

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST Fellowship of Bay County



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A Welcoming Congregation

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Saturday, April 4, 2021 **UUFBC E-News** Edition 23, July 2020-June 2021

Greetings and Good Wishes to all of our members,

In our message for this issue, we would like to share excerpts from a letter sent to Unitarian Universalist congregations from the UUA President, Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray. We all want to get back together to worship in person, but our Fellowship is holding off a little longer during the “In-between time”.



Special Announcement Unitarian Universalist Association

“This time last year, as the world was responding to the growing threat of the COVID-19 pandemic, our congregations had to immediately pivot to virtual operations. I am proud of how well we responded to a stressful and chaotic situation. Although there is good news on the horizon, we are not yet able to gather in person. We are in a critical phase of the pandemic where we need to reduce the spread of the virus to combat new variants while vaccine distribution continues.

Navigating this “in-between time” will be even more challenging than dealing with the early days of the pandemic. Those who are vaccinated may wish to start gathering in person sooner. Each person and family will have different levels of risk and risk tolerance. We have to navigate complex decisions taking into account care for the whole of our communities—within and beyond our congregations. Our priority continues to be abiding care for the most vulnerable, within and beyond our congregations.

The good news is that we have time. Time to plan in a measured way. We are not in an immediate crisis as we were last year. And, most importantly, we will continue to need flexibility going forward, because conditions can change—and new questions will emerge. Patience, planning and flexibility are essential.”

Please wear a mask, maintain social distance and help everyone you know obtain a vaccination as soon as possible.

Board of Directors, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bay County

Bob Gilmore

Lynne Siegfried

Janet Cross

John Shaffer

Bob Nixon

Matt Raver



Sunday Worship Services: Our virtual worship service begins at 10:30 AM. We invite you to join us on Zoom by clicking the link below. Please join in by 10:25 AM, so you don't miss the beginning of the service. We will also stream the service LIVE on Facebook and have it posted to our YouTube channel shortly after the service is over. In whatever way you choose to join us, thanks for being with us!

Hold the control (ctrl) button on your device and click on this Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/3hWkhEI>

"Coffee Talk" will take place immediately following the service on Zoom, so stay connected to enjoy another half hour of fellowship. If you're watching on Facebook, you're welcome to join us for Coffee Talk by clicking the link above after the service has ended.

April 2021 ***Monthly Theme "Becoming"***

The practice of discovering that inside you which wants to be born.

The practice of no longer hiding.

The practice of continual growth.

April 4th ***Reverend Tiffany Sapp*** ***"Who Shall We Become? A UU Easter Reflection"***

The metaphor of emerging from a tomb seems especially apt to our human experience this year as vaccines are rolling out and we feel like the worst *might* be over. How has our time in the tomb helped us prepare for this fresh time of emergence? And what will we do with it?

April 11th ***Jeri Johnson*** ***"The Three G's of Modern Society"***

April 18th ***Jane Nichols*** ***"On Becoming Jesus"***

Jane was born in New York but grew up in California, worked in the civil rights movement, political campaigns and in the government. One of the first things Jane and her husband John did, when they retired to Bay County, was to seek out this UU congregation and they are happy to be here.

April 25th ***Jan Booher*** ***"Social Justice and Climate Change: An Inescapable Network of Mutuality"***

Jan will present the intersectionality of Social Justice and Climate Change, using UU work in Florida to show where UUs and their allies are called to stand with low-income people of color in the face of climate change.

Need Information?

Contact the Fellowship at info@uuofbaycounty.com or call us at 850-615-4127 for more information about our services or with any question you may have. Please let us know if you have a joy or a concern that the Service Leader may share during our worship service. Also let us know if you have an idea or an article you would like to submit for publication in the E-News.



Joys and Concerns: Bob Gilmore's 101 year old Aunt Helen has been hospitalized. Please send warm and supportive thoughts to the Gilmore family.

Social Justice: Municipal Election

Topic: NAACP Candidates Forum **This week!**

Date: April 6, 2021 Time: 6:00 PM Central Time

The municipal election will be held on Tuesday, April 20th. The Bay County NAACP will be hosting a forum for the Panama City Ward 4 Commissioner race between the incumbent, Mike Nichols and local businessman Josh Street. Also, the School Tax Levy proposal will be presented by Superintendent Bill Husfelt and the opposition to it by Tho Bishop.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84864874039?pwd=My9udjdMYTFZNM1PRnZmd2hYQVo1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 848 6487 4039 Passcode: 137777 One tap mobile 646-558-8656, (84864874039#,,, *137777#)

Topic: NAACP Candidates Forum, Lynn Haven **Save the date!**

Date: April 12, 2021 Time: 6:00 PM Central Time

NAACP will be hosting a forum for the Lynn Haven races (Mayor, and Seats 3 and 4). More information will be coming as the date nears.

Early voting for this election is available from Monday, April 12 to Friday, April 16 at eight early voting sites, including the Glenwood Community Center, from 9:00 AM- 6:00 PM. (The Supervisor of Elections Office will stay open until 7:00 PM). You may vote at any Early Voting Site during Early Voting. Check the sample ballot mailed to you or the bayvotes.org website or call 784-6100 for more information.

Parker Community Building 935 W. Park St, Parker **Glenwood Community Center** 722 E. 9th Ct, Panama City
Lynn Haven Senior Center 905 Pennsylvania Ave, Lynn Haven **Supervisor of Elections** 830 W. 11th St, Panama City
Lyndell Conference Center 423 Lyndell Ln, Panama City Beach **Frank Nelson Building** 4201 W. 22nd St, Panama City
Palo Alto Church of Christ 3119 N. Hwy 231, Panama City

Election Day voting is Tuesday, April 20 at your assigned precinct. If you wait to vote on Election day, you must vote in your assigned precinct. Please note that there are only 18 precincts down from 44 before Hurricane Michael. Please check your sample ballot that was mailed to you to know where to vote, or call the Supervisor of Elections office at 784-6100, or check the You may website at bayvotes.org You may also pick up a Vote by Mail ballot at the Supervisor of Elections Office in the Bay County Government Center any time the office is open.



Knowing how much our congregation enjoys "Poetry Sunday", we would like to continue a poet's corner in our E-News. If you have a favorite poem you would like to submit, or you would like to write a poem for us, just send in your selection. The poem below was written by Nonnie Augustine and shared with her permission. Bob Gilmore recommended it to us.

Poet's Corner

MISS CORA KELLY
by Nonnie Augustine

Cora Kelly's gifts were few-
her needlework mediocre,
as a cook she bored, her house made do
with dust in almost every corner.
The choirmaster turned her down,
she often fell off her horse,
her garden was a bramble mess,
and she hated to play piano.
A spinster at forty in 1850,
she was quite as single in 1860.
But on Fridays she'd open her smudged French doors,
to children who'd visit, eat biscuits, and listen
to stories Cora invented for them. She'd spin
fantastic, dramatic, and thrilling tales
of derring-do and derring-don'ts, struggles
with hunger, and each sort of villain,
and they always came right in the end.
Dozens came by and she loved them all,
and spoke to each child by name.
Whether they lived quite near, or way over there,
had tidy clothes and shiny hair, or tangled heads
and dirty bare feet, Miss Cora Kelly simply didn't care.
And neither did the children.

*Please continue to wear your mask, stay safe and be well.
Share your carrots! Happy Easter!*



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