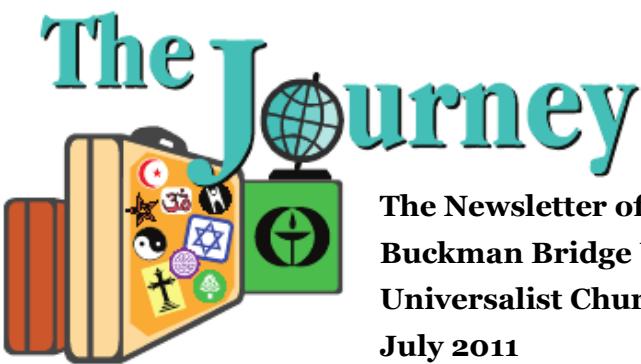


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[KNOW WHAT'S INSIDE]



The Newsletter of the  
**Buckman Bridge Unitarian  
Universalist Church**  
**July 2011**



## **Our New President, GINA NORSTEDT**

Gina was lucky enough to grow up in a household that emphasized respect and thoughtfulness instead of religious dogma. She and her family were members of a Lutheran church, and she learned to take what she needed from her religious teachings and leave what didn't make sense.

Sadly, her view of religion changed as she entered adulthood, and it seemed that her church contin-

ued to grow more religiously conservative. She acknowledges that she may have changed as well.

Once she could no longer abide by the teachings that conflicted with her sense of respect for others, she left her church. This was not a big deal in Southern California where she and her husband, Mark, grew up. Most people cared far more about if you cut them off in traffic, not what church, if any, you were rushing to.

The couple transplanted

themselves to Jacksonville in 2004 to take advantage of a lower cost of living and to be closer to Mark's daughter, Bryana. They found themselves lost in a sea of religious conservatism where everyone wanted to know, "Have you (p.2)((found a church family yet?")—words that were foreign to the Norstedts. Upon walking into



Buckman Bridge  
Unitarian Universalist Church  
is a  
**Welcoming Congregation**

## President, GINA NORSTEDT

the doors of BBUUC, they immediately felt welcome and realized they had found their church family. Since joining Gina has found joy in serving her church community in many ways. She has volunteered with the Membership, Worship and Caring Committees, and served as Membership Committee Chair and two terms as Board Secretary.

In her professional career she has spent over a decade as a cartographer and GIS Specialist. She has worked for Rand McNally Maps and more recently as GIS Technician for the St Johns County Property Appraiser.

In 2009 Gina and Mark were blessed with the birth of a healthy and happy bouncing baby boy, Robert. At that time, she chose to step away from her career for a while to be able to stay home with him. In addition to taking care of Robbie, Gina is at her mother's home most days helping take care of her as well.

In her free time Gina also enjoys gardening, scrapbooking, crochet and other crafts. Most recently she has discovered a love for genealogy.

## New Board Members and Committee Chairs

**The following new Board Members can be contacted with questions and concerns:**

**President:** *Gina Norstedt* (262-9007)

**Vice-President:** *Carl Shrader* (292-3845)

**Secretary:** *Melinda Kluding* (217-3226)

**Treasurer:** *Chris Bak* (287-1671)

**Trustees (2 year term):** *Annabelle Gallois Bernos* (981-9836) [*Valerie Bouffard* (262-3316) and *Liz Teal* (278-5412) will complete the 2nd year of their current 2-year terms and will not require a vote]

**Likewise, Committee Chairs would love to hear from you if you are interested in serving on a committee or providing support to our congregation in any way.**

**Nominating Committee:** *Tara Crisp* (264-1545), *Christine Rothberg* (returning—262-4164), *Marilyn Smart* (543-8299) This committee provides a slate of Board nominees to the congregation.

**Worship Committee:** *Linda Mowers (272-3862) and Linda Crawford (291-2708)*

This committee develops the worship services each week.

**Hospitality Committee:** *Nina Hemmelgarn (213-8811) and Frances Kennicutt (272-2151)*

This committee organizes all social functions and other special events, as well as organizing greeters and fellowship hosts.

**Caring Committee:** *Debbie Jones (284-5693)*

This committee makes contact with all members regarding personal needs.

