



Where you *belong!*

# CONNECTIONS

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

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*As we express our  
gratitude...  
we must never  
forget that the  
highest  
appreciation is  
not to utter  
words, but to  
live by them.*

*— John Fitzgerald Kennedy*

*The Board of Directors met on October 19, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.*

It's been a busy time with a lot of challenges. We were thankful to be together and that we all survived Hurricane Ian. Most of us have had some damage to our homes. Some are not able to live in their houses at this point. Our congregation has stepped up to help and support each other. Our Care and Support Team has been active in helping members find housing with other All Faith families. Together we will get through this difficult time.

Our building survived with only mild damage to our roof and ceilings. Our sign out front will need to be replaced, the fence also has some repairs that will need to be done. We have many tree branches down and lots of

debris still on the grounds. An all-church family work day is planned for Saturday October 29 at 9:00 am. At that time we will do as much clean up and repairs as possible to make the grounds safe from falling branches and debris. We will power wash the building, windows and walkways. On Tuesday October 17 the insurance adjuster inspected the damages and we are still awaiting her assessment. As All Faiths insurance has a high deductible (\$16,360), it was decided to apply for a grant from the UUA's Disaster Relief Fund. I filed the application and we are waiting to hear back from them.

Annely Hudanick has submitted a new Operation Joy proposal and the Board unanimously approved the proposal. Annely presented her proposal to the Congre-

gation on Sunday October 23. The Congregation also supported this new exciting program.

It is time to think about our Stewardship Pledge Drive. Several members who previously served on this committee are not currently able to serve. We need new members. I've asked the Board for their participation and support for this important work. We need to include members of the congregation. In order to have a successful Pledge Drive we will all have to do our parts.

The Legacy Tree gifted by Rev. CJ and Richard Keelan will be dedicated on Sunday, November 13, and a plaque with the names of our Legacy donors will be hung next to it. Barbara Goolsby will host a workshop after the service on *How to Include All Faiths in your Will*.

Members are enjoying the Ice Cream Socials and looking forward to our next social on October 30. We have several people who have signed up to sponsor the socials for \$25.00 each. These funds will help build up our Food and Beverage savings.

We are in the process of hiring a part time IT Support Employee to record and stream our Sunday Services and help with other media needs. The Finance Committee approved \$50 per Sunday for this position. Ed Elrod provided us a contact person at FSW who may be able to assist with us finding a qualified person.

It's a very busy time and we have much work ahead. Please stay safe.

*The next Board meeting will be December 21, 2022, at 1:00 pm 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.)

November - Operation Joy (Holiday Happiness)

December - Employee Bonuses

January - Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU)

September Share-the-Plate collected \$210 for SWFL RESET Center!

Your generosity directly benefits our community! We are grateful!

We are Thankful for YOU!

## JOYS & SORROWS

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

**Hurricane Ian** came on September 28. The past few weeks of dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Ian have been particularly challenging for many of our members. Some of their homes were totally destroyed, others seriously damaged, and many have significant repairs to be done. We are grateful to all those who have reached out to help others, and to provide housing for those who could not remain in their homes. You are guardian angels for each other.

Some of our members also lost their cars to the flooding. We hope that their friends and neighbors will give them rides for appointments, shopping and to All Faiths until their cars have been replaced.

**Donalie Benyak** suffered a stroke and was hospitalized with paralysis on the right side, but she has shown improvement. She will be going to rehab and then will stay with her daughter for a while. We hope she continues to regain use of her right arm and leg.

**Jim Kersey** was hospitalized with a blood clot on his lung. He is home now. We hope that he has a steady recovery.

**Rev. CJ McGregor** was hospitalized shortly after going to London. He had a kidney infection and kidney stone. We hope that he has a good recovery. He sends his greetings and blessings to all, including those who suffered losses from Hurricane Ian.

**Fran and Bob Way's** daughter **Sarah** was hospitalized with some stomach bleeding. She has improved and is at home now. We hope that she gets effective treatment.

*Joyce Ramay,  
Care & Support Coordinator*

## NOVEMBER SHARE-THE-PLATE OPERATION JOY PROJECT HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Dear Friends,

Operation Joy knows we can count on your help and generosity!

