



SUNDAY SERVICE

April 21, 11:00 am

“Biodiversity: Council of Beings”

This Sunday, Erin Parish is in our Fellowship’s pulpit As we approach Earth Day 2024, her theme is “Biodiversity: Council of Beings.” Anna Deyle serves as worship associate, and James Chase provides our story for all ages. Our Casual Choir sings, accompanied by James Chase on guitar and Tané DeKrey on piano. On April 21, we will also “share the plate” with the Unitarian Universalist Association’s environmental programs.

Live Stream

If you’re unable to attend, you may watch our live streaming service starting at 10:50 am this Sunday on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/UUGainesville>

Starting at 10:50 am each Sunday, you can use this link to go directly to the live broadcast:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSnQkwxBNGT-HIRLSg6IRfA/live>

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 5, 12:15 pm

Our Fellowship’s annual meeting will follow service on Sunday, May 5. Members, please “mark your calendars” to attend this important event. You will have the opportunity to vote on our Governing Board’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2024-2025, express your position on the UUA’s proposed Article Two amendment, and cast your ballot for candidates for open leadership positions.

Please watch your “in box” for more detailed information as well as the opportunity to cast an absentee ballot if you are unable to attend in person.

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 22, 6:30 pm

The Governing Board will hold its monthly board meeting on Monday, April 22, at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Members are welcome to attend and may speak briefly at the beginning of each meeting during an open “congregational input” time period.

If you have questions and/or comments to share with the Board, please email Leah Cobb Lee, Congregation President, at leahcobblee@gmail.com

Zoom link:

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94077032344?pwd=WE94Y3hmVFIREmZla1Fkd0FOTGJ0dz09>

Meeting ID: 940 7703 2344

Passcode: 321615).

SHARE THE PLATE WITH UUA CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS

Sunday, May 21, 11:00 am

Create Climate Justice (<https://www.uua.org/environment>) includes Green Sanctuary and several other programs for the Climate. Non-designated offerings collected this Sunday will benefit this cause.

You may contribute to our Share the Plate collection in several ways:

1. Simply put money in the offering basket on Sunday.
2. Send a check to the Fellowship with “Share the Plate” in the memo line.
3. Use the QR code for Venmo, PayPal or our own online platform.
4. Go to our website’s donation page at <https://www.uufg.org/give/donate.html> — click the Donate button and select “Share the Plate.”



ARTICLE TWO LISTENING CIRCLES

Two More Sundays:

April 21 and 28 at 12:30 pm

At our congregational meeting on May 5, members will vote on whether to accept [proposed revisions to Article Two](#) of the Unitarian Universalist Association’s bylaws. Our Fellowship’s delegates to this year’s UUA General Assembly in June will carry the congregation’s decision when they vote to approve or deny the final amended version.

After our April 21 and 28 services, we invite you to spend time in small discussion and sharing groups to not only learn about the proposed amendments, to but to learn and share perspectives on the changes. The program starts at 12:30 in the Sanctuary, so go grab snacks at coffee hour and come back for a good conversation!

For more information, please contact David Willkomm (willkomm_d@bellsouth.net), Erin Parish (erinuu603@gmail.com) or James Chase (dre@uufg.org).

Child Care will be available during these meetings.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please wish “happy birthday” to Carolyn Holland, Mary Keith, Judi Oltmans, Wanda Turner and Michael Moulton!



Do you have a birthday this coming week, but aren’t on our list? Please contact the office to let Cam know (uoffice@uufg.org).

PICKELBALL FOR ALL

Continues Thursday, April 25, 5:00 pm

Our Thursday afternoon Pickleball group continues their games on the UUFG parking lot. They have balls, nets and spare racquets available, so newcomers to the sport are welcome to come “check it out.” Games run from 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm.

For information, contact Kirsten Flamand at kirstenflamand@gmail.com.



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

This month, we celebrate April anniversaries of our membership.

