



UPDATE

January 2014 Volume 45 Number 1

January 5:

"The Missing Ingredient: Growing our Faith with Community Ministry"

Rev. Dee Graham will be our speaker Growing as welcoming faith communities means we have to spread our love AND social justice. Chaplaincy, community service and serving the neighborhood calls for an ecumenical, interfaith world out there. So, to reach the many UU's who don't know it, we must engage in a ministry of presence. Learn how community ministry puts our faith where humanity is, and why it matters.

Music: MUUF Choir

January 12:

"Gender Identity Disorder"

Jami Gee will be our speaker. Jami not only brings us her music, she will also tell her own gender identity story.

Music: Jami Gee

January 19:

"Living the Dream - Honoring Martin Luther King"

Rev. Charles McKenzie will be our speaker. As we honor Dr. King, let us also recommit to racial justice work.

Special Collection: Our Daily Bread

Music: MUUF Choir

"How You and I Became Uni-Whats?"

Duncan Teague will be our speaker. Our stories tell us who we are and also inform the larger world. Many therapists believe that if one can change how one recites "the story," it changes one's life. What can we learn together about our individual and collective stories about being liberal religious Unitarian Universalists in this day and time?

Music: The Dunn Deal

Fellowship Office Hours:

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The UPDATE

Content Editor – Lorraine Berry

Production Editor – Roxanne Winstead

Directory Updates — New Address

Please notify the office, by phone or email, of any changes of address.

Thank you

MUUF'S MISSION STATEMENT

"A friendly beacon for religious freedom, supporting lifelong spiritual growth and working for social justice with compassion and love."

~ January 2014 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day	2 12:00 Al-Anon Mtg. 6:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Meditation	3	4
5 9:00 Choir Practice 10:30 Speaker: Rev. Dee Graham Music: MUUF Choir 12:00 RE Meeting 12:00 Soc Justice mtg 12:00 Play Reading	6 6:45 Occupy Bradenton Discussion	7 4:30 Membership Comm. Mtg. 6:30 Zen Meditation	8 6:00 Toastmasters	9 10:00 Chalice Cir B 12:00 Al-Anon Mtg. 6:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Meditation	10 6:00 Share-A-Dish Sponsored by UU Lite Family Traditions+and Board Games	11
12 9:00 Congregational Dialogue 10:30 Speaker: Jami Gee Music: Jami Gee 12:00 Annual Meeting	13 4:30 Chalice Cir A 6:45 Occupy Bradenton Discussion	14 6:30 Zen Meditation	15 10:00 Great Decisions 6:00 Toastmasters	16 12:00 Al-Anon Mtg. 6:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Meditation	17	18 10:00 Welcoming Comm.Movie
19 9:00 Choir Practice 10:30 Speaker: Rev CharlesMcKenzie Music: MUUF Choir Special Collection Our Daily Bread	20 6:45 Occupy Bradenton Discussion	21 6:30 Board Meeting 6:30 Zen Meditation	22 6:00 Toastmasters	23 10:00 Chalice Cir B 12:00 Al-Anon Mtg. 6:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Meditation	24 4:00-8:00 Sunset Party at Sharyn Devine & Glenn Tarver	25
26 9:15 Congregational Dialogue 10:30 Speaker: Duncan Teague Music: The Dunn Deal	27 4:30 Chalice Cir A 6:45 Occupy Bradenton Discussion	28 6:30 Zen Meditation	29 6:00 Toastmasters	30 12:00 Al-Anon Mtg. 6:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Meditation	31	

Lee Dickson 1/ 1
Grace Hirsh 1/ 3
Dee Porter 1/ 03
Chris MacCormack 1/ 4
Bob Condon 1/ 05
Geoff Graham 1/ 09

Beverly Clark 1/ 19
Robin Marshall 1/23
Roy McChesney 1/ 23
Richard LaBrecque 1/ 23
Sasha Bohn 1/ 28





Presidents' Message

January 2014

Bill Peruzzi

We are pleased to see so many snow birds back at MUUF in time for the holiday season.

