



May 22, 2016

# **WEEKLY CONTACT**

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota (UUCS)

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## **MINISTER'S MESSAGE - REV. ROGER FRITTS**

Besides the special music at Ms. Culbert's ordination at 4:00 P.M. Sunday, I am also looking forward to hearing the Reverend Jason Cook, who will be giving the homily. The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Fullerton, California, a suburb of Los Angeles, has called Rev. Cook to serve as their minister. Rev William F. Schulz, former Executive Director of Amnesty International USA, says, "I rarely find a new minister whom I can endorse without qualification. Jason Cook is, very simply, exceptional. Exceptional."

We will have a completely voluntary communion as part of the ordination service. I grew up with negative associations about communion that only changed when I was twenty-one years old. I will tell that story in my sermon Sunday morning, entitled "Eating Tortilla Chips with Cesar Chavez and Coretta Scott King," or "Roger's First Communion."

## **SATURDAY EVENT, MAY 21**

\* **WOMEN'S GROUP:** All UU women are welcome to attend our meetings the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the West Wing. **May 21:** continuing discussion about women in transition and housing opportunities. **June 18:** "Read any good books lately?" Bring your list of good reads and/or books you'd like to pass on to others. Come for good conversation - bring your own beverages and maybe a goodie to share. Contact Mary Fran Raynault, Tel. 201 519-3026.

## **SUNDAY EVENTS, MAY 22**

### **UUCS Sarasota, 3975 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota**

#### **\* 10:30 a.m. "Eating Tortilla Chips with Cesar Chavez and Coretta Scott King"**

The morning before we ordain Katie Culbert into the Unitarian Universalist Ministry, the sermon will be a reflection on communion. Chavez and King were together during Chavez's "Fast of Love" in Arizona in 1972. The film "Si Se Puede!" is a documentary about the fast and the phrase that grew out of it. Years later, "Si Se Puede" would become "Yes We Can," which inspired Barack Obama's presidential campaign.

#### **\* 10:30 a.m. Music: Betsy Hudson Traba, flute; Don Bryn, piano**

Betsy Hudson Traba has served as Principal Flutist of the Sarasota Orchestra and Sarasota Wind Quintet since 1993. She is the former Principal Flutist of the Hofer Symphoniker in Hof, Germany. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, she studied with William Hebert and Jeffrey Khaner while earning a Bachelor of Music degree from Baldwin-Wallace College, followed by a Master of Music degree earned at the Manhattan School of Music as a student of Julius Baker. During the summer, she performs at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz, California.

**\* 9:30 am Forum: "Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women" (CEDAW)**  
CEDAW is a United Nations treaty that most nations have signed, but not Iran, Somalia, and ... the United States! There are now local initiatives to push forward the ideas of the treaty, including in Sarasota. Recently our own UU Social Justice Committee approved endorsing CEDAW. Presenter, Elizabeth Scott Osborne, Moderator, Marie Keeney.

Elizabeth Scott Osborne is a lawyer, teacher, and international development professional. She has lived in seven countries and raised two daughters. She works to advocate for women's and children's rights wherever possible, and she is a proud returned Peace Corps Volunteer. She is on the board of the Gulf Coast Chapter of UN Women-USNC, the group promoting CEDAW locally.

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

**\* 10:00 a.m. "Awesome," sermon by Rev. Sara Zimmerman**

We are looking at 21st Century science validating 18th Century transcendentalists' view of nature. Rev. Dr. Sara E. Zimmerman retired in the fall of 2013 as the settled minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa. She has had many years' experience as a lecturer in comparative literature.

**\* Music: Mindy Simmons, guitar, vocals and 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)**

**\* South Lido Beach Picnic, Sunday, May 22nd.** We're skipping church to celebrate the end of our program year with a picnic! Join us as we take time to relax and play in the sun. We'll meet in South Lido Beach Park by the picnic tables at 10:30 am. There is a playground, beach and grills. Hamburgers, hotdogs and veggie burgers will be provided. Bring a dish to share, drinks, beach chairs and beach toys. Charlotte & Sophia will be joining us to help with the younger children. Please note: Childcare will be available at the church for anyone unable to attend the picnic.

**\* Sunday, May 29th (Memorial Day Weekend) - No RE Classes.** Childcare will be available for children 10 and under.

\* **RE Summer Program starts on June 5th.** Join us for fun this summer as we explore myths, legends and fables. There will be lots of fun activities including art projects, science experiments, gardening & cooking lessons. Anyone want to make an erupting volcano?

## **OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS**

### \* **Share the Plate with CIW**

Today our offering will support the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a worker-based human rights organization. It is internationally recognized for achievements in the fields of social responsibility, human trafficking, and gender-based violence at work.

It began when farm workers organized in 1993. In 2011, it launched the Fair Food Program (FFP), a groundbreaking model for worker-driven social responsibility. FFP started as a partnership between farm workers, Florida tomato growers, and participating retail buyers, including Subway, Whole Foods, and Wal-Mart. It is expanding into other states and other food crops.

While other companies have joined FFP, Wendy's has not. In fact, Wendy's recently moved its tomato purchasing to farms in Mexico - including farms that were involved in slavery in 2013.

The UUA and our church are longstanding supporters of CIW. Your gifts today will support CIW and help keep pressure on Wendy's and other food companies to take responsibility for their food supply chains.

