



August 14, 2016

WEEKLY CONTACT

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota (UUCS)

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FRIDAY EVENT, AUGUST 12

*** Summer 5-Star Movies**

Friday, August 12, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

We will be showing a delightful comedy, "Only the Lonely," starring John Candy and Maureen O'Hara. It is about a middle-aged policeman who lives with his mom, who tries to run his life. Problems ensue when he falls in love with a shy girl. Come join us!

SUNDAY EVENTS, AUGUST 14

*** 10:30 a.m. "A Personal Theory of Change," sermon by Rev. Brock Leach**

As the world gets more interconnected and all the complexity of modern living becomes inescapable, it's hard to know where to focus our lives. How do we find integrity amidst all the problems and opportunities competing for our attention? How do we know that our lives matter? Organizations that tackle big, complicated problems develop a "theory of change" that they can prove works on a small scale. They experiment with different approaches until they learn which make a difference and then they apply them consistently to help address the larger problem. What's the theory of change that guides your life?

Rev. Brock Leach is a Unitarian Universalist minister, social entrepreneur, and affiliated community minister of the UU Church of Sarasota.

He currently serves as an executive consultant to the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) for its Multifaith Futures initiative and is helping develop and lead its Entrepreneurial Ministry program. Prior to that he was vice-president of mission, strategy and innovation for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), the denomination's international human rights agency. At UUSC he helped create and launch the UU College of Social Justice and Commit2Respond, a UU-wide campaign for Climate Justice. Brock has served on the board of the YMCA of the USA, is past chair of the board of Habitat for Humanity Sarasota; and is currently Chair Emeritus of the board of Children First, Sarasota County's Head Start agency. Internationally, he serves on the boards of UUSC and Mavuno Congo and is a mentor for the Global Good Fund's fellowship program for social entrepreneurs. Prior to seminary, Brock had a 24-year career as an executive for PepsiCo. He received his BA in economics from the University of Colorado Boulder, his MBA in finance and marketing from the University of Chicago, and his Master of Divinity degree from Meadville Lombard Theological School.

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

Elise Amaral, David Munoz and Anthony Aleman of ZunZuneo create a sonic landscape of sound, emanating from ancient instruments to weave a tapestry of deep resonance for the soul.

Native-American flutes, Djimbe, Ocarina, Didgeridoo, Cajon, Congas and the Sansula meet Flamenco, Afro-Cuban and Brazilian, chill-lounge rhythms.

*** 9:30 a.m. Forum: "Violence Against Women: a SPARCC Report" Presenter: Camille Chapman, SPARCC; Moderator: Verna Safran**

Intimate Partner Violence affects more than one in four women nationally and one in three globally. It is considered a health crisis with immediate and long term effects. Three women are killed daily by their partners. Camille Chapman's talk will give an overview of the dynamics of Intimate Partner Violence, dispel some myths, as well as give an overview of the services provided by the Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC) and what the community can do to assist its survivors.

The mission of Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center, Inc. (SPARCC) is "to stop domestic and sexual violence in our communities."

SPARCC was formed as a non-profit agency in 1979. It is the only state-certified center for domestic violence and sexual assault services for Sarasota and DeSoto Counties. All of SPARCC's services are free and confidential. In addition to serving survivors, SPARCC is actively engaged in promoting social change through community awareness and education, in an effort to prevent future violence.

Camille Chapman, M.S. Ed, began her career in Norfolk, Virginia, after receiving her Master's from Old Dominion University in School and Agency Counseling with certificate in Women's Studies. She has worked as a crisis counselor, mental health counselor and school counselor. She moved to Sarasota to be near family five years ago and worked with homeless families before coming to SPARCC two and a half years ago. As part of being an educator at SPARCC, Camille teaches violence prevention education at schools across Sarasota County and provides continuing education for health professionals.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

*** Toiletry Collection for Families in Need**

The Religious Education Program is collecting toiletries for Harvest House Family Haven. The haven provides emergency housing and case management to families in a housing crisis. They work to get families off the streets, out of their cars and into a safe and stable environment. We can help by providing toiletries that the families need.

Please donate items such as toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, body wash, soap and body lotion. A collection box will be placed outside the Sanctuary and the West Wing for the items. We will be collecting through August. Thank you for your help.

*** 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.

* **Summer RE Program - Myths, Legends & Tales**

* **Sunday, August 14 - Art Project Sunday**

Our Summer program wraps up with a folktale from Mexico, "The Lizard & the Sun." Following the story, we will create clay sun ornaments to hang.

* **Open House**

The RE Committee is hosting a Religious Education **Open House on Sunday, August 21st** from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Join us on the east lawn for games, refreshments and a giant water slide. Everyone is invited - friends, grandchildren and neighbors.

* **Religious Education Committee**

The RE Committee is meeting on **August 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Lexow Wing**. Join us to discuss the 2016-2017 RE program and our RE Open House on August 21st. Everyone is welcome to attend.

NEW MEMBERS

* **Please welcome our new members who joined the church in July and August:**

Francesca Becker

Maxine Bellas

Doris Bowers

Douglas Bracy

Eddie Kaplan

Barbara and Dwight Logan

Victoria Pagonis

Bob Verdon

OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS

* **Summer Picnic (Second Sunday) Potluck Sunday, August 14, after the Service.** Please bring food to serve 8 people: salads, sandwiches, desserts or other foods that do not need to be heated. Vegetarian and vegan dishes are encouraged. All are welcome.

