



April 1, 2019

## Two Standing Committees Eliminated by Board

At the February 21 Board of Trustees meeting, members voted to accept recommendations from the Ministries Council to eliminate two standing committees: Leadership Development and Long-Range Planning. The board agreed that the functions of both committees should be performed by board-appointed task forces. The rationale for the recommendation was that both committees are inactive and, in fact, have no members.

The Ministries Council, at its March 27 meeting, began the 30-day vetting process by sending this change in board policies to all committees that are part of the Ministries Council. In addition, all UUFVB members are encouraged to consider this change. If you're in opposition, please send your remarks via email to board secretary Suzy Bromwell ([sbromwell@gmail.com](mailto:sbromwell@gmail.com)) before April 26. A report of the vetting process will be presented to the board at its meeting on May 16.

--Submitted by Suzy Bromwell

## All About UUs Class

Here is an opportunity to learn more about UUFVB. An All About UUs class will be offered from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, April 20, in Fellowship Hall. Rev. Alexander will speak, as well as other informative members. Refreshments will be served. Sign-up is required—contact the UUFVB office, sign up at the Welcome Table on Sunday, or call me.

--Submitted by Jean Panuto,  
Membership Chair, 772-562-5810

## Regulations for Animals on the Property of UUFVB

One of the central commitments here at UUFVB is to create a safe, healthy and congenial environment for all who enter our property. Because some people are allergic to animals, and fearful of animals, and because some animals (even generally well-behaved ones) are susceptible to aggressive or unpredictable behavior, it is necessary for us to have a policy that regulates when and how animals are allowed on our property.

### Policy

- Only Trained Service animals will be allowed to be on the premises of UUFVB.
- Trained Service animals are not permitted on the UUFVB property unless they are under the control of the owner by harness or leash.
- The owner or caretaker of any animal that shows an aggressive behavior or is not housebroken will be asked to remove the animal from the premises and clean up after the animal.
- Florida's service animal law applies to animals that are trained to do work or perform tasks for someone with a physical, mental, psychiatric, sensory, or intellectual disability. The work the animal does must be directly related to the person's disability. For example, an animal might provide stability and balance to someone with impaired mobility, might alert someone who has a hearing impairment to sounds, or might interrupt someone with a psychiatric disability from engaging in self-destructive or dangerous acts. For access to public accommodations, only service dogs and miniature horses are covered.



The ADA defines a service animal as a dog that is individually trained to perform tasks or do work for the benefit of a person with a disability. Representatives of the congregation are permitted to ask the owner of an animal whether the animal is a service animal required for your disability and what work your animal has been trained to perform. Thank you for understanding the need for this new policy.

--Submitted by the Board of Trustees



# Calendar



## Monday, April 1, 2019

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

## Tuesday, April 2, 2019

9:30 am Facilitator Circle, Choir Rm  
 1 pm Adult RE, L  
 6 pm Adult RE – Ethics, L  
 6 pm 50+ Singles Potluck, FH

## Wednesday, April 3, 2019

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

## Thursday, April 4, 2019

9 am Bridges Grad Practice, S  
 6 pm Covenant - Jen S., OB Rm

## Friday, April 5, 2019

9:30 am Open Art Studio, L  
 2 pm Covenant - Anne Trainor, OB Rm

## Saturday, April 6, 2019

9:30 am Buddhist Meditation, L

## Sunday, April 7, 2019

10 am Sunday Service  
 11:30 am SJ Film, L

## Monday, April 8, 2019

11 am Drumming, Choir Rm  
 3:30 pm Exec. Mtg., Minister's Office  
 4 pm Emerson Pre-Production, OB Rm  
 6:30 pm Adult RE – BYOT, L  
 7 pm Covenant - Terry M, OB Rm

## Tuesday, April 9, 2019

10 am Covenant – Georgeann, Choir Rm  
 1 pm Covenant - Suzy B, OB Rm  
 2 pm Covenant - E Deschatres, Library  
 3:30 pm Covenant – Anna, OB Rm  
 6 pm Adult RE – Ethics, L  
 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

## Wednesday, April 10, 2019

10 am Yoga Experience, Lobby  
 10 am Facilities Council, L  
 2 - 4 pm Fair Trade OPEN  
 4 pm Covenant - Peace of Mind, OB Rm  
 7 pm Live! From Vero

## Thursday, April 11, 2019

9 am Bridges Grad Practice, S  
 10 am Bridges Committee, OB Rm  
 1 pm Covenant – Snowbirds, L  
 2 pm Covenant - Jim M, OB Rm  
 4 pm Finance, L

