



**The Newsletter of the
Buckman Bridge
Unitarian Universalist Church
October 2013**

From our Director of Religious Education:

Howdy Church Folks,

*"The prophetic liberal church is the church in which all members share the common responsibility to foresee the consequences of human behavior (both individual and institutional), with **the intention of making history in place of being merely pushed around by it**".*

—James Luther Adams, "Taking Time Seriously," in *The Prophethood of All Believers*

Let's talk about POWER! Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. defined power as the ability to create change. He championed the idea that within each of us is a well of untapped power and potential to be a force for good. We all can change things—change a point of view, change an attitude, change a life. A smile is powerful in the fact that it's contagious, but how do we tap into that power, and why should we?

Our principles invite us to embrace the power within us. If we have the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all then surely we are compelled to take the steps toward meeting that goal. The UUA endorses many projects of social justice. Be it, our "Standing on the Side of Love Campaign", "Standards for Ethical Eating", or "Reproductive Justice Initiatives", our denomination encourages us to take action on the things we are passionate about. One of the most unique things about being a UU is the emphasis placed on the work that we do as human beings. As a denomination without a creed endorsed endgame, the here and now becomes incredibly important. It's incumbent upon us to take the action to make here and now better.

Action, however, can be where we as Unitarian Universalist start to misconstrue the notion of power.

It is easy to allow ourselves to feel powerless in the face over whelming odds or violent hate, but if power is the ability to create change, then like worth and dignity it is inherent in each of us. We only need to take a small step to tap into our own power. We only need to act.

These small actions can be the change the world needs: talking to a manager at Publix about paying a penny extra per pound, signing a petition to a congressman, telling someone their bigoted language makes you uncomfortable, or being there to listen to a friend. These are POWERFUL acts that we are all capable of. If we make the choice to act, to be aware of the power we all possess, then surely our congregation and denomination at large will make the journey toward the goal of world community, and maybe even achieve it.

Find out more about our denomination's social justice work at: <http://uua.org/justice/index.shtml>

With Hope,

Dani Slader

Joys and Concerns Reminder

As was described in last month's Journey, we will begin our 6 week experiment with new Joys and Concerns formats beginning October 6th. Each format will run for two services, as follows:

Oct. 6 and 13: Read by chaplain

October 20 and 27: Solicited from the seated audience, with cordless microphones

Nov 3: Presented as usual, but at the END of service

After the trial is over, the Worship Committee will be soliciting your feedback on what you liked or didn't like about the three variations. Please keep this in mind as you observe or participate in Joys and Concerns during this period.

Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, **October 9th** at 11:30am

The BBUUC Lunch Bunch meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30, at Pengree's Restaurant in Orange Park (556 Kingsley Avenue) for food and fellowship. All are welcomed to join us! Please contact Frances Kennicutt or Beth Christiansen, the office administrator, at admin@bbuuc.org if you plan to join us, so that a table can be reserved at the restaurant.

Directions to Pengrees: From the exit at 295 and 17 (Park Ave) just west of the Buckman Bridge, you will turn off into 17/Park Ave) south past Wells Road and proceed towards Kingsley. Turn right onto Kingsley and get into the left hand lane as early as possible as you will turn in just three short blocks on Kingsley. Turns left at the light on Plainfield and then turn into the parking lot. You are there!

In order for us to meet our budget this year, we are asking each adult to increase their weekly donation by \$3 or to date \$77 above their regular contribution.



Fellowship Hosts

Oct 6 Pete and Martha Morgan
Oct 13 WE
Oct 20 NEED
Oct 27 VOLUNTEERS!
Please sign up at church!



Greeters/Ushers

Oct 6 WE
Oct 13 NEED
Oct 20 VOLUNTEERS!!!
Oct 27 Please help out!



BIRTHDAYS

October

10/08 Betty Forbes
10/08 Luke McKinney
10/11 Isabella Swopes
10/14 Jennifer Glassman
10/16 Martha Gilliland
10/20 Joani Maskell
10/22 Robert Lopez
10/22 Stephen McCullar
10/24 Jillian Christiansen



Anniversaries

10/31 Amber and Jay Rodriguez

Joys from the Congregation!

The recent adoption of **Diana Murrey- Settle** is wonderful and joyous news!

Congratulations to **Peg Christensen** who retired Sept 27th from Kraft Foods. Enjoy that well earned retirement, Peg!

Congratulations to **Karen Nolan** on the birth of her first grandchild, **Samantha Elizabeth!** **Peggy Mullins** also celebrated as the great grandmother! We're so happy for the family!

