



The Journey

The Newsletter of the
Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church



A Welcoming Congregation



February 2014

Trinkets to Treasures Goods and Services Auction

Our super auction is right around the corner! And what a super auction it promises to be.

Date: February 15, 2014 (Saturday)

Place: Sanctuary and Reception area of BBUUC

Time: 6:30 PM

We'll kick the evening off with some great entertainment, food and beverages. And while you are listening, chatting and munching, stroll among the SILENT AUCTION and SET PRICE TABLES. There you will be able to see many of the great donations that have been made from our members, friends and local businesses. For silent auction items, bidders can write in their bids; for the set price table, it's simply a matter of "buying" the articles at the listed prices. All the while, there will be live entertainment from the stage and delicious hors d'oeuvres being served by our "wait" staff and beverages poured at our "bar".

Time: 8:00 PM

We'll move our attention to the open auction. The audience should move into the sanctuary area, enjoy a little more entertainment and then the open bidding begins.

Time: 9:15-9:30 PM Intermission

During the intermission everyone will have time to get up and stretch, get another drink and enter their last bids on the silent auction items and snatch up the last set price items.

9:30-10:15 PM Open Auction Resumes

We'll reopen the final round of bidding. Then successful bidders can pay for their goods items and pick up items or certificates of purchase for service items.

And, off you go, having enjoyed a wonderful evening. And, some people may even stay and help us clean up.

And, please, please continue to invite friends, co-workers, family to auction; they'll have a great time, too.

SOME MORE FAQ'S ABOUT THE AUCTION

What if I want to bid on an item but can't make it to the auction? Ask someone who will be attending the auction to bid for you. Just let him or her know what items you're interested in and the maximum bid you're willing to make.

What if a group of us wants to bid on an item, like the dinners or the vacation homes? Not a problem, actually this is a really good idea. Just designate one person to do the bidding and collecting.

What types of payment will be accepted? Credit cards, debit cards and cash.

Do you think there may be a problem with parking? That may pose a problem, so do think about carpooling and arriving early.

How much longer do I have to make a donation to the auction? To get the auction offerings book printed in time, we need donations in by February 5. Don't forget to register at www.bbuuc.org/auction

Trinkets to Treasures Childcare Offerings

LRE will be offering childcare during the Trinkets to Treasures Gala. For all those parents out there that would like to join in the Auction Evening event: LRE will have the Nursery open for babies-3 year olds. We also will have the Middle School room set-up with kid friendly movies, arts and crafts, and snacks for Elementary and Spirit Play ages. All activities will be supervised. In order to be sure we have enough supplies and staff on hand, Please RSVP with Chris Jarman at religious_ed@bbuuc.org or with our church Administrator Beth at admin@bbuuc.org.

CHURCHWORKS

The BBUUC Council consists of the chairs of the various committees and ministries who gather monthly to discuss the efforts and plans of their groups, to collaborate on joint programs and projects, to discuss the needs of the church, to provide support for one another, and to strengthen our community.

For the past couple of months, in addition the regular council activities, they have taken time to share their thoughts on some meaningful topics that will help us build a stronger vision for the future and focus on what needs to be changed or strengthened in our community. They are sharing answers to important questions that should be answered by all members of our congregation. Questions such as:

- If you could dream of one change for our Congregation, what would it be?
- What is an issue that you would like to see as a major focus of our leadership? Our congregation?
- What is a struggle that you think our Congregation has that should be explored?
- How can we inspire and facilitate stronger community in our congregation?
- When there is a lack of volunteers, there is usually a reason for it. What do you think the reasons are and what can be done to turn the tide?

The topic of strengthening the sense of community in our church has become a major focus for the council, and one of the models that they are turning to is that of our BEACON Youth Group. Our youth are hugely successful in creating strong community, in creating great connections, in manifesting trust, joy and fun. We hope to learn from our youth the ways in which they make that happen, and perhaps their example and ideas will inspire our greater congregation of all ages.

I encourage all of you to think about these issues, and share your thoughts with one another, with committees, with friends, in fellowship, classes, volunteer groups and other gatherings. In a few months, we will be conducting an every-member canvass. This will be an opportunity for church leaders and canvass team members to sit down with each of our members to have an honest conversation about whether or not the church is feeding your spirit, meeting your needs and nourishing personal growth. It's an opportunity to

check in with each member on a personal level to find out how you are doing and what your thoughts are as they relate to BBUUC.

