

The Newsletter of All Faiths Unitarian Congregation, *where diversity is treasured.*
A member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

Inside

Board Notes.....	2
Sunday Collection Schedule.....	2
From McGregor Boulevard.....	3
<i>by Rev. CJ McGregor</i>	
Joys & Sorrows.....	3
Happening at All Faiths.....	4
Homeless Team Needs Caps.....	5
March 2020 Calendar.....	6
Notice of Annual Meeting.....	6
Thank You for Serving on Board.....	6
Pledge Drive Wraps Up.....	6
Odyssey with Annely Hudanick.....	6
Climate Action Team News.....	7
Univ. of Georgia Students Return.....	7
Together on the Journey.....	8
<i>featuring Scott Kilhefner and Anita and Robert Battaglia</i>	
Treasurer's Report.....	9
"Enter, Rejoice & Bid" Auction.....	10
LIFE Nehemiah Action.....	10
Help Feed the Homeless.....	10
Animal Shelter Collection.....	10
Sunday Services & Adult Ed Forums...	11
Children's RE.....	11
Trivia Night.....	12
ACMA March Concert Lineup.....	12

University of Georgia Students Return to All Faiths for Environmental Justice Work

(see page 7)



All Faiths 3rd Annual
Live & Silent Auction

March 28, 2020
at 5:30 P.M.
(see page 10)

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020 - 10:00 A.M.

*Between Services in the Sanctuary
Please plan to attend and participate*

*Budget Q&A Prior to the Meeting
March 8 at 10 A.M.
(see page 6)*

The Board meeting was held on February 19, 2020.

The February meeting had a busy agenda as we prepared for the March 22th Annual Meeting.

Actions taken at the meeting included:

- The Goal Budget used by the Stewardship Committee during the pledge drive was approved as the proposed budget that will be presented to membership for approval at the annual meeting. The Finance Committee had made line item changes to the budget but the total for income and expenses remained the same at \$237,980.

- The board approved a request from the Nominating Committee to request a waiver of the one-year membership requirement for board membership as an action at the annual meeting. Two candidates who have been active and involved for over a year in our congrega-

tion but who have been members for less than a year, are nominated. The congregation will have to approve the suspension of the one-year membership requirement for this year only for the two nominees for the positions of Treasurer and Director.

- Planning is underway for the Auction Night on March 28th starting at 5:30. Mark it on your calendar. This is a major fund-raiser for All Faiths and its success is critical to our ability to meet our annual budget. Forms are available for donations for the silent auction, live auction and raffles.

- The board voted to have the starting time for the service at 10:30 A.M. when we return to one service.

- Our air-conditioning unit sprung a leak and the cost of repairs will probably exceed \$2,000.

- Wish List items: our street flags need to be replaced. If

you would like to make a special contribution toward the flag replacement please see Regina.

- The development of the Five-Year Plan is continuing. Part of this effort has included working with an architect to determine options available and the feasibility of modifying our building to provide two classrooms, bathroom improvements to meet ADA requirements, and a small increase in seating capacity. A meeting with City of Fort Myers officials was held on February 20 to discuss our options and their concerns. They identified several challenging requirements to be considered as we continue the planning process.

Although our budget situation has improved during the past two months, the income received thus far for the year is about 10% below the income estimated in the budget for the first ten months of our fiscal

year. Expenses to date have been lower than estimated, but we are still about \$3,000 in the red. It is critical that we have a successful fund-raiser and that pledge and plate donations are very good during the final two months of the fiscal year to end with a balanced budget.

Please contact me or any board member if you have items for our next board meeting.

Our next board meeting will be March 18 at 1:00 p.m. Members are welcome to observe.

Friday Meditation 10:30 a.m.

The Friday morning meditation group invites you to join them.

It is casual, calming, and a great way to start your weekend.

Mission Statement

“All Faiths Unitarian Congregation is a welcoming, caring community, seeking diversity, practicing openness, and encouraging personal and spiritual growth.
“We are working toward a just, free, peaceful and compassionate world.”

