



March 15, 2019

March 24 Bylaws Town Hall Meeting

A Town Hall meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 24, to discuss proposed changes in the by-laws of the Fellowship.

The board has approved amendments that will allow absentee ballots in congregational votes, increase maximum consecutive board and nominating committee terms from two to three, require an outside review of the Fellowship's books at least once every five years, and broaden the finance language to allow flexibility in naming specific funds. A document showing wording changes is available in the office.

You are invited to provide feedback on these revisions at the Town Hall, then vote on them at the Annual Meeting. Members of the By-laws Task Force, John Maher (chair), Pete Kersey, Bonnie Shelton, and Tom Tierney, will be available to answer questions. The current by-laws are available on the UUFVB website.

—Submitted by Bonnie Shelton

March 23 Is the Auction

Please keep filling out those forms to tell us what you can offer for the March 23 auction. Forms are in the UUFVB office and may be put in the fund raising mailbox. Tickets for that night, including food and beverages, are \$15 until March 17, then go to \$20. So contribute, attend, and have fun at our biggest fund-raising event of the year.

--Submitted by Spike Vrusho

Move to Amend Is on Annual Meeting Agenda— Keep Rights in the Hands of Human Beings

At the April 14 Annual Meeting of our congregation, one item of business will be a vote on the Move to Amend Resolution. Move to Amend is a national organization working to amend the U. S. Constitution to end what its organizers call “corporate rule.”

To learn more about how this “corporate rule” established itself through various court decisions through the years, join the Social Justice Steering Committee on Sunday, April 7, in the Library following the service to view the 25 minute video: “Legalize Democracy.” You can also watch it online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2-g-RBiWhk>

On February 25, members of the U.S. House of Representatives led by Pramila Jayapal (WA) announced their sponsorship of House Joint Resolution 48, known as the “We the People Amendment.” The bill now has 19 sponsors but none yet from Florida. The full text of the proposed amendment can be found at <https://movetoamend.org/> but the main points are:

- 1) Rights recognized under the Constitution belong to human beings only, and not to government-created artificial legal entities such as corporations and limited liability companies; and
- 2) Political campaign spending is not a form of speech protected under the First Amendment making it possible once again for Congress and state governments to institute campaign finance reform.

Endorsing organizations of this effort include UUA, UUUC, UUJusticeFlorida, UUs for a Just Economic Community, and our Social Justice Steering Committee, as well as several UU congregations in Florida and other states. Our Fellowship will have the privilege of adding our voice in support when we vote at our Annual Meeting.

--Submitted by Nancy Stiefel,
Chair of SJSC



Have We Received Your Pledge?

If you haven't filled out your pledge card yet—now is the time.

Will you be the Wind beneath our Wings?

If you have any questions relating to this year's pledge drive, please call or write John Maher, 603-498-6399 johnmaher123@gmail.com.

We are close to our goals—but we need your help.

--Submitted by John Maher, Stewardship Chair



Calendar

**Sunday, March 17, 2019**

10 am Sunday Service
11:30 am Intro to UU, L

Monday, March 18, 2019

4 pm Emerson Pre-Production, OB Rm
6:30 pm Adult RE – BYOT, L
6:30 pm T Coast Humanists, Choir Rm
7 pm Covenant – Woody, L

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

9:30 am Admin Cmte, L
9:30 am CG Steering Cmte, Choir Rm
3:30 pm Membership, L
6 pm Adult RE – Ethics, L

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

10 am Yoga Experience, Lobby
2 - 4 pm Fair Trade OPEN
5:30 pm Endowment, L
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 21, 2019

9 am Bridges Grad Practice, S
10 am Bridges Mtg, OB Rm
3 pm Worship Committee, OB Rm
4:30 pm Board of Trustees, L
7 pm Live! from Vero

Friday, March 22, 2019

9:30 am Open Art Studio, L
4 pm Coalition Racial Justice, L
7 pm Friday Night Movie, Lobby

Saturday, March 23, 2019

9:30 am Buddhist Meditation, L
5 pm Annual UU Auction

Sunday, March 24, 2019

10 am Sunday Service
11:30 am Book Group, L

Monday, March 25, 2019

4 pm Emerson Pre-Production, OB Rm
6:30 pm Adult RE – BYOT, L
7 pm Active Shooter Training

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

1 pm SJ monthly Meal prep
2 pm Covenant – E Deschatres, L
6 pm Adult RE – Ethics, L
7 pm Space Coast Symphony