As we move toward evolving our community and creating a more vibrant and diverse congregation, with sustaining stewardship and a strong ministry of volunteerism, there are some additional important questions to ask ourselves and each other as members of this church:

- How valuable an experience do you want this to be?
- How much risk are you willing to take?
- How participative do you plan to be?
- To what extent are you invested in the well-being of the whole?

I hope that you will give some thought to these questions as well. The coming months will bring new opportunities for us to explore these topics together in congregational and small group meetings and forums -- in addition to the one-on-one canvass process.

Finally, and most importantly, is the idea that as a congregation, we are not defined by deficiencies or what is missing. We are defined by our gifts and what is present. Belonging occurs when we tell others what gift(s) we receive from them. When this occurs, in the presence of others, community is built. Have you acknowledged your own gifts? Have you told others about the importance of their gifts to you?

In love and faith,
Linda Mowers
BBUUC President

Coffee House
Sunday, February 9
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Come one, Come all! Come for the friendly people, the fine music and the great food!

We hope you'll feel free to add a song, a tune or a poem. You don't have to be a pro, just willing to share.

From the Desk of the Treasurer

As we prepare budgets for our next fiscal year and stewardship drive for the next fiscal year, it may be helpful to review where our money goes. A picture is worth a thousand words, so Peg Christenson has prepared this pie chart reflecting expenditures in our current budget. As you can see, our building takes the lion's share, at 58%.



These expenditures include mortgage payments (our single largest cost), utilities, cleaning, grounds care, sound systems, supplies, building repair and maintenance, and numerous other incidental items. Religious education, our second biggest category, accounts for 17% of our money. Having worked with the various committees, I can state with assurance that all involved in the spending of funds, on and for the church take their responsibilities for spending very seriously, and the need for each expenditure is reviewed and discussed in detail. On a positive note, all committees are under budget. Lastly, given that our collections are also under budget, I think we have a very cost-effective operation here at BBUUC.

About our February 2 Speaker:

Rev Harry Parrott

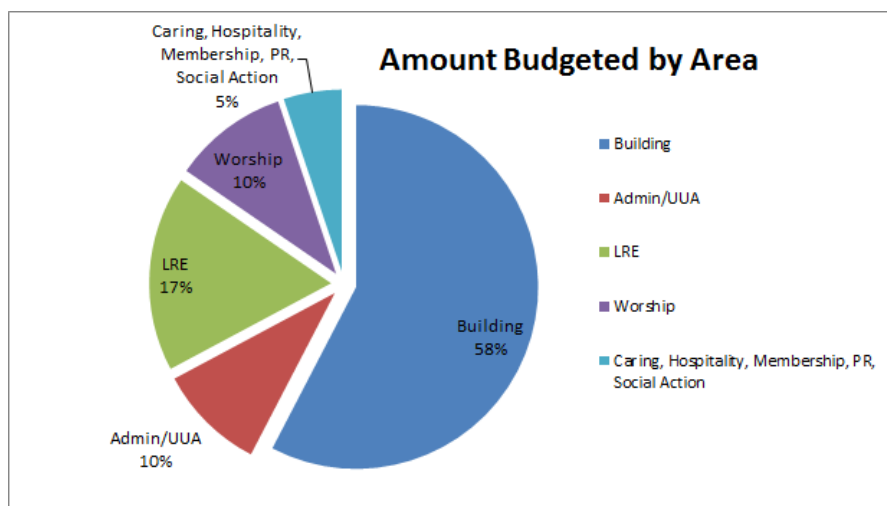
Rev. Harry Parrott is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches USA, head quartered in Valley Forge, PA. Before his retirement Rev. Parrott served congregations in Cleveland, Ohio; Buffalo N.Y.; Edinburgh, Scotland; The Hague, The Netherlands; and St Petersburg, Florida. Rev. Parrott holds degrees from Oberlin College, Yale Divinity School (M. Div), and Colgate Rochester Divinity School (D. Min). He is President of the Clay County Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. Rev. Parrott and his lovely wife, Cathie, currently reside at Penney Retirement Community in Clay County.



Pancake Breakfast!

