



## WEEKLY CONTACT – February 10, 2019

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota  
3975 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232  
941-371-4974

**PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL: Email Submissions to [ContactUUCS@gmail.com](mailto:ContactUUCS@gmail.com).**

**Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon**

**Please list publication date in the subject line**

### MINISTER'S MESSAGE BY ROGER FRITTS

The Unitarian Universalist Association Annual Meeting (called the General Assembly or UUA GA) will be in Spokane, Washington June 19-23. I plan to attend. As the UUA says "General Assembly is the annual business meeting of our denomination, [with] inspirational worship services, informative workshops, entertaining programs, and a bustling exhibit hall."

I am excited to go because of the location. "The Spokane region is the gateway for adventure and exploration in the inter mountain Northwest. Located driving distance from Glacier National Park and Yellowstone, Spokane is nestled in natural beauty." The average high temperature in June is 78 degrees.

Registration for 2019 starts March 1 on the UUA website – <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration> If you decide to attend and if you are a member of our church, let me or someone on the board know so we can make you an official voting delegate.

### SUNDAY EVENTS, FEBRUARY 10

#### UUCS

**\*10:00 and 11:30 "The Madness of Love," Sermon by Rev. Roger Fritts**

During February human beings celebrate a passionate madness called romantic love. The month of February may have been picked because in the northern hemisphere, in places like Italy, February is when birds begin to pair off and build nests. Whatever the reason, I have often felt the Sunday before February 14 is a good day to give a sermon about the relationship, (and February 15 is a good day to buy chocolate).

**\*Music at 10 and 11:30: Nick Arbolino**

Nicholas Arbolino joined the Sarasota Orchestra as Second Oboe and English horn in 2014. He has previously performed as the Principal Oboist of the Garland Symphony, Symphony Arlington, and the Las Colinas Symphony Orchestra in the Greater Dallas area. He has also appeared as Guest Principal Oboe with the Monroe Symphony (LA), the Dallas Chamber

Symphony, and the Amarillo Symphony. He earned a Master's degree, graduating summa cum laude from the University of North Texas under Dr. Charles Veazey.

Mr. Arbolino has performed in several summer festivals including the Chen International Cultural Arts Festival (Eureka Springs, AR), the Aspen Music Festival and School (as the English horn fellowship recipient), the Alba Music Festival (Alba, Italy), and currently spends his summers as Principal Oboe of the Charlottesville Opera.

**\*10:15 Forum: Climate Change/Conflict/Nuclear War - Professor Lynn Ringenberg**, a board member of Physicians for Social Responsibility, will present her thoughts on the nexus of climate change, international conflict and the possibility of nuclear war. Physicians for Social Responsibility is a Partner Organization of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, recipient of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize.  
Moderator, Dale Anderson.

**\*There is no 11:30 Discovery and Discussion today - Enjoy the Potluck!**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) Catherine Bonner DRE@uusarasota.org**

10:00 RE Classes:

Nursery: Those 3 and younger will play with our nursery staff and volunteers

PreK-5th Grade: Children start in the Service for a special presentation followed by a Children's Chapel in the West Wing. Sharing and Caring lesson on how families care and share with each other with a tie-in to Valentine's day as an extension of people caring for each other.

Youth: Youth start in the Service for a special presentation and then Explore the topic of Self-Confidence and the things we do to tear down or build-up confidence in others and ourselves.

***11:30 Childcare provided for children in 5th grade or younger with age appropriate activities.***

#### **OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS**

**\*Our sympathy to El Parent on the passing of his wife, Sandy. A memorial service will be held in the Sanctuary on Sunday February 10 at 2:30. The Rev. Brock Leach will officiate.**

\*Thank you all for your great contribution to our past potluck! It is with great honor that we serve the food that you made for all to enjoy. **At today's potluck the food will be served after the second service at 12:30.** As always, vegetarian options are encouraged but bring what gives you joy to cook and share with our congregation. Christian Gimenez and Alex Sarruff

**\*If you haven't already done so, please Pay and Pick Up the items you won in this year's Serendipity Auction.** Members of the Auction Committee will be in the Lexow Wing from before and after each service to wrap up these final details.

**\* SEE SARASOTA AND MORE outing on February 21: Sign up today!** Our next activity on Thursday, February 21 will be an 11:00 tour of The Academy at Glengary- a facility for helping adults with mental health issues integrate into the community, lunch at Sweet Tomatoes in The Landings shopping center, and a 1:15-2:15 visit to the Marietta Museum of Art and Whimsy.

