



UPDATE

June 2017
Volume 48 Number 6



MUUF'S MISSION STATEMENT

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

June 4

“A Celebration of Blessing the Animals”

Rev. Emmalou Kirchmeier will be our speaker with “A Celebration of Blessing of the Animals”.

Music: Betty Comora



Blessing of
the Animals

June 11 “Dialogue”

Mindy Simmons will be our speaker and musician.

June 18

“Father’s Day”

Four MUUF members, Bob Yavis, Chuck Wolfe, Lisa Bohn, Carol Burch, will speak about memories of their fathers.

Music: Tasha Robinson, harp

HAPPY
FATHER’S DAY

June 25

“Social Justice Issues Affected by Current Administration Policy”

David Finkelstein will be our speaker. He is a local attorney and his talk will focus on the social justice issues surrounding US immigration policy.

Music: Joan Butcher

Board of Directors

President	Carol Bartz
Vice President	Becky Smith
Secretary	Doris Sutliff
Treasurer	Mary Lou Thompson
Asst. Treasurer	Bob Yavis
Directors	Jim Heaton
	AJ Wolff
Pres. Emeritus	Bill Peruzzi

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

Fellowship Office Hours:

8 am – 1pm Mon – Fri

OFFICE: 941-746-0067

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The UPDATE

Update Content Editor – Lorraine Berry

Update Production Editor – Karen Salzinger



Find us on Facebook!

June 2017 MUUF Calendar



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 12:00 Al-Anon 7:30 Meditation	2 1:30 Play Reading	3 1-4:00 Bridge
4 10:30am Speaker- Rev. Emmalou Kirchmeier Music- 12:00 Social Justice	5 7:00 Indivisible Pro-gressive Bradenton	6 6:30 Zen Meditation	7 6:00 Toastmasters	8 12:00 Al-Anon 7:30 Meditation	9 6:00 Share-A-Dish Tidewell Advance Directives	10 1-4:00 Bridge
11 10:30am Speaker and Music- Mindy Simmons 12:00 Committee Chair Calendar Meeting	12 2:00 Book Club 7:30 Pulse Nightclub Memorial Service	13 10:00 Chalice Circle No Membership 6:30 Zen Meditation 6:30 Board Meeting	14 3:00 Men's Group 6:00 Toastmasters	15 9:00 Our Daily Bread 12:00 Al-Anon 7:30 Meditation	16 1:30 Play Reading	17 1-4:00 Bridge
FATHER'S DAY 18 10:30am Speaker- MUUF Members Music- Tasha Robinson Special Collection - Centerstone	19 7:00 Indivisible Pro-gressive Bradenton	20 UPDATE Articles Due 6:30 Zen Meditation	21 6:00 Toastmasters	22 12:00 Al-Anon 7:30 Meditation	23	24 1-4:00 Bridge
25 10:30am Speaker- Music: 4:00 Pagan Perspectives	26 7:00 Indivisible Pro-gressive Bradenton	27 10:00 Chalice Circle 6:30 Zen Meditation	28 6:00 Toastmasters	29 12:00 Al-Anon 7:30 Meditation	30	

	Al Usack	6/2	Bernita Franzel	6/12	Bill Peruzzi	6/20
	Lisa Bohn	6/5	Walter Hodgdon	6/12	Peg Peruzzi	6/22
	Nicholas Bohn	6/5	Leslie Roell	6/14	Lois Stilley	6/26
	Cynthia Edwards	6/8	Mary Lou Thompson	6/18	Ricki Cunninghis	6/30



President's Message

Carol Bartz

Our dinner honoring Rev. Dee Graham as she embarks on early retirement gave us an opportunity to express some of our thoughts and feelings as well as for her to do the same. Surrounded by family and friends Dee knows that we care about her and wish her well as she deals with her health issues. The recommendations by the UUA and by other denominations as well for a departing minister to not interact with members after they leave is understandable, but it tugs on our hearts as we say goodbye.

The Transitions Task Force (John Isham---chair, Bill Hayes, AJ Wolff, Joan Butcher, Ed Kobee, and myself—ex officio) has begun to explore options for the future of our congregation in regards to our ministerial needs. We have met with Connie Goodbread, our representative from the UU Southern Region, to help with the process, which will include looking inwardly as well as outwardly as we strive to realistically reach for our ideals. Expect to hear more news as we could be scheduling meetings, seeking input, etc. before any decisions are even considered by the congregation as we work on moving forward.

