

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

MONTHLY BULLETIN – MAY 2024

The [Table of Other Contents & Zoom information](#) is located after the Sunday Services information.

[Sunday Services](#) (in person and via Zoom, see Zoom link below)

Refreshments will be served in the Social Hall after each service.

After the service, please quickly leave the sanctuary and go to the Social Hall.

May 5th 2024: What Makes a Holiday?

Jade Hoke-Smith, a member, will discuss how holidays are created on a federal and state level, from Memorial Day to Speaking Like Yoda Day. Laugh along with some of the whimsical theme-based holidays and their histories.

Jade is a retired biology teacher, part-time pianist, and member of the congregation. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana. She lives with her husband, dogs, and cats.

May 12th 2024: Motherhood and a Woman's Voyage

Dr. Kelly Smith, a Stetson professor, will delve into the complex topic of womanhood and identity. Her engaging talk is entitled "Discussions on the 'F' word: An epistemological exploration of femaleness."

Dr. Smith is an accomplished Stetson professor of gender studies, speaker, and community advocate. She is personally and professionally dedicated to addressing social equity issues of gender, race, and sexuality within the systemic and structural frameworks of contemporary American society through research, classroom education and community engagement.

May 19th 2024: The Principles of Unitarian Universalism Stand Firmly with Justice

Patti Rausch, a marriage and family therapist, and our social justice team, will lead an in-depth examination of what social justice means in our individual lives and the life of the congregation. They will conduct this worship service through music, poetry, and hands-on experience of envisioning the future.

Our Social Justice team is made up of several members and friends who share the view that all people deserve equal economic, political, and social rights and opportunities.

May 26th 2024: United Against Hate

Kevin Winchell, Associate Director of Community Engagement at Stetson University, will explain how The United Against Hate community outreach program — leveraging all 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices — aims to improve hate-crime reporting by teaching community members how to identify, report and help prevent hate crimes, along with building trust between law enforcement and communities. Stetson University has partnered with the NAACP and the Volusia County African-American Leadership Council to extend this work across our community.

Kevin is responsible for creating and leading engagement efforts between the Stetson University campus and the community, and directing the Stetson University Bonner Program, supporting campus and community political engagement through student voter registration and outreach initiatives. He is the founder/director of Democratic Strategies (a consulting firm for candidates, businesses and nonprofits), and the founder / director of Politics 101.

ZOOM INFORMATION

Services begins at 10:30, but if you can, please log in a few minutes earlier.

Zoom Meeting Invite: <https://zoom.us/j/98531898667>

The Zoom ID for Sunday Service is the same each week: **985 3189 8667**

Also see the Zoom link on the home page at uudeland.org.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

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REGULAR GROUP MEETINGS INFORMATION

Men’s Discussion Group

In Person & via Zoom - **every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m..**

For information, contact **George** at jorjcrofts@gmail.com .

Poetry Group

In Person - the **2nd Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.**, at a member’s home.

Share a potluck lunch followed by poems read by each participant. Any poem.

For information, contact **Karen** at 763..213.2403 or kwolfk99@aol.com.

Sunday Morning Adult Discussion Group

In Person - the **2nd and 4th Sunday at 9:15AM** sharp, prior to the church service.

Currently meeting in the Social/Fellowship Hall, or out on the deck – weather permitting. There is a different pre-determined topic each meeting.

For information, contact **George** at jorjcrofts@gmail.com .

The Green Team

Meet-Up on Tuesday May 14th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall

Meet-up to review past activities/outcomes and plan future project for the fall/winter. All ideas and commentary are welcome.

NOTE: The Green Team will be taking the summer off to regenerate and enjoy our planet.

For information, contact **Joyce Palmer, Co-Facilitator** at joycepalmer68@yahoo.com or call/text 907..727.7655

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Book Discussion Group

In Person - the **4th Friday of each month at 10:30 AM.**

This group meets in the Social/Fellowship Hall.

For information, contact **Karen** at 763..213.2403 or kwolfk99@aol.com .

UU Board of Directors Meeting

In Person – the Board will meet on the **3rd Sunday of the month at 9:00 am**

The Church Board of Directors meets in the Social/Fellowship Hall. Church members may attend.

