



The Journey

The Newsletter of the
Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church
A Welcoming Congregation



January 2014

AUCTION 2014 TRINKETS TO TREASURES

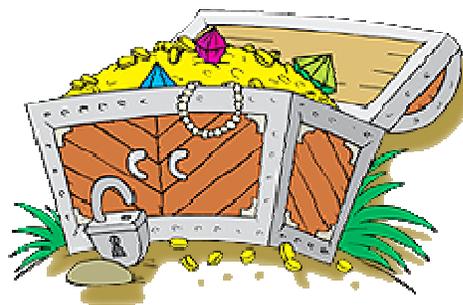
February 15th, 2014

Excitement is building as we move into the New Year and closer to our “Trinkets to Treasures Auction”. But, before we talk about the opportunities and offerings, let’s take a look at the general overview of the evening of February 15.

First, doors will open at BBUUC first for a cocktail party and silent auction bidding opportunities. We also plan to have entertainment during this time. Everyone will have an opportunity to view our trinkets and tidbits and to submit bids. Of course, along the way we hope you will enjoy the entertainment, appetizers and beverages.

Then, the main event of the evening will be open bidding on our treasures, some goods and some services.

Simple enough! But, oh my goodness, to make this successful, this will involve the generosity of many, many people both in terms of donated goods and services and volunteer time. And predictably, many people have questions. For that reason, we’ve included an FAQ section in this issue of “The Journey”. For more information, you may also check our website at auction@bbuuc.org Finally, we’re doing this because we need money. But, along the way, let’s have fun!



Joys and Concerns

Healing thoughts and prayers are with **Bob Wright**, who is recovering from cataract surgery.

Manny Andrade’s father **Manuel Andrade-Pellon** passed away on Friday, December 20th in the loving care of his family and Hospice. Our love and sympathy go out to Manny and Rusty at this time of loss.

Welcome back to **Beth Christiansen**, who has been recovering from pancreatitis and another hospital stay in December on the heels of her surgery in October. It’s been a tough few months for Beth, and we hope she is well on the road to healing and feeling much better. It’s great to have her back at church again!

Thoughts and prayers are also extended to **Nina Chernyshev**, who underwent a procedure on December 18th to amend a heart condition. The procedure

went well, and we hope she is feeling much better and on the mend!

Congratulations to **Jillian Christiansen**, who has been appointed District wide Young Adult Liaison for BEACON.

A living tradition is not bequeathed through some law of inheritance; it must be earned, not without dust and heat, and not without humbling grace.

—James Luther Adams (1901–1994), minister

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven II— On the Threshold

*Coming Thursday nights in
January and February*



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.

The following sessions are included in “Cakes for the Queen of Heaven II - On the Threshold.”

Session 1: The Hebrew Goddess

January 9, 2014

As the great goddesses were defeated and replaced by male gods in the ancient world, women lost significant political and social power. What of value was lost when references to the divine as female were excluded from scriptures and myths?

Session 2: Sarah the Priestess

January 16th, 2014

In the Bible, Abraham must sacrifice his only son to prove obedience to the one true God. Was Abraham’s choice between the matriarchal principle of protecting his child and the patriarchal principle of following an abstract ethic, obedience to God?

Session 3: The Apostle Mary

January 23, 2014

Who were the early Gnostic Christians and what did they believe? Why were their writings and perspectives excluded from the New Testament?

Session 4: The Virgin Mary

January 30, 2014

How have the most revered aspects of Mary, i.e. purity, virginity, passivity, obedience, and motherhood, impacted the lives of women today?

Session 5: Witchcraft

February 6, 2014

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

February 13, 2014

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

*Please sign up for this class by emailing
re_education@bbuuc.org.*

AUCTION FAQ'S

(Please note that some of the details listed below, may be subject to change as we get closer to the auction. We will be sure to keep you updated.)

What is the date of the auction and where will it be held? Saturday, February 15 at the BBUUC building.

What time will the auction open? Close? Right now it looks as though we will open our doors at 6:30 for the silent auction/cocktail party with the open (out loud) auction starting at 8:00. Depending on the number of donations, we believe the open auction should close at about 10:00.

Will there be an admittance charge? Yes, \$15 per person.

What will that charge cover? The cocktail party, including appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages, the entertainment, the silent auction and the open auction. And, of course, a great evening with some of the best people in town!

Who can attend the auction? May we bring friends and relatives and other non-BBUUC folks? Yes, yes, yes. The more, the merrier. (Each person will need a ticket, however.)

Is this a child-appropriate event? Gees, I hope not. Seriously, though there will be child care offered for the babies and tots, only.

What types of items can I expect to see offered at the auction? Both the goods and services come from congregants, local businesses and occasionally friends. An up-to-date partial list includes antique rings, spiced peaches, a weekend at an Amelia Island condo, life coaching package, escorted kayaking day-trip, swim lessons, Mary Kay cosmetic gift pack, two possibilities of sermons with your choice of topic (Jack and Mark), pastel portrait, evening of Gershwin, tap dancing lessons, unique Oriental planters, and the list goes on.

What types of payment will be accepted? Cash, checks, credit and debit cards.

May we still donate items? Yes, yes, yes!

How may I donate an item? Simply fill out the donation form available from the website, <http://www.bbuuc.org/auction> and give a brief description of the good or service you're donating, include a photo and send it on to us with your contact information. See Pam if you have any questions.

