



# CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of All Faiths Unitarian Congregation  
A member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

## Inside

Destination Joy.....	2
<i>by Alberita Johnson, CL Minister</i>	
Sunday Collection Schedule.....	2
General Assembly 2025.....	2
Board Notes.....	3
Joys & Sorrows.....	3
Happening at All Faiths.....	4
April 2025 Calendar.....	5
April Sunday Service Schedule.....	6
Child & Youth Program Notes.....	6
Monthly Vespers.....	6
Rainbow Connection News.....	7
LIFE News and Update.....	7
Racial Equity Team News.....	8
Homeless Team News.....	8
All Faiths' Strategic Plan Update.....	8
ACMA Concert Lineup.....	8
Climate Action Team News.....	9
All Faiths' Spring Cleanup.....	9
Earth Day 2025.....	9
Treasurer's Report.....	10
Save the Date for Junk-in-the-Trunk....	10
Important Legislative Links.....	10
AIDS Quilt Photo Page.....	11
Mindefulness Meditation.....	12

Happy Easter



## *Junk-in-the-Trunk Yard Sale*

**April 12, 2025**

**Setup 7am - 8am/Sale 8am - 1pm**

**Sign Up on the Bulletin Board**  
**Space is Limited**



## *All Faiths Spring Cleanup!*

**April 26 at 9:00 a.m.**

**Join your fellow congregants as we**  
**spruce up our beautiful home!**



## BOARD NOTES *by Frank Geltner, Board Chair*

*The Board meeting was held March 19, 2025, at 1pm.*

Congratulations to David Donovan on being elected to serve as your board chair for the coming year. Dick Scudder will again serve as the vice chair.

We are slowly moving forward on the gardening upgrades. Thanks to Brian Bigelow and Dan DeShon for working with me to visit All Native Nursery and purchase the newer plants you now see being planted under the All Faiths sign on the front of the building. Thanks too to David Donovan and Dick Scudder.

A generator has been donated to All Faiths by a nearby neighbor. This will be readied for any emergency loss of power. It will not restore power to the entire building, but will help with refrigeration and lighting.

Thanks to John Conrad for shepherding the fence project. The new fence was installed recently and looks grand. It was designed to withstand intense wind activity.

I noted to the Finance Committee at its recent meeting that if we are not able to get more help from congregants on the Building and Grounds Team, especially the gardening, we may need to consider budgeting for some minor landscaping help.

Discussions on upgrading the sound system are underway. Kevin Pellet, a sound engineer, is now part of the group looking at the best strategy for improving our sound system. The others are Carlos Garcia

and Bobby Way. Without in house congregational expertise, we may need to consider paying somebody to be on call for helping with audio and visual support in the future.

The congregation was to be informed at the Annual Meeting that the Board has approved a Five-Year Strategic Plan, but we let it slip. We should do that in some manner over the coming months.

Recent meetings with the Quality Life Center have placed the Racial Equity Team on a path to realizing the outcomes we have been working on for the past year. Thanks to Rebecca Ross for agreeing to be our liaison to Julian Ramirez at the QLC. Stay tuned.

The effects of our congregation agreeing to display the AIDS Quilt placed a great amount of stress on the congregation. We will need to educate ourselves as to what it means to obligate ourselves to such a demanding project.

Special thanks to David Donovan for his efforts to give a greater presence for our Social Justice initiatives.

*The next board meeting will be held on April 16, 2025, immediately following a 10 a.m. Board Retreat, both will be held at the McGregor Clinic.*



## JOYS & SORROWS

*With our apologies for any omissions, here are the joys & sorrows expressed by our members in March.*

**David Donovan** shared the joy that on their 15th anniversary, he and his partner were married in Costa Rica. We congratulate them and hope they share many more love-filled years together.

