



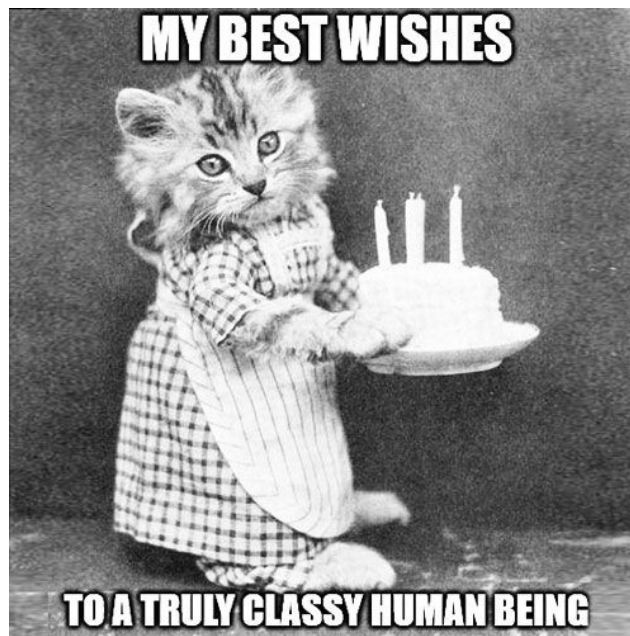
## Newsletter

**June 30, 2020**

- ◇ Welcoming Everyone ◇
- ◇ Growing in Mind & Spirit ◇
- ◇ Empowering People ◇
- ◇ Leading in Social Justice ◇

Any suggestions for news articles for publication in the E-news can be sent to: [info@uuofbaycounty.com](mailto:info@uuofbaycounty.com) If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please send us an email, or send us a message on Facebook Messenger.

**Happy Birthday to our President, Heather Ogilvie!**



Feel free to send her birthday wishes by e-mail, Facebook message, or text!



## Special Announcement

From the President of the Unitarian Universalist Association

I write to you from our first ever all-virtual General Assembly!

Last night's opening ceremony, rooted in the language and history of the Mashpee Wampanoag people, was deeply moving. It has been a great honor to get to know Jessie Little Doe Baird, Vice Chairwoman of the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe, and her incredible work on the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project.

A major theme of this General Assembly (GA) is understanding the history and current systems of colonialism and conquest, beginning with some ancestors of our religious tradition arriving in what is now called Plymouth 400 years ago. This is part of a series of GA offerings for the Plymouth/Mayflower 400th Remembrance. I hope you will participate in many of these opportunities that both unpack our UU history and complicity, engage conversations of reparations, and offer opportunities to join in solidarity with Indigenous resistance efforts.

One thing I know for sure about this experiment with virtual GA is that it will be exciting and engaging, yet imperfect. Doing a new thing for the first time always reveals new lessons. However, I also know the goal of this event is connection, learning, and community care—not perfection. Our ongoing work is to move our tradition forward as a liberating community where all people of all identities can thrive. May we all experience much needed care, inspiration, and grace throughout this week.

Still ahead is the Service of the Living Tradition honoring religious professionals; Synergy, the bridging ceremony for youth; and the critically important presentation from the Commission on Institutional Change.

I have already experienced moments of deep power and connection and feel blessed by the gifts that lay leaders and worship leaders, including co-Moderators of the UUA Mr. Barb Greve and Elandria Williams, and the Revs. María Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa and Clyde Grubbs, offered last night. My heart is full with gratitude to all who have and will share their talents, leadership, care, and ministry during GA.

There is so much still ahead! Check out the schedule and program book. You can still register and be a part of this gathering of more than 4,000 Unitarian Universalists!

Still ahead for the week is the Service of the Living Tradition honoring our religious professionals; Synergy, the bridging ceremony for our youth; the critically important presentation from the Commission on Institutional Change about the recommendations in their report Widening the Circle of Concern and their workshops on Friday about how to move institutional change in our congregations.

The writing and research of Naomi Klein, our Ware Lecture presenter, couldn't be more relevant in a world where disaster capitalists seek to exploit people impacted by COVID-19. And, with UU the Vote, we have the opportunity to call 100,000 voters in advance of upcoming critical elections!

In addition, there are meetups organized by a number of UU groups, a GA FUUN Night with hip-hop yoga and a drag show, and Sunday Morning Worship, which will be livestreamed at 10 a.m. Eastern and 10 a.m. Pacific and is open to the public.

I am sad not to be with so many of you in person, and I also know this virtual gathering will allow many who have never participated in the General Assembly to be a part of it. I am continually inspired by the ways we continue to show up for the bold possibilities of the future we all need and a faith that is ready for this moment.

Yours in spirit,

Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray



## Sunday Programs

Unless something comes up, Ron Fennell plans to be with us every Sunday in July.

Yay! A little musical accompaniment makes for a better service. We appreciate you, Ron!



## You Might Try...

If you are in need of more UU Uplifting, try these other sources of online content!



