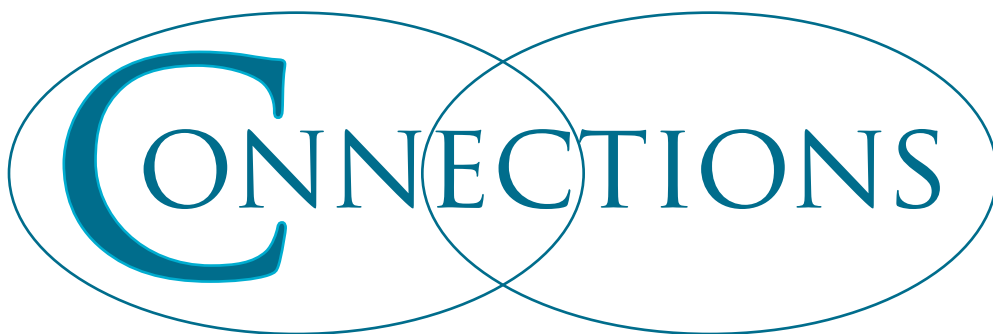




Where you *belong!*



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

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"Victory is always possible for the person who refuses to stop fighting." - Napoleon Hill

All Faiths and LIFE Celebrate Victory!

After three years of perseverance, on January 31, at a Fort Myers City Council meeting, LIFE's Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Ordinance 3938, was proposed and unanimously passed!

Please stand with us at these two important meetings

(Details on Page 9)



The Rally

March 1, 2022 - 7 pm

Live-Streamed on YouTube and
In Person at Mt. Hermon Ministries
2856 Douglas Street, Fort Myers, FL



The Nehemiah Action

March 15, 2022 - 7 pm

Via Zoom & Live-Streamed on YouTube



All Faiths' Annual Elections Meeting

March 27, 2022, 9:30 am - Save the Date!

(See notice on page 7)

Your Board of Directors held its regular meeting on February 16 via Zoom.

At our March meeting we intend to return to meeting in person at All Faiths. We would like to see more of a return to “normal” during March.

The Board approved the proposed budget for next year (2022-2023) at \$250,093 which will be presented at the Annual Meeting for approval. This budget is a 6.4% increase over last year. The items with biggest increases are staff salaries and benefits and inclusion of the Reserve Fund annual funding. The biggest decrease is a reduction in mortgage payment from \$19,200 to \$5,000.

The Stewardship Committee did a great job in organizing and getting Pledge Drive materials to the Congregation. Unfortunately,

there are still too many who have not returned a pledge card to All Faiths. We are below our goal and need your pledge. The Committee has started their follow-up process.

The Share the Plate list of recipients for the next year was approved. This year rather than having a specific Sunday each month for Share the Plate, we are designating that month for that recipient. To donate to share the plate you need to state the amount of a donation for the recipient or provide a separate check noting the designation.

Revisions to the Congregational Manual, a compilation of all policies and procedures, were approved. The revisions updated several sections related to financial management. Once the revisions are incorporated, the Congregational Manual will be available on All Faiths’ website.

The Board approved a Vision Statement that will be presented to the Congregation for adoption at the Annual Meeting. It is: *Recognizing our role as each other’s keepers, we strive to be an inclusive, loving community who works to bring harmony to the world.*

Our Wish List includes a “donor recognition tree,” a wood or metal wall hanging that is in the shape of an artistically-designed tree. The leaves will be etched with the names of people to recognize them for their legacy or other special gifts to All Faiths. Contact the office to make a donation.

Comments or suggestions for your Board of Directors can be emailed to All Faiths or you can contact me (239-770-0795 or gstotler@gmail.com) or other board members.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2022, starting at 1:00 p.m.

GOOD TO KNOW

Watch your emails for All Faiths 2022 Annual Report. It’s the year in review, and it contains valuable information about our upcoming Annual Meeting, the budget, Board of Director changes, and much more.

Check out All Faiths’ website at allfaithsuo.org and access our membership directory online. Call the office for the password; scroll to the bottom of any page and click on “member login.” Enter the password and click on the directory. *Voila!*

Happening This Week at All Faiths. Did you know that Regina sends an email out every Monday with a schedule of events for the week? If you are not receiving the email, check your “spam” and “trash” folders. Our distribution list is large and some email providers think it is junk mail.

