

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

Inside

Board Notes.....	2
Sunday Collection Schedule.....	2
From McGregor Boulevard.....	3
<i>by Rev. CJ McGregor</i>	
Joys & Sorrows.....	3
Virtual Happenings at All Faiths.....	4
August 2020 Calendar.....	5
August Sunday Service Schedule.....	6
Climate Action Team News.....	7
Animal Shelter Collection.....	7
Burn-the-Mortgage Update.....	7
Share the Plate with Operation Joy.....	8
Treasurer's Report.....	8
ACMA August Concerts.....	8
Webinar with Dr. Padro Noguera.....	9
UU the Vote Phonebanking.....	10
Heart for the Homeless News.....	10
Mano a Mano Cancels Bolivia Trip.....	10
LWV Voter Information.....	11
UUA Political Action Guide.....	12



August 2020 Services
Our UU Principles
Join us live on Facebook
Sundays at 10:30 am.

The inherent worth and dignity of all people
by Frankie Jennings

JUSTICE, EQUITY & COMPASSION
BY LEWIS ROBINSON

*Acceptance of one another and
encouragement to spiritual growth*
by Donalie Benyak

**Free and responsible search
for truth and meaning**
by Carol Elrod

*The right of conscience and the
use of the democratic process*
by Gerald Goen

The Board of Directors meeting was held on July 15, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Your Board of Directors met via a Zoom teleconference again this month. Mary Corrigan was a special guest who presented information regarding the children's religious education (RE) program.

Mary Corrigan asked the Board for direction about her role in the conduct of youth religious education. The Board complimented her on the youth RE, and particularly on her practice of obtaining input from the youth about their concerns and wishes. We realized that some channels of communication between the RE program and the Congregation require modification because Board Members were unaware of some activities and communications that had been sent in the past several months. To provide a broader source of direction for the RE program, there will be a "stakeholders"

group organized by Rev. CJ and Mary. John Conrad volunteered to be the Board's representative to the stakeholders group that will help develop program support and direction.

The Board evaluated our status in our Plan for Returning to Congregational Life. The Board agreed that we must remain in Phase 1 due to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations locally. Maybe if the public would wear masks we would be able to move to Phase 2.

Marge DiGalbo reported on her and Bob's review of costs and maintenance issues associated with touchless controls on sinks and toilets. The Board agreed with their conclusion that it should be done when there is a renovation. However, at this time, we will obtain touchless paper towel dispensers and sanitizer dispensers.

The Board discussed additional approaches and programs

that enable more congregants to participate and connect with each other. Some potential programs/activities discussed include holding Odysseys by Zoom; broadcasting live public official interviews on social justice and other topics; starting a "Building Your Own Theology" class; and continuing to encourage joint ventures with other organizations. As we expand our online activities, we must increase the pool of people who can host Zoom meetings. Let us know your interest in these or other potential programs...as well as how you would like to volunteer. In addition, Rev. CJ has been in contact with a person who will recommend improvements in our technology and will assist in developing videos.

Zoom meetings are becoming a routine practice for committees and events. I am glad many of our committees meet by Zoom, but I long for in-person communications. Check

the announcements from Regina about What's Happening at All Faiths, and her emails for Zoom connection information. You can call or email Regina if you missed the e-mail containing Zoom contact information.

Every year there is a review of our financial procedures that is performed by members who are not board members or officers. Ed Kleinow and Ernie Reid agreed to perform this important review; the Board approved them for that role and thank them in advance.

Regarding financial matters, the Finance Committee reports that we are financially healthy compared to other years in both revenue and expenses. Your support during these difficult times is greatly appreciated. We did not anticipate going this long without in-house services, which means there

(continued on page 3)

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

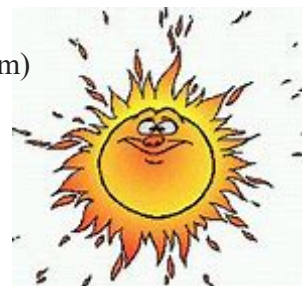
Share-the-Plate (please write organization and amount in the memo line of your check. See Article on Page 8)

