



CONNECTIONS

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

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Happy Holidays!

Two Services Begin on January 5
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Adult Ed. Forum at 10:00 a.m.

Congratulations All Faiths!
We are pleased to start the New Year as a
UUA accredited Welcoming Congregation
and Green Sanctuary!
(see page 7)

Save the Dates!

- December 10 - 6:30 p.m.
Holiday Sing-Along with Joseph
- December 19 - 7:00 p.m.
Tropical Storm Holiday Concert
- December 24 - 6:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

The Board meeting was held on November 20, 2019.

As I write this the week before Thanksgiving, I am reminded of all we can be thankful for this year. We have a Board of Directors and committees and teams who work hard to serve the interests of our congregation. They have moved many projects forward this year. Some accomplishments are noticeable such as fresh paint, better lighting, and exterior improvements. Others are related to policy improvements, planning, UUA certifications, and outreach accomplishments, which are not as noticeable but are meaningful to our future. For those of us returning from the north, we are thankful for our friends and the wonderful climate of Southwest Florida.

If you are thankful for our staff, Rev. CJ, Regina, Joseph, Joe, and Robert, you can show

it on December 1. We will have a special collection for year-end bonuses. If you miss that Sunday, please mail a check to the office, identifying it as a "bonus" in the memo line. By giving generous bonuses, the congregation can acknowledge our hard-working staff's contribution to the success of All Faiths.

We received news from the UUA during the past month about two certification applications. Both our Welcoming Congregation and our Green Sanctuary applications were accepted; we are now UUA-certified in both areas. We will implement programs to maintain these certifications.

A successful Teen Racial Justice Event was held October 26th at All Faiths. The enthusiastic participants requested this to be an ongoing activity.

The Long-Range Plan Development Task Force has

been meeting and making good progress drafting a plan. Part of the plan addresses our need for additional space for Children's RE and other space needs. Options such as acquiring another building have been eliminated at this time; expansion of our existing building is still being evaluated. We have contracted with an architect to develop potential options and to discuss the options with city officials to identify any zoning acceptance hurdles. An expansion, if feasible, is not something that will happen soon. It will take a significant amount of time to develop a plan, obtain permit approval, raise funds and secure financing for an expansion.

We are looking for leaders and helpers to organize and lead fundraising events such as an auction and other events. We need fundraisers to ensure we meet our budget.

Please contact me or other board members with ideas and offers to help. We also are looking for a person(s) to serve as program coordinator for these and other events.

Registration is now open for the UUA General Assembly being held in Providence, Rhode Island this June. If you are planning to attend, please let the office know. UUA offers some small scholarships. Information is available at the UUA website.

Hearing assistance devices are on the Wish List. We currently have four and need two more to meet needs on busy Sundays. They are \$99 each. Ed Elrod will order and set them up.

Our next Board meeting will be December 18 at 1:00 p.m. Members are welcome to attend.

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 2019

Share-the-Plate (10% of undesignated donations on the 2nd Sunday of the month)

December 8 - Operation Joy - Happy Holidays

Food, Clothing, and Other Collections

McGregor Clinic - December 15

Mano a Mano - December 8, December 15

Animal Shelter - December 29

Second Collections

Employee Bonuses - December 1

The November Share-the-Plate resulted in \$718 to Operation Joy



FROM MCGREGOR BOULEVARD

by Rev. CJ McGregor



Years ago I gave Richard, my husband, a book titled *The Minister's Wife* published in 1947. He had become a minister's spouse and needed to brush up on the conduct and expectations of his new role. The book was quite handy. It talked about the minister's wife needing to dress modestly, how church linens should be ironed, which china to use when visitors from the congregation came to the minister's home, and which salads would be most impressive for the minister's wife to bring to picnics and potlucks. The au-

thor went on and on. Richard bought none of it.

