



The Journey

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



September 2017

September 2017 Worship Services

Services are held on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

September 3 Service

Dr. Jeffrey Nall presents ***"Striving for Social Change in the Face of Futility"***

Worship Leader: Jennifer Stokes • Accompanist: Gary Smart

About our Service

Confronted with war, mass shootings, celebrated bigots, corrupt politics, and environmental crisis many are given to answer questions that covertly suggest their own answers: "What is the point?" (No point at all) and "What can be done?" (Nothing) In this sermon Dr. Jeffrey Nall offers an answer to the fatalistic resignation and cynical defeatism that he has seen in fellow activists, students, friends, and acquaintances.

About our Speaker

Jeffrey Nall, Ph.D. is a Master Instructor of Philosophy at Indian River State College where he teaches courses in philosophy and humanities. He previously taught philosophy and humanities courses at the University of Central Florida. Nall also teaches courses for Florida Atlantic University's Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program. He can be reached through www.jeffreynall.com/.



Pennies from Heaven is September 3: Please bring your extra change for a special collection to benefit our local Meals on Wheels program. August's collection for Pennies from Heaven was \$168. Thank you all for your generosity! Each quarter we alternate donations between Mandarin and Clay County Meals on Wheels. Please save all your coins for the first Sunday of every month, and remember bills are welcome too. ☺

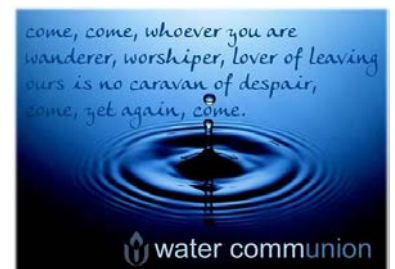
September 10 Service

BBUUC Worship Team presents ***"Annual Ingathering & Water Communion"***

Worship Leader: BBUUC Worship Team • Accompanist: Gary Smart

About our Service:

As is traditional in many UU churches across the country, BBUUC will hold our annual Water Sharing ritual. 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. The rejoining of many waters symbolizes the rejoining of the congregation after summer.



September 17 Service

Karen Christiansen presents ***"Letting Go / Forgiveness"***

Worship Leaders: Ken Christiansen • Accompanist: Marilyn Smart

About our Service:

A look at forgiveness from one who doesn't often use the word forgive. Can we just talk about the benefits of letting go?

About our Speaker:

Educator for 31 years in Ohio, attended Meadville Lombard, our UU seminary in Chicago, from 2008-2010, and completed Clinical Pastoral Education training at the University of Chicago Hospitals where she became a chaplain. Now retired, Karen is active in the Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation, and Empowerment here in Jacksonville and enjoys learning and growing in small groups at BBUUC. She is an avid reader and book club participant. Her family and neighbors bring her great joy.



September 24 Service

Rev. Diane Davis presents ***"Spiritual Involvement or Emotional Entanglement?"***

Worship Leader: Jay Gardner • Accompanist: Gary Smart

About our Service

Your world is a constantly shifting and changing thing. Most of that has to do with a confusion between what was and what was workable to what is and what is presently workable. The difficulty is many of the things that you were taught as children, many of the things that you lived with, the realities that you had as your perceptions of the world, have shifted.

How do you get through these changing times? How do you find more joy? How do you trust your own ideas, opinions and intuition?

About our Speaker:

Reverend Diane R. Davis has 40 years experience as a medium/intuitive counselor, teacher, minister and speaker. Her inspirational lectures are often filled with humor, insights and hope for life and living it.



WANTED: Director of Lifespan Religious Education

<http://www.bbuuc.org/about-us/employment/>

Part-time Director of Religious Education

BBUUC is currently seeking a part-time Director of Lifespan Religious Education (DLRE). The DLRE directs, plans and guides religious education classes for children, youth and adults. The DLRE is also responsible for training and scheduling volunteer teachers/facilitators. The DLRE will maintain Sunday office hours, preferably from 9am to 1pm, and is permitted one Sunday off each month. Individuals that apply to this position must possess a bachelor's degree and a knowledge of and commitment to Unitarian Universalist principles and religious education practices.

Job Type: Part-time (15-20 hours/week)

Closing Date: September 25, 2017

Contact: Please send resume', cover letter, and three professional references to admin@bbuuc.com.