This year's Holiday Project will be a little different, but much more enjoyable for everyone. We have chosen to support *Saint Martin de Porres Outreach (SMDP)* on Palm Beach Boulevard:

SMDP Outreach Tice, Florida - All Volunteer Nonprofit

This organization helps the working poor and homeless people in one of the poorest neighborhoods of Fort Myers, – a truly outstanding organization.

### ***Here's how it works:***

For six Sundays, we invite you to bring specific items to All Faiths to be donated to SMDP.

We are looking for food items and a few basic-needs items for these families (no pre-owned/loved items, please)

I will post a list on the bulletin board in the Social Hall, starting **November 6 and ending December 18** to remind everyone what the following Sunday's items are.

This will make it so much easier for you, put it on your weekly shopping list and done! – no pain, no worries, and easier on your budget!

Will we not welcome your monetary contribution? Of course not, it would be the "icing on the cake," and allow us to fill in for any missing items.

I will also be offering my handcrafted Greeting Cards for sale – a mix of Holiday and Everyday Greetings. All monies will go 100% to Operation Joy to purchase children's undergarments, socks and PJ's.

A win-win project for all!

Thank you,

*Annely Hudanick, Operation Joy*

*"Your mind expands when you give, your heart expands when you share, and your soul expands when you are charitable."*

**Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, November 6**  
**Be sure to turn your clocks back on Sat., November 5**



## Happening at All Faiths

*Happy November  
Birthday to you!*



Nov. 5 Linda Runkle  
Nov. 12 Terri Stark  
Nov. 14 Ariel Hoover  
Nov. 15 Doug Deininger  
Nov. 21 David Hauenstein  
Nov. 21 Judy Kay  
Nov. 30 Brian Bigelow

*And Coming Up...*

Dec. 6 Sharon Gray  
Dec. 9 Scott Kilhefner

### TEN O'CLOCK SCHOLAR

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. - Community Room  
Facilitated by *you?*



Wednesday mornings are available for  
Adult Education Programs.

Do you have something of interest you  
would like to share with the congregation? Do you  
know of an organization or speaker that may wish to  
present to the congregation?

Contact the office to reserve a single Wednesday  
or a series of Wednesdays.

Learning is fun!

office@allfaithsuo.org or 239-226-0900

### 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

Meeting Every 3rd Monday at 12:00 p.m. - Social Hall

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)

### The Rainbow Connection

Meeting on the 1st Monday of the Month at 6:00 p.m.

The Rainbow Connection is a new addition to All Faiths' social  
justice teams. This group will support the LGBTQ+ community  
and Allies. All are welcome.

### McGregor Clinic Collection

Collection is on the 3rd Sunday of Every Month

This month the clinic is in need of towels, sheets, men's and  
women's clothing. Coordinator: Joyce Schaffer, [joycelschaffer@gmail.com](mailto:joycelschaffer@gmail.com)



### Solos Group Events

Saturday, November 5, 12:30 p.m.

#### Bonefish Grill

14261 S Tamiami Trail,  
Fort Myers, FL 33912

*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.



# NOVEMBER 2022 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div></div>						
		1 1:30pm Zoom Climate Action Team Mtg.	2	3	4 2pm Dominoes @ All Faiths  Turn Your Clocks back 1 Hour Sat. Night	5 12:30pm Solos Lunch (see pg. 4)  2pm Choir Practice  7pm ACMA Concert (see pg. 11)
6 9:15am News Talk w. Ray Ellis  10:30am Service and Child & Youth Program	7  6pm The Rainbow Connection	8 10am Racial Equity Meeting  Election Day	9	10 10 am Finance Mtg.	11 Veterans Day  2pm Dominoes @ All Faiths	12  2pm Choir Practice
13 9:15am News Talk w. Ray Ellis  10:30am Service and Child & Youth Program	14 10am Sunday Service Team Mtg.	15	16  1pm Board Meeting	17 10am Membership Meeting  2pm Homeless Team @ All Faiths	18  2pm Dominoes @ All Faiths	19  2pm Choir Practice
20 9:15am News Talk w. Ray Ellis  10:30am Service and Child & Youth Program McGregor Clinic Collection	21  12pm Book Club	22  10am Care & Support Team @ All Faiths	23	24  HAPPY THANKSGIVING  Office Closed	25  Office Closed	26
27 9:15am News Talk w. Ray Ellis  10:30am Service and Child & Youth Program	28  7pm Odyssey with Peter Erickson at All Faiths	29	30	31	<div></div>	
Check the online calendar at: <a href="http://www.allfaithsuu.org">http://www.allfaithsuu.org</a> for post-printing updates						

