

The Gazette



March 10, 2024— Volume 22, Issue 10

SUNDAY SERVICE

March 10, 11:00 am

“Music and Our Four Truths”

This Sunday, the *a cappella* group Resonance will explore the four truths of Unitarian Universalism via song in a music service, “Why We Sing.” Jeff Stevens serves as worship associate, and James Chase provides the moment for all ages.

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>

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

This month, we celebrate March anniversaries of our membership.

- *Eight Years:* Elisabeth Ohrn and Norden Lucke
- *Nineteen Years:* Erin Parish
- *Twenty Years:* Michael Lattimer
- *Twenty-One Years:* Rose Cole
- *Thirty-Three Years:* Glee Biery

UUGF OFFICE CLOSED

Fri, March 8 through Wed, March 13

Cam Pierce, UUGF’s Administrator, is out of the office for spring break from Friday, March 8 through Wednesday, March 13.



Save the Date!

SAILING

THE UUGF BOAT HOME

Sunday, March 24, 11:00 am

Join us for a special Pledge Sunday service on March 24th and then stay for Lunch on us.

We will provide a variety of options including chicken, vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free choices.

It’s sure to be boatloads of fun!

All are welcome, but to help us better plan for lunch please RSVP. Look for the table with the blue tablecloth after service on March 10 or March 17, click [HERE](#) or use this QR code to access an online form:



Pledge Drive Volunteers Needed for Setup/Cleanup on March 24

We’re getting ready for the UUGF Pledge Drive this year! We are looking for volunteers to help on “Pledge Sunday,” March 24, when we will have a special service and provide lunch.

We need volunteers to help with set up and clean up for the lunch:

- Set up at 10:00 am — set up tables and chairs and maybe help set out the food.
- Clean up — putting away the tables and chairs

We’re also looking for volunteers to help with tabling after service on March 10th and 17th!

If you can help, please contact Sandra Topp at sandra.topp4512@gmail.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please wish “happy birthday” to James Chase, Samara Powers, Michelle Montague and Jo Anne Smith!



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).

UUFG FOUNDATION GRANT CYCLE UNDER WAY

Applications Due by Friday, March 29

It's that time of year again! The Foundation is now accepting grant applications for this Spring 2024 cycle. If your committee or group has an idea that will improve UUFG building and grounds or programs, please consider submitting a grant proposal this month. Applications are due Friday, March 29, and we will make our decisions by early May.

New this cycle, applications can be filled out and submitted online at:

<https://forms.gle/NmAfntxSz9EWYEGGA>

This Google Doc form is very user friendly. Some things to keep in mind:

There are options to upload supporting documents within the application itself so have any pictures or documents ready to upload as you fill out the form.

We suggest you request an email copy of your completed form when you submit by clicking on “send me a copy of my responses” found at the end of the application

Each application will require submission of a [completed signature page](#).

There are three ways this can be done:

1. Upload a PDF copy of the signed document with your application
2. Email the PDF to foundation@uufg.org
3. Place a printed signed copy in the Foundation mailbox in the UUFG office.

Please ask any Foundation member if you have questions or concerns. We are happy to help.

In fellowship,

UUFG Foundation: Jeanne Gossman, Cindy Prabst, Kristin Stevens, Pete Turner, & Sandra Topp

NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION

Sunday, March 10, 12:00 pm

Newcomer orientation, an information session for people new to our congregation, will be held following the March 10 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.

PETITION DRIVE FOR MEDICAID EXPANSION IN FLORIDA

Begins following training on Sunday, March 17, 1:30 pm

The Social Justice Circle will be collecting petition signatures for Medicaid expansion in Florida beginning in March. Medicaid expansion in Florida would allow anyone whose income qualifies to join Medicaid.

Right now in Florida, only pregnant women and their children and people with disabilities are eligible for Medicaid. This amendment would allow about 800,000 low-income Floridians to get health care under Medicaid. It will also benefit rural hospitals who are dependent on Medicaid funds and it now has bipartisan support in the legislature.

UUFG to Be Community Hub

The Board has approved a Social Justice request to put a petition form drop box at the entrance of the Fellowship. This will make UUFG Social Justice a Community hub for collecting the petitions. Regional Hub Alachua County Labor Coalition will pick up the completed petitions from the lockbox each week and process and forward them to the State organization.

UUFG Social Justice will begin gathering Medicaid Expansion petitions after our training at the March 17th Circle meeting which will be available on Zoom. If you would like to help gather petitions please plan to attend this training on March 17th at 1:30 pm.

Lisa Renner is leading the petition Drive. Please contact Lisa if you would like to volunteer at ejrenner@hotmail.com.

