



# The Journey

The Newsletter of the  
Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church



A Welcoming Congregation



September 2015

## Rise Up and Call Her Name

Beginning Saturday, August 29 at 9am, BBUUC will present Rise Up and Call Her Name, a woman-honoring journey into global earth-based Spiritualities. It is a journey of thought, activity, feeling and exchange that uses various forms of art, dialogue and reflection to explore together what we believe and feel.

Sessions will be Saturdays, August 29 and September 5 at 9am, followed Thursdays September 10-October 29 at 6:30pm. We may also add two Saturday morning sessions on November 7 and 14 for quilt making and mask decorating.

See an extended introduction to this class on page 9. You can contact Karen Christiansen at [spiritmovesbbuuc@gmail.com](mailto:spiritmovesbbuuc@gmail.com) for more information.



## Water Sharing Ceremony



As is traditional in many UU churches across the country, BBUUC will hold our annual water sharing service (sometimes called "Water Communion") on Sunday, September 13th.

All are invited to bring a small container of water from (or representing) your travels, special places, moments or events from the summer or the year, and place the waters into the communal bowl, sharing brief words about its significance. The rejoining of many waters symbolizes the rejoining of the congregation after summer.



**BBUUC's Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPS)** is hosting a booth at Jacksonville's Pagan Pride festival on September 13. This is a fun event which draws a lot of people from different earth-centered religious traditions. This is a great opportunity to introduce BBUUC and CUUPS to our neighbors. If you can volunteer for a 2 hour shift at the table on Sunday sometime between 11am and 5pm, please contact [cuups@bbuuc.org](mailto:cuups@bbuuc.org).

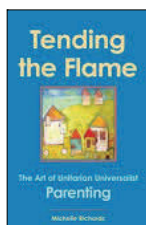
## CUUPS Schedule

The Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPS) will meet at 7pm on Wednesday, September 2 and 16.

CUUPS provides a safe space within the BBUUC community where interested people can learn about and practice paganism. Contact [cuups@bbuuc.org](mailto:cuups@bbuuc.org) for more information.



## Parent Group



Lifespan Religious Education facilitates a semi-weekly parenting group on Sundays at 11:45; check the church calendar for dates. September meetings will be the 6th and 20th. We bring finger foods to share during our discussion time, as able. Childcare is provided and parents should provide a bag lunch for their children. Discussions are varied. Currently we are discussing ideas from "Tending the Flame: The Art of Unitarian Universalist Parenting." Reading the book is optional. Join us as we share ideas and discuss parenting as a spiritual practice. No sign-up required. Contact [religious\\_ed@bbuuc.org](mailto:religious_ed@bbuuc.org) for more information.

## Christian Fellowship

On Sunday, September 27 at 9:00am, BBUUC's Christian Fellowship will discuss "Compassion: The Heart of Jesus' Ministry." Please contact Rev. Pat Ray if you are interested in participating.



## Religious Texts and Society

On Thursday, September 3 at 7pm, the Religious Texts and Society group will discuss *Islam: A Short History*, by Karen Armstrong.

*"No religion in the modern world is as feared and misunderstood as Islam. It haunts the popular imagination as an extreme faith that promotes terrorism, authoritarian government, female oppression, and civil war. Karen Armstrong's short history demonstrates that the world's fastest-growing faith is a much more complex phenomenon than its modern fundamentalist strain might suggest.."*

All are welcome. If you would like more information, please contact Dale Crawford or Scott Cromar.

## Prayer Shawl Affinity Group

The Prayer Shawl affinity group creates shawls and lap blankets to comfort community members in need. The group meets the first Monday of each month, 10am-noon, at the Mandarin Panera (11111 San Jose Blvd). The next meeting will be September 7.



If you would like to attend, please contact Lisa Cromar at prayershawls@bbuuc.org no later than the day before the meeting. If there are no RSVPs, the meeting will be cancelled.

## Newcomers Class



Our fall Newcomers classes will be held in September. The three-session series on Getting to Know U, Getting to Know UU, and Getting to Know BBUUC are scheduled from noon - 2pm after Sunday worship services on 9/13, 9/20, and 9/27. The New Member

Ceremony will be held during worship on Sunday October 11. You can sign up at the Welcome Table, or contact membership@bbuuc.org for more information.

## Church Anniversary Dinner and Dance

Our church anniversary dinner dance will be held on September 26, and features a professionally catered dinner. Tickets are on sale until September 13 for \$25, which covers the costs for the activity. If you would like to help with decorating or preparing for this activity, or for more information, please contact hospitality@bbuuc.org.



## Afternoon Tea



The Afternoon Tea group's purpose is simply enjoyment and fellowship. We chat, munch delicious goodies, and, of course, sip our afternoon tea. Members and friends of BBUUC are very welcome.

Please contact Linda Crawford to RSVP or for more information.

## Reiki

The next Reiki session will be at noon on September 27 at BBUUC. Reiki is a spiritual practice which seeks to balance energy and promote self-healing.



There is no need to undress. Just kick back and relax. Watch for the sign-up sheets at the rear of the sanctuary, and contact Rev. Pat Ray if you have any questions.

## Coffee Conversations



Each Sunday morning at 9:30, the Coffee Conversations group gathers for a friendly discussion of the issues of the day. All are welcome.

## Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, September 9 at 11:30am at Pengree's Restaurant in Orange Park (556 Kingsley Ave). This group meets the second Wednesday of each month for food and fellowship. All are welcome! Please contact Frances Kennicutt or admin@bbuuc.org if you plan to join us, so that we can reserve a table at the restaurant.



## River City Pride



The Welcoming Ministry will be participating again in the River City Pride festival in Jacksonville. Plans include marchers and cheering sections for the October 3 parade as well as a festive booth for the October 4 festival.

The Welcoming Ministry is recruiting volunteers to assist with several aspects of BBUUC's plans for the festival. For more information, please contact lgbtq\_welcoming@bbuuc.org.