**Jan Guardiano** was hospitalized with respiratory issues. We hope that she has a full recovery.

**Nishanta Linkhart** was hospitalized to have a pulmonary embolism removed. He hope that she has a full recovery.

**Michael Pierre** continues having treatments for esophageal cancer. We hope that they are successful.

**Peter Serries** shared the joy that his wife of 47 years, Lillian Nieves, has published a book, *Abuela Chronicles*.

**Wayne Reese** reported that his service dog Chloe is suffering from kidney and bladder stones. We hope that Chloe receives successful treatment.

*Joyce Ramay*

*Care and Support Coordinator*



*Yes, that's Frank Geltner standing in a big hole! There's a lot of landscaping activity happening around All Faiths. Be sure to thank Frank Geltner, Brian Bigelow, and Dan DeShon for all of their planning and hard work -- and let them know if you can help!*



## Ice Cream Social

After Service

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Sponsored by Lewis Robinson



# Happening at All Faiths

## Happy April Birthday to you!



April 1 Carol Heilsberg  
April 3 Bill Snider  
April 14 Jack Kennedy  
April 18 Deborah Vahab  
April 19 Diane Cartwright  
April 20 Joy Reinhart  
April 24 Ann Batal  
April 24 Louise "Weezie" Close  
April 25 Susan Snow  
April 27 Kathleen Weber

### And Coming Up...

May 9 Helen Dixon  
May 13 Annely Hudanick

*If you are missing or see someone  
who is missing from the birthday  
roster, please let Regina know.*



## Solos Brunch & Outing

**Saturday, April 5, 2025  
1:00 p.m.**

**Blossom & Brie**  
8250 Nalle Grade Rd.  
North Fort Myers FL 33917

*check your email for details.  
This special Solos gathering  
is open to all.*

**RSVP to:** Annely Hudanick,  
[annelyblue@hotmail.com](mailto:annelyblue@hotmail.com)

## The All Voices Choir Practice

**Meeting on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.**

The choir welcomes new members. You do not have to be a professional singer or read sheet music to join. Go ahead, give it a try. Contact: Carlos Garcia, [ceegeefm@gmail.com](mailto:ceegeefm@gmail.com).

## McGregor Clinic Collection

**Every 3rd Sunday of the Month at Service**

The McGregor Clinic is a non-profit health care clinic designed to provide an integrated and holistic approach to patient and community care. Your donations of *men's and women's clothing, and non-perishable foods*, benefit people with HIV/AIDS and their families. Contact: David Donovan, [ddonovan722@gmail.com](mailto:ddonovan722@gmail.com)

## Book Club

**Meeting on the 3rd Monday of the Month at 12 p.m.**

The book club is casual and fun. No assigned books, just show up and be prepared to talk about an interesting book you've read or are reading. Contact: Diane Chernow, [dianecher@comcast.net](mailto:dianecher@comcast.net)



## Climate Action Team Workshop

**Sundays at 9:15 a.m. (Starting 3/23 - 7 Weeks)**

*Save the Planet, Save Ourselves.* That's the theme for these sessions - it's not hyperbole. However, this will not be a "doom and gloom" workshop, but one filled with hope, realistic possibilities and positive action plans for the future. Contact Joan Marshall at [fjmdbm@yahoo.com](mailto:fjmdbm@yahoo.com)

## Mexican Train Dominoes

**Meeting on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the Month at 2 p.m.**

Join in on this fun and popular dominoes game. Don't know how to play? Come and we'll teach you -- it's easy. Contact Ken Malkin at [kennethmmalkin@gmail.com](mailto:kennethmmalkin@gmail.com) to get on email distribution list.

## ACMA Songwriters Circle

**Meeting on Sundays 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

The circle is for Acoustic Songwriters of all levels. Songs and experiences are shared in a non-judgmental, casual atmosphere. All are welcome to come and play or just listen. ACMA is secular and is all about original music. No Membership required. We support Americana/Folk, Singer/Songwriters and provide a venue for performing original music.

