



WEEKLY CONTACT – January 20, 2019

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota
3975 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232
941-371-4974**

PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL: Email Submissions to ContactUUCS@gmail.com.

Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon

Please list publication date in the subject line

MINISTER'S MESSAGE BY ROGER FRITTS

I have always loved church auctions. In the 1970s I was a minister in Lexington, Kentucky. I would always bid on the “derby day cookout” at a church member’s home. In the early 1980s I was a minister in New Bedford, Massachusetts. I bid on sailing lessons. From 1985 to 1993 I was a minister in Evanston, Illinois. I bid on babysitting, weekend stays at Chicago hotels, dinners at Chicago restaurants, and theater tickets. In Bethesda from 1993 to 2011, I was often the high bidder for a lunch at the National Press Club.

I look forward to attending our auction. It starts after our 10:00 service on Sunday, January 27. We will only have one worship service that day with an outstanding guest minister you will not want to miss. Thank you to the many people who are helping with this auction. And a special thanks to Karen Bush, who is doing a great job organizing this event. It will be a fantastic afternoon.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENTS

***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, marshmallows and S’mores makings to be provided.

Questions? Catherine.bonner914@gmail.com or (941) 720-8437 (cell/text).

Share the Plate – January 20

Sunday’s Share-the-Plate offering will support the **UUA’s campaign for Black Lives of UU** (BLUU) Organizing Collective. Formed in 2015, the collective is working to expand the power and capacity of Black UUs within our faith; to provide support, information and resources for Black Unitarian Universalists; and to stand up for justice and liberation through our faith.

All UU churches have been asked to support the campaign and consider a goal of \$10 per member. The first \$1,000 given at our church will be matched by the Social Justice committee. Thank you for your support of Black Lives UU this Sunday.

Dr. King said, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied to a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”

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, Choir and Don Bryn, Piano; 11:30 Mindy Simmons and Ed Kinder**

***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.

***Discovery and Discussion at 11:30:** "Quantum Computing explained in 10 minutes," A quantum computer isn't just a more powerful version of the computers we use today; it's something else entirely. Enter the quantum wonderland with TED Fellow Shohini Ghose and learn how this technology holds the potential to transform medicine, create unbreakable encryption and even teleport information. Filmed at TEDWomen, November 2018. Coordinator: Dave Nelson. Moderator: Susan Eisman.

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

***Nursery:** Those 3 and younger will play with our nursery staff and volunteers

***Prek-1st Grade:** The children will learn about Martin Luther King Jr. and how he worked to make the world a place where people of all colors could be treated fairly and kindly.

***2nd-5th Grade:** The children will learn about 4 different African American Inventors, watch an inspiring clip from Kid President, experiment with magnetism and work in their invention journals to think of new things to help people.

***Youth:** The Youth Group will be discussing the topic of Fear (especially fear in a social setting) and how to overcome it.

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.**

The guest musician will be Jan Dorsett.

OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS

"Gravity Dreams" – an exhibit of new work by John Kokajko in the Lexow Wing gallery, opening reception this Sunday following both services. Please join the Arts Council in welcoming John Kokajko with his new exhibit "Gravity Dreams" – photographic images inspired by the writings of L. E. Modesitt. Ceramic art by Elizabeth Gies will also be on display. It's her first exhibit after a career teaching art around the world and studying ceramics. Come visit with both these artists and see their work. The exhibit will be up until February 14th.

***Calling all wordsmiths: UUCS Mission Statement Development Group meets on January 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 on Sunday. 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 the meeting, please contact Mary Lou Keller at marylouckeller@yahoo.com or [941-228-5241](tel:941-228-5241).

***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.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Mah Jongg: Next gathering Wednesday January 23, 1:00...4:00 West Wing. Casual play - second and fourth Wednesdays. Bring your own card and a set, if you have one. Open to UU members and friends only. Sign up with Mitzi Hogoboom Mitzi.hogoboom@gmail.com (203) 246-9020.

Personal Growth and Renewal: "I Connect Therefore I Am." The next free interactive workshop for members of UUC on Sunday February 3, 2:00...4:00 Reeb Room. Positivity strategist Robyn Stratton- Berkessel will present methods to see the world anew and build connection and community through appreciative communication. Email Phyllis Mufson, pmufson@comcast.net for reservations or to join the mail list.

Poetry Group: Next meeting Monday January 21, 1:00... 3:00 West Wing. Join us for poetry out loud. You don't have to be the poet, but you can be if you like. Bring 1 or 2 of your favorites to share and discuss. If possible, bring some extra copies. All are welcome, whether you like to read, write, or just listen. 1st and 3rd Mondays ongoing. Questions? Email, call or text: Laura Bagby at laura.bagby1948@gmail.com (816) 808-1978 or Dave Nelson at 2ndrow2@gmail.com (612) 323-8770.