## Board Games with BBUUYA



On Sunday, September 27 from 12 - 2, join the church's young adults group (BBUUYA - those 18-35 and their partners) for an afternoon of board games and getting to know one another! There will be pizza and a chance to meet new faces. Child care will be provided.

## Orange Park Fall Festival



BBUUC will round out a busy month of outreach activities on October 17 and 18, when we will participate in the Orange Park Fall Festival. We need volunteers to help us staff the booth on both days. Please contact pr\_communications@bbuuc.org if you can volunteer some time on either day.

## Square Dance and Chili Cookoff



Friday evening, October 16, we are having a Square Dance and Chili Cook-off. Chili at 6:30; Square Dancing 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Adults \$8.00, Children under 12 \$4.00. Singles, couples, families, friends - young and old! Tickets on sale soon. Contact membership@bbuuc.org for more information.

Childcare is available for many church activities, but must be requested in advance when you sign up for an activity. Please contact the activity sponsor listed in the announcement for more information.

### Exonerated Death Row Inmate Speaks at UUFSA



On Monday, September 7 at 7:00 p.m., hear from Juan Melendez, the twentieth Death Row inmate to be exonerated for false conviction in Florida, speaking at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St Augustine (UUFSA).

Mr. Melendez will be in our area because his story is the subject of a film, soon to be released

by a Spanish filmmaker, part of which is being filmed in Starke. His presence here in St. Augustine is sponsored by Amnesty, FADP, Pax Christi, and Compassionate Action St. Augustine, and the ACLU of Jacksonville.

Juan Melendez is reported to be a very moving speaker. Please join us to kick off a year of activities focusing on prison reform and abolition of the death penalty. After the program there will be a wine and cheese reception and a number of reform actions, including petitioning.

### Movies at UUFSA

- Friday, September 11, 6:30 p.m.: To be announced.
- Friday, September 25, 6:30 p.m.: *Places in the Heart*



*It is the 1930s in Waxahachie, Texas. Against this Depression-torn background, unforgettable characters meet and collide. Like Mr. Will (John Malkovich), the blind boarder who sees all too clearly the bigotry of his time, Moze (Danny Glover), a black man who knows a lot, including his own place in a white Southern town, and Wayne (Ed Harris), Margaret (Lindsay Crouse) and Viola (Amy Madigan), decent people caught up in an adulterous triangle which threatens two marriages. Together they leave an indelible impression of faith, courage, love and, most of all, endurance.*

(Suggested donation \$5.)

### Interfaith Commemoration of St. Augustine's 450th Birthday

Join members of The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St Augustine (UUFSA) on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 6:30 pm at First United Methodist Church (118 King St., St. Augustine, FL). All are invited to attend this special commemoration of our city's 450th founding as we seek to work towards being one community. They are requesting everyone to bring finger food to share.



### New Course in Environmental Justice at UUFSA

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St Augustine (UUFSA) is tentatively planning a new course on Environmental Justice, starting in October. This course combines materials on two of our most important UU principles, focusing simultaneously on social justice and care of the environment. It will be led by a team of Nana Royer, Rev. Tom Schmidt, and Charlie West.

The course will consist of five or six 2-hour sessions, tentatively starting on Wednesday, October 14, in the late afternoon, to accommodate both working folks and also those unable to drive in the evenings. Hopefully, we can firm up the schedule at the September 27 meeting (see above). All course materials will be provided to those signing up. This course is open to interested folks in our community outside our congregation.

For more information on this course, visit: <http://uuministryforearth.org/EJ-Curriculum>



### Darts Nights at UUFSA



Darts night are now being held at the Pub UU (Basement at the UU Fellowship of St Augustine) 7:00 pm the first, third, and fifth Friday. If you are interested, get in touch with Palmer Short ([palshort@gmail.com](mailto:palshort@gmail.com)) or Dave Perkins ([daveagain@gmail.com](mailto:daveagain@gmail.com)).

### Social Action

The ICARE BBUUC Justice Ministry will hold seven House Meetings between September 16 and October 12. These meetings will be led by the four BBUUC ICARE Team Leaders: Candace Gerding, Linda Mowers, Karen and Ken Christiansen. The purpose is to introduce as many congregation members as possible to the work of ICARE\*. Watch your mailbox for an invitation to one of the House Meetings.



\* ICARE is the Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation and Empowerment, a coalition of 40 religious congregations in Jacksonville.

**Ken Christiansen**  
Social Action Chair

*(BBUUC's membership in ICARE is funded in part by the Congregation-Based Community Organizing Matching Grants Program of the Fund for Unitarian Universalist Social Responsibility. Please contact [social\\_action@bbuuc.org](mailto:social_action@bbuuc.org) if you would like to become involved.)*

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church, Pete Seeger Room Meetings, Off Site Events, **Sep 2015 (Eastern Time)**  
 Forrest Church Room Meetings, Olympia Brown Room Meetings, Office Meetings, Sanctuary Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		7pm - PR Committee	7pm - Beacon @ 7pm - CUUPS	6:30pm - Tai Chi 7pm - Religious		9am - Rise Up and
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 11:45am - Tending 12pm - Social Action	10am - Prayer Shawl	7pm - Council	11:30am - Lunch 7pm - Beacon @	6:30pm - Rise Up 6:30pm - Tai Chi	7pm - Welcome	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 11:45am - Water 12pm - Caring 12pm - Newcomer	7pm - Worship Team	7pm - CUUPS 7pm - Finance	7pm - Beacon @	6:30pm - Rise Up 6:30pm - Tai Chi	Beacon CON	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Beacon CON 6am - Beacon 9:30am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 11:45am - Tending 12pm - Newcomer	6:30pm - Freethoug	7pm - Board 7pm - Program	7pm - Beacon @ 7pm - CUUPS	6:30pm - Rise Up 6:30pm - Tai Chi		6pm - Anniversary
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
9am - UUUCF 9:30am - Coffee 10:30am - Sunday 12pm - BBUYA 12pm - Newcomer 12pm - Reiki		7pm - Beacon @				

# COLUMNS



## President's Pen

As this article goes to press, we have not had our second Board meeting of our new Fiscal Year (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016). The notes from that meeting, August 25, will be available on line very soon after the meeting.