- *Five Years:* Anna Deyle
- *Six Years:* Alena and Andrew Vargas
- *Eight Years:* Martha Soles
- *Nine Years:* Grace Neagle
- *Fourteen Years:* Michelle Montague
- *Seventeen Years:* Jenny Gavilánez-Slone and Dan Slone
- *Nineteen Years:* Mignon Craig, Cindy Capehart and Jim Friske
- *Twenty-Three Years:* Pete Turner
- *Thirty-Six Years:* Pat Caren
- *Forty-Six Years:* Alice Primack

HUMANIST UU GROUP OF GAINESVILLE (HUUGG) DISCUSSION

Sunday, April 21 10:00 am

Please join us on Sunday for our Religion for Breakfast episode “Doom-bringing solar eclipses in the world’s religions” in person at UUFG or via Zoom. Some of our members travelled to see the recent eclipse. Do you have eclipse experiences to share? What’s all the fuss about anyway? Questions about HUUGG? Contact Kay Anderson at kayanderson59@gmail.com.

Zoom link:

[https://zoom.us/j/98838567620?](https://zoom.us/j/98838567620?pwd=TGhJbjI0WXBXYUZwVDVveGJRZ0xPQT09)

[pwd=TGhJbjI0WXBXYUZwVDVveGJRZ0xPQT09](https://zoom.us/j/98838567620?pwd=TGhJbjI0WXBXYUZwVDVveGJRZ0xPQT09)

Meeting ID: 988 3856 7620

Passcode: 671899).

I AM GRATEFUL TO...



Sending thanks and hugs to Lynn Jamieson, Peggy Koulias and Hazel Hazlett for hosting this past Sunday. Second week in a row for this group and Lynn will be helping out again next Sunday. When no organized group is hosting, it is Lynn who steps up again and again and again to help out. Please add your things to mine, and consider stepping up to host. What a great way to build community here at UUFG!

~ Susan Christy

Do you have a “gratitude” to share, expressing appreciation for someone working “behind the scenes” to make UUFG a warm and welcoming place? Please send an email to Cam Pierce at uoffice@uufg.org.

Don't miss our Fellowship's musical event of the year!

Friday, May 3, 7:30 pm in UUFG's Sanctuary

Please join us to the final event of this year's choir season! We will have a glorious concert featuring the Chalice Choir, UUketarians, Resonance, and special guests. Reception following in the Phillips Social Hall.



UUFG SPRING CONCERT

MAY 3, 2024

7:30PM

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
4225 NW 34th Street

Featuring:

The Chalice Choir, UUketarians, Resonance, and special guests

Free admission. Donations accepted

Proceeds benefit UUFG's Music Program

UUGF BANNED BOOKS LIBRARY

The UUGF Banned Books Library is open for checkout! Don't forget to unban a book by reading it. You can choose from a wide array of books. Just look over the banned books and check one out at the book cart. Young folks will learn about the old fashioned library card found in the back of books in the library. Just fill it out and leave it at the book cart in the Phillips Social Hall. Enjoy your reading!

UUGF PETITION DRIVE FOR MEDICAID EXPANSION BEGINS!

Sunday, April 28, 12:00 pm

Mark your calendars for the start for UUGF gathering Medicaid Expansion petitions and providing voter information for our upcoming Democratic primary in August and general election in November. Look for our table with the YOUR VOTE MATTERS banner at coffee.

~ Mary Bahr

GRACE MARKETPLACE SEEKING MEN'S CLOTHING

Judi Oltmans forwards the following message from Grace Marketplace:

Folks urgently need men's clothing!

We have little to no men's clothing available for our neighbors experiencing homelessness! We need your help to provide folks with men's shorts, men's shirts, and new men's underwear. If you have any shorts and shirts in good condition that you no longer wear, please donate them to GRACE!

We accept new underwear and new or gently used men's shorts and shirts. Please check your closet to see if you can donate any of these urgently needed items! All men's clothing is needed in various sizes!

Drop your donations off at our campus Monday through Saturday from 10 am - 6 pm, or shop our Amazon wish list linked below to send your donation directly to our campus. We are located at 3055 NE 28th Dr. Gainesville, FL 32609.