August - Operation Joy (Back to School)
September - Community Forum Foundation (Climate Action Team)
October - Meals of Hope (Hunger)
November - Operation Joy (Christmas for children)

Food, Clothing, and Other Collections
McGregor Clinic - T/B/D

Second Collections
December 6 - Employee Bonuses

The July Share-the-Plate resulted in \$421 for "The Change"





I'm off to the Adirondacks for the month of August. I'm returning to where I grew up. I'm looking forward to the distinct rustle of the birch tree leaves in the breeze, returning to the windy Deer River that flows behind our once summer home where our children spent many hours swimming, fishing, and kayaking. There have been 235 confirmed Covid-19 cases in the county. It seems like there is a bigger concern for tick bites this time of year.

I will have to quarantine for 14 days when I arrive, having come from Florida. Initially, I thought I would cancel my plans. Why travel and isolate for so long. I began to think perhaps the quarantine was a gift. Going solo in the mountains having time to rest, reflect, and read for pleasure doesn't sound so bad. It worked for St. Augustine. I won't be isolating in a cave, though. As an extrovert who thrives on being around others I know there will be times I will want to break my quarantine.

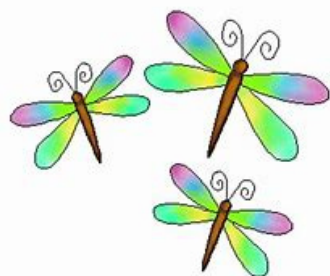
I'm planning on participating in an intensive online ecclesiastical history course at St. Lawrence University. This local university was once a

Universalist seminary. Olympia Brown, the first ordained woman, once attended there and was granted ordination by the decision of 11 men. I've been tossing around the idea of a doctorate in New England Church History for a few years. Maybe this experience will light a fire.

Once my quarantine has finished, I will likely be foaming at the mouth for human contact. Many old and dear friends of 40 and 30 years will surely join me at our favorite pubs and engage in shenanigans. I know my sides will ache from all of the laughter. I'm looking forward to all of the French Canadian delicacies that I am denied in Florida.

Though I'm away, I want us to stay connected. I would dislike it if you needed me and didn't reach out. I will keep you posted weekly on what I'm up to. Stay home, stay safe, and keep in touch.

- Blessings, CJ



JOYS & SORROWS

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

Ann Batal fell on a routine walk. She walked away thinking everything was well, but she soon discovered she fractured her pelvis. She is recovering at home and participates in physical therapy.

Doug Cartwright had ankle surgery. He will be at home and in physical therapy for 8 to 10 weeks. We hope that his recovery goes well.

Louise "Weezie" Close lost her brother, Peter, 63, who lived on the East coast of Florida. Peter regularly "attended" our virtual Sunday services. He had stage four COPD. We extend our sympathy to her and her family.

Janet Falk's daughter Cynthia had heart valve replacement. She is doing well following the surgery. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

David Hauenstein was hospitalized after falling and injuring his head and back. We hope he has a speedy recovery.

Lisa Leonhardt shared the good news that she has become a grandmother. Her grandchild, Josephine, was born in Orlando, Florida.

Rachel Spiller fell and broke her shoulder. She has been recovering well and continues to be actively leading the Racial Justice Team from home.

Werner Stocker passed away in July. He and Susan went through many difficult months until his death at Hospice on July 9th. We send condolences to their families.

BOARD NOTES *(Cont'd from page 2)*

are no Sunday plate collections which usually means significantly lower income. Thank you for your generous stewardship to All Faiths!

Please stay safe and healthy. If you have comments or suggestions for your Board of Directors, please email All Faiths or contact me (239.770.0795 or gcstotler@gmail.com) or other Board members. We like hearing from you.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for August 19 and will be conducted via Zoom.

*Happy August
Birthday to you!*



August 7 Joyce Reischuck
August 8 Kay Riegler
August 12 Joan Marshall
August 13 Wayne Robinson
August 16 Glenn Camp
August 17 Patricia (Pat) Fish
August 18 Mahilena Dianz
August 19 Marsha Bates
August 21 Marilyn Webber

And Coming Up...

September 8 Wayne Dean

*If you are missing or see someone
who is missing from the birthday
roster, please let Regina know.*



Solos Group Events

Saturday, August 15 - 1pm

ZOOM LUNCH!