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

10 am Yoga Experience, Lobby
11 am Ministries Cncl, L
2 - 4 pm Fair Trade OPEN
2 pm Covenant – Seekers, L
4 pm Covenant – Peace of Mind, OB Rm
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 28, 2019

9 am Bridges Grad Practice, S
1 pm Covenant – Snowbirds, L
2 pm Covenant – Jim M, OB Rm
3:30 pm Thoughtful Thursday, L
7 pm Covenant – Elizabeth B, L

Friday, March 29, 2019

9:30 am Open Art Studio, L
2 pm Fair Trade Meeting, L
3 pm Bridges Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30, 2019

9:30 am Buddhist Meditation, L
9:30 am Sebastian Breakfast
4 pm Vero Ice Age

Sunday, March 31, 2019

10 am Sunday Service
11:30 am Town Hall, S

Monday, April 1, 2019

11 am Drumming, Choir Rm
12 Noon Newsletter Articles Due
6:30 pm Adult RE – BYOT, L

Sunday Services — 10 a.m. — childcare available

March 17 – “The Spirituality of Luck,” Rev. Scott W. Alexander preaching. Scott writes: "This Sunday I want to reflect on the spirituality (and the meaning and power) of luck – both “good” and “bad.” There are many in our culture who think that everything that happens to them over their lifetimes is a part of a “master plan.” I am not one of these people. Luck, both “good” and “bad,” can have a profound influence over our lives, and I want to try to put it into a larger, coherent, and spiritual context."

March 24 – “So What About the Animals? (A Unitarian Universalist Looks at Both his Behaviors and Beliefs),” Rev. Scott W. Alexander preaching. Scott writes: "Humanity as a whole – and the developed world in particular -- is not doing a very good job right now protecting the future for the other animal species with which it shares this shrinking planet. Indeed, the decisions our species make over the coming decades may well determine whether our planet, and almost everything that lives upon it, has an existence worth living. Does Unitarian Universalism have a role to play in humanity finding a more sustainable relationship with our fellow species? This topic may get uncomfortable for many of us, given our entrenched habits of exploiting other creatures for our own needs."

March 31 – “Singer of Life: Rev. Dr. Vincent Silliman,” Rev. Richard Speck, pulpit guest. Rev. Speck writes: "When I served as the settled minister of UUFVB from 1991-2000, I started the research on one of the most influential ministers in Unitarian Universalism that you might not know, Vincent Brown Silliman. His life story and his impact on our faith continue to inspire us today through his contributions. We will explore his life and legacy in this morning’s service."

Minister's Column

As your minister, I probably don't tell you enough how much I appreciate you as a congregation. The truth is that all congregations are not alike. Trust me on this, I have worked with many different congregations over my long career, and no two are even vaguely alike. And they certainly are not all equal in terms of their quality.



Congregations, like people, have distinct personalities, which build up and clarify over time, and a congregation's personality can make all the difference in the world. Here in Vero Beach, we are blessed with a congregation that is friendly, generous, open, committed, compassionate, and engaged -- and that is surely one of the reasons we have experienced so much growth over recent years.

When I became your minister in the Spring of 2008 (yes, this Spring I begin my 10th year as your settled minister!) our congregation was healthy with 180 voting members, and about 50 supporting "friends." Today we are a congregation of 280 voting members and an additional 100 supporting "friends." Further, this growth happened in the midst of our losing some 65 members and friends to death. This more than 50% growth (which is unusual in American religious congregations these days) is in no doubt in part due to the positive personality and mood that characterizes UUFVB.

Now, I will allow that ministers do help to "set the tone" of the congregations they serve. Many of you have

UUFVB: A Positive Personality

been kind (over recent years) in saying to me that you appreciate what I contribute to the overall optimism and energy that we have here at UUFVB. But I will tell you that what makes for great congregations in the end is the quality and depth of relationships that arise between and amongst its members. Yes, some people may come in our doors for "the preaching" or "the music," or because they have heard that Unitarian Universalism has a progressive message. But they stay because they find soul-satisfying relationships with other people...and enjoy being in community with others as we do the positive, joyful, humanity-affirming work that is Unitarian Universalism.

This is why it is so important that we are warm and welcoming to new people who come in our door here at 1590 27th Avenue. Visiting a religious congregation for the first time (especially if you have just moved into the community, which describes so many of our visitors here in growing Vero Beach) is always something of a harrowing experience. Will I be welcomed? Will I fit in? Will my contributions be appreciated? Will my needs for spirituality, service and friendship be met?



