



May 5, 2024 — Volume 22, Issue 17

## SUNDAY SERVICE May 5 11:00 am Rosalynn Carter

This Sunday, we welcome Dr. Barbara Oberlander, retired professor of American History, to our Fellowship's pulpit as we introduce this month's Touchstones theme of Equity.

Dr. Oberlander research has often focused on the roles of women in American history. Her subject for this service is former first lady Rosalynn Carter. Jeff Stevens serves as worship associate, and James Chase provides our story 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: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/</u> <u>UCSnQkwxBNGT-H1RLSg6lRfA/live</u>

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## SUNDAY, MAY 12, IS FLOWER COMMUNION Flowers Requested!

On Sunday, May 12, we will honor Mothers and Mothering, and Celebrate the Flower Communion, a Unitarian Universalist tradition.

If you are able, please bring a flower/some flowers to share. They will be combined into a lovely presentation, and all attendees will be able to take a flower home with them. "

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### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, May 5, 12:15 pm

Our Fellowship's annual meeting will follow service on Sunday, May 5. Members, please attend this important event. You will have the opportunity to vote on

- Operating Budget for FY 2024-2025
- Nominations to the Governing Board and Leadership Development Committee
- Proposed revisions to the UUFG Bylaws
- Proposed UUA Article II revisions
- Ceasefire Resolution endorsement for the war in Gaza

Click <u>HERE</u> for the Packet of information for the Congregational Meeting, including Leah Cobb Lee's letter to the Congregation.

### **UUFG BANNED BOOKS LIBRARY**

The UUFG 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!

### BUILDINGS & GROUNDS WORK MORNING Saturday, May 11, 9:00 am

Stop by UUFG on Saturday, May 11, for our monthly "Sparkle Saturday" gathering. We have plenty of yardwork to manage as Florida's summer growing season is upon us!

Work begins around 9 am, but come as your schedule allows. For information, contact Marilyn Roberts, Facilities Chair, at mrobertsrn@gmail.com

## <u>The Gazette</u>

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please wish "happy birthday" to Marilyn Roberts!



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).

## HUMANIST UU GROUP OF GAINESVILLE (HUUGG) DISCUSSION Sunday, May 5 10:00 am

Come to the Common Room or follow the Zoom link on Sunday to listen and share your personal thoughts about Humanism and how your ideas were inspired by your life experiences... Can't wait to hear your stories!  $\sim$  Kay

Questions about HUUGG? Contact Kay Anderson at kayanderson59@gmail.com.

#### Zoom link:

https://zoom.us/j/98838567620? pwd=TGhJbjI0WXBXYUZwVDVveGJRZ0xPQT09 Meeting ID: 988 3856 7620 Passcode: 671899).

## NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION Sunday, May 12, 12:00 pm

Newcomer orientation, an information session for people new to our congregation, will be held following the May 12 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.

## RECENT ATTENDANCE

On Sunday, April 28, 65 adults attended service, while 9 kids participated in Religious Education supervised by two adults. Our YouTube channel shows 65 views of the service online.



## UUFG FOUNDATION GRANTS IN ACTION!

## Phillips Hall Light Fixtures

One of the grants awarded was submitted by Marilyn Roberts and went toward upgrading the Social Hall Light Fixtures.

The old ceiling lights were outdated and some were not functioning at all. The project, already completed, replaced 12 existing recessed cans with new LED type cans and flat wafer type lights that are much more energy-efficient. Another move toward a greener campus. Come admire the finished product at coffee hour!

Thank you, Marilyn, for a great improvement to our campus!

## Sound System Upgrades

The UUFG Foundation provided funds for four grants this spring cycle. One of those grants is for a sound system upgrade for the Sanctuary, submitted by Liz Stewart and Debra Neill-Mareci

It has become evident that the sound system has been unreliable and occasionally subject to "drop out" causing interruptions of the service. The grant has gone toward the purchase of two Shure cabled microphones, two Atlas IED mic stands and two Atlas boom extenders. This equipment was installed this past week, complementing and augmenting our other equipment.

Jim Benedict has worked diligently to bring the system up to date and was instrumental in recommending and installing the new equipment. Our improved sound system enhances the experience for those in attendance, people using the hearing assist systems, and Zoom participants.

Thank you Jim, Debra, and Liz for this much needed upgrade.



### 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 uuoffice@uufg.org/352-377-1669.



## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPPORTUNITIES

By Leah Cobb Lee, Congregation President

This summer, the <u>UUA General Assembly</u> will be 100% virtual (the GA will be in-person only in alternate years as part of the effort to reduce our association's carbon footprint). GA runs from June 20 through June 23.

## Watching GA at UUFG

I have attended GA virtually for the past three years and have always found it engaging and fulfilling. I highly recommend it! This year will be even better because we will have many opportunities to gather in-person at UUFG to participate in GA.

If you are interested in helping plan some of these events at UUFG, please reach out to me at leahcobblee@gmail.com.

## Serve as a Delegate to GA

You can also reach out to me if you are interested in <u>representing UUFG as a delegate</u>. It does not cost any money! Representatives can get a "business-only" registration which includes participation in the General Sessions and voting via the online delegate platform without any registration fees.

This year at GA, UUFG is permitted four voting delegates. The number of delegates is based on the number of members at the time of our certification; we had 151 members as of January 8, 2024 when we reported our numbers to the UUA.



## HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Please talk to an usher for information concerning the Phoenix loop and the Williams headset systems.

### 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.



## I AM GRATEFUL TO...

Thanks go out to *Martha Soles* and the *UUFG Book Circle* for once again hosting last Sunday's Coffee Hour. Community is built when we all pitch in.

~ 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.

## GOT A SERMON/SERVICE IDEA? YOUR WORSHIP TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Team has committed to bringing you weekly services even during the upcoming summer months.

Want to fulfill your life-long dream of delivering a talk to your UUFG family and friends? Until we can secure a minister, we need all hands on deck to assist in providing resources for upcoming services.

Want to take on preparing a Flower Communion? A Blessing of the Animals? A Path to UUism? You can select the hymns and readings or select a Worship Associate with whom to work closely in the production of the service. Please step up. We need you!

If you have an idea for a service, or want to talk about it, please contact Liz Stewart, Worship Chair, at marmstew002@gmail.com.

Thanks in advance.

~ Liz Stewart

### ONLINE GIVING TO UUFG

Use the QR code ore click <u>HERE</u> to go to a Linktree page where you can select from three online giving options: Paypal, Venmo and Vanco, our online payment portal also available through our website.



Go directly to our Vanco page via this link: https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXTK/home



## LITERATI BOOK GROUP ~ UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Literati Book Group met on Sunday and began our re-imagining. Henceforth, we plan to meet on the third Sunday of each month at the chosen place of the facilitator, whether their home or at a UUFG reserved space. We have scheduled the following so far:

Month	Facilitator	Contact info	Book Title	Book Author	Book Availability
May:	Liz Stewart	marmstew002@gmail.com	Oath & Honor	Liz Cheney	ACLIB
June:	Jay Whitehead	jaymono45@gmail.com	Flight Behavior	Barbara Kingsolver	ACLIB
July:	Gene Mills	farmdos@cox.net	Killers of the Flower Moon	David Grann	Book Club Kit
August:	Michael Bass	midaba2004@gmail.com	So Help Me God	Mike Pence	ACLIB
September:	Harry Mangle	mangle2@cox.net	From a Far and Lovely County	Alexander McGill Smith	Book Club Kit

If the book is available from a kit, we will arrange for the kit to be checked out and you can make arrangements with the facilitator to get a copy. We hope knowing in advance and also reading books that might be of interest to a wider and more diverse group of folks will reinvigorate our group. Join us! For questions, contact Gene Mills (famdos@cox.net) or Liz Stewart (marmstew002@gmail.com).

### FOOD4KIDS FOOD 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

nourishing our future



## KINDLY SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE DURING SERVICE

Thanks to Sunday Facilitators! May 5 May 12					
Outside Greeter	Tom Palmer				
Welcome Table	Peggy Maloney Barbara Palmer				
Foyer Monitor	Jonathan Coron	David Willkomm			
RE Monitor	Peggy Maloney	Norden Lucke			
Ushers	Debra Neill-Mareci	Debra Neill-Mareci			
Visitors Table	Judith Kendall				
Audio-visual	Erin Parish	Erin Parish			

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SIGN UP ONLINE FOR COFFEE HOUR

Click **<u>HERE</u>** 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

### UUFG CALENDAR

#### Sunday, May 5 —

- **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 & Zoom Questions? Contact Kay Anderson at kayanderson59@gmail.com)
- 11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)
- 12:15 pm Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 12:30 pm RE for Children (Classroom 5)
- 12:30 pm Middlers Class (Classroom 60
- **3:00 pm** Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Sanctuary & Phillips Hall)

#### Monday, May 6 —

12:30 pm Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall & Sanctuary — note the new hours. GBC will no meet on Monday evenings)

#### Tuesday, May 7 —

- **8:30 am** Morning Meditation (Common Room & Zoom Questions? Contact Pete Turner at peteturner123@gmail.com or Diane DePuydt at diane.depuydt@gmail.com)
- 7:00 pm Worship Team (Zoom For info, contact Liz Stewart, Worship Team Chair, at marmstew002@gmail.com)

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

#### Wednesday, May 8 —

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

#### Thursday, May 9 —

11:30 am UUFG Men's Lunch Group (One Love Café, 4989 Northwest 40th Place — Questions? Contact Tom Bullock at tbullock3@cox.net)

#### Friday, May 10 —

12:30 pm Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall)

#### Saturday, May 11 —

**9:00 am** Buildings and Grounds Work Morning (Questions? Contact Marilyn Roberts, Facilities Chair, at mrobertsrn@gmail.com)

#### Sunday, May 12 -

- 10:00 pm Childcare (Classroom 5 Questions about Religious Education at UUFG? Contact James Chase, Director of Lifespan Faith Development, at dre@uufg.org)
- 10:00 pm CYREC Steering Committee (Common Room)
- 11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- **12:00 pm** Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)
- 12:00 pm Newcomer Orientation (Starts at Welcome Table For info, contact Judith Kendall at judithkendall@cox.net)
- 12:30 pm RE for Children (Classroom 5)
- **3:00 pm** Joy of the Lord Outreach Ministries (Sanctuary & Phillips Hall)

### MINDFULNESS MEDITATION ~ Tuesday mornings 8:30 — 9:45am

Join us in the Common Room every Tuesday morning. 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.

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.