



THE CONNECTION

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2019



PROGRAMS FOR FEBRUARY

ONGOING SUNDAY

SCHEDULE

INQUIRING MINDS 9:15

ELEM RE 9:30—10:30

MIDLERS 10:45-11:30

SUPERVISED PLAY 10:45

SUNDAY SERVICE 10:30

YOUTH GROUP 6PM

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February 3 Secular or Equal?" David Williamson

David Williamson, founder and President of the Central FL Freethought Community, whose vision is secular local government that neither promotes or denigrates any religion, returns to us to discuss "While religious fundamentalism may be losing in the court of public opinion, its grip on local, state, and national government officials remains strong. David will discuss the various methods employed when challenging establishment clause violations and the importance of continued vigilance."

February 10 "Sing It Again, Uncle Sam" Fr. Rudolph "Rudi" Cleare

Rudi Cleare, a frequent and favorite speaker at UUUF and the Executive Vice President of the Negro Spiritual Scholarship Foundation, returns to lead us through a revisiting of our American identity through civil rights anthems and protest songs. The Negro spiritual, born in the era of slavery, is an important part of our shared cultural history. The songs we hear today have strong roots in the past. They were raised in solidarity during protests, shared when honoring MLK, Jr. and others who made their voices known. Remembering, honoring, and understanding are essential to moving forward. **Potluck after service!**

February 17 Dialog with Imam Tariq Rasheed and Fatima Ait Rami of the Islamic Center of Orlando

Imam Tariq Rasheed joined the Islamic Center of Orlando in 1993 and has been the Imam and President since. He regularly delivers speeches on Islam throughout Central Florida. He is also a Chaplain at Dr. Phillips Hospital. Fatima Ait Rami is the Outreach Director for the Islamic Center of Orlando in southwest Orlando. Her mission and the mission of the Center is to practice and present Islam in the US by providing religious, educational and social activities, and promote a socially responsible Muslim-American identity. **Quarterly Meeting after service.**

February 24 "Meet a Millennial" Joe Donatone

You may have read recently that the Millennial generation is "killing" American cheese, napkins, cold cereal, landline phones... and Applebee's! Though many define themselves as spiritual, a majority don't attend church. Worse yet, they never vote but also manage to upset elections! Who are these youngsters who seem determined to dismantle the most American of American institutions? UU seminarian Joe Donatone would like to introduce you to one and perhaps clear up some of the mystery!

Don't miss our FTC Robotics Team, Robo Pegz, who will tell us about their experiences at 12:45!

RE Newsletter Column

Classes for Adults and Kids starting this month

February 2019

Our 6th principle: The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.

Fitting right in with the larger RE theme this month, the Bible stories we are visiting with during religious education classrooms address questions of the wants, needs, or ourselves and others as well as how we manage those who bully to get their wants met. We will read about Solomon and David and Joshua and Samson.

In our new offering, “What Moves Us,” that begins Tuesday night, February 19th our online class, we will also be moving along in line with this broader theme as we look at George de Benneville’s theology of boundless universal love.

Don’t let the idea of an online class stop you from participating. If you have a computer with a reasonably reliable internet connection you should be able to participate. Two run through opportunities at the church and/or online are available:

Wednesday morning, Feb 5 between 9 and 10 AM (after morning meditation)

Thursday evening, Feb 14 between 6 & 7 PM (before meditation)

If you need additional help, give me a call and we will work on it together.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Meditations

Wednesday mornings 8:30 – 9AM in the Library

2nd and 4th Thursday evenings from 7 -8 PMish includes a potluck dessert

Popcorn Theology – February 2nd, 9:30 AM in the sanctuary. Movie: *Back To The Future*, Theme: No Blank Slate.

What Move Us Online Class - The 3rd Tuesday of each month, first being February 19th.

How Sunday Morning Works For Our Children

Nursery The nursery is available for toddlers through pre-K. Staffed from 9:30 until about 12:30.

Often you will find the children and staff on the playground

Kindergarten to 5th 9:30 until about 10:20 every Sunday in the RE building for a planned activity. 10:45ish till 12:30 Supervised Free Play in the main RE Classroom and on the playground.

Middle School 10:45 – when the kids get sung out of the service – until about 11:45.

Youth Group 5-7 PM Sunday evenings for youth 12 – 18 years of age.

See you all on Sunday!