## NOVEMBER 2022 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES "GRATITUDE"

**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.

**November 6**

### ***Building Beloved Community***

by Dr. Lewis Robinson

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Greg Monk

**November 13**

### ***Your Legacy***

by Chris Stotler

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Bob Moore

Workshop on Wills – Barbara Goolsby  
at 11:30 after service

**November 20**

### ***Gratitude in Action***

by Greg Monk

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Michelle Gemma

**November 27**

### ***Gratitude through Brokenness***

by Emmie Spiller

Music by Carlos Garcia and Choir

Worship Associate – Joyce Ramay

## SUNDAY PROGRAMS

### **News Talk with Ray Ellis**

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

News talk is a facilitated group that will offer a time  
and space for you to discuss the weekly headlines.

### **Child & Youth Program**

10:30 a.m. in the Robinson Room with Kathy Fanny  
(Confirm Dates on Calendar)

## MINISTERIAL SEARCH UPDATE

*by Marsha Bates, Chair*



Your Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) has been compiling All Faiths' Congregational Profile that will be uploaded to UUA's Transitions website. Our profile will be made accessible to ministerial candidates who are interested in learning more about All Faiths. Interested candidates will be interviewed by the committee to determine whether he/she/they would potentially be a suitable match for All Faiths.

As directed by All Faiths Board of Directors, our task is to hire a minister on a contract basis. At the end of the contract term, if the Congregation feels the contract minister is a good fit, All Faiths can offer the minister a full time position. If the Congregation is not satisfied with the contract minister, we can opt to initiate a search for a different minister.

Thank you to all who completed the Congregational Survey. The results of that survey identified things such as the qualities that our congregants desire in a minister and what activities we want the minister to focus on, why members and friends attend All Faiths, and what programs are important to those who responded to the survey. The survey results will be shared with the congregation at a later date.

*From your Search Committee: Marsha Bates, Joe Batal, Bob Moore, Annely Hudanick, and Frankie Jennings.*

## CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM NOTES

**November 6 - The Call of Understanding:** This workshop asks youth to reflect on the importance of understanding and explores different ways to attempt to understand. The story is about a young man coming to understand what life is like for people in a situation very different from his own.

**November 13 - Heeding the call of Empathy:** This workshop asks youth to explore the importance of empathy in justice work. Using the example of immigration, youth look through the eyes of those most affected—the immigrants—and examine the importance of empathy for people who are caught in the ripple effects of political and economic systems that are beyond their control

**November 20 - Courage & Justice:** In this workshop, youth consider the role of courage in creating justice. They discuss courageous acts, big and small, as well as feelings of fear, and taking the consequences of actions.

# CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Carol Heilsberg, Co-Chair



Hurricane Ian has come and gone, leaving us in its wake with unforgettable impressions of the destruction of which Mother Nature is capable. Our hearts go out to all those who have suffered and are coping with loss and deprivation.

The members of our Climate Action Team are committed to doing all we can to change the course of humanity's misguided endeavors, so that our species can continue to enjoy life on this remarkable biosphere we call Earth. In the coming weeks we will be reconnecting with our partner organizations in South-west Florida to continue our mission.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 1 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. CAT ZOOM link: <https://zoom.us/j/7787257501>

## ODYSSEY

WITH PETER ERICKSON

NOVEMBER 28 - 7:00 P.M. - AT ALL FAITHS

Our monthly Odysseys resume this month with *Peter Erickson* in the spotlight! Peter currently serves on our Board of Directors and is an active member of our Climate Action Team. Joyce Ramay will facilitate with Q&A session to follow. Always fun and interesting, we hope you will join us.

