



December 4, 2022 — Volume 19, Issue 46

SUNDAY SERVICE Sunday, December 4, 11:00 am

This Sunday, Rev. Christe Lunsford is in the Fellowship's pulpit as we begin exploration of this month's Touchstone theme – Joy.



Rev. Christe will also discuss the ongoing conversation in our faith about Article 2 – that portion of the Unitarian Universalist bylaws that address our principles and sources. Mary Anthony serves as worship associate, James Chase provides our story for all ages, and our Chalice Choir sings under the direction of Derek Nirenberg.

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



COOKIE CAPER! Sunday, December 4, 12:00 pm

Bring your sweet tooth and your cash to our annual fundraiser for the Social Justice work of the Congregation! We will have plates or boxes of a dozen assorted cookies for sale to take home for the holidays, and you may also buy one or two cookies to enjoy during Coffee Hour.

Calling all cookie bakers: please let Nancy Parkinson (njp116@gmail.com) know that you will help by baking cookies and bringing them to the Phillips Hall on Saturday, December 3, between 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville • 4225 NW 34th Street • Gainesville, FL 32605 352/377-1669 • uuoffice@uufg.org • www.uufg.org



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT Friday, December 9, 5:00 pm

The UUFG wants to offer all caregivers a night out this month. On Friday, December 9, Childcare will be available for caregivers to drop their kids off from 5:00 - 9:00 pm.

We will have pizza, games, crafts, and movies for the kids. Go get some shopping done, take care of personal things, or do whatever helps you relax and refresh during this busy month!

To reserve a spot for your child, contact James Chase at dre@uufg.org.

TOUCHSTONE JOURNAL FINAL MAILING

The December issue of the Touchstone Journal represents our final mailing of that document to the congregation. Now that in-person services have ramped up, we will make paper copies available at Sunday services starting in January.

We will continue to send out the monthly MailChimp announcement of the Touchstone theme of the month. That emailed message includes a link to that month's Journal.

You may also always access the latest issue of the Touchstone Journal via our website at https://www.uufg.org/learning/adult/

If you would like to continue receiving mailed copies of the Touchstone Journal, please contact Cam Pierce in the office (uuoffice@uufg.org).

TGIF CELEBRATION *Friday, December 9, 5:30 pm* Home of Marilyn Roberts 3716 NW 23rd Pl., Gainesville

Come join our monthly gathering to celebrate the end of the week! This month's TGIF is at the home of Marilyn Roberts Bring your beverage of choice and a snack to share.

Directions from UUFG:

- Turn left to go South on NW 34th Street. Cross NW 39th Ave and proceed to NW 30th Place where there is a large Rock Creek sign on the right.
- Turn into Rock Creek. Bear left at the fork to stay on 30th Place.
- Take the first left on to NW 36th Drive. (It is not well lit there; if you see the park you've gone too far).
- At the top of the hill turn left on NW 35th Terr.
- Then take the first right on NW 23rd Place. Pass NW 36th Terr and continue toward the next street, NW 37th Terr. Marilyn's home is the corner house on the right just before the intersection.

Lost? Call Marilyn at (352) 284-3819.





RESONANCE PERFORMS Sunday, December 18, 7:00 pm

Don't miss this special celebration of Winter Solstice — a Celebration of the Darkness and the Light with Songs and Stories, featuring the a capella music of Resonance.

We ask for a \$20 donation at the door, but no one will be turned away.

NEWCOMER ORIENTATION Sunday, December 11, 12:00 pm

Newcomer orientation, an information session for people new to our congregation, will be held following next Sunday's 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.

"SPARKLE SATURDAY" Saturday, December 10, 9:00 am

Every second Saturday of the month, a group of members and friends gather at the Fellowship to attend to our everchanging maintenance and "beautification" needs. We generally have tasks suitable for anyone who shows up.

If you have an hour or two to spare next Saturday, you're invited to swing by UUFG to help make our Fellowship "sparkle!" For more information about our "to do" list, please contact Marilyn Roberts, Facilities chair, at mrobertsrn@gmail.com

I AM GRATEFUL TO



"Kudos to Friends of the Courtyard, in particular Peggy Maloney, Debby Jo Malickson, Barbara and Tom Palmer, who hosted this past Sunday's Coffee Hour."

~ Susan Christy

Many thanks to FOTC, friends of the courtyard, for a fabulous spread at coffee hour last Sunday! Great job, you guys!

~ Anonymous

Thanks to the Touchstones Group Team for helping to decorate our Sanctuary for the holiday season. Our green-and-gold decor is our gesture acknowledging all the many wonderful winter holidays. (But be sure to watch for our nutcrackers to show up on Christmas Eve!)

~ Kirsten Flamand

Liz Stewart, Norden Lucke and *Peggy Maloney* for helping mail our December Touchstone Journal so efficiently!

 \sim Cam Pierce

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 uuoffice@uufg.org.



SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMON READ

Our Social Justice Common Read for Winter is *Hidden In Plain Sight A History of the Newberry Mass Lynching of 1916*, by Janis Owens. Get your copy from Amazon or bookstores. Then plan to attend a live reading by the local author in January.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please wish "happy birthday" to Kim Alexander, Bud Jones, and Beverly Sanders!



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

CAPELLA NOVA Saturday, December 10, 4:00 pm

The Messiah Sing-Along

Stand alongside members of Capella Nova and be part of a Messiah in which YOU are the choir!