Although Richard doesn't conduct himself in this manner in congregational life, it's amusing to us when people believe because he is the minister's spouse that he has privileges, is in the know about everything, makes decisions for the congregation, and is responsible for unfortunate traditional wifely duties. He is frequently asked where supplies are kept, if he could order supplies, if he decorates the building, if he could take tablecloths and towels home to wash, what I am thinking on different matters, and other questions that he hasn't a clue how to answer. He often says, "I don't work here. That's the minister's job, not mine, or ask C.J."

Like I said, we find it quite amusing that people believe

Richard has power, influence, and responsibilities above what any other member would have. Richard will never serve a committee that deals with the congregation's money, a committee that involves church politics, or any job, task, committee that is directly related to the minister's role in guiding the congregation. He doesn't choose the plants outside, he has nothing to do with the art and decoration inside, he doesn't choose the toilet paper or the cookies, he will never wash or iron our linens, and it's highly unlikely he will start a coffee klatch for the women of the congregation.

Richard is a member just like you. He supports me and my ministry by listening and loving and offers me space to lead the congregation. He couldn't care less about influ-

ence and power in the context of our congregational life and you most certainly don't want him to cook for you! He loves All Faiths and will chip in, volunteer, and be present. This is our home.

And for the record, I'm the cook, the decorator of our home, the linens person, the one who sends cards, the birthday and holiday gift purchaser and party planner. I'm most likely the one to start a coffee klatch. We call ourselves a complementary couple. We each bring gifts and talents that create beautiful completeness. We are both grateful to serve.

May this season bring you comfort and joy.

- Blessings, CJ



JOYS & SORROWS

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

John Conrad had shoulder surgery. We hope that he heals well.

Sharon Gray will be going to Bangladesh for the wedding of an exchange student who lived with her.

Jan Guardiano was hospitalized again for continuing complications following her summer surgeries. Keep her in your healing thoughts and prayers.

David Hauenstein is having some memory problems and has moved to assisted living at Shell Point.

Dawna Lieber's father died in New Hampshire. We extend our sympathy to her and her family.

Rev. CJ McGregor will be celebrating Christmas in jolly old Ireland. We hope he has a cheery holiday.

Jenna Satterfield shared her joy that after 30 years she was able to correct her gender on her driver's license. We are happy for her.

Robert Sperling had a heart attack. He is at home now. We hope that he has a speedy recovery.

Happening at All Faiths

*Happy December
Birthday to you!*



Dec. 6 Sharon Gray
Dec. 9 Scott Kilhefner
Dec. 14 Jeff Moran
Dec. 14 Carol Siferd
Dec. 15 Emily Morse Palmer
Dec. 16 Maggie Mullins
Dec. 18 Nancy McGlasson
Dec. 21 Mary Ellen Fritz
Dec. 23 Chris Stotler
Dec. 30 Linda Bigelow
Dec. 31 Nova Spiller

And Coming Up...

Jan. 1 Shea Fierro
Jan. 5 Colleen North

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

Solos Group Events

Contact: Annelly Hudanick,
annelyblue@hotmail.com

Everyone is welcome to join the solos for outings and lunch w/wo a movie date. The potlucks, however, are reserved for "single" solos.

Saturday, December 14 at 1 p.m.
Holiday Extravaganza!
RSVP to Annelly by December 9

Meson Camagueyano

910 Cape Coral Pkwy., Cape Coral 33904

It's time to dust off your party hats , get out your Christmas sweater, practice your "Jingle Bells" and go shopping in your "white elephant" gift drawer!
Please bring a wrapped gift under \$5

Book Club & Brown Bag - December 9 - Noon

Meeting on the 2nd Monday of the Month

Contacts: Diane Chernow, dianecher@comcast.net.

Be prepared to give a brief talk about a book you're reading or you have read.

Meditation - Fridays at 10:30am

Contact: Jeanne Ezell, jeannezell@gmail.com

Join friends to develop your mindfulness, compassion, and sense of serenity.

McGregor Clinic Collection - Sunday, Dec. 15

Collection is on the 3rd Sunday of Every Month

Coordinator: Joyce Schaffer, joycelschaffer@gmail.com

This month the clinic is in need of clothing, high protein and non-perishable foods.

