

Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bay County!

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

We are an open-minded, open-hearted spiritual community

The UUFBC is meeting in person for our Sunday Services at this time

Sunday Fellowship Services; 10:30 in person and on YouTube. Address: 1410 Airport Rd, Panama City, FL

*Note! No longer on zoom! YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/@UUofBayCounty/streams>



Side With Love

For Your Reflection

Rally Around the Flag Effect

Imagine a nation in times of a national emergency or crisis such as the outbreak of a war. During such times, the **Rally Around the Flag Effect** suggests that the approval rating of a political leader will surge; albeit for a short time only.

The concept was coined by political scientist John Mueller in his 1970 paper on [*Presidential Popularity from Truman to Johnson*](#). According to Mueller, the effect can arise from an event that is (1) “international” (2) “involves the United States and particularly the President directly” and (3) is “specific, dramatic, and sharply focused”.

A crisis can be a unifying event. It reminds people of their shared values. And what better place to metaphorically rally around than the country’s national symbol? Unfortunately, this effect also creates a [perverse incentive](#) for politicians to manufacture a crisis to improve low approval ratings.

Upcoming Services

Jan 21: “Embracing an evolving faith” by Bob Gilmore, Service leader: Arlene

We are a non-creedal religious faith. Embedded in our founding bylaws is a commitment to periodic formal evaluation of our principles and values. The Unitarian Universalist Association is now on the cusp of such an

impactful evaluation of our Bylaws. Change is hard, change is exciting, change creates opportunity. What is Article II, how will it impact the UUFBC, what happens next and how we can be involved?

Jan 28: Title: A Love that Liberates, by Michael Lister. Service Leader: Chris May

Michael Lister is a *New York Times* bestselling author, singer-songwriter, inspirational speaker, and creativity and spiritual growth counselor. More information can be found at www.MichaelLister.com
our friend Michael Lister

Feb 4: Let's Create! + Potluck Sunday! by Charissa Thacker, Jeannine Haney

Get those creative juices flowing as we have a little fun this Sunday! Plus, it's POTLUCK Sunday so plan to join us after service for lunch. You're asked to bring a dish to share but don't let that stop you. We always have

Pot Luck!



plenty!

Announcements

Board Meeting:

January 24th 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Operation Spay Bay:

🐾 We have exciting news!! 📢

📅 January 26th and 27th We have a Vet team coming in to help with Spays and Neuters for dogs and owned cats! 📞 To schedule for these days, you must call the office (850) 215-1022

💰 📋 You will have to prepay for the spay/neuter the day you schedule the appointment! This is non-refundable! !!! This is for owned public pets ONLY! (Not ferals.)

Campfire

We will be having a campfire under our dear Magnolia tree. Our tree has lost a major branch in the last storm. We will offer up words of gratitude for this magnificent tree for giving us beauty, sweet magnolia perfume, shade and shelter. The wood from the fall will help give us warmth in the fire for our campfires.

Please join us Wednesday Jan 31st at 6:00 under the Magnolia tree. Bring a poem a song a snack to share or just bring you that is enough.

Book Club

Next time there will be 2 offerings “[How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen](#)” By David Brooks.

And - Bay County Schools banned book. Ace of Spades by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé in 2023. [Amazon.com: Ace of Spades eBook : Àbíké-Íyímídé, Faridah: Kindle Store](#) It is a young adult novel. That will be our banned book this time around.

The discussion for David Brooks, How to Get to Know People will take place on January 21st. Discussion on Ace of Spades, by Farida Abike-Iyimide happens Feb 25th.

Joys and Concerns

Cleaning up! Looking for a way to get more involved in our UUFBC community and have a little time on Tuesday mornings? Drop in to the UUFBC from 9am-12pm. Most weeks, Bob Gilmore and Arlene Zacher are there taking care of regular weekly duties including office tasks, adding the weeks service to the corner sign, restocking the roadside pantry, water plants, yard work, and more. If you have questions, please reach out to Bob G. and Arlene or just stop in. Busy during the week?? No problem, we could use some help on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. to get ready for service and other duties as well.

For **cold weather shelter** information in NW Florida, dial 211!

Current Needs

PANAMA CITY RESCUE MISSION

- ☐ WASHCLOTHS
- ☐ TOWELS
- ☐ LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- ☐ 50-GALLON GARBAGE BAGS
- ☐ VIENNA SAUSAGES
- ☐ INDIVIDUAL BAGS OF CHIPS
- ☐ SPRAY CLEANERS (**URGENT**)
- ☐ COPY PAPER (8-1/2 BY 11) AND (8-1/2 BY 14)

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT OUR MEN'S SHELTER:

609 ALLEN AVE., PANAMA CITY, FL 32401

FROM **8AM-4PM** EVERY **MONDAY - FRIDAY**



Recent Events

MLK Day Movie: Hidden Figures was enjoyed by all. A similar event may take place next year!



UU Events

Click the following link to check out several UU offerings from Side With Love: [Save the Date for 30 Days of Love! Plus, new resources and events! — Side With Love](#)

Florida Unitarian Universalist Women's Retreat April 5 – 7, 2024 DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center Parrish, Florida Ancient Feminine Voices You are invited to a weekend gathering of UU women to explore the words and wisdom of our ancient female ancestors. Featuring Shelley Graff leading us in Singing in Sacred Circle Friday evening we'll gather with wine & cheese before dinner and a group activity after dinner to get to know one another and create community. Saturday during the day we'll have options for DaySpring outdoor activities and small group learning and sharing experiences. After dinner, we'll gather for Shelley Graff's presentation of Singing in Sacred Circle. Sunday after breakfast we'll have a UU-style service and closing ceremony. We'll finish our goodbyes at lunch. Please plan to join us for this joyful UU women's weekend.