Reminder: Please sign up or let Beth, our office administrator, know if you will need a babysitter during one of our RE classes. We only schedule babysitters when we know there is a need. Thank you!

CHURCHWORKS

Joys and Concerns has been a real “hot button” issue among UU churches! This topic has also been an issue of intense discussion within the worship committee for years at BBUUC. I would like to see it be, at this time, a catalyst of growth and understanding in our community.

There are SO many opinions about Joys and Concerns that run the gamut...from members, lay leaders, professional ministers and worship theorists – even visitors and guests! One particular aspect that has received a range of positive and negative opinions is the open joys and concerns format that we practice at BBUUC. Joys and Concerns are handled throughout our UU congregations in many unique ways today – some a result of necessity, some as an evolution of worship arts in each community.

Currently, our Worship Committee is responding to some valid concerns in regard to our format from input we have received from our own members, denominational leadership, professional ministers and worship associates. They have not only heard from those who don’t want to change a thing about it, but are also clearly reviewing input from others who think it’s time to make a change, or at least consider a change. In other words, the Worship Committee is taking a comprehensive approach to Joys and Concerns.

As congregations grow, changing worship elements and traditions are often a necessity, and often linked to time. Imagine our format of Joys and Concerns in a congregation of 200 or even 300! It makes it difficult to plan a service with the other elements, honoring the time for the speaker, musicians, and congregants as well as those in the RE program. It’s difficult to plan a worship service to fit within an hour’s time when you have no idea how long the Joys and Concerns may

take on any given Sunday. Aside from that, at BBUUC, TIME (though it IS a consideration) IS NOT the driving force behind contemplation of change. The driving force is more the vulnerability we deal with from week to week when we create an “open mike” situation during our Sunday Service.

We have attempted to define this portion of our service by asking that the sharing be kept to “personal” issues – no announcements, no political commentary, and to keep the sharing brief. This request is not always honored. We can continue to request additional restrictions, but then we’re creating a laundry list of exceptions, which can be very subjective and actually begins to let the air out of the whole spirit of the practice. And we can all come to an agreement on how we will “do” J&C – but that doesn’t take in to account newcomers, visitors or guests who may not be familiar with our agreement.

Personally, I love Joys and Concerns – and I am willing to forgive a few transgressions to receive the good things it can do for our community. But then, I must admit, when one of those inappropriate instances occurs, I am left feeling less than worshipful. Others have shared different opinions. Some find J&C off-putting and a bit exclusive, sometimes inappropriate. Some don’t like worship as a public forum for individual and personal issues. Some don’t mind sharing a limited number and type of J&C’s, but they don’t like the randomness of what we might get from week to week. It’s worth discussion and hearing all the various sides...trying different approaches...keeping calm and rational dialogue on a topic that has strong emotional responses for many. This is what the Worship Committee is attempting to do.

I hope that we can all stay in covenant with one another during this process, and be open to consideration of various points of view. In the end, consensus may be unachievable, but certainly the democratic process is

important. The Worship Committee will want your feedback, and I’m sure there will be more discussion. Perhaps even a town hall meeting will be called after the trial of alternatives in October.

There have been many recent articles posted throughout the UU web and blogs. We have had spirited commentary on our own yahoo groups list. If you *really* want to delve into the Joys and Concerns issue – there are other articles and resources available, which I will give you some links to below.

In love and faith,
Linda Mowers, President

<http://www.uuworld.org/spirit/articles/288897.shtml>

<http://www.uuworld.org/spirit/articles/289493.shtml>

<http://www.uua.org/interconnections/interconnections/57222.shtml>



**River City Pride Parade
October 12th 4-6pm**

**River City Pride Festival
October 20th 11am-8pm**

Walk in the parade, help out in the BBUUC booth or come out and cheer the volunteers on! We’d love to see a strong BBUUC attendance at the Gay Pride Parade and Festival! If you have any questions, please contact David Kattreh at lgbtq_welcoming@bbuuc.org!