BANNED BOOK READOUT

Sunday, April 21, 2:30 to 4:00 pm

**Gainesville City Hall Plaza,
200 E University Avenue**

~ the open-air plaza in front of City Hall ~

Best-selling author, Lauren Groff, UF Professor and Author Paul Ortiz, civil rights pioneer Dan Harmeling, and other local celebrities will read from banned books of their choosing.

There will be musical interludes performed by Kali Blount and acapella women's group Resonance between readings.

Banned books will be given away by the event sponsors in the banned books tent on site. There will be a sponsor's table where you can get to know the event's sponsors better.

The venue is a lovely outdoor plaza facing City Hall. Please bring folding chairs, hats, water, and umbrellas. In case of light or intermittent rain, we will move onto the covered porch.

Book banning in our schools denies our children the right to access books with characters that look and act like them. It cuts them off from future opportunities in the larger world by not providing examples in stories of who they can be.

It also narrows our public discourse and is a form of censorship for everyone. By gradually removing access to information and ideas it is a step on the road to authoritarianism.

Our banned book readout is a step in the other direction. When we read banned books, we un-ban them for ourselves. When we read them aloud, we un-ban them for everyone who listens.

Contact Mary Bahr, UUGF Social Justice Council Chair, kmlisle.mary@gmail.com for more information.

ONLINE GIVING TO UUGF

You can use our safe, online payment portal to make donations through our website.

Go to

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXTK/home>

RECENT ATTENDANCE

On Sunday, April 14, 68 adults attended service, while 11 kids participated in Religious Education supervised by two adults. Our YouTube channel shows 55 views of the service online.

MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT

	March	YTD
Income	\$25,883 (budget: \$26,524)	\$234,161 (budget: \$238,716)
Expenses	\$22,692 (budget: \$31,733)	\$188,089 (budget: \$281,413)
Net	\$3,191	\$46,072

Year-to-Date numbers here reflect our general fund's cumulated income and expenses from July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023.




Please note that detailed financial reports are included in the monthly board meeting package that is emailed to the congregation prior to the Governing Board's monthly meeting. If you have questions, please contact Cam Pierce, Congregational Administrator, at uoffice@uufg.org, or Mary Anthony, Treasurer, at maryanthony13@gmail.com.

Gainesville



SUNDAY
April 21st
2:30-4:00

**Local Literary
Celebrities
will read from
Banned Books
with musical
interludes**

-  **Readings**
-  **Music**
-  **Banned Books Giveaway**

Location:
Gainesville City Hall Plaza
200 E University Avenue
On the plaza in front of City Hall.

Bring folding chairs, hats, water,
and umbrellas.

Speakers include:

Best-selling Author
Lauren Groff

UF Professor
Dr Paul Ortiz

Civil Rights Pioneer
Dan Harmeling

Thanks to Sunday Facilitators!		
	April 21	April 28
Outside Greeter	Mike Hazlett	
Welcome Table	Susan Christy Hazel Hazlett	Alice Primack
Foyer Monitor	Doris Hargrave Paul Hargrave	
RE Monitor	Diana Hagan	Ben Lee
Ushers	Debra Neill-Mareci	Debra Neill-Mareci
Visitors Table	Judith Kendall Susan Christy	
Audio-visual	Ricardo Sosa-Melo	Erin Parish



LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Near our entrance, we have a “free pantry” box, which allows people to drop off or pick up food donations in our neighborhood.

Do you have some non-perishable food to share? You may put items directly into the pantry box, or leave them in a donation box in our Phillips Hall.

Elizabeth Farris is monitoring donations and helping ensure that our pantry box is filled regularly!

Questions? Contact Cam in the office at uoffice@uufg.org / 352-377-1669.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SIGN UP ONLINE FOR COFFEE HOUR

Click [HERE](#) to volunteer yourself, you and a few friends, your family, your committee (you get the idea) to host Coffee Hour. It's fun, easy, and so appreciated!

DOESN'T COST A DIME

Reimbursement sheets are provided, and the reimbursement process is easy. Just save your receipts.

