



WEEKLY CONTACT – FEBRUARY 3, 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.

Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon

Please list publication date in the subject line

MINISTER'S MESSAGE BY ROGER FRITTS

If you are a fan of excellent female folk and blues singing, I encourage you to attend the 11:30 service Sunday. Jess Klein will be providing the music for the service. She once sung before 70,000 attendees at the Fuji Rock Festival in Japan. We cannot equal those numbers, but we can hear her wonderful music up close while sitting in our comfortable new chairs. If you also want to hear our great choir, you could attend the first service, stay for the second to hear Jess Klein and quietly depart the second service when the sermon starts.

Over the next few weeks I encourage you to read 'Braiding Sweetgrass' and/or 'Gathering Moss' by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Kimmerer is the founder and director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment and a SUNY professor, living in Fabius, New York. She will be our Sunday Speaker March 17, at both services. She is one of our most important environmental writers alive today. Start reading now so that you will be ready when you come to church on March 17.

SUNDAY EVENTS, FEBRUARY 3

UUCS

***10:00 and 11:30 "The Struggle for the Leadership of America," sermon by Rev. Roger Fritts**

***Music at 10: Choir; Don Bryn, Piano.**

***Music at 11:30: Ed Kinder, Piano; Jess Klein, Guitar and Vocals.**

Over a career that spans more than a decade and a half and has won her a devoted worldwide fan base, **Jess Klein** — who possesses what Mojo magazine calls “one of those voices you want to crawl up close to the speakers to listen to” — has pursued a remarkable creative evolution that’s seen her dig ever deeper for resonant emotional insights, while continuing to refine her eloquently melodic, effortlessly accessible song-craft. Jon Pareles of The New York Times calls her “a songwriter with a voice of unblinking tenacity...who finds parables in the everyday and also finds humanity behind the archetypal.”

***10:15 Forum: "Overcoming Indifference: Making the Population Connection in Today's Crowded World"** What ever happened to ZPG—Zero Population Growth? The Population Connection is the successor organization and our presenter is coming from its California headquarters to discuss issues created by population growth today.

Presenter, John Seager, Moderator, Jim Keeney."

***11:30 Discovery and Discussion** **Discovery and Discussion: "The discoveries awaiting us in the ocean's twilight zone."** What will we find in the twilight zone: the vast, mysterious, virtually unexplored realm hundreds of meters below the ocean's surface? Heidi M. Sosik of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution shares her plan to investigate these uncharted waters, which may hold a million new species and 90 percent of the world's fish biomass, using submersible technology.

In this wonder-filled talk (TED Conference 2018) she says that what we discover there won't just astound us -- it will help us be better stewards of the world's oceans. Join us! All are welcome.

Coordinator: Dave Nelson. Moderator: Susan Eisman.

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

***10:00 RE Classes**

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

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

***PreK-1st Grade:** The children will explore how families can be different through several stories and activities.

***2nd-5th Grade:** The children will hear about children inventors, will take apart electronic and other items to see how they work, and work on their own inventions.

***Youth:** This week the youth will be planning their February lock-in and social. A date has not been confirmed yet but most likely will be either Saturday, February 16th or 23rd starting in the early evening. Details to follow as they are confirmed.

OTHER SUNDAY EVENTS

***Share the Plate Thank You**

Thank you for your generous support of the UUA's campaign for **Black Lives of UU (BLUU) Organizing Collective**. Formed in 2015, the collective is working to expand the power and capacity of Black UUs within our faith; to provide support, information and resources for Black Unitarian Universalists; and to stand up for justice and liberation through our faith.

Two thousand dollars was raised to support the BLUU collective. The first \$1,000 was matched by the Social Justice committee; bringing the total to \$3,000. Thank you again for your support.

***Personal Growth and Renewal: This Sunday, February 3,** Robyn Stratton-Berkessel will lead “I Connect Therefore I Am,” an interactive “Personal Growth and Renewal” workshop from 2-4 in the Reeb Room. The workshop is free to members of UUC. Email Phyllis Mufson, pmufson@comcast.net for reservations or to join the mail list.