<https://www.facebook.com/pg/UUFEC/videos/> (No account required to view content)



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UUHystericalSocietyCoffeeHour/> (Account required to Join Group)

# Community Spotlight



**DOORWAYS**  
OF NW FLORIDA

## Doorways has a BIG need!!

We are running VERY low on food!

We need your help to restock our pantry!

We are still focusing on those that are homeless, low income, or just hit a rough patch and need groceries!

We can take any and all food( we have PLENTY of produce) as long as it is not opened or expired!

If you can't help, please at least share to get the word out!!!!

**Drop off: 703 15th st**

Link to Original Facebook post: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=doorways>



**Find A Pantry Results**



## Lynn Haven

**Salvation Army - Panama City**  
2601 FL-77  
(850) 769-5259

## Panama City Beach

**Woodlawn United Methodist Church**  
219 N. Alf Coleman Rd  
(850) 234-3196

## **Panama City**

### **First Baptist Church of Panama City**

640 Grace Avenue (850) 913-0687

### **Holy Temple Church of God in Christ**

802 East 8th Court (850) 871-9183

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802 E 8th St (850) 871-9183

### **Restoration Life Church**

916 Mercedes St. (850) 774-3333

### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

1001 W 11th St (850) 763-2412

### **First Assembly of God Bridges of Hope**

1701 East Avenue North (850) 769-3558

### **St. Andrew's Assembly of God Church**

2400 West 15th Street (850) 763-3268

### **Springfield United Methodist Mission House**

701 School Avenue (850) 769-0374

### **Grace Presbyterian Church Grace's Care**

1415 Airport Road (850) 769-4000

### **St. Andrew Christian Care Center**

3101 A West US Highway 98 (850) 763-2345

### **2nd Mt. Moriah Baptist Church**

3808 E 1st Ct (850) 832-9565

**VOLUNTEER**



**FEEDING**  
**THE GULF COAST**

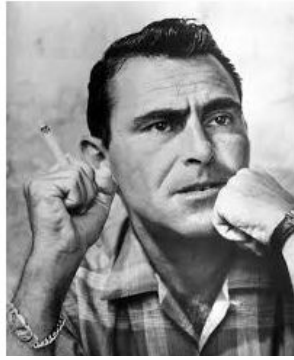
Now more than ever, healthy volunteers are needed to sort and pack food and prepare food boxes for distributions. During this time of increased need, please consider volunteering.

For questions, contact: [Missy Busby](#) at (251) 653-1617, ext. 127 | [Andrea Odom](#) ext. 125

<https://www.feedingthegulfcoast.org/get-involved/volunteer/florida>



## Some Notable Unitarians by Steve Siegfried

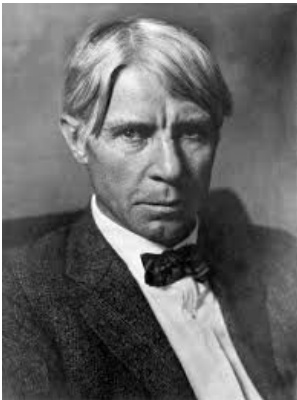


**Kurt Vonnegut** - An acclaimed author of works such as *Slaughterhouse Five* and *Cat's Cradle*, Vonnegut grew up in the Unitarian church and proclaimed himself a lifelong member. He was the Ware Lecturer at the 1986 UU General Assembly.

**Rod Serling** - The screenwriter and producer is best known for creating the television program, *The Twilight Zone*. Serling and his family were active members of Unitarian Community Church of Santa Monica, CA.

**Christopher Reeve** - An actor, best known for playing Superman, Reeve joined the church after a horseback riding accident left him paralyzed. He credited the Unitarian Church for giving him a moral compass.

**Sylvia Plath** - The poet, novelist and social activist, who had a lifelong affiliation with the church stated, "The Unitarian Church is my church. There is just no choice here."



**Carl Sandburg** - Pulitzer Prize winning author Sandburg was a lifelong Unitarian. Margaret Sanger - A leading advocate for birth control and women's rights, Sanger also helped found Planned Parenthood.

**Dorothea Dix** - Pioneer in expanding the human rights and treatment of the mentally ill. Dix was inspired to advocate after teaching a Sunday School class to prison inmates.

**Clarence Darrow** - Defense attorney in the Scopes evolution trial, Darrow regularly attended but never became a member.

**Margaret Fuller** - Journalist, Transcendentalist, and women's rights pioneer, Fuller was the first female war correspondent. Fuller grew up in a Unitarian family and was a lifelong member.



**Charles Dickens** - The acclaimed author and social critic became a Unitarian in his thirties (around 1840).

**e.e. cummings** - Poet, painter, author and playwright, cummings poem "i thank You God for most this amazing" is often included in UU worship services. He was a lifelong member.

**Bela Bartok** - A classical composer, Bartok joined the UU Church at age 25 and has a church named after him in Budapest.