All Voices Choir Practice - Wednesdays at 4:45pm

Meeting every Wednesday

The choir is recruiting new members. You do not have to be a professional singer or read sheet music to join. Go ahead, give it a try. Contact: Joseph Brauer, jodabrauer@gmail.com.



Mano a Mano Bolivian Craft Sales December 8 and 15 at Service

It's time to stock up on your beautiful hand-made Bolivian crafts for the holidays.

Charlotte Blitt, Sharon Gray & volunteers will be displaying and selling Bolivian crafts provided by Mano a Mano. The sale will occur before and after Sunday services on December 8th and December 15th.

All Faiths Care & Support Team Tracking Medical Equipment for Member Use

Our Membership Care and Support Team is keeping a list of medical equipment that our members have that could be available for lending to other members in need after injuries or hospitalizations. Please send information to Joyce Ramay joyceramay@comcast.net about what you might be willing to lend - things like wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, shower chairs, canes, etc. Thanks so much.

DECEMBER 2019 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am Adult Ed. Forum 10:30am Service & Children's RE Special Collection for Employee Bonuses	2 7pm Odyssey w. Carol Elrod	3 1:30pm Climate Action Team Mtg .	4 10am Membership Committee 4:45pm Choir Practice	5 	6 10:30am Meditation	7 7pm ACMA Concert Kraig Kenning w. Ross Jordan opening
8 9:30 am Adult Ed. Forum 10:30am Service & Children's RE Share the Plate	9 10am Sun. Services Team Mtg . 12pm Book Club	10 6:30pm Holiday Sing-Along w. Joseph	11 4:45pm Choir Practice	12 10am Finance Comm. Meeting 1pm White Fragility Book Review Cont'd	13 10:30am Meditation	14 1pm Solos Holiday Extravaganza! 7pm ACMA Members Holiday Party/Concert
15 9:30 am Adult Ed. Forum 10:30am Service & Children's RE McGregor Clinic Collection	16 7:00pm PFLAG Mtg.	17 	18 10am Racial Justice Team Mtg. 1 pm Board Meeting 4:45pm Choir Practice	19 2pm Homeless Action Team Mtg. 7pm Tropical Storm Concert	20 10:30am Meditation	21 6-7pm Candlelight Vigil for the Homeless (downtown)
22 9:30 am Adult Ed. Forum 10:30am Service & Children's RE	23 	24 6:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25  Christmas Day Office Closed	26 	27 10:30am Meditation 6-9pm Building Unavailable	28
29 9:30 am Adult Ed. Forum 10:30am Service & Children's RE Animal Shelter Collection	30 	31 				

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

MANO A MANO AT AGE 25

by Joan Velasquez

When Segundo and I, along with friends and family, decided to create Mano a Mano in 1994, we had a modest vision: to collect the often new and always usable medical surplus that ended up in our landfill and re-direct it to one hospital in Cochabamba, Bolivia. We couldn't have imagined how this modest effort would grow organically over the following 25 years. In response to needs expressed by the rural Bolivians we now serve, Mano a Mano:

- Collects and ships about 200,000 pounds of desperately needed items every year. Our Bolivian counterparts estimate that this cargo would cost about \$8,000,000 if purchased in Bolivia.

- Trains over 2,000 farmers yearly in ecological farming practices.

- Is constructing our 170th rural clinic. These clinics have over 1,000,000 patient visits yearly.

- Has built 62 rural public schools along with housing for their teachers.

- Is completing our 10th water reservoir and 57th well; over 52,000 rural residents receive water through these projects

Behind each of these numbers is a human story of struggle to survive, endurance, hope and triumph. You, All Faiths members, are integral to these stories. We send our deepest gratitude to you for celebrating with us, traveling with us, donating your time and funds, and standing in solidarity with us as we carry on with this work. Thank you.



This lovely woman was the beneficiary of a wheelchair donated by All Faiths. Thank you Mano a Mano!

DECEMBER'S ODYSSEY CAROL ELROD

Monday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m.