The Board has been quite busy as usual. Among other things, at the December meeting, we:

- approved hiring Cyndi Jaskuisi on a contractual basis to handle the MUUF book keeping. Joyce and Tom Alman have donated their time to us carrying out that important activity for many years. Please thank them when you see them.
- decided to dedicate up to 15 minutes near the beginning of monthly Board meetings to having Board visitors express concerns and requests. This will allow visitors the option of leaving the meeting without staying to the end.
- heard an update from Board member Monica DeBarros on the MUUF web site. It is now up at manateeuuf.org and continuing to undergo improvements by the committee headed by MUUF friend Mariano Vera (contact marianomuuf@gmail.com should you have suggestions).
- heard an update from Monica on the UU Lite program, for which \$4,000 of funding is to be voted on at the upcoming annual meeting. The Board voted to recommend to the Fellowship that this growth program, that would provide outreach to the community, be approved at the annual meeting at the level of \$4,000 for operating costs for the year. A quote from the most recent UU World states, "We must build our religious communities not as refuges, but to humanize our culture and transform the world."
- prompted by a recent near-accident at the front entrance, voted to go forward with installing the side ramp that had been previously approved and funded by the fellowship.
- voted to change the fiscal/church year in 2015 from the current calendar year to a July 1-June 30 year to improve development and bring us in line with many other UU churches. In 2014, we propose asking congregants to extend their pledges for 6 months, and then we would have the annual pledge drive take place in the winter of 2015 rather than the fall of 2014. Among other things, this will provide additional time for our Stewardship campaign and allow us to pledge at the optimum time -- following a successful and rewarding winter season for the fellowship.
- agreed with the premise presented by the financial committee that the Fellowship should exhibit financial responsibility by budgeting that which we have been pledged. Our recent Stewardship campaign fell short by \$9,000 and the Board accordingly agreed to incorporate \$9,000 in cuts into the revised annual

budget that was recommended by the finance committee. The revised budget is to be voted on at the annual meeting. It was a very busy and successful meeting.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

January 2014

Lisa Bohn, DRE



New beginnings are always hopeful, even when experience keeps reality in check! I wish you all fresh perspectives and a joyous ride into 2014.

For the Religious Education program, the first item on the agenda is...The Madrigal. At this Update printing, we have about 4 weeks to pull together another "really big show," and we want you to be a part of it. Many hands make light work and make it a lot more fun too, so don't get left out of this memorable project. Show up and help out- you won't regret it!

The youth are showing an energetic revival as was evident at last month's Share-a-dish gathering. If you are a teen and you missed it, watch and listen for notice of future events and bring your friends. The Sarasota group is organizing a Con for February and we can help! Stay tuned for details on the next gathering.

This month is the kick-off for the UU Lite program, spearheaded by Monica DeBarros and Maggie Bayliss. Although not officially an RE program, it will be bringing children into our Fellowship. It's exciting to see the energy these two have put into pulling this project together.

For our more experienced learners, I will be leading a 6-part movie series on Unitarian Universalist History. The first movie will be on January 19th at 2:00, in the social hall. Grab lunch after the service or bring a brown bag with you. The movie is about an hour long, followed by a 30-minute discussion.

RE Calendar

- January 3 & 4 UU Lite - Dinner & evening program and Saturday day of fun
- January 5 Words for All Ages, Children attend service with family and proceed upstairs after offertory
- January 12 Madrigal organization meeting
- January 19 MLK Day - who celebrates?
Adult RE - Movie on UU History
- January 26 Madrigal preparation



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Elliot Prout, Green Sanctuary leader, has arranged for MUUF members to work on a Habitat for Humanity house in Palmetto. Sign up with Elliot to join the MUUF volunteers for a Saturday morning in February from 8 am to 12 noon with lunch provided.

