



SUNDAY SERVICE

February 18, 11:00 am ~ Love Surrounds Us

This Sunday, Rev. Tracie Barrett is in the Fellowship's pulpit as we continue our exploration of this month's Touchstone theme of "Hope." Her theme is "Love Surrounds Us." Jeff Stevens serves as worship associate, and James Chase provides our story for all ages.

This Sunday, we also "Share the Plate" with [Florida Rights Restoration Coalition](#).

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>

FABULOUS FEBRUARY RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, February 24, 8:00 am

Don't miss our rummage sale this coming Saturday!

Donate This Coming Week

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 this coming week, please contact Marilyn Roberts at mrobertsrn@gmail.com.

Volunteer

On Friday afternoon we need help setting up — and Saturday we need twelve or more volunteers on site from 7:30 am through 1:00 pm to assist shoppers. Contact Marilyn to help: mrobertsrn@gmail.com

SHARE THE PLATE WITH THE FLORIDA RIGHTS RESTORATION COALITION

Sunday, February 18, 11:00 am

This Sunday, we "Share the Plate" with Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRRC), an organization committed to ending the disenfranchisement of and discrimination against people with convictions. For those with past convictions in Florida, FRRRC is working to remove barriers to employment, housing, and opportunities.

For those who want to register to vote, but still owe fines and fees as part of their sentence, FRRRC is working to remove those financial barriers. At this service all non-designated donations will be given to the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition.

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 below for Venmo, PayPal or our own online platform.



SOCIAL JUSTICE AT UUGF



Social Justice Circle — Sunday, Feb 18, 1:30 pm

Social Justice will have a Circle meeting this Sunday in person in the Common Room and on Zoom. We will be discussing the Medicare Expansion Petition, plans for our March "Unbanning Books Month" Activities, a Pineridge invitation, reports on our soon-to-open Freedom School in Porters Quarters, and much more. Bobby Mermer from the Alachua County Labor Coalition will be there to discuss Medicaid expansion.

The congregation is invited to attend in person or drop in to find out how you can help with a particular part of the program.

Zoom link: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/93192413653>
 Meeting ID: 931 9241 3653
 Passcode 135760.

Florida Rights Restoration Coalition — Sunday, February 18, 11:00 am

Social Justice is proud to host a representative from the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, the recipient of our Share the Plate this Sunday. The organizing director of FRRC, Marquis McKenzie, will speak at our Sunday service and table during coffee hour.

FRRC is a grassroots, membership organization run by Returning Citizens, Formerly Incarcerated Persons (FIPs) in partnership with allies. We are dedicated to ending the disenfranchisement and discrimination against people with convictions and creating a more comprehensive and humane reentry system that will enhance successful reentry, reduce recidivism, and increase public safety.

UUGF gathered petitions to get the initial amendment on the ballot and has supported work to overcome road-blocks put in place by the Florida Legislature.

Pineridge Children’s Presentation — Wednesday, February 28, 4:40 pm

A special invitation from Kirsten Flamand and our volunteers at Pineridge. The children in the Pine Ridge after-school tutoring program are celebrating Black History Month with a special performance on Wednesday, February 28 from 4:40 - 5:00 pm. They will host a “Famous Black Americans Wax Museum” with in-costume presentations. Bring quarters to donate to the Children's choice of a charity and be prepared for a cuteness overload. The performance will be at the Pine Ridge Community Center located at 6015-6135 NW 26th St, Gainesville, FL 32653. You are invited!

1619 Project Class — Sunday, March 3, 1:30 pm

Coming up on March 3rd, Richard MacMaster's third and last class on the 1619 Project. The class will be held in person in the Common Room and on Zoom. Put it on your calendars and look for a Zoom link coming soon.

**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.

**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#/\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A45ACA92FA0F85-gainesville#/)

YOGA FOR UUFG IN THE SANCTUARY THIS MARCH
Starts Saturday, March 2, 9 am

Start your Saturdays in March with Kripalu yoga, a gentle practice accessible to all. Your guide will be certified yoga instructor Susan Christy, who trained at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health in Stockbridge, MA. She enjoys sharing practice with others who seek to nurture their bodies and their spirits in community.

Classes will be appropriate for both beginners and long-time yoginis. If you can get up and down from the ground by yourself, you can participate. All you need is a mat and an open heart. No mat? You can borrow one. Want to bring a friend or non-UUFG family member? That would be wonderful.

Classes will be held in the Sanctuary every Saturday morning in March, starting March 2, plus the first Saturday in April. Cost will be \$15 per person, payable with check or cash. All proceeds will be donated to UUFG. Class will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 10:15. Please arrive 15 minutes early your first time.