On February 9th, join us for a Pancake

Breakfast fundraiser to benefit the Teen Enrichment Trip Fund. This year our RE middle and high school teens will be traveling to Rhode Island to join thousands of other Unitarian Universalists at General Assembly. Donate a few dollars, have a warm, steaming stack of hotcakes and then settle back in the sanctuary to listen to The Reverend Jack Ford during our Sunday service. Mmmmm, sounds like an awesome morning!



*Raspberry, strawberry, lemon and lime
What do I care?*

*Blueberry, apple, cherry, pumpkin and
plum*

*Call me for dinner, honey, I'll be there.
Bob Dylan*

*Oh me / Oh my / Love that country pie /
Call me for dinner honey, I'll be there!*

Read More: Top 10 Pie Songs
[http://ultimateclassicrock.com/pie-songs/?trackback=tsmclipOh me Oh my](http://ultimateclassicrock.com/pie-songs/?trackback=tsmclipOh%20me%20Oh%20my)



Continuing Thursday Nights in February “Cakes for the Queen of Heaven II- On the Threshold”

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven II is a woman honoring adult RE curriculum by Rev. Shirley Ranck open to all genders. It is a 6-week series that reclaims the stories of powerful women in ancient Judaism and early Christianity. Please plan to join your facilitators; Karen Christiansen, Chris Jarman, and Rev. Liz Teal for 6 lovely evenings of discussion and self-exploration. A threshold is a point of transition between two places, spaces or points in time. “On the Threshold” explores several threshold stories. Did the matriarchs of Genesis - Sarah, Rebecca and Rachel - live on a threshold? As priestesses of an old Mesopotamian religion, did they struggle to maintain customs of matrilineal descent and powerful female influence at a time when newer patriarchal ways were taking over?

Did Mary Magdalene occupy a similar threshold in the very early days of Christianity? The Gnostic Christians believed she was not only an Apostle, but a leader among the Apostles; yet their writings have been excluded from the New Testament. The woman who came to be known as St. Brigit was the daughter of a pagan chieftain. She too, lived on an historic threshold between the old Celtic religion and the new Christian religion which was taking over the land.

These ancient women lived on thresholds between an earlier social order which accorded women power and respect, and a newer patriarchal social order. Over time, women lost power and respect again and again, until the divine spirit could no longer be personified as female. Today, do we too stand upon a threshold between an earlier social order and a new world view? “On the Threshold” reclaims stories from the past and celebrates the new world-view and theology that is emerging today.

There are two more sessions this month to join in on in “Cakes for the Queen of Heaven II - On the Threshold.”

Session 5: Witchcraft

Violence has been used to persecute and repress women throughout history. The witch craze of the fourteen to sixteenth centuries will be examined, as well as the re-emergence of witchcraft as a religion today.

Session 6: Future Fantasies

What changes would you make to the institutions of today so that all persons, and even the earth itself, receive appropriate respect?

If you would like to attend please contact Chris Jarman at religious_ed@bbuuc.org or our church administrator Beth Christiansen at admin@bbuuc.org

Wanted and Needed:

One or more persons to help organize the sharing of coffee, tea, cookies and a warm smile to our fellowship. Chances to shower some love on Sundays, pot lucks, and the occasional event guaranteed. Some apron strings attached, but the rewards are tasting the sweets ahead of time and all the hot liquid you can drink. Bonuses include the gratitude of a tired Hospitality Chair. Please email Lee Plumb at hospitality@bbuuc.org to volunteer. All offers gratefully accepted.

About our February 23rd speaker: Parvez Ahmed

Parvez Ahmed is currently both Director of The Center for Sustainable Business Practices and Associate Professor of Finance at the Coggin College of Business, University of North Florida (UNF). In 2009 Dr. Ahmed was named a U.S. Fulbright Scholar. Dr. Ahmed writes editorials about Islam and the American Muslim experience which have been published in several leading newspapers in the US and around the world. His articles can be found on forcommongood.com. Dr. Ahmed is a member of Jacksonville's Human Rights Commission and he also serves on the boards of Museum of Science and History and the World Affairs Council of Jacksonville.

Spotlight on the Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee coordinates our community's efforts to make everyone feel welcome when they visit. From the moment folks are greeted at the front door until the last cup is cleaned after Fellowship Hour, the Hospitality Committee supervises and assists each week's volunteers to make sure everyone feels welcome in our services.

