



December 1, 2019

Four More Discussions on the 1619 Project

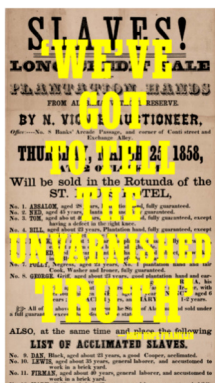
The Coalition for Racial Justice invites all members and friends of the Fellowship to join us for our continuing series of discussions on the *New York Times*' "The 1619 Project." Our first Nov. 16 session will be followed by gatherings on the following Saturdays: January 4, February 1, March 7 and April 4. The sessions will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Please stop at the Social Justice table in Fellowship Hall to sign up. The reading packet will be available soon. As we intend to do small group breakout sessions, we ask that you complete the short readings before each session to get the most out of your experience.

The purpose of these sessions is to examine parts of our nation's history of slavery and racism that are not taught in school or are ignored completely. The Times' intention was to lay bare for us how much of our present national condition derives directly from our history of slavery and its aftermath.

Be prepared to say over and over, "I didn't know that!"

—Submitted by Andrew Sorbo



Bastian Matching Campaign a Resounding Success

The generosity of our congregation has been on display with the ongoing support of the Bastian Matching Campaign. This capital campaign to pay down the UUFVB mortgage was completed on November 30, and the results have been outstanding:

Members and Friends Contributing	130
Congregational Donations	\$ 70,744
Bill Bastian Matching Donation	\$ 50,000
Total Money Raised	\$120,744

With this additional principal payment, we estimate that the UUFVB mortgage will be paid IN FULL by August 2022.

A huge thank you is due to Bill Bastian for his vision and his leadership. As UUFVB treasurer, I had no clue how this fund raiser would land – I just hoped that the congregation would reach the \$50,000 matching goal. But, the generosity of our members and friends exceeded that amount by over \$20,000. And, per Bill's request, we did it without pleas for money from the pulpit. Kudos all around! Now we can look forward to a mortgage burning party in 2022.

--Submitted by Rebecca Hornbuckle,
UUFVB Treasurer

MLK Parade Is January 20

Please join us at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr., parade in Gifford, which will begin at 10 a.m. on Monday, January 20, 2020. This year's theme is "Unity of Colors Coming Together," a fitting theme for the serious work our Fellowship has been doing for decades. For the past 27 years, as many as 70 members and friends have participated in this social justice event, and have described the experience as fun, emotional, and even spiritual.

We plan to walk the 1.25-mile parade route together in our bright pink UU shirts as we greet our neighbors in Gifford. We will distribute MLK, Jr., church fans, as well as magnets featuring King's likeness and the phrase, "The March Continues." The colors chosen for the magnet are those of the former Gifford High School. Hopefully you will stay after the parade and join in the festivities at Gifford Park and sample some great down-home cooking.

We are currently working on the details, and hope that we will once again have a float so that those with mobility challenges will be able to ride the parade route. I will also have pink UU T-shirts for sale at the Fellowship every Sunday in January. If you haven't participated before and have questions, please feel free to contact me at doc8roh@yahoo.com.

--Submitted by Dick Haight



Calendar



Tuesday, December 3, 2019

9am Covenant Membership mtng, OB
9:30 am Facilitator Circle, CR
1 pm Adult RE Cmte, L
3:30pm Safety mtng, L

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

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

Thursday, December 5, 2019

6 pm Covenant - Jen S, L

Friday, December 6, 2019

9:30 am Open Art Studio, L
3 pm Celtic Program - Emerson Center
7 pm Celtic Program - Emerson Center

Saturday, December 7, 2019

9:30 am Buddhist Meditation, L

Sunday, December 8, 2019

10 am Sunday Service

Monday, December 9, 2019

10:30 am Exec Cmte, Minister's Office
11 am Drumming, Choir Rm
2:15pm Emerson Center Film Cmte, L
7 pm Covenant - Terry M, Lobby

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

10 am Covenant – Gene L, Choir Rm
1 pm Covenant - Suzy B, OB

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

10 am Facilities Council, L
10 am Yoga Experience, Lobby
11 am Ministries Cncl, OB
2 - 4 pm Fair Trade OPEN
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 12, 2019

2 pm Covenant - Jim M, OB

Friday, December 13, 2019

9:30 am Open Art Studio, L
10 am Bridges Cmte, OB
1 pm Ukulele Group
2pm Covenant – Anne T, OB
7 pm Friday Night Movie, Lobby

Saturday, December 14, 2019

9:30 am Buddhist Meditation, L
1pm Pat Atkinson Memorial Service, S
4:30 pm Family Night Out, FH

Sunday, December 15, 2019

10 am Sunday Service
11:30 am Intro to UU, L
12 Noon Newsletter Articles Due

Monday, December 16, 2019

11 am Drumming, Choir Rm
7 pm Covenant – Woody, L

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

1 pm SJ Meal Prep
3:30 pm – Membership Cmte, L

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

10 am Yoga Experience, Lobby
2 - 4 pm Fair Trade OPEN
2 pm Covenant – Steve B, OB
4 pm Bridges Christmas FH
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 19, 2019

3 pm Worship Cmte, OB
4:30 pm Board of Trustees, L

Friday, December 20, 2019

9:30 am Open Art Studio, L
1 pm Ukulele Group
1:30 pm Covenant - Laura G, L
2pm Lobby Lecture, L
2pm Covenant – Anne T, OB

Saturday, December 21, 2019

9:30 am Buddhist Meditation, L
4-7 Christmas at the Parsonage

Dec. 17 Is Date for Transitional Meal

The meal for transitional housing residents will be put together at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17.

