



Where you *belong!*

# CONNECTIONS

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  
*by Rev. CJ McGregor*
- Joys and Sorrows.....3
- Happening at All Faiths.....4
- May 2022 Calendar.....5
- May Sunday Service Schedule.....6
- Child & Youth Program Notes.....6
- Joys and Sorrows.....6
- Climate Action Team News.....7
- Stewardship - All Year Long.....7
- You Are Amazing!.....8
- Spring Cleanup at All Faiths.....8
- Treasurer's Report.....9
- LIFE News & Updates.....10
- ACMA Concert Lineup.....10
- Animal Shelter Collection.....11
- Proofreaders Wanted.....12
- Update Your Contact Info.....12



*LIFE* Celebration  
 May 10 at 7:00 p.m.  
 Covenant Presbyterian Church  
 2439 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers 33901

*Spring Cleanup at All Faiths*  
 May 14 at 8:00 a.m.  
 Join your fellow congregants as we  
 spruce up the home we now own!

*Happy Mother's Day!*



Your Board of Directors held its regular meeting on April 20, 2022 at All Faiths.

The first order of business was to elect a Chair and Vice Chair in accordance with our bylaws. Marge Digalbo was nominated and elected Chair, and Rachel Spiller was nominated and elected Vice Chair. The board is grateful for their willingness to serve All Faiths in these important leadership roles.

On April 15th, the past and present board members gathered at a retreat at Chris Stotler and Marsha Bates home. A retreat is traditionally held to pass the torch, so to speak, from the outgoing board to the incoming board, and discuss the future direction of the congregation. We thank Chris and Marsh for their hospitality.

The next order of business was to adopt and sign the *Covenant of the Board of*

*Directors*, which all members agreed to and signed.

With the announcement of Rev. CJ's departure, the board will obviously have to prioritize the next steps in searching for a minister. Several types of ministry were discussed, interim, contract, settled, et cetera. Option for a singular or dual track search were discussed. The first step in the process is to form a Ministerial Search Committee. The committee would be made up of five voting congregants with the opportunity for a non-voting youth representative to observe and participate in the process. Board members will contact the prospective committee members. Also discussed were various ways to keep the congregation informed of the search process.

In the consent agenda reports, Regina, our adminis-

trator, mentioned the need for deep cleaning and organizing the church. There is a spring cleanup day scheduled for Saturday, May 14 at 8:00 a.m.. The church is our home and we are its stewards, so it is our responsibility to keep it beautiful. We will tend to both the inside and outside of the building. We hope you will stop by and participate; bagels, donuts and coffee will be available.

Our COVID-19 safety protocols continue to be discussed each month. At this time, in following the CDC protocols, we will continue to have open services with masks optional. COVID is still around and we don't want anyone to fall into a false sense of safety.

The new patio project has been scheduled with Master Z Pavers. We have a schedule date of late June for the work to proceed. We look

forward to having our extra outdoor space back.

The street sign is discolored and needs attention or replacement. Regina is working with the sign company and getting estimates. The board had previously approved the ACMA annexing a sign to the bottom of ours at their own expense, so she is also working with them on suitable design.

There was discussion about expanding our Legacy Fund and Stewardship Committees since they seem to go hand in hand. We would need a few good volunteers to start communicating on how best to accomplish this.

Please feel free to contact me or any board members with concerns or questions you may have.

*The next board meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2022, starting at 1:00 p.m. at All Faiths.*

## Mission Statement

All Faiths Unitarian Congregation is committed to Justice, Equity and Compassion.

## Vision Statement

Recognizing our role as each other's keepers, we strive to be an inclusive, loving, spiritual community working to bring harmony to the world.

## All Faiths Collection Schedule

### Monthly Share-the-Plate

*(Please write organization and amount in the memo line of your check.)*

- May** - Angel Wings (Heart for the Homeless Team)
- June** - Showing Up for Racial Justice (Racial Equity Team)
- July** - Visuality (LGBTQ+ Team)
- August** - Operation Joy (Back to School Part I)

April Share-the-Plate brought in \$235 for One Tree!



