



**WEEKLY CONTACT – January 13, 2019**

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota**

**Email Submissions to [Sunday@uusarasota.org](mailto:Sunday@uusarasota.org)**

**Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon**

### **MINISTER'S MESSAGE BY ROGER FRITTS**

The January 6, "Profiles in Courage" service highlighted the racial discrimination and heroic efforts overcoming prejudices in the housing market of the early 60s. However, I did not point out what the Sarasota Association of Realtors has done since then to help change attitudes and perceptions in the housing market.

Today any member of the National Association of Realtors must accept and abide by a very stringent "Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice" of NAR. The Code of Ethics states that "Realtors shall not deny equal professional services to any person for reason of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity". Further, the code states "When involved in the sale or lease of a residence, Realtors shall not volunteer information regarding the racial, religious or ethnic composition of any neighborhood nor shall they engage in any activity which may result in panic selling". This Code of Ethics is practiced not only by Realtors in the United States, but internationally by practitioners internationally who belong to the National Association of Realtors.

During the service I also mentioned that before Dr. John W. Chenault came to Sarasota in 1957, black residents had to travel to Tampa or St. Petersburg because many doctors in Sarasota refused to see African American patients. This was a national problem. In 2008 the President of the American Medical Association wrote "I unequivocally apologize for our past behavior. We pledge to do everything in our power to right the wrongs that were done by our organization to African-American physicians and their families and their patients."

Unitarian Universalists also discriminated. As I said in a sermon last year, no Unitarian Church called an African American minister to serve as the solo minister until 1961. Realtors, medical doctors and Unitarian Universalists all struggle with racism and white privilege in the past and in the present.

### **THANK YOU**

**Thank you for your generous donation to the Social Justice Public Housing Fund. Fourteen hundred and eighty-six dollars was collected on Christmas Eve.** The fund assists with rent or utility payments for residents with a short-term financial need. This assistance prevents eviction and reduces homelessness.

## **UUCS SERVICES ON JANUARY 13 at 10:00 and 11:30**

### **“If We Can’t Dance, What Good Is The Revolution?” by Joshua Leach**

Josh Leach is Policy Analyst at the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, which he joined after a ministerial internship at First Parish in Bedford, Massachusetts, and completing his Master of Divinity degree at Harvard in 2015. Josh is the son of Julie and Brock Leach, long-time members of the UU Church of Sarasota. Josh's family first joined this church in 2000, after they moved to Florida, and Josh grew up attending here through middle and high school. He is a proud member of the congregation to this day.

To read more about Josh, go to our website at [uusarasota.org](http://uusarasota.org)

### **\*Music: 10:00 and 11:30 Don Bryn, Piano and Fernando Traba, Bassoon**

**\*Fernando Traba is the Principal Bassoon at the Sarasota Orchestra.**

### **\*Forum at 10:15**

#### **“The 2019 City and County Commissions and School Board: What to Expect”**

Cathy Antunes, who writes and blogs and has a radio program on local politics will give us her take on the newly elected commissioners and school board members. As a political activist in our community, she has her finger on the pulse of the government closest to us and our daily lives.

Presenter, Cathy Antunes, Moderator, Marie Keeney.

### **\*No Discovery and Discussion at 11:30 on Second Sunday Potluck**

#### **UU of LAKEWOOD RANCH at 10:00 at the Lakewood Ranch Hyatt Place**

<https://www.uulakewoodranch.org/>

#### **‘Universalism: The Gospel of Inclusion’ by Roger Fritts**

Those of you with access to Netflix may wish to watch the movie "Come Sunday" in preparation for this sermon.

**Mindy Simmons will be the guest musician.**

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) Catherine Bonner DRE@uusarasota.org**

The Elementary Age Children will participate in a Children’s Chapel with a kick-off of our Food Drive Challenge and making blankets for the homeless.

The Youth Group will open the discussion on Karma and whether what goes around, comes around and then will sit in on the Sermon from Josh Leach, a former Sarasota RE youth who is working for the UUSC.

## **ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Bridge for Fun:** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, ongoing, 1:00 - 4:00 Reeb Room, sign up. Contact Henry Bright at [HenBright@aol.com](mailto:HenBright@aol.com) (941) 966-5784.