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

Monthly Share-the-Plate

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

March - Angel Wings (Heart for Homeless Team)

April - One Tree (Climate Action Team)

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)



FROM MCGREGOR BOULEVARD

by Rev. CJ McGregor



Our proclamation each Sunday of "don't be afraid of some change" has been tested over the last two years. The pandemic caused us to close our doors, limit seating, open our doors, then close our doors, and institute various safety protocols at different times.

It's evident, to me and likely you, that our congregational life has changed drastically. Presently, our doors and seats are open with a few safety protocols such as mask wearing. We are slowly returning to a full congregational life, but not to the one we left in March 2020. You see, we've been changed and our way of life in the time we live in has changed. We've used these two years to discern what truly matters in congregational life. It would be impossible, and perhaps not wise, to simply turn back to the way things were in 2020.

We now understand that being connected is so valuable. We now understand how technology can play a positive role in our congregational life. We became more tech savvy long before

we wanted to or expected to. But we did it together. This congregation has seen tough times long before the pandemic. A recession, controversial ministry, hurricanes, and other events have challenged All Faiths. But each time the congregation rose and gave their attention, resources, and community building to bring the congregation back to its beloved community.

We have that opportunity once more. At the moment All Faiths is transitioning back to its beloved community. You'll see in this newsletter that there are opportunities for fun and fellowship again, the choir is rehearsing and performing, our Child and Youth programs are returning with greater participation, our lay pastoral care program is being revived, we will go live with all our events this month, we are offering a more relevant Mission and Vision, and with your support we get closer to paying our mortgage and meeting our pledge goal.

For us, "don't be afraid of some change" reveals our spirit, our sturdiness, our fortitude, and our resilience. Let us reach for these in the coming months. Re-engage. Get back involved. Show up. Rebuild.

— Blessings, Rev. CJ



JOYS & SORROWS

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

Carol Elrod is receiving occupational, physical and speech therapy at Shell Point's rehab facility.

She is showing steady improvement. Please keep her in your healing thoughts and prayers.

Mary Ellen Taylor has had a long battle with cancer. The chemo treatments are no longer working, and she has decided to go to Hospice at Shell Point. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Mildred Smith and **Dick Ashton** are both struggling with their health. Please keep them in your healing thoughts and prayers.

All Faiths celebrated its 21st anniversary with founding minister Rev. Wayne Robinson in the pulpit, and music provided by Darlene Mitchell, Nancy Frasca-Cabazares, Robert Bidney and Carlos Garcia. It was a wonderful reunion.

Stay Well and Share the Love

Joyce Ramay

Care and Support Coordinator

An Irish Blessing

May the good saints protect you,
And bless you today.
And may troubles ignore you,
Each step of the way.

McGREGOR CLINIC SUNDAY COLLECTION RETURNS!

We are happy to announce the return of the McGregor Clinic Sunday Collection.

Coordinated by *Joyce Schaffer*, clothing and non-perishable foods will be collected on the third Sunday of the month and delivered to the McGregor Clinic. See page 4 for needed items. The Clinic provides an integrated approach to patient care emphasizing services for clients living with HIV.

The first collection will be on Sunday, March 20.

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 Debbie Kopp
March 12 Diane Chernow
March 14 Patrick Spiller
March 15 Rachel Spiller
March 15 Vicki Conran
March 17 Robert Battaglia
March 20 Greg Monk
March 21 Pat Nuding
March 21 Valarie Meacham
March 23 Bob Moore
March 28 Sally Mason

And Coming Up...

April 1 Carol Heilsberg
April 2 Cindy Crean
April 3 Bill Snider
April 4 Barbara Goolsby

Solos Group Events

Saturday, March 5, **12:30 p.m.**

Lunch at El Gaucho Inca Restaurant
4383 Colonial Blvd, Ft. Myers, FL 33966

Check your email for details.

Contact: Annely Hudanick,
annelyblue@hotmail.com

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

TEN O'CLOCK SCHOLAR

Via Zoom - Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/7787257501>

Facilitated by Rev. CJ McGregor



March 9 - Wellspring Session 1: Required reading
The Folded Lie that can be accessed at
[The Folded Lie | Braver/Wiser | UUA.org](#)

March 16 - Wellspring Session 2: Required reading
Faith In Small Actions that can be accessed at
[Faith in Small Actions | Braver/Wiser | UUA.org](#)

March 23 - No program

March 30 - Wellspring Session 3: required reading
Let the Alleluias Rise Up that can be accessed at
[Let the Alleluias Rise Up | WorshipWeb | UUA.org](#)

McGregor Clinic Collection

Collection is on the 3rd Sunday of Every Month

Coordinator: Joyce Schaffer, 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.