We are a growing and energetic congregation here in Vero Beach because we are a serious, welcoming and healthy congregation. And all that institutional success is due in largest part to the tone and personality of this place which all of you create. All I can say is Thank you! And Keep it up!

Yours, Rev. Scott Alexander

Financial Town Hall on March 31

At 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 31, a Financial Town Hall will be offered in the Sanctuary. Rebecca Hornbuckle, UUFVB treasurer, and Elizabeth Borne, UUFVB accountant, will give a presentation on the following topics:

- Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2018 - 5 minutes
- Fiscal Year to Date (7/1/18 through 2/28/2019) – 15 minutes
- Proposed Upcoming Budget (6/1/19 through 6/30/20) – 20 minutes
- Status of UUVB Mortgage Pay-down Plan – 5 minutes
- Questions & Answers – 15 minutes

Please join us to discuss the financial health of our congregation.

—Submitted by Rebecca Hornbuckle, treasurer

"Guest at Your Table" Report

The UU Service Committee has informed us that our contribution to this year's Guest at Your Table fundraiser totaled \$4,575, which is almost \$1,000 higher than last year.

This is, as you probably know, our only annual project that raises money to help fund UU projects in other countries. These projects help people whose lives are precarious or even in danger.

A heartfelt "THANK YOU!" to all of you who contributed to this effort. Countless people around the world will benefit from your generosity.

—Submitted by Andrew Sorbo
for the Social Justice Committee



Come Help with Babies, Toddlers

Do you like holding babies? Or playing fun games with toddlers? Our infant and toddler Sunday church attendance is increasing on some Sundays and we can use the extra caring hands upstairs in the nursery room. Some Sundays are more quiet than others, so this volunteer position isn't needed every Sunday. All volunteers must be background checked. So, if you are interested in helping out, please submit your name and the best way to be contacted via telephone, text, or email to Kelly Stephens by phone at (772)778-5880 or by email at youth@uufvb.org.

We are also looking for used toys that are age appropriate for infants and toddlers. If you have any leftover games, toys, and or playsets from your grandchildren please bring them in.

--Submitted by Kelly Stephens,
Youth and Family Ministry

Ingredients Needed for Transitional Meal

There are still many ingredients needed for the Tuesday, March 26, meal for those in transitional housing. If you can provide something, please put your name on the sign-up sheet, which is located on the rolling rack under Social Action. Items can be left in the kitchen at any time as long as they are there by 1p.m. on March 26.

Please make sure to label ingredients with your name and indicate that they are for the transitional meal program. Any refrigerated items need to be put in the small refrigerator (not the large one, which is for Bridges).

Thank you to everyone who continues to provide food for these meals, which go to the Samaritan Center, Camp Haven and the Veterans Duplex.

--Submitted by Kathy Barnes

Transitional Meal Prep Is March 26

On Tuesday, March 26, we will be preparing a casserole of ham, broccoli, and cheese for Camp Haven, the Veterans Home and the Samaritan Center.

Please see the sign-up sheet on the rolling rack and pick something to contribute to the meal. Food can be left in the UUFVB kitchen as long as it is there by 1 p.m. on March 26. Please write your name and "meal donation" on the item(s). All items should be cooked ahead of time, as one facility does not have an oven.

—Submitted by Kathy Barnes

Men's Lunch April 4

UU Men Eating Out at the First ThUUrsday LUUnch Buunch will be dining at 12 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, at Mrs. Mac's Fillin' Station located at 951 Old Dixie Hwy. Be sure to sign up on the reservation list located on the rolling racks. People who sign up for the lunch and fail to cancel, after receiving a reminder email, will be expected to donate \$5 to the Ministerial Discretionary Fund.

—Submitted by Spike Vrusho



Congregational Record

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
1590 27th Ave., Vero Beach FL 32960
772-778-5880; uufvb.org

Board of Trustee Officers: Cate Wenzing, president; John Maher, vice president; Suzy Bromwell, secretary; Rebecca Hornbuckle, treasurer.

Trustees: Paul Amaru, Sue Burt, Kathy Cossa, Terry Domino, Tom Tierney

Staff: Rev. Scott Alexander, Minister; Kelly Stephens, Youth and Family Ministry; Katrina Pascale, Administrator; Paula Herger, Director of Music; Elizabeth Borne, Assistant Music Director; Kristy O'Neal, Sexton; Brenda Neeley, Bridges Director.

newsletter.uufvb@gmail.com

Deadlines the 1st & 15th each month

Editor, Bonnie Shelton



April Anniversaries and Birthdays
If you are a Fellowship member and your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please let the administrator know.