**May 30, 2022**

## FROM MCGREGOR BOULEVARD

by Rev. CJ McGregor



I recently read the poem *The Layers* by Stanley Kunitz and thought it is worth sharing:

*I have walked through many lives, some of them my own, and I am not who I was, though some principle of being abides, from which I struggle not to stray. When I look behind, as I am compelled to look before I can gather strength to proceed on my journey, I see the milestones dwindling toward the horizon and the slow fires trailing from the abandoned camp-sites, over which scavenger angels wheel on heavy wings. Oh, I have made myself a tribe out of my true affections, and my tribe is scattered! How shall the heart be reconciled to its feast of losses? In a rising wind the manic dust of my friends, those who fell along the way, bitterly stings my face. Yet I turn, I turn, exulting somewhat, with my will intact to go wherever I need to go, and every stone on the road precious to me. In my darkest night, when the moon was covered and I roamed through wreckage,*

*a nimbus-clouded voice directed me: "Live in the layers, not on the litter." Though I lack the art to decipher it, no doubt the next chapter in my book of transformations is already written. I am not done with my changes.*

The last two lines are meaningful to me: *Though I lack the art to decipher it, no doubt the next chapter in my book of transformations is already written. I am not done with my changes.* Think of that, the implications of that. You are still unfolding. Tired as you are, sometimes, desperate, bored – you are still unfolding. Maybe you are confident and fixed in your opinions, stable and secure – even so, your chapters in the book of

*Though I lack the art to decipher it, no doubt the next chapter in my book of transformations is already written. I am not done with my changes.*

life are still being written. Whether you're blissfully happy or no stranger to sorrow, no matter what, at any age, your changes aren't all done.

My colleague Victoria Safford tells a story that helps us understand this a bit better. She says in her house for almost 20 years there has been a living presence in the deep, dark back of her refrigerator. She's changed

fridges several times, moved half-way across the country, and through it all – through power outages, and fits of cleaning and defrosting, through it all – the sourdough starter has been with her. It is a hard, grey lump of bread dough, smaller than a tennis ball, non-descript, a little ugly, and very much alive. It's old. This sourdough starter was given to her by a master baker who had it for years and broke off a piece for her to use and maintain; and that baker had it from another baker who received it from a colleague who had brought it years ago from France in the pocket of his coat (this is the days when you could fly on airplanes with living

things in your pockets) and some years later that guy put a piece of it in a plastic bag and put that bag in a different pocket of a different coat and gave it to the baker who gave it to the baker who gave it to her.

Last summer when she had her gutters cleaned, she got to talking with the woman holding the ladder for the guy on the roof. They were talking about baking and

they got so excited that they left the guy up there for a while so she could go inside and get the starter to show the woman what it is and how it works, how from time to time you have to feed it with water and rye flour, and how you must take care, every time you bake, to save a piece of the sour and not use it up. You save some out and nurture it, squirrel it away, and it will live and grow for years. It sits in the dark, quietly, pondering its purpose, which is a delightful purpose: to join with flour, water, salt and patience and imagination, transforming the most ordinary, ancient elements into crusty, fragrant, necessary bread. She said it transforms her into muscle and bone, into energy and more imagination; the bread becomes love and work and music, life itself, and so it goes and so it goes. She has no idea how many times that starter has been divided and its divisions divided, nor how many people on at least two continents have eaten bread made from this same living thing. She said it is a most beautiful tangible mystery, this lump that lives and changes and does not change and changes us.

– Blessings, Rev. CJ



## Happening at All Faiths

Happy May

*Birthday to you!*



- May 7 Ed Kleinow  
May 13 Annely Hudanick  
May 15 Audrey Olson  
May 16 Laura Snow  
May 22 Laurie Babcock  
May 23 Jeanne Ezell  
May 25 Lisa Leonhardt  
May 26 Marge DiGalbo  
May 27 Rev. CJ  
May 29 Mary Ellen Taylor  
May 30 Nancy Frasca Cabazares

*And Coming Up...*

- June 5 Vanessa Gilyard  
June 6 Joyce Davison  
June 6 Arlene Han



### Solos Group Events

Saturday, May 7, **12:30 p.m.**

Cafe You

1423 SE 10th St., Cape Coral FL 33990

*Check your email for details.*

Contact: Annely Hudanick,  
[annelyblue@hotmail.com](mailto:annelyblue@hotmail.com)

Everyone is welcome to join the Solos  
for outings and lunches.