Book Club

Wednesday, March 16, 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, diane@comcast.net

MARCH 2022 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Wishing you</i> THE LUCK OF <i>the Irish</i> & A HAPPY <i>St. Patrick's</i> DAY</p>		<p>1 1:30pm Zoom Climate Action Team Mtg.</p> <p>7 pm LIFE RALLY Live & Zoom (see pg. 9)</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 10:00am Climate Action Team Field Trip (see pg. 7)</p>	<p>5 12:30pm Solos Lunch (see pg. 4)</p> <p>2pm Choir Practice</p> <p>7pm ACMA Concert (pg. 11)</p>
<p>6 9:15am News Talk w. Richard Keelan</p> <p>10:30am Service and Child & Youth Program</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 10am Zoom Racial Equity Meeting</p>	<p>9 10am Ten O'clock Scholar (see pg. 4)</p>	<p>10 10 am Zoom Finance Mtg.</p>	<p>11 3pm Dominoes @ All Faiths (Learn to Play)</p>	<p>12 Turn Your Clocks Ahead Tonight for DST</p>  <p>2pm Choir Practice</p>
<p>13 9:15am News Talk w. Richard Keelan</p> <p>10:30am Service and Child & Youth Program</p> <p>Household Goods Collection</p>	<p>14 10am Sunday Service Team Mtg.</p> <p>7pm - Zoom Odyssey with Diana & Glenn Camp</p>	<p>15 11 am FGCU Black Experience Tour (see pg. 10)</p> <p>7pm NEHEMIAH ACTION Via Zoom (see pg. 9)</p>	<p>16 10am Ten O'clock Scholar (see pg. 4)</p> <p>12pm Book Club (see pg. 4)</p> <p>1pm - Zoom Board Meeting</p>	<p>17 2pm Homeless Team @ All Faiths</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 2pm Choir Practice</p>
<p>20 9:30am Budget Q&A prior to Annual Mtg.</p> <p>10:30am Service (No CYP Today)</p> <p>McGregor Clinic Collection</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 10:00am Climate Action Team Movie at All Faiths (see pg. 7)</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Building Unavailable</p>	<p>25 3pm Dominoes @ All Faiths (Learn to Play)</p>	<p>26 2pm Choir Practice</p> <p>7pm ACMA Concert (see pg. 11)</p>
<p>27 9:30am Annual Congregational Meeting</p> <p>10:30am Service and Child & Youth Program</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 10am Ten O'clock Scholar (see pg. 4)</p>	<p>31</p>		

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

MARCH 2022 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES "STAFF PICKS"

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

Recorded services can be viewed at www.allfaithsuu.org
or on our YouTube channel.

March 6

Pets Over People

by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Regina Kilmartin

March 13

My Life's Playlist: Music for the Soul

by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Donalie Benyak

Share the Plate – Angel Wings

March 20

Reflecting on an Administration

by Chris Stotler

Music by Carlos Garcia

Worship Associate – Doug Cartwright

McGregor Clinic collection – food & clothing

Mar. 27

Patriotic Education

by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Carlos Garcia & Choir

Worship Associate – Greg Monk

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 MARCH 2022

In House & on Zoom

March 6

Children and Youth will learn about issues facing women in our society today and begin making signs for the Women's March.

March 13

We will continue our study of equal pay and equal rights for women and finish our signs.

March 20

No program

March 27

We will learn more about specific issues facing minority and indigenous woman.

THANK YOU, MR. EADY!



Jarrett Eady and Rev. CJ McGregor

Our guest speaker on February 20 drew a full house at All Faiths. Mr. Eady, a fourth-generation resident of Fort Myers, is an alumnus of Fort Myers High School and Florida State University. He currently serves as the director of diversity and inclusion for the School District of Lee County, but his involvement in Lee County and surrounding communities goes much deeper. We thank him for his inspirational message.

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Carol Heilsberg, Co-Chair



Your Climate Action Team is planning two special activities in March. The first is a “field trip” on **Friday, March 4, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.** to tour the Lee County Waste Management Recycling Center located at 10550 Buckingham Road in Fort Myers.