All Faiths Collection Schedule (New slate of organizations will start in April 2020)

Share-the-Plate (10% of undesignated donations on the 2nd Sunday of the month)

March - Operation Joy

April - Community Forum Foundation, Dunbar (CAT)

May - Meals of Hope

June - The Change, Alliance for the Arts (Racial Justice)

July - City Gate Ministries (Hearts for the Homeless)

Food, Clothing, and Other Collections

McGregor Clinic - March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19

Second Collections

December 6 - Employee Bonuses

The February Share-the-Plate resulted in \$247.50 for Lee County Homeless Coalition





At the time of this writing, I have just said goodbye to a dear friend visiting from England. While at university, I worked each summer in the Catskill Mountains at a camp for people with developmental disabilities. It was here I met people from around the world, many who remain good friends. Thirty-two years later my friend, Dawn, and I had a chance to have long chats recalling memories and looking at where we've been for a few decades.

We both realized that when we were 18 we had great dreams, plans, and perceived needs that hadn't necessarily come to fruition. Sitting under the stars in 1988 we were pretty sure how our lives would go. Sitting in my living room in 2020 we laughed at how our lives hadn't gone in the direction we predicted. She never dreamed she would be a mother of four and I, along with many others, never had an inkling I would pursue ministry. We both agreed that we aren't disappointed. Along the way we had to let go of some things that really mattered and that we had to travel through doors that presented themselves, doors we would never have dreamed of opening.

We agreed that self-compassion had guided us through these doors and on these journey's. You see, sometimes we can be stuck on what we want outcomes to be. We believe that if it doesn't work out the way we planned we must be weak, defective, or feel anxious and fearful. We lack compassion for ourselves and accept blame which dilutes our self worth. We forget the importance of experimenting and working out what is best for ourselves versus what society tells us is best for us.

Author Paul Gilbert writes, "With all the ways of working with your thinking, remember that we're all caught up in the flow of life, like corks bouncing on the sea, and we're simply trying to do the best we can to go through life balancing our feelings and harnessing compassion." The ribbon running through all of my messages this month will be compassion. Let us listen to the messages of self-compassion, the wisdom of compassion that challenges our tendency to be self-righteous, and ways to recognize our humanity. My friend and I have practiced this over the past few days and have realized we are better for it.

– Blessings, CJ



JOYS & SORROWS

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

Robert Bennett will be having rotator cuff surgery in early March. We hope that the surgery goes well and that he recovers good use of his arm.

Weezie Close's brother has returned home from a hospital stay, but is still experiencing health problems. We hope he is feeling better soon.

Bob and Marge DiGalbo celebrated their 45th anniversary. Congratulations!

Kendra Maroon's father died. We extend our sympathy to her and her family.

Quillen McDaigle will be embraced in our Child Dedication at Sunday Service on March 22. We are happy to have her and her loving parents with us.

Lillian Pierce fell and broke her hip and three ribs. She will be staying in rehab for several weeks in New Jersey. We hope she has a good recovery.

Hank Shapiro was hospitalized in New Jersey with heart failure. They are evaluating him for a possible new heart valve. We hope that he recovers well.

Joan and Segundo Velasquez returned to Fort Myers for a visit and shared an update on their latest uplift activities in Bolivia, including a new agricultural training project for sustainable farming.

Joyce Davison suffered the loss of her 14-year-old cat Billie, and **Joyce Ramay** lost her 15 year-old-dog Jani. We know the importance of loyal companions in our lives.

An Irish Blessing

May love and laughter
light your days and warm
your heart and home.
May good and faithful
friends be yours
wherever you may roam.

Happening at All Faiths

Happy March Birthday to you!



March 1 Eileen Moran
March 2 Robert Way
March 3 Charlotte Blitt
March 4 Frankie Jennings
March 5 Jim Goodman
March 5 Debbie Kopp
March 9 Barbara Constans
March 12 Diane Chernow
March 15 Rachel Spiller
March 14 Patrick Spiller
March 17 Robert Battaglia
March 20 Greg Monk
March 21 Pat Nuding
March 21 Valarie Meacham
March 21 Chuck McGarry
March 23 Bob Moore
March 28 Sally Mason

And Coming Up...

April 1 Carol Heilsberg
April 3 Bill Snider

Solos Group Events

Contact: Annely Hudanick,
annelyblue@hotmail.com

Everyone is welcome to join the solos for outings and lunch w/wo a movie date. The potlucks, however, are reserved for "single" solos.

Saturday, March 7, 1p.m.