# April 2025 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 <b>1</b> <b>10am</b> Sunday Service Team Mtg.  <b>1:30pm-Zoom</b> Climate Action Team Mtg.	 <b>2</b>	 <b>3</b>	 <b>4</b>	 <b>5</b> <b>11am</b> Choir Practice  <b>1pm</b> Solos Lunch (Pg. 4)
<b>6</b> <b>9:15am</b> CAT Workshop <b>10:30am</b> Service & CYP  <b>2-5pm</b> ACMA Circle	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>10am</b> Racial Equity Meeting  <b>11:30am</b> Social Justice Comm. Mtg.	<b>9</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Fort Myers Camera Club	<b>10</b> <b>10am</b> Finance Mtg.	<b>11</b> <b>2pm</b> Dominoes	<b>12</b> <b>11am</b> Choir Practice  <b>8am-1pm</b> Junk In the Trunk YARD SALE  <b>7pm</b> ACMA Concert (see pg. 10)
<b>13</b> <b>9:15am</b> CAT Workshop <b>10:30am</b> Service & CYP  <b>12pm</b> Rainbow Connection  <b>2-5pm</b> ACMA Circle	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>10am</b> Board Retreat and <b>1pm</b> Board Meeting at McGregor Clinic	<b>17</b> <b>1pm</b> Homeless Team Mtg.  <b>7pm</b> Tamiami Tale Tellers	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>11am</b> Choir Practice  <b>12-2pm</b> Worship Associate Retreat
<b>20</b> <b>9:15am</b> CAT Workshop <b>10:30am</b> Service & CYP  McGregor Clinic Collection  EASTER  <b>2-5pm</b> ACMA Circle	<b>21</b> <b>12pm</b> Book Club	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>2pm</b> Dominoes	<b>26</b> <b>11am</b> Choir Practice  <b>9am</b>  <b>7pm</b> ACMA Concert (see pg. 10)
<b>27</b> <b>9:15am</b> News Talk <b>10:30am</b> Service & CYP  <b>2-5pm</b> ACMA Circle Ice Cream Social	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	Check online: <a href="http://www.allfaithsuu.org">www.allfaithsuu.org</a> for Calendar Updates & Corrections	

**APRIL 2025**  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**  
**THEME: THE PRACTICE OF JOY**

**In-House & Live on Facebook at 10:30 a.m.**

Recorded services can be viewed at [www.allfaithsuum.org](http://www.allfaithsuum.org)  
or on our YouTube channel.

**April 6**

*Living and Loving the Practice of Joy*

Speaker – Alberita Johnson

Worship Associate – Diane Cartwright

Music by Carlos Garcia

Life of Congregation Report – Board Chair

**April 13**

*Living Your Truth*

Speaker – Alberita Johnson

Worship Associate – Ken Malkin

Music by Carlos Garcia

**April 20**

*In Celebration of Mother Earth*

Speaker – Alberita Johnson

Worship Associate – Helen Dixon

Music by Carlos Garcia

McGregor Clinic Collection

**April 27**

*Super Heroes*

Speaker – Alberita Johnson

Worship Associate – Doug Cartwright

Music by Carlos Garcia

**Adult Education - 9:15am in the Sanctuary**

April: Climate Action Team Workshops:

*Save the Planet, Save Ourselves*

**The Rainbow Connection**

**Meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at Noon**

**Contact Frank Stephens – [fdinfla99@gmail.com](mailto:fdinfla99@gmail.com)**

A space for the LGBTQ community and allies to  
gather in fellowship, plan activities and offer support.

**CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM NOTES**

*by Sharon Heinrich, CYP Director*

This month “Joy” is the faith practice that we will explore. Finding joy all around us and discovering ways to create joy is the focus of this month.

**Opening:** We are here together with love at our center. We will think with our minds, love with our hearts, create with our hands and look for joy.

**April 6:** Find joy in having fun! “The Wise Fool and the King” Have fun and find joy in silly things.

**April 13:** Find joy in music! The Fiddler and the Village” Make instruments. Dance to fun songs.

**April 20:** No CYP

**April 27:** Find joy in nature! “The Root Children” Make flower crowns, make a fairy house, nature walk, scavenger hunt.