Our Odyssey program has returned for the season.

First up, one of our favorite Founding Members, *Carol Elrod!* Please join Rev. CJ as he delves into what makes Carol tick.

♥ 4 THE HOMELESS TEAM *Plans Work on Habitat for Humanity House*

by Barb McFarlane

All Faith's Heart for the Homeless Team wants your help as they work on a Habitat for Humanity house.

Join them on **Saturday, January 4, 2020 from 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** All you need is to pack a lunch, wear closed-toed shoes and bring a water bottle. No experience needed!

You can sign up online by December 27th 2019, at <http://habitat.habitat4humanity.volunteerhub.com/>

You will create an account on Volunteer Hub in three easy steps, then click "sign up" and scroll until you see the January 4 All Faiths' event to sign up. You will be asked to sign a waiver and provide an email address to confirm your registration.

We will learn the worksite location a week prior to January 4, and will make carpool arrangements then.

Any questions may be directed to Barb McFarlane. 651-808-8271.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Saturday, December 21 - 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Please join members of the Heart for the Homeless Team on Saturday, December 21, 6:00-7:00 p.m. for a Candlelight Vigil on the old courthouse steps. This event brings attention to homelessness and memorializes those who died this past year while living on the streets or in shelters in Lee County.



ALL FAITHS IS RECOGNIZED AS A WELCOMING CONGREGATION BY THE UUA

All Faiths has been recognized by the UUA as a Welcoming Congregation. We affirm and include people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer at every level of congregational life—in worship, in program, and in social occasions—welcoming them as whole people.

As a Welcoming Congregation recognized by the UUA, we affirm our commitment to the following actions:

Honor the lives of all people and equally affirm displays of caring and affection without regard for sexual orientation.

Celebrate diversity by using inclusive language and content in worship.

Incorporate an understanding of the experience of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer persons throughout all of our programs, including religious education.

Affirm and celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer issues and history.

Affirm marriage equality and conduct same-sex weddings.

Advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people, promoting justice, freedom, and equality in the larger society. We speak out when the rights and dignity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people are at stake.

We recognize there's more to learn and more work to do in deepening our understanding about the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people.



ALL FAITHS BECOMES AN ACCREDITED GREEN SANCTUARY BY THE UUA

The UUA this week offered Green Sanctuary Accreditation to All Faiths Unitarian Congregation.

All Faiths works toward a vision of a healthier, more sustainable future for Fort Myers, our region, and the world. Our congregation lives with a deep awareness of our climate crisis and the deep environmental injustices of our time. We commit to four practices, grounded in Unitarian Universalist principles:

Environmental Justice: We partner with marginalized communities who are hit first and hardest by environmental crisis. In partnering with these communities we are able to address human and environmental needs at the same time.

Worship and Celebration: As we work together towards a cleaner, more just and sustainable world, worship inspires our work and reminds us of what is most sacred and most true.

Religious Education: Our workshops and programs for all ages shape attitudes and build practices that are sustainable and spiritually-grounded.

Sustainable Living: We treat the world more gently by using fewer resources and being mindful of the choices we make, both as a congregation and as households.

We invite all who share these values to join us on this journey of connection, sustainability, and hope. Learn more about the Green Sanctuary Program of our congregation and contact the Climate Action Team to get involved.

SPECIAL COLLECTION ON DECEMBER 1, 2019

All Faiths is fortunate to have dedicated employees who provide excellent services throughout the year. If you would like to contribute something to express your appreciation, we are going to have a special collection on Sunday, December 1, for end-of-year bonuses for our employees:



Rev. CJ McGregor, Minister
Regina Kilmartin, Congregational Administrator
Joseph Brauer, Director of Music
Joe Gayton, Sexton
Robert Bennett, Food and Refreshment Coordinator

The money collected will be distributed on a percentage basis as determined by the Board.

Chris Stotler, Board Chair

TOGETHER ON THE JOURNEY

by Fran Way and Marsha Bates, Member Services

Each month the newsletter profiles an All Faiths' veteran and/or new member. This month we feature new members, Debby and Greg Kopp.