Museum founder, Marietta (Mary) Lee will be our docent. The Academy at Glengary tour is free, you will purchase your own lunch with a discount at Sweet Tomatoes, and there is a \$5.00 per person donation for the Museum of Art and Whimsy. We can only accommodate 25 people for this activity and sign-ups will take place on Sunday, February 10 after each service. Pay the \$5.00 by cash or check made out to Kathy Cook.

**LAKEWOOD RANCH at 10 at Hyatt Place - [www.uulakewoodranch.org](http://www.uulakewoodranch.org)**

***There will be no Sunday service at Lakewood Ranch on February 10.***

#### **ADULT PROGRAMS**

\*Mah Jongg: Casual play - second and fourth Wednesdays, 1:00 – 4:00 West Wing. Bring your own card and a set, if you have one. Open to UU members and friends only. Sign up with Mitzi Hogoboom [Mitzi.hogoboom@gmail.com](mailto:Mitzi.hogoboom@gmail.com) (203) 246-9020.

\*Mindfulness and Meditation: Wednesdays ongoing. 12:00 - 1:00 West Wing, show up. Contact Charles Bradt at 922-5205

\*Play Reading Group: 2nd and 4th Fridays ongoing. 1:00 - 3:00 West Wing. A group dedicated to having fun reading and discussing a variety of short plays. The emphasis will be on one act plays or plays that can be completed in one session. Each week the group will decide which play to do next. All are welcome. Drop-in. Contact Cyndy Rosso: [cynthiarosso032@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiarosso032@gmail.com) or Dave Nelson: [2ndrow2@gmail.com](mailto:2ndrow2@gmail.com).

\*Zen Meditation: Sundays, 7:00 - Reeb Room. A group focusing on the study and practice of Zen. All are welcome, beginners as well as experienced Zen practitioners. Drop-in, anyone interested should just show up on Sunday evenings. Ongoing every Sunday. Class leaders are Don DeMaio and Paul Lewis.

**ALL ABOARD Ward Pallotta, president of the Board of Trustees**

Thank you, Karen Bush, Terri Holsinger, Mary Jane Cowell, Judy Weihe, Ava Whaley and dozens of volunteers for organizing and hosting the Serendipity Auction. Members did indeed have

“the most fun” despite chilly, wet weather. Generous contributors and buyers made it a success!

The Ministerial Search Committee, led by Dale Anderson, has second interviews scheduled this month with two candidates for the new half-time minister position. The committee’s process has been patient, thorough and is now in the home stretch.

Discussion about our church’s Mission Statement is proceeding, led by Mary Lou Keller. Thank you to everyone who is participating in this challenging wordsmithing effort.

The last two months of our church year (ending March 31) include our pledge campaign and our Annual Meeting. The campaign will invite you to reflect on what our Church community – our Church Family – means in your life and to consider your pledge with that meaning in mind.

And of course, we’ll have a little fun in the process. All aboard!

### **FROM THE GARDEN GATE by Dick Happy**

“I don’t like it,” I said to Diane. I was looking at the beautiful bright orange colored flowers of the Flame Vine in the trellis at the north entrance to of Memorial Garden. “Don’t like what?” she asked. “The vine’s flowers are blooming a month early and that bothers me.” “Climate change,” she murmured. “No way,” I said. “Didn’t you see the polar vortex temperatures in the mid-west?” I could see by the look in her eye that I had better be prepared for a lecture. I tried to forestall it. “I know, I know, there is a difference between climate and weather, but really, it was -23 degrees in Chicago so how could there be...” I stopped abruptly. “Just joking, just joking,” I said, knowing that if I went on, I had better be prepared for some “climate change” in my own house! Meanwhile, I shall bemoan global warming, but enjoy the bright orange flowers in the Memorial Garden.

### **CARING**

**\*Our best wishes to Laura Bagby recovering from a fall. Send her an email at [Lbagby6688@yahoo.com](mailto:Lbagby6688@yahoo.com)**

**\*We're glad to know John Casadevall had successful glaucoma surgery.**

**\* Welcome home to Charlie Allen.**

**\* Happy Valentine’s Day – The Membership Committee** is hosting members who are unable to attend services at a luncheon on February 14. Marilyn and Fred Sirasky will be providing the entertainment.

