



The Communicator

of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Lake County

January Church Service Programs

Jan. 4 – "Transformation and Faith" with Rev. Susan Berryman, guest speaker. Our behavior and lives are transforming all the time. We tend to resist this transforming process, but it is inevitable whether we like it or not. Faith is a way we can cope, understand and accept what is happening. Rev. Berryman, a non-denominational minister with a Universalist outlook, will challenge us to consider this concept.

Jan. 11 – "Count Our Blessings". Gladys Becker invites you to look at our congregation to realize how blessed we are. The Annual Meeting of the congregation will conclude the service. All members are especially urged to attend and vote.

Jan. 18 – "Dr. King's Example", with Rev. Dr. Robert P. Tucker, Minister Emeritus, Lakeland, FL UU Church. Dr. Tucker's career has combined teaching and ministry with 13 years at Lakeland. He served as Board member at UU in the Pines, UUA Florida District, and Humanist Association of Central Florida where he was a founding director.

Jan. 25 – "Creed or Creative?" At the suggestion of one of our members, Rev Roger Seidner, our Consulting Minister will explore in greater dept the covenant we share as Unitarian Universalists. We do not subscribe to a creedal statement; rather we share a creative approach to our belief system.

"Diversity may be both the hardest thing to live with and the most dangerous thing to be without."
William Sloane Coffin (1924-2006).

Our monthly Pot-luck Lunch follows this service. We welcome all to stay for food and fellowship.

Note: Roger and Clarice Seidner are available to respond to calls for pastoral care in crisis situations. If you or someone you know has a need, feel free to call them at 407-905-5767

January Adult Forum Programs

Beginning Sunday, January 4, we will resume our Science and Religion series. A little research and a little viewing brought me to the conclusion that the best in this series is yet to come.

Jan. 4 – Natural Theology and Arguments from Design,

Jan. 11 – Geology, Cosmology and Biblical Chronology,

Jan. 18 – Darwin and Responses to Evolution,

Jan. 25 – our regular Open Forum.

Depending on what happens in our session on Values Sunday December 28th we may or may not insert another session on Values on January 11 and drop the Science and Religion series back one Sunday.

...Bob Young

The **UU Congregation of Lake County** meets
Sundays at the Woman's Club of Eustis,
227 N. Center Street, Eustis, FL.

Adult Forum, with Bob Young at 9:45 a.m.
Church Service begins at 11 a.m.

January Birthdays:

Ruth Gray, Jan 2
Royalene Millard, Jan 8
Mike Parinello, Jan 14
Tom Kelley, Jan 26
Bill Hermann, Jan 27
Bob Olsen, Jan 28
Carol Ann Patton, Jan 30

Next issue deadline: Wednesday, January 21.

Send material to canopus1@comcast.net

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Officers

Bill Hermann, President
Barbara Coats, Vice Pres.
Patti Stiner, Treasurer
Joyce Littlefield, Secretary

Trustees

Ruth Gray
Henry Gray
Carol Ann Patton

Roger Benton Seidner, Consulting minister.
Phone: 407-905-5767

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listed here. If you are not on a committee, pick one and join the fun.

Committee chairs:

Communicator – Ted Fessler
Publicity – Frank Bishop, Carol Ann Patton
Program – Gladys Becker
Membership – Pat Linfield
Greeters – Ginny Morgan, Pat Linfield, Frank Bishop, Vivian Bennett
Chalice Lighter – Royalene Millard
Auditors – Frank Bishop, Lucy Landis
Discussion--Bob Young
Facilities – Ted Fessler, Carl Stiner
Hospitality – Phyllis Gillette, Barb Coats, Robyn Kelly
Sunshine – Debbie Miller
Food Bank – Debbie Miller
Circle Dinners – Eleanor Fessler
Order of Service – Lynette Auberjensis
Membership Directory – Bob Young, Henry Gray
Building Search – Marilyn Steingart

President's Messages...

As the new year 2009 makes its inexorable arrival my reflections on the old one are much akin to a TV comedy spoof of the soap operas some years back; "As The Stomach Churns!" The churns have ranged from frustrating, baffling, exhilarating and most of all rewarding. The assistance and support I have received has been a life saver and I urge everyone to sustain your next president in a like manner. Our numbers have been moving steadily upward and just recently a number of younger people have been to services to look us over. Now down to business.