Say Hi to Bill: Next meeting Friday January 25, 10:00...12:00 West Wing. Join us and prepare to be amazed! Take a lighthearted look at Shakespeare in a new way. Come and enjoy this fun and lively course, which Jo taught for over 30 years in the UK. All are welcome! Sign up please for email notification. Contact Jo Bellett: jbellett@outlook.com or Dave Nelson: 2ndrow2@gmail.com.

CARING

***Caring** provides short term help with food, transportation and visits. Would you like to have a buddy?

Contact Dee Widder at DeanaWidder@gmail.com or 377-9028.

***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.

OUR COMMUNITY

***Please note we have a new address for *Contact* submissions. Send your items to ContactUUCS@gmail.com. In the subject line, please list your date of publication. Deadline is Tuesday at noon.**

***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 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.

***Food Drive Challenge:** Help our children create a pyramid of cereal boxes to help All Faiths Food Bank. Donations of unopened cereal boxes can be collected at the Church or DRE office during the week or in the box by the West Wing on Sundays.

*On our website, 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.

***Happy Birthday!**

January 18 Donald Diddams

January 19 Carol Fisch, Jo Ann Osmer

January 20 Roger Fritts

January 21 Sylvia Kolker, Ann Urick

January 22 Shelley Frankel, Bernie Leigh, John Michelman, Marilyn Sirasky

January 23 Marjorie Henry, David Nelson

January 24 Doug Bracy, Terry Root, David Ryan

January 26 Jill DeLano, DeeAnna Dowdle, Myke Greenspan, Steve Martin

UPCOMING EVENTS

***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.

***Making Connections: A Get to Know You project** where families and congregation members share letters for a two-week period answering several "get to know you" questions (letters, envelopes and postage provided). Sign-up ends January 25, supplies/instructions handed out January 27 and letters to start on January 28. On February 10, there will be a Making Connections tea party at 11:15 where the participants can meet and share food and drink together. To sign-up, look for flyers on the bulletin board or sign-up on our website.

Serendipity Auction 2019

Now is the time! **Our Auction will take place next Sunday, January 27 so if you haven't yet purchased your Serendipity Auction ticket, now is the time!** Enjoy your fellow UUs and a delicious lunch whether or not you participate in the bidding. One ticket for \$10 and a family ticket for only \$20.

Visit the auction table in the courtyard after the service to purchase your ticket and get your bid number- just in case you're tempted to use it.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

***The State of the Progressive Movement, A Reception with Senator Nina Turner.** Sunday, January 20, at 7 in the evening at Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Ct., Sarasota. Sponsored by local Our Revolution affiliate, Progressive Sarasota. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Advance tickets are available at www.ProgressiveSarasota.org

***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.

***The MLK United Walk, begins at 11:00 at Robert L Taylor Community Complex** following the breakfast and ends at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Park. If you didn't get tickets to the MLK breakfast, you can still join us for the march.

*Venice Interfaith Community Association is hosting the first session of their 2019 Winter Series, ***American Racism: Yours, Mine, and Ours*** on Monday, January 21 at 7 in the evening, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S Tamiami Trail, Venice. With it they hope to bring understanding and foster respect and cooperation in our community by bringing together a panel of locally and nationally known speakers who will address the difficult issues around systemic racism and race relations in our community and the country as a whole. For a complete listing of the six-week series, go to www.veniceinterfaith.org

***Sarasota County Legislative Delegation Meeting**, January 28, 9-noon Sarasota County Commission Chambers, 1600 Ringling Blvd. This is the public's opportunity to hear what our county and city commissioners want from the upcoming legislative session and for citizens of city and county to speak out about important issues such as retaining funds in the Sadowski Housing Trust to make affordable housing funds available to our community. Contact GeeDee Kerr in Senator Gruter's office at kerr.geedee@flsenate.gov by 5 on 1/18/19 to get time on the agenda.

***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 and click the Social Justice tab. For fair trade special orders, contact Suzie Brucklacher at justice@uusarasota.org, subject line, Fair Trade Special Order.

UUCS SERVICES ON JANUARY 27 at 10:00 – One Service Only Today

'When the Earth Turns Upside Down' by Rev. Bill Morgan.

What do you do when everything is suddenly different? When disease attacks, death strikes, or its shadow looms – any of those twists of life that turn your world upside down? Where do you go then? When the way it was no longer is, who do you become?

The State College of Florida Presidential String Quartet will be performing.

In 2015, the State College of Florida established the SCF Presidential String Quartet as an outreach ensemble to help fill the needs of the college and the community.

***Forum – no Forum due to the Serendipity Auction!**

***Discovery and Discussion – no Discovery and Discussion due to the Serendipity Auction!**

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

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

Kathleen Konicek-Moran will speak on Embracing the Spectrum: Welcoming LGBTQ People into our UU Congregations.

The guest musician will be Dave Longo.