Check your emails for Zoom link.

Contact: Annely Hudanick,
annelyblue@hotmail.com

Everyone is welcome to join the solos for
outings and lunch w/wo a movie date.

Happening at All Faiths

The following Zoom meetings are scheduled on a weekly basis:

Sunday News Talk with Richard Keelan
Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Coffee Hour with the Staff
Every Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

Meditation
Every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Coffee Talk with Rev. CJ & Regina
Every Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

Listening Circle - *Discontinued*
Every Friday at 11:00 a.m.

**Please check your emails for the Zoom links and passwords
to get into all of the above scheduled meetings**

*(Please consult the calendar on page 5 for
regularly scheduled business/committee Zoom meetings)*

Sunday Service

The Sunday service is streamed *live* at 10:30 am on Sunday, on our
public Facebook page: www.facebook.com/allfaithsuc

Click on “videos” on the left hand menu.

This is the only place you can view the service *live* at 10:30.

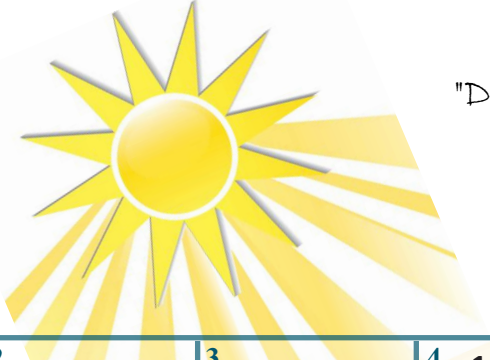
Recorded Service

Once the *live* service is over on our public Facebook page,
the then recorded service will be downloaded by 1:00 p.m. to:

- The Members and Friends Facebook page.
- The You Tube button on our website:

www.allfaithsuu.org

AUGUST 2020 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>"Do what we can, summer will have its flies."</p> <p>- Ralph Waldo Emerson</p>						1 ACMA Concerts Check ACMA Facebook Pg.
2 9:00am Zoom News Talk w. Richard Keelan 10:30am Service Livestreamed No Zoom Coffee w. Staff	3 12pm Zoom Book Club	4 1:30pm Zoom Climate Action Team Mtg. 2pm Webinar with Dr. Padro Noguera (see pg. 9)	5 7pm Zoom Meditation	6 11am Zoom Coffee Hour 6-8 pm UU the Vote Phonebank	7 	8 Deadline to request Vote-by-Mail Ballot
9 9:00am Zoom News Talk w. Richard Keelan 10:30am Service Livestreamed 11:30 Zoom Coffee w. Staff	10 12pm Zoom Book Club	11 	12 7pm Zoom Meditation	13 10 am Zoom Finance Mtg. 11am Zoom Coffee Hour 6-8 pm UU the Vote Phonebank	14 	15 1pm Zoom Solos Lunch ACMA Concerts Check ACMA Facebook Pg.
16 9:00am Zoom News Talk w. Richard Keelan 10:30am Service Livestreamed 11:30 Zoom Coffee w. Staff	17 	18 	19 10am Racial Justice Mtg. 1pm - Zoom Board Meeting 7pm Zoom Meditation	20 11am Zoom Coffee Hour 2pm Zoom Heart for the Homeless Team	21 	22 ACMA Concerts Check ACMA Facebook Pg.
23 Sunday Service & Programs Same as Above	24 	25 	26 7pm Zoom Meditation	27 11am Zoom Coffee Hour	28 	29 ACMA Concerts Check ACMA Facebook Pg.
30 Sunday Service & Programs Same as Above Animal Shelter Collection	31 					ACMA Concerts Check ACMA Facebook Pg.

AUGUST 2020 SUNDAY SERVICES

Featuring the UUA Principles

10:30 a.m. on Facebook

In August and September, our Sunday Services will be devoted to the UUA Principles. Members of our congregation will deliver the messages. We hope that these services will enlighten you and motivate you to do more to dedicate your lives to upholding our highest values through our thoughts, words, and deeds. Some of the readings in services will come from the UUA book: *The Seven Principles in Word and Worship*. Here is an excerpt from the Introduction of that book:

“Unitarian Universalists have long held that when it comes to expressions of faith, actions speak louder than words. ... Yet words, too, have their place. Especially words that describe what is important, that remind us of higher principles and values – words like the seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism. ... We can do more than simply say the Principles, we can pray the Principles. We can live them out in our faith life and in our actions in the world. Only then do they become real.”