**Closing:** As we make our choices each day, may we make them with love at our center and find joy all around us.

I would like to encourage our congregation to share talent, skill and knowledge with our young people. Please let me know if you would like me to schedule a short time on a Sunday morning for you to share with the young ones.

*Sharon, CYP Director*

**REGISTER AT: [www.allfaithsuum.org](http://www.allfaithsuum.org)**



**ALL FAITHS' VESPERS**

*1st Wednesday Monthly 7:00*

*A time of evening prayer,  
meditation and contemplation*

**Zoom Meeting ID: 852 1697 7661**

**Passcode: 485483**

What to Expect: We may experience sacred readings, crystal and Tibetan bowls, flute, violin, harp, lite drumming, poetry, quotes, testimonials, storytelling, chanting and movement. Each service is different but will always include prayer, meditation and contemplation.

For more information email: [office@allfaithsuum.org](mailto:office@allfaithsuum.org)

## RAINBOW CONNECTION NEWS

by David Donovan and Carole Latino, Co-Chairs



A HUGE thank you goes out to the Rainbow Connection Team and All Faiths Congregation for a very successful Cape Coral Pride. We were well represented and were able to showcase our congregation in a special way to the community at large. Thanks again to Julie, Patty and their friends who were instrumental in helping All Faiths be the major sponsor again this year. We also were able to display our new Tent and Table Covers at the event. These were due to a generous wish list donation by Lewis Robinson.

In a related news item, unfortunately, I was not able to attend this major event, because I was on vacation in Costa Rica for the week and finally got married to my partner on our 15th anniversary, March 7, 2010. Thank you for all your well wishes.

The Rainbow Connection has secured a booth at Naples Pride in June. Last year's event was very successful, and we are excited to be returning again this year.

Carole Latino, who is also a cochair of All Faiths Membership Committee, is working to host a booth at the Alliance for the Arts event called "Wednesday Night Market" in Fort Myers. This is a monthly pop-up market that happens every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 5 to 8pm. They feature a selection of local vendors, art, live music, food trucks and beer and wine. The intent is to get out into our community and share our message in hopes of growing our membership. All Social Action groups like Rainbow Connection are asked to have a member attend these events and help staff the booth.

The next event towards All Faiths yearly renewal of our "Welcoming Congregation" status will be to honor International Transgender Day of Visibility. A Sunday service will be held on April 6th, to bring awareness to transgender people, their identities and issues, especially in Florida today. This will be the first of two worship services for the year. The next item on our schedule is a Day of Remembrance for International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia which will be held during service on May 18th.

Another event called Interfaith Pride Service is coming up soon, where people of many faiths and non-faith join together to support the LGBTQ+ community. It is being hosted by Interfaith Alliance of SWFL and held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Naples on Sunday, April 6th starting at 4pm. We encourage anyone that can make this to please attend. Carpooling can be arranged from All Faiths parking lot.

Carole Latino: [carolelatino@gmail.com](mailto:carolelatino@gmail.com)

David Donovan: [ddonovan722@gmail.com](mailto:ddonovan722@gmail.com)

## LIFE NEWS & UPDATES

by Robert Bennett, Team Leader

The old News-Press building is to be developed for a mixed housing facility to include affordable and workforce apartments. We will continue to advocate the just stewardship of the City's use of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Andy Lee, our DART advisor and consultant, said that LIFE is currently unable to undertake many initiatives. The organization has faced significant challenges, COVID, Hurricane Ian, other hurricanes, embezzlement and staff losses, yet it is still here. He remarked, "This dedication of the group is incredible." We need to grow to be more effective in our impact to spread justice and mercy to our community. The power of our voice is strengthened by numbers.

We are working to increase the number of participants among faith organizations and also must increase the number of congregants in our organization among the faith groups who are already a part of LIFE. We are working to improve our website. Members are being asked to confirm their financial commitment so that a budget can be completed for this year. Leadership contact information is being reconfirmed and updated.