*If you would like to participate in the monthly Odyssey program, contact Joyce Ramay at [joyceramay@comcast.net](mailto:joyceramay@comcast.net).*

## UUA CHALICE LIGHTER PROGRAM

The Chalice Lighter program began in 1984 as a way for individuals to extend our faith by making a donation of \$10 or more for three calls per year.

Our new program works similarly, allowing individuals and congregations to support and be generous with one another to work on transformational goals. Chalice Lighter calls are crowd-funded contributions given by committed Unitarian Universalist "Chalice Lighters" and Southern Region congregations. Anyone can become a Chalice Lighter—just join our Chalice Lighter email list and respond with a contribution when a call goes out.

Our new approach continues to support personal generosity. Additionally, it encourages congregations to participate in Chalice Lighter calls, by a "share the plate" offering or other special gift solicitation—because we know we are stronger together!

The Southern Region's Chalice Lighter team comprises volunteers from each of the four historic districts, and will evaluate and select Chalice Lighter call applications. In keeping with the times, all our work will be done via email and social media. The Chalice Lighter team will monitor each call's progress and receive a report from the congregation on its total receipts and how funds are being utilized. There will be up to two calls for each of our Region's historic geographical districts plus one additional call for a

Region-wide effort each year—for a possible total of nine calls. The Chalice Lighter Team will notify us all of each call. (We do not limit the number of calls a donor contributes toward, but anticipate most donors will give to the two calls for congregations in their geographical district and to the one Region-wide call.) As before, each call will have a launch and end date.

### Sign up to become a Chalice Lighter!

#### Which Projects Are Eligible?

• Projects eligible for a Chalice Lighter call include UUA member, APF Honor, congregations seeking:

• To hire first time professional religious leadership (a minister, a religious educator, or other religious professional);

• To acquire land/building or to build a new building;

• To make ADA improvements to their current facilities;

• To support an inclusive wider community social justice project;

• To support a newly affiliated UUA Member Congregation;

• Other innovative projects may be considered.

Visit <https://www.uua.org/southern/chalice-lighters> for more information.

## ♥ FOR THE HOMELESS NEWS

by Barb McFarlane

As we all learned on September 28, anyone of us can become "homeless." The decisions that need to be made, when you have the least energy to make them, the disruption of not having your own place or things, the complications of daily life without a vehicle, the uncertainty of the future, having to ask for and accept help may be unfamiliar to most of us who take having a home for granted. Many who had no place to live before Ian don't have the support of friends and family. Thank you to all who are helping our All Faiths members through this devastating loss.

This team is scheduled to work on a Habitat for Humanity home Saturday, January 7. Teams are limited to seven people. Mark your calendar to save the date. More information regarding signing up will be provided later.

We are in need of one to two volunteers to periodically bring the donated bikes to All Souls Outreach in No. Fort Myers. Let me know if it's something you can do once in a while - mcfarlanebar@gmail.com.

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## ACMA SONGWRITERS' CIRCLE

*Sundays 2-5 p.m. at All Faiths*

*Check ACMA Facebook Page for Schedule*

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.

### Share Your Songs

Part of the ACMA mission is to support original independent music and musicians and to promote original music and connections between musicians and songwriters. To that purpose, back in 2012, a Singer/Songwriter Circle was established where local musicians can meet to share their work. A core group of musicians meets weekly, with many local and visiting artists joining in as they have time or are in town. The primary purpose is of course to network and support fellow singer/songwriters through sharing of songs, critique (when requested), and discussion. Members have also been known to throw out challenges, from which several well written songs have been created and have since achieved a fair amount of local fame.

## LEE INTERFAITH FOR EMPOWERMENT UPDATES

by Marsha Bates, Team Leader

The LIFE Board of Directors met on Tuesday, October 18th to determine the path forward for this upcoming year. Some of LIFE's member congregations' places of worship were damaged by Hurricane Ian; every congregation has members who were adversely ... and sometimes severely ... impacted by the storm. Many network members who were not impacted directly by Ian are caring for others who have suffered losses.

Therefore, the Board decided that LIFE's network members need time to recover from this community-changing event. Therefore, there will be no network-wide gatherings until February 13, 2023. That meeting's format will be similar to the LIFE Celebration held this past Spring; it will be a time to gather and share experiences and evaluate the next steps for the LIFE organization.

