



April 24, 2016

WEEKLY CONTACT

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota (UUCS)

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UUs IN THE NEWS

Rev. Fritts praises Herald-Tribune in letter to the editor

Thursday's letter ties the paper's Pulitzer Prize-winning expose of problems in Florida's mental health hospitals to the work of Unitarian Dorothea Dix. [Click here to read the letter.](#)

SUNDAY EVENTS, APRIL 24

UUCS Sarasota, 3975 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota

*** 10:30 a.m. "It's Not About You," sermon by Pastor Katie Culbert**

This sermon may be presented via video at a later date at Lakewood Ranch.

*** 10:30 a.m. Music: Bonnie Caplan, Harp; Don Bryn, Piano**

*** 11:30 a.m. Religious Education: Pancake Brunch. All proceeds will be donated to Shelter Box**

*** 9:30 am Forum: "What Should Be the Role of the U.S. Military in Confronting ISIS?"** The challenge presented by the Islamic State is frustrating. But smart policy requires clear-headed analysis of the available data, as well as deference to the lessons of recent history. Should the U.S. be more aggressive or less aggressive? Presenter, John Feagan, Florida Veterans for Common Sense; Moderator, Marie Keeney.

Lakewood Ranch, The River Club, 6600 River Club Blvd, Bradenton 34202

*** 10:00 a.m. "Climateers: A Report from the Field,"** How to Be a Good Person on Earth in Light of Climate Change, Video messages by Lea Hall, Diane Cirksena and friends

Climateer - noun: (1) a person who learns about, minimizes, mitigates, and adapts to climate change; (2) a person who seeks moral ground for living with climate change, both individually and collectively. Climateers gathered at our church this winter for the second consecutive year to support one another in responding to climate change. Two groups met weekly, one exploring the moral challenge of climate change, one focusing on the sixth extinction of species. Members of these groups share brief reports from their personal paths, with revelations and resolutions

* **Music: Ed Kinder, Keyboard**

* **10:00 a.m. In-Service Childcare provided**

* **11:00 a.m. Food and Fellowship**

We invite you to stay after the service for brunch and fellowship.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

Nursery: Loving care for infants and toddlers is available during the 10:30 a.m. service.

RE Classes: A religious education program is available for children & youth during the 10:30 a.m. service.

Pancake Brunch -- This **Sunday, April 24th**, is the RE Pancake Brunch. All RE families are asked to help make this annual event a success. We will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. to organize and prepare. Money raised at the event will be donated to ShelterBox.

OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS

Share the Plate with ShelterBox

ShelterBox delivers emergency shelter and other lifesaving supplies around the world to help families begin to rebuild their lives after losing homes and possessions following a natural disaster or humanitarian crisis.

Floods, earthquakes, volcanoes and conflict are inevitable, putting people in sudden, life changing and life threatening circumstances. A shelter box contains critical supplies and shelter that people need to begin recovery.

Recently ShelterBox has helped survivors in Malawi (flooding), Cameroon (refugees), Nepal (earthquake) and Chile (volcano, earthquake). It is now assessing Ecuador.

Each \$1,000 raised today will fund a numbered box, which we can track to see where it is delivered. Remaining funds will be used for emergency supplies - from heating equipment to mosquito netting. Thank you for your gifts today.

CARING

* **A Tribute from Roy Ingham to celebrate the gift of the joy and exuberance for life given to this community by Betty and Mitch Zavon.**

* **A Tribute from JoAnn Kelly to celebrate Kathy Cook**, who has brightened her life many times with her creative artistry with glass and who recently used her skill to resurrect a loved but damaged piece.

* **A Tribute from Nancy Richardson to celebrate the memory of Theron "Mac" McClure**, who initiated the first UU recorder group for Will Foss, and to whom Nancy is grateful for her ability to now play four different instruments.

* **Gratitude and thanks to Louise Diana** for her willingness to give from her heart and share her knowledge and talents with her students: Dorothy Okray, Marie Krautner, and DeeAnna Dowdle.

* **Church member, Nancy Janus**, is doing another fundraiser in hopes that she can return to Panama this summer for a second set of stem cell injections. The first treatment gave her more strength and balance. This second trip could give her the opportunity to improve even more. Help Nancy by going to the fundraiser website: www.youcaring.com/NJanus.

* **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 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. News of our congregation can also be found at Caring in the Members Corner.