PRESIDENT'S PEN

Direct Experiences That Transcend Mystery and Wonder

Last month, I stated that I would utilize the President's Pen column to hold up our six sources that are the foundation of Unitarian Universalism. Remember that our sources do not follow any particular order. No one source is "stronger" or "better" than the others. This month, I will delve in to our first source, which reads: Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.



On August 18, 2017, thousands of racists descending upon the University of Virginia, located in Charlottesville, Virginia. These racists paraded through the campus carrying torches and chanting a plethora throwback Nazi slogans, such as "Blood and soil." and "Jews will not replace us." The next day, August 19, 2017, a white supremacist terrorist rammed his car in to another, which in turn killed 32-year old freedom fighter Heather Heyer and seriously injured at least 19 others. Obviously, this terrorist act is a direct contradiction of this first source, but what about the actions that are a bit gray or mushy?

You may say to yourself, "I'm not racist." or "I have black friends." or even "The president of my church's congregation is black." All of those statements may be true, but what's missing here is your experience. This is where you must work and struggle in order for our first source to come in to focus. You must have "direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder". Listening to marginalized groups and stepping a smidge outside of your comfort zone is a good first step. Taking the experiences of our LGBTQIA+, POCI, Muslim, and low socio-economic sisters and brothers and sharing them, as if they are your experiences is not "direct experience", it is cultural appropriation.

How do we move in to "direct experiences"? We

discontinue navel gazing and recognize that there is a world outside of our window that need us to act. We make that leap in to an uncomfortable, scary place. We discontinue making excuses or playing the devil's advocate. We stop discrediting the stories of marginalized groups. We stop riding the experiences of marginalized people as if they are our own. We give credit where credit is due. We move aside so the voices of marginalized groups are heard. We must stand in the streets, the city council meetings, and anywhere else where white supremacy practices are displayed. We cannot continue to do nothing because our silence equals death. We must "comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable". We are always moving and shaping our world towards justice. I often say to my clients, "The discomfort and anxiety you feel is the space between where you are and where you know you need to be". Your direct experiences in the space between is where you achieve "a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life". So... Are you feeling discomfort and anxiety? If so, what are you going to do about it?

In Faith,
Vanessa Sampson Birchell
BBUUC Board President

BBUUC FINANCE COMMITTEE

Statement of Financial Activities

July 1 - 31, 2017

	YTD Total \$	FY2017-18 Budget \$
Revenue		
Contributions	\$20,493	\$128,340
Other Income	\$1,145	\$5,750
Fundraisers	\$20	\$10,000
Total Revenue	\$21,658	\$144,090
Expenses	\$11,056	\$101,390
Change in Net Assets	\$10,602	\$42,700
Notes Principal Paid	\$3,253	\$14,100
Funding CR&R* Reserve	\$1,550	\$18,600
Funding CG&D** Reserve	\$1,250	\$10,000
Spending CR&R Reserve	(\$1,038)	\$0
Net of principal & reserves	\$5,587	\$0

* CR&R - Capital Repair and Replacement

** CG&D - Congregational Growth & Development

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



Afternoon Tea

Wednesday, September 20th
from 2:00PM - 4:00PM

Join us this month at Ellen Miceli's home for tea, snacks, and conversation!

Dress: Casual (or feel free to dress up if you'd like!)

Goodies: If you would like to bring something, great! If not, great also! Some of us love to bake, some of us don't have the time or desire. But we all like getting to know each other better. If you'd like to bring something not homemade, we welcome it.

Directions: Contact membership@bbuuc.org to RSVP or for address or directions.

Future Tea Events:

Saturday, December 16—Janice & John Knapik's home

Contact membership@bbuuc.org to volunteer for an October or November Afternoon Tea



**Buckman Bridge
Unitarian Universalist Church**

Our Mission:

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church exists to create and nourish a loving community that seeks justice and respect for all.



Saturday, October 7th, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Buckman Bridge UU Church, 8447 Manresa Ave.

This workshop is for white people who want to challenge the racism around them—and in their own heads and hearts—and who are searching for a way to strengthen their work for racial justice. It's for white folks who want a better understanding of how white privilege and racism operate in society and inside of them. And, it's for white folks who already do anti-racism work and want to develop their skills and deepen their approach.

The workshop is facilitated by white people for white people. Our two facilitators bring years of experience, knowledge of structural racism, and a passion for creating change:

Michael Burkart has been consulting with a focus on diversity training since 1990. He has worked for a wide variety of corporate, public, and non-profit clients and held a teaching position at Antioch New England Graduate School. He has a doctorate in Behavioral Studies from Boston University.