### TEN O'CLOCK SCHOLAR

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

All Faiths Community Room

Facilitated by Rev. CJ McGregor



### Leading Change in Your Congregation

**May 4 - Session 1: Getting There from Here:** Leadership and Change and A Place in the Story: The Spiritual Assumptions of Leaders

**May 11 - Session 2: Beyond the Trees:** Systems Theory as a Way to Look at Your Congregation and Welcome to the Wilderness: The Spiritual Journey of Congregational Change

**May 18 - Session 3: Riding the Roller Coaster:** The Emotional Cycle of Congregations in Change and Spinning Wheels Gather No Traction: Congregational Preferences in Change

**May 25 - Session 4: A Postscript for the Faith Community:** Behavior Appropriate to a Congregation and Wrap Up

### McGregor Clinic Collection

Collection is on the 3rd Sunday of Every Month

Coordinator: Joyce Schaffer, [joycelschaffer@gmail.com](mailto:joycelschaffer@gmail.com)

This month the clinic is in need of towels, sheets, men's and women's new underwear.

### All Voices Choir Practice

Meeting Every Saturday at 2:00 p.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).

### Book Club

Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.

Arts & Eats - on Alliance for the Arts Grounds

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. Contacts: Diane Chernow, [dianecher@comcast.net](mailto:dianecher@comcast.net)

# May 2022 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>9:15am</b> News Talk w. Richard Keelan  <b>10:30am</b> Service and Child & Youth Program	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  <b>1:30pm</b> <b>Zoom</b> Climate Action Team Mtg.	<b>4</b>  <b>10am</b> Ten O'clock Scholar (see pg. 4)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>2pm</b> Dominoes in the Community Room	<b>7</b> <b>1pm</b> <b>Solos Lunch</b> (Pg. 4)  <b>2pm</b> Choir Practice  <b>7pm</b> ACMA Concert (see pg. 10)
<b>8</b> <b>9:15am</b> News Talk w. Richard Keelan  <b>10:30am</b> Service and Child & Youth Program  Mother's Day	<b>9</b> <b>10am</b> <b>Via Zoom</b> Sun. Service Team Mtg.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  <b>10am</b> Ten O'clock Scholar (see pg. 4)	<b>12</b>  <b>10 am</b> Zoom Finance Mtg.	<b>13</b>  <b>2pm</b> Dominoes in the Community Room	<b>14</b> <b>8am</b>   <b>2pm</b> Choir Practice
<b>15</b> <b>9:15am</b> News Talk w. Richard Keelan  <b>10:30am</b> Service and Child & Youth Program	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>10am</b> Ten O'clock Scholar (see pg. 4)  <b>12pm</b> Book Club  <b>1pm</b> Board Meeting	<b>19</b>  <b>2pm</b> Heart for the Homeless Team	<b>20</b>  <b>2pm</b> Dominoes in the Community Room	<b>21</b>  <b>2pm</b> Choir Practice  <b>7pm</b> ACMA Concert (see pg. 10)
<b>22</b> <b>9:15am</b> News Talk w. Richard Keelan  <b>10:30am</b> Service and Child & Youth Program	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>10am</b> Ten O'clock Scholar (see pg. 4)	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  <b>2pm</b> Dominoes in the Community Room	<b>28</b>  <b>2pm</b> Choir Practice
<b>29</b> <b>9:15am</b> News Talk w. Richard Keelan  <b>10:30am</b> Service (No CYP)  Pet Shelter Collection	<b>30</b>  Memorial Day	<b>31</b>				

Check the online calendar at: <http://www.allfaithsuu.org>  
for post-printing updates

## MAY 2022 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES "LIBERATION"

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

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

### **May 1 – *That Stinking Idol Reviving Feast of ye***

***Romans*** - by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Doug Cartwright

*Celebration of May Birthdays*

### **May 8 – *The Women Who Have Kept Us***

by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Regina Kilmartin

*Share the Plate with Angel Wings (Homeless)*

### **May 15 – *Living in Liberation***

by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Michelle Gemma

*McGregor Clinic Collection*

### **May 22 – *Roped into Liberation***

by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Carlos Garcia and Choir

Worship Associate – Susan Meissner

*Life of Congregation Report*

### **May 29 – *The True Spirit of Sacrifice***

By Greg Monk

Music by Carlos Garcia and Bob Way

Worship Associate – Joyce Ramay

*Pet Shelter Collection*

## SUNDAY PROGRAMS

### **News Talk with Richard Keelan**

9:15 a.m. - at All Faiths in the Sanctuary

(No program on 3/20 and 3/27)