Debby & Greg Kopp Members Since 2019

Life-long residents of Indiana, Debby and Greg Kopp retired in 2012 and divided their time between their home in Indianapolis and North Port, FL. They had visited friends in

Florida frequently and first purchased a condo in North Port. Three years ago they decided to relocate to Florida permanently. They sold both their properties and moved to their new Fort Myers home in Pelican Bay in March of this year. The Koppes had visited Unitarian congregations with good friends and decided to visit UU congregations in this area. After a number of exploratory visits they decided that All Faiths best met their expectations. They became members in October.

The Koppes were both born and raised in Indiana, although in different communities. An only child, Debby grew up in Andersen. Although she occasionally wished for siblings she says she was never lonely as she was close to her cousins and other family relatives. Debby married soon after graduating high school and had two daughters.

Debby's parents had no religious affiliation but her mother took her to a large Methodist church that had an active youth program. She fell away from the church when still a teen and attended only periodically when her own children were teens. She said she was distressed that interpersonal issues at the church were out of line with their Christian teaching.

The youngest of seven children, Greg grew up in Indianapolis. He joined a Nazarene congregation while a teen. Initially enthusiastic, he served as president of their youth organization. He says that he fell away as he grew older and gradually discovered that some of their doctrine "didn't add up."

Following graduation from high school Greg enrolled at Purdue University and earned a degree in education. Soon after he was drafted and served in Vietnam. Fol-

lowing discharge he sought work in public instruction and information but found the job market unstable. He decided to make a major career shift, and obtained a degree in medical ultra sound. He found a hospital position and progressed to departmental management.

Both previously married and divorced, Debby and Greg met at the hospital where they were both employed. Debby had begun in registration data entry and had progressed to admissions manager. She later left to work in management for a cardiology group. Greg has one son who recently moved to Estero with his wife. Debby's two daughters currently live in Indianapolis and Alaska. She has four grandchildren.

Debby is an avid tennis player and is impatient to recover from her recent hip replacement and get back on the court. Greg has a life-long interest in writing and has published several novels and short stories. He currently has a work available on Amazon.

The Koppes find Rev. CJ's sermons and Joseph's music inspiring and especially appreciate how well the services are coordinated. Debby says that another reason for her interest in All Faiths is the opportunity to continue her involvement in environmental rights and social justice. Greg continues to explore what he has to offer All Faiths, and Debby looks forward to being of service where she is needed.



Tropical Storm presents



"A Holiday Concert"

**Thursday, December 19, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

All Faiths' Sanctuary

\$10 (partial proceeds benefit All Faiths)

Tickets on Sale Sunday, December 1

***There will be a brief intermission with
refreshments. See you there!***

FIFTH SUNDAY ANIMAL SHELTER COLLECTION DECEMBER 29, 2019



Our Unitarian Universalist 1st and 7th Principles state *"We affirm and promote: The inherent worth and dignity of every being. And, reminds us we are a part of the interdependent web of all existence."*

Shelters provide a safe and nurturing environment for these animals until they can find a forever home. To help them in their mission, shelters would appreciate donations of pet food, treats, cleaning supplies, and any of the items listed below. For more information contact: Sharon Gray (geema1@yahoo.com 565-2474, or Annely Hudanick (annelyblue@hotmail.com 471-0242). If you have a favorite LOCAL shelter or rescue organization, please let us know.