The December Share-A-Dish program presented the issues about the Resolution for a US Constitutional Amendment, Move To Amend. Al Usack, who wrote the Move To Amend Issue of the Month report, led the discussion after the DVD, explaining the issues. A motion at the MUUF Annual Meeting will ask for a vote to support this Resolution for the amendment. The amendment overturns the "Citizens United" decision by the Supreme Court and rejects treating corporations as people and money as speech. Two future Issues of the Month, Increase in Minimum Wage and Voting Rights, were discussed at the meeting.

The December special collection was for Turning Points programs helping the homeless, capably presented by Adell Erozer, Executive Director. The total collected was \$568. For MUUFers who did not attend the December 15 service, envelopes marked Turning Points are available at the "name tag table" and can be put in the collection plate any Sunday. Walter Pascal reminded us during the service to place useful items in the blue bins to be taken to the homeless.

The January special collection will be for Our Daily Bread on the third Sunday, the 19th of January. The third Thursday is when MUUF provides volunteers to serve the meals to the homeless at the One Stop Center. Please sign up or tell Gary Chanco you are available from 9 am to 11:30 am.



Arlene Sweeting informed us about Campaign Nonviolence, a movement against violence and injustice. It promotes nonviolence through education, action and networking. Speakers and meetings will be announced for action in 2014.

Monday, January 6, at 6 pm there will be a joint educational meeting with OCCUPY. After pizza a DVD will be followed by discussion. See article in this UPDATE.

Look for Social Justice members with two petitions and sign your support: 1- Florida Water and Land Conservation and 2-amendment to the UUA By-Laws adding to the list of those welcome at UU congregations.

A note about used bra donations, which we collected last year, the initial year for Free The Girls. This year they shipped 150,000 more bras. They doubled

the women served in Mozambique, and launched four new programs in Uganda and El Salvador.

The regular meeting of the Social Justice Committee is on the 2nd Sunday of each month; however, because of the Annual Meeting on the 2nd Sunday in January, the next Social Justice committee will be January 5 at noon after the Sunday service. Meetings are always open to members and visitors. Contact Bernita Franzel for further information.



MOVE TO AMEND

A PROPOSAL BY THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE TO BE ACTED ON AT THE MUUF ANNUAL MEETING IN JANUARY 2014

In keeping with the UUA General assembly request that member congregations pass resolutions that support and endorse a United States Constitutional Amendment to establish that corporations are not persons and money is not speech, the Social



Justice Committee will present a motion at the annual meeting for a vote by the congregation.

The motion will endorse the Action of Immediate Witness passed at the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in 2013 entitled: "Amend the Constitution: Corporations are not Persons and Money is not Free Speech"

Through a number of formal "Whereas" clauses, the UUA statement documents that "a series of U.S. Supreme Court rulings establish corporations as persons, quated money with speech, and eliminated limits on amounts that corporations can contribute to political campaigns and political advertising -- which have flooded the political landscape with unprecedented amounts of money from corporations and other interests, corrupting our democratic process and putting the entire democracy at risk." It goes on to say: "Working together with other groups and other faith traditions, we can make a significant impact to further the progress of a constitutional amendment to preserve the constitutional rights that our founding fathers intended solely for human persons, restore the effective voice of the people, and save our democracy."

A copy of the entire formal action of the UUA is available for members review. We also recommend that you visit the "Move to Amend.Org." web site for additional information on the issue. The website includes UU endorsers from Venice and Vero Beach.

Al Usack

A "MADRIGAL MYSTERY TOUR"

On FEBRUARY 1ST!

The Religious Education Program of MUUF is gearing up for the annual camp fundraiser, commonly known as the "Madrigal."

This time we will take you on a "Madrigal Mystery Tour" featuring music and times of the Beatles!



Save the date:

February 1, 6:00 pm at the Fellowship.

"Roll up (And that's an invitation), Roll up (To make a reservation). The magical mystery tour is waiting to take you away!"

Watch for details and ticket sales soon!