LAKEWOOD RANCH at 10 at Hyatt Place - www.uulakewoodranch.org

” Creating a Trauma-Informed Community” by Carrie Seidman, who will talk about the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) on both mental and physical health outcomes. She'll discuss current efforts underway to make Sarasota a 'trauma-informed community', that is one that facilitates recovery from adverse childhood experiences and builds resiliency in residents by promoting connection, healing and transformation.

Carrie Seidman is the lead columnist for the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, where she has been a staff writer since 2010. A graduate of the Columbia University School of Journalism, Seidman has been a reporter, critic and columnist for nearly 40 years, including with the New York Times, Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, Albuquerque Journal and Albuquerque Tribune. Her work on mental health has awards from local, state and national organizations.

Mindy Simmons will be the guest musician.

THANK YOU FROM YOUR SERENDIPITY AUCTION COMMITTEE:

Many thanks to all of our volunteers, donors, and bidders for a marvelous Serendipity Auction. The winners are posted in our Members' Corner. Both donors and winners should have received confirmations by email. The unsold items list is posted in the Members' Corner.

If you have any questions, please send an email to auction@uusarasota.org.

ADULT PROGRAMS

***Bridge for Fun:** Wednesday, February 6, 1:00...4:00 Reeb Room. Join our friendly group of mostly intermediate bridge players. We play for fun and to help each other improve our game. If you haven't played for a long time, you are welcome -- we'll help you catch up. If you are an absolute beginner or serious tournament player, this is likely not the group for you. 1st and 3rd Wednesday, ongoing. Sign up. Contact Henry Bright at HenBright@aol.com or (941) 966-5784.

***Everyday Spiritual Practice:** Meets this Saturday, February 2, Reeb Room 1:00...12:30. No advanced preparation is required for the sessions which are open to all, and you may attend one or more as you wish. No fee, no book. In this meeting, we shall read together and discuss the chapter titled “Living by Heart,” pp. 67-72 by Rev. Laurel Hallman. Contact: Bob Downie - rwdownie@comcast.net (609) 417-2460.

***Kayak Group:** Meets Monday, February 4, usually 9:30... noon, location varies. We gather for a group paddle once a month. Most of us have our own boats. Rentals are available at some launch sites. Easy-to-moderate flat-water paddling. Emphasis is nature observation and conversation, not exercise. For Information: Bill Orcutt (941) 351-6769 or BillOrcutt71@gmail.com

***Poetry Group:** Monday, February 4, 1:00.... 3:00, West Wing. All are welcome. Join us for poetry out loud. You don't have to be the poet—you can be the poem, if you like. Bring 1 or 2 of your favorites to share and discuss. If possible, bring some extra copies. 1st and 3rd Mondays ongoing. Facilitators: Laura Bagby at lbagby6688@yahoo.com or Dave Nelson at 2ndrow2@gmail.com.

CARING

***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.**

***Caring provides short term help with food, transportation and visits.** Would you like to have a buddy? Contact Dee Widder at 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

***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.

***Making Connections has been extended!** Looking for members who want to get to know a younger person or family in our RE program. There will be a pen-pal (or email pal) relationship for a few weeks ending with a Getting To Know You tea party after the first service on February 24th. Sign-up by Feb 3rd by contacting Catherine Bonner, DRE at Catherine.bonner914@gmail.com. All supplies for the letters will be provided after Feb 3rd.

***Our cereal food drive was successful.** Thank you all for contributing 54 boxes exceeding our goal.

***We have an easy-to-use Directory at Members Corner.** Sign is at 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.

***From Valerie Kerwin, Library and Book Table Chair:**

I almost always have the UU Book Table out on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. In the winter when we have two services, I open between the two services. If any members would like to help with the book table, we could open every Sunday or for a longer time on 1st and 3rd Sundays. Stop by this Sunday at the Book Table if you are interested or write me at valerieblackkerwin@gmail.com.

Thanks!