If you are used to packing “a matt, two blocks and a blanket,” please do so. Shavasana will definitely be part of our practice! Yoga is a great way to build community while also nurturing body and spirit. I hope you will join us.

~ Susan Christy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please wish “happy birthday” to Jonathan Colburn, Steve Atlas, Rose Cole, and Beverly Giordano!



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

I AM GRATEFUL TO...

Big thanks to Lynn Jamieson, Elizabeth Farris and Hazel Hazlett, for hosting this past Sunday's Social Hour. What a team!

~ 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 uuoffice@uufg.org.



UUFG VOLUNTEERS AT GRACE MARKETPLACE ON FEB 3

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at Grace Marketplace on Saturday, February 3rd. Shannon, Diane, Kay, Carol, Elizabeth and her neighbors, Candy and Marty, and I all worked in the Grace Free Clothing Boutique hanging up clothes and organizing the Boutique.

Then we all moved to the Donation Center to sort through newly donated clothing and bedding. We divided up into two groups, one to fold and organize sheets and blankets, the other to sort through clothing donations headed for the Grace mobile unit. We all appreciated the opportunity to volunteer at Grace!

Thank you to Paul Hargrave and Tom Bullock for donating men's clothing to Grace!

If you're interested in volunteering during the week at Grace email Leigh Scott, the Community Engagement Manager at Grace Marketplace, at leighscott@gracemarketplace.org.

Volunteer at Food4Kids

Saturday, March 16, 10 am

Next month we'll be helping out at Food4Kids! Join us for the next UUFG volunteer day at Food4Kids on Saturday, March 16th from 10:00-12:00. Contact Judi Oltmans if you'd like to sign up to volunteer at rjmsoltmans@yahoo.com.

~ Judi Oltmans

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.

UUFG CALENDAR

Sunday, February 18 —

10:00 am Childcare (Classroom 5 — Questions about Religious Education at UUFG? 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)

12:30 pm Touchstone Discussion Group (Classroom 7 — For info, contact Katelin Rhan at katelinbeal1213@gmail.com)

12:30 pm OWL Class (Classroom 4)

1:30 pm Social Justice Circle (Common Room — for info, contact Mary Bahr Social Justice Council Chair, at kmlisle.mary@gmail.com)

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

Monday, February 19 —

UUFG Business office closed for President's Day

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

6:30 pm Finance Committee (Zoom — Questions? Contact Jim Wright, Finance Committee Chair, at jim.wright123@gmail.com)

Tuesday, February 20 —

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 uuvaldosta@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, February 21 —

7:00 pm Paynes Prairie Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (Phillips Hall)

7:00 pm Questors Touchstone Discussion Group (Closed group — Common Room)

Thursday, February 22 —

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

Friday, February 23 —

12:00 on Set up for Rummage Sale (Phillips Hall — Questions? Contact Marilyn Roberts at mrobertsrn@gmail.com)

12:30 pm Gainesville Bridge Club (Sanctuary)

Saturday, February 24 —

7:30 am Rummage Sale (Phillips Hall — Questions? Contact Marilyn Roberts at mrobertsrn@gmail.com)

Sunday, February 25 —

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

10:00 am Fireside Sunday (weather permitting) (Fire Circle — For info, contact James Chase)

11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)

12:00 pm Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)

12:15 pm Town Hall Meeting on Finance (Sanctuary)

12:30 pm Jewish Voices for Peace (Common Room — Questions? Contact Abi Fletcher at abigayl.fletcher@gmail.com)

12:30 pm RE for Children (Classroom 5)

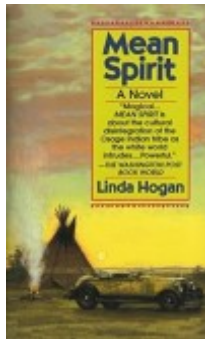
12:30 pm OWL Class (Classroom 4)

12:30 pm Auction Event—Spanish Class with Martha Davis (Classroom 3)

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

Thanks to Sunday Facilitators!		
	February 18	February 25
Outside Greeter	Wendy Visscher	
Welcome Table	Joy Avery Barbara Palmer	Cindy Prabst Alice Primack
Foyer Monitor	Doris Hargrave Paul Hargrave	David Willkomm
RE Monitor	Diana Hagan	Ben Lee
Ushers	Debra Neill-Mareci	Debra Neill-Mareci
Visitors Table	Toni Wallace Judith Kendall	Alice Primack Wendy Visscher
Audio-visual	Erin Parish Ricardo Sosa-Melo	Erin Parish Ricardo Sosa-Melo

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

RECENT ATTENDANCE

On Sunday, February 11, 81 adults attended service, while our YouTube channel shows 65 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