## Friday, April 12, 2019

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

## Saturday, April 13, 2019

9:30 am Buddhist Meditation, L  
 3 pm Memorial Service – Colleen Mader

## Sunday, April 14, 2019

10 am Sunday Service  
 11:30 am Annual Meeting, S

## Monday, April 15, 2019

11 am Drumming, Choir Rm  
 12 Noon Newsletter Articles Due  
 6:30 pm T C Humanists, Choir Rm  
 6:30 pm Adult RE – BYOT, L  
 7 pm Covenant – Woody, L

## Tuesday, April 16, 2019

11 am Pastoral Care, L  
 3:30 pm Membership, L  
 7 pm SJ Film, Lobby

## Wednesday, April 17, 2019

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

## Sunday Services – 10 a.m. – childcare available

**April 7 – “The Problem of Evil,”** Rev. Scott W. Alexander preaching. Scott writes: "Unitarian Universalists have a problem with evil. Our faith tradition has always been optimistic about human nature, we affirm 'the inherent worth and dignity of every person,' and we have always theologically focused on the human potential for good. But we also are painfully aware of the horrific and cruel behavior of which people are capable – both individually and communally. How, then, do we reconcile our positive view of human nature with the systemic failings of human behavior?"

**April 14 – UUFVB 2019 Music Sunday, “How Can I Keep from Singing?”** Rev. Scott W. Alexander, Paula Herger, director of music, and the UUFVB Adult Choir. Music Sunday is a much beloved annual tradition here at UUFVB. Our children will join us for this hour-long service of music, meditation and poetry. Our Director of Music, Paula Herger, will offer a reflection on “The Power of Music,” our minister will share poetry, and the choir (occasionally accompanied by our youth) will sing a variety of selections on the theme of **“How Can I Keep From Singing?”** Do be with us for this festive service.

**April 21 – EASTER SUNDAY, “Rolling Away the Stone...”** Rev. Scott W. Alexander preaching. Scott writes: "For many in our culture, Easter is a particular Sunday in Spring that we mark with brightly colored eggs, chocolate bunny rabbits, and cheerful spring clothing and hats. But the spiritual signs of a genuine and lasting Easter are far more subtle and elusive than that. Easter only comes true when we human beings decide -- deep to the heart -- to allow it to come to birth. Do be with us for this hopeful Sunday of special music and quiet reflection."

## Gale Parmentier to Retire After 17 Years at the Fair Trade Corner

After chairing the Fair Trade Committee for 17 years, Gale Parmentier will soon be stepping down from this position, which she feels has been her most meaningful retirement activity. A passion, really, and our congregation is the beneficiary of her vision, her commitment, and her tireless devotion. Her mission has always been to educate others about Fair Trade and, in the process, the Corner has contributed thousands of dollars to the betterment of UUFVB. I asked committee members to share their impressions of Gale's involvement with the Corner. Here are a few responses.



Warm feelings and gratitude, small doses repeated often. Gale never fails to miss an opportunity to have some fun, give a little compliment, and make you feel like you've done something special. I adore Gale's enthusiasm, her liberal use of exclamation points and how she signs off her emails. For instance –(responding to multiple emails from FTC volunteers) **Good Morning & thanks for all the replies!!!!** (or her email closings) **We can do this!!!!**

Back In 2002, a new blend of coffee was first served at our Fellowship. Susan Winters introduced this Equal Exchange Fair Trade coffee as "not just a cup, but a JUST cup." Gale has been a tireless advocate for Fair Trade coffee ever since. She loves coffee, so it was a perfect match. She quickly volunteered to staff a card table after each service, selling this coffee for home use so that she and others could enjoy the delicious blend all week long. That card table has blossomed into today's Fair Trade Corner with its many volunteers -- still led and inspired by Gale. The Corner provides the rest of us and the community at large an opportunity to use our wallets in harmony with our values.

Without Gale, this social justice effort would have faltered long ago. Thank you, Gale, for teaching us about Fair Trade over your 17 years of devoted service!

--Submitted by Denise Haight, Fair Trade Corner

## Tuesday, April 23, is the Day To Prepare Transitional Meal

On Tuesday, April 23, we will be preparing sausage, bean and spinach ragout for the Samaritan Center, Camp Haven and the Veteran's Duplex. Please sign up to bring something on the sheet on the rolling rack.

In the hustle and bustle of our lives it isn't always easy to remember to buy and bring ingredients to the Fellowship. Perhaps you could write a note on your paper calendar or enter a message on your phone to remind yourself. Food and drinks must be here by 1p.m. on April 23. It is also important that all items that need cooking to be cooked when they are brought to the fellowship. This includes rice and pasta.