I want to take a few minutes to talk about something very important at BBUUC – our Volunteers. Our church could literally not function without them. Becoming a Volunteer here opens doors for us to get to know one another better, make new friendships, and understand how we all are working together for the better of our church, our community, and our values.

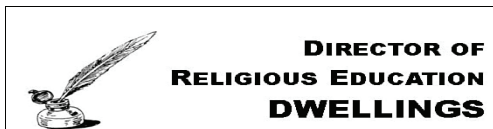
The next time you come to worship with us at BBUUC, I hope you will take the time to notice how many activities and functions are done by the people sitting next to you in the service. They are working in the kitchen, greeting you, serving on committees that pay the bills, help others, encourage worship, unlock the doors, run the sound system, play music, do administrative work, website and IT functions, social action, childcare, Religious Education, and more. Without these Volunteers, nothing would be done – we would not exist!

Thank them for their service. Consider joining our Volunteers by serving on a committee, or becoming a greeter, serving coffee, taking the collection, or ask one of us about other opportunities.

Thank you to our Volunteers!

They are people who care enough to give of their time and talents to provide us with a place to join together and celebrate our seven principals freely each Sunday.

**Eileen Morrison**  
President, BBUUC



Howdy Folks,  
It's been an absolutely wonderful summer in Religious Education, but Water Sharing will mark the beginning of this year's adventure. There are changes afoot in our class structure, and we have several new teachers this year, so make sure and stick around after Water Sharing for our extended coffee hour of meet the teacher. Below is the break down of classes / ages:

- Spirit Play:** 3 and a half years old through Kindergarten
- Spirit Explorers:** 1st grade- 3 grade
- Spirit Seekers :**4th grade-6th grade
- Teens:** 7th-11th grade
- 12th Grade:** In service with reflection after.

Thank you for joining us on our journey through Religious Education!

**Dani Slader, Director of Religious Education**

## Treasurer's Corner



Our finances as of the end of July, the first month of our new fiscal year, show that our fiscal year has begun on a positive note. In the discussion below, most amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. A complete set of the financial reports can be found at The Finance Reports section on the website (must have member login to view reports).

We have collected a net amount of \$19,000 in July, as compared with \$21,000 during the previous July. However, the previous July included a large donation of \$6,000, and our current month had no such large donation. Adjusting for this large donation indicates that our comparable giving was actually up \$5,000. We have already had to write off \$2,000 in pledges for this fiscal year due to members withdrawing their membership. Notable changes in expenses are our reduced quarterly mortgage interest expense, down \$400, and quarterly mortgage principal expenditures, down \$3,000. These decreases in mortgage related payments are the results of paying off one mortgage and having another mortgage forgiven. While payroll expenses are up relative to last July, the increase is covered by funds released from restrictions.

Our current assets are up \$20,000 as compared with July of last year. We have \$93,000 in reserves, \$104,000 in temporarily restricted assets, and \$11,000 in permanently restricted assets.

We have \$33,000 in unrestricted cash at the end of July. Our cash situation is very good. We have \$93,000 in Board-designated reserved funds. In temporarily restricted funds, we have \$104,000, mostly in our Mortgage Loan Contingency Fund and Ministerial Support Fund. At the end of July, we have nearly \$5,000 in the Teen Travel Scholarship Fund, over \$3,000 in the Emergency Caring Fund, and nearly \$2,000 in the Memorial Garden Fund. We have nearly \$11,000 in our Endowment funds, which are permanently restricted.

**Dale Crawford**  
Treasurer

### Operating Income & Expenses

July 1, 2015 - July 31, 2015

	Total \$
<b>Income - unrestricted</b>	
Contributions	\$19,797
Other Income	\$379
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$20,176</b>
<b>Released from Restricted Funds</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Operating Expenses	\$12,583
Mortgage Principal	\$3,187
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$15,770</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>\$6,906</b>

## Black Lives Matter. Point Blank. Period.



This just in. "Black Lives Matter" is not going to change to "All Lives Matter." Sorry, Bernie and Hillary, you will continue to be shouted down whenever you try to make this change during your campaign stops. Now, before jumping to conclusions and assuming that I am

advocating political intolerance and anarchy, it is important to know the method to the madness of why members of the Black Lives Matter movement expend a lot of (vocal) energy in targeting potential Democratic nominees.

The Black Lives Matter movement is actually engaging in a very effective method called "power mapping". When a group engages in power mapping, they are targeting their message to those identified as being the closest to their stance. The goal is to hold those closest to you accountable (Hmm... Kind of how we UU's do every Sunday. ... Does preaching to the choir ring a bell?). Over time, the group will move out to other people that identify less and less with the message of the group. As a matter of fact, Jeb Bush just got a taste of this power mapping expansion while delivering a speech in Las Vegas, on August 13, 2015. It wasn't pretty.

When Bernie Sanders, Hilary Clinton, or even Jane and John Q. Public resound that "All Lives Matter", I temporarily become a bit disheartened. No one that I have communicated with in the Black Lives Matter movement ever indicated that no one else mattered. It is quite the opposite. When people attempt to change the message of the movement, I can't help but feel that they are trying to not acknowledge (intentionally or inadvertently) that my experience as a black woman in America is for lack of a better word, complicated. I am blessed to be a middle-class, educated black woman, but my economic status and masters' degree does not shield me from being called a racial slur or ghetto, if someone doesn't approve of my blackness. It happens more than you will ever know.

Several weeks ago, my son, Quentin, and I were riding in the car. We listen to NPR every day and often have mini discussions related to the news stories that are featured. During a report about the wave of destruction to flags supporting Black Lives Matter, a contributor suggested that, "no one matters more than anyone else and we need to stop being so divisive". Quentin responded, "That's silly. It's not black lives matter only; it's black matter, too. The too is silent." I found myself feeling a rush of adrenaline. By George he's got it. It's not that other lives don't matter. It's that everyone matters, but somewhere along the way someone decided that my skin color made me matter just a little less. Now, I would like to matter, too.