\* **On Sunday, May 22 at 4 p.m., this church will be ordaining Katie Culbert**, who served us as a student minister for two years. The ordination ceremony is a ritual that confers on an individual the right and power to be a minister. Ordination is a celebration not just of one person's abilities, but of the power, sovereignty and tradition of the congregation as well. There will be excellent guest speakers, great music and good food.

\* **New Time for Zen session this Sunday.** This Sunday, **May 22**, the Sunday night Zen group will meet at 7:30 pm, instead of its usual time, in the Sanctuary, instead of the Jefferson Room. For more information email [zen@uusarasota.org](mailto:zen@uusarasota.org).

## **CARING**

\* **The Friendship Center is beginning a new course for Caregivers called Mindfulness.** Learn how to take care of yourself. The course begins in Sarasota on **June 6**. Sign up by calling 556-3268.

\* **Kathy Laenhue, church friend, facilitates a website that provides brain games to enhance your memory.** Visit the website at [www.wisernow.com](http://www.wisernow.com).

\* **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). 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

### \* UU GARDEN DIET

**Our bromeliad collection needs to go on a diet.** Every bromeliad we plant gives us at least two pups (baby bromeliads) so we can now share our bounty with you. If you would like some bromeliads for your garden, come to the UU Church Tuesday morning, **May 24**, 9:30 to 11:00. We'll share our extra bromeliad pups with you. *UU Garden Crew*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

\* **Cinema Conversations** - Our next meeting will take place on **Wednesday, June 1** at 7 P.M. in the Lexow Wing. The movie of the evening will be "Money Monster" starring George Clooney and Julia Roberts. View the film on your own and join us for a "captivating" discussion.

\* **The UU Vegetarian Lunch Group will meet at Two Senioritas**, 1355 Main Street, on **Friday, June 3**, at 1:00 pm. 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](mailto:jeanw972@yahoo.com) or via phone: 929-3845.

## 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 each month (except July), join the mailing list at [justice@uusarasota.org](mailto:justice@uusarasota.org) or stop by the Social Justice table on Sunday.**

\* **Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW)** declared a national day of prayer on Monday, May 23rd for farm workers and to ask Wendy's to support fair food. Wendy's has refused to join the penny-a-pound campaign to improve worker wages and working conditions. Our share-the-plate offering on May 22 will support CIW.

\* **Ban Fracking in Florida** Our state representatives approved hydraulic fracturing in February 2016. Sign the petition on the social justice table to build public awareness and keep pressure on Tallahassee.

\* **Produce Shopping Guide at SJ Table.** Do you know which produce is important to buy organic and which is safe enough when grown conventionally? The Environmental Working Group ([www.ewg.org](http://www.ewg.org)) tests for residual chemicals on the food we eat. It has released the 2016 Dirty Dozen and Clean 15. Pick up your 2-sided wallet card at the social justice table. Carry it when you shop. Take an extra for a friend.

\* **Looking for volunteer opportunities?** Several local nonprofits are looking for readers, drivers, food pantry helpers and more . . . flyers on the SJ table. All Faiths Food Bank needs mobile pantry volunteers and summer backpackers: information at [www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/volunteer](http://www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/volunteer).

\* **Coming Soon: UU Voter Education** on solar energy ballot initiatives. "Yes in August" and "NO in November." Watch for more.

**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](mailto:justice@uusarasota.org), subject line: Fair Trade Special Order.

## **SUNDAY EVENTS, MAY 29**

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

\* **10:30 a.m. "Faith and Feminism," Pastor Katie Culbert**

The Prophetic Sisterhood, liberal women ministers of the late 18th and early 19th century, paved the way for professional female leadership in the church while contributing greatly to the re-shaping of Unitarian theology & practice. They overcame a system of oppression designed to keep them "in their place" as minister's wives, deaconesses, lay leaders, and missionaries but not paid ordained ministers.

On the cusp of my May 22nd ordination in Sarasota, I wonder what the current state of ordained women in the church is, both liberal and conservative. As we approach the election of a new Unitarian Universalist Association President, what is the significance of both candidates being female? Do we, women and girls, really, as Beyonce says, "run the world"?

\* **10:30 a.m. Music: Choir; Don Bryn, piano**

\* **9:30 am Forum: "On-Line Sports Gambling: Complicity of Leagues, Teams and ESPN,"**  
Presenter, Dale Anderson.

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

***May 29 is the last UUs of LWR Service until Sept. 11, 2016***

**\* 10:00 a.m. "Love, A German American Perspective," video sermon by Rev. Roger Fritts**

Roger will describe perspectives on love by a Jewish German American, a Unitarian German American and a Swiss American from German-speaking Zurich. He will contrast these perspectives with the Italian perspective on love, represented by Leo Buscaglia also known as "Dr. Love."

Roger states, "I am assuming a high degree of maturity among you. Generalizations about ethnic background are dangerous because they encourage us to put people in boxes and not see in each person their uniqueness, their individuality. I trust that you will hear my generalizations about ethnic background without becoming trapped by them. I have faith that you will take what I say as one tool that can be useful in understanding yourself and others, but not as stereotypes cast in stone to be applied in every situation."

**\* Music: Tony Horowitz and Claudia Holmes, Recorders; Dick Konicek-Moran, 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.