The member congregations of the UUA covenant to affirm and promote:

August 2

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Message by **Frankie Jennings** - Joyce Ramay

Worship Associate

Music by Joseph Brauer

Hymn #302 – *Children of the Human Race*

August 9

2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations

Message by **Lewis Robinson** – Joyce Ramay

Worship Associate

Hymn #170 – *We are a Gentle, Angry People*

Music by Joseph Brauer

Share the Plate with Operation Joy

August 16

3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations

Message by **Donalie Benyak** - Carol Elrod

Worship Associate

Music by Joseph Brauer

Hymn #346 – *Come, Sing a Song with Me*

August 23

4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

Message and Service led by **Carol Elrod**

Music by Joseph Brauer

Hymn #6 – *Just as Long as I Have Breath*

August 30

5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

Message by **Gerald Goen** – Joyce Ramay

Worship Associate

Music by Joseph Brauer

#187 – *It Sounds Along the Ages*

Animal Shelter Collection



**News Talk
with Richard Keelan**

Sundays at 9:00 am
Zoom Meeting
Link Sent via Email Fridays

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

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Joan Marshall, Chair



There has never been an election year like the one we are now experiencing. For those of us dedicated to reversing the devastating impact of climate change on our planet, the outcome of this year's election is crucial. The usual activities of your Climate Action Team have been brought to a virtual standstill by the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. But we have essential work to do which cannot wait. Our time and energy is now being directed toward finding ways to impact the outcome of the coming election.

We believe the vast majority of Americans care deeply about our environment. They expect the government to protect our water and our air. They want a healthy place in which to live and raise their families. We want to be sure they turn out to vote in this year's election. We urge you to join us in this effort. Fortunately, it can be done from the safety and comfort of your own home.

There are many organizations that already have set up online get-out-the-vote campaigns that are targeting specific voters. Starting with our own Unitarian Universalist Association. Join us in supporting the UU the Vote Florida campaign which is partnering with the New Florida Majority (NFM). NFM is a really great people of color-led coalition that brings together non-profits and electoral organizers to do justice-centered voter outreach. Hopefully, many of you joined Rev. McGregor's Zoom call on July 29th with UUA Congregational Advocacy and Witness Director, Susan Leslie. If not, you can get involved by contacting info@uujusticefl.org.

Together we can change the course of history. But only if we step up to the challenges that lie ahead of us.

"The government, both state and federal, has a duty to be reasonable and accommodating."

"The vote is precious. It's almost sacred, so go out and vote like you never voted before."

— John Lewis

ANIMAL SHELTER COLLECTION

AUGUST 24 - AUGUST 31



Animal shelters are in need of supplies despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

Shelters provide a safe and nurturing environment for animals until they can find a forever home.

There will be bins outside of All Faiths during the last week of August where you can drop off *pet food, treats, cleaning supplies, towels, sheets and blankets*. Sharon Gray will make sure they get delivered to the shelter.

BURN-THE-MORTGAGE UPDATE

by Howard Silverman, Stewardship Co-Chair

\$106,175



I am happy to report that as of August 1, 2020, our mortgage has been reduced to \$106,175. *That's amazing!* We started our Burn-the-Mortgage Campaign with a balance of \$151,234. Please continue to donate to Burn-the-Mortgage, and the mortgage can soon be eliminated -- in spite of the pandemic!

Please mail your checks to All Faiths, 2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33901, write "Burn Mortgage" in the memo line, or donate through Paypal on our website: www.allfaithsuo.org.

Thank you for all of your support!

OPERATION JOY BACK-TO-SCHOOL AUGUST SHARE-THE-PLATE

Dear Members and Friends,

This month's Share-the-Plate offering will go to *Operation Joy's* "Back to School" campaign.

