



SUNDAY SERVICE

February 11, 11:00 am

Hopeful Hand Drumming — A Celebration of African American History Month

This Sunday, as we continue our exploration of this month's Touchstones theme of "Hope," we welcome Santa Fe Adjunct Professor Leon Larson to the Fellowship's pulpit. We hope you will join this interactive and vibrant service featuring the Lost Safari Drummers. Mary Anthony serves as worship associate, and James Chase provides our story for all ages. Our Chalice Choir sings under the direction of Tané DeKrey.

Mr. Larson has been drumming for more than 50 years. His inspiration was Babatundi Olatunji, the Nigerian drumming master who founded the group Drums of Passion. Larson has studied with Gordy Ryan, a 20-year veteran of Drums of Passion, and several West African masters including trips to Ghana and Guinea. with a focus on West African culture, rhythms and dance. Larson co-founded Gainesville's Lost Safari Drummers. He has worked with the University of Florida's Agbedidi drumming and dance ensemble in addition to teaching at Santa Fe College and conducting drumming workshops throughout Florida. He currently teaches "Hand Drumming for All" through Santa Fe College Community Education.

Performing since 1990, the Lost Safari Drummers are inspired by the rhythms of West Africa: rhythms from Nigeria, Gambia, Guinea, Ghana, Senegal, Mali, Sierra Leone, and rhythms that were carried to and evolved in Trinidad, Cuba, Haiti, and Brazil. **For information about the Lost Safari Drummers, please click [HERE](#).**

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-H1RLSg6lRfA/live>

NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION

Sunday, February 11, 12:00 pm

Newcomer orientation, an information session for people new to our congregation, will be held following the February 11 service. Curious but not sure this denomination is for you? Definitely interested in membership? This orientation session is for all of you.

For more information or to sign up for orientation, come to the Welcome Table in the foyer prior to service or to the Visitor's Table outside during coffee hour. Look for the green tablecloth. You may also contact Judith Kendall at judithkendall@cox.net for more info.

TOWN HALL MEETING ON FINANCE & BUDGETS

Sunday, February 25, 12:15 am

Following service on Sunday, February 24, our Fellowship's Finance Committee will facilitate a Town Hall Meeting to help members see our current financial situation as we look forward to budgeting for an interim minister this coming year.

Please "mark your calendar" to attend this important Town Hall as we prepare for our annual stewardship drive beginning in March.

Questions about the Town Hall Meeting? Contact Jim Wright, Finance Team Chair, at jim.wright123@gmail.com.

In This Gazette:

- Gratitude for a Successful Auction
- Fabulous February Raffle—Feb 24
- Common Read
- Volunteering Opportunities in our community
- Food4Kids collection continues
- Gratitudes, Calendar, Facilitators, Birthdays and more!



GRATITUDE FOR OUR SUCCESSFUL AUCTION

Our Auction on January 27 was a fun and joyous occasion — and we are profoundly grateful to all our generous donors who helped the Fellowship exceed our financial goal for the evening!



We Are Grateful for...

Our UUFG Donors

Check out the list of  **HERE COMES THE SUN!**  donors below. This LARGE group of UUFG members, supporting friends and visitors made our lucrative auction possible. They donated services, learning opportunities, performance tickets, gift cards, meals, events, baked goods, vacation rentals and more. We could not have raised over \$14,000 without such great items to bid on! Thank you all!

- Aaron Broadwell and
- Alice Gridley
- Al Tweedy
- Angela Rupert
- Austin Rupert
- Barbara Palmer
- Bev Giordano
- Carol Freitag
- Cindy Prabst
- David Willkomm
- Debra Neill-Mareci
- Diana Hagan
- Doris Hargrave
- Erin Parish
- Evan Waldt
- James Chase
- Jay Whitehead
- Jean Cook
- Jess Freitag
- Jim Benedict
- Jim Wright
- Joanna Lowenstein
- Judi Oltmans
- Judith Kendall
- Lynn Jamieson
- Marilyn Roberts
- Martha Davis
- Mary Bahr
- Mary Keith
- Mary Margaret Andrew
- Paul Hargrave
- Peggy Koulias
- Rose Cole
- Rosemarie Dinklage
- Sandra Topp
- Sarah Hausman
- Sue Boone
- Susan Christy
- Thomas Palmer
- Tim Christy
- Tom Mareci
- Toni Wallace
- Wendy Visscher

