

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST Fellowship of Bay County



A Welcoming Congregation  
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Saturday, October 23, 2021

**UUFBC E-News** Edition 9, July 2021-June 2022

*Greetings and Good Wishes to all of our members,*

*The UUFBC Board of Directors is pleased to invite our members to join together in Fellowship Hall tomorrow at 10:30 AM to meet and welcome our minister, Reverend Ruth Vann Lillian in person. This is a very special day and has been a long time coming. We hope you will join us for the re-opening of our sanctuary. Many blessings,*

*Board of Directors, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bay County*

*Bob Gilmore*

*Lynne Siegfried*

*Janet Cross*

*John Shaffer*

*Bob Nixon*

*Matt Raver*



## *Reverend Ruth's Reflections*

Hello Bay County UUs!

I know everyone is excited about our upcoming Sunday service in person at the church building! It will be good to see your shining eyes above your masks as we gather in chairs placed for distance! While we won't be able to sing together yet, Matt and I will lift up songs for everyone, and y'all can hum along for now. After the service, we'll all go outside and enjoy our brown-bag lunches in conversational but safe proximity.

I know it all sounds a little weird, a little artificial and staged. But it will be a step toward what we all want - a greater sense of connection with one another. And we plan to live-stream on zoom for those who prefer to watch from a distance.

SO come, come, whoever you are, wanderers, worshippers . . . ours is no caravan of despair! Come, yet again, come!

And remember, contact me whenever you need a pastoral ear! (205-218-1666)

In wisdom and grace,  
Rev. Ruth





## **Worship Services LIVE at our Fellowship:**

***October 24th***

***Reverend Ruth Vann Lillian***

***“All Together Again!”***

We will meet in-person (masked and distanced) in Fellowship Hall at 10:30 AM, listen to Rev. Ruth’s sermon LIVE and following the service, enjoy social time outdoors on the deck. Coffee, tea and water will be provided. Bring any snacks you wish for yourself and your family.

***October 31st***

***Candis Harbison***

***“Celebration of Remembrance”***

In the tradition of the popular Mexican observance of *Day of the Dead*, we will commemorate All Soul’s Day with an informal remembrance of lost loved ones. Please bring a picture or other memento of those that you would like to lovingly remember (pets included) to place on our “altar”. You could even do some homework by watching the Pixar movie “Coco” which weaves a heartwarming story into a realistic portrayal of the Mexican observance. And wear your brightest-colored clothing!

***November 7th***

***Bob Gilmore***

***“Let It Be A Dance”***

Bob will share his personal interpretation of the words from the song “Let It Be A Dance” and how those words have had special meaning for him in his life.

Reminder: Protocol for In-Person Attendance The Board wants to do everything possible to ensure the good health of those attending services in-person. To that end, please observe the following precautions:

- Do not attend if you are not feeling well or have any symptoms of COVID.
- Children should not enter the Sanctuary. (Children have not had the opportunity for vaccination and so will remain separate from adults.) Children will have a program provided in another room.
- Bring and wear a mask. Hand sanitizer will be available.
- Remain socially distanced and sit in designated areas and seats.

Also bring your patience and understanding, as we do our best to accommodate concerns with the continuing presence of COVID in our environment.

Please note: While we are now offering worship services in person, we will continue to offer each service on Zoom, just as we have been doing every Sunday. Join us by 10:25 AM using the Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/3hWkhEI> for all UUFBC virtual services.

## **Need Information?**

Contact the Fellowship at [info@uuofbaycounty.com](mailto:info@uuofbaycounty.com) or call us at 850-615-4127 for more information about our services or events, 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 Sunday worship service. Also let us know if you have an article, a poem, or a picture that you would like to submit for publication in this newsletter.



## **Social Justice: Empowering voters. Defending democracy.**

A civic forum, entitled “Bridging the Divide: Addressing Barriers to Racial Reconciliation” will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 from 6:00-8:00P.M. at Gulf Coast State College Student Union East, in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. The forum will offer facilitated dialogue discussing the critical role that race plays in our politics, and considering how we might advance our civic environment. This public event is limited to 50 attendees and registration is required. To register, or for more information, e-mail [lwv.baycountyfl@gmail.com](mailto:lwv.baycountyfl@gmail.com).

## **Joys and Concerns:**

Keep Susie and Ken Sizemore in your thoughts and prayers as Susie continues to deal with her ongoing health issues. Susie is spending tonight in the hospital for observation and should be released tomorrow. Think about joining the Care Team or sending Susie a card or email.

## **Autumn**

by Wei Ying Wu

As you, oh Autumn, take pleasure in your great bounty,  
Let me also take delight  
In the abundance of the simple things in life  
Which are the true source of joy.  
With the golden glow of peaceful contentment  
May I truly appreciate this Autumn day.

This poem is reprinted from Earth Prayers, From Around the World edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon.

*Stay Safe and Be Well*

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