A leadership training will take place later in the year and a clergy organizational meeting will take place on May 22nd. Although we will not be having a Nehemiah action this year, a great deal is going on and it is a year to become fit and healthy and strong and ready for action.

### Upcoming Events You Don't Want to Miss!



#### CELEBRATE WITH US

Americans United  
Turner Civic Award Luncheon  
Honoring Interfaith Alliance of SWFL

Wednesday, Feb 5th at 12:00 PM  
Vineyards Country Club  
400 Vineyards Blvd  
Naples, FL 34119



#### BANNED TOGETHER:

How a Grassroots Movement is  
Challenging Censorship in Florida's  
Public Schools  
Co-Sponsored with Progressive Voices of UUCGN

Wednesday, Feb 26th at 6:30 PM  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation  
6340 Napa Woods Way  
Naples, FL 34119



#### INTERFAITH PRIDE SERVICE

People of many faiths and no faith  
join together to celebrate and  
support the LGBTQ+ community

Sunday, April 6th at 4:00 PM  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation  
6340 Napa Woods Way  
Naples, FL 34119



#### MONTHLY MEETINGS

All are Welcome!  
Join us in-person or via Zoom

Monday, Jan 27th at 7:00  
Monday, Feb 24th at 7:00  
Monday, Mar 24th at 7:00  
Monday, Apr 28th at 7:00  
Monday, Jun 16th at 7:00

Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
6340 Napa Woods Way  
Naples, FL 34119



## RACIAL EQUITY TEAM NEWS

by Frank Geltner, Co-Chair

The Racial Equity Team has decided to throw its energy into developing an outreach activity with the Southwest Florida Quality Life Center (QLC). Members of All Faiths are welcome to join the Racial Equity Team at 10 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month for our regularly scheduled meetings.

## ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

by Regina Kilmartin, Cong. Admin.

All Faiths' Annual Meeting took place on March 16, 2025. Election of Board Members and Nominating Committee members were unanimous. The Board welcomed Barb McFarlane as Secretary. Barb earlier in the year replaced Diane Chernow who had to step down early due to health issues. Carol Heilsberg is replacing Barb McFarlane's director position, and Helen Dixon came on board as a new director, taking the place of Rosalie Keuhn, who's term was up.

The Budget was passed for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$237,488, just under a 2% increase from last year. We are grateful to everyone who pledged during our January pledge drive.

Bylaws revisions proposed by the Bylaws committee were also unanimously approved.

Thank you to everyone who participated. All of All Faiths' governing documents: Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Congregational Manual, Annual Reports and Strategic Plan can be located on our Website [www.allfaithsuu.org](http://www.allfaithsuu.org) under the "Leadership and Bylaws" tab located at the bottom of the page.

A Board Retreat and the regularly monthly Board Meeting will be held on April 16, 2025, at McGregor Clinic.

## STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATED

by John Conrad, Treasurer

Over the last few months, the Board of Directors has updated the All Faiths Strategic Plan.

This was developed several years ago when CJ McGregor was the Minister, and we have edited it to be more relevant in 2025. An example of this is the previously stated goal of live-streaming our Sunday services; this is now routinely done because of the Covid pandemic.

The Board plans on reviewing the Strategic Plan on an annual basis to assist in clarifying our priorities. The Strategic Plan can be found on our website.

## ♥ FOR THE HOMELESS TEAM

by Judy Alberda, Co-Chair

Our team learned a lot from a visit to Matt Wallace's office on Monroe Street downtown. He detailed the work that he and his team do on the streets of Fort Myers everyday. They approach homeless people, chat with them to determine which type of available service they need. Then he recommends that they contact the appropriate agency.

Their warehouse is stocked with items that a homeless person may need, such as blankets, clothing, personal care items and information as to how to get a free phone. Then we went to a McDonald's in an area where there are homeless people to see if there was anyone we could offer a gray book from the Southwest Florida Homeless Coalition with information as to services available.