Potluck Hosted by
Barbara Goolsby & Michael Pierre
239-226-1155

Saturday, March 21, 1 p.m.

Lunch w/wo a Movie
Cantina Laredo
5200 Big Pine Way, Fort Myers, FL

Book Club & Brown Bag - March 9 - Noon

Meeting on the 2nd Monday of the Month

Contacts: Diane Chernow, dianecher@comcast.net.

Be prepared to give a brief talk about a book you're reading or you have read.

Meditation - Fridays at 10:30am

Contact: Judy Alberda, judyalberda@yahoo.com

Join friends to develop your mindfulness, compassion, and sense of serenity.

McGregor Clinic Collection - Sunday, March 15

Collection is on the 3rd Sunday of Every Month

Coordinator: Joyce Schaffer, joycelschaffer@gmail.com

This month the clinic is in need of clothing, high protein and non-perishable foods.

All Voices Choir Practice - Wednesdays at 4:45pm

Meeting every Wednesday

You do not have to be a professional singer or read sheet music to join. Contact: Joseph Brauer, jodabrauer@gmail.com.

Trivia Night - Monday, March 23 from 7-9pm

Meeting on the 4th Monday of the Month

Team or individual play, depending on how many show up. This is not Jeopardy, there are no buzzers or speed restrictions - and it's a lot of fun! Winners take home the trophy.


FOR THE HOMELESS PROJECT

by Judy Alberda, Co-Chair

The ♥ For the Homeless Team is collecting baseball caps for the homeless. Our climate is made more tolerable with a head covering and eye shade. Please bring your old caps you don't need to the Community Room on March 15th. Wear one if you like! The caps will be distributed to agencies that serve our homeless neighbors. Thank you ahead of time for your continued generosity.



MARCH 2020 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>1</div> <div>9am Service</div> <div>10am Adult Ed. Forum</div> <div>11am Service & Children's RE</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>1:30pm Climate Action Team Mtg .</div>	<div>4</div> <div>4:45pm Choir Practice</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div> <div>10:30am Meditation</div>	<div>7</div> <div>1pm Solos Potluck</div> <div>7pm ACMA Concert Mean Mary w. Pete & Sylvia Popravak opening</div>
<div>8</div> <div>9am Service</div> <div>10am Budget Q&A</div> <div>11am Service & Children's RE</div> <div>Share-The-Plate Op. Joy</div>	<div>9</div> <div>10am Sun. Services Team Mtg .</div> <div>12pm Book Club</div> <div>7pm NEHEMIAH Action Dunbar H.S.</div>	<div>10</div> <div>11am Georgia Students meet with Climate Action Team</div>	<div>11</div> <div>4:45pm Choir Practice</div>	<div>12</div> <div>10am Finance Comm. Meeting</div> <div>6pm AF Hosts Potluck Dinner w. Georgia Students</div>	<div>13</div> <div>10:30am Meditation</div>	<div>14</div> <div>7pm ACMA Concert Richard Smith w. Mike McMillan opening</div>
<div>15</div> <div>9am Service</div> <div>10am Adult Ed. Forum</div> <div>11am Service & Children's RE</div> <div>McGregor Clinic Collection</div>	<div>16</div> <div>7:00pm PFLAG Mtg.</div>	<div>17</div> <div></div> <div>St. Patrick's Day</div>	<div>18</div> <div>10am Racial Justice Mtg.</div> <div>1 pm Board Meeting</div> <div>4:45pm Choir Practice</div> <div>7pm Odyssey w. Annely Hudanick</div>	<div>19</div> <div>2pm Homeless Action Team Mtg.</div>	<div>20</div> <div>10:30am Meditation</div>	<div>21</div> <div>1pm Solos Lunch</div> <div>7pm ACMA Concert Daniel Boling w. Elizabeth Lockhart opening</div>
<div>22</div> <div>9am Service</div> <div>10am Annual Meeting</div> <div>11am Service & Children's RE</div>	<div>23</div> <div>7:00pm Trivia Night</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div>4:45pm Choir Practice</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div>10:30am Meditation</div> <div>7pm ACMA Concert Bill & Kate Isles</div>	<div>28</div> <div>5:30pm Enter, Rejoice & Bid!</div> <div>AF Live & Silent Auction</div>
<div>29</div> <div>9am Service</div> <div>10am Adult Ed. Forum</div> <div>11am Service & Children's RE</div> <div>Animal Shelter Collection</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div>	<div>University of Georgia Students</div> <div>Visiting from March 7 through March 14</div>			
<div>Check the online calendar at: http://www.allfaiths-uc.org for post-printing updates</div>						