Do you still need volunteers? Yes, yes, yes!

What types of help do you need? Tickets sales, help with soliciting businesses for donations, cocktail party prep and serving, managing the silent auction, managing the open auction (everything from audio and set up assistance to collecting bids and getting items to successful bidders), decorations, set up and clean up. We already have people who have agreed to each of these areas, but they need help.

How do I volunteer? See Pam or contact our office administrator at admin@bbuuc.org or 276-3739 to volunteer.

If I volunteer and encounter expenses, will I get reimbursed? Yes, the Finance Committee is establishing a simple procedure.

Finally, do check our website <http://www.bbuuc.org/auction> for more information and to get involved. Or, check with Pam.

Announcement regarding Joys and Concerns during the Service

The Worship Committee would like to announce that the format for Joys and Concerns will be adjusted, beginning in February. Based on your feedback from our survey and town hall meeting, it will include your choice of:

- Congregation members' traditional spoken (or silent) joys and concerns
- Written joys and concerns read by worship team members

As always, we welcome your feedback.

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.

Jan. 5: Rev. Elizabeth Teal presents "Word!"

A look at the universal teachings of being impeccable with our words, and how that sits with the idea of bearing false witness. A look at where Buddhism and the Ten Commandments meet. What is it we are really saying to each other, and what is the serpent's tongue?

Led by Jeremy Ritzmann, Accompanied by Eileen Morrison

Jan. 12: Rev. Jack Ford presents "I Know You Are, But What Am I? Part 3: Wisdom From the World's Religions"

The writer of the Tao Te Ching says: "my words are easy to understand and perform, yet no one knows them or practices them." Religions have a lot to say about life and behavior. Some religions contradict others, and all religions contradict themselves at one point or another. Where is the wisdom in all of this? How do we draw inspiration from the world's religions?

Led by Amber Rodriguez, Accompanied by Gary Smart

Jan. 19: "A Vision of Beloved Community"

Discover and celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s beloved community – a vision for the world shared by our Unitarian Universalist faith.

Coordinated by Sarah Ritzmann, Accompanied by Gary Smart

Jan. 26: Dr. Mark Yount presents "How to change the World- Or Even your Life"

Entrepreneurs can be moved by passions other than money, hence the trend recognizing social entrepreneurs: those who aim to change the world for the greater good through innovative ventures. That inspires another possibility: what would it mean to be the entrepreneur of my own life? Let's look at some UUseful principles in an entrepreneurial spirit.

Led by Linda Crawford, Accompanied by Eileen Morrison

Feb. 2: Rev. Harry Parrott presents "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 TBA, Accompanied by Eileen Morrison

January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
5 9:45a Coffee Conversations 11:45a Social Action Cmte Meeting	6	7 7p PR/ Communications Cmte Meeting	8 11:30a Lunch Bunch 7p BEACON	9 7pm Cakes for the Queen of Heaven	10 Owl Lock In	11 Owl Lock In
12 Owl Lock In 9:45a Coffee Conversations 12pm Newcomer Class 12pm Caring Cmte Meeting	13	14 7p Council Meeting	15 7p BEACON	16 7p Cakes for the Queen of Heaven 7p Religious Texts and Society	17 BEACON Con in Gainesville	18 BEACON Con in Gainesville 6pm Welcome the New Year Party
19 BEACON Con in Gainesville 9:45a Coffee Conversations 12p Newcomer Class 12p LRE Cmte Meeting	20 7pm Freethought Society	21 6pm Worship Cmte Meeting 7pm Finance Cmte Meeting 7p Welcoming Congregation Ministry	22 7p BEACON 7p BBUUYA	23 7p Cakes for the Queen of Heaven	24	25 Clean Up Day
26 9a UUCF 9:45a Coffee Conversations 12p Newcomer Class 12p Membership Cmte Meeting	27	28 7p Board Meeting 7p Program Cmte Meeting	29 7p BEACON	30 7p Cakes for the Queen of Heaven	31 Owl Lock In Here at BBUUC	

From the Desk of the Treasurer

Some of you have been using the option of applying your reimbursable expenses directly to your pledge or to a particular fund such as the Emergency Caring Fund. The complexity of the bookkeeping to achieve the desired end has defeated the current bookkeeper -- me. Therefore, until a better bookkeeper can be found, that option will no longer be available. Instead, you will be given a check written in your name. Should you wish to return the money to the church, the preferred means of doing so is that you deposit the check in your account and write us a new check, with instructions as to the disposition of the funds (eg, general operations, Emergency Caring Fund, your pledge, etc.) If you return our check written to you for the reimbursement, we can most of the time successfully redeposit the check. It's those times when we cannot successfully redeposit the check written to you



that leads to this preferred change in process. There will be a new reimbursement form available soon that reflects this change in procedure. Until the new form is available, the old form will be accepted. If you have any questions,

Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, January 8th at 11:30am

The BBUUC Lunch Bunch meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30am, 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!

Religious Texts and Society

Thursday, January 16th at 7:00pm

We will be discussing two texts, both relatively short. These texts are the ancient Sumerian text, **Gilgamesh**, which is among the oldest known written texts, and the **Tao Te Ching**. Barbara Bujak will lead the discussion of Gilgamesh, and Ken will lead the discussion of the **Tao Te Ching**. All who are interested are invited. Should you have difficulty obtaining a copy of the **Tao Te Ching**, please contact Ken Christiansen.

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