### **Child & Youth Program**

10:30 a.m. in the Robinson Room

(Confirm Dates on Calendar)

## CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM NOTES FOR MAY 2022

### **In House & on Zoom**

**May 1** - Thinking of God - Today's Big Question is probably one of the first that pops into our minds when speaking of big questions. Is there a God?

**May 8** - Out of Nothing - This session applies science to the question of how life began. It explores the beauty of poetic answers from myth and story, then presents science as a probable source of more accurate information.

**May 15** - Thinking of Death - In this session, youth learn some beliefs about death, hear ideas from our faith, and explore their own beliefs.

**May 22** - Stuff Happens - The group considers Unitarian Universalist ideas, especially the importance of putting faith into action by working to redress bad things, no matter why they have happened.

## JOYS & SORROWS

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

**Weezie Close** reported good news that her daughter, who has been battling cancer, received good results on a recent test and is cancer free. We wish her continued good health.

**Marge DiGalbo** had a surgical procedure done on her shoulder. We hope that she has good results from the surgery.

**Carol Elrod** returned to the Larsen Pavilion at Shell Point in the hospital for an infection and atrial fib problems. We hope that she has a good recovery.

**Rev. CJ McGregor** shared the news that a 350-year-old congregation in London wants him to become their minister. We share both our joy for him and our sorrow for us. He has given five years of loving service at All Faiths through some challenging times. We wish the very best for him as he moves forward on his new venture.

*Joyce Ramay*

Care and Support Coordinator

## CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Carol Heilsberg, Co-Chair



April is the month when it seems the whole world is focused on the earth, climate change, and what we can do to combat it. This past April 2 the Pachamama Alliance, one of our partner organizations, presented a symposium entitled "Awakening the Dreamer"

in our sanctuary which was very well attended and received by members of our congregation. Also, on April 24 we celebrated Earth Sunday in fine style, with wonderful music performed by Carlos and Joan and a sing-along for our postlude. In addition, we were honored to have Betty Osceola of the Miccosukee tribe deliver the sermon, wherein she set out the proposition that we must save ourselves first in order to save the planet.

Of course, the work to combat climate change and save our Mother Earth is not limited to the month of April. This month we are planning to screen "Youth v. Gov," a film about a group of young people who are suing the federal government for neglecting its duty to ensure a healthful environment for them and their descendants. The film is currently on Netflix, and we can access it and make it available for all to watch together via Zoom. Look for our announcement of the date and time when it will be shown.

Looking further ahead, we are working with One Tree and the SWFL RESET Center to find a site in Dunbar where we can plant some trees, probably after the summer heat has abated.

And we have received exciting news that will involve our congregation. The SWFL RESET Center has received a grant from the UU Service Committee to help initiate a new program among the local UU's designed to help foster and strengthen a healthy relationship with our indigenous neighbors here in Southwest Florida. It is in the formative stage right now but will most likely begin to roll out this summer. Rev. Houston Cypress has agreed to be our Indigenous Partner and Advisor in the UUSC/RESET/UU Florida Justice project that includes offering the "Being a Good Relative" curriculum to our three congregations (All Faiths, UUCFM and Greater Naples) plus Sarasota, which asked to be included.

The Climate Action Team Meets on 1st Tuesday of the Month at 1:30 p.m.

CAT ZOOM link: <https://zoom.us/j/7787257501>

## STEWARDSHIP IS YEAR-ROUND

by Marsha Bates, Stewardship Chair

All Faiths greatly benefits from the willingness of congregants who generously give their time and talent to make our congregation run smoothly. There are many opportunities for volunteers to support All Faiths' operations and programs. Many of these tasks had been filled by members and friends in the pre-COVID days. Can you invest your time and talent as we now bloom back into congregational life? Are there tasks that you can complete or is there a committee that you can support?