When we enjoy a potluck meal or take advantage of the church's kitchen facilities, we see the result of the work done by the Hospitality Committee. They are responsible for maintaining the kitchen equipment and supplies, and they coordinate the efforts of volunteers who help make our community's activities a success.

Volunteers are needed each week to either be Greeters or Fellowship Hosts. Greeters meet each person entering the door with a smile, a program, and a warm welcome. Then, during the service, the Greeters collect the week's offering.

Fellowship Hosts arrive before 10am on Sunday to prepare the refreshments for after the services. The volunteers make sure there is hot water for tea, coffee in the urns, and cookies on a few trays. The Fellowship Hosts are asked to bring a few containers of juice; the cookies and crackers are supplied by the Hospitality Committee.

The Hospitality Committee has posted detailed instructions for each week's volunteers to follow, and they assist people who are not familiar with the church kitchen facilities. Those who have volunteered in the past have expressed not only the easiness of serving but also a great satisfaction in contributing to our Church's purpose of making individuals feel welcome.

Volunteers for Greeter and Fellowship Hosts can sign up on the clipboards near the bulletin board. Volunteering is a great opportunity to meet other people, and to give back a little bit as part of the community. The Hospitality Committee welcomes people interested in helping manage the kitchen and coordinate the volunteers. Please contact the Hospitality Committee chair, Lee Plumb at hospitality@bbuuc.org, if you would like to get involved.

About our February 16 Speaker: David Campbell

David developed an interest in natural history, especially birding, at a very early age. After graduating with a bachelor's in biological science, David spent several years as a naval officer where he flew helicopters from aircraft carriers, instructed helicopter pilots, and finally served as a safety/combat search and rescue/disaster preparedness coordinator for NAS Jacksonville.

Since retiring from the Navy he has devoted almost 20 years to teaching science at Ridgeview Junior High and Ridgeview High School in Orange Park. David is the recipient of Ridgeview's Teacher of the Year in 2000, and part of a teachers who wrote the Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for life sciences in 2007 and 2008.

Since 1974, David has been interested in the conflict between conservative religious groups and the scientific community concerning biological evolution. As a founding member of the Board of Directors of Florida Citizens for Science David has made presentations on science education in the United States and Canada. In August 2008 David was profiled in a Sunday New York Times article describing how he teaches biological evolution in a hostile setting.

Parents / RE Committee Gathering on Sunday, February 9th, Noon - 1:30 pm

Calling on all parents whose children attend Spirit Play and Elementary RE classes! On Sunday, February 9, from noon to 1:30 pm, the RE Committee invites you to attend a gathering after church to get to know other parents as well as an opportunity to meet the teachers who teach your children each Sunday. The RE Committee will provide a light potluck and drinks for your nourishment. During the gathering we will organize various story telling objects into baskets for use in future RE lessons. This promises to be a fun event and your participation in it will only help ensure the continuing success of our RE program. Email reminders will be sent out to each parent to confirm their attendance. We hope to see all parents on February 9. Come one, come all parents!



Behind the Kitchen Door: A Book Discussion

Synopsis

How do restaurant workers live on some of the lowest wages in America? And how do poor working conditions—discriminatory labor practices, exploitation, and unsanitary kitchens—affect the meals that arrive at our restaurant tables? Saru Jayaraman, who launched a national restaurant workers organization after 9/11, sets out to answer these questions by following the lives of ten restaurant workers in cities across the country: New York City, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Houston, Miami, Detroit and New Orleans. Blending personal and investigative journalism, Jayaraman shows us that the quality of the food that arrives at our restaurant tables is not just a product of raw ingredients; it's the product of the hands that chop, grill, sauté, and serve it, as well as the bodies to whom those hands belong.

Behind the Kitchen Door is a groundbreaking exploration of the political, economic, and moral implications of eating out. What's at stake when we choose a restaurant is not only our own health or "foodie" experience, but also the health and well-being of the second-largest private sector workforce—the lives of 10 million people, many immigrants and many people of color, who bring passion, tenacity, and important insight into the American dining experience.

About the Author

Saru Jayaraman is the Co-founder and Co-Director of the Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (ROC-United), Co-Founder and Co-Director of ROC, and the Director of the Food Labor Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley. After 9/11, together with the displaced World Trade Center workers, she co-founded ROC in New York, which has organized restaurant workers to win workplace justice campaigns, conducted research and policy work, partnered with responsible restaurants, and launched cooperatively-owned restaurants. ROC now has 9000 members in 19 cities nationwide.