Questions? Contact Susan at susan.christy42@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER FOR FOOD4KIDS

*Sat, April 27,
10:00 am*



Mark your calendars for a volunteer session with Food4Kids. Volunteers will assemble food packages to send home with children whose families have difficulty providing enough food. The packages help feed the children and their families over the weekend. This benefits the whole family including preschool aged children who don't get the free breakfasts and lunches their older siblings benefit from during the week. Watch your Gazette and News-and-Needs for more info!

FOOD4KIDS COLLECTION
Continues Through May

The Social Justice Circle is collecting food donations for the Food4Kids program through May. Food4Kids provides food-filled backpacks to many schools in Alachua County.

Please drop off your donations into the metal shopping cart in the Phillips Social Hall.

Below is a list of the foods they need

Nonperishable Food Donations:

- Breakfast Items
- (oatmeal packets, granola bars, cereals)
- Canned/Boxed Goods
- (beans, meats, pasta, soup, veggies)
- Snacks
- (raisins, pretzels, fruit cups, pudding, peanut butter and jelly, etc.)
- Drinks
- (shelf stable milk, juice boxes/pouches)

~ Judi Oltmans



KINDLY SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE DURING SERVICE



HEARING LOOP AVAILABLE

Please talk to an usher for information.

UUFUG CALENDAR

Sunday, April 21 —

10:00 am Childcare (Classroom 5 — Questions about Religious Education at UUFUG? Contact James Chase, Director of Lifespan Faith Development, at dre@uufg.org)

10:00 am HUUGG / Humanist Class (Common Room & Zoom — Questions? Contact Kay Anderson at kayanderson59@gmail.com)

11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)

12:00 pm Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)

12:30 pm RE for Children (Classroom 5)

12:30 pm Middlers Class (Classroom 60)

12:30 pm Article 2 Listening Circle (Sanctuary — Questions? Contact David Willkomm at willkomm_d@bellsouth.net or Erin Parish at erinuu603@gmail.com)

2:30 pm Banned Books Readout in the Park (Gainesville City Hall Plaza, 200 E University Avenue)

3:00 pm Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Sanctuary & Phillips Hall)

Monday, April 22 —

3:00 pm Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall & Sanctuary)

6:30 pm Governing Board Monthly Meeting (Zoom — For info, contact Leah Cobb Lee, Congregation President, at leahcobblee@gmail.com)

Tuesday, April 23 —

8:30 am Morning Meditation (Common Room & Zoom — Questions? Contact Pete Turner at peteturner123@gmail.com or Diane DePuydt at diane.depuydt@gmail.com)

8:00 pm Silent Meditation (Zoom — For info, contact Carol Stiles at uualdosta@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, April 24 —

7:00 pm Young Adult Group (Phillips Social Hall — To confirm event and for info, join the group chat [HERE](#) or contact Renée Richter at reneeofflorida@gmail.com)

Thursday, April 25 —

5:00 pm Pickleball (Parking Lot — For info, contact Kirsten Flamand at kirstenflamand@gmail.com)

7:00 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary — For info about music programming, contact Kirsten Flamand at kirstenflamand@gmail.com)

Friday, April 26 —

12:30 pm Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall)

Saturday, April 27 —

10:00 am Food4Kids Volunteering (For info, contact Judi Oltmans at rjmsoltmans@yahoo.com)

Sunday, April 28 —

10:00 pm Childcare (Classroom 5 — Questions about Religious Education at UUFUG? Contact James Chase, Director of Lifespan Faith Development, at dre@uufg.org)

10:00 pm Messy Playdate (Playground)

11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)

12:00 pm Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)

12:30 pm Article 2 Listening Circle (Sanctuary — Questions? Contact David Willkomm at willkomm_d@bellsouth.net, James Chase (dre@uufg.org) or Erin Parish at erinuu603@gmail.com)

12:30 pm RE for Children (Classroom 5)

3:00 pm Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Sanctuary & Phillips Hall)

GAZETTE SUBMISSIONS

The Gazette is reserved for UUFUG business and concerns submitted to the office (email uuoffice@uufg.org) for editing by noon on Wednesdays. Please put "for Gazette" in your subject line. Your submissions will be posted up to three times, inserted on dates you indicate.