For information contact our Prez, **Mel Browning** at melbrowning@cfl.rr.com

Program Committee meetings

In Person - the **1st Friday of the month at 3:00 p.m.**, in the Fellowship Hall.

Planning of future church services.

For information, contact **Jade Hoke-Smith** at sewdamnhappy@gmail.com

Times that Other Groups Meet at the Church

Volusia Buddhist Fellowship: **Every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** in the Social Hall.

OTHER INFORMATION

Donations for the Neighborhood Center

On the **First Sunday of each month** bring donations to the church. The donations are to be deposited in a designated area inside the entry area of the Sanctuary. The following donations are accepted: non-perishable food items, including for dogs and cats.

For information, contact **Mara**

The Church “Sound Committee” invites you to Join

We need to expand the group of people who know how to operate the sound system for the worship service. There is no heavy lifting, and on-the-job training is available. With several experienced operators, each individual will not need to be on duty each week.

When on duty the following are tasks to be performed:

- be at the church by 10:10 a.m. to turn on the speakers, receivers, and microphones
- check with service leaders and speakers to determine which microphones are preferred
- do sound check
- following the service: shut down the system, collect the microphones, and store all equipment.

Please contact **Mel Browning, Jim Durocher, or George Crofts** If you are interested.

It's a great opportunity to become involved.

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MUU-VIE Night

Tuesday, May 26th at 7:00 p.m., in the Social Hall

Your Green Team invites you to spend some time watching a compelling movie, "**The Transformation Cannot Be Stopped**".

This is a 37 minute film by the American Resilience Project.

For decades the utility industry has been a driving engine of the US economy, contributing significantly to our progress and standard of living, with a business model that focused on centralizing generation. With reduced demand, caused by a number of factors, power companies face a crisis that requires them to capture new market share to survive in the 21st century. With the need for a smart, cyber-secure grid, the tech and defense industries, and the transportation sector, have a critical role to play with a chance to catalyze the EV industry. This sets a collision course with major petroleum interests. Through interviews, observational and archival footage with top executives, military personnel, utility workers, elected officials and others - from substations to gas stations, board rooms to military bases - the film tells a story of a towering American industry bringing massive change.

There will be time for a lively discussion afterwards. A light snack and clean water will be provided.

No RSVP needed. We hope to see you there

UUA Final Proposed Revision to Article II

View the final Proposed Revision to Article II at:

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission/final-proposed-revision-article-ii>

This will be voted on at the upcoming all virtual General Assembly June 20-23, 2024. You may want to familiarize yourself with the extensive changes as our two representatives will be casting a vote for our church yea or nay. If you have any questions or comments, **contact Joyce Palmer** at joycepalmer68@yahoo.com or [call/text 1.907.727.7655](tel:1.907.727.7655).

General Assembly 2024 Registration is now open

The 63rd General Assembly will take place virtually Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23, 2024. . Adult registration is \$280, and includes access to General Assembly 2024 in the Whova event app, as well as on-demand programming, featured speakers, and major worships.

Voting on the new Article II will take place at this assembly. If approved Article II will replace our 7 Principles.

Click on this link for more information including prices:

[General Assembly Registration | General Assembly | UUA.org](#)

[UUWomenspirit.org](https://www.uuwomenspirit.org) Spring Event Registration opens in March

"Gather at the Crossroads" May 15-19, 2024 in North Carolina

For information about the organization: <https://www.uuwomenspirit.org/eventinfo>

For information about the Spring Event: <https://www.uuwomenspirit.org/spring> or contact **Victoria Fredrick** at Marketing@UUWomenspirit.org

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Access to our By-Laws and Policies and Procedures

The By-Laws and Policies and Procedures of our church, the Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia, can be viewed on our website at the following link:

<https://www.uudeland.org/member-resources>

Church Mailing Address

PO BOX 592, DeLand, FL 32721

Deadline for submissions to this Bulletin:

Please submit information to be included in this bulletin by the **20th of the month** to karel.edith@gmail.com

If you wish to be removed from this email list, please reply to this email with the instruction "remove from bulletin mailing list." Thank you.