My husband, Shannon, and I disagree about the role of the Black Lives Matter movement. He is in the All Lives Matter camp and believes that by highlighting a particular group that we cause a disturbance in people's ability to see others as well... people. I on the other hand believe that we must call out injustice that any particular group experiences because asking a person to accept everything about everyone without the need to differentiate is highly desired, but ultimately not realistic. Neither one of us is wrong. We want justice and individual

rights for all. Even he acknowledges that what he desires is unrealistic.

What do we do in the meantime while we work on this desire becoming a reality? I am naturally a realist so a movement is required. That movement is called Black Lives Matter (Too). Point blank. Period.

**Vanessa Sampson Birchell**

*Amateur Rebel Rouser and Activist*

*BBUUC LRE Chair and General Assembly Delegate*

### Why Black Lives Matter: A Brief History

The Black Lives Matter movement is most known for vocal protests against racial discrimination in community policing and the justice system. However, it is not only that.

It is a movement led by people of color, calling for an end of race-based oppression in its many forms and contexts. White allies of the movement are asked to take on supporting roles in order for people of color, who have lived experiences of these forms of oppression, the opportunity to be heard and given a chance to express their needs to a wider community.

The phrase "Black Lives Matter" was created following the death of Trayvon Martin and the acquittal of his killer in 2013. It gained national attention after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014. Black Lives Matter has also been at the forefront of drawing attention to other incidents, such as the death of Eric Garner in New York in 2014 and the killing of Tamir Rice, a twelve year old who brandished a toy gun and was shot by police in 2014.

While the Black Lives Matter movement has gained the most attention for protests against police brutality and concerns about the justice system, it is also active in a number of other issues that disproportionately affect communities of color.

#### Why not say "all lives matter?"

Black Lives Matter was the rallying call of black people. To change this to say "All Lives Matter" co-opts the powerful language of the movement, while simultaneously diminishing the voices of color that have gone unheard for so long. It changes the focus in such a way that the lived experiences of people of color are negated, downplayed and readily ignored. The Black Lives Matter movement has specifically asked allies to not change this language.

Our First Principle says that we affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person. As Kenny Wiley, a Director of Religious Education of color from Colorado, said in an address to the 2015 UUA General Assembly, "This is an unrealized promise."

The reality lived by people of color in our country is that their lives matter LESS. Decades after the end of the civil rights movement, inequality abounds. There are significant disparities in community policing and in the justice system. Discriminatory housing practices are the norm, and until the recent Supreme Court ruling, considered legal. There is unequal access to quality education due to disparate school funding and overcrowding – schools are more segregated today than immediately following desegregation.

*(continued on page 7)*

On top of all that, there are numerous overt and covert racist behaviors still displayed by individuals. When these issues are disproportionately affecting communities of color, it is hard to see people of color being included in "All Lives" because that is not the lived experience.

### **The Unitarian Universalist fit**

The 2015 Unitarian Universalist General Assembly adopted an Action of Immediate Witness to stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement. While AIW's are only binding to the Assembly that adopted them, it bears note.

If, as Unitarian Universalists, we believe in our first principle of each person's inherent worth and dignity...

If, as Unitarian Universalists, we believe in our second principle, of justice, equality, and compassion in human relation....

Then we must stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter movement. We also must be willing to listen to those firsthand accounts of oppression. We must not co-opt language in order to make white people a bit more comfortable. Discomfort with the language is nothing compared to the injustices that are finally being discussed.

### **Lewis and Tasha Morris**

*Lewis is a Southern Region Right Relations Specialist*

### **Letter from the Editor: Racism and White Privilege**



Am I racist? Yes.

For people who know me, that may come as something of a shocking revelation. And before you flip out too much, let me assure you that I struggle against racism.

How did I become racist? Simply by growing up in a racist society, where white people, by virtue of the color of our skin, have some very important advantages.

Many of these advantages are subtle. Some are overt. If I speak with a police officer, my skin color and accent virtually guarantee that I will be heard with a certain level of respect. At the very least, the police officer is unlikely to assess me as a threat.

Black people, even black children, do not have that same advantage. Several word association studies have shown that all of us (even black people, ironically enough) have unconscious biases that associate negative words with words associated with people of color, especially with black people.

When I started reading about these studies a few years ago, I found them alarming. I have always consciously striven to treat people based on the content of their character rather than the color of their skin. (I love the way Martin Luther King expressed that goal.)

So what do we do with our racism? Do we give in to the inevitable and join our neighbors who fly Confederate battle flags and spew racist bile? Of course not. If that is who you were, you would not be reading this newsletter.

In the most recent General Assembly Ware Lecture, Cornell West called us to honesty, and to courage. "We begin with a critical self-inventory," West said. "If there's white supremacy in me, then my hunch is that you've got some work to do."

Critical self-examination is never easy. Honest conversations about racial justice will also not be easy. But we need to engage in them.

Because you are racist too.

### **Scott Cromar**

*BBUUC PR/Communications co-chair*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Letter from the Editor: Introduce Yourself!**

One of the most popular features in the Journey newsletter is the section where we introduce a member of the congregation. We're working on introducing everyone, which is a constantly moving target.

If we have not run a profile of you in the Journey in the last three years, we would love to work with you to produce an article. Some people prefer to write their own 400-word introduction. Other people contact publishing@bbuuc.org and let us interview you for the column. We're happy to work with you, however you would like to participate.

(If you send us a photo, we'll include that with the article.)

## *Joys and Concerns*

### **Joys:**

A warm welcome back to Ava Lopez from her recent trip to Rawanda. It is great to have her home.

### **Concerns:**

Wishing a speedy recovery to Scott Cromar from his recent surgery.