Hope McMath, a Jacksonville native, is a cultural leader, educator, artist, and activist with a strong commitment to social justice and generating positive change in organizations and the community.

Cost is \$75.

If cost presents an obstacle please be in touch.

Email bobbie@whiteandwoke.org or call 904.923.6468 to register. Space is limited.

A packet of resources, continental breakfast, and light lunch are included.

This is the fourth in a series of trainings produced by White and Woke, a community of white people committed to dismantling structural racism. We are white, we are woke and we speak out because the half of our whole collective is filled with black lives that really do matter. To learn more please visit our website at whiteandwoke.org

MEMBER NEWS



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



We Welcome The Goodrich Family

Claire, Brad and Kaia Goodrich have lived in the Mandarin area of Jacksonville for the last 15 years. Brad is a CPA and is a Computer Systems Manager. Claire is a Speech Language Pathologist and also runs a Juice Plus nutrition business from home. They met in college at UCF and will be celebrating 20 years of marriage next April.

Kaia is an 8th grade student specializing in visual arts at LaVilla. She wants to be an ornithologist when she grows up so her favorite subject for pieces of art are birds.

Claire tells us “We all love being active in our community and are always up for trying something new and different. We are foodies and like to travel, be active outdoors and go to concerts and plays. In our free time, you will find us watching Kaia compete in gymnastics, surfing at the beach or hiking and biking in a local park.”

Brad likes to race his car in autocross events and Claire likes to take to the skies in glider planes and

paragliding any chance she gets. Kaia loves to curl up with a good book and spend time with her parrot on her shoulder or catching lizards to feed her backyard chickens.

They are so happy to have found a church home at BBUUC where they all feel welcome and spiritually fed and look forward to being active participants in the congregation.



We Welcome Jon and Caitlin Trachim

These new members just celebrated their first wedding anniversary in June. Caitlin is a Florida native and Jon moved here from New Hampshire last year. (Their last name is pronounced TRAY-kim but Jon says “No problem, we’re used to it being pronounced in different ways!”)

The two met online, playing World of Warcraft across the miles for years without meeting face to face. Finally they got together and the rest is history! Caitlin is a librarian at Flagler College, and Jon works part time at the Jacksonville library, and as a substitute teacher for the Duval charter school system.

The Trachim duo still play video games and now enjoy many other creative pursuits as well, including cooking together, singing, reading, and writing. At church, you may recognize the young couple as song leaders, greeters, or most recently as welcome ambassadors. Caitlin is working with the PR committee as well, and Jon will soon be helping David with lights, sound, and the various technical aspects of the church.

Welcome Caitlin and Jon!

Happy Birthday!

Michael Crisp..... 9/1
 Portia Halsey..... 9/2
 Jenny Kobin..... 9/2
 Erin Rogers..... 9/6
 Shanna Gardner..... 9/7
 Pedro Roine..... 9/7
 Kaz Dunkle..... 9/9
 Tina Nomura..... 9/10
 Denise Lamparter..... 9/11
 Carol-Anne Salladin..... 9/11
 Nelson Antunes..... 9/12
 Gary Dunkle..... 9/12
 David Christenson..... 9/14
 Harlow Nieschalk..... 9/15
 Eileen Morrison..... 9/17
 Terry Versailles..... 9/17
 Chris Jarman..... 9/18
 Rich Toupin..... 9/18
 Ella Rothberg..... 9/19
 David Siebert..... 9/19
 Bob Wright..... 9/19
 Manny Andrade..... 9/20
 Lisa Lynch..... 9/21
 Adrienne Cology..... 9/25
 Meghan Kaminski..... 9/26
 Linda Spade..... 9/26
 Myrna Kissinger..... 9/27
 Tye Rothberg..... 9/27



Wedding Anniversaries

Terry Versailles and Richard Funk..... 9/4
 David and Joyce Johnson..... 9/5
 David and Peg Christenson..... 9/7
 David Dean and Liz Teal..... 9/15
 Rich Toupin and Debbie Atkins..... 9/28



BBUUC Membership Anniversaries

Ed and Linda Spade..... 9/3/2000
 Wendy Hutchins-Deck..... 9/6/2012
 Denise Lamparter..... 9/7/2014
 John Knapik..... 9/10/2016
 Rachel Thomas..... 9/10/2016
 Peter Vergenz..... 9/10/2016
 Myrna Kissinger..... 9/13/1998
 David Kattreh..... 9/16/2012
 Jennifer Glassman..... 9/19/2004
 Sandy Coffey..... 9/23/2007
 Chris and Lisa Lynch..... 9/23/2007
 Gary and Marilyn Smart..... 9/23/2001



Help us keep our records up-to-date! If you see birth-day, anniversary, or membership anniversary that needs to be corrected or added to our list, please send it to membership@bbuuc.org.



