



June 5, 2016

# **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)

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

In understanding group behavior, I have found the Pareto principle useful. In 1896, Vilfredo Pareto showed that in Italy approximately 20% of the population owned 80% of the land. He observed that 20% of the peapods in his garden contained 80% of the peas. This became a common rule of thumb in business - 80% of sales come from 20% of clients. Microsoft noted that by fixing the top 20% of the most-reported bugs, they would eliminate 80% of the related errors and crashes in a given system. In health care in the United States, 20% of patients use 80% of health care resources. Studies have found 20% of criminals commit 80% of crimes. There are many other examples.

When some of you asked me about the communion at Katie's ordination, without doing any research, I made a guess. I said twenty percent of the congregation hated it. Twenty percent of the congregation liked it. Sixty percent did not care one way or another.

I love our diversity. However, my strong preferences about worship can challenge my ability to be accepting of others. Here is how I practice tolerance. If part of a worship service is not what I would have chosen, I say to myself, "This may be exactly what speaks to someone else." Then I take a deep breath, I relax and I give thanks that I am part of this community.

## **SUNDAY EVENTS, JUNE 5**

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

#### **\* 10:30 a.m. "The Summer Vacation as a Religious Experience," sermon by Rev. Roger Fritts**

Those of us who are familiar with Max Weber's 1905 book "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism" know that the roots of our religion emphasize hard work. Vacations were not encouraged. However, with the invention of church summer camps, American Protestants, including Unitarians and Universalists, found a way around the protestant work ethic.

#### **\* 10:30 a.m. Music: Daniel Solowey, clarinet; Don Bryn, piano**

Daniel is a 15-year-old freshman at Pine View and has been playing the clarinet for 5 years. He enjoys listening to and playing classical music and gets special enjoyment from sharing what he has to say through his music. His special skills were recently featured in an article in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*.

\* **9:30 a.m. Forum: "Selah Freedom: Bringing Light into the Darkness of Sex Trafficking."** An update on the progress being made to eliminate sex trafficking, especially in Sarasota County. Selah Freedom provides four key programs: Awareness, Prevention, Outreach and Residential. Presenter, Vanessa Morris, Director of Awareness, Selah Freedom; Moderator, Louise Stinespring

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

There will be no service of the UUs of LWR until Sept. 11, 2016.

**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.

\* **RE Summer Program starts on June 5th.** Join us for fun this summer as we explore myths, legends and tales. There will be lots of fun activities including art projects, science experiments, gardening & cooking lessons. Sunday June 5th is "Mad Science Sunday." Anyone want to make oobleck? Check the RE calendar on the church's website for more information on our summer schedule.

\* **Game Night is Saturday, June 18th, at 5 p.m.** Join us as we play our favorite board games and learn some new ones. All ages are invited. Bring your favorite game! Potluck dinner will be served. Please bring a dish to share.

**OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS**

\* **New art exhibit** in the Lexow Wing today, June 5th! "**URBAN DWELLERS**" by Palmetto artist, Elayn Leopold, is an exhibit of paintings of people among Florida's homeless population. "The men and women in these paintings are courageous individuals caught in hard times," says Elayn. Her subjects are portrayed with compassion and the resulting body of work speaks to us all. The Arts Council invites you to spend a few minutes in the Lexow Wing Gallery with these portraits, and then mark your calendar for the **artist's reception on Sunday, June 19th at 11:30 a.m., immediately following the Sunday service.**

**CARING**

\* **A memorial service for Phillip Roseberry** will be held in the Sanctuary on **Thursday, June 9** at 2 p.m. Phillip is survived by his children and his partner, Jennifer Meinert.

\* **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.

\* **Would you like to volunteer for the Caring committee?** Please go to Members Corner and the Caring site in the left-hand column to fill out a form. Thank you - Dee Widder

\* **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

\* **Are you a new member?** Would you like to get to know more people in our church? We are looking for (a) people to serve cookies and punch on Sunday mornings, perhaps once a month and (b) a person to take over the job of scheduling said volunteers. **This is a great way to get to know lots of people and make new friends!** Contact: June Brasgalla: [juneb22@comcast.net](mailto:juneb22@comcast.net).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

\* **Summer Comedies. Friday, June 10, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** *Short Time* is about a policeman who thinks he is going to die and tries to get killed on the job for the insurance money. Nothing goes right! In the process he realizes what is really important in his life.