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
Election of Board and Nominating Committee
Members; approval of 2020-2021 Budget**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.
Between Services in the Sanctuary**

Members of All Faiths Unitarian Congregation are encouraged to attend our Annual Meeting, which will be held in the sanctuary between Sunday services on March 22. Items on the agenda are:

- Highlights of Minutes from Last Year's Meeting
- Election of Treasurer, Directors, and Nominating Committee Members
- Approval of the Budget for 2020-2021

Members may register and obtain ballots at a table outside the front door, preferably prior to the start of the meeting. Absentee ballots may be obtained on the first two Sundays in March at the All Faiths office or by emailing office@allfaiths-uc.org. Signed absentee ballots must be returned to All Faiths prior to the meeting and will be counted in the quorum.

Please mark your calendar and plan to participate.

NOTES: An Annual Report, including reports from various congregational leaders, the Budget, and Nominees for the Board will be distributed electronically March 16. Hard copies will be available for congregants not having an email address.

Discussion on all items will be held between services at a Q&A Session on March 8, 2020.

Voting will be between services March 22, 2020.

/s/ Ed Elrod
Secretary
Board of Directors

**MANY THANKS TO OUR
OUTGOING
BOARD MEMBERS**

They say all good things must come to an end. Sadly, board terms are one of those things. We would like to thank Sharon Gray, Annely Hudanick and Doug Cartwright for their dedicated service as treasurer and board directors; their terms will be ending on March 31. The congregation and staff are grateful for their inspired leadership and appreciate the strong foundations that they have laid for us. May we continue to move forward with the same kind of dedication and commitment!

**STEWARDSHIP WRAPS UP
ANNUAL PLEDGE DRIVE**

Thanks to all of you who have made your pledges of contributions for the coming fiscal year, April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021. Our goal for pledges is \$204,090. As of Founders' Day, we have achieved 83% of that goal, with a total of \$169,582 committed by 70% of our pledge units.

The Stewardship Team will be following up with others who have not yet turned in their pledge forms. No matter how much or how little you can give, it is helpful for us to have an idea on what we can count on to cover our expenses for employees, facilities, supplies and programs. If you haven't done so yet, please ask for the pink pledge form and return it ASAP.

We are grateful to our Stewardship Team which has worked for these past months in planning and conducting our pledge drive. It is because of dedicated volunteers like these that All Faiths is enabled to pursue our goals and objectives in being a welcoming congregation, providing spiritual uplift, and working to make this a better world.

**MARCH ODYSSEY
ANNELY HUDANICK**

Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m.



We know Annely is witty, we know she speaks German, we know she loves cats - but what *don't* we know? You can find out on March 18 at 7:00 p.m. when she reveals all to Rev. CJ.

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Joan Marshall, Co-Chair



Great news! We have been looking for a way for our All Faiths congregation to plant trees in the Dunbar neighborhood and have found a perfect location and great partners for this important environmental effort. The Apostolic House of God on Lincoln

Blvd. has welcomed us to join with their congregation to plant trees on the undeveloped property around their church. Assisting us in this effort will be a non-profit organization that specializes in tree-planting called One Tree. The Community Forum Foundation, with whom we have been working for the past few years on environmental issues in the Dunbar community, will also be involved in the project. The planting event will most likely take place in the late spring in order to take advantage of the summer rainy season. At our next CAT meeting we'll be making plans for how to raise funds for this effort and welcome any ideas you may have.

The UU Ministry for Earth has announced the March release of a documentary film they helped to produce called *The Condor and the Eagle*. This is an award-winning feature documentary which Ministry for Earth is calling upon UU congregations to support with special screenings to take place on or around Water Day on Sunday, March 22nd. Here's a brief summary:

Four Indigenous leaders embark on an extraordinary trans-continental adventure from the Canadian plains to deep into the heart of the Amazonian jungle to unite the peoples of North and South America and deepen the meaning of "Climate Justice". Their path through the jungle takes them on an unexpectedly challenging and liberating journey, which will forever change their attachment to the Earth and one another.