No homeless people were there so we had a hot fudge Sundae. For our April meeting on the 17th, a member of the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) will speak. That is the police department's outreach team. The congregation is welcome to come hear their presentation. Then we will underline some of the relevant services available in the Coalition Handbook, which is extensive and maybe a bit overwhelming to readers.

More interesting meetings are planned so you are welcome to join us and learn.

Contact: Judy Alberda at [judyalberda@yahoo.com](mailto:judyalberda@yahoo.com)  
or Robert Bennett at [rnbftm@aol.com](mailto:rnbftm@aol.com)

## ACMA LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE!

**Saturday, April 12 - 7:00pm**

Rebecca Folsom in Concert

Carolyn and David Stanley opening

**Saturday, April 26 - 7:00pm**

Hymn for Her in Concert

Mike McMillan opening



**The Listening Room at All Faiths**

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida

General public \$20/Member discount \$15

Donations at the Door



POEM – unnamed  
for Earth Day, April 22, 2025  
written by Dottie E. Mayol

Father Ocean and Mother Earth -  
in a symbiotic union.  
His waves continually roll far: hither and thither.  
Her land stretches from icy whites to jungle greens.  
Together, they created Flora and Fauna:  
from behemoth whales and elephants  
to microscopic organisms.  
We humans belong to Father Ocean & Mother Earth,  
and they have gifted us the Four Seasons.  
Honor Thy Parents.

## All Faiths Spring Cleanup!

Join the Spring Clean movement. Yes, it's that time of year again. You are cordially invited to help spruce up our building and grounds on **Saturday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m.**

Coffee -- and, yes, donuts -- will be served. We will deep clean the kitchen and bathrooms, organize the cluttered closets, wash the windows, and pickup the grounds.

The more the merrier! Remember -- **a clean space is a happy place!** Sign up on the bulletin board.

## Earth Day 2025!

For 55 years, Earth Day has led the world in raising awareness and taking action on critically important environmental issues. We advocate for the health of the planet, for our air, oceans, soil, eco-systems, wildlife, and human health.

On April 22nd, 2025, Earth Day will turn 55, with 192 countries and over one billion people around the globe expected to participate. This demonstrates how the diverse Earth Day movement remains as dedicated today as it was back in 1970 to bringing everyone together for a better future.

Grassroots people-power has always been at the heart of Earth Day and it is the catalyst for paradigm-shifting change because when individuals unite with a common purpose, they can overcome even the most entrenched systems and industries.

## CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Joan Marshall, Co-Chair



On April 22nd the world will once again celebrate Earth Day. This year the Climate Action Team began that celebration early with our series of seven Sunday morning **Save Our Planet...Save Ourselves** workshops. The first session, which was held on March 23rd, featured video presentations by a Swedish scientist, Johan Rockstrom, who is internationally recognized for his work on global sustainability issues. If you are not one of the twenty or so congregants who were in attendance, you can watch online his Ted Talk on The Tipping Points of Climate Change and Where We Stand. It's a powerful and compelling look at the magnificent ecosystem that supports life on earth and how we are disrupting it. We encourage you to join us for as many of our workshops as you can to learn more about how we can best protect and preserve this precious planet that sustains us. Here are the titles of the six remaining workshops:

**March 30th:** Understanding the Scope...  
The Many Ways Climate Change Impacts Our Lives  
Leader - Ariel Hoover

**April 6th** - Science Framework to Accelerate Climate Solutions  
Leader - Bob Moore

**April 13th** - Shifting to a New Level of Consciousness and Making a Difference.  
Leader - Gary Robbins

**April 20th** - Earth Day - Our Power, Our Planet Taking Collaborative Action  
Leader - Ensign Cowell

**April 27th** - Carbon Crew - The Power of Personal Action  
Leader - Josephine DiVenchenzi

**May 4th** - Sharing our Journey with Others  
Leaders - Carol, Joan, Ensign, Bob and Ariel

The future of the Earth is literally in the hands of those of us alive today. Join us in learning how to best protect this planet we love.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

by John Conrad, Treasurer

### Cash Assets – February 2025

First Horizon Checking	\$ 30,227
Raymond James Legacy	5,258
Live Oak Operating Reserve (CD)	23,088
First Horizon Capital Reserve	2,319
Live Oak Capital Reserve (S)	32,948
Live Oak Operating Reserve (S)	42,565
Live Oak Legacy (CD)	21,821

