



Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia
Monthly Bulletin – December 2023 (revised December 5, 2023)

IMPORTANT REVISIONS:

- 1. New Zoom link and ID number for the Sunday Services**
- 2. Revised narrative for the December 24th Sunday service**

[Scroll past the Table of Contents to see details](#)

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

- Sunday Services Speaker Information (in person & via Zoom) – Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
- Regular Church Group Meetings Information (see details below the speaker information)
- **The Green Team meeting bonfire & donations on Sunday, December 10th at 5 pm**
- Times that Other Groups meet at the Church (see details below our church group meetings)
- Other Information (see details below other groups at our Church)
- Donations for Neighborhood Center – **1st Sunday at the Church**
- **UU Ministry for Earth's Solstice celebration via Zoom on Wednesday, December 20th at 7:00 pm (see registration details below)**
- Ballot amendment for the Right to Clean and Healthy Waters
- 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.

Sunday services (in person and via Zoom, see Zoom link below)

Please follow recommendations for Covid Safety: be they being vaccinated, wearing masks and maintaining social distance as appropriate for your comfort and safety.

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.

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.

December 3rd, 2023: Seeking a Purpose

Presented by **Bill Payton**, from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota (UUCS), who describes himself as an ordinary guy, going through the passages of life. He says he has lived an ordinary life including military service, college, career, raising a family and retirement. Having journeyed through those phases of life, he ponders his purpose now.

Bill currently serves as the President of the UUCS Board of Trustees and has served in numerous leadership positions at church, including as Treasurer. Bill and Mary Fran Raynault have been members of UUCS since 2011.

December 10th, 2023: Ghosts, Goblins, Aliens and Entities: What's Going On?

Rick de Yampert returns to our church to talk about this question.

A surprising number of "every day" folks, who have no great interest in the supernatural, nevertheless have reported encounters with otherworldly entities: ghosts, spirits of their deceased beloveds, Virgin Mary apparitions, UFOs, Bigfoot or other strange beasties, and more. What's going on? This program explores some of the theories that attempt to explain the "contactee experience," and how these experiences figure into the world's spiritual and religious traditions.

Rick de Yampert is a freelance writer, sitar player, artist, and lecturer on sacred and metaphysical subjects. He has been following a Pagan spiritual path since the early 1990s. His book "Crows and Ravens: Mystery, Myth and Magic" will be released in March 2024 by Llewellyn.

December 17th, 2023: Welcoming Congregation: Embracing DeLand Pride

Members of DeLand Pride will lead a discussion touching on some of the basic questions folks tend to have about the LGBTQ+ community, the importance of being a strong Ally, and how you can help, and answer questions from the congregation.

Heather McLean is the Public Information Officer for DeLand Pride and Vice President of the Board of Directors for Support Volusia. She has worked in Digital Marketing for over 15 years, starting her career in the greater Boston area. Born in New York and raised primarily in Brevard County, FL, she has lived in DeLand with her wife and son since 2020. She will be joined by **Scott Mena, Harlo Miner, and Desiree Sylvester.**
Peace, Love, Pride, Community.

December 24th, 2023: Memories, Music, and Magic

A community celebration of the magic and mysteries of the celebrations of this season from a variety of traditions.

Join us and listen to **our own musicians** as they create the magic of this season with their talents, as we stroll together down memory lane of your highlights of this season, past and present.

December 31st, 2023: Curious New Year's Eve Traditions

Presented by **Mel Browning**, a member of our church, will presents the final Sunday Service of 2023. From dropping balls to blowing stuff up, the world is full of strange and sometimes bizarre ways of welcoming the new year. We'll share some of these quirky traditions on this, the last day of 2023.

Joining our voices we will sing Auld Lang Syne as we move together toward the New Year 2024.

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 .

Connecting through Conversation

Via Zoom - the **1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 1:00 p.m.**

Informal conversation to share ideas, joys and concerns.

Zoom link at uudeland.org/, "Small Group Gatherings – Connect With Us"

For information, contact **Sherry** at cupaks@icloud.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. A different pre-determined topic each meeting.

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

The Green Team

The Green team is changing their planning to precede their activities, unless otherwise posted.

The December meeting will be before the bonfire on Sunday 10th December at 5:00 pm.

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

The Green Team will be hosting their Winter Solstice Bonfire and Bean-0-Fit on Sunday, December 10th, at 5 p.m. in the church parking lot.

Bring a chair, snack, beverage, canned beans or other packaged food for the Neighborhood Center, possibly a musical instrument and your smile.

We will be having a very brief meeting (less than 10 minutes!) at the beginning.

Come celebrate as we kick off the holiday season with camaraderie around the fire!

For more information contact Joyce Palmer at joycepalmer68@yahoo.com or call/text 1.907.727.7655.

Program Committee meetings

In Person - the **2nd Friday of the month at 3:00 p.m.**, in the Fellowship Hall.

Planning of future church services.

For information, contact **Linda** at apassionatecook@cfl.rr.com

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 **Sunday December 3rd at 9:00 am**

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

Church members may attend.

For information contact our acting Prez, **Cathy Lowenstein** at lowensteincb0@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**

UU Ministry for Earth's Solstice celebration via Zoom

Wednesday, December 20 at 7:00 pm ET

Join UUMFE the evening **BEFORE** the Winter Solstice for music, reflection, meditation, and spiritual grounding.

On this longest night, we will be featuring the work of the Energy Democracy Project and sharing a portion of our offering with them. Let's work for light for all on the longest night of the year. Our service is part of the larger arc of Clean Energy as a Human Right being led by Side with Love.

Register to attend and receive the zoom link here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vcumurzgvGNfGw4lsyIL9eG3tGfc3ZGaL#/registration>

Ballot Amendment for the Right to Clean & Healthy Waters

Some of the Green Team are gathering petitions for a ballot amendment for the "to Clean and Healthy Waters" to be brought to Florida voters in November 2024. For additional information you can go to www.floridarighttocleanwater.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 Bulletin:

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