CAT is making plans for this important UU film event in March. Look for more information soon.

Learning to live sustainably is a challenge we all face and a legacy we all owe to future generations. To help us meet that challenge, CAT will be offering a monthly GREEN TIP. Here's one for March: Adjust the heat or A/C when you're out or sleeping.

ALL FAITHS HOSTS UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA STUDENTS FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

All Faiths will host students from the University of Georgia's Center for Leadership March 7 -14, 2020. While in Fort Myers students will be working on Environmental Justice service projects. The students are part of the Impact Service Break program.

All Faiths is the perfect partner as its Climate Action Team and Social Action and Outreach Committee have been working in the community and advocating for environmental justice for years.

The mission of the IMPACT program is to engage University of Georgia students in an affordable, week-long, substance-free, experiential service learning project that encourages an understanding of pressing social issues in a significant way. It is the goal of the organization to address community needs through direct and indirect service as well as provide students the knowledge of social issues in our own country. By providing new perspectives and hearing the stories of others, participants gain invaluable experiences that bring us together.

Mar. 7	Arrival, Pizza on Deck, invited to ACMA Concert (Contact: Rev. CJ)
Mar. 8	Need to be up & belongings stored in Robinson Room by 8:30am. Invited to Service (Contact: Richard Keelan)
Mar. 9	
Mar. 10	Meet with CAT 11am in Community Room (Contact: Joan Marshall)
Mar. 11	
Mar. 12	Potluck w. Congregation Community Room at 6pm (Contact: Rev. CJ)
Mar. 13	Invited to 10:30 Meditation (Contact: Regina Kilmartin)
Mar. 14	Leave. Return chairs to both rooms as per seating chart (Contact: Joe Gayton)

TOGETHER ON THE JOURNEY

by Fran Way and Marsha Bates, Member Services

Each month the newsletter profiles an All Faiths' veteran and/or new member. This month we feature new members, Scott Kilhefner and Anita and Robert Battaglia.



Scott Kilhefner Member Since 2019

Scott Kilhefner grew up in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, a small, rural town. His parents worked in finance. His dad was a bookkeeper and his mom worked for a bank. Scott has one younger sister.

After earning an education degree from Shippensburg University, he married his high school sweetheart and they moved to Virginia where Scott taught in a juvenile detention center. After his wife completed her education degree, Lee County Schools recruited her so she and Scott relocated to Fort Myers.

For 25 years, Scott taught a variety of grades and subjects in public schools. He taught special education classes in the elementary grades; history and social studies to middle school students; and reading and social studies at the high school level. He finished his high school education career as a special education caseworker. Currently, Scott is a special education teacher for the State of Florida's Department of Corrections, working at its Charlotte Correctional Institute in Punta Gorda.

Scott often relaxes at the end of a long shift by reading. His favorite book is *Lord of the Rings*, which he has read three times. He is engaged in politics and watches hockey and baseball on TV.

Scott is divorced and has three children: Micah, Divya and Olivia. You may have met Olivia; she sometimes attends services with her dad when her work schedule allows.

Divya joined the Kilhefner family about twelve years ago. Scott and his ex-wife had learned about a child in India who was considered 'un-adoptable' because the little girl was too old. Divya was three at the time and couples wanted to adopt infants rather than toddlers. The Kilhefner's soon learned that an international adoption is a long, slow process that has many roadblocks. In fact, Divya was six before Scott was finally able to fly to India to bring her to the United States.

Imagine what Divya must have felt being six years old, speaking only Hindi, and never having left the orphanage where she had lived her entire life. Then a strange white man (who didn't know Hindi) arrives to take her away.

Scott said Divya was obviously stressed (as was he). A sympathetic taxi driver suggested that the three of them attend a service at a Hindu temple...something familiar to the frightened child. The priest noticed them and invited the trio to share a meal with him. During the meal, the priest talked to Divya (in Hindi). Scott could see Divya relax. Later, the taxi driver said the priest had told Divya "I have been a priest for a long time. I can see that this man (Scott) is a good man and you can trust him." Scott said although the six-day trip to India was stressful, it was a spiritual awakening for him.