Annual Meeting and Elections

We will hold elections for three positions at the annual meeting to be held as part of the January 11 service. The terms of all three persons serving are ending. Vice President **Barbara Coats** has indicated her willingness to again be considered as has Trustee **Carol Ann Patton**. Treasurer **Patti Stiner**, who has served honestly and faithfully for many years, indicates she would like to pass the torch to someone else and retire. **Patti** will make her last budget report at this meeting. **Pat Linfield** has experience in this area and is willing to be considered for treasurer. Nominations will be made from the floor. Your president and board of trustees would like all Committee Chairs and their members to be present for the annual meeting. The committee folk in place as reported in the spring are

Eustis Annual George Washington Parade

This showcase event will be held on Saturday, Feb. 28 at 10:00am and the congregation has traditionally marched with aplomb. Except for last year when we were decked-out in our neat blue UUCLC shirts and blue banner and soaked completely by a deluge which canceled the event. Our \$20 parade fee needs to be in to the Chamber of Commerce by January 16 to assure priority placement. For novice paraders the route is mostly downhill and about 1.5 miles. There is a sign-up sheet on the piano.

Sound Solutions Sought

Our sound system continues to baffle us all, particularly the folks who depend on hearing aids. The audio technicians, Carl, Wayne and senior guru Ted, continue to investigate the matter. Unfortunately our equipment is not quite sophisticated enough to program for selective hearing of each individual. There are other churches whose members have individual devices that can be programmed for the user and this is our next avenue of approach. Any suggestions are welcomed.

City of Eustis Contract

Barb Coats, our representative and Woman's Club president believes the City fathers will finalize the contract to maintain and upgrade the building, including a 5-year renewable/breakable lease for the church. We will keep you posted and members

are urged to attend the city council meeting when this item is on the agenda.

Mount Olive Cemetery Fund

This special fund has contributed \$350 toward a fence around the historic acreage that has been exposed by the building of Huffstetler Road which runs from Kurt Street west to Waterman Hospital. I believe this is part of the Eustis grand plan as Kurt will likely become 4-lane when funds are available and public hearings have been held for that purpose.

The Big Sign

Each week the beautiful sign that hangs between the columns at the front door needs to be installed, currently with bungee cords and tie-down straps. Carl Stiner diligently and expertly volunteered for this duty until recently when back problems have forced him to resign. Royalene Millard has been helping me with this and I would like to get a (hopefully) tall person or two to help on a regular basis. Please see me or Royalene, thanks.

...**Bill Hermann**

Thank You from Rev. Roger Seidner

The Congregation has received a thank you note, penned in his own hand, from Rev. Seidner, only a few hours after he was with us last Sunday. He writes,

“Clarice and I were surprised and happy to be recognized at Holiday time. Thank you for the Visa gift, the GA DVD’s and the beautiful Menorah tie which arrived in time for Hanukkah!

“It is wonderful for us to be able to minister alongside of you as we move on in our ninth decade! You are a great congregation and we count it a privilege to be part of your family.

“Thank you for remembering us.”

Peace

Roger Benton Seidner

Book Lovers!

All those in the book group who read Marshall's "Challenge of a Liberal Faith", you may remember we chose not to meet during the holidays. But we decided to get together again on Thursday, Jan 15

at the Linfields in Leesburg at 3:00 pm. We haven't settled on what we want to do next; so come with ideas about what book we might like to read. If you have a copy on hand, bring it. Looking forward to seeing you.

...**Ruth Gray**

Anyone for a Rummage sale?

I have been trying to drum up some interest in having a church rummage sale but I haven't found any takers. Some say we don't have enough of a buying public in our congregation to make it worth while. Others say if you bring in outsiders, it gets to be too much work. And, nobody, including me, wants to do a lot of work! The reason I wanted the sale, is because I have a bunch of things I will never use, and I would like to give them away, with any money coming in going to our congregation. For example, I have two TV sets I am not going to buy converter boxes for when everybody switches to digital in Feb. '09. I have a pair of hiking boots I will never use again, and I have 2 pairs of bright blue sneakers, never worn, both size 8 & 1/2. I just got a new cell phone; the old one is lying around. There are other items...

Some potluck Sunday, if I get help with a table, I'll have my own little rummage sale in a corner of the room. If anyone wants to join me, come along. Surely, some of us have grand children or children who could use some of these things, if we don't need them ourselves.

...**Ruth Gray**

From our Florida District Executive...

I take a moment here to remember how grateful I am to your witness and leadership of our congregations. May these winter holidays bring peace to your heart and soul, and courage to face the challenges that await in the new year.

May your ministries be fulfilling as we together seek to inspire our people and lead our faith to greater vitality and effective ministry.

With appreciation for you, thank you and all blessings this season and in the new year.

Kenn [Hurtu]