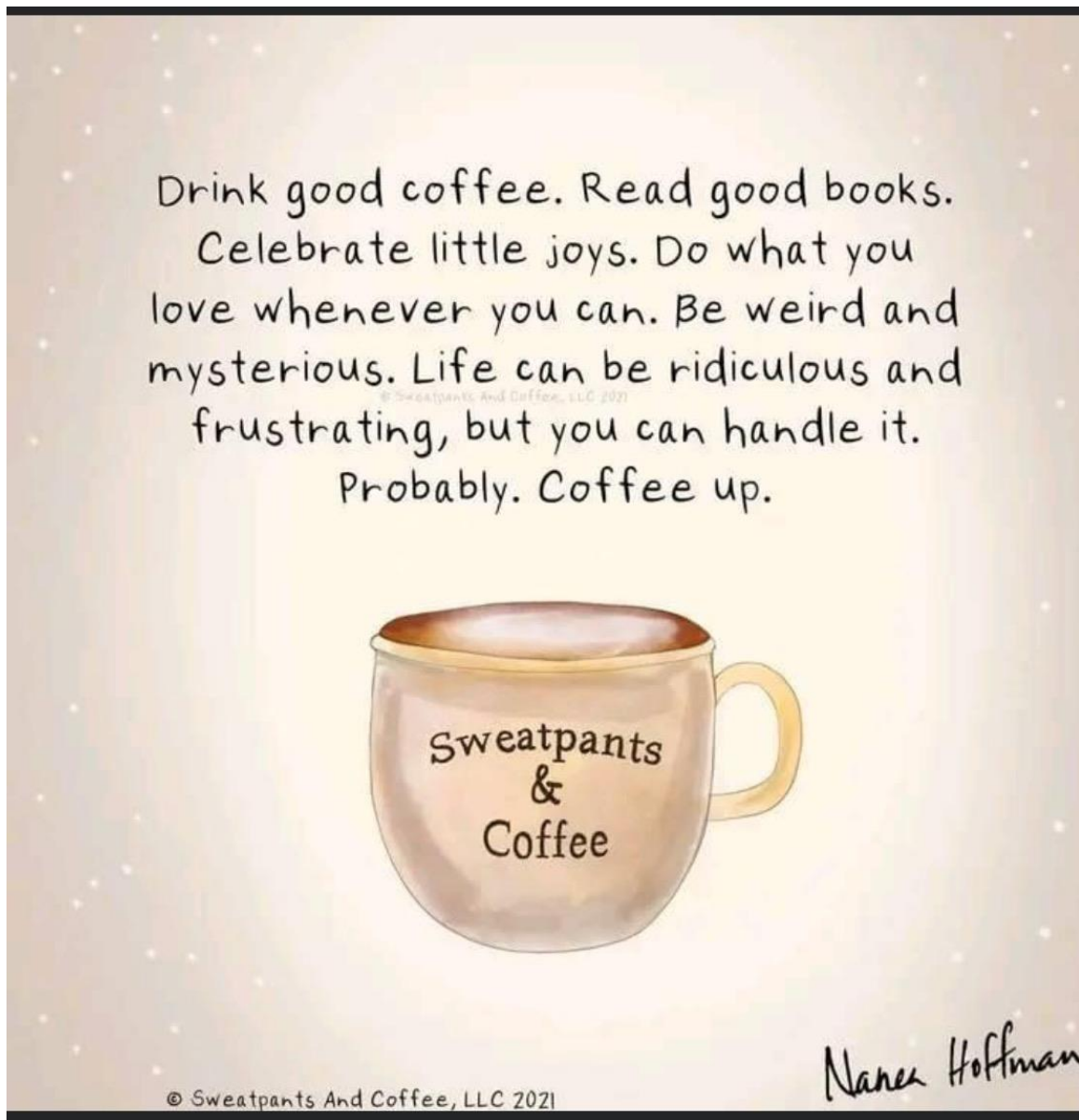
To register, or for more information, contact Dayna Foster Retreat@fluuwm.

Local Events

PANAMA CITY, Fla. ([WMBB](#)) — Panama City is one of ten cities in the running to become the home of the Florida Museum of Black History.

The legislature approved the creation of the museum during last year's session. The bill that Governor Ron Desantis signed spelled out the specifications, including an 8 to 15-acre parcel, a banquet hall, a performing arts center, and a kitchen. Destination Panama City made a pitch on December 14, pointing out the area's large tourism base, and Bay County's rich African-American history.

“Massalina Bayou was named after Hawk Massalina, who is a Spanish merchant marine that started the first free black settlement here,” President and CEO of Destination Panama City Jennifer Vigil said. “And Rosenwald Junior College was one of the first Magnificent Twelve.” The Magnificent Twelve were the first twelve African American junior colleges in the U.S.



There's also a Facebook page for the LGBTQ center. That and a lot of other info is on their website:
<https://gulfcoastlgbtcenter.org>

UUFBC Website <https://www.uuofbaycounty.com/>

UUFBC Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/uubaycounty>

Newsletter Editor: Cindy Gregory – Board Members: President: Charissa Thacker; Vice president: Bob Gilmore; Secretary: Chris May; Treasurer: Janet Cross; Members At Large: Serena Dee Latiolais, Bob McNeal, Dusty Huff

Contact info: 850- 615-4127 *Office Hours are Tuesday 10 a.m. – noon (leave a message, please)

To submit information for the biweekly e-newsletter, send to info@uuofbaycounty.com and please cc cindykg@gmail.com