**Great Decisions Group:** Starts Saturday January 19, 1:00 – 3:00, Reeb Room. Just a few seats left—register now! Are you interested in expanding your knowledge

of US foreign policy? Eight critical global policy issues, eight discussion sessions; eight different Saturdays. \$32 for a briefing book. UUCS members only. Contact Karen Welcome to reserve your seat at [kmwelcome06@gmail.com](mailto:kmwelcome06@gmail.com).

**Mindfulness:** Wednesdays, ongoing, 12:00 - 1:00, West Wing, show up. Contact Charles Bradt at 922-5205.

**Zen Meditation:** Drop-in Sunday at 7:00—Reeb Room. A group focusing on the study and practice of Zen. All are welcome, beginners as well as experienced Zen practitioners. Anyone interested should just show up on Sunday evening. Class leaders are Don DeMaio and Paul Lewis.

## **CARING**

Our best wishes to **Charlie Allen** who had a heart attack while in Massachusetts as well as to **Betsy Wilford** who is recovering from surgery.

\***Caring** provides short term help with food, transportation and visits. Would you like to have a buddy? Contact Dee Widder at [DeanaWidder@gmail.com](mailto:DeanaWidder@gmail.com) or 377-9028.

## **OUR COMMUNITY**

\***Sunday January 13 is our First potluck of the year!** Please, bring a dish to serve at least 8 people. Vegan and vegetarian plates are preferred but bring what gives you joy to cook and share with the congregation. Potluck is at 12:30 after the second service.

\***Call to UUCS Artists -- April 2019 Themed Members Exhibit, "A Good Earth"**. Ed Schempp, a lifelong Unitarian-Universalist activist wrote that "Unitarian-Universalism looks not to a perfect heaven, but toward a good earth." Ways we can help create "A Good Earth" guided by our 7 Principles is the theme for the show. It's not too early to start! UUCS Members and Friends are invited to participate. Each person may submit up to two pieces no larger than 16 x 20 inches each, or one larger piece up to 30 x 30 inches. Three-dimensional pieces will also be accepted. To reserve your space, provide size and the title card information for your work (Title, Medium, Price, and your name and contact information) to Gail Coppock at [gailcoppock@gmail.com](mailto:gailcoppock@gmail.com) by April 12.

\***Please consider parking in the Cardinal Mooney High School parking lot on Sundays.** Drive through the gate, turn left and drive to the far end of the parking lot. You may walk across our path to the church parking lot. Thank you.

\***Would you like to share good news or honor a friend who passed away?** Make a **Tribute** donation and send your check with a Tribute form to the office. Forms are available in the office and online at Members Corner. The Tribute will be acknowledged in the Weekly Contact.

Does the Minister have your Memorial Form on file? Do you wish the office to have your emergency contact information? Submit a form which can be found online at Members Corner or in the office.

\*On our website, [uusarasota.org](http://uusarasota.org), in **Members Corner**, you will find the complete name, address, phone and email listings of Members and Friends. Call the office if you do not have the password. Click on the person's name to find their home address. Check your name to be sure it's correct. We will no longer list a PDF version.

**\*Welcome to New Member** Charles Bradt.

**\*Happy Birthday!**

January 11 Josh Leach

January 12 Deborah Thurber

January 17 Roy Ingham

January 17 Jane Shannon

January 18 Donald Diddams

**\*Calling all wordsmiths: UUCS Mission Statement Development Group January 13 and 20:**

The Board of Trustees invites anyone who's interested in working on the church's mission statement to come to the library at 11:15 for the next two Sundays. We will review the progress the board made on the mission statement and get some inspiration on the 13, then follow up on the 20 with our new ideas. Hopefully we can present a finely crafted mission statement to the board in February, and then to the congregation to be voted on in March. If you have ideas to share but cannot make both meetings, please contact Mary Lou Keller at [marylouckeller@yahoo.com](mailto:marylouckeller@yahoo.com) or [941-228-5241](tel:941-228-5241).

\*Do you have a church key you are no longer using? Please return it to the office. Thank you.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

\***UU Vets Group** meets Wednesday, January 16, 9:00 to 10:30 at McDonalds on Bee Ridge Road just east of Beneva. The **Veteran's Group** is a discussion group of Sarasota UU members who were ever active duty or reserve members of a US military organization. Contact Barry Dyer (813) 508-5671 or [barry.dyer13@gmail.com](mailto:barry.dyer13@gmail.com) on

For Vets and Non-vets: At the Waldemere Fire Station upstairs meeting room, the speaker for the Florida Veterans for Common Sense meeting on Monday evening, January 14 at 7 is Zac Anderson of the Tribune whose topic is: Analysis of last election and what to expect going forward.