Rebecca Hornbuckle has generously agreed to oversee the preparing and distribution of the meals this month. She will need at least two helpers. It only takes about an hour. Please check "I will help prepare meal" on the sign-up sheet if you can. Thank you so much for your continued support of this Social Justice program.

--Submitted by Kathy Barnes

## Move to Amend Is on Annual Meeting Agenda

Reminder: at the April 14 Annual Meeting, one item of business will be a vote on a resolution to endorse the Move to Amend effort. Move to Amend is a national organization working to amend the U.S. Constitution to end what its organizers call "corporate rule." Please inform yourself about this issue prior to the meeting. You can watch a 30-minute video ("Legalize Democracy") online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2-q-RBiWhk> or view the DVD on Sunday, April 7, in the Library following the service.

The full text of the proposed Constitutional 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.

Our Fellowship can show our support by voting in in support when we vote at our Annual Meeting

--Submitted by Nancy Stiefel,  
chair of SJSC

## UU Women to Lunch at Mr. Manatee's

UU Ladies Who Lunch will be dining at 12 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, at Mr. Manatee's, located at 30 Royal Palm Pointe. Sign up on the reservation list located on the rolling racks. People who sign up and fail to cancel will be expected to donate \$5 to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

--Submitted by Marion Vrusho

## 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction Brings in \$17,565

Our annual auction brought in \$17,565. That significant windfall was the result of many months of planning, and hours of volunteer work. It all started in December when Earle Beasley started designing admission tickets, a poster and 50/50 raffle tickets. With a donation request letter in hand, Jack Quinn and Spike Vrusho started canvassing businesses in January and continued a three-month effort, which ended in March.

### ***Gift certificates, good and services***

A request to the congregation for help in getting gift certificates was answered by Gerry Rosebery, Anne Tschinkel, John Maher, Lynn Foote, Dick & Denise Haight and Elizabeth Borne. Likewise, a request for goods and services was answered by Scott Alexander & Collins Mikesell, Paul & Carol Amaru, Bill Bastian, Barbara Beckham & Carol Johnson, Elizabeth Borne, Kim McIntyre, Hector Cruz, Jim Daly, Fair Trade Corner, Dick & Denise Haight, Thomas Hamilton & Beverly Doherty, Paula Herger, Marc & Rebecca Hornbuckle, Mary Ellen Kaser, Josie Lieberman, James & Cynthia Marlow, Bill & Jan Mathrani, Laura Matson, Al Parmentier, Jack Quinn, Gerry & Helen Rosebery, Irwin Sadetsky, Bob & Patty Schmidt, Jeanette Shaw, Bonnie Shelton, Andrew Sorbo, Woody & Jennifer Sutton, John & Anne Tschinkel, Spike & Marion Vrusho, Marian Wenzel, Margie & John Wheeler, Mary Woodward, Sarah York & Chuck Campbell.

### **Setup and on-site helpers**

Setting up the auction was handled by the Roseberys and Vrushos along with our Sexton, Kristy O'Neal. Auction night helpers were Jean Panuto, Lee Compton, Helen Rosebery, Laurie McGowan, Lynn Foote, Charlene Fisher, Joe Hardy, Gale Parmentier, and Stewart & Kathy Barnes.

Food and servers were provided by THE Source and all information technology was provided by Joe Hardy, who wrote all the computer programs, entered all of the data, and provided for all the bid sheets and auction booklet. 50/50 winners were: First Prize, Dick Haight, and three Second Prizes, Kathy Cossa, Bill Hults and Stan Winters.

Finally, it should be mentioned that Sexton, Kristy O'Neal had to tear down all the Saturday evening tables, chairs and stuff and set up all the Sunday tables and chairs so that our Fellowship would look good on Sunday morning. Thank you so much, Kristy.

**--Submitted by Spike Vrusho, Fund Raising Chair**

## Literary Services of IRC Needs Volunteers

Literacy Services of IRC (one of our Sunday Fund recipients), known for tutoring reading and English as a Second Language, also needs volunteers to tutor math. GED preparation is another area for which they need tutors. The GED prep includes Reasoning through Language Arts (reading and writing), Mathematical Reasoning, Social Studies, and Science. To volunteer, call 772-778-2223 or visit the Literacy Services office in the IRC main library.

Miss B's Learning Bee's, Inc., is another volunteer tutoring program serving elementary age children. See the flyer about that organization on UUFVB's public bulletin board.