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$158,225</b>
Prior Month	<u>144,595</u>
<b>Net Gain/Loss</b>	<b>\$ 13,630</b>

### February 2025 Profit & Loss

Operating Income	\$ 40,053
Operating Expense	<u>24,807</u>
<b>Net Gain/Loss</b>	<b>\$ 15,246</b>

### Revenue/Operating Income and Expenses:

As we entered the new 2024-2025 fiscal year on April 1, All Faiths budgeted \$200,200 for pledge giving; to date, actual pledges have totaled \$185,160 (92.5%).

Our Pledge Goal for the months of April to February was \$183,517; and \$167,445 was received (91.2%). However, before April 1, 2024, \$24,757 was received in paid pledges towards the new year. Taking this into account, we have received a total of \$192,202 towards the current year total pledge drive goal of \$200,200 (96.0%).

\$9,115 was paid in February for Wind and Liability/Umbrella Insurance.

February's Interest Income was \$372.

At the beginning of the 2023-2024 fiscal year, several new accounts were created at Live Oak to generate increased interest income. The 1 Year CD rate is **5.0%**. And the Savings rate is currently at 3.6%.

The contracts were authorized to repair the fence on the west side of the property and to replace the sign; both were damaged during Hurricane Milton. Down payment checks were issued for each contract (\$1,430 for the Fence; and \$1,081.25 for the Sign).

In February, \$1,581 was collected for the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

## YARD SALE COMING SOON!

Save the Date! April 12, 2025

7-8am Setup — Sale 8-1pm



Start cleaning out your closets! It's time for another Junk-in-the-Trunk yard sale.

Vendors donate 50% of their proceeds to support All Faiths' general operating budget.

There will be Grilled Burgers & Dogs, Baked Goods and Beverages for Sale.

Spots reserved on a first-come/first-serve basis. Room for approximately 20 cars. Sign up on the bulletin board.

## IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE LINKS

*Courtesy of UU Florida Justice*

Each Florida legislative chamber has their own website: the Florida House of Representatives and The Florida Senate

Below is the Florida House Directory link.

<https://flhouse.gov/FileStores/Web/HouseContent/Approved/ClerksOffice/HouseDirectory.pdf>

The Directory has Important information such as House leadership, committee leadership, and contact info as well as information about your elected official.

Florida House website: You might go there to see the ever changing: Current House Calendar, Florida House Directory and to view what some of you elected officials post.

<https://flhouse.gov/default.aspx>

Florida House Districts maps

[https://www.flhouse.gov/FileStores/Web/District/DistrictMaps/32x32\\_Statewide\\_State\\_House\\_Districts.pdf](https://www.flhouse.gov/FileStores/Web/District/DistrictMaps/32x32_Statewide_State_House_Districts.pdf)

Important to know who your neighbors are politically and who might be your allies.

Florida Senate which includes the Directory of Senators

<https://www.flsenate.gov/>

Florida Senate Districts map

<https://www.flsenate.gov/senators/districts>



# NATIONAL AIDS QUILT SECTION REMAINS ON DISPLAY THROUGH APRIL 11



*David says the rosary as Brian tackles the ladder with no one holding it!*



*Frank and Brian hold the ladder while no one tackles it!*



*Brian and Frank assemble. Instructions not included.*

Thanks to collaborative efforts by All Faiths member, Wayne Reese, a section of the National AIDS Quilt has been on display in the Sanctuary since March 19.

The quilt arrived Tuesday, March 18, just before 6pm. Not knowing whether the quilt would arrive as a 12x12 section or eight 6x3 sections, the hanging team couldn't make a plan until the box was opened.