**\*Annual Church Bonfire and Potluck:** Saturday January 19; 5:30-9, east parking lot. Bring a dish to share and a chair to sit around the fire. Drinks and making for S'mores will be provided.

**\*It's our First Interweave Potluck of the new year!** Join the Interweave group for a potluck lunch on Jan. 20 at 12:00ish at the home of Tony Dalsimer, 4917 Greencroft Rd. in the Meadows. Our "Action Plan" will be discussed. All persons

interested in supporting the LGBTQ community are invited to attend!! Contact Wilda if you have questions. 924-0706.

**\*The Women's Book Group will be meeting** on Friday, January 25 at 2 in the Teen Room. We will discuss Killers of the Flower Moon; The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI, by David Grann. We welcome new members so please join us at our next meeting.

**\*Food Drive Challenge** - Our children are being challenged to bring in unopened boxes of cereal to create a Food Pyramid by January 27 and are asking the adult congregation for donations to help them in this challenge. Donations can be made at the RE office. All food will be donated to the All Faith Food Bank.

## AUCTION



**Calling all donations!** To ensure that your donations are in our auction catalog, please submit them no later than noon on this coming Tuesday January 13. [Click here](#) for four easy ways for you to submit them and to see the schedule for our auction events.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

**The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast and Community Awards will be held on Monday, January 21, at the Robert L Taylor Complex, 1845 34th Street, Sarasota.** The program begins at 7:30 in the morning. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the Social Justice table. The keynote speaker is Nina Turner, CNN contributor, activist, Ohio State Senator 2008-2014 and Cleveland City Council Member 2006-2008.



Our guest speaker, Josh Leach, is a UU Service Committee staff member and ministerial candidate. Josh attended our Sarasota church and is the son of Julie and Brock Leach. He is so honored to be able share his reflections on the rewarding work he has done with the UUSC and some of his international experiences.

If you haven't already renewed your UUSC membership or would like to become a member, a UUSC membership envelope will be included in the Order of Service. Your donation of \$40 or more earns you and your family an annual UUSC membership. Donations of \$125 or more are eligible to be matched by the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock, NY. For more information about the UUSC, contact our UUSC Liaison, Linda Bodycomb at [lbodycomb@gmail.com](mailto:lbodycomb@gmail.com) or by calling 410-610-9118. Thanks for your support!



**Looking for social justice information?** Stop by the Social Justice table in the courtyard to learn about volunteer opportunities and to purchase fair trade

items including chocolate, coffees, teas and olive oil. Also check out the Social Justice web pages on the church's website, go to [uucsarasota.com](http://uucsarasota.com) and click the Social Justice tab. For fair trade special orders, contact Suzie Brucklacher at [justice@uucsarasota.org](mailto:justice@uucsarasota.org), subject line, Fair Trade Special Order.

**UUCS SERVICES ON JANUARY 20 at 10:00 and 11:30**

**“Oh MY God! I Am 68!” by Rev. Roger Fritts**

I share with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. the dubious distinction of having been born in the month of January. At the risk of being called narcissistic, the sermon will be a personal meditation on becoming a so-called "senior citizen."

**\*Music: 10:00 and 11:30 Don Bryn, Piano and**

**\*Forum at 10:15 "Poetry Makes Art Out of Life"**

Using language, the poet transforms the ordinary into the extraordinary and the extraordinary into the ordinary. The poet elevates our human experience, explores our human nature, celebrates our joys and sorrows and chronicles our moments of perception. Louise invites all Forum participants to bring a poem to this presentation. As time permits, one may read one's poem or Louise will read it aloud. Let's find the joy in art!

Presenter and Moderator, Louise Stinespring.

**UU of LAKEWOOD RANCH at 10:00 at the Lakewood Ranch Hyatt Place**

<https://www.uulakewoodranch.org/>

**\*" Vital Differences Between Pride and Dignity: What It Means to Truly Honor Ourselves" by Richard Herring**

Guest musicians will be Jan Dorsett and Claudia Holmes.