly "The Twin City's sweethearts", saying the band "lit up the stage, as a massive crowd of adoring fans sat mesmerized by their silky smooth harmonies and superb musicianship."



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 9 September-May 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



By the time you are reading this, hopefully we will have completed another successful Witches Ball, bringing interesting people and cash to our church. This is our High Holy Day and our big fund raiser for the year.

We have no Sabbats in November. Yes, Thanksgiving is a Harvest Feast but this one is a secular day created for healing after the American Civil War. The other three Thursdays, we will have a different program at 7:30 PM each week.

Do come out and play.

Kip, Resident Pagan

Church Home Improvement

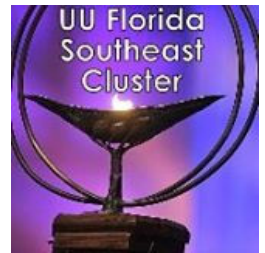
Look for some of the upcoming work being done to our building over the next several weeks. Along with the remodeling of classrooms 5 & 7 in the RE Wing (see RE Article on page 4), we will be installing a new fire safety hood system in the kitchen, making repairs to the roof, and having the tower repaired and painted. If you can make a special donation to help with these and future projects, please contact Benny Rivera, our Treasurer.



UUCFL Board of Trustees



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



UUA President Peter Morales Issues Statement on Marriage Equality in New Jersey

October 21, 2013

For more information, contact: UUA's Public Relations Director (617) 948-4386 pr@uua.org

The Rev. Peter Morales, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), issued the following statement applauding the legalization of same-sex marriage in New Jersey:

"Today, New Jersey becomes the 14th state to allow marriage equality ensuring equal rights for its citizens. It is a historic day and a victory for all who support justice and equality.

Many couples who have waited so long for this day are already applying for marriage licenses, and weddings are being performed by many Unitarian Universalist ministers across the state.

More and more Americans realize that marriage equality strengthens families, protects children, and ensures basic rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender couples. I applaud the work of those people and organizations, including our Unitarian Universalist congregations and ministers, who have fought so hard for so long for this cause.

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's decision to drop his appeal against the court ruling is just another indication that marriage equality is here to stay. As always, Unitarian Universalists will continue to stand on the side of love, and we look forward to the day when marriage equality is the right of all families."



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



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• Music Director

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Nominating

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

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Jim Giblin954-296-0089

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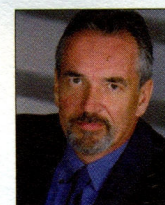
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November Birthdays



ERIK ANDERSON 11/1
 KEN BEIER 11/2
 CORAL HORTON 11/4
 JOHN SHEARER 11/20
 LINDA KARNETH 11/24
 KATIE MCALPIN 11/25
 BRADLEE BACKMAN 11/27
 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 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



November Calendar



Every Sunday :
11:00 AM-
Church Service
and Children's
Religious Education

Religious Education
Events
See special calendar
on the RE page 4

Visit our on line calendar for
late-breaking events
www.uucfl.org
and click "Coming Activities"

Thanksgiving and
Hanukkah will overlap this
year (2013) and won't
overlap again until the
year 79,811.

1

2

•8:45am - LifeNet4
Families Workday
(See page 6)
•7:00pm - UU-WE
(see page 6)

3

•9:30am - UU Sisterhood

4

5

•7:00pm - Spiritual
Maturity Class with
Rev. Gail (see page 5)

6

•6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal

7

•7:30 pm CUUPS

8

9

•7:30 pm Labyrinth Café
Concert (See page 7)

10

•Journey Submission
Deadline

11

•7:00pm - Board Meeting

12

•7:00pm - Spiritual
Maturity Class with
Rev. Gail (see page 5)

13

•6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal

14

•7:30 pm CUUPS

15

•7:00pm - Third
Friday Vespers
Service (see page 5)

16

17

•9:30am - UU Sisterhood

18

•7:00pm - Sunday
Services Committee

19

•7:00pm - Spiritual
Maturity Class with
Rev. Gail (see page 5)

20

•6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal

21

•7:30 pm CUUPS

22

•7:00pm -Social
Justice Committee

23

24

25

•7:00pm - Welcoming/
Membership Committee

26

•7:00pm - Spiritual
Maturity Class with
Rev. Gail (see page 5)

27

•6:45pm - Choir Rehearsal

28

Happy
Hanukkah

Happy
Thanksgiving

29

30

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 Service & Children's
at 11 am: Religious Education

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

NOVEMBER 2013

November 3 - Spiritual Styles from Hindu to

UU - Rev. Gail will take us back to some previously visited ideas from a new angle to help us determine what the spiritual style that suits us really is and if we are already steeped in one, to decide if we want to broaden our options. Our wonderful choir will be performing.

November 10 - Apocalypse Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

- Rev. Gail will take a look at apocalyptic ideas from the Bible to "The Hunger Games" and "Revolution" to see what we can learn for today from these frightening visions of possible futures. Violinist Jeremy Miller will be sharing his gifts with us.

November 17- Lights in Many Windows -

Many of our Unitarian and Universalist ancestors and some contemporary figures have much to offer us in terms of guidance to a deeper grasp of the significance and meaning of life. Rev. Gail will take us on a tour of UU sages through time.

November 24 - Rethinking Thanksgiving and Hanukkah From a New Perspective

- This odd convergence of two holidays that we do not normally associate with each other is truly a once in a lifetime experience. Rev. Gail, with a little help from Steven Colbert, will reflect on this phenomenon. Our great choir will be helping us get into a holiday mood.

December 1- Advent and Adventure -

The season of Advent is about waiting and one thing we are always waiting for is to see what is the next adventure life will bring us. Rev. Gail will reflect on what an adventure really is and how one can change us completely. Alfredo Tamburrino will be gracing us with his skills on the flute.



*Happy
Hanukkah*

*Happy
Thanksgiving*