Scott grew disenchanted with some of the dogma associated with the Protestant faith he had grown up in and practiced for many years. He started an on-line search for answers to questions that bothered him and eventually found references to Unitarian Universalism. He researched further, felt the UU philosophy was a good match for him, and was delighted when he found a congregation in the Fort Myers area. He first attended All Faiths on August 4, 2019, a Sunday when CJ was still on vacation. He enjoyed the service and decided to attend for a month before making any commitments. Once CJ returned to the pulpit, Scott said, "That sealed the deal." He decided to make All Faiths his spiritual home.

Scott would like to be more involved in congregational activities; however, at this time in his life, personal circumstances limit his ability to participate in many activities. But he says the hour of worship he attends each week is essential to him.

Anita & Robert Battaglia Member Since 2019



Retirees Anita and Robert Battaglia live in Shell Point and were friends of All Faiths members Joy Ellyn Ryan and Tim Brady. When they attended Joy Ellyn and Tim's memorial service, they were impressed by Rev. CJ's words and wondered if they might find a spiritual home at All Faiths. Anita's religious upbringing was evangelical, but she was always discontented with the "my way is the only way" philosophy. Robert's parents were Catholic but had left the church. While he was growing up Robert attended an evangeli-

(continued on page 9)

cal congregation. When they visited All Faiths, Anita said they were thrilled. "We don't want to be hypocrites and here we feel at home." They have attended regularly since their first visit and became members in October 2019.

Both Anita and Robert were raised in the Chicago area. Anita lived on the city's west side and Robert grew up in the Grange Park suburb. Anita is the eldest of four children. There was a wide age gap between her and her siblings. It's like we were raised in different families. I was almost an only child. Robert and his two siblings were part of a "100% Italian" family.

Anita graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in education and taught third through sixth grades and special education in Lincolnwood, Illinois. With the exception of a break when son Michael was small, she taught there from 1963 until she retired in 2000. Son Michael attended that same school and returned there as an adult to teach.

Robert earned a B.S. in accounting at Walton School of Commerce. He was drafted into the Army in 1960 and served two years with the First Infantry where he was assigned to transport accounting at Fort Riley, Kansas. After discharge Robert worked for several accounting firms before joining Buehler Limited in Lake Bluff, Illinois. He retired from his position as cost accounting manager in 1999.

Anita and Robert met in 1967 through one of Anita's teacher friends. Their romance progressed rapidly from dating in February, to engaged in March, and married in June. They began vacationing in Florida and purchased a home in Sable Springs following their retirement. Hurricane Irma was the trigger for them to sell their home and move to Shell Point in 2018. They are happy with the larger community and the variety of residents.

Retirement for the Battaglias has been filled with hobbies, travel, and visits to their son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. At Shell Point Anita enjoys gardening and belongs to a hibiscus club. She enjoys reading, cross stitching, and exercise classes. Robert describes himself as athletic, enjoying golf, bowling and basketball. He also has a personal trainer. They have travelled widely, mostly via cruise ships. They especially enjoyed a trip to Tibet where the altitude was so high there wore oxygen tanks in their hotel room!

Anita describes herself as a volunteer by nature. They are very happy with the many opportunities at All Faiths and look forward to becoming more involved in our religious community.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Sharon Gray, Treasurer

The following is the accounting of our finances through December 2019.

January 2020

Income	\$ 21,377
Expenses	<u>18,438</u>
Net Gain	\$ 2,940

JAN. CASH ASSETS (after payroll deducted)

General Operating Funds	\$13,659
Operating Reserves	14,905
Operating Reserves CD	20,336
Legacy Account	36,667
Paypal	255
Capital Fund	<u>4,933</u>
Total cash assets	\$ 90,754

APRIL-JANUARY - 10-MONTH P&L

Income	\$ 168,538
Expense	173,571
Net Loss (\$ - 5,033)	

Stewardship wrapped up the 2020/2021 pledge drive. Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out pledge cards so we could plan our next fiscal year budget. If you are new and have not received the pamphlet or pledge card, please call the office 239-226-0900.

Folks, it's been an eye-opening experience being on the Board since 2014 and the Treasurer for the last five years. Many helpers held my hand through the accounting process. A special thanks to Joyce Ramay, Finance Chair, who put up with my whining each year working out increasing budgets, and Regina who helped work through problems with software and accounting practices. I don't want to forget to thank Susan Anthony, who settled and closed the books at the end of the year. She makes it seem so easy.