***Please note we have a new address for Contact submissions.** Send your items to 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 4 Suzie Brucklacher

February 4 Patricia Rosenof

February 5 Sandy Caplan

February 7 Terri Holsinger

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

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITMENTS

***“Black Like Me” February 4, 2019** at 7:00 pm, with Kristofer Geddie, Venice Theatre, Director of Diversity and Sandra Terry, Laurel Community Center is the next in the series by the Venice Interfaith Community Association. It will be at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S Tamiami Trail, Venice

***Nurses United** will be hosting a discussion Tuesday, Feb. 5th at 6:30pm at Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Court (rear of building). Polls show growing national support, as much as 70 percent, 85 percent among Democrats, and even a majority of Republicans, for a publicly financed, guaranteed health care solution. In November, a number of Medicare for All candidates were elected to the House, and a bill is going to be introduced on this issue. Nurses United is the largest union of nurses in our country's history.

Innocence Project Update, Thursday, Feb. 7th, 10:30am - 11:30am Harriet Hendels, Innocence Project of Florida Board Member will discuss how innocent people can be wrongly accused of a crime and will share some of the details of recent cases the project has worked on ~ cases that took years to overturn. Concordia Lutheran Church, Willer Hall, 2185 Wood Street, Sarasota.

***LWV Hot Topics – Election Reform** Mon Feb 11th 12:00pm - 2:00pm

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.

***Our UU Sarasota Social Justice Committee has approved a "Tools for Malawi"**

project. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in Africa and does not have the supply routes or infrastructure for many items that are needed locally, especially tools for even simple construction or repairs. There is a nonprofit that ships such heavy items in cargo containers to Malawi. Over the next couple of months, you'll see our "Tools for Malawi" barrel outside the kitchen. Please donate your old hammers, pliers, and other hand tools, as well as wire, tape, nuts, bolts and screws. No electrics.

***Publix is phasing out plastic bags for the community of Coral Gables.** Ask them to include Sarasota too! Follow this link to sign the petition and reach out to Lisa Roberts at Publix. <https://www.change.org/p/ban-plastic-bags-in-florida/u/20436077>

***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 uucsarasota.com and click the Social Justice tab. For fair trade special orders, contact Suzie Brucklacher at justice@uusarasota.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. The initial collection phase ends on February 21.

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.

FROM THE GARDEN GATE

"I'm feeling lucky," I said. "And what pray tell does that mean?" asked Diane, my wife and the boss of the UUCS gardening crew, looking up from her newspaper.

"Well, I think we have a really expert church gardening crew and it makes me feel good."

Diane responded, "Oh, you mean Bob who is our orchid specialist, and Pat who knows all about bromeliads. She even knows the Latin names."

"Vini, vidi, vinci" I exclaimed.

Really?" Diane said, "Your ninth grade Latin class? I came, I saw, I conquered?"

But she was ready to name more names. "What about Debbie our excellent pruner, and Larry who takes care of the playground, and Ed who keeps the memorial garden bromeliads in good shape and Darryl our fruit tree specialist. You are right, we really are lucky."

My name hadn't been mentioned. "What about me, I take care of the weed." I said. Diane looked at me with bemusement. "Um, that would be weeds, plural."

"Of course," I said, and headed off to look for the weed er...weeds.

Dick Happy

UPCOMING EVENTS

***Cinema Conversations - We meet again!** On Wednesday, February 6, at 7, in the evening in the Lexow Wing. The film of the hour will be "Stan & Ollie". View this warm, delightful film on your own and join us for a fun discussion about this unique duo. We will also discuss, of course, the upcoming Academy Awards...so you will get the chance to share your favorites with the group.

***Sign up now for See Sarasota and More - Thursday, February 21**

Our next activity 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 3 and 10 after each service. Pay the \$5.00 by cash or check made out to Kathy Cook.

***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 or 941-928-3378 or Lynne Singer at 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 by April 12.

SUNDAY EVENTS, FEBRUARY 10

UUCS

10:00 and 11:30 a.m. "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 Feb 14 is a good day to give a sermon about the relationship, (and Feb 15 is a good day to buy chocolate).

Music: Nick Alburino

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.

11:30 Discovery and Discussion

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS LAKEWOOD RANCH www.uulakewoodranch.org

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