SHELTER WISH LIST

Cat Food (Dry and Canned)
Dog Food (Dry and Canned)
Cat Litter (Clay and Scoopable)
Contractor Grade Trash Bags
Towels (Large & Small)
Blankets and Comforters

Pillow Cases, Sheets
Clorox Wipes
Tissues
Paper Towels
Bleach
Gift Cards from Pet Stores



CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Joan Marshall, Co-Chair

December is a month for celebration. That is particularly true for All Faiths and our Climate Action Team as we celebrate our recent designation as an Accredited *Green Sanctuary*. Since CAT's inception, nearly five years ago, this has been one of our major goals. Many, many of you have contributed to this effort over the years, working to make our building and grounds environmentally sound, educating and inspiring people through our worship and educational programs and our beautiful butterfly garden, reaching out to the Dunbar community with emergency response training for youth and a deepening relationship with the NAACP, successfully establishing a car-pooling program and building a network of multiple organizations with whom we work collaboratively to address the realities of the climate crisis we all face. Our sincere and deep appreciation to all who have contributed so tirelessly and selflessly to this effort. Your Climate Action Team

is inspired by your achievements and your ever-growing commitment to learn to live sustainably and to honor our 7th principle of respect for the interdependent web of life of which we are a part.

We urge you to attend the Adult Education Forum on December 22nd to learn about an important new initiative called The Rights of Nature and hear from Joe Bonasia, Education Director for the organization Clean Water Now, about the campaign to win a Caloosahatchee Bill of Rights.

The challenges that lie ahead are great. It will take all of us, working together, to

make a difference in the kind of world we are building for our children and grandchildren. We hope you will continue to do your part and will reach out to others to join in our struggle to create a future we can be proud of. Come join our next CAT meeting on Tuesday, December 3rd at 1:30 p.m. Let's keep finding reasons to celebrate.

DECEMBER 2019 MESSAGES

One Service: 10:30 a.m.

The theme for December is Celebration.

December 1 – *A Place Called Home*

by Crystal Johnson,* Guest Speaker

Music – Joseph Brauer

Worship Associate - Rev. CJ McGregor

December 8 – *My Mountain* by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music – Joseph Brauer & The All Voices Choir

Worship Associate - Susan Meissner

Share the Plate with Operation Joy

December 15 – *Days Like These - A Winter Solstice*

Celebration by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music - Joseph Brauer & Kat Epple

McGregor Clinic Collection

December 22 – *Kindle the Taper: A Hanukkah*

Message by Rabbi Bruce Diamond,**

Guest Speaker

Music - Joseph Brauer & Joan Marshall

Worship Associate - Carol Elrod

December 24 – *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

Joy, Love, Peace and Christmas: The Story of

"From a Distance" by Doug Cartwright

Music - Joseph Brauer & The All Voices Choir

Worship Associate - Regina Kilmartin

December 29 – *Beginnings, Gates, Transitions*

by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music - Joseph Brauer

Worship Associate - Joyce Ramay

DECEMBER CHILDREN'S RE

During 10:30 a.m. Service

December 1 - Moral Tales: Session 15: Courage and Perseverance

God has not called on me to be successful. He has called on me to be faithful. — Mother Teresa

This session emphasizes the virtues of courage and perseverance. To act out of goodness and for justice often requires courage, determination and the will to keep going despite many challenges.

December 8 - Moral Tales: Session 16: Working Together

Drops that gather one by one finally form a sea. — Persian proverb

This session emphasizes the idea of strengthening community and working cooperatively with other people. While Unitarian Universalists value individual action, we also know that together we are stronger than the sum of our individual parts.

December 15 - Intergenerational Service - No R.E.

December 22 - Intergenerational Service - No R.E.



ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

***Crystal Johnson**, an active leader in the Dunbar community and the Community Forum Foundation, will deliver a message of social action dealing with the housing crisis for the marginalized in our community and how development of certain neighborhoods contributes to this.

****Rabbi Bruce Diamond** will join us to lead our Hanukkah celebration. Bruce is an “Honorary Founding Member” of All Faiths. He provided us facilities for our monthly services in our first six months of meeting in 2001, and he has been with us in friendship ever since.

DECEMBER ADULT ED. FORUMS

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

- Dec. 1 Islam – Women and Change in Islam**
Dec. 8 Islam – Islam in the West
Dec. 15 Islam – The Future of Islam
**Dec. 22 Climate Action Team Forum – *Rights of Nature: The Caloosahatchee Bill of Rights*,
by Guest Speaker Joseph Bonasia,
Education Director for Clean Water**
Dec. 29 No Forum

Great Short Stories of the World

In January we will start a new series on Great World Short Stories, led by Doug and Diane Cartwright, on the first and third Sundays of each month. Forums will be at 10 a.m. between the two Sunday services.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Sharon Gray, Treasurer

The following is the accounting of our finances through October 31, 2019.