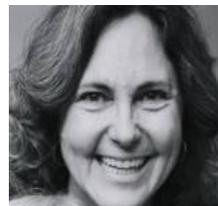
The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into, move with it, and join the dance. Alan W. Watts

At our Annual Meeting, we made the tough decision to no longer provide funding for our Religious Education program since we didn't have regular attendance of children and youth for the past couple of years. Lisa Bohn, who has served as Director of Religious Education for six years, has so much talent and resources that we only saw the tip of the iceberg of her creativity! Her monthly "stories for all ages" were always creative and unique as well as the Mother's Day, Day of the Dead services, and the Madrigal Dinner she coordinated each year. It is our hope that Lisa will continue to be active here at the Fellowship in the years to come.

As we begin our new fiscal year with a new board there will also be some changes in committee chairs so keep aware of news in announcements and in our weekly emailed 2-Minute Updates. A new

Involvements Booklet (explains what committees and activities there are and who to contact) and a new Directory will be coming out soon to reflect all the changes.

Bill Hayes and I will be attending UUA General Assembly in New Orleans as MUUF's delegates along with Klara Weis as an attendee. We will be voting to elect a new UUA President who will serve for the next 6 years and for the first time it will be a woman. (All three candidates are women.) As always at GA a local social justice is highlighted: there will be emphasis on the lack of progress on restoration after Katrina and how it has been driven by racism. The unrest within the UUA with multiple resignations is sure to be discussed and I feel certain the issues are more complex and easily muddied when people rush to judgement. We hope to bring back a multitude of new ideas as we attend different workshops and find opportunities to network with other UU's!



Religious Education

Lisa Bohn, DRE

To make sure we give equal time, if May is for mothers, June is for fathers. And living in this place and time, I find myself often a little confused and conflicted about my own perspective about fathers. I like to think I am beyond the stereotype, where I see the strong, silent, somewhat more distant parent of the last century; but that is what I grew up with and habits are hard to break. I can, however, learn from my family members and friends.

I see a female thirty-something teacher friend and her stay-at-home father-to-2, husband. I see a peer-aged friend and her baking-cooking-cleaning-retired husband. I see a too-young mother and her too-young boyfriend as he arranges his life to care for her toddler. I see the ache in the eyes of the father who works out of town, as he leaves his partner and their preschooler. So many ways to 'Father' that I never experienced but I believe in them all.

Mother or Father, we all do the best we can. To live outside of the norm can be challenging and fulfilling and it is encouraging to see the variety. Happy Father's Day to all of you who claim the title and put your special touch on that role!

RE Calendar

June 4	Words for All Ages in the Service
June 11	RE Classes
June 18	Father's Day- What did your Father teach you?
June 25	Community-building activities on the playground.

Committee Chair Calendar Meeting

Committee Chairs – please bring your committee’s calendar events to our meeting on Sunday, June 11th at 12:00pm to coordinate with the master MUUF calendar.

Memorial for Pulse Nightclub Victims

June 12, 7:30 pm at MUUF

We will be hosting a memorial service for the forty-nine victims of the Pulse Nightclub shooting on the anniversary of this tragic event. It will be entitled “The Pulse of the Community Beats Stronger with Love and Unity.” This will be a coming together of people from different backgrounds and faiths with Valerie Fisher coordinating the service. Rev. Glen Graczk from St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Palmetto and Rev. Dee Graham will do a series of prayers and readings. There will also be visuals and music as we remember those who lost their lives a year ago in this hate crime. Please plan to join us.



Social Justice

AJ Wolff

“My Peace message is this, the way of peace, overcome evil with good and falsehood with truth and hatred with love”-Peace Pilgrim



Let me tell you about a very remarkable woman who dedicated her life to “peace” in a very special way. You may have heard of her,

Peace Pilgrim. This is the name she gave herself when she started out on her pilgrimage for peace. In 1952 she became the first woman to walk the entire length of the Appalachian Trail in one season. That was her training she said, for what she was going to embark on for the rest of her life a pilgrimage of

walking for Peace. She started her pilgrimage walking in the Pasadena Rose Parade wearing her new Peace Pilgrim tunic on January 1, 1953 and walked across the United States for the next 28 years talking to people and the press about peace. Peace Pilgrim crossed the U.S. more than 20 times, she quit counting the miles after 13 years and 25,000 miles walked.

“One little person giving all her time for peace makes news. Many people giving little bits of their time for peace make history,” she claimed.

The late poet and author Maya Angelou said, “Every age provides us with a pilgrim. Peace Pilgrim knew this. ... To have faith, and then to step out on that faith ... it’s amazing, it’s wonderful, it’s inspiring, it’s enheartening.”