We are planning to carpool from

All Faiths if that is convenient for you; more information on that will be provided shortly. We will have the opportunity to learn just what goes on in the facility when the stuff we have thrown away arrives there, and to ask questions about what does and does not belong in our recycle bins. After our tour, if you have worked up an appetite you may continue our field trip by joining us for lunch in the Buckingham Farms restaurant just up the road at 12931 Orange River Boulevard. Please contact Joan Marshall jfmdbm@yahoo.com to indicate your intention to participate so we can notify the Waste Management facility and the restaurant how many people to expect.

As a prelude to this trip, if you missed the Zoom workshop presented by Growing Climate Solutions on February 2 you can view it on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aokXWC3J-w4>. This is a fascinating and informative hour with Dawn McCormick, the Director of Communications and Governmental Affairs for Waste Management of Florida. She provides a clear picture, complete with photographs, of the operations of several Waste Management sites in our state, and gives us easy-to-remember rules for correct disposal of our castoffs.

Then on **Tuesday, March 22, at 2:00 p.m.** CAT will screen the Interfaith Power & Light film “Kiss the Ground” in the All Faiths sanctuary, with discussion to follow. The topic is regenerative agriculture, and the film makes a convincing case for this “old is new again” farming technique that has life-saving potential for our planet and its inhabitants.

Our next Climate Action Team meeting will be held via Zoom at 1:30 P.M. on March 1, 2022. All are invited to join in our ongoing mission to combat climate change.

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

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

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 27, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

All Faiths Sanctuary

**Members are encouraged to participate in our Annual Meeting. The Agenda will include:
Highlights of Minutes from Last Year’s Annual Meeting.**

Election of Treasurer, Board Directors and Nominating Committee Members.

Approval of the Budget of \$250,093 for Fiscal Year April 1, 2022-March 31, 2023.

Approval of Mission and Vision Statements

The 2022 Annual Report will be distributed electronically prior to Sunday, March 13, 2022. It will include reports from various congregational leaders and committees, Nominees for Board Directors, Nominees for the Nominating Committee, and detailed Budget information.

Safety: Due to COVID 19 restrictions, those attending will be required to wear masks, and we ask that they be vaccinated.

Absentee Ballots: Those who cannot attend in person may request Absentee Ballots from office@allfaithsuu.org. Signed absentee ballots must be returned to All Faiths prior to the meeting and will be counted in the quorum.

**Special Congregational Information Meeting
Sunday, March 20, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.**

We invite our members to participate in a special meeting in the sanctuary to present information on the proposed budget and to answer questions about the items on the Annual Meeting agenda.

We look forward to having you with us.

Ed Elrod

Secretary, Board of Directors

The Heart for the Homeless Team is pleased to welcome three new members - Tina Noel, Arlene Han and Pam Pfalzer. We look forward to fresh ideas and renewed energy.

The bike collection is going well - seven already in February. The Day Homeless Resource Center clients are encouraged to eat healthy as we supply fruit once each week. St. Vincent dePaul will be welcomed to our building on March 24th for their private event to celebrate their clients who have been helped to move from unsheltered to their own apartments. Greg Monk is employed there and is coordinating the gathering which will include gifts of household items for their newly acquired homes. The congregation will have the opportunity to participate in the donation of useful items. Our team is researching established local organizations to see where we can join in their efforts.

I recently attended the monthly meeting of the Lee County Homeless Coalition (LCHC) and, as usual, came away awestruck by the number of professional people who spend their careers helping to improve the lives of others. Their concerns range from assisting foster children who have aged out of the foster care system at age 18 with nowhere to go, to elderly and disabled people who face eviction due to inability to pay rent or utilities. Then there are volunteers who tutor, twice a week, the children of families staying in hotels until a residence can be arranged. Amazing!

We have good people in our community. Director of LCHC, Therese Everly, is on top of current Florida legislation and guides the members of any needed action. I was most surprised to learn that 70% of homeless (mostly men) that attend the Day Shelter identify as having a mental illness that prevents them from being productive and successful members of society. So have compassion for them, and gratitude for our capacity to see, understand and assist.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE NEWLY HOUSED HOMELESS

Sunday, March 13, 2020

by Barb McFarlane

All Faiths Heart for the Homeless Team is hosting Saint Vincent DePaul's annual celebration for individuals placed into housing on March 24th at All Faiths.

While the event is not open to the public, we will collect household goods on Sunday March 13, 2020 so each newly housed person can go home with a "goody bag." See some suggested goods below.