### **Happy Anniversary!**

Peg & David Christenson (Sep 7)  
David Dean & Liz Teal (Sep 15)  
Colleen & Scott Goodwin (Sep 16)  
Debbie Atkins & Rich Toupin (Sep 28)



## Happy Birthday!



Michael Crisp (Sep 1)	Joe Cologero (Sep 18)
Portia Halsey (Sep 2)	Rich Toupin (Sep 18)
Jenny Kobin (Sep 2)	Ella Rothberg (Sep 19)
Beth Christiansen (Sep 3)	David Siebert (Sep 19)
Ann Marie Shrader (Sep 4)	Bob Wright (Sep 19)
Brantley Morrison (Sep 5)	Manny Andrade (Sep 20)
Pedro Roine (Sep 7)	Lisa Lynch (Sep 21)
Shanna Gardner (Sep 7)	Shelley Anderson (Sep 22)
Malcolm Williams (Sep 9)	David Johnson (Sep 23)
Tina Nomura (Sep 10)	Linda Spade (Sep 26)
Carol-Anne Salladin (Sep 11)	Meghan Kaminsky (Sep 26)
Carrie Denise Dieppa (Sep 11)	Myrna Kissinger (Sep 27)
David Christenson (Sep 14)	Tye Rothberg (Sep 27)
Eileen Morrison (Sep 17)	Martha Morgan (Sep 30)
Chris Jarman (Sep 18)	

## BBUUC Membership Anniversaries

Myrna Kissinger (1998)  
 Gary and Marilyn Smart (2001)  
 Jennifer Glassman (2004)  
 Chris and Lisa Lynch (2007)  
 Ann Marie and Carl Shrader (2007)  
 Jessica Allen (2012)  
 Wendy Hutchins Deck (2012)  
 David Kattreh (2012)  
 Bernie Powers (2012)  
 Meg O'Brien (2013)  
 Carrie Denise Dieppa (2014)



Please help us keep our records up to date. If you see birthday, anniversary, or membership anniversary information that needs to be corrected or added to our list, send it to [membership@bbuuc.org](mailto:membership@bbuuc.org).

## BBUUC NEWS

### Memorial Garden Fund Update

We have had \$3965 contributed towards the memorial garden fund, donated in memory of Robert Lopez. Total now for the garden fund is \$6,000.



### General Assembly 2017: New Orleans

Religious Education is in the early planning stages of a trip to New Orleans for the 2017 General Assembly. We are hoping that by planning well in advance, we can get people to start putting a little money each month in a fund to pay for travel expenses so that we can take as large a contingent as possible from BBUUC. We would plan on renting a bus for transportation, as well as fundraisers to provide scholarships for people who cannot afford the entire travel costs on their own.

Please contact [religious\\_ed@bbuuc.org](mailto:religious_ed@bbuuc.org) for more information or to participate in the planning for this trip.

### Amazon Affiliates Fundraiser

As you purchase presents and back-to-school supplies, remember that purchases made through this link pay a referral fee to BBUUC:

<http://amzn.to/1LcEwFZ>

You don't have to use a special login or enter a special code. All you need to do is enter Amazon using the above link (which is also posted on the "Fundraising" section of the church web site). This is probably the easiest fundraiser BBUUC will do over the course of the year.

BBUUC gets a 6% referral fee on most items, and more for some. (This fee is much larger than is available through other programs, such as Amazon's Smile program.)



### Ministerial Support Fund

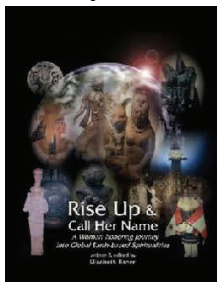
The amount collected for the Ministerial Support Fund since mid-2014 has topped \$50,000. (Donations to the Ministerial Support Fund are doubled thanks to a matching grant by an anonymous donor.)

If you are current on your pledge, you can contribute to the Ministerial Support Fund by specifying "MSF" on the memo field of your check or on a donation envelope.





## Rise Up and Call Her Name



Beginning Saturday, August 29 at 9am, BBUUC will present Rise Up and Call Her Name, a woman-honoring journey into global earth-based Spiritualities. It is a journey of thought, activity, feeling and exchange that uses various forms of art, dialogue and reflection to explore together what we believe and feel.

### Rise Up and Call Her Name:

- Brings awareness of the processes of nature into our contemporary spiritual life
- Nurtures self-respect in women and for women in men by making known the range of emotions and actions attributed to female deities and the respect accorded them in many spiritual traditions.
- Expands appreciation and respect given Earth-based spiritual traditions as well as the Earth-honoring aspects of several well-known religious belief systems.
- Opens doors to cross-cultural interaction by fostering a respect for the richness of diversity.

### What's in it for men?

"Reconnecting with the Goddess is important not only for women and their spiritual journey. Men, especially in our western cultures, have been taught to fear and reject the "feminine" qualities of their own nature such as the ability to feel deeply, compassion and the instinct to nurture. The great social challenges of our times demand that all of us, women and men, become more sensitive to the suffering of others. The honoring of the Goddess has also always been associated with a deep connectedness to the Earth and nature. Our urgent need to learn to live in balance with the Earth ultimately depends not only on an intellectual understanding of ecology, but also on an experience of the natural world as sacred." - Robert Gass

### When Will It Be?

Rise Up and Call Her Name is coming in the fall (Sat., Aug 29 and Sat., Sep 5, both dates 9 am - 11:30 am), followed by Thursday evenings beginning Sep 10 through Oct 29, 6:30 pm - 9 pm. If the group wants, we will tentatively add two Sat. mornings for quilt making and mask decorating on Nov 7 and 14.

### What Will It Cost?

If you can use a 4 MB PDF file to print your own Sourcebook or use it on a tablet or computer, there will be no additional charge for the book. If you need a printed Sourcebook, it will cost \$19.05. (New books are no longer being published.)

### How Do I Sign Up?

Reserve a place for yourself by sending your e-mail and phone number to Karen Christiansen at [spiritmovesbbuuc@gmail.com](mailto:spiritmovesbbuuc@gmail.com) for more information.

## What Should I Bring?

You will need to bring your fee/s to the first meeting as well as your Sourcebook in whatever form you will be using it. (You can use BBUUC's wifi network when you come. If you've ordered a printed copy in advance we'll try to have it there for you.)