Judith A. Stein-Farrall

Director of Religious/Spiritual Education

dre@universityuus.org



This group usually meets on the last Friday of each month, alternating between a support group format and an invited speaker or planned activity. Open to all those identified as women, we hope you will join us! The Annual Women's Retreat is coming up on March 1-2, watch for more details!



Please join us for our monthly UUUS Visitor's Class, usually held on the first Sunday of the month. They have been meeting right after service, 11:45, in the Library.

You are welcome, come find out more about us! Contact Gina

Busby for more information:

membership@universityuus.org

child care is provided! Walk-ins are always welcome.



Social Action News: Dr. Joel Hunter (he spoke several weeks ago) heads the Community Resource Network (CRN). CRN is an umbrella/clearinghouse organization that partners with various agencies around Central Florida to assist the homeless. In his presentation, Dr. Hunter mentioned training programs people may attend if they're interested in helping. (These sessions are free, but SAC suggests making a donation)

SAC decided to donate the quarterly 40% loose plate offering to the Community Resource Network run by Dr. Joel Hunter. CRN facilitates a coordinated, collaborative community network of support for families and individuals experiencing homelessness who do not qualify for government funded housing programs. ([Here](#) is the full description of their mission). We will send a check to their office at the end of March. We feel confident after listening to Dr. Hunter, that our donation will be used in a manner that aligns with our mission.

Upcoming Training: (Feb 23rd OR March 23rd). "When Helping Hurts"

Description

Want to help someone step out of the cycle of poverty or homelessness? Learn the principles that will equip you to do this work of compassionate ministry without hurting those we seek to help during our free When Helping Hurts seminar!

Coffee and breakfast snacks are provided!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/when-helping-hurts-seminar-tickets-48845971616>



**Join us on February 28th,
7pm, for a fantastic concert!**

Roy Zimmerman is an American satirical singer-songwriter and guitarist now based in Northern California. He has a leftist political philosophy which is focused on social issues and politics.

Don't miss him! Tickets are \$20. Hope to see you here!

A WORD FROM OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:

I want to thank all the devoted volunteers, both members and non members who continue to make UUU run smoothly.

Thanks to Gina Busby, we have greeters assigned for the rest of the year, but we still need more people to step up and commit to helping in Hospitality. Our plan to have one individual taking responsibility for each month has been a great success!

Kelly Buchanan is continuing to handle the monthly Pot Luck luncheons, so the monthly coordinator isn't responsible the second Sunday of the month. We are seeking more folks to sign up for the coming year...so, if you haven't committed so far to one month for the coming year and are able to do so, please contact Kelly or me for scheduling. It is also possible to team up with someone else for that month in case you can't commit to all 4weeks.

We need your help to continue providing a welcoming atmosphere for members and guests.

Thank you, Rae Brammer-Wilson



GROUPS, CLUBS, MEETINGS:

Alliance: The Alliance is a long-established daytime fellowship group at 1U offering social connection and the opportunity to participate in supporting good causes. Also, the Alliance's new Resale Shop is open in Gore Hall now that renovation is complete, and is receiving donated items. Stop by the new shop and see what type of items we feature. We are excited to resume sales because it means we can resume financial support of causes which Unitarians want to promote. The Alliance also exists to support members and friends in other ways. For more information, email Alliance@OrlandoUU.org. Be sure to visit the Resale Shop in Gore Hall.

A More Interesting Life... AMIL (A More Interesting Life...) (2nd Tuesday of month), 6:30PM in the UUUS library Eclectic Mix of anecdotes, connections, readings, music to help you uncover your desire, joys, and passions, separate from family, work, and perhaps your own obvious thoughts of who you think you are. So far we've touched on taking charge while you or a loved one is in a hospital, and how the staff's biases color their level of care, and outcome expectations. We've read Jungian analysts James Hollis's, *Living the Examined Life* and discussed complexes, projection, and transference. And we've examined some Motown songs (lyrics and songs), and how they relate to the human condition. More to come...contact Gary Przyborski for more information.

Guided Meditation: Join our RE Director, Judith, on Wednesday mornings, from 8:30-9, for a guided meditation in the Library. She also leads a group on every other Thursday evening, for meditative sitting and dessert, 7-8 pm. Please check the weekly news for dates!

Hospitality Committee: This incredible group provides the organization and planning (and much of the muscle) behind our potlucks and congregational meals, keeps the kitchen stocked, clean and organized and much more! They need our support....please consider giving of your time and talents!