From the Desk of the Treasurer

Orderly conduct of financial affairs is the responsibility of the board, treasurer, and finance committee. In order to have the trust of donors, it is critical that the church's finances be transparent and that spending be in accord with deliberate and shared intentions. The Treasurer, in conjunction with the Finance Committee and the Board, is beginning to make changes in processes and procedures within the church, with the goal of making the church's practices more sound and consistent with good business standards. The current treasurer, being retired and with grown children, has more time to spend on some of the details than have past treasurers. Some of the changes that may affect you to some extent are:

- Changes in the form for requesting reimbursement of an individual's expenses on behalf of the church;
- Employee timesheets for all employees;
- Changes and additions to the various fund classes that are used to segregate funding of particular activities;
- Changes in check issuance;
- Some changes in policies and procedures for finance and accounting related issues;
- Some suggested changes in church by-laws for the next year;
- Various initiatives to make the financial status and activities of the church to its members;
- New accounting and financial reporting software;
- Changes in financial reporting; and
- Changes in budgeting in order to have more coordination of church priorities and fund-raising.

Most of these changes will not be apparent to you unless you are a Board or a Finance Committee member. If any of these changes cause any problems, please bring them to my attention. When there are changes, there are sometimes unanticipated problems, which I will address.

***Please join us in welcoming our newest
BBUUC members on Sunday,
October 13th, during our
morning service.***

Introduction to Yoga Nidra Meditation

Please join us for an Introduction to Yoga Nidra meditation class on Sunday, October 27th at 12:15pm. There is a \$15 fee for this class, to pay for the instructor's time.

Yoga Nidra (Yogic sleep) meditation holds the key to reverse the attack of chronic stress on the body, mind, and spirit. Because chronic stress has reached epidemic proportions in our society, it is more prevalent than cancer or heart disease. It is the underlying root of anxiety, depression, and many other maladies. Yoga Nidra has the power to take you to the innermost, deepest levels of relaxation where your whole body and being is permeated by peace of mind and profound stillness, unlocking the mystical, integrative powers at all levels of consciousness. It can effortlessly erase your most tenacious, self destructive behavior patterns held unconsciously in your physical, mental, and emotional bodies.

About the Instructor: Marie Bailey, Psy. D., has a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology and spent many years in her first career as a psychologist. She has been a Yoga Therapist for nearly seven years. She is certified in the Amrit Method of Yoga Nidra meditation, Amrit Yoga Therapy and has completed two levels of Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapy training. She is an Amrit Yoga Teacher—certified 500 hr, and Vinyasa Flow Yoga Teacher—200 hr.

Halloween Trunk-or-Treat and Potluck

Join us for a night of fun, food, and frights (but not too frightening) on Friday, October 25th, 6:00pm - 10:00pm.

Bring your vehicle, complete with decorations and treats, and be a part of the fun! There will be a contest for the best Trunk Theme, as well as several costume contests. We will also have a potluck dinner, so be sure to bring your favorite spooky dish to share.

For more information, keep an eye on your weekly Order of Service. You may also contact Gina Norstedt (gina@configmd.com) or Amber Rodriguez (queenofcaffeine@gmail.com).

Facilitator Training is October 6th after the service (at 12:30pm). As a joint venture between the Programming and LRE committees, the training will bring U.U.A. and congregational resources together to provide information for leaders of Adult R.E. and other classes offered at BBUUC. All current, future, and potential teachers and facilitators are requested to attend, and all who are interested are welcome.

About Our October 20 Speaker: Sheila Harty

Sheila Harty has a BA and MA in Theology. Her major was in Catholicism, her minor in Islam, and her thesis in Judaism, but her definition of God comes closer to quantum physics. For 20 years, she employed her theology degrees in DC as “*applied ethics*,” including 10 years with Ralph Nader. She also worked with former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark and former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop. Harty is an award-winning author; her first book, *Hucksters in the Classroom*, won the 1980 George Orwell Award. On sabbatical from Nader, Harty taught Business Ethics at University College Cork in Ireland. Later, she was an editor with the U.S. Congress, the United Nations, and the World Bank. She has spoken around the world and been a consultant with international consumer groups. She moved to St. Augustine, Florida, in 1996 to care for her aging parents.

About Our October 27 Speaker: Jeff Nall

Jeff Nall has earned a PhD in Comparative Studies from Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton. He holds a Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies from FAU, and a Master of Liberal Studies from Rollins College. Nall teaches philosophy at Indian River State College and gender studies at FAU. He is a full-time father of three children and married to his best friend. His research and activism addresses peace and justice.

BBUUC Semi-Annual Rummage Sale Saturday, October 12, 2013

Our semi-annual rummage sale is less than a month away! Time to start cleaning out those closets and organizing your garages. We will start accepting donations on Sunday, September 29th. The proceeds of the sale will benefit the RE Travel Fund and the BBUUC General Fund. For more information and a list of acceptable items, please contact Amber Rodriguez or Scott Cromar.