And lastly, I thank the congregation, for giving me support and patience. I hope everyone was satisfied with our efforts in doing the fretting and nail biting for you over All Faiths' finances. It really has been a pleasure and fun to serve you.

As always, your time, talents, treasures and stewardship are greatly appreciated.



All Faiths 3rd Annual
Live & Silent Auction

**March 28, 2020
5:30 p.m.**

Super Raffle Bidders buy tickets and deposit their tickets in the paper bag of the item they want to win. You can place as many tickets as you want in a particular item's paper bag to increase your chances of winning that item. At the end of the auction, someone picks a ticket from the bag, and the owner of that ticket is the winner of that item.

Silent Auction The Silent Auction ends at 6:30. At that time, all the bid sheets will be picked up, tabulated, and the winning bidders announced later in the evening.

Live Auction Our guest auctioneers, Regina Kilmartin and Rosalie Kuehn, will bang the gavel to start the live auction. All live auction items are listed in order in the booklet. Follow along and bid high to get that special item you want. When the auctioneer bangs the gavel and yells "**SOLD**" the last *recognized* bid will win the item.

HELP FEED THE HOMELESS

CityGate Ministries in downtown Fort Myers needs help feeding the homeless on Mondays (prep day) and Tuesdays (serving day). Can you commit to one morning a month?

Monday morning meet there at 9:00 a.m. and select food from the "Wake Up America" truck to prepare for the next day; finish around 11:30, 12:00.

Tuesdays meet at 6:30 a.m., do last-minute food prep. Serve people at approximately 8:00, close up at 9:30. Clean up for another 30-60 minutes.

There are also opportunities to assist with laundry, monitoring showers and distributing clothing. If you can help our neighbors who are homeless, please contact Eileen Moran at eileengmo@gmail.com.

LIFE

Lee Interfaith for Empowerment

Save the Dates!

NEHEMIAH ACTION

March 9 at 7pm

Dunbar High School

3800 Edison Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33916

*Let's meet our goal of
bringing 85 people to the Action!*

ANIMAL SHELTER COLLECTION

Sunday, March 29, 2020



Shelters provide a safe and nurturing environment for the animals until they can find a forever home. To help them in their mission, they would appreciate donations of pet food and treats, and any of the items listed below.

Learn more about Lee County Animal Services at <http://www.leelostpets.com>, including how to become a volunteer. For more information contact: Sharon Gray (geema1@yahoo.com 565-2474).

SHELTER WISH LIST

Cat food (dry & canned)*
Dog food (dry & canned)
Cat litter (clay & scoopable)
Cat carriers
13 and 55 gallon trash bags
Towels, large & small
Blankets, comforters

Pillow Cases, Sheets
Clorox Wipes
Tissues
Paper Towels
Bleach
Gift Cards from Pet Stores

MARCH SUNDAY SERVICES

March Theme - Compassion

Worship Services 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. — Adult Education at 10 a.m. — Children's RE during 11 a.m. service

Mar. 1 – *The Compassionate Mind* by Rev. CJ McGregor
Worship Associates – Carol Elrod & Regina Kilmartin
Music by Joseph Brauer
Voter Registration – Linda Bigelow

Mar. 8 – *Challenging Our Tendencies*

by Rev. CJ McGregor
Worship Associates – Doug Cartwright & Susan Meissner
Music by Joseph Brauer
Share the Plate - Operation Joy

Mar. 15 – *Evolution of Empathy* by Joyce Ramay
Worship Associates – Regina Kilmartin & Greg Monk
Music by Joseph Brauer and Donalie Benyak
McGregor Clinic Collection, Coordinator Joyce Schaffer

Mar. 22 – *Speak My Name* by Rev. CJ McGregor
Worship Associates – Diane Cartwright & Joyce Ramay
Music by Joseph Brauer and Joan Marshall
Child Dedication Service for Quillen McDaigle
Annual Congregational Meeting Day

March 29 – *Hope Lives* by Rev. CJ McGregor
Children & RE Teachers will participate in the service
Worship Associates – Carol Elrod & Doug Cartwright
Music by Joseph Brauer and Kat Epple
Pet Shelter Collection, Coordinator Sharon Gray

MARCH ADULT ED. FORUMS

10:00 a.m. Between Services

Mar. 1 **Great World Short Stories – *The Man Who Would Be King*** by Rudyard Kipling,
Led by Doug & Diane Cartwright

Mar. 8 **Congregational Meeting** – Information, Question and Answer session on the proposed fiscal year budget.