Investment Group: The "**Investors Club**" continues to meet the first Sunday of the month. **February 3, 11:45am.** Each month we discuss the economy and investing. We welcome people who have skills concerning taxes and investments, but you don't need to be knowledgeable to come and learn! You are invited to join us!

Novel Book Group: **We regret to announce that the Novel Book Club is discontinued. After nine fun years it's time to move on to other things. Beth and I have enjoyed the lively discussions and shared experiences with so many wonderful women (and the occasional man) over the years. We thank you all and wish you continued happy reading. Marilyn Kelch and Beth Keifer.**

Social Action Committee: Meets at 11:45 the fourth Sunday of the month, in the Library.

Spirit Seekers: this group will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, from 10a-11:30a, at UUUS. They will begin reading "Miracles" together and will discuss the book, their thoughts, insights and experiences. For more information, contact leaders Gina Busby (ginabusby4@gmail.com) or Laura Owens (lowens350@gmail.com).

The UUUS Men's Group: All men are welcome! Join us for food and fellowship! See you Monday, February 11th, for our meeting at the church 6:30 pm Contact: davidamcelroy1@gmail.com

The UUUS Women's Circle: All women are welcome! The Women's Circle usually meets on the last Friday of each month for food and fellowship. The Annual Women's Retreat will be held Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, at UUUF.

Youth Group: Open to youth from 12 -18 years of age, we meet on Sunday evenings, 5-7 pm. Join us!



**WORKDAY AT THE
CHURCH**

Come join us on Saturday, February 16th for a UUUF workday! We have plenty of tasks to be done, no experience necessary, just a great attitude and willing hands! Hope to see you there!

UUJF Legislative Days 2019

UU Justice Florida (UUJF) Speaking Out in 2019: Meet with your state Legislators and staff at home

Watch for UUJF Action Alerts Sign up for UUJF Legislative Days in Tallahassee March 11-12, 2019

The UU Justice Florida Legislative Days event is just 8 weeks away, leaving sufficient time to make preparations and insure that our UU voices are heard.

- If you haven't done so already, review the UUJF Legislative Agenda handout
- If possible, form teams with others from your congregation or other outside organizations
- Make appointments for your team to meet with your Senator and Representative in their local offices before the start of the Legislative Session which begins March 5
- Meet with your Legislators and/or staff and introduce yourself and the congregation or organization you represent
- Let your Legislators or staff know which items on the Legislative Agenda handouts are of greatest interest or importance to you and your organization or community
- Share any personal stories or experiences concerning specific themes in the handout
- Ask your Legislators to introduce or co-sponsor bills to address the issues or concerns you have raised
- Tell your Legislators or staff you will track bills as they are filed and will ask for their appropriate votes when they appear on a committee hearing agenda or on a calendar for a vote on the floor
- Send your questions or share your experiences along with any assurances or commitments you receive in your meetings to info@uujusticefl.org. Your feedback will be helpful in planning future training and orientation sessions

Apart from your participation in pre-session meetings with your Legislators as outlined above, here are several additional steps that will make UUJF Legislative Day activities more successful than ever.

- SIGN UP to receive targeted email if you don't see your correct ZIP+4 address code here: 32817 - 8332.
- Ask members of your congregation or team to sign up for targeted Action Alert emails if they aren't already receiving them
- Respond to Action Alert targeted emails with talking points and legislator contact info when bills on the Legislative Tracker appear on the calendar for a committee hearing or vote
- Register for March 11-12 UUJF Legislative Days in Tallahassee
- Make an appointment with your Legislators or staff in Tallahassee for Tuesday, March 12
- Arrange carpooling with other participants from your area
- Attend Committee hearings that may be on the calendar while we are in Tallahassee and comment on bills of interest.

This is the first year we've encouraged meetings in local legislative offices in order to establish ongoing relationships with our Legislators and provide additional opportunities to participate for those who find it difficult or impractical to travel to Tallahassee.

As a follow up to suggestions from last year's event, you are invited to participate in an orientation session at 3 pm on March 11 for those who can arrive before the 5 pm registration and reception. Topics covered will be how to navigate the State Capital campus, the process for referral and passage of bills and tips for meeting with Legislators and staff.

UUJF supporters will be networking with members of Indivisible, FL-iCAN, the ACLU, Equality Florida and advocates for environmental justice among others to show there is strong and committed support for progressive programs and legislation in Florida.

We welcome and encourage your participation.

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Youth

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Activities

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Investment Group..Gary Przyborski

Triple U House Band...Gina Busby...
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Women's Circle...Roberta Lerman...

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