During the hiatus, LIFE's Board will continue to meet. Chelsea will continue with LIFE on a part-time basis during the hiatus. The search for a Director to replace Chelsea (when she leaves) will be on-going. Direct Action Research Training (DART), LIFE's parent organization, is assisting in this nationwide search. It is hoped the replacement will have experience dealing with disaster recovery situations.

Although this will be an unusual year for LIFE, please stay engaged with justice work. Caring for each other is part of justice.

From All Faiths' Team Leads: Marsha Bates (740-278-2357), Michelle Gemma (781-913-5122) and Barb McFarlane (651-808-8271).

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR NEWSLETTER

We named the newsletter "Connections," because it literally keeps congregants connected with our programs, our services, our social events, the dedicated work of our social justice teams, and most importantly, each other. It is here for you to take advantage of. If you would like to share a story, some good news about yourself or family members, a poem or essay, we would welcome your input. The deadline is the 18th of every month. Just email your story or pictures to [office@allfaithsuu.org](mailto:office@allfaithsuu.org), and write "Newsletter" in the subject line.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

by John Conrad, Treasurer

### Balance Sheet: Cash Assets – September 2022

First Horizon Checking	\$ 6,528
First Horizon Op. Reserve	11,717
Live Oak Op. Res. CD	21,002
Raymond James Legacy	22,482
Pay Pal	35
First Horizon Capital Checking	619
First Horizon Capital Reserve	23,307
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 85,689</b>
Prior Month	<u>91,637</u>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>(\$ -5,948)</b>

### September 2022 Profit & Loss

Operating Income	\$ 11,267
Operating Expense	<u>13,238</u>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>(\$ -1,971)</b>

### Comments:

- Revenue/Operating Income and Expenses:
  - No unusual expenses were incurred.
  - The Income was slightly lower than budgeted; but this is normal as snow birds leave for the summer. Our Pledge Goal through July was \$69,991.00; and \$59,764 was received. Your generosity is appreciated!
- The monthly transfer/deposit of \$1,150 to the Capital Reserve account was made. No Capital expenses were incurred.
- A \$5,280 contract for the paver patio was completed. Funding for this was available from the gift from the estate of Ed Fulker. And major tree trimming around the patio was performed also at a \$1,200 expense.
- In June, \$150 was collected for BLUU (Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism- Racial Equity Team); and in July, \$400 was collected for Visuality (LGBTQ Team).



## Ice Cream Social

After Service

Sunday, November 27, 2022

### THE CHOIR IS CALLING ON YOU!

The All Voices Choir rehearsals are held on Saturdays at 2pm.

We are seeking people of all ages who enjoy singing. No auditions required. Our weekly music rehearsals are fun, engaging and highly educational.

Come alone, or bring a friend as we begin our 2022-2023 musical adventures at All Faiths!!

With harmony and love,  
Carlos Garcia, Music Director  
ceegeefm@gmail.com

### ACMA LIVE MUSIC!

The Americana Community Music Association's Facebook page is updated every Saturday with YouTube or music links for scheduled artists for that date.

**Saturday, November 5 - 7:00pm**

Anne E. DeChant Trio  
with Joyce Knake opening



**Saturday, November 19 - 7:00pm**

Kraig Kenning  
with Bruce Gallant opening

**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.

## PART OF THE MYSTERY

by Laura Shay

"I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief."

—Wendell Berry, "The Peace of Wild Things"

When my spouse decided to raise Monarch Butterflies, I thought she had gone a bit overboard in her search for meaningful retirement activities. Although I have to admit, the plump, striped caterpillar she named Slinky quickly piqued my interest. I checked on Slinky daily waiting to see what would happen next.

A branch with at least a dozen green chrysales hanging on it; in one, a monarch butterfly's wings are visible.

Each day was an unknown. Will Slinky start to create a chrysalis today? How does it know when it's time? How does it know what to do? I became fascinated. I kept thinking about my hospice families as they watch their loved ones, wondering Is today the day? How will we know?

It was amazing to see Slinky stop eating, then slowly crawl up the side of the cage getting into proper position at the top. Slinky seemed a bit agitated trying to figure out what to do next, but eventually Slinky stopped moving and hung in the shape of a J. By the next morning Slinky was entombed in a beautiful, jade-colored chrysalis.