Upcoming: A three part series of classes in preparation to become a member of BBUUC.

September 24 - Session I: **“Getting to Know U”**—Small group discussion where we get to know one another and share our spiritual journeys.

October 1 - Session II: **“Getting to Know UU”**—What is Unitarian Universalism? Our history, principles, and practices.

October 8 - Session III: **“Getting to Know BBUUC”**—How is our congregation governed? What are the privileges and responsibilities of being a Member of BBUUC?

Each two hour session is designed for group participation. For those who choose to join the church, a New Member Ceremony will be held during Sunday worship service on October 22, 2017. Please respond to membership@bbuuc.org or to Eileen Morrison or Grace Repass, Membership Co-Chairs, if you are interested in attending these classes, or if you are interested, but can't attend this series.

What: Sept./Oct. Newcomer Class Series
When: September 24, October 1, October 8
When: New Member Ceremony - October 22
Where: BBUUC—Olympia Brown classroom
Time: After Church - 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM
Other: Bring a lunch. Will you need child care?

BBUUC NEWS



Blessing Bag Overnight Activity

LRE will be having our first activity on September 16th at 6:00PM. We will be making blessing bags for the homeless, while watching a movie in the sanctuary. Children will be staying overnight and can be picked up at 9:00, before the service on Sunday, September 17th. Breakfast will be provided.

Donations for the blessing bags can be dropped off at the church before the event. Recommended items include:

Any individually wrapped snack or drink:

- Breakfast bars, cereal bars, granola bars, protein bars
- Applesauce
- Single-packaged nuts and trail mix
- Vienna sausage in pop-top can
- Foil tuna packs (not requiring a can opener)
- Bottled water

Grooming and hygiene products:

- Combs
- Hand lotion, Lip balm
- Baby Wipes
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Tampons

Useful items:

- Plastic utensils
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Gallon-size Ziploc® bags
- Mints

ICARE Justice Ministry

BBUUC is one of 38 religious congregations (Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Bhai, and Unitarian Universalist) that participate with Jacksonville's Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation and Empowerment, AKA ICARE.



Representing over 30,000 church members, ICARE works with very specific justice issues identified by persons who attend House Meetings which are held each fall in all of the ICARE congregations.

BBUUC's ICARE Team Leaders are: Carole Hawkins, Viqui Hilliard, Corinne Warren, Karen Christiansen, and Ken Christiansen. **House Meetings will be held on three Friday evenings: September 15, 22 and 29; and two Saturday mornings: September 16 and 30.** All BBUUC members should be receiving a House Meeting invitation from one of the Team Leaders. A signup sheet will also be available in the back of the sanctuary. For more information email social_action@bbuuc.org.

With the current very forceful and positive emphasis on racial justice in the Unitarian Universalist Association, the outreach of ICARE is central to the mission of BBUUC. More than half of the ICARE congregations are in the Northwest quadrant of Jacksonville. All of the work researching issues and ways to solve problems is done on an integrated, long term basis.

Issues currently addressed citywide by ICARE include Restorative Justice for Youthful Offenders instead of arrests and loss of civil opportunities; Wealth Building in Northwest Jacksonville through worker-owned cooperatives; reducing Homelessness in Jacksonville by supporting a Day Resource Center; and increasing opportunities for felons who have served their sentences by strengthening the Jacksonville Re-Entry Center.

Come to a BBUUC ICARE House Meeting to share your justice concerns with other BBUUC members!



Social Action Committee News

Social Action visioning

Committee members conducted a visioning session that brainstormed ways to strengthen BBUUC's social action mission. Top suggestions included: Increase church engagement by raising consciousness as to community issues and needs, and by communicating our work process and current projects more often and more clearly. Build leadership skills in people who have a passion for social action, so they may originate projects. Increase mercy projects by identifying, encouraging and mentoring people who wish to lead such efforts.