\* **Next week, June 12, is Second Sunday Potluck.** Please bring food to serve 8 people: salads, sandwiches, desserts. Vegetarian and vegan dishes are encouraged. All are welcome.

\* **UU WOMEN'S GROUP:** The next meeting is Saturday, **June 18**, at 10 am in the West Wing. Bring along books you've enjoyed and now would like to give away and/or a list of good books you think others would want to read. Bring your coffee, tea, or water and join in the discussion! Contact Mary Fran Raynault with questions, [maryfran.raynault@gmail.com](mailto:maryfran.raynault@gmail.com).

\* **GAME NIGHT - Saturday, June 18th**

**West Wing**

**5:00-8:00 p.m.**

Roll the dice, deal the cards, play the game! Everyone is invited to join us for an evening of fun games and fellowship. Have a favorite game, bring it along. Potluck dinner will be served. Please bring a dish to share.

### \* **Get Together Dinners**

Now is the time to sign up for our Summer Get Together Dinners. The dates are July 23, August 27, and September 24. It is a great way to get to know new friends at the church and/or reacquaint with old friends. The dinners, usually 6 to 12 people, are held in people's homes. The host provides the main dish and guests bring the sides, hors d'oeuvres, and dessert. Registration forms are available at the Get Together Dinner table in the courtyard or save paper and register online [www.uusarasota.org](http://www.uusarasota.org). Deadline for registering is **June 26**.

Carole Malone, John Brackett, Alice Carden, and Jeanie Craig

Get Together Dinners Committee

### \* **Theatre Games/Beginning Improvisations**

Let out your "inner child"! That part of you is eager to run out and play once again. Laughter and Creativity are good medicines. You'll receive many doses of them in the theatre games/beginning improvisation classes held on **four Wednesdays in July** from 1:00 - 3:00. The classes will meet in the West Wing of the Church.

Sue Cohen trained for a year at Player's Workshop in Chicago and has a certificate in Beginning Improvisation. She has taught this non-threatening course to "children of all ages."

The fee is \$20 per person for the four sessions. Five dollars of this fee is for the use of the Church facilities. A minimum of 8 people is necessary for the course activities to work well.

Call Sue at 952-3466 to sign up and/or get more information.

### **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.**

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

\* **Our Black Lives Matter Banner** was inaugurated last Sunday with a group photo. See it on the church website. Members and friends were joined by Valerie Buchand, President of Newtown Nation. As the city code limits ground banners to a two-week display period, the banner will be displayed for appropriate holidays, anniversaries and events.

\* **Bethesda House Pantry -- Every Sunday** we collect single serving cans (pork-and-beans, ravioli), travel size toiletries and paper products (TP and towels). Look for the donation bin outside the sanctuary.

\* **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 recently 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.

\* **Voter Information on Solar Energy Amendments:** "Yes in August" and "No in November." Details and wallet cards at the social justice table.

\* **Next Social Justice Meeting Tuesday, June 14** at noon in the Lexow Wing. New members and friends welcome.

**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, JUNE 12**

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

#### \* **10:30 a.m. "A Reflection on a Walk"**

One day this spring I left Sarasota and drove east to Myakka River State Park. I pulled my car off the road and went for a walk in the wilderness, for a few hours leaving behind civilization.

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

#### \* **9:30 a.m. Forum: "Democracy Awakening 2016"**

Thousands gathered in April in Washington DC to demand passage of legislation to: (i) restore voting discrimination protections struck down by the Supreme Court's Holder decision, (ii) modernize voter registration and prevent deceptive practices that keep people from the ballot box, (iii) overturn Citizens United and allow elected representatives to set commonsense limits on money in elections, and (iv) encourage and amplify small contributions from everyday Americans. Presenter, Rhana Bazzini; Moderator, DeeAnna Dowdle.

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