\*Caring provides short term help with food, transportation and visits. Would you like to have a buddy? Contact Dee Widder at [DeanaWidder@gmail.com](mailto:DeanaWidder@gmail.com) or 377-9028.

\*Would you like to share good news or honor a friend who passed away? Make a Tribute donation and send your check with a Tribute form to the office. Forms are available in the office and online at Members Corner. The Tribute will be acknowledged in the Weekly Contact.

\*Does the Minister have your Memorial Form on file? Do you wish the office to have your emergency contact information? Submit a form which can be found online at Members Corner or in the office.

## **OUR COMMUNITY**

**\*Welcome to new members:**

**Alice and Howard Adams, Michael Bajorek, Arlene Cherry, Janet Lambright, Louise Machinist, and Stewart Pollock**

**\*Do You have a Pet?** Please email a picture of you and your pet to [DRE@UUsarasota.org](mailto:DRE@UUsarasota.org) for a special project that the Children will be doing in March on Families and Pets.

**\*Please consider parking in the Cardinal Mooney High School lot** which provides extra parking space to us during the season, for your convenience. Drive into the main Cardinal Mooney entrance, then to the far southwest corner of their parking lot, closest to the church, and follow the signs to the church. Note that there are new handicap spots by the church library and another four handicap spots behind the sanctuary, with a ramp leading up to the sanctuary.

**\*We have an easy-to-use Directory at Members Corner.** Sign is at [uusarasota.org](http://uusarasota.org), click on Members Corner...if you need the password, call the office, scroll to Member Search type in the first or last name. Click on the person's name to bring up their address.

**\*Please note we have a new address for Contact submissions.** Send your items to [ContactUUCS@gmail.com](mailto:ContactUUCS@gmail.com). In the subject line, please list your date of publication. Deadline is Tuesday at noon.

**Happy Birthday to the following members:**

February 9 Karen Rush, Susan McGowan

February 10 Peg Green

February 11 David Ohlson, Carol Cathell

February 12 Wayne Snyder

February 13 Cathy Cyrus

February 15 Joan Kaplan, Joan Sarney

**If you are a member with a birthday this week that is not listed here, please inform the office.**

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITMENTS**

**\*LWV Hot Topics – Election Reform** Monday February 11 from 12:00 - 2:00 What more can be done to make voting simpler, more understandable and ensure that all legal votes are counted? Speakers are Manatee County Supervisor of Elections Michael Bennett, and Dr. Keith Fitzgerald, Associate Professor of Political Science at New College. Bradenton Woman's Club, 1705 Manatee Ave W, Bradenton. No reservation required.

**\*Community Conversation with Sarasota City Planner**, Wednesday February 13 at 2:00, Bookstore 1, 12 S Palm Ave. Steven Cover will be discussing Sarasota City development. It is a chance to ask about planning issues around affordable housing.

**The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Annual Unity Worship Service**, Sunday February 17 at 4:00 at Bethel CME Church, 1719 22nd St, Sarasota. Hosted by the Sarasota County Branch NAACP. Guest Speaker: Henry Porter II, Senior Pastor, Westcoast Center Church, Sarasota.

**\*According to Climate Central, 22 of the top 25 cities to be most heavily impacted by coastal flooding due to climate change are in Florida.** Time to act is running out. Let Rep. Vern Buchanan know that addressing climate change is a priority of the citizens of Sarasota. <https://buchanan.house.gov/2017-issues-survey>

**\*February 11, 7:00 in the evening - Building a Beloved Community.** Speaker: Reverend Dr. Marvin McMickle, President, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and February 18, 7:00 in the evening Racial Healing: An Inner and Outer Journey Speaker: Dr. Catherine Meeks, Professor Emeritus, Wesleyan College & Director, Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing. **This series is held at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice and sponsored by the Venice Interfaith Community Association.**

**\*Parkland One Year Later: Gun Control and School Safety — How Are We Doing?** Tuesday February 19, 6:30 in the evening Fogartyville Community Media and Arts Center, 525 Kumquat Ct, (entrance at back of building). One year after Parkland we'll see what activists around the state have been able to accomplish. Sponsored by Protect Our Public Schools and the Sarasota Chapter of the Brady Campaign to End Gun Violence.