Mar. 15 **Great World Short Stories – *Araby*** by James Joyce, Discussion led by Doug and Diane Cartwright

Mar. 22 **Annual Congregational Meeting** – All members are encouraged to attend for the election of Board members and nominating committee members, and adoption of budget for fiscal year 4/1/20 to 3/31/21.

Mar. 29 **Heart for Homeless Team Forum** – Guest speaker, Helen Gierke, from *Angel Wings*, a non-profit organization that works with homeless single, older women and helps them to achieve independence. Coordinators Judy Alberda and Barbara Gaiser

MARCH CHILDREN'S RE

During 11:00 a.m. Service

Mar. 1 Session 5: We Revere Life – Part 1
As Unitarian Universalists, we believe all life that shares our planet is sacred. In this session, we explore ways UUs demonstrate our reverence for life.

Mar. 8 Session 5: We Revere Life – Part 2
Expanding on last week's lesson, we look at traditions and rituals to welcome new life into families and faith communities.

Mar. 15 Session 6: Signs of Caring – Part 1
As UUs, we believe members of communities take care of each other. In this session, we identify ways we care for others in our families, in the congregation, and in the wider world.

Mar. 22 Session 6: Signs of Caring – Part 2
Continuing our inquiry of actions and experiences of caring for others and being cared for, UU rituals of caring are explored, including Sharing of Joys and Concerns.

Mar. 29 Youth Service

TRIVIA Night

Monday, March 23
7:00 p.m.

Congratulations to Eileen and Jeff Moran
February's Reigning Champions!



Who will be next to take home the trophy?!

Please join us for a casual evening of fun & fellowship.

\$5 to play - covers snacks and drinks

AMERICANA COMMUNITY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

March 2020 Concert Line-Up

Concerts Start at 7pm

\$15 General Public/\$10 ACMA Members

www.AmericanACMA.org

Saturday - March 7

Mean Mary

w. Pete & Sylvia Popavak opening

Saturday - March 14

Richard Smith

w. Mike McMillan opening

Sunday - March 21

Daniel Boling

w. Elizabeth Lockhart opening

Friday - March 27

Bill and Kate Isles

All Faiths Unitarian Congregation

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Phone: (239) 226-0900 – Email: office@allfaiths-uc.org – Website: www.allfaiths-uc.org

Executive Board: Chris Stotler, Chair; Doug Cartwright, Vice-Chair; Sharon Gray, Treasurer;
Ed Elrod, Secretary; Diane Cartwright, Past Chair.

Directors: Peter Erickson, Barbara Gaiser, Annely Hudanick, Eileen Moran, Rachel Spiller.

Staff: Regina Kilmartin, Administrator; Joseph Brauer, Music Director; Joe Gayton, Sexton; Robert Bennett, Hospitality

Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Wayne Robinson

Communications

Regina Kilmartin

Newsletter

Regina Kilmartin

Proofreaders

Carol Elrod,

Joyce Ramay

Social Media & Website

Regina Kilmartin,

Kendra Maroon, Sharon Gray

Adult Education Forums

Sunday Service Team

Joyce Ramay

Hospitality Coordinator

Nicole McDaigle

Member Services

Fran Way

Greeters

Marsha Bates

Care and Support

Joyce Ramay

Finance

Joyce Ramay

Stewardship Committee

Howard Silverman & Janet Falk

Nominating Committee

Kathleen Weber

Sound Technician

Ed Elrod

Building and Grounds

Michael Pierre

Social Action & Outreach

Climate Action Team

Joan Marshall

Community Events

Richard Keelan

Heart for the Homeless

Judy Alberda & Barbara Gaiser

Racial Justice Team

Rachel Spiller

L.I.F.E.

Regina Kilmartin,

McGregor Clinic

Joyce Schaffer

Mano a Mano

Charlotte Blitt

Operation Joy & Solos Group

Annely Hudanick

Minister: Rev. CJ McGregor - Cell: 508-736-3361

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

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



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

Congregational Administrator: Regina Kilmartin