October 2019

Income	\$ 22,185
Expenses	<u>20,956</u>
Net Gain	\$ 1,229

OCTOBER CASH ASSETS (after payroll deducted)

General Operating Funds	\$ 8,526
Operating Reserves	22,862
Operating Reserves CD	20,195
Legacy Account	36,309
Paypal	287
Capital Fund	<u>4,832</u>
Total cash assets	\$ 93,011

APRIL-OCTOBER - 7-MONTH P&L

Income	\$ 113,230
Expense	121,097
Net Loss	(\$ -7,867)

Year-end is approaching; that means the Finance Committee will be starting work on the next fiscal-year budget, the Stewardship Committee will be working on our next pledge campaign, and Regina will be finalizing year-to-date giving letters so you can plan for any year-end giving that would be beneficial to you. Don't forget about the IRA Charitable Rollover Law which was detailed in November's newsletter. If you have any questions about your giving, please contact Regina.

We appreciate your ongoing support of All Faiths' staff, services and programs.

AMERICANA COMMUNITY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

December 2019 Concert Line-Up

Concerts Start at 7pm

\$15 General Public/\$10 ACMA Members

www.AmericanACMA.org

Saturday - December 7

Kraig Kenning
w. Ross Jordan opening

Saturday - December 14

ACMA Members Holiday
Party/Concert



SHEA FIERRO FEATURED ARTIST AT FORT MYERS BEACH LIBRARY



The Fort Myers Beach Library will feature the artwork of *Shea Fierro* during the month of January. The library is located at 2755 Estero Blvd., and is open Monday - Friday from 9:00 to 5:00, and Saturday from 9:00-1:00. Call the library (239-765-8162) for date and time of *Meet and Greet* with the artist.

GEORGIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS RETURN TO ALL FAITHS IN MARCH

by Rev. CJ McGregor

All Faiths will host students from the University of Georgia's Center for Leadership in March 2020. While in Fort Myers students will be working on Environmental Justice service projects. The students are part of the Impact Service Break program.

All Faiths is the perfect partner as its Climate Action Team and Social Action and Outreach Committee have been working in the community and advocating for environmental justice for years.

The group will be working on environmental projects in our area. See the schedule provided. You are welcome to join in. *We are providing a potluck meal on Thursday March 12.* Please arrive with a dish and join our community meal.

The mission of the IMPACT program is to engage University of Georgia students in an affordable, week-long, substance-free, experiential service learning project that

encourages an understanding of pressing social issues in a significant way. It is the goal of the organization to address community needs through direct and indirect service as well as provide students the knowledge of social issues in our own country. By providing new perspectives and hearing the stories of others, participants gain invaluable experiences that bring us together.



All Faiths Unitarian Congregation

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Phone: (239) 226-0900 Fax: (239) 278-5743

Email: office@allfaiths-uc.org Website: www.allfaiths-uc.org

Executive Board: Chris Stotler, Chair; Doug Cartwright, Vice-Chair; Sharon Gray, Treasurer; Ed Elrod, Secretary; Diane Cartwright, Past Chair.

Directors: Peter Erickson, Barbara Gaiser, Annely Hudanick, Eileen Moran, Rachel Spiller.

Staff: Regina Kilmartin, Administrator; Joseph Brauer, Music Director; Joe Gayton, Sexton; Robert Bennett, Hospitality



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

Member Services

Greeters
Fran Way

Care and Support

Joyce Ramay

Finance

Joyce Ramay

Stewardship Committee

Howard Silverman & Janet Falk

Nominating Committee

Kathleen Weber

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

Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Wayne Robinson

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

Judy Alberda & Barbara Gaiser

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

Deadline for the **January** Issue of *Connections* is **December 19**

(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