It is most appreciated if items were brought to All Faiths in reusable grocery bags. We will use them as gift bags.



WISH LIST

(Please deliver to All Faiths on Sunday, March 13)

Mops	Sponges
Brooms	Cutting Boards
Dust pans	Silverware
Cleaning Products	Utensils
Silverware Holders	Dish Soap
Pot Holder	Laundry Soap
Plastic Containers	Can Openers
Ziploc Bags	Dish Towels
Laundry Baskets	Cups
Paper Towels	Plates
Measuring Cups	



AUDIO/VISUAL TECH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



All Faiths is in need of audio/visual technician volunteers to help with setting up the projector when needed and operating the sound system during Sunday services and special events.

No education required! Ed Elrod is an excellent teacher and you'll be a pro before you know it.

If interested, please contact the office at 239-226-0900 so we can schedule a class in the near future.

It really does take a village!

LIFE

Lee Interfaith for Empowerment Updates & Important Gatherings

by Marsha Bates, Team Leader

LIFE Rally – Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 7 p.m.

- Receive status reports on the Affordable Housing and Brain Health initiatives and hear updates about other LIFE activities.
- Learn which government officials will be attending the Nehemiah Action (see below) and what actions LIFE will be asking the officials to take.
- This will be in-person as well as being accessible via live-streaming on YouTube. Instructions will be provided how to join the gathering remotely.
- Masks are required for those attending in person and social distancing will be encouraged.
- The in-person Rally will be held at Mt. Hermon Ministries, 2856 Douglas Street, Fort Myers. Parking is available on the Martin Luther King side of the building.

Nehemiah Action – Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 7 p.m.

- At the Nehemiah Action, LIFE will ask government officials to take specific actions that will provide greater justice for all Lee County citizens.
- After a 3-year effort by LIFE, the Fort Myers City Council unanimously passed an Affordable Housing Trust Fund ordinance in January. However, work remains to ensure the trust is funded within a reasonable time and to ensure it is implemented appropriately.
- There is power in numbers! Each network member should invite three other persons to the event.
- The Nehemiah Action will be via Zoom and Livestreamed on You Tube.

LIFE Celebration - May 10 at 7 p.m.

Details will be forthcoming about this gathering where we celebrate LIFE's victories.

This is the time of year when network members are encouraged to invest in LIFE's justice work. If possible, each network member is asked to contribute \$200; however, any amount will be welcomed.

- Mail checks to PO Box 62692 Fort Myers, FL 33906
- Invest online at <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/life-lee-interfaith-for-empowerment-corp>

MANY THANKS TO OUR OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

We are grateful for the dedicated service of our outgoing Board members - *Chris Stotler* who served as our Chair, and *Eileen Moran* and *Ernie Reid* who served as Directors.

They exercised outstanding leadership and wisdom while guiding us through particularly difficult years. In spite of all the challenges faced during the COVID 19 pandemic, they continued to meet regularly to make essential decisions and to make plans for the future.

It takes a strong sense of commitment to carry on through times of hardship. They kept their optimism and sustained us when we needed them most. Our congregation has benefited greatly by their generosity in sharing their time and talents.

Thank you from all of us.

*Members and Friends of
All Faiths Unitarian Congregation*

RESULTS OF STEWARDSHIP DRIVE 2022-23 Pledge Drive: Where you belong!

The Stewardship Committee thanks all Members and Friends who have submitted their pledge card for All Faiths' upcoming fiscal year (April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023).

As of February 24, the amount pledged (\$189,436) was 84.6% of the proposed budget's pledge goal (\$223,773).

It is not too late to return your pledge form if you have not yet done so. If you haven't pledged, you may get a reminder call from the Stewardship Committee. Remember, every pledge counts no matter the amount.

Thank you also to the Stewardship Committee: Ariel Hoover, Becky Ross, Ernie Reid, Mary Ellen Fritz, and Marsha Bates. And a huge thank you to Regina Kilmartin who provided invaluable knowledge and assistance throughout the campaign.

