

The Gazette



August 6, 2023— Volume 20, Issue 27

SUNDAY SERVICE

August 6, 11:00 am
~ Backpack Blessing ~
“Embrace the Ordinary”

School is just around the corner, so this Sunday Samara Powers facilitates our annual Backpack Blessing service.



Please bring your child’s backpack – and your own – for a timely blessing. Anna Deyle serves as worship associate. James Chase provides our story for all ages. Please remember to bring a mask.

Live Stream

If you’re unable to attend, you may watch our live streaming service starting at 10:50 am this Sunday on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/UUGainesville>

Starting at 10:50 am each Sunday, you can use this link to go directly to the live broadcast:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSnQkwxBNGT-H1RLSg6lRfA/live>

YOUNG ADULT GROUP TO SEE KINKY BOOTS

Sunday, August 13, 2:00 pm

Our Young Adult Group will be going to see Kinky Boots at the Gainesville Community Playhouse after the service on August 13. The show is at 2:00 pm. If For more information, please email Renée Richter at reneeofflorida@gmail.com.

For up-to-date information about Young Adult Group activities, please join their group chat at

https://groupme.com/join_group/95343658/DLq20Zul

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

~ MASKS & SOLAR ~

Monday, August 7, 6:30 pm, on Zoom

Members, please mark your calendars to attend a Congregational Meeting that we will hold via Zoom at 6:30 pm on Monday, August 7.

At this meeting, our Governing Board will bring the Fellowship’s masking policy to the congregation for consideration.

The Board will also bring forward an initiative to install solar panels on the Fellowship Hall roof for a vote.

Zoom link: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94320440321>

Meeting ID: 943 2044 0321

FELLOWSHIP CARE TEAM FORMING

Monday, August 14, 6:30 pm

On Monday, August 14, at 6:30 pm, you are invited to attend a Zoom meeting to discuss and organize a Fellowship Care Team. This Team will help meet some of the pastoral care needs we will have in the coming year without a resident minister.

We will focus on creating a system for visiting members and supporting friends who are in the hospital or under Hospice care, or who are in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, or are homebound.

We will also focus on providing emotional and spiritual support to those going through difficult changes or challenging circumstances in their lives. If this type of service to the community interests you please join us for the Zoom meeting on August 14th.

For the link or for more information, please contact me at jim.wright123@gmail.com

~ Thank you, Jim Wright

GAZETTE SUBMISSIONS: The Gazette is reserved for UUGF business and concerns submitted to the office (email uoffice@uufg.org) for editing by noon on Wednesdays. Please put “for Gazette” in your subject line. Your submissions will be posted up to three times, inserted on dates you indicate.

UUG SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST



Monday, August 7, 6:30 pm: Online Congregational Meeting

At this meeting our congregation votes on the solar panel project and may provide feedback on the UUG masking policy. This will be a binding vote on the solar issue. Tim Christy will present on our solar project. Members, please attend this important online meeting!

Zoom link: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94320440321>

Meeting ID: 943 2044 0321

Saturday, August 12, 10:00 am — 12:00 pm: Bread of the Mighty Food Bank Volunteering

This event is for all ages; however, those under 16 will need to be accompanied by an adult. Volunteers park in their lot or down the side of NW 4th street. The volunteering includes sorting, packing, and stocking. Closed toe shoes are required — and the warehouse is not climate controlled (but will be soon!).

Sunday, August 20: Share the Plate for Grace Marketplace

We will not have a 10:00 am discussion that day because the speaker in the service is from GRACE Marketplace.

Saturday, August 26: Susan B Anthony luncheon at the Best Western,

Social Justice is a sponsor which entitles us to a table at the event. \$35 per person to attend. For info, visit <https://www.fosba.com/>

Sunday, August 20, 1:30 pm: Social Justice Circle

Final planning meeting for our September 10th environmental fair. We will also discuss the plan to build a solar array at UUG after the congregational vote.

Sunday, August 27, 3:00 pm: The Fourth of Five Discussions of the Climate Book.