Wed., April 9th, 7-8:30pm

Personal experiences, food justice and ethical eating

What affects you as a restaurant patron – your health and safety, values as a customer, concern for members of your community, the economy?

Wed., April 16th, 7-8:30pm

Wage issues, public health and change possibilities.

Seven of the eleven lowest-paying jobs in the U.S. are in the restaurant industry. What do you think are the underlying structural issues?

Wed., April 23rd, 7-8:30pm

Discrimination/Gender/Race/Immigration Status and Ethnicity

What does the book tell us about segregation regarding the front of the house and the back of the house? Why might it be difficult for restaurant workers to come together to advocate for improved conditions and to organize for their rights?

What opportunities exist to foster more industry wide "high road" standards?

Wed., April 30th

Visits to local restaurants to chat with workers, management, and to enjoy some food and each other's company

Books may be purchased On Amazon, (Kindle price, \$9.44, hardcover \$17.56 or UUA \$21.95 (10% off if 5-10 copies)

Two copies have been purchased to share at BBUUC and remember the library! Reading ahead will enhance our meetings, but your experiences with restaurants, either eating or working, will also. The book is an easy read, and can be done in sections as we go along.

<http://thewelcometable.net/behind-the-kitchen-door>

Leadership News:

In January, Topher Christiansen stepped down as Finance Chair, but remains as a member of the committee. We appreciate Topher's dedication and service to this important ministry, and understand his concerns that center on a potential conflict of interest (with his wife Beth employed as our Office Administrator) as we address fund allocations and the annual budgetary process. Topher also serves as a Religious Education teacher, and we are thankful for his continued commitment to BBUUC.

The Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Topher's replacement. Stepping into that position is Peg Christenson, former Hospitality Co-Chair. Peg has served on the Finance Committee for 4 years, and brings a wealth of business and finance experience from her 22-year career in management with Kraft Foods. She also worked her way through college as a bookkeeper, so brings a full spectrum of financial skills. We are so pleased to have Peg at the helm of this important committee. Finance is sometimes thought of as one of the most "unglamorous" committees -- but in all actuality it is one of the most important, as the bloodline of the congregation that allows us to provide ministry, to have a home and to operate. Topher, and now Peg in the lead with the members of the Finance team have been "religiously" meeting and working hard to keep our congregation fiscally sound, with an eye on our future. For that I am most grateful!

The Board will soon appoint and approve a replacement for Peg's Hospitality position, working with Hospitality Co-Chair Lee Plumb.

In love and faith,
Linda Mowers

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do. What I can do, I should do.

- Edward Everett Hale

Call For Artists!

Artists in our congregation have graced us with their work since we became established in our new building. The Artist's Corner is a beautiful addition to our Sanctuary.

We are currently in search of artists to display their work in the Artist's Corner for the rest of 2014.

Artists must be members in good standing. The subject matter must be "family friendly" and "in accordance with UU principles." Art is displayed for one calendar month.

If you're interested in displaying your work, please let Beth know. She will email you the full list of standards and requirements. Email: admin@bbuuc.org.



Chasing Ice A Film Documentary Showing at BBUUC February 12th at 7pm Presented by the Welcoming Congregation Ministry

Chasing Ice is a documentary about James Balog's photography for National Geographic capturing images to help tell the story of the Earth's changing climate.

It gives physical evidence supporting the changing climate the Earth is experiencing. It clearly indicates the interconnectedness of all living things. Hopefully it will spur us on to do something now before it is too late.

This film seems to be the perfect follow up and continuation to Rev. Ford's sermon on February 9th: **"The Communion of Life: Climate Change & the Unitarian Universalist Response"**.

Please come to this free film showing. The film lasts 75 minutes. Join the conversation on Wednesday, February 12th at 7pm in our sanctuary!

<http://www.chasingice.com/>

February 2014 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

Feb. 2: Rev. Harry Parrott will present “America’s Religious Experiment”

America’s greatest gift to the world was the audacious decision to break the centuries-old tradition of territorial religion. How did this bold decision come about? Can this experiment endure in face of continual opposition?”