Vote on All Faiths Mission and Vision Statements at our March 27 Annual Meeting

Mission Statement

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

Vision Statement

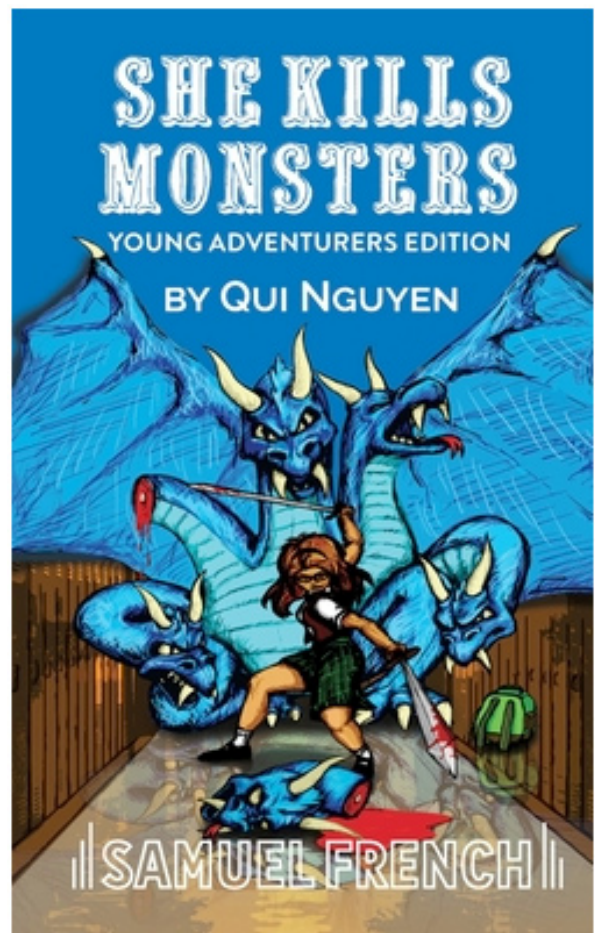
Recognizing our role as each other's keepers, we strive to be an inclusive, loving community who works to bring harmony to the world.

CYPRESS LAKE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS "SHE KILLS MONSTERS"

March 3 – 5, 2022

At our February 20 service, high school senior Taylor Ward, introduced a play being performed at Cypress Lake High School. The play, *She Kills Monsters*, is a dramatic comedy about the world of fantasy role-playing games, and it tells the story of Agnes Evans as she comes to terms with the death of her teenage sister, Tilly. When she finds Tilly's Dungeons & Dragons notebook, she embarks on an adventure in the imaginary world that was Tilly's refuge.

Taylor reached out to All Faiths because she knew we were supporters of the LGBTQ community and she wanted to extend an invitation to see the play, which deals with some LGBTQ issues.



Performances are March 3, 4, and 5
Cypress Lake High School
6750 Panther Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33919
Students \$6 Adults \$10

Link for tickets:

<https://cypresslakevocal.ticketleap.com/she-kills-monsters-young-adventurers/>

THE BLACK EXPERIENCE

in Lee County

The Florida Gulf Coast University Archives
and Special Collections

Presents

The Black Experience in Lee County
for the spring 2022 exhibition.

The exhibition is open to the public now through April 28

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Third floor of the University Library, room 322.

The long history of Lee County proves time and again that the Dunbar community was resilient against segregation, prejudice, Jim Crow laws, and racial violence. The 'human' pillars paved the way as they ran for civic office, fought for integration and voting rights, and documented news and current events through the lens of the Black experience.

In the face of challenges, the Black community in Fort Myers remained resolute, becoming an example of strength for all citizens who call Southwest Florida home. The institutional foundations featured in the exhibition continue to amplify community voices and experiences through stories of success.

In partnership with the Lee County Black History Society, multi-generational resident and local historian, Jarrett Eady, and many residents who brought the history to life, the Florida Gulf Coast University Archives and Special Collections invite you to see the 2022 Spring exhibition: *The Black Experience in Lee County*.

Please contact libarchives@fgcu.edu for questions and to schedule a tour.



Join Lewis Robinson and others for a tour of the Black Experience in Lee County at the Florida Gulf Coast University Archives on **Tuesday, March 15 at 11:00 a.m.**

Carpoolers can meet at All Faiths to leave by 10:15 a.m. sharp, or you can meet the group at FGCU at 11:00 a.m. Call the office to obtain a campus map. We hope you can join us.