* **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

* **The UUCS Endowment Board has elected its officers for 2016-2017.** They are: President, Richard Happy; Vice President, Judy Smith; Secretary, Ed Hoerr; and Treasurer Mary Maldonado.

* **Bishop Spong, Dr. Ray revisited:** If you missed the special seminars by our distinguished guests in February, recordings and video links are now available on our home page and at <http://www.uucsarasota.com/bishopspng-revdrray.html>.

* **Did you miss a Sunday sermon or want to hear it again?** Go to our website, www.uucsarasota.org, click on Sunday Morning, and click on Sermon Archive. Some Readings are also available.

* **Have you read our Annual Report?** Look under church documents in the Members Corner on our website. Interesting information is available about the history of our church. Reports of committees for 2015 are also listed. Get to know your church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* **The UU Vegetarian Lunch Group will meet at Taste of Asia**, 4413 S. Tamiami Trail, on Friday, **May 6**, at 1:00 p.m. Non-vegetarians are welcome. However, we ask that everyone have a "vegetarian" lunch. For further information, or to make reservations, please contact Jean Wieloch at jeanw972@yahoo.com or via phone: 929-3845.

* **MARK THIS DATE for the next FreeThinkers Presentation**

Friday, May 13, 10 a.m. Subject: *The Soul Traveler*, A Field of Poetry, Kevin Mooney

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 or stop by the Social Justice table on Sunday.

* **New! Local Farms Buyers Guide** is on the home page of the church website. Thank you Dave Lyons, member of our Climate Justice Sustainability Task Force.

* **Despite stories in the media, Bethesda House** still welcomes and needs food donations for its pantry. Most appreciated are single serving cans (pork-and-beans, ravioli), travel size toiletries, paper products (toilet paper and towels). If its pantry operation changes, we'll let you know.

* **New Members and Friends, Have You** Signed the state petition to expand solar energy? Available at the social justice table. Any Florida voter may sign the petition.

* **Looking for a volunteer opportunity?** Pick up a flyer at the SJ table.

Also at our courtyard table today: Organic Fair Trade coffees, teas, cocoa, olive oil; collection box for school points labels from food boxes; collection jug for non-recyclable plastic caps to benefit a local school. For Fair Trade special orders, contact Suzie Brucklacher at justice@uusarasota.org, subject line Fair Trade Special Order.

SUNDAY EVENTS, MAY 1

UUCS Sarasota, 3975 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota

* **10:30 a.m. "Spirituality and the Beatles," by Elaine Silver**

"Rev. Faerie" Elaine Silver is a seasoned and consummate musician. She is an accomplished singer, songwriter, touring and recording artist with 19 CDs to date and counting.

She is well-known in her original home state as "The Folk Music Queen of New Jersey," and since moving to Florida in 2000, she has developed her passion of metaphysics into a Musical Ministry. She often fills in for ministers on Sunday mornings at Unity Churches, Centers for Spiritual Living, Unitarian Centers and other progressive churches as she teaches and shares Truth Principles Through Song.

Elaine Silver utilizes love, humor and a sprinkling of magic to convey musical messages that brings the listeners to an exalted and receptive place of the heart and mind. She has extensive training in the Science of Mind principles and has completed all course work for Practitioner

from Centers for Spiritual Living. She is also an ordained Priestess in the Temple of Isis in Geyserville, California, a Certified Passion Test Facilitator and an award-winning performer (Garden State Music Award for Outstanding Folk Performer).

Most recently, and due to a life-long passion, Elaine has become a Certified Beatleologist and will be sharing spiritual interpretations of Beatles music.

This sermon will be presented via video at a later date at Lakewood Ranch.

*** 9:30 am Forum: "Begin the Conversation"**

What is the best way to assist people in figuring out what they want at the end of life, and letting family and physicians know their wishes before those decisions are faced? Presenter, Suzanne Barksdale, Community Relations Representative, Tidewell Hospice; Moderator, Fredric Sirasky.

Lakewood Ranch, The River Club, 6600 River Club Blvd, Bradenton 34202

*** 10:00 a.m. "You want justice, don't you? There isn't any. There is only love."
video sermon by Roger Fritts**

The title of this sermon is taken from the play J.B. by the poet Archibald MacLeish. The sermon will be about the Biblical story of Job. Roger will be drawing ideas from the book *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* by Harold Kushner.

*** Music: Ed Kinder, Keyboard**

*** 10:00 a.m. In-Service Childcare provided**

*** 11:00 a.m. Food and Fellowship**

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