On our second session we will need to bring two or three objects that represent your cultural heritage. They should be wrapped in a cloth which has special meaning for you and tied together with something that also has special meaning for you. Be sure the cloth is large enough to hold additional small objects. These objects, the cloth, and the tie will be the beginning of your sacred bundle which you will be adding to during your journey. Some of us like to think ahead so now you have time to begin your collection of special meaning.

## DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

### Black Lives Matter



Unitarian Universalists have a long history of supporting social justice. In keeping with that history, the 2015 UUA General Assembly passed an Action of Immediate Witness resolution in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

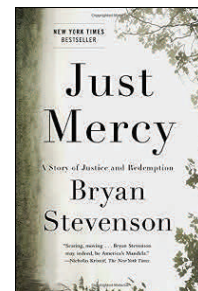
In part, that statement read, "the 2015 General Assembly recognizes that the fight for civil rights and equality is as real today as it was decades ago and urges member congregations to take initiative in collaboration with local and national organizations fighting for racial justice against the harsh racist practices to which many black people are exposed."

BBUUC's Board recently signaled that Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church stands with the UUA in its support of the struggle for racial justice. We will be posting a "Black Lives Matter" sign and flag near the church's entryway in order to signal our support for that movement's struggle for racial justice, and to provoke meaningful conversation about the ways in which we can move that struggle forward.

UU World Magazine recently posted an article suggesting some ways that each of us can support the Black Lives Matter movement.

### Just Mercy: UUA Common Read

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption is the UUA's 2015-16 Common Read. Author Bryan Stevenson advocates for those trapped by the U.S. criminal justice system - poor people, people of color, children, and women. The book speaks to justice, mercy, and compassion, timeless and important concerns of people of faith.



## St. Augustine "Doctrine of Discovery" Protest



Rev. Dee Graham, from the Manatee UU Fellowship [MUUF], invites us to join her congregation in September as Saint Augustine celebrates its founding 450 years ago. They will be joining members of the country's Native American communities in the celebration. Below is

what she wrote on the event:

"Organized by American Indians, this event "will commemorate the 450th year, to the day, that the Invasion and Occupation of Timucua Territory, and Turtle Island. It began with a Gathering of ALL NATIONS in Saint Augustine, Florida, the longest continually occupied European Outpost in the United States of America, to meet with the invited King and Queen of Spain. This will be the largest event in nearly two years since the dedication ceremony of the International Native American Memorial, April 3, 2013," wrote activist Casey Leydon of Saint Augustine.

If you feel at all inclined to join this act of witness and support for our country's original people, then do come to the Castillo de San Marcos to join us."

Visit these links for more information:

### Doctrine of Discovery:

<http://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod>

### Event Information:

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/426411174104158/>

## UUA President Applauds BSA Policy Change

The Rev. Peter Morales, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), issued the following statement reacting to the Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) recent policy change:



"I applaud the Boy Scouts of America for amending its adult leadership standards policy to include gay scout leaders. The development of a more inclusive BSA will not only strengthen it as an organization, but will benefit all boys and young men who look to scouting for guidance.

As a faith community, Unitarian Universalists have spoken out in support of full inclusion for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people for many years. This position, grounded in our religious convictions, has unfortunately put us into conflict with the BSA. Despite this conflict, the UUA has always acknowledged the many benefits that scouting offers to boys and young men. In fact, it is the recognition of these many benefits that was part of our motivation in calling for a more inclusive BSA.

Given the BSA's recent policy change, I look forward to initiating a dialogue between our two organizations in order to re-establish right relations. Together, we can create a welcoming community for all UU boys and young men who want to participate in scouting."

## Southern Region Chalice Lighters

The Southeast and Mid-South Chalice Lighters committees have issued calls which will end on September 30, 2015.

The Southeast call will support Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winston-Salem (NC). The congregation will use the Chalice Lighter funds to upgrade their multi-purpose Fellowship Hall with comfortable, accessible seating, and 21st century audiovisual equipment, making worship services more accessible to all. In addition, UUFWS can proudly offer lectures and concerts to the wider community.

The Mid-South call will support the UU Congregation of Cookeville (TN), the newest UUA affiliated congregation in the Mid-South. Cookeville will use the Chalice Lighter funds to underwrite their investment in a part-time minister, Rev. Mark Pafford, as their first step in building sustainable part -and full-time minister support for their congregation.



## 2016 UU Choral Festival



The next UU Choral Festival will be February 27-28, 2016, at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville - 4225 NW 34th Street, Gainesville. Contact Tony Canty at [music@uufg.org](mailto:music@uufg.org) for more information. He suggests ordering music well in advance, as some of the music

takes a long time to come.

Wilberg - Jubilate Deo - possibly with brass - <https://youtu.be/K1yXTEf75S8>  
HMC 1203 - \$2.95 - SATB - Pepper # - 1794031

Busselberg - Skip to my lou - piano 4 hands - <https://youtu.be/PxRrLCdjtoQ>  
HL08501724 - \$2.55 - SSAATTBB - Pepper # - 10090833

Powell - Sorida - solo opportunities - <https://youtu.be/VvnAEiOzVfc>  
HL0703350 - \$2.10 - SSAATTBB, percussion - Pepper # - 3296959

Brumfield - No Time - SSAA - [https://youtu.be/7wn\\_qqvMXgE](https://youtu.be/7wn_qqvMXgE)  
Colla Voce - 21-20260 - \$1.85 - Pepper # - 3225539

I Wanna Be Ready - TTBB - a capella - Arr. Tony Canty - Solo Opportunities - Score: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/o9riwv70lc6yxwy/l%20want%20to%20be%20ready.pdf?dl=0>

Engelhardt - How Good - solo opportunities - with combo - <https://youtu.be/w4Vf5gEO6Vg>  
HL00117693 - \$2.45 - SATB - Pepper # - 10356988



Do you know the relationship between privatization of prisons, mass incarceration (“The New Jim Crow”), excessive imprisonment of Blacks and Hispanics, and the “school-to-prison pipeline” that

incarcerates young people for minor offenses---then takes away their voting rights for life?