**Public Relations/Communications Committee:** *Paul Kluding (217-3226)*

This committee is responsible for intra-congregational communications and for raising public awareness of BBUUC.

**Religious Education Committee:** *Marilyn Smart (543-8299)*

This committee facilitates youth and adult educational programs.

**Facilities Committee:** *David Christenson (519-1191)*

This committee is responsible for the maintenance of our church building.

**Finance Committee:** *Don Culpepper (260-2662)*

This committee is responsible for the administration of all church finances.

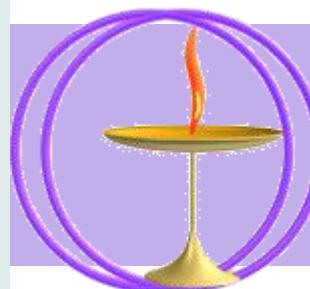
**Membership Committee:**

This committee promotes new membership and conducts newcomer classes and new member recognition ceremonies.

**Social Action Committee:**

This committee facilitates our congregation's participation in projects that promote the well-being of our community and the values of Unitarian Universalism.

***The Board is actively searching for Chairs for the Membership and Social Action Committees. Please contact Gina Norstedt if you are interested.***



## JOYS AND CONCERN

David Christenson's father, Douglas Christenson, died on June 5th. Nancy, his wife of 62 years and 1 day, was at his side. He is survived by 2 children, David and Doris, and 2 grandchildren. He never believed in God, but always treated people with kindness and understanding.

Paul Marquardt's father died in Rochester, New York, in June.

## Parting Shots of This Year's Board

It's been an historic year in the life of BBUUC! We became a Welcoming Congregation, and we completed and moved into our new home on Manresa. Many thanks to a dynamic Board led by Pam Edwards Roine that brought us through a year of dramatic changes with great skill, confidence, and amazing grace...



## New Board Asks for Your Input on Sound Equipment

The Board is considering what changes, if any, should be made to the sound equipment in our new building. As of now, however, we feel that no changes should be made to the system and no new equipment should be purchased or donated until we (the Board) have a better understanding of the many issues involved and how they relate to each other (e.g., acoustics, feedback, speaker placement, wiring, etc.). We have solicited, and continue to solicit, specific proposals in this regard, and we will be consid-

ering all such proposals at the July Board meeting.

If you would like to provide any proposal (or just suggestions or concerns) to the Board regarding the placement or replacement of any sound equipment, please leave a written message in one of the Board member slots in the church office, give a written message directly to any member of the incoming Board, or email your message to [carlshrader@yahoo.com](mailto:carlshrader@yahoo.com). We welcome all suggestions.

## From Your Director of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



I admit it, cleaning is not my forte. Since we moved into our house last summer, there are many projects – like unpacking and cleaning my office – that got moved to the back burner until the school year ended. In the meantime, I just pushed piles of papers and books around and managed to empty the trash can.

But a couple of Saturdays ago, that changed. Ariel helped, and we transformed that junky room into a real office – organized, books on the shelves, pictures on the walls, three giant bags of trash out the door. And in that process I found a very timely photo that had been buried in a box. A photo of the first group of BBUUC teens that Joani and I took to Boston years ago (was it 2005?). Enough time has passed that even the youngest of those teens is now in her twenties. The Maskell kids, Kenny (he's worked with the teens this year) & Callie (she's married now), Eric and Dani (married to each other now), Gary and Marilyn Smart's youngest daughter Kate who's about to be a new resident of Chicago, Jack Ford's stepdaughter Lauren, and Lauren Spade who will soon be marrying the girl of her dreams in our new church.

Of that group, four were in church three Sundays ago. I turned around just as I was getting ready to walk out of the door, and there they were, standing scattered across the foyer. I said, "Look! So many of you are here!" and they said, "Yeah, we're going to get together and go down the Itchnetuckee before Kenny heads off to med school in August!" So when I found the picture, it seemed especially serendipitous. Great memories with those kids!

I can imagine in a few more years looking back at a picture that hasn't been taken yet – a picture of the group of teens that will be gathering at 5:30 AM tomorrow, bags at their feet, ready to see as much of Boston as we can fit into five days. Hopefully, they'll be around years later, here, or maybe in some UU church they've visited in Chicago, Boston, Knoxville. Like that first group, I hope they will find their places as adults in a UU church and bless it with their unique

gifts. They aren't thinking that far ahead, of course, and I join them in celebrating this latest adventure in their faith development as we head to the home of our denominational headquarters and the site of much American history. But I'm going to take along that picture to show them some BBUUC history of our own.