Barbershop Books

Did you miss the news of how successful our Barbershop Books campaign was? If you did, check out the BBUUC 2017 Annual Report. The Christmas Tree fundraiser, which placed culturally sensitive children's books in barbershops and beauty salons in Jacksonville's poorest neighborhoods, was a resounding success. We had hoped to raise enough to supply two to four businesses. Instead, we were able to purchase eight sets of books. All were donated to appreciative business owners in January and February. Your generosity has given comfort and hope to the people in our community who need it most. Great job BBUUC!



Are You Shopping on Amazon?

Amazon Affiliates Fundraiser

Fundraising through Amazon is simple!

Remember to use the BBUUC link to Amazon every time you make a purchase, and ask your family and friends to do the same – you don't need to be a Member of our church to contribute.

Just use this link (also found at the bottom of our webpage bbuuc.org):

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

No special login or code is needed. How easy is that!

Revenue received from Amazon purchases made through our BBUUC link :

\$118 in July (for purchases made in May)

\$118 in August (for purchases made in June)

Introduce Yourself!

If you are a recent member and we have not run an introduction article about you for the Journey yet, please feel free to contact publishing@bbuuc.org. We're interested in how you found BBUUC, what you like here, and what you would like other members of the BBUUC community to know about you. We can help you write the article or you can write a 400 word or less article about yourself. We would also like a photo so that people know who you are and can introduce themselves to you during Fellowship Time after the service.



Join us for a friendly discussion of the issues of the day. All are welcome!

Every Sunday @ 9:30 am

JACKSONVILLE COVENANT OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PAGANS

<https://www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleFICuups/>

WED, 9/6 & TUE, 9/19 @ 7PM

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.



<http://www.bbuuc.org/connection/affinity-groups/bbuucf/>

Monthly on the 4th Sunday @ 9 am



PRAYER SHAWL AFFINITY GROUP

<http://www.bbuuc.org/connection/affinity-groups/prayer-shawl-affinity-group-2/>

Monthly on the 1st Friday at Noon



**Lunch Bunch
@ Pengree's**
RSVP to
Myrna Kissinger
at 904-529-7272

Second Wednesday @ 11:30 am

BBUUC's

**Full Calendar can be
found on line at:**

www.bbuuc.org/activities



“ Each of us is meant to have a character all our own, to be what no other can exactly be, and do what no other can exactly do. ”

BY WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING



First Coast Freethought Society

<http://firstcoastfreethoughtsociety.org/cms/>

**Third Monday of each month (EXCEPT DEC.)
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.)**

Hurricane Harvey Recovery Fund

The UUA and UUSC have formed a joint recovery and relief fund for those impacted by Hurricane Harvey. You can access the website through www.uua.org and use the disaster relief link to make a donation.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY
On Friday night, August 25, Hurricane Harvey made landfall as a Category 4 Storm and brought with it



deadly winds and rain to an area of the United States millions call home. Much of the Texas Gulf Coast has been impacted and communities in Louisiana and across the state of Texas are still coping with more days of rain. We're holding all of those affected in our hearts and prayers and we are in touch with local Unitarian Universalists so we can meet the needs as they arise. To do this, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has joined with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) on a recovery and relief fund.

Please give as generously as you are able. Half of all funds raised will go to at-risk populations served by UUSC partners and the other half of the funds will support Unitarian Universalist congregations and members of those congregations most affected by the storm. Those funds will be administered by a group of leaders in the UUA's Southern Region, which includes the states across the southeast from Texas to South Carolina, and from most of Virginia to Florida.

Using their eye-to-eye partnership model, UUSC will work with and support local grassroots community partners on the ground in Texas serving at-risk populations who may not be able to access relief services and who are traditionally left out of mainstream response efforts. UUSC and their partners will work to bolster locally led relief efforts that are serving immigrant families, in particular young mothers and their children.

As the storm passes and recovery begins, UUSC will continue to get updates and work with partners to ensure their needs are met. Your donation to this fund is much appreciated. Thank you.

Church Directory

If you would like online and quick/easy access to the BBUUC directory on your computer, tablet, or smart phone (always up to date and with photos), contact membership@bbuuc.org or see Pam Richards or Peg Christenson for login instructions.

If you would like the PDF directory and separate Picture directory emailed to you so you can access the file on your computer, tablet, or smart phone without an internet connection (or so you can print a hard copy), contact admin@bbuuc.org or see Stacy Asimos in the church office.



If you don't use a computer and need a hard copy, see Stacy Asimos in the church office.

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church

Mail: P.O. Box 844, Orange Park, FL 32067

8447 Manresa Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32244

Church Phone: (904) 276-3739 • www.BBUUC.org

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 publishing@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, 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.

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