Our Business Donors

Gift cards, performance vouchers and a generous rebate offer brought in roughly a third of our earnings on auction night; around **\$5,000**. Wow! Please consider patronizing these local businesses and *thank them* for supporting UUFG. Better still, if you learned about their business from our auction, **share that!**

- Acrosstown Repertory Theater
- Avant Garde Salon
- Bangkok Square Authentic Thai Cuisine
- Blue Highway Pizzeria
- Book Gallery West
- Cade Museum for Creativity & Invention
- Earth Origins Market
- Gainesville Community Playhouse
- Garden Gate Nursey
- Gator BTW
- Holistic Healthcare
- Life Unplastic
- Molly Maid of Gainesville
- Momentum Rehab and Chiropractic
- Publix
- Sante Fe College Teaching Zoo
- Solar Impact
- Stefanie Holzer at Salon 618
- Sweet Berries Eatery and Frozen Custard
- The Bagel Bakery
- The Great Frame Up
- Whole Foods
- Yoga Pod Northwest

~ Susan Christy, Auction Team Chair



KINDLY SILENCE
YOUR
CELL PHONE

GAZETTE SUBMISSIONS: The Gazette is reserved for UUFG 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.

FABULOUS FEBRUARY RAFFLE

Saturday, February 24

What an outstanding Auction we enjoyed Saturday evening! It was a wonderful and fun community building activity. Now we are looking forward to February 24th when UUFG will have a fabulous February Rummage Sale.

Read on to see how you can help make the February 24th Rummage Sale a success!

Donate

De-clutter. De-junk. Clean house. Tidy up. Organize. Transform your home. Bring your **Superfluous Stuff** to UUFG on Friday, February 23 for the sale the next day.

We welcome all kinds of household goods, tools, craft and hobby supplies, toys, kitchen supplies, sporting goods, jewelry, yard and gardening tools and working electronics . Please no clothing without a special exception. Small furniture items are welcome too.

If you need assistance transporting or storing your donations please contact me.

Help

We will need a small team of three or four people to begin immediately to plan publicity, prepare supplies and assist donors with early donations.

On Friday and Saturday of sale weekend we need twelve or more volunteers on site from 7:30 am through 1:00 pm to assist shoppers.

After the sale, on Saturday afternoon we need help to clean up and prepare our sanctuary home for Sunday service.

Please contact me at mrobertsrn@gmail.com and include the dates you are available if you'd like to help in any way.

In Fellowship,
Marilyn Roberts

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please wish “happy birthday” to Jonathan Coron, Alice Primack and Carol Mathews!



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).

I AM GRATEFUL TO...



What a wonderful combination Going Away Party and Coffee Hour the *Social Justice Circle* hosted this past Sunday! Big thanks to *Joy Avery, Alice Gridley, Alice Primack*, as well as the absent *Mary Bahr*, for celebrating Dr. Ortiz while providing carrot cake and coffee to enrich our conversations and community.

~ 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.

Thanks to Sunday Facilitators!

