



## SUNDAY SERVICE

*March 17, 11:00 am*  
"All Hands on Deck!"

This Sunday, we welcome Rev. Tracie Barrett back to our Fellowship's pulpit. March is our "stewardship month," and our stewardship theme is "Sailing the UUFG Boat Home." As our pledge drive moves towards its March 24 conclusion, Rev. Tracie calls for "All Hands on Deck!" Anna Deyle serves as worship associate, and James Chase provides our story for all ages. Music is provided by our own "UUKetarians."

### 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-H1RLSg6IRfA/live>

## TOUCHSTONE LISTENING CIRCLE

*Sunday, March 17, 12:30 pm*

Following service on Mary 17, Debra Neill-Mareci will host another **Listening Circle** incorporating **Touchstones**, a theme-based project supported by subscriptions from UU congregations. This month's short newsletter on Transformation is available at <https://www.uufg.org/learning/adult/>

This circle is a wonderful way to connect and learn about other people attending UUFG! Our group focuses on the topic of the month's publication using questions to prompt our responses. It is not a discussion group but a time of listening to someone's own stories and experiences.

The circle takes place in the Youth Room (Classroom 7) directly across the south entrance to the admin offices. Questions? Contact Debra at [dneillmareci@gmail.com](mailto:dneillmareci@gmail.com)

## SAILING THE UUFG 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 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

If you can help, please contact Sandra Topp at [sandra.topp4512@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.topp4512@gmail.com)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Please wish “happy birthday” to Jo Anne Smith and Madelyn Moyer!



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).

**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



**I AM GRATEFUL TO...**

Many thanks to Coffee Hour Hosts Lynn Jamieson, Debby Jo Malickson, Janet Davies, and Peggy Koulias. What a team! Thanks for making this community event happen.

~ 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.

**MINDFULNESS MEDITATION**

*Tuesday mornings 8:30 — 9:45am*

Join us in the Common Room every Tuesday morning as we return to our traditional format with a few updates. Please arrive by 8:15 to get settled. We start meditation at 8:30 am. You can use chairs or floor cushions as you prefer. We meditate for 25-30 minutes followed by reading, discussion and a closing recitation.

Guided meditation instruction is happily provided, but please let us know in advance if you desire it. If you are immunocompromised or otherwise uncomfortable in a group of 5-8 people, you are welcome to wear a mask or join us via Zoom. Please let us know in advance, so we can send you the Zoom link.

For more info or the Zoom link, contact Pete Turner at peteturner123@gmail.com

**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

**SOCIAL JUSTICE CIRCLE***Sunday, March 17, 1:30 pm*

Our Social Justice Circle meets in the Common Room and via Zoom on March 17 at 1:30 pm. Questions? Contact Mary Bahr, Social Justice Council Chair, at [kmlisle.mary@gmail.com](mailto:kmlisle.mary@gmail.com).

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/93192413653?pwd=YjFhY2I0WW82VDhvdTcvZTZDNmJ6QT09>

Meeting ID: 931 9241 3653

Passcode: 135760

**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](mailto:ejrenner@hotmail.com).**

~ Mary Bahr

**UUFG'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

**PICKLEBALL RESUMES!***Thursday, March 21, 5:00 pm*

Our weekly Pickleball games resume this coming Thursday on UUFG's parking lot at 5:00 pm. Come join the fun! For info, contact Kirsten Flamand at [kirstenflamand@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenflamand@gmail.com)

**UU VALDOSTA MEDITATION***Tuesdays, 8:00 pm by Zoom!*

Our UU neighbors to the north have made their ongoing Tuesday evening meditations available to our Fellowship. Join their sessions Zoom at 8:00 pm each Tuesday, and at 8:10 pm they begin 30 minutes of silent meditation. To join, contact Carol Stiles at [uualdosta@yahoo.com](mailto:uualdosta@yahoo.com) with "Meditation Tuesday" in the subject line. She will send you the Zoom link.

## UUFUG CALENDAR

### *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](mailto:dre@uufg.org))

**10:00 am** HUUGG / Humanist Class (Common Room — For info, contact Kay Anderson at [kayanderson59@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dre@uufg.org))

**12:30 pm** Touchstone Discussion Group (Classroom 7 — For info, contact Katelin Rhan at [katelinbeal1213@gmail.com](mailto:katelinbeal1213@gmail.com) or Debra Neill-Mareci at [dneillmareci@gmail.com](mailto:dneillmareci@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](mailto:kmlisle.mary@gmail.com))

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

### *Monday, March 18 —*

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

**6:30 pm** Finance Committee (Zoom — For info, contact Jim Wright at [jim.wright123@gmail.com](mailto:jim.wright123@gmail.com))

### *Tuesday, March 19 —*

**7:00 am** Primary Election (Phillips Hall)

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

**2:00 pm** Safety Team — For info, contact Jonathan Coron, Safety Team Chair, at [coronjonathan@gmail.com](mailto:coronjonathan@gmail.com))

**8:00 pm** Silent Meditation (Zoom — for info, contact Carol Stiles at [uualdosta@yahoo.com](mailto:uualdosta@yahoo.com))

### *Wednesday, March 20 —*

**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, March 21 —*

**5:00 pm** Pickleball (Parking Lot. Questions? Contact Kirsten Flamand at [kirstenflamand@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenflamand@gmail.com))

**7:00 pm** “Casual Choir” Rehearsal (Sanctuary — For info about music programming, contact Kirsten Flamand at [kirstenflamand@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenflamand@gmail.com))

### *Friday, March 22 —*

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

### *Saturday, March 23 —*

**9:00 am** Kripalu Yoga Classes (Sanctuary — For info, contact Susan Christy at [susan.christy42@gmail.com](mailto:susan.christy42@gmail.com))

### *Sunday, March 24 —*

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

**11:00 am** Worship Service (Sanctuary)

**12:00 pm** Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)

**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)

## 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](mailto:susan.christy42@gmail.com)



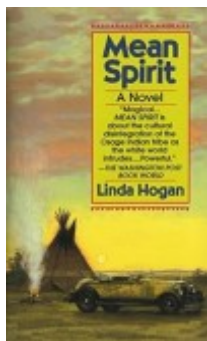
Last Sunday, our UU kids took to our stage to perform an updated version of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat” to support our pledge drive!

Photo courtesy of Judy Oltmans



### 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.

Thanks to Sunday Facilitators!		
	March 17	March 24
Outside Greeter	Tim Christy	Marcia Wolfe or Dan Wolfe
Welcome Table	Joy Avery Susan Christy	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	Susan Christy Barbara Palmer	Alice Primack
Audio-visual	Erin Parish Ricardo Sosa-Melo	Erin Parish Ricardo Sosa-Melo

### 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 10, 72 adults attended service, while our YouTube channel shows 78 views of the service online.

### 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](mailto:uoffice@uufg.org) / 352-377-1669.