- Clean the bathrooms and empty the dishwasher once a week. Usually that is done on a Thursday or Friday. Joe Gayton can give you guidance.
- Help with coffee hour by assisting Linda Bigelow -- or bring cookies. (Sign-up sheet for cookies is on the refrigerator)
- Help with the McGregor Clinic donations. Contact Joyce Schaffer.
- Help maintain the gardens and ground. Judy Alberda leads that effort.
- Volunteer to help with building/maintenance projects. Contact Bob DiGalbo.
- Volunteer for committees, the lifeblood of our congregation:

Membership (Fran Way)

Greeters (Marsha Bates)

Racial Equity (Lewis Robinson)

Climate Action Team (Joan Marshall and Carol Heilsberg)

Heart for the Homeless Team (Barb McFarlane)

Lee Interfaith for Empowerment (Marsha Bates)

Stewardship Committee (Marsha Bates)

Legacy Team (t/b/d)

Operation Joy (Annely Hudanick)

- Join the choir (Carlos Garcia)
- Assist with the Youth Program (Kathy Fanny)
- Learn to operate the sound system (Ed Elrod)

# WOW – YOU ARE AMAZING!!

by Joyce Ramay

Wow – You are Amazing! During the terrible times of the COVID-19 pandemic, you stayed connected and engaged in the services and the social justice activities at All Faiths – even when we could not get together in person or have our usual socialization.

You showed that you cared by sending cards and phone calls to members facing difficulties, when personal visits were prohibited.

Our minister, *Rev. CJ McGregor*, our Music Director, *Carlos Garcia*, and all the people on our Sunday Services Team continued to offer uplifting services when we most needed them, and people “attended” via Facebook live-streaming and more recently back in the sanctuary. Our new Child and Youth Program Director, *Kathy Fanny*, arranged for interesting activities for our youth.

Our Administrator, *Regina Kilmartin*, and our Board of Directors provided outstanding leadership in looking after all the affairs of our congregation.

You remained concerned about social justice issues, particularly with LIFE (Lee Interfaith for Empowerment), Heart for Homeless Team, and Climate Action Team. You demonstrated that you are sincerely committed to making a positive difference in our world in whatever ways that you can.

At a time when thousands of churches across America closed their doors, or let ministers or staff go due to financial problems, you stepped up and honored your pledges, and we ended the fiscal year with a net gain in our operating income and expenses of \$16,133.

Not only that, but you made contributions to pay off our mortgage. On March 31, 2021, our mortgage principal balance stood at \$86,896. While we made our regular monthly mortgage payments of \$1,600, you came forward with extra generous donations so that by March 31, 2022, our principal was down to ZERO and we were able to “Burn the Mortgage.”

I congratulate all of you for your spectacular action and support through these troubling times.

**We are strong, we are united, and we have faith that together we can meet whatever challenges lie ahead.**

**Thank you. BRAVO!!**

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## AND YOU CAN BE EVEN MORE AMAZING!



We are all so proud that we were able to pay off our mortgage in record time. Now that we own our building, it's time to be proud of the way it looks.

Won't you join your fellow congregants on **May 14 at 8:00 a.m.** to do a **major cleanup** at All Faiths? Inside and out, we need to tidy up, spruce up, organize, deep clean and, yes, wash the windows!

There is a job for everyone -- you don't have to be skilled or do anything strenuous -- you can push a cloth over a window sill!

**Donuts, bagels, and beverages will be supplied!** Sign up on the bulletin board.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

by John Conrad, Treasurer

## Balance Sheet: Cash Assets – March 2022

First Horizon Checking	\$16,687
First Horizon Op. Reserve	25,041
Live Oak Op. Res. CD	20,862
Raymond James Legacy	26,979
Pay Pal	35
First Horizon Capital Checking	1,213
First Horizon Capital Reserve	20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$110,817</b>
Prior Month	<u>118,442</u>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>(\$ -7,624)</b>

## March 2022 Profit & Loss

Operating Income	\$ 16,946
Operating Expense	<u>18,516</u>
<b>Net Gain</b>	<b>(\$ -1,571)</b>