Led by Kris Kines, Accompanied by Eileen Morrison

Feb 9: Rev. Jack Ford will present “The Communion of Life: Climate Change & the Unitarian Universalist Response”

2006 Statement of Conscience UUA: We are part of this world and its destiny is our own. Life on this planet will be gravely affected unless we embrace new practices, ethics, and values to guide our lives on a warming planet.... We as Unitarian Universalists are called to join with others to halt practices that fuel global warming/climate change, to instigate sustainable alternatives, and to mitigate the impending effects of global warming/climate change with just and ethical responses. As a people of faith, we commit to a renewed reverence for life and respect for the interdependent web of all existence.

Led by Ken Christiansen, Accompanied by Gary Smart

Feb 16: David Campbell will present “How Do We Know?”

David will explore different ways of learning and knowing in the domains of science and religion. He will examine how both science and religion ask and answer questions, the types of questions they ask and how they arrive at conclusions. He will discuss some of the causes of the frequent conflicts between religion and science and will conclude with ideas, albeit imperfect ones, for minimizing those conflicts.

Led by Jennifer Stokes, Accompanied by Amber Rodriguez

Feb 23: Dr Parvez Ahmed will present: “Moderation and Balance: An Islamic Perspective.”

Dr. Ahmed will address two qualities, toward which many of us strive, from the viewpoint of a practicing Muslim.

Led by Linda Mowers, Accompanied by Gary Smart

FEBRUARY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 (OWL Lock In - Gainesville)
2 9:45am Coffee Conversations 12:00pm Social Action Cmte	3	4 7pm PR Cmte	5 7pm BEACON 7pm CUUPS 7pm OWL Parents Group	6 6:30pm Tai Chi 7pm Cakes for the Queen of Heaven	7	8
9 New Member Ceremony 8:30am Pancake Breakfast 9:45am Coffee Conversations 12pm Caring Cmte 12pm LRE Parent Gathering 12pm Membership Cmte 3pm Coffee House	10	11 7pm Council	12 11:30am Lunch Bunch 7pm BEACON 7pm Showing of "Chasing Ice"	13 6:30pm Tai Chi 7pm Cakes for the Queen of Heaven	14	15 6:30pm Trinkets to Treasures Goods and Services Auction Fundraiser
16 9:45am Coffee Conversations 12pm LRE Cmte	17 6pm First Coast Free-thought Society	18 7pm Welcoming Congregation Ministry 7pm Worship Cmte	19 7pm BEACON 7pm CUUPS	20 6:30pm Tai Chi	21 (BEACON -Con in Tampa)	22
23 9am UUCF 9:30am FUNdraising Team 9:45am Coffee Conversations 12pm Membership Cmte	24	25 7pm Board 7pm Programs Cmte	26 7pm BBUIYA 7pm BEACON	27 6:30pm Tai Chi 7pm Articulating Your Faith	28	

You're a...What???

Join us beginning Thursday, February 27th, for an engaging Religious Education offering of Articulating Your UU Faith. This course "guides participants through a series of easy and engaging exercises--personal reflection, role-play, discussion... that equip them to communicate their liberal religious ideals." Articulating is a great exercise for both new UUs and those who are very familiar with our faith. In addition to giving participants the tools to talk about our faith to others, it also encourages deep thought about UU theology and religious language.

This 5-week course is open to adults, youth, members and friends who have previously attended a Newcomer Class. It is a closed-session format, so attendees should be able to attend at least 4 out of the 5 sessions. This allows the group to covenant together and creates continuity.

Articulating is our absolute favorite class - we have both learned a lot about ourselves and our faith each time we have gone through it. We hope to see you there!

In Faith,

Sarah and Jeremy Ritzmann,
Facilitators

Teen Enrichment Trip Fundraiser:

BBUUC Annual Mardi Gras Party

Saturday, March 1st

6:30—10:30 pm

at

The Glassman Home:

8251 Ashworth Court

Jacksonville, FL 32256

(Deercreek, near the Avenues Mall)

904-363-6963

We invite all ages to come for
Creole/Cajun Culinary
Delights! Join us for an evening of
celebration and entertainment! A raffle will be held
for a delicious King Cake and other
Mardi Gras-themed gifts!

Tickets will be available at church late in February.

Suggested Donation:

\$15 in advance,

\$20 at the door

Tickets or RSVP's are
appreciated to help us plan!

The Journey

Newsletter of

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church

P.O. Box 844

Orange Park, FL 32067