Florida is one of only THREE states (Florida, Kentucky, Iowa) that have a lifetime ban on voting for ex-felons, even those with minor convictions. Young people not only lose their voting rights, but also too often their ability to get good jobs, professional licenses, and the hope of being successfully reintegrated into society as meaningful contributors. Let’s say Yes to Second Chances. Sign the petition at <http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/64388-1.pdf> and return it to the address at the bottom. 52,000 petitions have been turned in so far. 25,000 more are needed for the Florida Supreme Court review of the language to put this referendum on the ballot in 2016. All help is needed now to make this happen. Please print the petition, make copies, gather sign-ons at every event, and mail them in.

Even worse, do you know about the brutal treatment of some prisoners—gruesome!—and “unexplained” deaths in Florida’s prisons?

Here’s what some folks are doing about it!

August 12th, a group from Charlotte County, including 12 from the UU Fellowship of Charlotte County, held a vigil in front of the Charlotte Correctional Institution to protest the abuses there. This followed other actions described in the letter to the Editor at the bottom of this email.

Here is the first write-up of the event from Ted Zawistowski, Social Justice Chair of the UU Fellowship:  
When our caravan arrived at the drive leading into the prison grounds on Wednesday there were some people already there. A few came later. A few police officers were there to guide us to the proper spot. We were not allowed to enter the state grounds so the vigil activities took place on the public road. My guess is that there were about 40 to 45 individuals present including family members of killed inmates. It was quite dark. Candles were lit and a few words spoken about why we were present. Family members spoke about their deceased or about their fears for their incarcerated relatives. A song was sung. The UUs had a large banner with "Black Lives Matter" on it. Rev. Amy led a prayer/meditation. I think there were about a dozen members of UUFCC present in the crowd. There was a photographer taking pictures that presumably will appear in the press soon. The atmosphere was somber. It was suggested that all should write letters to the press, the warden, the Secretary of the Department of Corrections, the Governor and legislators, and the US Department of Justice calling for investigations, reforms and greater safety for inmates. That a group of guards could beat an inmate to death without any indictment was ridiculed. There have been several suspicious deaths at Charlotte Correctional Institution in recent years. It was noted that similar situations exist throughout the Florida prison system. After about an hour, we all left.

Here is the letter to the editor of the Charlotte Sun that he submitted:

Editor:

The Charlotte Sun is to be commended for its forthright stance on the conditions in our Florida prison system and in particular at Charlotte Correctional Institution. While criminals may rightly be convicted and sent to prison, they are not supposed to be criminally abused in there, especially by staff members, as has been amply alleged. Serious investigations by independent and competent authorities are certainly called for. There have been far too many incidents for far too long for the situation to be tolerated any longer. The existing state of affairs casts a negative shadow across our entire legal justice system and all those who work for it. Those who serve honorably and honestly deserve better. Those who commit or condone criminal behavior deserve due punishment. The criminal justice system is not supposed to be a criminal justice system.

Since the events in Ferguson, MO, last year some of our citizens have been making efforts to understand our justice and law enforcement system. Meetings have been held with the Sheriff, Chief of Police and CCI warden. Court cases have been attended, the county jail and prison visited, and most recently a vigil held at CCI. An open forum allowed citizens to raise questions and our top officers to respond and explain. An outstanding example was when a citizen complained about how an officer treated him over a minor incident. Chief Arenal said that he would investigate the allegations, found that the complaint was justified, went to apologize to the man and instructed the officer on proper procedures. We have found highly professional and competent peace officers who work hard to develop open communication and positive relations with the community.

The prison is something else. It is up to us citizens now to join with the Sun in calling for honest investigations and real reform.

*Theodore L. Zawistowski*

Port Charlotte

Can you also write letters of concern to your local papers, and to the people below? Could such incidents be happening in other Florida prisons? (Check with our UU Justice Florida board member Nancy Nordyke-Shelley at [nancy.beyondwords@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.beyondwords@gmail.com) for the latest information, and see attached map--you may be shocked!)

Contact these people:

**The warden of the Charlotte Correctional Institution:**

<http://www.dc.state.fl.us/facilities/region3/510.html>

**Florida Department of Corrections:**

<http://www.dc.state.fl.us/orginfo/contact.html>

**The Governor:** <http://www.flgov.com/contact-governor/>

**Your State Representative:** <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/myrepresentative.aspx>

Your State Senator: <https://www.flsenate.gov/Senators>

**The U.S. Department of Justice:**

<http://www.justice.gov/contact-us>

We need to speak out about prison abuses.

Together we can make a difference! Please join us!

*Kindra Muntz*, UU Justice Florida

## UUSC: Breaking: crisis on the Haitian border



Bill Schulz, President and CEO of UUSC, recently spoke out about the crisis on the Haitian border and urged readers to contact Senator Kerry on this issue. Visit <http://www.uusc.org> and click on "Stop Mass Deportation of People of Haitian Descent" to send your message.

"As you may know, Haiti and the Dominican Republic (DR) share an island. Nearly a million people of Haitian descent, most of them black, live on the Dominican Republic side. Many were born there, and until recently they had birthright citizenship just like any other Dominican.

But the Dominican government has chosen to erase the citizenship of thousands of Dominicans of Haitian descent and put plans in motion to force nearly all people with Haitian heritage to leave the DR. And late last week, after an announced pause, the Dominican government announced the beginning of deportations in earnest.

This racist targeting is a moral outrage, and we must act before the situation gets any worse.

So far, despite wielding huge influence in the DR, the U.S. government has not done enough to stop this human rights disaster. Secretary Kerry can — and should — intensify efforts to convince the Dominican government to put the brakes on this crisis.

Tell Secretary Kerry: Make this a top U.S. human rights priority before it gets any worse, by calling on the DR to stop the deportations immediately."

### **Bill Schulz**

*President and CEO*

*Unitarian Universalist Service Committee*

## Happenings at The Mountain



Come to The Mountain for a great program at an amazing place in the Blue Ridge Mountains – join us and let your spirit soar! Southern UU Fall Institute (SUUFI): October 4 - 9 An award-winning storyteller and a UU minister join together to inspire us to a destination of "A Renewed Sense of Self & Potential," a state of fresh thinking, new approaches, new understanding, aligned purpose and action.