This section addresses what we have done so far to address the climate crisis. We are discussing one section of the book per month, on the fourth Sunday of the month at 3:00 PM. The August discussion will cover what we have done so far to address the Climate Crisis. We read sections and discuss them and welcome anyone to join whether you have read the current section or not. This is on Zoom only in August, but we are planning to hold a hybrid (in person and on Zoom) meeting for our last section, which addresses what we can do to fight the Climate Crisis Now!

Saturday, Sept. 9, 10:00 am — 12:00 pm: Bread of the Mighty Food Bank Volunteering

Sunday, September 10: Environmental Fair

Held in our breezeway with tabling, a sustainable foods lunch and more information on discounts from the IRA climate change bill to subsidize energy efficient home improvements.

Sunday, September 24 — Social Justice Sunday Service

This service focuses service on Florida voting laws and how to make sure you and your friends' votes count in the Primary. Social Justice will be tabling after service this Fall to provide voter information and help people check their registration and absentee ballot status.

Winter Plans Preview:

Projects for our Winter antiracist activities include

- Classes on 1619 Project
- Finding someone or incorporating an online program to teach Critical Race Theory
- Have an after-service banned books activity as they have done at Oak Hammock with sample books on tables in the Fellowship Hall and a librarian speaker.
- Continue to support afterschool programs at Pine Ridge and volunteer to be an ally for Porters Community to develop after-school programs for children in Porters and gain local access to their Community Center which is presently locked with keys held only by City employees.
- Update: the wider congregation is outraged about book banning. Paul Hargrave is developing a banned book library and is looking for donations.

PUZZLEMANIA!

Join our jigsaw puzzle exchange in the Phillips Hall!

If you have jigsaw puzzles you have completed (and are sure they have all the pieces!) you may donate them or exchange them for different ones. Puzzles are on the middle shelf of the tall white cabinet farthest to the right.

Look for stickers on the shelf to seal the puzzles shut for safety in transport. Just for fun, write your name on another sticker on the box so we can see who else has enjoyed them.

Happy Puzzling!!

MORNING MEDITATION

Tuesdays, 8:30 am

UUFG's Mindfulness Meditation group continues offers meditation sessions every Tuesday from 8:30- 9:45 am via Zoom. The half-hour meditation practice is followed by reading and discussion of Buddhist teachings from several traditions. For information and the Zoom link, contact Diane DePuydt (diane.depuydt@gmail.com) or Pete Turner (peteturner123@gmail.com).

UU VALDOSTA MEDITATION

Tuesdays, 8:00 pm by Zoom!

Our UU neighbors to the north have made their ongoing Tuesday evening meditations available to our Fellowship. Join their sessions Zoom at 8:00 pm each Tuesday, and at 8:10 pm they begin 30 minutes of silent meditation. To join contact Carol Stiles at uuvaldosta@yahoo.com with "Meditation Tuesday" in the subject line. She will send you the Zoom link.

RECENT ATTENDANCE

On Sunday, July 23, 70 adults attended, with 56 views showing on our YouTube channel.

ONLINE GIVING TO UUFG

You can use our safe, online payment portal to make donations through our website.

Go to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXTK/home>

HEARING LOOP AVAILABLE

Please talk to an usher for information.



NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION

Sunday, August 13, 12:00 pm

Newcomer orientation, an information session for people new to our congregation, will be held following the August 13 service. Curious but not sure this denomination is for you? Definitely interested in membership? This orientation session is for all of you.

For more information or to sign up for orientation, come to the welcome table in the foyer prior to service or to the visitor's table outside during coffee hour. Look for the green tablecloth. You may also contact Judith Kendall at judithkendall@cox.net for more info.

SHALL WE PLAY A GAME?

What better way to spend an evening in conversation, cooperation and competition? Anna Deyle and Jeff Stevens would like to invite you to join them for our monthly game night. Bring your favorite board games, card games, puzzles and more.

Give your input on what day works best for you and other details through our online poll:

<https://forms.gle/Tx6VTHoze2Rp9PjX6>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please wish "happy birthday" to Debra Neill-Mareci, Zoharah Simmons, Peggy Maloney, and Danek Starling!



