



November 1, 2015

# **WEEKLY CONTACT**

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota (UUCS)

3975 Fruitville Road, Sarasota FL 34232

(941) 371-4974

Fax (941) 377-4897

[www.uusarasota.org](http://www.uusarasota.org)

---

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

I want to thank some special people. Members such as Robert Lexow and Rose MacKenzie, Charles Gallagher, Delores Steinecke, and Marcia Haley included the church in their estate plan. Today we all benefit from their contributions. They gave to the church endowment fund out of gratitude for what this church meant to them. They wanted to help make sure that future generations of religious liberals will find a stable and welcoming church in Sarasota. I give thanks for their gifts.

I invite you to join them in including the church endowment in your will or in a life insurance policy. We invest the endowment with the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund, a fund with socially responsible investing goals. We use income from this fund to help balance the church budget. In the last seven years (including this year) the Endowment Fund has contributed an average of about \$29,000 a year to the church's operating budget. We do not touch the principal.

I encourage you to include our endowment in your estate planning. The church does not offer individual legal or financial advice. Before you commit to a gift plan of any significance or complexity, we encourage you to seek independent, qualified counsel. Talk to your own certified financial planner, or your attorney, or both.

Please consider giving to our endowment. And know that (although it is necessary for the church to have money to exist) we do not care most about your money. We care most about you. Your presence enriches the life of our religious community.

## **SUNDAY EVENTS, NOVEMBER 1**

**Daylight Savings Time ends. If you forget to change your clock, you will be one hour early for church.**

**Sermon at both Sarasota (10:30 a.m.) and Lakewood Ranch (9:00 a.m.)**

**"What Are Unitarian Universalist Views on God?" by Rev. Roger Fritts**

A colleague said, "If you ask me if I believe in God, and you want a one word yes or no answer, and nothing else, my answer is no. If you have an hour to talk about what you or I might mean by the word 'God,' my answer is yes." The sermon will explore definitions of God.

**UUCS, 3975 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota 34232**

\* **10:30 a.m. Music: Choir, led by Robert Lischetti; Don Bryn, piano**

\* **10:30 a.m. Religious Education: Loving care for infants and toddlers is available and there are also classes for older children and Youth Group.**

\* **9:30 Forum: "What is destiny? Do you have one?"** Do you believe that you have a destiny? Some Native American tribes send young members of the tribe into the woods fasting and on their own to survive for a few days. The purpose of this activity is for them to have a vision of the kind of person they will be in adulthood - perhaps a boat builder, maybe a shaman - thus the event is called a vision quest. The person is then helped to become their vision. Roy Ingham believes that each of us has such a destiny. If we fulfill that destiny we will live in harmony with the world (Roy's destiny is to be a comedian!) How did he learn this? Roy will tell you at the Forum. Moderator, Louise Stinespring; Presenter, Roy Ingham.

**LAKEWOOD RANCH, The River Club, 6600 River Club Blvd, Bradenton, 34202**

\* **9:00 a.m. Music: Mindy Simmons, guitar**

\* **We have volunteers on hand to make sure your children are supervised and happy while you enjoy the service.**

\* **10:00 a.m. Join us after the service for brunch and fellowship.**

**OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS**

\* **Come to our UU Artists Market in the Lexow Wing on Sunday, November 1** from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. We will have UU artists selling fused glass items, jewelry including contemporary pearl jewelry, paintings including pet portraits and pottery. The Wednesday morning Artisans will be selling items that they have made. Also we will have snacks provided by the artists.

\* **A Thanksgiving planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 1** at 11:35 in the West Wing. Want to help us plan? Grab a beverage after the service and join us.

\* **Sunday, November 1 is the last day to sign up for the trip to the Dali Museum.** On **Tuesday, November 10**, See Sarasota and More will travel to the Dali Museum in St. Petersburg to have lunch at the Hangar Restaurant and see the current M.C. Escher exhibit at the Dali. We will gather at the church at 10:50 and leave in carpools at 11:00. We will have four entree choices at the Hangar and will have a private room for our group. We will be at the Museum around 1:00 and will have an audio guide available for the Escher exhibit, possibly time to see the permanent Dali collection and visit the gift shop. We should arrive back at church no later than 4:30. The cost of the trip for members of the Dali is \$21.00. For non-members it is \$40.00. That amount covers the meal, including tax and tip, Museum admission, audio guide, and gas money for the carpool drivers. Sign-ups will take

place and payment received at the "See Sarasota and More" table in the courtyard before and after the service. We are limited to 40 participants for this trip. You may pay with cash or a check made out to Kathy Cook.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION THIRD SATURDAY SOCIAL FOR ALL AGES**

### **\* November 21st, 5:30-?? CAMP OUT!**

UU Church, East Parking Lot

Come pitch a tent and stay overnight or just come for the campfire camaraderie on Saturday evening! This is a potluck, so bring food to share, and food to grill or roast over the fire pit. Tea, water, juice provided. Ice-cream for dessert. No need to RSVP, just come! (Need camping gear? Call Catherine at 720-8437.)