Please RSVP to the office via email (office@allfaithsuu.org) or telephone (239-226-0900) so we can let the University know how many will be attending.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by John Conrad, Treasurer

Balance Sheet: Cash Assets – January 2022

Iberiabank Checking	\$10,433
Iberiabank Op. Reserve	16,040
Live Oak Op. Res. CD	20,842
Raymond James Legacy	36,978
Pay Pal	286
Iberiabank Capital Fund	<u>5,878</u>
Total	\$ 90,457
Prior Month	<u>84,918</u>
Net Gain	\$ 5,539

January 2022 Profit & Loss

Operating Income	\$ 24,279
Operating Expense	<u>16,949</u>
Net Gain	\$ 7,330

Comments:

♦ Revenue/Operating Income increased in January compared to December.

It is our hope that congregants who have not yet met their pledge goal for the year will be able to do so in the next month. Overall, we have received 85.2% of the pledge goal for the first 10 months of the year (\$148,338 in pledge contributions, while our anticipated pledge goal through January was \$174,166). It was necessary to transfer \$9,000.00 from the Operating Reserve to cover our expenses during December.

♦ The outstanding mortgage principal at the end of January was \$16,494.66. This reflects significant progress because on April 1, 2021 the mortgage principal balance was \$86,896.22 (a decrease of \$70,401.56 in just 10 months)! The response to the Burn the Mortgage campaign has been incredible. It is with increasing hope that we can achieve our goal of being debt free by the end of our fiscal year. Thank you to all that have been so generous. And as of February 8, 2022, the Mortgage balance has dropped further to \$12,394.66! Can we cross the finish line and Burn the Mortgage by March 31?

♦ The Capital Reserve Study, approved by the Board earlier this year, has been completed. The Finance Committee and the Board are now hoping to incorporate the funding of the reserves into the budget for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. The reserves, once implemented, will be used for future anticipated capital expenses, such as replacement of air conditioning units, roofs, carpeting, et cetera.

♦ In January, \$280.00 was collected for The Change Program-Alliance for the Arts (Racial Equity).

AS OF MARCH 1, 2022

Burn the Mortgage Balance:

\$7,607!



The numbers -- play by play: After our regular mortgage payment on March 14 of \$1,600, and after anticipated giving promises of \$2,400 our mortgage balance will be at \$3,607! We have 145 members – if each member donated \$25, we could take a match to the mortgage and have a party!!

Our sincere thanks to everyone who donated so generously to this effort.

ACMA HAPPENINGS

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.

March 5th - Tim Farrell

March 26 - Annie & Rod Capps in Concert!
Eileen Kozloff Opens



The Listening Room at All Faiths
2756 McGregor Blvd.
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

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

The safety of our audience, musicians and hosts is our top priority. CDC COVID protocols observed. Masks required in the building, and we prefer that attendees be vaccinated. Thank you for your cooperation so we can once again gather to enjoy live music in a listening atmosphere!

Check ACMA Facebook or website:
www.americanacma.org for more info.

GAME DAY AT ALL FAITHS

Every 2nd and 4th Friday at 3:00 p.m.



Beginning in March, All Faiths will host Mexican Train Dominoes, known in Mexico as Dominó Cubano. There can be up to eight players in one game. We will have two "learning sessions" on March 11 and March 25 at 3:00 p.m. It's easy to learn, and a ton of fun! Everyone is welcome.

The game Americans call "Mexican Train Dominos" originated in China, brought over to the west by Chinese sugar field workers in Cuba, later learned by Mexicans building railroads alongside Cubans in the United States, and renamed by Americans, Mexicans, and Cubans alike.

MARCH ODYSSEY DIANA & GLENN CAMP

Monday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m.



Diana and Glenn Camp will be the subject of our next Odyssey. Diana and Glenn, who hale originally from Iowa, have been members of All Faiths for ten years. We know they have been married for over

50 years, but what else might we learn?

Please join us on March 14 at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom. Hosted by Rev. CJ with Q&A to follow. Link will be sent via email prior to program.



All Faiths Unitarian Congregation

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida 33901

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

Executive Board: Chris Stotler, Chair; Rachel Spiller, Vice Chair; John Conrad, Treasurer; Ed Elrod, Secretary; Diane Cartwright, Past Chair.

Directors: Marge DiGalbo, Peter Erickson, Eileen Moran, Ernie Reid, 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

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

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Ed Elrod

Building and Grounds

Bob DiGalbo

Judy Alberda

Social Action & Outreach

Climate Action Team

Joan Marshall

Community Events

Richard Keelan

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 **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–Thurs;
9am to 12pm, Friday & Sunday.
Congregational Administrator: Regina Kilmartin