February 11 February 18

Outside Greeter	Aaron Broadwell	
Welcome Table	Martha Harrell Vic Harrell	Joy Avery
Foyer Monitor	Vic Harrell	Doris Hargrave Paul Hargrave
RE Monitor	Norden Lucke	Diana Hagan
Ushers	Debra Neill-Mareci	Debra Neill-Mareci
Visitors Table	Diane DePuydt Mike Hazlett	
Audio-visual	Erin Parish Ricardo Sosa-Melo	Erin Parish Ricardo Sosa-Melo

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERING LOCALLY

- Gainesville Area AIDS Project Needs Volunteers
- Every Tuesday GAAP offers a hot meal to community members living with HIV/AIDS.
- Please consider signing up to help with GAAP on Tuesdays in February.
- GAAP (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A45ACA92FA0F85-gainesville#/>)

~ Peter Marino

UUFUG CALENDAR

Sunday, February 11 —

- 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** Children & Youth RE Committee (Common Room)
- 11:00 am** Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm** Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)
- 12:00 pm** Newcomer Orientation (Begins at Visitors' Table — For info, contact Judith Kendall at jkendall@uufg.org)
- 12:30 pm** RE for Children (Classroom 5)
- 12:30 pm** OWL Class (Classroom 4)
- 12:30 pm** Auction Event—Spanish Class with Martha Davis (Classroom 3)
- 2:30 pm** Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Sanctuary & Phillips Hall)

Monday, February 12 —

- 3:00 pm** Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall & Sanctuary)
- 6:30 pm** Care Team (Common Room — Questions? Contact Jim Wright, Care Team Chair, at jim.wright123@gmail.com)

Tuesday, February 13 —

- 8:30 am** Morning Meditation (Common Room & Zoom — Questions? Contact Pete Turner at peteturner123@gmail.com or Diane DePuydt at diane.depuydt@gmail.com)
- 2:00 pm** Safety Team (CommonRoom — Questions? Contact Jonathan Coron, Safety Team Chair, at coronjonathan@gmail.com)
- 7:00 pm** Fellowship Council (Zoom — For info, contact Michael Hazlett, Governing Board Liaison, at mh-hazlett@wiu.edu)
- 8:00 pm** Silent Meditation (Zoom — for info, contact Carol Stiles at uuvaldosta@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, February 14 —

- 6:00 pm** Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Classrooms 3 and 7)
- 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, February 15 —

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

Friday, February 16 —

- 12:30 pm** Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall)

Saturday, February 17 —

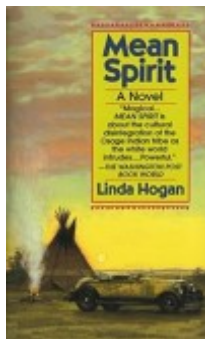
- 11:30 am** UU Book Circle (Yummy House restaurant — Questions? Contact Martha Soles at marthajsoles@gmail.com)

Sunday, February 18 —

- 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 — For info, 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 6 — Questions? Contact James Chase at dre@uufg.org)
- 12:30 pm** Auction Event—Card Making Class with Erin Parish (Classroom 3)
- 1:30 pm** Social Justice Circle (Common Room — for info, contact Mary Bahr Social Justice Council Chair, at kmlisle.mary@gmail.com)
- 12:30 pm** OWL Class (Classroom 4)
- 3:00 pm** Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Sanctuary & Phillips Hall)

COMMON READ

Our Social Justice Circle’s first Common Read for 2024 is an Osage author’s novel about the Osage Nations tragedy described in the movie *Killers of the Flower Moon*. The book title is *Mean Spirit*, and the author is native American writer Linda Hogan, who was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.



However, because UUFG Social Justice is sponsoring three sessions on The 1619 Project through March, we have decided to postpone our common read discussions until later in the year and concentrate on The 1619 Project. Let Paul Hargrave know if you want to purchase a copy of The 1619 Project through the Book Cart. The book is also available in paperback, Audible, and eBook versions through the public library and book sellers.

ONLINE GIVING TO UUFG

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

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



Or use the QR code here

RECENT ATTENDANCE

On Sunday, February 4, 84 people attended service, while our YouTube channel shows 87 views of the service online.

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

FOOD4KIDS BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are collecting food donations again for the Food4Kids program through May. Food4Kids provides food-filled backpacks to many schools including the ones that our Pineridge kids attend.



Below is a list of the foods they need. Please drop off your donations into the folding shopping cart in the Phillips Social Hall.

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)

Thank you!
Judi Oltmans

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.