Anniversaries

Jim & Cynthia Marlow	4/04
Richard & Patricia Atkinson	4/28

Lisa Kahle	4/20
Jim Miller	4/20
Susan Schmitke	4/20

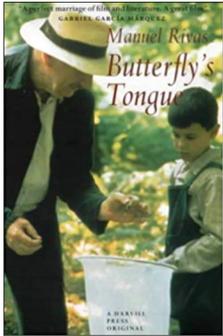
Birthdays

Anna Collins-Proper	4/01
Harry Schmitke	4/04
Becky Sims	4/04
Woody Sutton	4/06
Donna Brewer	4/07
Hester Denniston	4/08
Bonnie Howard	4/08
Karen Swanson	4/08
Maureen Simmons	4/10
Crystal Bujol	4/17
Richard Atkinson	4/20

Diane Conway	4/21
Earle Kirkbride	4/21
Ken Heller	4/23
Sue Nalepa	4/23
Nick Sanders	4/23
Mark Hornbuckle	4/24
Marilee Bell	4/25
Frank Bilotta	4/25
Ron Schaeffer	4/25
Bill Tarnowski	4/25
Jim Brewer	4/27
Jon Levi	4/28

Butterfly's Tongue Is the March 22 Movie Spanish language film with English subtitles

Jose Luis Cuerda's 1999 film *The Butterfly* is set in a remote town in Galicia, Spain in 1936, right before the advent of the Spanish Civil War. The film centers on the developing relationship between a young boy, Moncho (Manuel Lozano), and his teacher, Don Gregorio (Fernando Fernan Gomez), who teaches children about life and all living things. The old teacher takes the children



through the fields and streams that surround the village and introduces them to the story of the butterfly's tongue. The visual effect is stunningly beautiful and soothing.

But the film is punctuated by the changing interactions in the social life of the village. Its families are depicted as tranquil through most of the film until political factions begin to unravel the sense of security. The villagers who had coexisted peacefully, while not always in agreement, begin to take on more strident positions.

When the fascists take over the government, those disagreements become dangerous. Cuerdo illustrates the disquieting effects of the changed political environment on the lives of the villagers through the emotions of Moncho and his brother. The children sense the fears of their parents and respond.

There is no charge for Friday Night at the Movies. Just come to the Front Lobby of UUFVB at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 22. Host for this evening's show will be David Kimball. There will be free popcorn and friendly discussion afterward. Come and enjoy!

--Submitted by Beverly Doherty, 443-518-6594

Sunday Fund Committee Update

We want to thank members of the Fellowship who submitted their requests for funding to local charities from Sunday Fund 2019-20.

We are in our final review of this worthy and diverse group of organizations and will submit our subcommittee's nominations to the Social Justice Committee and the Ministries Committee at the end of this month.

--Submitted by Stacey Morrison

All About UUs Class

Here is an opportunity to learn more about UUFVB. If you are a visitor, friend, or new member, this is a chance to learn more about our Fellowship. Rev. Alexander will speak, as well as other informative members. Refreshments will be served.

The class will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, April 20, in Fellowship Hall. Sign-up is required.- RSVP by contacting the UUFVB office, signing up at the Welcome Table on Sunday, or calling me at 562-5810.

--Submitted by Jean Panuto,
Membership Chair

Three New Chocolate Bars Debut in the Fair Trade Corner

Drumroll please! The Fair Trade Corner is announcing the debut of three brand new chocolate bars, now available in the Corner. They are part of Equal Exchange's new spring line and they provide three new choices for you to taste: whole almond and sea salt (55%), coconut milk and coconut palm sugar (55%), and total eclipse (92%).

Fair Trade chocolate bars are rich in flavor with a smooth, creamy texture that melts in your mouth. The organic cocoa and sugar are sourced directly from small-scale farmers' co-ops in Latin America. With organic cacao and sugar sourced from democratic co-ops, our Fair Trade and organic chocolates benefit small-scale farmers in Latin America. These organic chocolates are delicious and support a more equitable, alternative supply chain.



--Submitted by Denise Haight

Inclusion & Acceptance Are Covenant Topics

At their April meetings, covenant groups will discuss Inclusion / Acceptance. Have you ever felt that you have been intentionally excluded by others? Are you resentful of having to include people that you don't know or don't want to know? What would it mean to live in an inclusive society? Come share your thoughts.