

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

Monthly Newsletter – June 2024

June Fun Facts: <https://www.almanac.com/content/month-june-holidays-fun-facts-folklore>

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.

June 2nd 2024: The Impermanence of Nearly All Things

Is there anything that is actually built to last? Or, are all things destined to crumble into ruins? If they are, is that really such a bad thing?

Vicki Lester will lead this service on coping with life's many changes—both big and small. We will explore this topic with poetry, a musical performance by Mark Lester, and a unique, video game-inspired message (with a dash of Buddhism) from Mandy Hailstrom.

Vicky is a congregation member, English teacher at Alee Academy High School, poet, writer, actor and comedian.

Mandy is an imaginative sophomore who loves art, writing, singing, dancing, acting, playing musical instruments and video games.

June 9th 2024: Unitarian Universalist Principles Stand Firmly with Justice

Patti Rausch will lead us in an in-depth examination of what social justice means in our individual lives, our congregation, and our larger community. Our Social Justice team will participate in this worship service through music, poetry, and hands-on experience of envisioning the future.

Patti Rausch is our Social Justice Chair and a marriage/family counselor in DeLand.

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

June 16th 2024: Father's Day: Sentimental Reflections

Jim Dries will lead the service in which several congregation members will present their sentimental reflections about their fathers. Hopefully, you will hear not only loving tributes to fathers, but the service will provide an opportunity to look at your own fathers, possibly in a new light! Woven into the program will be poetry from **Dawn Taggblom**, as well as musical offerings by **Paul Garfinkel** and **Carol Swarbrick Dries**.

Jim Dries was a Peace Corps volunteer teacher in the 1960's and continued to teach at all levels. Jim is an actor and novelist who authored *A Harsh Mistress* and *Commies, Cuties, and The CIA* and co-authored the play "Miss Lillian, More Than a President's Mother" which was the basis of a film of the same title.

June 23rd 2024: Soundscape Trance Journey

Wandering Spiral's program and performance, will explore how and why sound and music can induce altered states of consciousness that lead to encounters with the sacred.

Wandering Spiral, featuring **Michelle Davidson** and **Rick deYampert**, is a musical duo whose instrument palette includes sitar, flutes, tongue drums, bass, singing bowls and percussion. They perform at cafes, art festivals, meditations and sacred gatherings throughout Central Florida.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

June 30th 2024: WE SAY GAY!

This Sunday there will be a presentation of the play “**We Say Gay**”. This play retells the story of the late 1950’s in Florida when professors and students were accused of being gay/lesbian, and were subjected to treatment such as interrogations and threats. Consequently, many professors lost their jobs, students lost their rights to an education-- and some even took their own lives.

* Please note that there will be adult language.

Dr. Ronni Sanlo, who has been an LGBTQ+ advocate for decades, wrote the play.

Deborah McShane is the director. Actors include **Nancy Jacobsen, Scott Mena, George Stevenson, Patti Rausch, Jade Hoke, Jim Dries, and Carol Swarbrick Dries.**

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.

Table of Other Contents **(Look for the Green Text for new events or changes)**

- Regular Church Group Meetings Information
 - The **Green team** will not meet again until **October 16, at 9:30 a.m.**
 - The **Program Committee** has a new meeting date & time: **First Thursday at 1:00 p.m.**
- Times that Other Groups meet at the Church (see details below our church group meetings)
 - **PFLAG description and meeting time**
- Other Information (see details below other groups at our Church)
 - Donations for Neighborhood Center – **1st Sunday at the Church**
 - The Church “Sound Committee” invitation to join
 - **UUA Southern Region Chalice Lighters 2024 donation request**
 - UUA Final Proposed Revision to Article II
 - General Assembly 2024 Registration
 - Access to our By-Laws and Procedures
 - Church Mailing address: P.O. Box 592 DeLand, FL 32721
 - Deadline for submissions to this bulletin
 - Unsubscribe information.

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.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

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 lorjcrofts@gmail.com .

The Green Team

The Green Team is taking a hiatus and will reconvene on **October 15, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.** in the church social hall. All are encouraged to consider supporting Get Out The Vote efforts with the Social Justice Committee and in the community. We wish all a relaxing, refreshing summer!

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

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 Thursday of the month at 1:00 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.

PFLAG meetings:

The **last Thursday of the month from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** in the Social Hall.

PFLAG's mission is to create a caring, just, and affirming world for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them. Its vision is to create an equitable, inclusive world where every LGBTQ+ person is safe, celebrated, empowered and loved.

The meetings are confidential and largely for support purposes.

For more information contact **Jim Dries** at **818-522-5468**.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

[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.

UUA Southern Region Chalice Lighters 2024 donation request

The Spring 2024 **Southern Region Chalice Lighters** call has been awarded to **UU Fellowship of San Miguel de Allende**(UUFMSA), a Southern Region congregation located in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Chalice Lighter funding will assist the congregation in hiring a bilingual minister to help them deepen cross-cultural ties.

For more information see the **flyer attached to this email**.

One way to donate is to send your donation to uusanmiguel@gmail.com via PayPal. Other methods are noted in the attached flyer.

To learn more about the **Southern Region Chalice Lighters** go to: <https://www.uua.org/southern/chalice-lighters>

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).

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

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](#)

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 Newsletter:

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