ADULT RE FILM SERIES

LONG STRANGE TRIP:

A Journey through Two Thousand Years of UU History

Lisa Bohn will be offering a 6-part movie and discussion series for adults and older teens interested in the history of our Unitarian Universalist faith. The group will meet on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 – 3:30 in the Social hall. The films are one hour long and a short discussion will follow. The series begins Jan. 19; titles are as follows:



- #1 In the Beginning-Liberal religious thought prior to the Reformation.
- #2 The Birth of Unitarianism- Early Unitarian theology in Europe and the Netherlands
- 3# American Unitarianism- The development of Unitarianism in America from 1620- 1860
- #4 Universalism- From Germany and England to America, focusing mostly on the first half of the 19th century
- #5 Evolution- Unitarianism and Universalism through the late 19th and early 20th centuries as it evolved from Christian bible-oriented to our present-day non-creedal movement.
- #6 The Hundred Year Waltz- the century-long courtship between Unitarianism and Universalism that led to their merger in 1961, and where it is headed now. Sign up in the Social Hall or call Lisa Bohn at 941-586-0642.

CHALICE LIGHTING

We have changed our Chalice Lighting procedure on Sunday mornings, in an effort to make it more meaningful, more spiritual, as well as easier.

A tea candle on the pedestal with the chalice will be lit before the service begins. It symbolizes the "light" that each of us brings as individual members, friends, and visitors to this worship service. From this light, we will light the chalice, symbol of our community gathered here for inspiration, education, and fellowship.

The Chalice is the official symbol of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) as well as the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA), of which our Fellowship is a member. Developed during World War II, it became a symbol of hope for Eastern Europeans, whose escape from Nazi persecution was greatly aided by Unitarian Service Committee agents in Europe.



If you would like to become one of our Sunday morning Chalice Lighters, I'd be happy to provide a 1-minute "training" before the service.

- Lorraine Berry, Worship Committee

CARING NETWORK

Why is 4:00 Thursday, January 9th important to you and others?

Could it be that you support the various needs of our members and friends? Could it be that at some point you may have the same needs? Could it be that as we age, we are not sure how to solve those needs?



The "Caring Network" will be reorganizing in preparation for additional services that may be needed sooner than expected.

Join today on Thursday,

January 9th at 4:00 p.m. to design a program so that with your help the Caring Network can turn age-ing into sage-ing.

For more information contact Leslie Roell at 756-5461

ELEONORA LVOV CONCERT AT MUUF!

MUUF is again fortunate to host a piano concert by Eleonora at 4 PM on Sunday, January 5, 2014. Ms Lvov will perform a program of Classical Romantic Music, perfect for ushering in the New Year. This program is open to the public, and indeed many of Eleonora's fans from outside of MUUF will be attending. It is an exciting opportunity for you to invite friends who enjoy superb classical piano music to visit MUUF.

Eleonora has achieved a world-wide reputation as a piano virtuoso. A winner of many international competitions, including the Beethoven Competition in Moscow, she has performed widely as a soloist with major orchestras and in recitals throughout the United States and Europe. She has also been honored with command performances for the Queen of Belgium, the Prime Minister of England and the President of Israel.

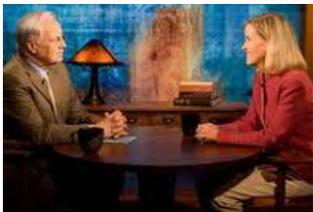


She has performed concerts at MUUF for several years, and MUUF shares the free-will donations with her. A reception follows the performance, so you will have an opportunity to meet this remarkable artist. Mark your calendar now.



MUUF SOCIAL JUSTICE & OCCUPY BRADENTON PRESENT

Another in a series of Social Issues Education program on Monday, January 6th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with pizza, salad, beverage and dessert, followed by a video interview by Bill Moyers of financial journalist Gretchen Morgenson on: "getting tough on Wall Street and banks" and Peter Dreier on "the role of organized citizens against organized oppressors." Group discussion will follow the video. Suggested donation of \$3.00. All interested persons are invited!