In the meantime, the kids that will be moving from the Elementary Class into the Teen Group in the fall have started the first part of Transitions, our coming of age program. They'll be meeting for eight weeks over the summer as they look back at the "little kids" they used to be and look ahead to life as a middle schooler as they discuss "Identity". Pat and Annabelle will be leading a two-session OWL "meet and chat" as part of the eight weeks for this group.

It took our Elementary Class and our Spirit Play Class just a few short hours to test out our new building with the first EVER sleepover June 11<sup>th</sup>. But before there was even a thought of sleeping, we went blueberry picking, ate supper at a table set for all 18 of us, and went for a late night swim at Joani's house. By then it was simple to jump from wet bathing suits into pajamas and sleeping bags to watch a "peaceful" movie and fall asleep. If you were at church the next morning, you walked in to the lingering smell of homemade blueberry pancakes (they picked over 10 pounds of blueberries!) and a clean church – sleeping bags rolled up, tables cleared and cleaned. Thanks to Debbie Atkins, Melinda Kluding, Ann Marie Shradler, and Joani Maskell who chaperoned.

Doesn't it sound great to be a BBUUC kid?!

See you in church,

Brenda

# Photo Essay from Out-Going President, Pam Edwards Roine: A New Home



Years of stuff  
had to be  
moved.

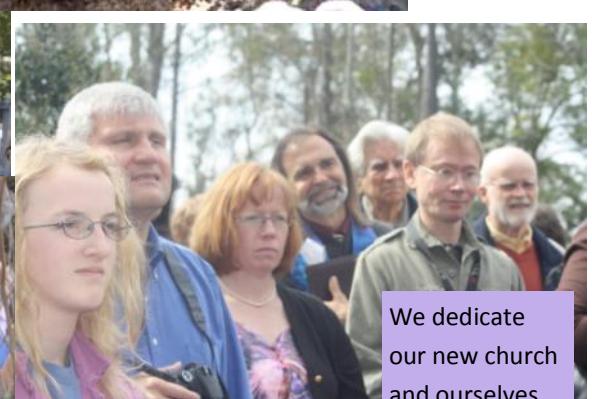
We leave our  
old home  
with fond  
memories.



We planted a  
tree at Manda-  
rin Community  
Center .



Our Charter  
Members



We dedicate  
our new church  
and ourselves.



Our new neighbor shares his doves.





Thank you,  
Steve and  
Bonnie, for  
everything!



We worship, we sing, we play, we eat, we learn, we share, we grow,...



and we love our new home!

## Clean-up and Catch-up Crews for July

### July 3, 2011

Dani Slader, Erik Slader, Gary Smart, Marilyn Smart, Jennifer Stokes, Anna Strickland, Lynn Wadley, Karen Walsh, Lucy Warner [Leader: Dani Slader]

### July 10, 2011

Pam Edwards-Roiné, Ron Ferster, Betty Forbes, Jack Ford, Pedro Roiné, Liz Teal [Leader: Betty Forbes]

### July 17, 2011

Valerie Bouffard, Suzanne Buckley, Joann Carollo, Poelma Case, Robert Lopez, Garrett Miller, Martha Morgan, Pete Morgan, Susan Mosher, Dorothy Noller [Leader: Valerie Bouffard]

### July 24, 2011

Lisa Chernyshev, Paul Chernyshev, David Christensen, Peg Christenson, Beth Christiansen, Karen Christiansen, Ken Christiansen, Topher Christiansen [Leader: David Christensen]

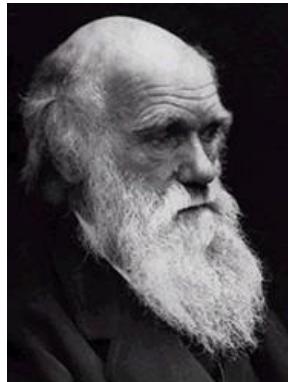
### July 31, 2011

Eric Cravey, Dale Crawford, Linda Crawford, Michael Crisp, Tara Crisp, Don Culpepper, Judy Culpepper [Leader: Eric Cravey]

## Dates in UU History

### 1 July 1858

Charles Darwin presented his paper *The Origin of Species* to the Linnaean Society in London. He was descended from Unitarian families on both sides. In his youth he attended the Unitarian church in Shrewsbury, England. From 1831 to 1836 Darwin sailed as the official naturalist aboard the HMS Beagle. He published *The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection* (1859) with Alfred Russel Wallace, an epoch-making work.