I wonder if Peace Pilgrim aka Mildred Lisette Norman would be pleased that on May 7, 2017 she was inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame as a local hero. I think not, she always said it was the message not the massager that was important to her. In interviews and lectures she refused to answer personal questions about who she was before she started her pilgrimage insisting that was unimportant. Yet so often we do like to have heroes and want to know all the details about how they got to where they stepped out and became extraordinary. What I know from reading her memoir and watching the documentary is that she lived her beliefs with joy and conviction. She brought awareness to people about bringing peace in the world though living peacefully. I hope you take an hour to watch this extraordinary woman sharing her message of peace. Sadly, her message is needed today as much as it was the day she set out on her pilgrimage in 1952.

“Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words” and, “An American Sage Who Walked Her Talk” 1 hour, “This is a powerful documentary about an extraordinary woman. At age 44, Mildred Norman left her life circumstances and became **Peace Pilgrim** -- walking coast to coast” ... YouTube link below:

“Peace Pilgrim Her Life and Work in Her Own Words”, the book was compiled from news articles, letters and records of her public speaking. In 2002, there was a wonderful hour long documentary showing clips of her walking on the quiet country back roads, talking to groups and the press, mixed

with world news clips of the bombs being dropped by the U.S. at the time. There is much wisdom and hope to be gained from knowing about her and the life she chose for Peace.

The Dalai Lama said of her, "Her commitment to propagate peace through actions, the peace walk, without seeking money or fame, is wonderful. We need such determined people everywhere, irrespective of culture, race religion. ... Peace Pilgrim is a real peacemaker."

The Peace Pilgrim inspired others: Doris "Granny D" Haddock was an American political activist from New Hampshire. Haddock achieved national fame when, between the ages of 88 and 90, starting on January 1, 1999, and culminating on February 29, 2000, she walked over 3,200 miles across the continental United States to advocate for campaign finance reform.



Granny D inspired our local Rhana Bazzini who, at age 81, walked from Sarasota to Tallahassee in support of Move to Amend from Oct. to Dec. 2014. MUUF hosted a dinner for her, as did many UUs on her way.

Book Discussion Group

Bill Hayes & Mary Lou Thompson

On May 22, Skip McAfee will lead a discussion on a History of God by Karen Armstrong. Skip has prepared a synopsis for us to use in the discussion.

On June 12 at 2:00pm Bill Hayes will lead the discussion on Elie Wiesel's book *Night*. It is his recollection of being a young Jewish teenager in a German concentration camp during WWII. He received the Nobel Prize for Peace in Literature for this book.

Please remember that everyone is welcome at these discussions. You do not have to have participated in past discussions or be a bookworm. Just bring your thoughts, ideas and intelligence.

Special Collections

Bill Hayes

The Special Collection in April was for the benefit of Alliance for Fair Food and \$507.00 was raised. The beneficiary in May was Project Light and \$666.00 was raised. Due to a grant that Project Light has received, this amount will be doubled. Bernita Franzel was the point person for Alliance for Fair Food and Chris MacCormack for Project Light.

In June, the beneficiary will be the local chapter of Planned Parenthood. The Special Collection will be taken on Sunday, June 18. Al Usack will be the point person.

In Home Dinners

Bob Yavis

They are suspended until demand surfaces. Hosts are needed. Dinners will resume if the Congregation wants them. Contact Bob Yavis at 941-794-3901 if either you can host and/or want the dinners to resume.

Directory Changes

New Email address

Peg Peruzzi
pegperuzzi@gmail.com



APRIL FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income	\$7,058.00
Expenses	<u>9,381.31</u>
Deficit	\$ -2,323.31

July and August UPDATE Newsletters

The July and August UPDATE newsletters will be separate issues, not combined as in previous years. This gives us a chance to keep everybody updated with the most current information during this transition period. As usual, all newsletter articles will be due to the office on the 20th of the month preceding. Thank you to everyone that contributes!

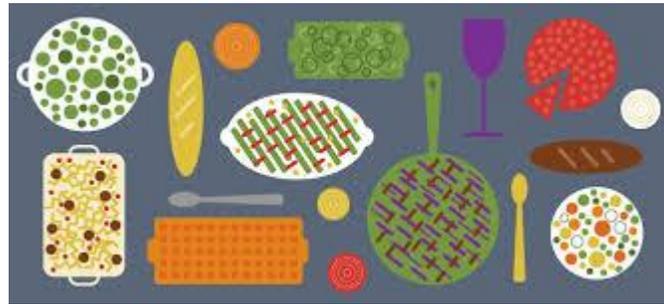
OCCUPY Bradenton is taking the summer off! No meetings in June, July or August. Look for meeting and movie dates to start again in September.

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Share-A-Dish

Friday, June 9th 6:00pm



Tidewell on Advance Directives

The sign-up sheet is on the table in the social room. Social hour at 6 PM; dinner at 6:30; program will begin around 7 o'clock. Bring a friend and bring a dish to share.



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