## **FLEA MARKET NOVEMBER 14**

**\* We're almost there!** Bring your donated items to the church Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, **November 11, 12 and 13**, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you haven't signed up to volunteer already, just drop in when you bring your donations and we'll give you on-the-job training in sorting and staging our donations. You won't find a better way to meet fellow members and have fun at the same time.

## **ADULT PROGRAMS**

### **\* UPDATES FROM ADULT PROGRAM COMMITTEE:**

It's not too late to enroll in the following classes. Contact the class facilitator directly.

<b>Tbd</b>	<b>Chinese Calligraphy/Brush Painting</b>	Deborah Thurber, 346-2810
<b>11/2</b>	<b>Computers and You</b>	DeeAnna Dowdle, 350-3571
<b>11/3</b>	<b>Smart Phone (Android)</b>	DeeAnna Dowdle, 350-3571
<b>11/4</b>	<b>Balance, Walking, Falls Prevention</b>	Mary Hart, PT, 706-4447
<b>11/6</b>	<b>Bird Watching for Fun</b>	DeeAnna Dowdle, 350-3571

### **\* ADULT PROGRAM ADDITIONS**

Register for these classes by contacting the facilitator directly:

**"Jewelry-Repair and Redesign,"** beginning date tbd, will meet 1-3 times for 1-2 hours, contact Sue Moreland, 554-8560

**"Moral Ground in the Changing Climate,"** will meet Sundays Jan 10- Feb 28, 9 - 10 am, contact Lea Hall, 928-0745 or Roy Lauridsen, 882-8416

### **\* Religious Literacy Dialog**

***Creating and Developing Your Personal Religion*** will be our main topic between now and November 18. Join us at our Wednesday dialogs from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the West Wing sponsored by Advocates for Religious Literacy. We also discuss contributions by individuals as well as articles from Westar Institute's *Fourth R Magazine*. If you can't attend, you can participate by signing up for our email list. You can read the thoughts of

others and share your own ideas if you so desire. No advanced reading is required. To sign up for the email list, or for additional information contact David Ryan at [d2mryan@verizon.net](mailto:d2mryan@verizon.net) or 365-4027.

## **CARING**

\* **The Sarasota chapter of Compassion and Choices will present a free talk on the right-to-die.** It will be held on **Tuesday, November 10**, at 7 pm, in the auditorium at **Sarasota Memorial Hospital**.

\* **Does the Minister have your Memorial Form on file?** Has your emergency contact information changed since you filled out the form? Update and submit your form for a memorial service and have peace of mind knowing you've made choices easier for your loved ones. The form can be found online at [www.uusarasota.org](http://www.uusarasota.org) or in the church office.

\* **The Caring Committee** offers short term help with rides, meals and companionship. If you are ill or having surgery and would like us to be in touch, please contact Dee Widder at 377-9028 or [DeanaWidder@gmail.com](mailto:DeanaWidder@gmail.com). If you can offer a ride to a doctor's appointment or to church or need a ride, please contact Marcia Ryan at 365-4027.

\* **Would you like to honor a friend** who passed away or someone who made your day a little brighter or celebrate a birthday, anniversary or your grandchild's accomplishment? Make a Tribute donation today and send your check, with a Tribute form, to the office. Forms are available in the office and online. The Tribute will be acknowledged in the Contact.

## **OUR COMMUNITY**

\* **Remember to sign up for your photo directory picture.** Sign up at our [uusarasota.org](http://uusarasota.org) website on the left hand side of the Home Page. Picture taking begins **November 16**. You will receive one free 8 x 10 picture and a Directory. The purchase of more pictures will be available. Members and Friends who have made an identifiable

\* **There is a new Directory online at our website.** Please call the office if you need the password for the Members Corner.

\* **If your committee cancels a meeting, please inform the office.**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

\* **Sunday, November 8, will be the Second Sunday potluck.** Bring a dish for eight people to share. All are welcome. If you are a first-time visitor, please join us; you do not have to bring a dish.

\* **Cinema Conversations** - Our next meeting will take place on **Wednesday November 4th** at 7 pm in the Lexow Wing. We will be discussing "Bridge of Spies," a Tom Hanks movie directed by Steven Spielberg. This suspenseful film is based on a true story about a prisoner exchange during the Cold War. Also, in keeping with Halloween, we will also be recalling films that have given us a good scare. . .so join us if you dare!

\* **Family Council:** a satire on the 2-party system, a play written by member Verna Safran will be presented at **Fogartyville** at 525 Kumquat Court on **November 4** at 7:00 PM.

\* **The UU Vegetarian Lunch Group** will meet at Yummy House on Friday, **November 6, at 1:00 p.m.** The restaurant is located at 3232 N. Tamiami Trail, Tel: 351-1688. Non-vegetarians are welcome. For further information or to make reservations, please contact Jean Wieloch at [jeanw972@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanw972@yahoo.com) or call 929-3845.