Goods & Services Auction 2014

Let the good times roll at BBUUC. But, only if you’re ready to party and watch the cash flow in!

Huh?

Yes, both fun and money: fun for you and money for BBUUC at our fourth goods and services auction.

This time we’ll be holding it over the Valentine’s/Presidents’ Day weekend on Saturday, February 15 at our beloved church home.

So, what is a goods and services auction? In a nutshell, it’s an offering of various skills, talents and goods of significant value during an evening that includes a traditional auction. And the source of these goods and services? Our BBUUC members, friends and kindly outsiders such as local businesses, friends and family of members.

So, what do we mean by skills, talents and significantly valued goods? Well, a trip through the past may help us here.

First, services are limited only by your talents and creativity. A partial list in the past included foreign language lessons, an evening of fine dining and hot tubbing, house and pet sitting, professional services, teaching a skill or craft, handyman and housecleaning services, rides to appointments, offers to do grocery shopping, a musical evening. Oh my goodness, the list can go on and on.

Second, goods. The goods should be of significant value: original art work, true antiques (something “The Antiques Road Show” would consider), elaborate, tasty pastries or other dishes, handmade quilts, Willie Mays autographed baseball. Our old TV sets are not for this auction, though my guess would be that Amber Rodriguez and the teens might appreciate this donation for the upcoming Rummage Sale.

Our goal: every church member and friend involved!

- Planning the auction
- Donating goods and services.
- Soliciting outside donations and help.
- Soliciting church members for donations, donations and donations.
- Extending invitations to friends and family to become involved with donations and participation in the auction.
- Assisting on the auction evening.
- Assisting with finalizing a myriad of tasks and details in the days and weeks after the auction.

All proceeds of this gala event will go towards helping us sustain our congregation.

Though everyone can help in some way, we also need a team of dedicated folks to serve on the **Auction Planning Team** to ensure a fabulous evening and a successful outcome! If you would like to join the Team, plan to join us for a launching meeting on **Sunday, October 13th** at noon in the Middle School Classroom. If you have any questions or comments, please see our *Auction Planning Team Leader*, **Pam Edwards-Roiné**, or Board Auction Liaisons **Eileen Morrison** or **Linda Mowers**.

Schedule of Services

Services are held Sundays at 10:30 a.m. at
8447 Manresa Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32244
Church Phone: (904) 276-3739 • Website: www.BBUUC.org
Check Calendar for information on other programming.

October 6: Mark Yount will present: “*Alive in a World of Suicide*”

Camus wrote that the only truly serious philosophical problem is suicide. Of a 12 year old suicide's diaries, a Tampa sheriff observed last week, "Her writings would break your heart." *Cloud Atlas*'s Robert Frobisher counters our reflexive objection to suicide: "What's selfish is to demand another to endure an intolerable existence, just to spare families, friends, and enemies a bit of soul searching." From these, an existential argument compelling those of us who *live* in this world of suicide.

Led by **Jeremy Ritzmann** Accompanied by **Marilyn Smart**

Joys and Concerns may be written to be shared by the Chaplain.

October 13: Reverend Jack Ford will present “*Join the Move: An Association Sunday*”

The UUA has moved! Our Boston headquarters at 25 Beacon Street, occupied for nearly 100 years, has become out-dated and outgrown. This month, UU congregations all over the country are celebrating Association Sunday by focusing on this theme called ***Join the Move***. Come and support our Association, and perhaps learn something new about the history and direction of this amazing Unitarian Universalist faith.

Led by **Ken Christiansen** Accompanied by **Gary Smart**

Joys and Concerns may be written to be shared by the Chaplain.

October 20: Sheila Harty will present “*The Unitarian Heresy Against the Trinity*”

A historical and theological analysis of the how the doctrine of the trinity came to be is a must study for all Unitarians who ought to appreciate not only their own religious roots but also the most gymnastic of intellectual sports. Despite its linguistic hair-splitting, the trinity debates—highlighted at the Council of Nicea in 325 BCE—are fascinating political dramas. The roots of Unitarianism—not as it flourished in America, gathering to itself all manner of noble American patriots—are found in 4th century Constantinople, where Christianity was evolving amidst Jewish culture and Greek influence under the hubris of imperial and ecclesial power. It ought to be a movie!

Led by **Kris Kines** Accompanied by **Amber Rodriguez**

Joys and Concerns may be shared from your seat via microphone.

October 27: Jeff Nall will present “*The Frightening Facts behind Chocolate, and how to Foster Social Change this Halloween and Beyond*”

The speaker will discuss little known evidence that much of the chocolate (and coffee) are improving our health while simultaneously jeopardizing the freedom and lives of hundreds of thousands around the world including many children.