We need ingredients for sausage, bean and spinach ragout. Donations can be left in the Fellowship kitchen at any time, as long as they are there by 1 p.m. on Dec. 17. Please write your name and "meal donation" on the item(s). Questions? Please call Kathy Barnes, 772-925-9338, Rachel Hanks, 276-525-0598 or Janice Schroeder, 828-634-0202.

--Submitted by Kathy Barnes

Sunday Services 10 a.m.

December 8 – The Rev. Amy Kindred, pulpit guest. On this Sunday, our minister, the Rev. Scott W. Alexander, is doing a "pulpit exchange" with his colleague, the Rev. Amy Kindred, minister of the *Friendship Fellowship of Pineda*, in Rockledge. Rev. Kindred was ordained into the Unitarian Universalist ministry in 2006, and has served churches in Indiana and Florida. Please once again welcome Rev. Kindred to our pulpit.

December 15—"Jesus," Sermon 4 in the year-long series, "This I Believe," Rev. Scott W. Alexander preaching.

December 22—Intergenerational Holiday / Music Service, Rev. Scott W. Alexander and Kelly Stephens.

You Can Trust Our Fair Trade Chocolates

Just before Halloween, a report on NPR's "The Takeaway" raised questions about the sourcing of chocolate: "Your Halloween Chocolate Most Likely Comes from Child Labor in West Africa." We were asked about our chocolate products.

Equal Exchange, our supplier, has been promoting authentic fair trade since 1986. Its sourcing practices are examined annually by the Fair Trade Federation, which has higher standards than most fair trade certifications, which have weakened over the years to include huge corporations. Many American religious organizations, including UUSC, work with Equal Exchange and trust its products. You can feel confident about its business practices and sources of fair trade chocolate, coffee, and tea. Its 13 ethically-sourced chocolate bars are mostly from cooperatives in Dominican Republic, Peru, and Panama.

For years, the Fair Trade Corner has supported Green America, a non-profit organization that promotes environmentally-aware, ethical consumerism. Its *2019 Chocolate Scorecard* (which grades the ethical practices of major chocolate producers) is on display in the Corner. Equal Exchange rates an A. We invite you to check out other ratings and avoid purchasing from companies that are not following ethical practices. Please help yourself to a pocket-sized card.

If you have questions or concerns, please ask anyone in Fair Trade.

--Submitted by Fair Trade Corner Committee

50+Singles Open to New Members

The 50+Singles is a group of UUFVB-connected people who dine out together and also plan other events. They range in age from 50 to 90. We welcome new participants.

The group usually meets at the Fellowship for a potluck on the first Tuesday of the month. However, there will be no potluck in December.

Amy Maddalozzo is the contact for the group. Any questions, please contact her at (772) 234-9232, or e-mail at amymad822@bellsouth.net.

Leave your email address and telephone number if you wish to be added to the mailing list.

--Submitted by Amy Maddalozzo

Sunday Morning Forums Coming in January

Have you ever wanted to share your opinions about an important issue? If so, **Sunday Morning Forums** will be the place for you. The Forums will be a series of meetings offered by our Adult Religious Education Committee, designed to provide a space for discussions among congregants and visitors on Sunday mornings before the 10 a.m. service. Starting in January, the goal of the Forums is to provide a place where participants can safely and openly discuss their attitudes and beliefs that relate to a variety of topics. Each Forum will focus on a specific issue, such as an upcoming sermon, one of the Seven Principles, a current event, or a social justice issue such as environmental justice. The following topics have been chosen for January:

January 5: "Why Do You Come to Church?"

January 12: "Our Changing Climate: Crisis or Hoax?"

January 19: "Do Bad People Have Inherent Worth?"

January 26: "How Do We Stop Mass Killings?"

The ARE Committee will be trying a different approach to these Forums from other classes, through the use of Socratic questioning. Steve Becker, an ARE member, will moderate.

Time: 9-9:50 a.m. **Place:** Fellowship Hall **Cost:** Free **Class limit:** None
See you there!

--Submitted by Steve Becker, ARE Committee



Congregational Record

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

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

Trustees: Sue Burt, Barbara Dunst, Ken Klein, Jonnie Mae Perry, Tom Tierney

Staff: Rev. Scott Alexander, Minister; Kelly Stephens, Youth and Family Ministry; Kim McIntyre, 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