My watching and waiting continued. Without food or water for days, how does Slinky survive? My hospice families often ask, "They haven't had anything to eat or drink for days; how long do you think it will be?" We can make our best guess but we never know.

After almost two weeks, I watched as the chrysalis turned a deep purple. Then bright yellow and black colored wings broke through the green shroud. Slinky patiently waited

for the wings to dry then fluttered about the cage. With a little coaxing, Slinky flew away, quickly disappearing into the sky.

Witnessing the lifecycle of a monarch butterfly has made me a better chaplain. The time it takes for someone to die can seem long. It's part of the mystery. I often share what Slinky went through to help ease the burden of this watchful waiting. Slinky needed to quietly wait in a chrysalis to allow wings to grow. Maybe the same is true for us. It takes time to grow wings strong enough to fly.

### Prayer

*Spirit of Love and of Loss, help us find peace in the wild things who teach us to trust in this great mystery of life, and to be patient as we learn to fly.*

### About the Author



"Laura smiles into the camera. She has short hair, glasses, and dangly earrings."

Laura Shay

Laura Shay (she/her/hers) is a chaplain in an inpatient hospice facility in Maryland. She is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville (MD) and the co-leader of their Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship. She and her wife of 35 years enjoy yoga, hiking, biking and...

## LEGACY TREE DEDICATION

November 13, 2022

*Sunday Message by Chris Stotler - "Your Legacy"*

*Workshop on Legacy Giving by Barbara Goolsby - following service*

*Please join us in the Social Hall as we dedicate the Legacy Tree*

*gifted by Rev. CJ and Richard Keelan,*

*and hang a plaque to honor All Faiths' legacy donors.*





**11<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Florida Unitarian Universalist  
Women's Retreat  
March 31- April 2, 2023**

**A Weekend Gathering of UU Women  
Featuring Shelley Graff facilitating  
Singing in Sacred Circle**

- Friday evening we will get to know one another and create community
- Saturday one-hour workshops offer choices  
Singing in Sacred Circle with Shelley Graff  
Free time in the afternoon for personal exploration
- Sunday we share a UU Service bringing it all together

DaySpring Conference Center is conveniently located off I-75 just north of Sarasota on Florida's West Coast. The beautiful campus nestled under ancient oaks and located on a cove of the Manatee River offers a serene setting for our annual retreat. Take a look.

<http://Dayspring.dioswfl.org>.

\$232 per person covers expenses for a semi-private room plus meals for the weekend.

A limited number of single rooms are available at \$304 each.

8 women share a cozy cottage with 4 bedrooms and 4 baths, a screened porch and common area.

Come join us for an enriching and memorable weekend.

**To register or for more information contact Helen Leddy**  
[helen.leddy@gmail.com](mailto:helen.leddy@gmail.com)



# 2023 UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY - PITTSBURGH, PA

June 21 - 25, 2023

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to have voting delegates.

The Ware Lecture is one of the highlights of the assembly. The UUA President, in consultation with the General Assembly Planning Committee, invites a distinguished guest each year to address the General Assembly as the Ware Lecturer. In-person or full virtual registration is required to live-stream the event on June 24, or to access the video on-demand when it is posted.

If you are interested in representing All Faiths as a GA delegate, contact Regina in the office. Stay tuned for more information.



*This year's GA will take place in Pittsburgh, PA, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, (pictured above) located at 1000 Fort Duquesne Blvd.*

## All Faiths Unitarian Congregation

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida 33901

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

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

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

### Communications

*Newsletter*

Regina Kilmartin

*Proofreaders*

Weezie Close

Joyce Ramay

*Social Media & Website*

Regina Kilmartin,

Sharon Gray, Becky Ross

**Adult Education Forums**

**Sunday Service Team**

Joyce Ramay

### 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, Michelle Gemma,

Barb McFarlane

*Mano a Mano*

Charlotte Blitt

*Operation Joy & Solos Group*

Annely Hudanick

*Animal Ministry*

Sharon Gray

*Rainbow Connection*

Greg Monk

**Minister: In Search**



Deadline for the **December** Issue of *Connections* is **November 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