Led by **Linda Crawford** Accompanied by **Gary Smart**

Joys and Concerns may be shared from your seat via microphone.

November 3 – “*The Service of Memory*”

Join the congregation for a UU ritual where we remember our loved ones who have passed. You are invited to bring a photograph or memento of your beloved (person or animal) and share briefly about them. Let everyone know the difference they made in your life and others. Photographs of our loved ones will be displayed on a table for the congregation to view.

Joys and Concerns may be shared from the altar just before the close of the service.

October 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> <i>7pm PR Cmte</i>	<i>2</i> <i>7pm BEACON</i> <i>7pm Understanding the Bible</i>	<i>3</i> <i>7pm Faithful Choices</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> <i>9:45am Coffee Conversations</i> <i>11:45am Social Action Cmte</i> <i>12:30pm Facilitator Training</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> <i>7pm Council Mtg</i>	<i>9</i> <i>11:30am Lunch Bunch</i> <i>7pm BEACON</i> <i>7pm Understanding the Bible</i> <i>7pm CUUPS</i> <i>7pm How to Self Publish</i>	<i>10</i> <i>7pm Faithful Choices</i> <i>7pm Rummage Sale Set-Up</i>	<i>11</i> <i>Rummage Sale Set-up</i>	<i>12</i> <i>8am Rummage Sale</i> <i>4pm River City Pride Parade</i>
<i>13</i> <i>9am LRE Cmte</i> <i>9:45am Coffee Conversations</i> <i>12pm Caring Cmte</i> <i>12pm Goods and Services Auction Mtg</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> <i>7pm Worship Cmte</i>	<i>16</i> <i>6:30pm Comfort Crafts</i> <i>7pm BEACON</i> <i>7pm Understanding the Bible</i>	<i>17</i> <i>7pm Faithful Choices</i>	<i>18</i> <i>BEACON CON—Orlando</i>	<i>19</i> <i>BEACON CON—Orlando</i>
<i>20</i> <i>9:45 Coffee Conversations</i> <i>11am Gay Pride Festival</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> <i>7pm Board Mtg</i> <i>7pm Programs Cmte</i>	<i>23</i> <i>7pm BEACON</i> <i>7pm BBUUYA</i> <i>7pm CUUPS</i>	<i>24</i> <i>7pm Faithful Choices</i>	<i>25</i> <i>6pm Trunk or Treat</i>	<i>26</i> <i>10am Leadership Retreat</i>
<i>27</i> <i>9am, Membership Cmte</i> <i>9am BBUUCF</i> <i>9:45am Coffee Conversations</i> <i>12:15pm Yoga Nidra</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> <i>7pm BEACON</i>	<i>31</i>		

October is “Love Offering” Month for The BBUUC Emergency Caring Fund

During the month of October, you will find a donation collection box in the front of the sanctuary for the BBUUC Emergency Caring Fund. The Caring Committee would like to invite you to consider making a donation to this special fund that has been set up and maintained for many years in our congregation to serve as a resource for helping our own members through tough times related to illness, disability, death, loss of income, or act of nature not covered by insurance or other financial means.

This special fund is independent of our operating budget, and is maintained through various fundraisers and your generous donations. The October Love Offerings will help us build and maintain this fund, which needs to grow as our congregation grows. Simply make your check out to BBUUC and note “Emergency Caring Fund” in the memo – or place your cash in one of the envelopes by the collection box.

The Caring Committee can also accept your donations throughout the year, as memorial donations for friends and loved ones, or as simple gifts for a worthy cause. If you wish to make a memorial dona-

tion, you can see one of our Caring Committee Co-chairs: Frances Kennicutt or Myrna Kissinger, for a donation form. Your donation will be acknowledged with a note of appreciation to you, and an acknowledgement note to the family of the person being memorialized.

Our Emergency Caring Fund is disbursed confidentially, and has helped many of our members in the past who have faced difficult situations or whose needs may be greater than their means. Caring is an expression of our Unitarian Universalist spirituality. Compassion leads us to experience hope and healing in the midst of life’s challenges.

Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner Will You Be There?

The hospitality committee reminds you to begin thinking about the Thanksgiving Potluck. Sign-up sheets will be going out soon for volunteers and of course, food categories. Claim your place on the lists early so you can bring Great Aunt Matilda's scrumptious recipe and not be stuck with something you don't want.

The Journey

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