## Comments:

- End of the fiscal year review (April 2021-March 2022):
  - We have received 96.8% of the **pledge goal** budget for the 12 months of the year (\$202,341 in pledge contributions, while our anticipated pledge goal for the full year was \$209,000). Thank you for all of your continued and sustained support!!
  - Overall, our **total income** for the full year was \$232,029, while our budgeted goal for Income was \$235,023. A very good outcome as we lived through the second year of the pandemic!
  - For the 2021-2022 “All In For All Faiths” pledge drive, the pledged goal total was \$178,037; and we received a total of \$177,287. Thank you for sustained giving commitment!
  - February Income was unusually high because several large contributions were received for the 2022-2023 “Where you Belong” pledge year in February.
- During the 21-22 fiscal year, \$9,000 was borrowed from the Operating Reserve; this is done when necessary during the “leaner” months of the year. All \$9,000 were restored to the Operating Reserve by the end of the fiscal year.
- The mortgage was essentially paid off in March!! Thanks go out to all for their continued generosity on this quest. We are in a stronger financial position as a congregation with this accomplishment. There will be a small mortgage interest payment in April of \$5.92 which we were not expecting; that is the final mortgage related expense.
- The Capital Reserve Study, approved by the Board earlier this year, has been completed and the congregation approved the budget for this as part of the 2022-2023 Budget. The reserves will be used for future anticipated capital expenses, such as replacement of air conditioning units, roofs, carpeting, et cetera. At the end of March 2022, a new Capital Reserve Money Market account was created at First Horizon Bank and an initial deposit of \$20,000.00 was made (which came from the Raymond James Legacy account).
- A \$5,280 contract for a paver patio (to replace the wooden deck) has been authorized by the Board. A check for \$2,000 has been issued for the down payment in April. We anticipate that this work will be completed in June 2022. Funding for this was available from the gift from the estate of Ed Fulker.
- In March \$420.00 was collected for Angel Wings (Heart for Homeless).
- Also in March, a special collection was taken to help Emmie Spiller attend the General Assembly in Portland Oregon, we collected \$587. After determining that the expenses to attend with travel costs far exceeded what we collected, the money will be kept in a special account and used to attend next year in Pennsylvania. Anyone who donated that would like a refund, please call the office.

# Lee Interfaith for Empowerment **LIFE** Updates & Important Gatherings

by Marsha Bates, Team Leader

On May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, come join LIFE's Celebration of the successes it has achieved in the past ten years. LIFE's work has resulted in:

- A district-wide Anti-Bullying Program and improvements to Lee County School District's Code of Conduct
- Improvements to children's mental health and services in Lee County
- Use of civil citations rather than arresting non-serious juvenile offenders
- Revision of City of Ft Myers' job applications to remove questions about criminal convictions, giving offenders a better chance of securing employment
- Reducing the number of unsolved murders in Ft Myers
- Crisis intervention training for Lee County deputies, dispatchers, and emergency response personnel
- Passage of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Ordinance

Lee County residents whose lives have been positively impacted by our work will tell their stories at the Celebration. Guests include Sheriff Marceno and a representative from Southwest Florida's Early Learning Coalition.

Attendees will be updated about LIFE's on-going initiatives:

- Affordable Housing: Next steps to ensure affordable housing is built (not just funded).
- Brain Health: LIFE will be supporting the efforts of local agencies (Lee Health, United Way, FGCU and Collaboratory) that are teaming up to design, build, and implement a Coordinated System of Care for Behavioral Health for Lee County.
- Caring for Creation

Covenant Presbyterian, 2439 McGregor Blvd, is hosting the event. The Celebration will start at 7 pm and will be followed by a dessert potluck. Covenant needs a head count, so let Marsha Bates (740)278-2357, Barb McFarlane (651)808-8271, or Lana Cowell (216)701-1378 know if you will attend.

LIFE's fiscal year is January 1 through December 31. It is suggested that individuals, if able invest \$200 in LIFE's work. There are varied ways to donate:

- Send a check to LIFE Office, PO Box 62692, Ft Myers, 33906.
- Contribute via CashApp to \$LIFEjustice.
- Text the word Lifejustice to 44321 which will connect you to a secure link to donate from your bank account (Automated Clearing House) or using a debit card.

Invest on-line at <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/life-lee-interfaith-for-empowerment-corp>.

Thank you for your interest in and willingness to support LIFE any way you can.