\* **BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIP DINNER - Friday, November 6 - 5-7pm**

Please join us for dinner and entertainment to support the Scholarship Fund for our Partner Church in Korond, Romania. Menu includes traditional Hungarian dishes. \$10 per person, \$20 per family. Purchase tickets in courtyard after church or call Mary Fran Raynault at 921-9094.

\* **Big musical coming to the church on November 8**

Some of the greatest songs ever to come out of America's love affair with Broadway musicals will be presented in the church Sanctuary on **November 8** at 3:00 p.m. with the concert **GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY**, featuring two of Sarasota's best vocalists. Check the home page of the church's website for details or go to [beachsun.org/concerts/](http://beachsun.org/concerts/). Tickets are \$15 and are available in advance online at [beachsun.org/concerts/tickets/](http://beachsun.org/concerts/tickets/). This is the 5th year of outstanding concerts at UUCS.

\* **Call to all UUCS artists! The UUCS Arts Council will be hosting the annual "Members' Show" art exhibit in December**, just in time for the holidays! Each member is invited to submit up to two of their own artworks to be exhibited in the Lexow Wing Gallery. It is an all-media show, including sculpture, pottery, fabric art and more. Receiving of artworks will be on Friday, **December 4th** from 9am to 12 noon, followed by the opening reception on Sunday, **December 6th**. So wake up your inner artist, and show us your best work! Contact Cathy Cyrus at [cyr603@yahoo.com](mailto:cyr603@yahoo.com) with any questions.

## **OUR COMMITMENTS - SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**The UUCS Social Justice Committee addresses issues of homelessness and hunger, economic justice, human rights and the health of our planet. To learn more, attend our noon meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, join the mailing list at [justice@uusarasota.org](mailto:justice@uusarasota.org) or stop by the Social Justice table on Sunday.**

\* **Used Bicycles for Turning Points.** El Parent will pick up your used bicycle and deliver it to Turning Points, the one-stop homelessness prevention center in Manatee County. Contact him at 813-507-8735 or [elparentjekp@gmail.com](mailto:elparentjekp@gmail.com).

\* **Sunday Food Donations.** Not sure what to donate from your cupboard on Sundays? Soup, spaghetti, sauce, canned vegetables and toilet paper are always needed at Bethesda House. Look for the collection bin on the Sanctuary walkway. Thank you!

\* **Backpack Volunteers Needed.** Help pack food bags for low income students in Sarasota. For more information or to schedule your time look for Don or Sara on Sunday or email [dsslate@comcast.net](mailto:dsslate@comcast.net).

\* **Tell Rep. Buchanan to stand up for gun background checks.** Join the Brady Campaign Bayfront Witness on Thursdays from 4-5 p.m. at the Kissing Statue. For more information, contact Nancy or Dave Evans at [nadaevans@comcast.net](mailto:nadaevans@comcast.net).

\* **Chocolate Prices Going up.** Higher cocoa prices worldwide will impact our next order of Organic, Fair Trade chocolate bars. Now is the time to stock up. Still \$4 per bar at the social justice table.

**At our courtyard table today:** Organic, Fair Trade coffees, teas, chocolate bars, cocoa, olive oil; collection box for school points labels from food boxes; collection jug for non-recyclable plastic caps to benefit a local school.

**COMING NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

**Sermon at both Sarasota (10:30 a.m.) and Lakewood Ranch (9:00 a.m.)**

**"Distilling the Spirit in Transylvania," by Rev. Roger Fritts**

In the sixteenth century in Transylvania, Frances David, unable to find a biblical basis for the doctrine of the Trinity, proclaimed that Jesus was a human being and not God. He established Unitarian congregations for the first time in history. Today in present-day Romania these churches continue to preach the Unitarian message of the humanity of Jesus. In August, members of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Sarasota made a pilgrimage to Transylvania to discover the roots of their faith and to experience the culture of the people, which included a late night visit to a community still used to create Palinka, a fruit-flavored Hungarian hard liquor.

Roger and church members who visited our partner church in August, Dr. Dale Anderson, Mary Montgomery, Lois Lee, Charles Lee, Dr. Thomas Hollingsworth and Beth Hollingsworth, will talk about their experience.

**UUCS, 3975 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota 34232**

\* **10:30 a.m. Music:** Ann Alton, Cello; Don Bryn, Piano

\* **9:30 a.m. Forum: "The American Death Spiral, Over 50, Lost His Job: One Man's Story"** What would have happened to the banks in 2008 had our government not bailed them out? Calamity! There was no bail-out for small business owners. Come hear the story about one man's slide to the bottom in the U.S. and then hear how it compared to the job he got and lost in Germany. How do the two country's safety nets for citizens compare? Moderator, John Stinespring; Presenter, DeeAnna Dowdle.