Do you have a birthday this coming week, but aren't on our list? Please contact the office to let Cam know (uoffice@uufg.org).

I AM GRATEFUL TO



The *Friends of the Courtyard*, with *Peggy Maloney* at the helm, offered hospitality and goodies at last Sunday's Coffee Hour. Many thanks to Peggy and this group for once again making our Social Hour a positive part of our experience of community.

~ Susan Christy

Do you have a "gratitude" to share, expressing appreciation for someone working "behind the scenes" to make UUFG a warm and welcoming place? Please send an email to Cam Pierce at uoffice@uufg.org.

UUFG CALENDAR

Sunday, August 6 —

- 10:00 am** HUUGG “Religion for Breakfast” class (Common Room — Questions? Contact Kay Anderson at kayanderson59@gmail.com)
- 10:00 am** Messy Sunday (Playground — Contact James Chase at dre@uufg.org for info)
- 11:00 am** Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm** Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)

Monday, August 7 —

- 3:00 pm** Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall & Sanctuary)
- 6:30 pm** Congregational Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, August 8 —

- 8:30 am** Morning Meditation (Zoom — for info, contact Diane DePuydt at diane.depuydt@gmail.com or Pete Turner at peteturner123@gmail.com)
- 2:00 pm** Safety Team (Common Room — for info, contact Jonathan Coron, Safety Team Chair, at coronjonathan@gmail.com)
- 6:00 pm** HUUGG / Humanist Dinner (The Top Restaurant — RSVP to Al Tweedy at sylvester0077@gmail.com)
- 7:00 pm** Fellowship Council (Zoom — for info, contact Mike Hazlett, Governing Board liaison, at mh-hazlett@wiu.edu)
- 8:00 pm** Silent Meditation (Zoom — for info, contact Carol Stiles at uualdosta@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, August 9 —

- 7:00 pm** Young Adult Group (Phillips Hall — For info, join the group chat [HERE](#) or contact Renée Richter at reneeofflorida@gmail.com)

Thursday, August 10 —

- 11:30 am** UUFG Men’s Lunch Group (Local restaurant — for info, contact Tom Bullock at tbullock3@cox.net)

Friday, August 11 —

UUFG BUSINESS OFFICE CLOSED

- 12:30 pm** Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall)

Saturday, August 12 —

- 9:00 am** Buildings & Grounds Work Morning (Questions? Contact Marilyn Roberts, Facilities Chair, at mrobertsrn@gmail.com)

Sunday, August 13 —

- 11:00 am** Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm** Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall)
- 12:00 pm** Newcomer Orientation (Begins at Welcome Table. Questions? Contact Judith Kendall at judithkendall@cox.net)

Thanks to Sunday Facilitators!		
	August 6	August 13
Outside Greeter	Bev Giordano	
Welcome Table	Peggy Maloney Mike Hazlett	
Foyer Monitor	Joe Rowe	
RE Monitor	Peggy Maloney	
Ushers	Debra Neill-Mareci	Debra Neill-Mareci
Visitors Table	Judith Kendall	
Audio-visual	Erin Parish	Erin Parish

MESSY PLAYDATE

playground Sunday, August 6, 10:00 am

During these summer months, we host Messy Playdates every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Bring a change of clothes and a towel for the car, and wear clothes you don’t mind getting messy!

This is a sensory experience, and everyone will be allowed to lead the way as they play with all kinds of fun materials.

All ages are welcome, and this is a chance for all in the community to grow closer in spirit and play, while enjoying the amazing world around us!

On these Sundays, the Kids will not join us in Service, so the important learning and play are not interrupted. Childcare will be available from 10-1 every Sunday.

For more information, contact James Chase, Director of Lifespan Faith Development, at dre@uufg.org.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
SIGN UP ONLINE FOR
COFFEE HOUR**

Click [HERE](#) to volunteer yourself, you and a few friends, your family, your committee (you get the idea) to host Coffee Hour. It’s fun, easy, and so appreciated!

DOESN’T COST A DIME

Reimbursement sheets are provided, and the reimbursement process is easy. Just save your receipts.

Questions? Contact Susan at susan.christy42@gmail.com