



July 3, 2016

WEEKLY CONTACT

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota (UUCS)

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SUNDAY EVENTS, JULY 3

*** 10:30 a.m. "Listening with the Ear of the Heart," Sermon by Ed Loomis**

Listening is necessary for understanding what is being said. It takes into account how something is said, to whom it is said, by whom it is said and the nonverbal signs and body language that accompanies it. This requires practice as truly listening is very difficult. We live in a time when communication is increasingly one-sided and often with an electronic device. How might we employ an ancient religious practice to enhance our ability to listen?

Ed Loomis tells us, "I spent the first 53 years of my life in Michigan and for 30 of those years I was employed by the State of Michigan. Upon retirement I moved to Chicago to attend Meadville Lombard Theological School where I received my M. Div. degree in 2003. I opted not to become a parish minister upon graduation. Instead I remained in Chicago and became deeply involved in the First Unitarian Society of Chicago. Twelve years later I decided to move to Florida in search of a warmer climate. I arrived here last October and now reside in Sarasota with 2 cats. I was raised as a Quaker, then Episcopalian and now have been a UU for about 25 years. During those years I have filled many roles from custodian to congregation president. I enjoy reading, eating, walking, historical architecture and listening to music."

*** 10:30 a.m. Music: Bonnie Caplan, harp; Don Bryn, piano**

A native "Cornhusker," harpist Bonnie Caplan received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and did advanced studies at the University of Maryland as well as Baltimore's Peabody Conservatory. Bonnie has held positions with orchestras in Nebraska, Maryland, and the Washington D.C./Baltimore area, as well as Florida. Besides being well known for her recitals along Florida's West Coast, she has also been a member of the Florida West Coast Symphony, Sarasota Opera Orchestra, and the Sarasota Pops, as well as featured guest solo artist with the Sarasota Pops Orchestra, Sarasota Concert Band, Suncoast Chorale, and Bay Chorale. Bonnie was the resident harpist at the Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota at Afternoon Tea for 11 years.

*** 9:30 a.m. Forum: "What Are the Problems of Over-Development in Sarasota County and What Can Be Done About It?"**

An update of development trends in our county. Presenter, Dan Lobeck of Control Growth Now; Moderator, Dale Anderson.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

- * **Nursery:** Loving care for infants and toddlers is available during the 10:30 a.m. Service.
- * **RE Summer Program** is available for children during the 10:30 a.m. Service.
- * **Sunday, July 3rd (July 4th Weekend) - No RE Classes.** Childcare will be available for children 10 and under.
- * **Save the Date: Movie Night is scheduled for July 16th** at 5 p.m. in the West Wing. Join us as we watch a movie on our new big screen!
- * **Our RE classes were treated to a pizza & ice cream party** on June 26th to celebrate all the kind deeds that the 2nd - 5th graders accomplished over the 2015-16 RE program year. Kudos to the children & thank you to RE teachers, Char Hovatter & Catherine Bonner, for providing the party!
- * **Thanks also to Diane Happy** for providing the muslin squares to make our prayer flags. Take time to check out the flags flying in the courtyard and in the teen room.

CARING

- * **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

- * **Do you knit? Join the Wednesday morning Artisans** and knit simple wrist warmers for the Troops or head caps for an oncology unit. We have dozens of knitting needles and lots of yarn. We meet, chat and drink coffee from 9:30 to noon in the Jefferson Room each Wednesday.
- * **Need a member/friend's home or email address? Access our Directory** at the Members Corner. You can print a PDF version or look online for individuals. The Directory is updated regularly.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* **Cinema Conversations** - Join us for our next meeting on **Wednesday, July 6th** at 7 p.m. in the Lexow Wing. The movie we will be discussing is *Free State of Jones* starring Matthew McConaughey. This historical film, based on a true story, brings us an interesting and little-known facet of the Civil War. See the movie on your own and come join us.

* **Last week's meeting of military veterans was a success** and the six attending agreed to meet once a month. The veterans enjoyed hearing each other's stories and discussed how their views of the military changed over time. The next meeting will be at Denny's on the north side of Bee Ridge on **Thursday, July 7, from 9 to 10:30 a.m.** as Monday is the holiday; the subsequent meeting will be on Monday, July 11. The first book club meeting is scheduled for Wednesday or Thursday, July 13 or 14, also at 9 a.m. Contact Barry Dyer, barry.dyer13@gmail.com, or 813 508-5671, or see him after the Forum on Sundays.

* **5 Star Movie - Summer Edition**

The highly rated movie *Get Low* will be shown in the Sanctuary on **Friday, July 8** at 7 pm. It is about an eccentric man (Robert Duvall) who arranges his own funeral while he is still around to enjoy it. But it soon becomes clear there's more to the story. . .

* **Summer Picnic (Second Sunday) Potluck - Sunday, July 10** after the Service. Please bring food to serve 8 people: salads, sandwiches, desserts or other foods that do not need to be heated. All are welcome.

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 or stop by the Social Justice table on Sunday.

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

* **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 and sign up online at www.allfaithsfoodbank.org/volunteer.

* **Our Church Is In the Top 5% Nationally** among 8,000 faith-based organizations for purchases of Equal Exchange Fair Trade items! Thank you, Suzie Brucklacher, for leading this economic justice project. Looking for chocolate or other Fair Trade items in quantity? Get a special order form at the social justice table on Sunday or from the church website home page.

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

* **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) 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.

Also at our courtyard table today: Organic Fair Trade coffees, teas, 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, JULY 10

* **10:30 a.m. Shared Sermons by Bill Payton and Cornelius Hassell**

* **10:30 a.m. Music: Fernando Traba, bassoon; Don Bryn, piano**

* **9:30 a.m. Forum: "What are the Problems Facing Families Who Have Lost a Loved One?"**

How can a family best choose how to handle the remains of a departed loved one, and what are the various alternatives available to them? Presenter, Scott Kinne of Your Traditions Funeral Home; Moderator, Louise Stinespring.