There is a deep sadness in all of us knowing that our children, our future, will have a start into the new school year that most definitely will not have the same excitement, the sense of adventure in learning, as other years.

The burden on our teachers is immense. Not only will they have to deal with their own anxieties, their own struggles, but they are the pillars that our very damaged school system is depending on.

Our leaders have failed us in the most important aspect in this pandemic, the wellbeing of our children and teachers.

I'm not going to appeal to your generosity, I don't have to. I know you will, as always, support *Operation Joy* in our effort to assist and support our teachers.

Thank you,

Annely Hudanick

AMERICANA COMMUNITY MUSIC ASSOCIATION AUGUST CONCERTS

The ACMA Facebook page is updated every Saturday with YouTube or music links from our scheduled artist for that date.

Aug. 1, Ray Cerbone FB LIVE. https://www.facebook.com/pg/Americana-Community-Music-Association-186132008151817/events/?ref=page_internal

Aug. 15th. Bill Veach FB LIVE https://www.facebook.com/pg/Americana-Community-Music-Association-186132008151817/events/?ref=page_internal

TREASURER'S REPORT

by John Conrad, Treasurer

Balance Sheet: Cash Assets - June 30, 2020

Iberiabank Checking	\$31,365
Iberiabank Op. Reserve	29,953
Live Oak Op. Res. CD	20,564
Raymond James Legacy	37,072
Pay Pal	144
Iberiabank Capital Fund	<u>3,893</u>
Total	\$122,992
Prior Month	<u>129,536</u>
Net Loss	\$ (-6,544)

June 2020 P&L

Operating Income	\$ 10,602
Operating Expense	<u>16,487</u>
Net Loss	(-5,844)

■ Revenue/Income declined significantly in June. This is normal during the summer months when so many "snow birds" are north and church attendance is normally smaller. But the generosity of our congregants is very much appreciated especially during these times of being unable to attend All Faiths in person.

■ Expenses have remained lower than budgeted because of the fiscal restraints that the Board approved at earlier Board meetings.

■ The Burn-the-Mortgage program continues with donations of \$1,100.00 received in June (\$600.00 in June decreased the Principal; the other \$500.00 will decrease the Principal in July). The outstanding mortgage principal at the end of June was \$109,465.46.

■ The Small Business Administration PPP loan was approved on May 1, 2020; and the \$27,300 loan was deposited on May 5. We anticipate that the loan will be forgiven and treated as a grant by the SBA once proper documentation is submitted. Susan Anthony of the Finance Committee is taking the lead on the necessary paperwork to help ensure that the documentation is sufficient and completed on a timely basis.

■ In June, \$421 was collected for *The Change* Program, Alliance for the Arts (Racial Justice Team).



Race, Equity, and the State of Education: A Conversation with Dr. Pedro Noguera

August 4, 2020

A Conversation with Dr. Pedro Noguera Online

Course Type: Webinar

The global pandemic has magnified deep structural and historical inequities. Join us for a conversation with Dr. Pedro Noguera, national educational leader and Dean of the University of Southern California's Rossier School of Education, where we will hear his reflections on the state of education today and what it means to support social justice and be an anti-racist educator.

Live captioning will be provided during this webinar, which takes place from 2–3pm ET/1–2pm CT/11am–12pm PT. If this time doesn't work for your schedule, be sure to register and we'll notify you once the recording is available on our On-Demand Learning Center.

At the conclusion of the webinar, you will be able to download a certificate of completion from the webinar console showing one hour of participation. Check with your school district in advance of the webinar to ensure that the professional development credit is accepted. Note: The time listed below is Eastern time.

About the Presenters:

Dr. Pedro Noguera is the Emery Stoops and Joyce King Stoops Dean of the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education. His most recent books are *From the Crisis of Connection to the Pursuit of Our Common Humanity* (With Niobe Way, Carol Gilligan, and Alisha Ali; New York: New York University Press, 2018; and *Race, Equity and Education: The Pursuit of Equality in Education 60 Years After Brown* (Springer, 2015).