**\*Looking for social justice information? Stop** by the Social Justice table in the courtyard to learn about volunteer opportunities and to purchase fair trade items including chocolate, coffees, teas and olive oil. Also check out the Social Justice web pages on the church's website, go to [uucarasota.com](http://uucarasota.com) and click the Social Justice tab. For fair trade special orders, contact Suzie Brucklacher at [justice@uucarasota.org](mailto:justice@uucarasota.org), subject line, Fair Trade Special Order.

**\*Petition to expand Medicaid in Florida:** Planned Parenthood has initiated a petition drive to expand Medicaid in Florida. If you are a Florida registered voter, fill out a petition at the Social Justice table.

**\*You may recall, then Governor Rick Scott refused to accept more than \$50 billion that would have come from the Federal government to support a Medicaid program.** As of November 2018, 36 states and the District of Columbia had adopted Medicaid expansion. Help us get Medicaid expansion on the 2020 ballot by filling out the Constitutional Amendment form.

**Social Justice Monthly Committee Meeting** Tuesday February 12 at noon in the Reeb Room. All Are Welcome.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **\*CALLING ALL UUCS AUTHORS**

The annual Authors' Showcase book sale and signing will be held this year in the Lexow Wing on Sunday, March 3. Any UUCS member or friend who has authored a book (or more than one) and would like to participate in this annual event is welcome. We encourage books on a variety of subjects and genres – fiction, non-fiction, poetry, children's books, etc. The church receives 15% of the total sales collected for each book.

The deadline for getting yourself into the catalog is February 15. Those of you who signed up for the Fall date that was canceled are all set. To register for the sale, please contact Jim Keeney at [jim.keeney@gmail.com](mailto:jim.keeney@gmail.com) or 941-928-3378 or Lynne Singer at [lynes500@gmail.com](mailto:lynes500@gmail.com) or 941-726-7463.

**\*Call to UUCS Artists -- April 2019 Themed Members Exhibit, "A Good Earth".** Ed Schempp, a lifelong Unitarian-Universalist activist wrote that "Unitarian-Universalism looks not to a perfect heaven, but toward a good earth." Ways we can help create "A Good Earth" guided by our 7 Principles is the theme for the show. It's not too early to start! UUCS Members and Friends are invited to participate. Each person may submit up to two pieces no larger than 16 x 20 inches each, or one larger piece up to 30 x 30 inches. Three-dimensional pieces will also be accepted. To reserve your space, provide size and the title card information for your work (Title, Medium, Price, and your name and contact information) to Gail Coppock at [gailcoppock@gmail.com](mailto:gailcoppock@gmail.com) by April 12.

## **SUNDAY EVENTS, FEBRUARY 17**

### **UUCS**

#### **10:00 and 11:30 Religious Humanists in the Heart of Sarasota Sermon by Roger Fritts**

We do not require you to agree to a creed to be a member. We have a wonderful diversity of backgrounds in this congregation. Members self-identify as Christian, Jewish, Buddhist and other traditions. However, one identity stands out. In Sarasota no other established organization with a building and a staff welcomes humanists. In a 2011 survey 62.4 percent of this congregation said they had an affinity for Humanism. The sermon will reflect on this important role we play in our community.

**\*Music at 10: Choir, Don Bryn, Pianist; at 11:30: Dirty Cello**

From China to Italy, and all over the U.S., **Dirty Cello brings the world a high energy and unique spin on blues and bluegrass.** Led by vivacious cross-over cellist, Rebecca Roudman, Dirty Cello is cello like you've never heard before. From down home blues with a wailing cello to virtuostic stompin' bluegrass, Dirty Cello is a band that gets your heart thumping and your toes tapping!

**10:15 Forum News of the Week in Review:** John Stinespring will again lead an open forum discussion of selected news topics. He will use his extensive knowledge of both history and current events and his unique teaching style to lead a lively and informative discussion. Presenter and Moderator, John Stinespring

**11:30 Discovery and Discussion**

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS LAKEWOOD RANCH: 10:00 [www.uulakewoodranch.org](http://www.uulakewoodranch.org)**

**This Sunday we are lucky to have a special guest speaker Barbara Walker who will bring a message titled "The Rise of Sexism: Women in Western Civilization."** As a writer of 25 books and numerous articles on comparative religion, feminism and history, Barbara Walker's talk will present a survey of how attitudes toward women have changed over the centuries.