## ACMA LIVE MUSIC!

The Americana Community Music Association's Facebook page is updated every Saturday with YouTube or music links from our scheduled artist for that date. Also check out new concerts outdoors at the Alliance for the Arts.



**Saturday, May 7 - 7:00pm**

Sofia Talvik in concert!  
Dan Philgreen opens

**Saturday May 21 - 7:00pm**

Jamie Michaels in concert!  
Bill Veach opens

**The Listening Room at All Faiths**

2756 McGregor Blvd.  
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

General public \$18/Member discount \$12  
Donations at the Door

*Check ACMA Facebook or website:  
[www.americanacma.org](http://www.americanacma.org) for more info.*

# We **NEED** you. Can you **HELP?**

Drop-Off Shelter Collection  
May 23 — May 29

@ All Faiths  
2756 McGregor Blvd.

Please leave in box on porch  
or bring to service on the  
May 29th



Shelters provide a safe and nurturing environment for these 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.

Cat Food (Dry and Canned)  
Dog Food (Dry and Canned)  
Cat Litter (Clay & Scoopable)  
Contractor Grade Trash Bags  
Towels, large & small  
Blankets, Comforters

Pillow Cases, Sheets  
Clorox Wipes  
Tissues  
Paper Towels  
Bleach

Gift cards from Petsmart, PetCo or Pet Supermarket  
(or other local pet stores)

Sharon Gray will deliver the donations.

## OUR MINISTER IS AVAILABLE

Rev. CJ is available to meet in person at church on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. He is also available to meet by phone and Zoom by appointment any time.

If you'd like to meet or just chat, please call or text at (508) 736-3361 or email [revcjmgregor@gmail.com](mailto:revcjmgregor@gmail.com) to schedule.

## CHECK YOUR CONTACT INFO!

Members and Friends - Please take a moment to check your contact information in the online directory. If your email, phone number or address is not accurate, please call the office at 239-226-0900.

To access the online directory, go to the website, [www.allfaithsuu.org](http://www.allfaithsuu.org), scroll to the bottom/right, click on "member login" enter the password (call the office if you don't know the password). Thank you!

## PROOFREADERS WANTED

Regina is seeking two individuals to proofread the *Connections* newsletter each month while her star proofreader, Carol Elrod, continues to recuperate and get well.

Good spelling, grammar and punctuation skills helpful. Requires quick turnaround time (generally two to three days). Call the office at 239-226-0900 if you can help.

Happy Mother's  
Day!

May 8, 2022



## 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:** Marge DiGalbo, Chair; Rachel Spiller, Vice Chair; John Conrad, Treasurer; Ed Elrod, Secretary; Chris Stotler, Past Chair.

**Directors:** Judy Alberda, Peter Erickson, Michelle Gemma, Lewis Robinson, Linda Runkle.

**ff:** Regina Kilmartin, Administrator; Kathy Fanny, CYP Director; Carlos Garcia, Music Director; Joe Gayton, Sex

**Minister Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. Wayne Robinson



### Communications

*Newsletter*

Regina Kilmartin

*Proofreaders*

Carol Elrod

Joyce Ramay

*Social Media & Website*

Regina Kilmartin,

Sharon Gray, Becky Ross

### Adult Education Forums

#### Sunday Service Team

Joyce Ramay

Richard Keelan

### Member Services

Fran Way

*Greeters*

Marsha Bates

*Care and Support*

Joyce Ramay

#### Finance

Joyce Ramay

### Stewardship Committee

Marsha Bates

### Nominating Committee

Lisa Leonhardt

### Sound Technician

Ed Elrod

### Livestreaming

Regina Kilmartin

Sharon Gray

### Building and Grounds

Bob DiGalbo

Judy Alberda

### Social Action & Outreach

*Climate Action Team*

Joan Marshall/Carol Heilsberg

*Heart for the Homeless*

Barb McFarlane

### Racial Equity Team

t/b/d

*L.I.F.E.*

Marsha Bates, Lana Cowell,

Barb McFarlane

*Mano a Mano*

Charlotte Blitt

*Operation Joy & Solos Group*

Annely Hudanick

*Animal Ministry*

Sharon Gray

### Child & Youth Program

**Committee**

Rachel Spiller

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



Deadline for the **June** Issue of *Connections* is **May 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