Online

August 4, 2020

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Please log in to register for this event. If you're new to Facing History, create your free account here

Click on Link Below to Register

https://www.facinghistory.org/calendar/web2020nat31-race-equity-and-state-education-conversation-dr-pedro-noguera?fbclid=IwAR2YvZyLqI_UoKX0kRIJR7mO4DdDrhAPfdHB4I1OH4LmUhe9sfStj3D6MNM

UU THE VOTE PHONE BANKING

We have an exciting opportunity to partner with New Florida Majority (NFM) and get phone banks going in Florida to key groups of voters on August 6 and August 13.

The phonebanks take place on Zoom so that we are able to make our phone calls together. Working this way is fulfilling, and fun! Please keep an eye on your emails for further information.

MANO A MANO CANCELS TRIP TO BOLIVIA

A Message from Joan Velasquez

We send our greetings from St. Paul and hope you are all staying healthy and safe. Segundo and I are fine and Mano a Mano continues its work as best we can under the circumstances.

Given the status of the pandemic in both the U.S. and Bolivia we have made the decision at this point that Mano a Mano will cancel all plans to travel to Bolivia in 2020. Currently, there are no scheduled international flights into or out of Bolivia. The medical professionals on whom we count to advise us regarding travel there strongly recommend that we not consider travel into the country this year. At this point, we are hoping that a trip may be possible in March of 2021. We really appreciate your interest in traveling to Bolivia to witness our work there and will keep you posted on any plans as they develop.

In the meantime, we will continue to stay in touch with All Faiths and share our stories with you. We also love hearing from you.

Take care ~ *Joan Velasquez*



The Book Club will start holding Zoom meetings on its regularly scheduled meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month at 12:00 p.m. If you are on the Book Club email list, you will receive a Zoom

link prior to the meeting. If you would like to join the Book Club or check to see if you are on the list, please contact Diane Chernow at dianecher@comcast.net.

♥ FOR THE HOMELESS NEWS

by Barbara Gaiser

The Heart for the Homeless Team continues to Zoom in for our monthly meetings. A couple of new people have joined and contributed to our group, and we invite you to join us for the August 20th meeting. Thanks to Regina we will be ready for you!

We are carrying out our mission through discussion and action on local issues around homelessness, and planning ways All Faiths can learn and support efforts to serve this population.

Thanks to donations from the congregation, we were able to get personal hygiene items to All Souls Episcopal Church for distribution at their weekly meal and homeless ministry.

Additionally, the White Cross Church received a donation of plastic sleeping mats, masks and wipes for their ministry to the homeless. The sleeping mats were made by volunteers from Shell Point and the masks were made by CJ's niece, *Meghan Harvey*. Kudos to them for their generosity.

Team members contacted city council members prior to the July 20 budget meeting, urging them to approve the \$300,000 housing trust fund.

Individual ministries include placing "Green Books" in Little Free Libraries in our community, as well as supporting a "Car Ministry" by handing out socks, water, and other necessities to those who stand at roadway intersection seeking help.

If you are interested in understanding more about homelessness, some of us have found the following books enlightening. Hopefully one of them will speak to you. They are available through Lee County Library:

1. *Evicted*, by Matthew Desmond
2. *Ask Me Why I Hurt*, by Randy Christensen
3. *Hand to Mouth: Living in a Boot Strap America*, by Linda Tirado

"People say, 'What is the sense of our small effort?' They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time."

– Dorothy Day

August 18, 2020 Primary Election

~~July 20, 2020 Deadline to Register to Vote or to Change Party Affiliation~~
August 8, 2020 Deadline to Request Vote-By-Mail Ballot

Contact Lee County Elections

239-533-8683 www.lee.vote

- Register to Vote
- Request your Vote-By- Mail Ballot
- Check and update your Registration
- Florida is a closed primary election state. Without a party affiliation, you may only vote in non-partisan races.

Be Informed. Vote Informed. www.Vote411.org is a one-stop resource for nonpartisan election information, including Amendments, and Candidate Information for Lee County, Florida, and the U.S. By the League of Women Voters Education Fund.