After some ingenious brainstorming, and a lot of hustle, the quilt was hung by 8:30pm. Thanks to Frank Geltner, John Conrad, Brian Bigelow, David Donovan, Regina Kilmartin, Frank Stephens, and Wayne Reese for a job well done.

*(Not pictured, John Conrad, who expertly opened the box and provided gloves and encouragement!)*



*The end result - a somber reminder of darker times in U.S. history.*



*The plan goes into execution mode. A little to the left, please.*



*What was she thinking?! Hope the Workers Comp is paid.*



*Wayne and Frank look pleased with the results.*





## Are you interested in Meditation at All Faiths?

Opportunity knocks. If there is enough interest, All Faiths will offer mindfulness meditation classes, free of charge, as early as the end of April.

Please take a moment to let us know: *Are you interested? What days of the week work best for you (Monday - Saturday)? Do you prefer morning, midday or evening classes?* There will be a sheet on the bulletin board or you can email the office at [office@allfaithsuu.org](mailto:office@allfaithsuu.org) with your preferences.

**About the teacher:** *Ranji Latchmansingh*, is a trained Hatha Yoga instructor since 2009 and has been practicing and teaching Hatha Yoga, mindfulness meditation and breath awareness practices for many years. His classes have included adults of all ages, teenagers, and children. In addition to teaching Yoga and meditation to the general public, he has also been facilitating learning and transformation programs as well as conducting mindfulness based training for over 18 years in corporate environments. He continues to teach mindfulness in various settings, attends silent meditation retreats and maintains a regular meditation practice.



## All Faiths Unitarian Congregation

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Phone: (239) 226-0900 – Email: [office@allfaithsuu.org](mailto:office@allfaithsuu.org) – Website: [www.allfaithsuu.org](http://www.allfaithsuu.org)

**Executive Board:** David Donovan, Chair; Dick Scudder, Vice Chair; John Conrad, Treasurer; Barb McFarlane, Secretary.

**Directors:** Helen Dixon, Frank Geltner, Carol Heilsberg, Ken Malkin, Lewis Robinson.

**Ex-Officio, Non Voting:** Marge DiGalbo, Past Chair; Alberita Johnson, Minister

**Staff:** Regina Kilmartin, Administrator; Sharon Heinrich, CYP Director; Carlos Garcia, Music Director; Joe Gayton, Sexton.

**Commissioned Lay Minister:** Alberita (Albie) Johnson



### Communications

*Newsletter*

Regina Kilmartin

*Proofreaders*

Weezie Close/Joyce Ramay

*Social Media & Website*

Regina Kilmartin/Becky Ross

### Sunday Service Team

Joyce Ramay

### Hospitality

Frank Stephens

### Program Support

Michelle Gemma/Barb McFarlane

### Member Services

Dottie Mayol/Carole Latino

*Greeters*

Dick Scudder

*Care and Support*

Joyce Ramay

### Finance

Joyce Ramay

### Stewardship Committee

Ken Malkin

### Nominating Committee

Sharon Gray

### Sound Technicians

David Donovan/Brad Davidson

### Livestreaming

Regina Kilmartin/Sharon Gray

Brad Davidson

### Building and Grounds

Frank Geltner/Brian Bigelow

### Social Action & Outreach

*Climate Action Team*

Joan Marshall/Carol Heilsberg

*Heart for the Homeless*

Judy Alberda,

Robert Bennett

### Racial Equity Team

Nicole Racine/Frank Geltner

*L.I.F.E.*

Robert Bennett,

Barb McFarlane

JoAnn Hilliard

*Mano a Mano*

Charlotte Blitt

*Operation Joy & Solos Group*

Annely Hudanick

*Animal Ministry*

Sharon Gray

*Rainbow Connection*

David Donovan

**Founding Minister:** The Late Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Robinson



Deadline for the **May** Issue of *Connections* is **April 18**

(Brief announcements may be accepted later, and will be included *if* space and time permit.)



OFFICE HOURS: 9am to 4pm, Monday–Thurs;  
9am to 12pm, Friday & Sunday.

Congregational Administrator: Regina Kilmartin