~ Mary Bahr

UUG VOLUNTEERING AT FOOD4KIDS

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am

We need volunteers! Please join us on Saturday, March 16th from 10:00 am—12:00 pm for our UUG volunteer day at Food4Kids. We'll help out by filling backpacks with food and stocking the pantry.

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Judi Oltmans for more details at rjmsoltmans@yahoo.com.



Food4Kids is located at 350 NW 39th Ave Suite D, Gainesville, FL 32609

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From food4kidsfl.org:

“The Food4Kids Backpack Program of North Florida fills backpacks with nonperishable food and distributes them to students in need, from kindergarten through high school. The kids bring these backpacks home on Friday and return them on Monday so they can be refilled for the following weekend.”

FOOD4KIDS BACKPACK PROGRAM 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)

Thank you!
Judi Oltmans

UUG'S SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL INVITES THE CONGREGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN UNBANNING BOOKS MONTH!

- Learn more about Book banning from our Informational document with links to PEN America and the American Library Association lists of banned books and where to find free ebooks.
Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/13h-mymfCfTusyn9JdGKdyxqIM5YC0UoP/view?usp=sharing>
- Read a Banned book! Unfortunately, there are lots of opportunities for this. Check one out of our library or the public libraries. Our Public libraries are not yet subject to book bans so there are lots of books there you can read
- Read a banned picture book to a child or lots of children.

**Readout in the Park with
Zoharah Simmons — NEW DATE!**
Sunday, April 21, 2:00 pm

We are changing Our Banned Books Readout Festival from March 24 to April 21 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on the Plaza in front of City Hall, 200 E University Ave. Mark your calendars to come and hear Gainesville celebrities read from banned books with musical interludes.

~ Mary Bahr



I AM GRATEFUL TO...

Many thanks to the *Social Justice Circle* for hosting this past Sunday's Coffee Hour. This group just recently hosted Coffee Hour when Dr. Paul Ortiz was in the pulpit; they have been doing their share and more! Also, kudos for the display of banned books during Coffee Hour: amazing, disturbing, ludicrous, frightening

~ Susan Christy

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

UUFUG CALENDAR

Sunday, March 10 —

- 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 — For info, contact James Chase)
- 11:00 am** Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm** Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)
- 12:15 pm** Newcomer Orientation (Begins at Welcome Table — For info, contact Judith Kendall at judithkendall@cox.net)
- 12:30 pm** RE for Children (Classroom 5)
- 12:30 pm** OWL Class (Classroom 4)
- 3:00 pm** Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Sanctuary & Phillips Hall)

Monday, March 11 —**UUFUG Business Office closed**

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

Tuesday, March 12 —**UUFUG Business Office closed**

- 8:30 am** Morning Meditation (Common Room & Zoom — Questions? Contact Pete Turner at peteturner123@gmail.com or Diane DePuydt at diane.depuydt@gmail.com)
- 6:30 pm** Fellowship Council (Zoom — For info, contact Mike Hazlett, Governing Board Liaison, at mh-hazlett@wiu.edu)
- 8:00 pm** Silent Meditation (Zoom — for info, contact Carol Stiles at uualdosta@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, March 13 —**UUFUG Business Office closed**

- 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, March 14 —

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

Friday, March 15 —

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

Saturday, March 16 —

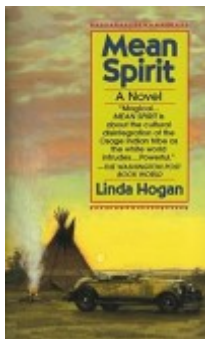
- 9:00 am** Kripalu Yoga Classes (Sanctuary — For info, contact Susan Christy at susan.christy42@gmail.com)
- 10:00 am** Volunteering at Food4Kids (Questions? Contact Judi Oltmans at rjmsoltmans@yahoo.com)
- 11:30 pm** UU Book Circle (Sweet Berries at 619 NW 5th Ave — Question? Contact Martha Soles at marthajsoles@gmail.com)

Sunday, March 17 —

- 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** 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 & Zoom — 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)

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, March 3, 60 adults attended service, while our YouTube channel shows 61 views of the service online.

GAZETTE SUBMISSIONS

The Gazette is reserved for UUFG business and concerns submitted to the office (email uoffice@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.



KINDLY SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE

Thanks to Sunday Facilitators!		
	March 10	March 17
Outside Greeter	Aaron Broadwell	Tim Christy
Welcome Table	Martha Harrell Vic Harrell	Joy Avery Susan Christy
Foyer Monitor	Vic Harrell	Doris Hargrave Paul Hargrave
RE Monitor	Norden Lucke	Diana Hagan
Ushers	Debra Neill-Mareci	Debra Neill-Mareci
Visitors Table	Mike Hazlett Diane DePuydt	Susan Christy
Audio-visual	Erin Parish	Erin Parish Ricardo Sosa-Melo

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