### 5 July 1810

Phineas Taylor Barnum was born in Bethel, Connecticut. He was reared a stern Puritan but became a devoted Universalist. The museum he opened in New York City featured natural history exhibits and curiosities. Barnum is best known for operating "The Greatest Show on Earth," his circus. Barnum called himself the "prince of Humbugs" but donated funds to build a museum of natural history at Tufts University.



### 13 July 1986

Dana McLean Greely, the first president of the Unitarian Universalist Association, died at age 78. He trained for the Unitarian ministry at Harvard Divinity school and became associate minister to Samuel Atkins Eliot at the Arlington Street Church in Boston before succeeding him as minister. Greely was a leader in the International Association for Religious Freedom. He worked hard to bring about the consolidation of the Unitarians and Universalists, serving as the last president of the AUA (1958-1961) and the first president of the Unitarian Universalist Association.



# July Schedule of Services

Services are held Sundays at 10:30 a.m. at  
8447 Manresa Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32073  
Church Phone: (904) 276-3739 • Website: [www.BBUUC.org](http://www.BBUUC.org)

July 3	10:30 a.m.: <b>Rev. Jack Ford</b> will present " <i>Getting Old with Studs Terkel</i> "  We are getting older. All of us. We can look younger, act younger, maybe even feel younger sometimes, but aging is inevitable. <i>How we do it</i> , though, is up to us. George Bernard Shaw wrote, "Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got a hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it onto future generations."  <i>"Pennies from Heaven"</i> Sunday! Bring your change for Meals on Wheels!  Led by <b>Candace Gerding • Gary Smart</b> , Accompanist
July 10	10:30 a.m.: <b>Rev. Diane Davis</b> will present " <i>The Magic of Believing</i> " Led by <b>Annabelle Gallois-Bernos • Marilyn Smart</b> , Accompanist
July 17	10:30 a.m.: <b>Rev. John Higgins</b> will present " <i>The Problem of 'Islamophobia.'</i> "  There is so much misinformation about American Muslims. Too many people are equating Europe's Islamic problems and think that we will have the same problems here. There isn't much chance of that as we are talking about American Muslims who are quite different. Our UU position is to treat Muslims with the same respect as people from other belief systems.  Led by <b>Kris Kines • Gary Smart</b> , Accompanist
July 24	10:30 a.m.: <b>Hana Maris</b> will present " <i>Do One Outrageous Thing...Every Day!</i> " If it's true that "courage is fear that's said its prayers", then let's pray up and get on with the business of being our most magnificent selves. In a culture that encourages us to stay within the proverbial box, I propose we dig deep, find our special gifts, and unleash them in ways as yet undiscovered. Some thoughts on pushing our limits, having more fun, and seeing what happens when our passionate service to our people grows from this place.  Led by <b>Joann Carollo</b> • Accompanist To Be Announced
July 31	10:30 a.m.: <b>Rev. Patricia Ray</b> will present " <i>Forgiveness</i> "  Everyone says we should forgive. But what does that mean? Who are we forgiving? Is everything forgivable? And most importantly, what if <b>we</b> don't want to forgive?  Led by <b>Topher Christiansen</b> • Accompanist To Be Announced



## UUA TRUSTEE TIDBITS

*Joan Lund, July, 2011*

[jlund@uua.org](mailto:jlund@uua.org) or 813-931-9727

Over the past two years since Rev. Peter Morales was elected UUA President and the financial challenges of our economy continue to be pressing, several changes at the Association's staff level were made to focus on three areas: growth of our movement, prophetic social action, and the creation of a new ministry for the new century.

Structural changes include the creation of the position, Vice Presi-

dent for Ministries and Congregational Life, with responsibility for the congregational program areas.