UU Womenspirit: October 14 - 18 This all-women retreat places an emphasis on exploring and celebrating the Feminine Divine in her many forms. This fall's retreat will focus on how Love Matters.

Thanksgiving: November 25 – 29 Join The Mountain community for Thanksgiving! Enjoy people, workshops, entertainment, hiking, and the Thanksgiving feast!

For more information about Mountain programs: [www.mountaincenters.org/calendar](http://www.mountaincenters.org/calendar) or 828.526.5838 or contact Lyn Klarman, Priscilla Gulliver or Beverly Cree at UUFSA. Plan now to attend these programs.

## Share the Plate (STP)

Exciting times as BBUUC shares with our local community On the fourth Sunday until the end of the year, BBUUC will donate one half of the undesignated plate collections (offertory) to a local charitable organization. This month's collection will be on September 27th.

Our first recipient selected by congregational input is JASMYN. The Jacksonville Area Sexual Minority Youth Network (JASMYN) is a non-profit youth services organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth ages 13-23, in Jacksonville, Florida.

JASMYN = Safe Space. Social Outlet. Somebody Cares.

Note: If you would like to donate to this worthy cause collectively with BBUUC, but will not be able to attend September 27, you can donate in advance . Just be sure your check or cash envelope indicates you wish your donation to be counted in the JASMYN STP collection.



## WORSHIP SERVICES

### Sep 6 Speaker: Dr. Judi Herring

**"Listen with care: Build bridges of understanding."**

**Worship Leader:** Vanessa Birchell

**Accompanied By:** Eileen Morrison

Listening with care can be a powerful act of love and an illuminator of truth. In the development of her TEDx talk, genderbound: lessons from the world between, Judi Herring listened with care and presented a perspective that has helped close the gap for many faithful people who were torn between two apparently irreconcilable positions: applying doctrine-guided labels of "sin" and "abomination" to those within diverse gender and sexual communities versus upholding the commandment, "love one another." Judi will discuss the spiritual imperative of staying true to ourselves while honoring the self-determined truths of others, and describe how listening with care builds bridges of understanding and facilitates progress.

#### Dr. Judi Herring



Judi Herring is a champion for self-determination and bodily autonomy who focuses on gender as one of the most fundamental cornerstones of identity. During her urologic surgical training, Judi spent time at Johns Hopkins Hospital helping to care for children born with intersex traits. The

practice of surgically modifying children's genitalia to conform to cultural expectations compelled her to explore the complexities of gender and sex development. What she discovered has important implications for anyone who seeks to contribute to creating a more socially just world."

### Pennies from Heaven is September 6

Please bring your extra change for a special collection to benefit our local Meals on Wheels program.



### Sep 13 Speaker: Rev. Jack Ford

**Water Sharing Ceremony**

**Worship Assistant:** Ron Rothberg

**Accompanied By:** Gary Smart

As is traditional in many UU churches across the country, BBUUC will hold our annual water sharing service (sometimes called "Water Communion") on Sunday, September 13.

All are invited to bring a small container of water from (or representing) your travels, special places, moments or events from the summer or the year, and place the waters into the communal bowl, sharing brief words about its significance. The rejoining of many waters symbolizes the rejoining of the congregation after summer.

### Ministerial Support Fund Sunday

On September 13, undirected contributions will be deposited in the Ministerial Support Fund. Thanks to a generous matching grant by an anonymous member of the community, all such contributions will be eligible to be matched.

The amount raised for the Ministerial Support Fund since mid-2014 recently topped \$50,000 (including match), nearing our goal of \$60,000.

If you are current on your pledge, you can contribute to the Ministerial Support Fund at any time by specifying "MSF" on your check's memo field or on a contribution envelope.

### Sep 20 Speaker: Bethany Crawley

**"Meditation Made Easy"**

**Worship Leader:** Linda Mowers

**Accompanied By:** Eileen Morrison

You too can enjoy the mental and physical benefits of meditation. Getting started is easy—Bethany explains how.

#### Bethany Crawley

Bethany Crawley has been teaching yoga and meditation for over 12 years and co-founded Lotus Yoga in 2008. Bethany also offers mindfulness training directly to healthcare professionals in furtherance of the Healing Tree Project's Healthcare Initiative. A former Tallahassee Tumbling Tot, she is an attorney by trade.



### Sep 27 Speaker: Rev. Jack Ford

**"Upper Crust"**

**Worship Assistant:** Joann Carollo

**Accompanied By:** Gary Smart



Pronouncements of elitism abound in our faith movement. It is often reported that, historically, Unitarianism was born of the Boston aristocracy, that we are primarily a religion for the educated, that UUs are among the wealthiest church-goers. At this year's Universalist Convocation, UU historian Mark Harris introduced his latest book,

Elite, and preached a sermon about uncovering classism in our movement. How do you view our church position in society? What work lies ahead of us in becoming more multicultural and inclusive in our faith?

The Share the Plate (STP) collection this week is to JASMYN.

Note: If you would like to donate to this worthy cause collectively with BBUUC, but will not be able to attend September 27th; you can donate in advance. Just be sure your check or cash envelope indicates you wish your donation to be counted in the JASMYN STP collection.



*The Journey is the official newsletter of the Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church. It is distributed monthly by electronic means to members and friends of the BBUUC community. If you would like to subscribe, please send an email to [admin@bbuuc.org](mailto:admin@bbuuc.org).*

*Physical printouts of the Journey are also available at the Membership Table in the Sanctuary. (If a pledging member of the community does not have home Internet or computer access, a mailed printout can be requested from [admin@bbuuc.org](mailto:admin@bbuuc.org), or by contacting the church administrator at 904-276-3739.)*

*If you have comments or suggestions about the format or content of the Journey, please contact the editorial team at [publishing@bbuuc.org](mailto:publishing@bbuuc.org).*

# The Journey

*Newsletter of*

**Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church**

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