



A Welcoming Congregation
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UUFBC E-News Edition 17, July 2021-June 2022



Reverend Ruth's Reflections

Hello Bay County UUs!

I spoke recently with a colleague who graduated from seminary the same year I did. When we met back then, I was twenty-five and she was fifty-two. Now I am coming up on fifty-five and she is eighty. We laughed a little about that and compared notes on our journeys as ministers.

We have celebrated similar achievements and struggled with similar challenges. I think we have both found a lot of personal satisfaction in our vocations, but there have certainly been some disappointments.

I valued her when we were doing similar kinds of work simultaneously and now I value her as she explores the experience of retirement and elder life.

May we all find and nurture friendships across the years in which the similarities and the differences are mutually enriching!

In wisdom and grace,

Rev. Ruth





Worship Services at our Fellowship

Our Soul Matters theme for February is **“WIDENING THE CIRCLE”**. Monthly themes focus on our relationship with our times, and on the central work and spiritual practices needed during this period of radical change, challenge, crisis and opportunity.

February 13th **Bay County Storytellers** **“Love Knows No Barriers”**

Storytellers Robyn Rennick and Katy MacKay, along with our own Paul McAuliffe, will share their tales of love throughout this special service.

February 20th **Reverend Ruth Vann Lillian** *(Prerecorded)* **“Still Bending the Arc”**

Great leaders in the fight for racial justice, Rev. Theodore Parker and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke of the arc of the moral universe. After so many years, what is that arc doing? How can we participate in its continuing bend toward justice?

February 27th **Reverend Ruth Vann Lillian** **“The Forward Imperative”**

Humans are hardwired to move forward. This drive to progress physically also pushes us mentally and socially. What does it mean to employ a forward imperative to the life and ministries of our fellowship? What does it mean for UUFBC to move forward in a post-pandemic era?

Note: If you join us in person this Sunday, February 13th, remember to wear your warm clothing as the sanctuary will be ventilated with doors and windows open. Plan to wear a mask and remain socially distanced. Please do not attend in person if you are not feeling well or have any COVID symptoms.

You may also join us remotely this Sunday by using the Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/3hWkhEI>
Please tune in by 10:25 am so you will be connected when the service begins at 10:30 am.

UU 101: Reverend Ruth will offer a one-session UU 101 class on Zoom soon for anyone interested in joining the fellowship or just interested in learning more about being UU. The class will include folk from UUFEC as well. Date and time TBD. Please contact Ruth to sign up at 205-218-1666 or uurevruth@gmail.com

Have questions or need more information?

Contact the Fellowship at info@uufbaycounty.com or call us at 850-615-4127 for more information about our services or events, or with any question you may have. Reverend Ruth invites you to contact her at 205-218-1666 whenever you need a pastoral ear. 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.



UUFBC Schedule of Upcoming Events: Check Your Calendar!

February 16	6:30 pm	UUFBC Book Club
February 16	7:00 pm	UUA Multiracial Unity Worship
February 17	5:00 pm	League of Women Voters Documentary
February 20	6:30 pm	UUFBC Game Night
February 27	12:00 noon	UUFBC Book Club
March 4/5	TBD	UUFBC Legacy Museum, Montgomery AL
March 18	6:30 pm	UUFBC Cultural Cooking Club

UU Book Club This month's book is titled, Her Honor: My Life on the Bench...What Works, What's Broken and How to Change It. The author is Justice LaDoris Hazzard Cordell, the first African American woman jurist in Northern California. We will meet February 16th at 6:30pm by Zoom and again on February 27th after the Sunday Service at 12:00pm by Zoom and in person if the Fellowship is open for in-person participation on that day. For questions or more information, contact Chris May at chrysalis33333@gmail.com.

Multiracial Unity Worship Services The Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council is sponsoring "Third Wednesday" evening worship services at 7:00 PM Central time on the third Wednesday of each month in 2022. To get Zoom information, whether for the next Worship Service or those in subsequent months, please send your name, email address, and congregation (if any) to richard3point@gmail.com. The next service, "Unitarian Universalism, a Liberal Religion". will be held on February 16th.

League of Women Voters This event will be held on Thursday, February 17th at 5:00 pm. Join us for the League of Women Voters general membership event at the Bay County Public Library. We will watch Stacey Abrams' documentary, "All In: The Fight for Democracy", examining the issue of voter suppression in the United States. We will gather at 5:00 pm and start the film at 5:30. Refreshments will be provided.

UU Game Night Date Change: Now scheduled for February 20th

February 20th is Game Night! We will gather at **6:30 PM** to play "Left, Center, Right" which is a pass the dice game...no skill required. Join your UU friends and bring some more friends for an evening of light-hearted fun. We will have dessert on the deck, provided by Janet Cross, to kick off our evening of fun and games. Masks will be required, seats will be spread out, and lots of hand sanitizer will be available! Everyone should bring \$2 worth of nickels. Contact Janet Cross for more information at janetcross77@gmail.com.

UU Field Trip to Montgomery Date Change: Now scheduled for March 4th & 5th

Join us on this field trip to the Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. The Museum and Memorial are open from 9 am to 5 pm. To make the most of our visit, we hope to arrive early to have plenty of time to see it all. Montgomery is about a 3.5 hour drive from Panama City. You may drive up that morning or plan an overnight trip and stay in Montgomery on Friday night.

Rev. Ruth will be joining the trip and will arrange an opportunity for discussion about our experiences. The congregation from Emerald Coast UU has been invited to join us and members are signing up to go. UUFEC folks are interested in a Friday night social gathering at a local restaurant. Please contact Rev. Ruth Vann Lillian uurevruth@gmail.com or Charissa Thacker, Charissa.Thacker@yahoo.com to sign up soon!



The Cultural Cooking Club

Date Change Now scheduled for March 18th

The UUFBC is hosting a Cultural Cooking Club on Friday, **January 28th at 6:30pm**. UUs love to learn about the world and what better way than through FOOD! Each quarter we'll pick a new country, explore its cuisine and come together for a tasty potluck. Our first country is TURKEY! Start now to learn more about this uniquely positioned country and their cuisine. We'll be discussing Turkish cultural highlights so pick your dish and be ready to share on the night of our Potluck. If you're planning to participate or have any questions, please contact Charissa Thacker at 850.814.5365 or charissa.thacker@yahoo.com

If you have...

by Lauralyn Bellamy

***If you have found freedom,
Take it with you into the world.***

***If you have found comfort,
Go and share it with others.***

***If you have dreamed dreams,
Help one another,
That they may come true!***

***If you have known love,
Give some back
to a bruised and hurting world...***

Singing the Living Tradition
Closing Words, #692



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