The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan citizens' organization working to improve our government and engage all citizens in the decisions that impact their lives. The League's voter service activities provide unbiased, factual information that can be used to understand the election process and to reach voting decisions. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose candidates and/or political parties. Website: www.lwvlee.org, email: lwvlee@lwvlee.org, phone: 239-278-1032 7/3/20

Complete the U.S. 2020 Census

Get Out the Count!!!

remind your friends, family, and neighbors

U.S. Census data is used to make decisions around education, healthcare, infrastructure, and political representation. Response Rates in Lee County are low compared to the US and Florida.



Complete by Telephone

English: 844-330-2020 Spanish: 844-468-2020 Haitian Creole 844-477-2020

Complete On-Line

Log onto: 2020Census.gov

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan citizens' organization working to improve our government and engage all citizens in the decisions that impact their lives. Website: www.lwvlee.org, email: lwvlee@lwvlee.org, phone: 239-278-1032.

CLARIFICATION ON POLITICAL ACTION FROM THE UUA

by Davis Senseman, Legal Council, #UUtheVote

Question 1: Can we openly preach, teach, or act about being opposed to war, or supporting the Green New Deal? Have these become partisan issues?

Response: YES YOU CAN. Unless you are persuading people to vote for/against a specific candidate, you are absolutely allowed to take a definitive stance on issues, including issues regarding actions of the current administration. Opposition to war, combating climate change, resisting oppression in all forms—these are foundational UU beliefs. They can and should be at the center of sermons and congregational work.

Question 2: Can we partner with an organization if they are not a 501(c)3?

Response: YES YOU CAN. Congregations can partner with c(4) organizations or unions to carry out charitable, nonpartisan activities consistent with the church's 501(c)3 status and mission. For UU congregations, that includes activities advocating for foundational UU beliefs.

Question 3: Can Individuals from the congregation (espe-

cially the minister) publicly endorse candidates?

Response: YES THEY CAN. So long as the individual is not speaking at an official church function, in an official church publication, or otherwise using the church's assets, and does not claim to speak as a representative of the church, they are free to endorse and speak publicly on behalf of any candidate.

Question 4: Can we ever host partisan activities in the congregation?

Response: YES YOU CAN, as long as the event is consistent with pre-existing space use policies (i.e. - you don't charge for space use and aren't charging the folks holding the partisan event, or you only allow groups invited by a member to use the building). Furthermore, your policies can include a requirement that any group using the space hold similar values to UU principles to avoid having to host groups whose partisan activities are contrary to UU beliefs.

For more information on #UUtheVote, visit <https://www.uua.org/justice/vote2020>

All Faiths Unitarian Congregation

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Phone: (239) 226-0900 – Email: office@allfaithsuu.org – Website: www.allfaithsuu.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, Annely Hudanick, Eileen Moran, Linda Runkle.

Staff: Regina Kilmartin, Administrator; Joseph Brauer, Music Director; Joe Gayton, Sexton.

Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Wayne Robinson

Communications

Regina Kilmartin

Newsletter

Regina Kilmartin

Proofreaders

Carol Elrod,

Joyce Ramay

Social Media & Website

Regina Kilmartin,

Kendra Maroon, Sharon Gray

Adult Education Forums

Sunday Service Team

Joyce Ramay

Hospitality Coordinator

Nicole McDaigle

Member Services

Fran Way

Greeters

Marsha Bates

Care and Support

Joyce Ramay

Finance

Joyce Ramay

Stewardship Committee

Howard Silverman & Janet Falk

Nominating Committee

Kathleen Weber

Sound Technician

Ed Elrod

Building and Grounds

Michael Pierre

Social Action & Outreach

Climate Action Team

Joan Marshall

Community Events

Richard Keelan

Heart for the Homeless

Barb McFarlane

Racial Justice Team

Rachel Spiller

L.I.F.E.

Regina Kilmartin,

McGregor Clinic

Joyce Schaffer

Mano a Mano

Charlotte Blitt

Operation Joy & Solos Group

Annely Hudanick

Minister: Rev. CJ McGregor - Cell: 508-736-3361



Deadline for the **September** Issue of *Connection* is **August 18**

(Brief announcements may be accepted later, and will be included *if* space and time permit.)



OFFICE HOURS: 9am to 4pm, Monday thru Thurs;
9am to 12pm, Friday and Sunday.
Congregational Administrator: Regina Kilmartin