The mission of the Congregational Life staff is to foster the spiritual and institutional health of Unitarian Universalism by serving as leaders, consultants, advocates, and educators in the community of congregations. Rev. Harlan Limpert is in this position. A staff group, Multicultural Growth and Witness, has been created to assume many of the responsibilities handled by the Identity-Based Ministries and Advocacy and Witness staff groups. The office of Electronic Communications has moved to the Information Technology services staff group and the International Resources now reports to President Peter Morales. Kay Montgomery has continued as Executive Vice President, with the responsibility for operating areas of the Association's life.

## Beth Christiansen: New BBUUC Office Administrator



Beth has spent the last 13 years caring for her family and her home. During that time, she has volunteered for various organizations in many capacities, as well as starting her own business making and selling jewelry. Since becoming involved with BBUUC in 2008, Beth has been a lay leader, and an RE teacher. Now, she is excited to begin her role as Office Administrator!

In that role, Beth will be responsible for maintaining the congregation's calendar and website; for assisting Committees and Board members as necessary; for coordinating the use of our building; for printing the Order of Service and helping with the distribution of the monthly newsletter, *The Journey*. She will be the smiling face in the office who can answer questions or direct members, friends and visitors to the person who CAN help them.

**The office hours starting July 1<sup>st</sup> will be Tuesdays from 6pm-9pm, Fridays from 12pm-3pm, and Sundays from 9am-10:30am (with a break for the service and finance committee duties) and then from 12:00pm-1:30pm. If you have any questions, please feel free to stop in and talk to Beth, or ask our President, Gina Norstedt.**

Beth Christiansen is known to many of you as the wife of Topher Christiansen, mother to Jillian and Xavier, and daughter-in-law to Karen and Ken. She's a native of South Florida, who spent most of her school years growing up outside of Washington D.C. She moved to Northwest Ohio when she married Topher. In 2007, Beth and family moved to Jacksonville.

# July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 10:30 a.m.: Rev. Jack Ford	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 10:30 a.m.: Rev. Diane Davis	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10:30 a.m.: Rev. John Higgins	<b>18</b> Worship Committee at 7 pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10:30 a.m.: Hana Maris	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Music Circle at BBUUC 7-9 p.m.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10:30 a.m.: Rev. Pat Ray						

**The Journey** is published monthly by the Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church and is distributed electronically in PDF format, or by mail to members with no computer access. Subscription: \$20 per year for non-members for a paper copy to be mailed monthly. Electronic Journey sent at no cost. Submissions are required by the deadline shown above, and may be sent to BBUUC Journey at P. O. Box 844, Orange Park, FL 32067; [journey@bbuuc.org](mailto:journey@bbuuc.org).



R.E. Kid's Sleepovers: just one more reason why we love having our own building!





## Birthdays

07/06/99 Sydney Crisp  
07/06/92 Robert Frost  
07/07 David Rulison  
07/07 Don DeStefano  
07/09 Don Culpepper  
07/09 Pam Edwards Roiné  
07/09/99 Nicholas Kauffman (Grogan)  
07/14 Ron Ferster  
07/15 Pete Morgan  
07/25 Laura Frazier-Allen  
07/27 Cherie Frost  
07/28 Melinda Kluding  
07/30/03 Fiore Marina

## Anniversaries

07/05 John & Megan Porter  
07/08 Jennifer & Drew Glassman  
07/15 Lisa & Chris Lynch  
07/14 Don and Patricia DeStefano  
07/15 Ellen & Pat Miceli  
07/22 Tara & Michael Crisp  
07/25 Ron & Christine Rothberg  
07/30 Steve & Bonnie McCullar



## Announcements

Michael Bernos and Lynn Wadley invite you to a MUSIC CIRCLE at BBUUC on Wed., July 27, from 7 to 9 p.m. or any time in between. Come play, sing along, or just listen. All levels welcome. Bring your own juice or soft drink if you'd like.

Elizabeth Teal is now an Interfaith Minister. She was ordained and commenced at Riverside Church in New York City on June 11th by One Spirit Interfaith Seminary. Congratulations, Rev.

# The Journey

*Newsletter of*

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church  
P.O. Box 844  
Orange Park, FL 32067