JANUARY SHARE-A-DISH

UU Lite

UU Lite will be sponsoring the *January Share-a-Dish* on Friday, January 10th. Although we will have only had one weekend with the children, we are hoping that some of our families will come join us.

We will begin with refreshments at 6pm with dinner to follow at 6:30. The program will be "family traditions" followed by board games so bring a family tradition to share and your favorite board game to play.



The sign-up sheet is located on the table in the social room. Remember to invite your friends!

ANNUAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 12TH AT NOON.
A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.



**ALL VOTING MEMBERS
PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.**

CONGREGATIONAL DIALOGUES

Congregational Dialogues take place on Sunday mornings (when the choir is not singing) from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Social Room.

Jan 12th "How can we reverse the trend toward economic inequality in the U.S.?" (a requested continuation of a discussion begun in November).

Jan 26th "A Potential Social Program for MUUF (and Community) for Single Adults."

Around 30 persons have participated in this series so far. Come and join us! Hear – and Be Heard!

WELCOMING COMMITTEE MOVIE

ATTENTION: **THOSE INTERESTED IN** **PLAY-READING or ACTING**



A first meeting will be held on Sunday, January 5th, at 12:00 for about an hour to begin reading "Mornings at Seven" (a "great play", says Roy McChesney), which he hopes we would be able to cast, to produce for the Fellowship in March. Open readings for possible casting would be done on Sunday, January 19th at 12:00. After January 5th scripts may be taken home to read.

Great Decisions

Great Decisions has set up an organizational meeting for Wed. Jan 15 at 10:00 am at Manatee UU Fellowship. There will be topic discussion on: Defense Technology, Israel and the US, Turkey's Challenges with ties to Europe and the Middle East, Islamic Awakening and the roles of Islam and democracy Energy Independence Food and Climate, China & Foreign Policy and US Trade Policy.

If you would like to facilitate the discussion of any particular topic please let me know.

I hope everyone has a pleasant and enjoyable holiday season.

Bill Hayes



SAVE THE DATE ***Memorial Service for*** ***June Hall***

June Hall's children have chosen ***Sunday, March 23, 2014*** as the day for a Memorial Service to be held at MUUF for their mother. The Service will be in the early afternoon, following our worship service, and June's ashes will be interred in our Memorial Garden. More details to follow as they become available.

Saturday, January 18th – The Welcoming Committee Movie will be showing "The Power of One." This is an intriguing story of a young English boy named Peekay and his passion for changing the world. Spirited discussion and pizza will follow the movie. All are welcome!

3rd Annual Sunset Party

Once again Sharyn Devine and Glenn Tarver are generously hosting a Sunset Party while they are staying here in Bradenton for a respite from their cold Canadian weather, leaving their own UU congregation to get along without them! They will be staying at a spacious home on 81st St. W. overlooking Palma Sola Causeway where there is a large pool, tennis court, billiards table, and 3 fireplaces so there are activities that would be fun for all ages. With some luck there will be musical entertainment as well. Though this will occur before our MUUF Annual Auction this is considered part of the auction. Look for the sign up sheet in the social room and plan to join in on the fun!



Hosts: Sharyn Devine and Glenn Tarver

Address: 220 81st St. W. Bradenton

Price: \$15

Date: Friday January 24th, 2014

Time: 4:00pm to 8:00pm

Board of Directors

Co-Presidents	Bill Peruzzi and Joan Butcher
Vice President	Geoff Graham
Secretary	Peggy Dickson
Treasurer	Cynthia Edwards
Asst. Treasurer	Al Guy
Directors	Becky Smith Monica DeBarros Martha Pelletier Linda Marshall
Pres. Emeritus	Grace Hirsh

Board Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm in the Social Room. All members of the Congregation are invited to attend.

January Share-a-Dish

Sponsored by UU Lite

Family Traditions & Board Games

Friday, January 10, 2014

6:00PM Gathering/Appetizers

6:30PM Dinner



***Bring your friends and a dish to share!
Sign up in Social Room.***



**Manatee Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship
322 15th Street West
Bradenton, FL 34205**