CARING

* **Read the Adult Program bulletin board for information on shared living.**

* **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*.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* **The UUCS Board of Trustees will be holding its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lexow Wing.** This meeting is open to our church community, and the agenda may be found on our website.

* **The Women's Group will meet on Saturday, August 20, at 10 a.m. in the Lexow Wing.** Join us for a discussion of topics of interest for future meetings. We've discussed books, living arrangements, and politics. Drop in and join us. Contact Rhoda Taylor, rhodataylor36@gmail.com.

* **Unitarian Universalists of Lakewood Ranch**

After taking the summer off, UUs of Lakewood Ranch begin their new season at the River Club on Sunday, September 11, at 10 a.m. (6600 River Club Blvd, Lakewood Ranch 34202). We're inviting all members and friends of our Sarasota campus to visit us at least once during the next few months.

By visiting you'll experience the warm welcome of our new outreach ministry and be in a good position to confidently refer friends who live near us.

* **Remember the Flea!**

Moving or downsizing this summer? Don't forget about our big UU Flea Market fund raiser in the fall. We can use all of your donated housewares, sporting gear, toys, hardware, very small furnishings and anything else that is clean, unbroken and usable. Dee Widder has once again kindly offered the use of the large storage sheds in her backyard to keep donated things safe and dry. Give her a call (377-9028) for directions and thanks for thinking about the Big Flea! Your donations really do make it the successful fund raiser that it is!

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, join the mailing list at justice@uusarasota.org or stop by the Social Justice table on Sunday.

* **Sarasota City Park Petition.** Fruitville Road Park on the NE corner of Beneva and Fruitville Roads is a non-descript park that was recently targeted for commercial development. A group of five neighborhood women were able to stop it. Now they want the city to give the park a proper name and signage to recognize this green space and

to discourage future attempts at development. Sign the petition to support the effort, but only if you are a Sarasota city resident.

* **Support Solar, Vote YES on 4.** Vote YES for Amendment 4 on the August 30 primary ballot to stop property tax increases on businesses that install solar panels. Help small business invest in solar and create solar energy jobs statewide. All registered voters -- including third party and no party affiliation -- may vote for this nonpartisan issue. More information and wallet cards at the social justice table.

* **Backpack Volunteer Signup.** Backpack is our congregation's largest project to address child hunger. This school year, volunteers from our church will meet at All Faiths Food Bank on the second Thursday of the month from 9-11 a.m. We will need 24 volunteers at a time, but only once a month. The Food Bank will coordinate volunteer groups so that needy students will continue to receive a food bag every weekend. See Sara or Don at the Backpack table on Sunday or email dsslate@comcast.net.

* **Restore Voting Rights to Floridians.** Florida is now one of only two states that do not restore voting rights to most felons after they have completed all terms of their sentence, parole, and probation. In Florida, former felons must wait five years, then petition the clemency board to restore their right to vote -- 11,000 are waiting for a response. Most would be eligible to vote in 48 other states. This petition to amend the Florida constitution and automatically restore voting rights is again on the Social Justice table. Registered Florida voters only.

* **Petition to Ban Fracking in Florida.** Yes, this is a Florida issue. Sign the petition at the social justice table. In a related matter, last week the state Environmental Regulation Commission (with 2 unfilled seats) recommended increasing the amounts of carcinogens allowed in Florida's drinking water, according to an article in the July 31st Bradenton Times.

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

* **Produce Shopping Guide at SJ Table.** The Environmental Working Group (www.ewg.org) tests for residual chemicals on the food we eat and 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, 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, AUGUST 21

* **10:30 a.m. Pine View Jazz Quartet**

Jazz is sometimes spiritual. In addition to improvisational jazz depending on inspiration, whose root word is spirit, many jazz musicians had childhood and later experiences in churches that rang with gospel music. Our service on August 21 will reflect some of that music.

*** 9:30 a.m. Forum: "The Hispanic Vote," presented by Lisa Ramirez**

The growing Hispanic population makes the Hispanic vote important in 2016. What are Hispanic voters looking for in a candidate? What issues are important to them? What implications do the elections have for Florida? To answer these and other questions, we'll have as a speaker Lisa Ramirez, the Director of Strategic Initiatives for Unidos Now. She is a leader in the Latino community and is currently working on registering Hispanic voters.

Lisa Ramirez holds a BA in journalism, with a minor in Spanish, from Northern Illinois University and has more than 15 years of experience working with Latino-serving national and community-based non profits, including the National Council of La Raza.

As a returned Peace Corps volunteer, having served in Paraguay and the Dominican Republic, she also has experience working directly with marginalized communities in Latin America. Lisa has significant experience in nonprofit organizational development, strategic communications, civic engagement, health and health disparities programming, coalition-building, and community engagement. Since moving to Southwest Central Florida in 2007, Lisa has served on the boards of Project Light Literacy Center, Healthy Teens Coalition, and Manatee Educational TV.

She currently serves on the Latino advisory committees of the School District of Manatee County and the Ringling Museum and is a member of the Cultural Competency Committee of the school district.

The discussion will be moderated by Verna Safran.