Joshua L. Mazur conducts the choir, instrumentalists and guest soloists.

This event in our Fellowship's Sanctuary is free and open to the public, with a suggested donation of \$10 greatly appreciated.

For more information, visit https://capellanova.org/



WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT Sunday, December 17, 7:00 pm

The Annual Vets for Peace Winter Solstice Concert will be held at UUFG. Our Social Justice Council co-sponsors this event put on by Vets for Peace. Tickets will be available from VFP members and from the Theater of Memory.

You may also learn more about the program and purchase tickets online via the Vets for Peace website: <u>https://vfpgainesville.org/</u>

RECENT ATTENDANCE

For Sunday, November 27, 50 people attended in person, while our YouTube channel shows 54 views.

ONLINE GIVING TO UUFG

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

Go to <u>https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXTK</u> to set up your account.

MORNING MEDITATION Tuesdays, 8:30 am Coming Soon: In Person at UUFG!

UUFG's Mindfulness Meditation group continues to offer 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.

If you would like to join this meditation group or would like more information, please send a message directly to Carol Stiles at uuvaldosta@yahoo.com with "Meditation Tuesday" in the subject line. She will send you the Zoom link.



HEARING LOOP AVAILABLE

Please talk to an usher for information.

KINDLY SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE



GAZETTE SUBMISSIONS

The Gazette is reserved for UUFG business and concerns submitted to the office (email uuoffice@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.

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 process is easy. Just save your receipts.

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

BLUU — BLACK LIVES OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM



Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU) is an organizing collective committed to expanding the power and capacity of Black UUs within the denomination.

BLUU works to provide support, information and resources specifically for Unitarian Universalists who identify as Black or of African descent.

We include information about BLUU events to support those our members who also participate in BLUU. While most BLUU's events are private, occasionally they will open an event to all UUs.

For more, visit <u>https://www.blacklivesuu.com/</u>

Sunday, December 11 -

4:00 pm-5:30 pm — BLUU Online Worship. We invite Black Unitarian Universalists and all Black people to join us for a time of remembrance, connection and reflection through song, silence, dancing and sharing! Learn more by joining the Facebook group at <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/</u> BLUUExplicitlyBlack/



UUFG CALENDAR

Sunday, December 4 —

- **10:00 am** Religious Education (Classrooms & Common Room)
- 11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary & YouTube)
- **12:00 pm** Cookie Caper & Coffee Hour (Phillips Hall & Tent area)
- **12:00 pm** Youth Group (Classroom 7)
- 12:00 pm CYREC (Common Room)

Monday, December 5 —

7:00 pm Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall & Sanctuary)

Tuesday, December 6 —

- 8:30 am Morning Meditation (Zoom)
- 6:00 pm Weight Watchers (Phillips Hall)
- **6:30 pm** Worship Team (Zoom for info, contact Liz Stewart, Worship Team Chair, at marmstew002@gmail.com)
- 8:00 pm Silent Meditation (Zoom for info, contact Carol Stiles at uuvaldosta@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, December 7 —

6:30 pm Finance Committee (Zoom — for info, contact Jim Wright, Finance Committee Chair, at jim.wright123@gmail.com)

Thursday, December 8 —

10:00 am Weight Watchers (Phillips Hall)

11:30 am UUFG Men's Lunch Group (local restaurant. Questions? Contact Harry Mangle at hmangle2@cox.net)

7:00 pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary

Friday, December 9 —

8:00 am Weight Watchers (Phillips Hall)
12:30 am Gainesville Bridge Club (Phillips Hall)
5:00 pm Parents' Night Out (Phillips Hall)
5:30 pm TGIF (Home of Marilyn Roberts)

Saturday, December 10 —

8:00 am Weight Watchers (Sanctuary)
9:00 am Building & Grounds Work Morning (Questions? Contact Marilyn Roberts, Facilities Chair, at

4:00 pm Capella Nova (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 11 —

- 10:00 am Religious Education (Classrooms & Common Room)
- 11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary & YouTube)
- 12:00 pm Newcomer Orientation (Begins at Welcome Table)
- 12:00 pm Youth Group (Classroom 7)
- 12:00 pm CYREC (Common Room)

Food4Kids FOOD4KIDS BACKPACK PROGRAM COLLECTION

Each Sunday, we collect food to benefit our local Food4Kids Backpack Program, which provides children with non-perishable food that they can bring home to their families. We plan to continue this collection program through the spring.

The next time you attend service at UUFG, please consider brining a non-perishable food item when you attend. Look for a cart near the entrance to our Sanctuary. For more information, please contact Chris Vulpe at cvulpe@mac.com.

Suggested Items:

- **Breakfast Items** oatmeal packets, cereals
- *Canned/Boxed Goods* beans, meats, pasta, soup, veggies
- *Snacks* raisins, pretzels, fruit cups, pudding, peanut butter and jelly, etc.
- **Drinks** shelf stable milk, juice boxes/pouches

LITTLE FREE PANTRY



Near our entrance, we have a "free pantry" box, which allows people to drop off or pick up food donations in our neighborhood.

Do you have some non-perishable food to share? The box is located near the entrance to our Fellowship.

Questions? Contact Cam in the office at uuoffice@uufg.org / 352-377-1669.