**--Submitted by Nancy Stiefel, chair, SJSC**

## Crystal says Music Lessons Make Children Smarter

UUFVB members are bright and shining stars in the annals of the Gifford Youth Orchestra, for their continued financial support. We began 2019 with 47 students studying piano and violin. This month our student enrollment jumped to 53! We received your 2018 Sunday Fund gift just in time to enroll another at-risk child who otherwise would not be able to afford these empowering music lessons.

Your gift is extremely appreciated because research tells us music helps children do better in all their classes! Our deepest thanks to all who support the Sunday Fund and the Gifford Youth Orchestra. Together, we continue to keep children "Off the Street and On the Stage!"

**--Submitted by Crystal Bujol,  
Artistic Director /GYO**



## Congregational Record

### **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

1590 27<sup>th</sup> Ave., Vero Beach FL 32960  
772-778-5880; [uufvb.org](http://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](mailto:newsletter.uufvb@gmail.com)

Deadlines the 1st & 15th each month

**Editor, Bonnie Shelton**

## Why We Are Not Effective Agents of Change

The Social Justice Steering Committee offers an opportunity to recognize how much of what has been passed down to us as "history" includes misinformation and omitted information. You are invited to join us for a screening of the award-winning documentary "The Century of the Self" by filmmaker Adam Curtis.

This four-part 2002 British documentary series explores the various ways that governments and corporations have used Freud's theories. The film asks deeper questions about the roots, methods, and implications of consumerism. Where once the political process was about engaging people's rational, conscious minds, as well as facilitating their needs as a group, Stuart Ewen, a historian of public relations, argues that politicians now appeal to primitive impulses that have little bearing on issues outside the narrow self-interests of a consumer society.

All episodes will be shown on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Lobby: April 16, 23, 30 and May 7. Join a Q & A session after each episode, led by Garry Garvey and Swami Pujananda, and feel free to bring friends.

--Submitted by the Social Justice Steering Committee

## In America Is April 12 Friday Night Movie

*In America* is a 2002 film drama directed by Jim Sheridan. The semi-autobiographical screenplay by Sheridan and his daughters, Naomi and Kirsten, focuses on a poor Irish immigrant family's struggle to start a new life in New York City, as seen through the eyes of the elder daughter.

The film, an Irish, American, and British co-production, was nominated for three Academy Awards including Best Original Screenplay for the three Sheridans, Best Actress for Samantha Morton and Best Supporting Actor for Djimon Hounsou, who plays the enigmatic neighbor to the young family.

In his review in the *New York Times*, A. O. Scott called it a "modest, touching film" and added, "Many of [its] elements . . . seem to promise a sticky bath of shameless sentimentality. But instead, thanks to Jim Sheridan's graceful, scrupulously-sincere direction and the dry intelligence of his cast, *In America* is likely to pierce the defenses of all but the most dogmatically cynical viewers. Mr. Sheridan is more interested in particular people than in general plights, and what lingers in the mind after you have seen his movies is the rough, radiant individuality of his characters."

This English language movie will be shown with subtitles. There is no charge for Friday Night at the Movies. Just come to the Front Lobby of UUFVB at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 12. There will be free popcorn and friendly discussion afterward. Come and enjoy!

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

## Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See is April Book Selection

How very exciting - this month our book club is going to be traveling (vicariously of course) to China! In *Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*, Lisa See explores the lives of a Chinese mother, Li-yan, and her daughter, Haley, who has been adopted by an American couple. Li-yan and her family align their lives around the seasons and the farming of tea. One day a stranger, seeking rare tea, appears at the village gate. Li-yan, one of the few educated village girls, serves as a translator for the stranger. She soon decides to reject the rules by which she has been taught to live and is intimate with the stranger. When she has a baby, out of wedlock, rather than standing by tradition, Li-yan wraps her daughter in a blanket and abandons her in a nearby city.

Mother and daughter go their separate ways, with Haley growing up in California well loved and privileged. However, despite her happy home life, Haley wonders about her origins, while Li-yan longs for her abandoned daughter. *Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* paints an unforgettable portrait of a little-known region and celebrates the bond that connects mothers and daughters.

Discussion will take place in the UUFVB Library at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 28. Anyone interested is invited to attend. Copies of the book may be obtained from the LRE table during coffee hour. Please include your e-mail address when signing out the book. As usual, we will be sharing 12 copies of the book. Thus, please return the book as soon as you have completed it - either to the LRE table on Sunday or anytime to the book club mailbox in the UUFVB office. It is imperative that all books be returned no later than Sunday, April 28, as they are due at the library soon thereafter. Thank you for your co-operation.

--Submitted by Terry Domino