

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

Pinocchio Effect

It is tempting to think that lie detection by way of studying behavioral cues works. One of many indicators used to detect deception is the amount of words we produce. Known as the **Pinocchio Effect**, this idea is based on a study by Deepak Malhotra et al. of the Harvard Business School:

[T]hey discovered that liars tend to speak in more complex sentences in an attempt to win over their suspicious counterparts. It's what W. C. Fields meant when he talked about baffling someone with bullshit. The researchers dubbed this the Pinocchio Effect because, just like Pinocchio's nose, the number of words grew along with the lie. People who are lying are, understandably, more worried about being believed, so they work harder — too hard, as it were — at being believable.

Upcoming Services

April 21: Earth Day by Charissa Thacker.

April 28: Open Mic Poetry Sunday by Candis Harbison. Bring a poem to share with the group, either written by you or by someone else, that has struck you as being meaningful or funny or inspirational. We encourage you to read it aloud to the group, but shy persons may ask someone else to read it. We look for a great variety of expressions in this annual program!

May 5: IT'S A BUSY SUNDAY.... Michael Lister is back for his service "Plurality and Paradox". Join us for this popular speaker!

PLUS... A kids program will be offered during the service AND it's Potluck Sunday!
Article II Feedback opportunity will also be available after service. Learn more about [Article II](#)

Announcements

Next Campfire is on April 24th, under the Magnolia Tree at 6:30. April is when spring is in full display with blooms, warm days, and promises of the year to come. Please join us for an evening of easy fellowship with fellow UU's and friends. Bring something interesting to share, or just bring yourselves!

Care List - If you or someone you know needs support from the UU, please let us know. We're starting a Care List to be read during Joys and Concerns each week...in addition to individual sharing...to help keep those needing some extra support top of mind. Details can be kept confidential if you'd like, but community is about knowing you're not alone, so please don't feel like you have to go it alone. You're welcome to email us at info@uufbaycounty.com or drop a note in the offering.



Annual Meeting is Sunday, May 19th. Member Packets will be available starting May 5th. All Members are asked to attend. Friends and visitors are also welcome to participate, excluding the voting items. If you're considering becoming a member of the UU, please let us know so we can get you on the roster before the meeting. Only members are allowed to vote. Thank you!

Next work-day is April 28th after service. Plan to stick around and help around the facility. We'll be painting the benches out back and we have some yardwork planned. Please dress appropriately to work outside. Lunch will be provided for the workers!

A Youth Program will be available on the first Sunday of the month starting on May 5th! We invite those with "littles" to encourage them to participate!

Pledge Drive! THANK YOU all who pledged!! With some last-minute pledges, we exceeded our Pledge Goal for 2024-2025!

Share the Plate: This Sunday, April 21st, the offering will go to support the League of Women Voters!



Pet Memorial Space - For many of us, losing a pet is a devastating experience, especially if your current housing isn't suitable to lay them to rest properly. We'd like to make the UU property available for that purpose for anyone in need of some space. Please reach out, if and when the time comes for you.



Article II Feedback. On May 5th after service, we'll again offer an opportunity to hear your feedback on the proposed Article II changes to our UUA Bylaws that will be voted on at General Assembly in June. This is your opportunity to share your support or concern for these changes and we encourage you to do so. Learn more about the changes: <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission/about-article-2>

Interfaith Harmony Council Potluck is May 11th. Hosted by the Emerald Coast Pagan Community, it will be held at the UUFBC starting at 5:30pm. All are invited to attend.

Book Club meets next on May 26th.

Get involved with UUtheVote this election year!! Contact Bob Gilmore for more details.

**FLORIDIANS
WILL VOTE AND
WE WILL WIN!**

Today the Florida Supreme Court ruled that Amendment 4, to limit government interference with abortion in Florida, meets the requirements for placement on this year's ballot.

 **YES ON 4** JOIN // VOLUNTEER // DONATE
Floridians Protecting Freedom. [yes4florida.com](https://www.yes4florida.com)

This political advertisement paid for by Florida Protecting Freedom, Inc., Post Office Box 4066, Sarasota, FL 34220.

Book Club

For March, April, and May we will read Proud: My Fight for an Unlikely American Dream. By Ibtihah Muhammad. She is an Olympic medalist in Fencing, and Muslim. This book this book honors Women's History Month with a nod to Islam during Ramadan. It is an award-winning biography. There are two copies at the library. It is available as an e-book and audio CD as well. We will meet in May for a discussion. Below is a link to Amazon with full description

[Proud-Fight-Unlikely-American-Dream-Ibtijah Muhammad](#)

Back to a banned book for LGBTQ Pride in June. Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen, by Jazz Jennings. https://www.amazon.com/Being-Jazz-Life-Transgender-Teen-ebook/dp/B01AQNZQAY/ref=sr_1_1?crid=31W5CWFBUNM64&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.KamCdCzALmxnRukRHWG1Zfp6euS8FKxNbqMtFTRFM9ctVrbEmefr1oXf8s2s4cMfX5XkkPrJ0e8sxPbNLriwbA.J8pKZwwex4nddBTx2KpDuXZDMc1ui7KattQt3ZJNkbc&dib_tag=se&keywords=being+jazz+my+life+as+a+transgender+teen&qid=1712239357&srefix=Being+Jazz%2Caps%2C108&sr=8-1



The Invitation to National Conversation

- Awareness of the proposed Article II changes
- Analysis of the new Article II language
- Discussion within your community
- Decision by your congregation on what is the best direction of Unitarian Universalism
- Share your thoughts at Town Hall meetings

General Assembly



Virtual
June 20 - 23, 2024

Decision at GA in 2024

A decision at GA in June will be made to accept or reject the proposed Article II language. The changes are sweeping impacting all sections of Article II.

More conversation is needed before this decision!

More UU Events:

The Mountain

[All Events & Programs | The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center | United States \(themountainrlc.org\)](#) There are too many upcoming events at The Mountain Retreat in N. Carolina to list. Follow the link to their full schedule.

Gather at the Crossroads



The final date to register for the event is **Wednesday, April 24, 2024.**

Do you know someone who would love to attend UUWomenspirit, but can't afford it? Please encourage them to apply for a scholarship. It's a great way to increase our attendance and share our wonderful organization.

Complete scholarship information can be found [on the website](#).

Dear UU Ministry for Earth Community,

We have loved creating free [monthly worship and small group ministry resources](#) for you - all focused on Earth care and climate justice. We publish the information two months in advance of the time you'll actually use them.

And so here in April 2024, we bring you the **resources for June 2024**. The theme is "Come to our Senses", and we explore ways to engage your physical senses to restore a right relationship with nature. We also include a Summer Solstice ceremony.

You are invited to visit [our website](#) for an overview of Monthly Musings along with past issues. And [this Google folder](#) is where you can find the content in both PDF and Google Doc format.

We are taking a break from Monthly Musings so we can focus on planning the [Climate Justice Revival which is September 28 and 29, 2024](#). We hope you'll participate and register your congregation soon.

With gratitude for your commitment to our faith and climate justice!

The UU Ministry for Earth Team

[Click Here for June's Monthly Musings](#)

We invite you to visit [our website](#) for an overview of Monthly Musings along with past issues. And [this Google folder](#) is where you can find the content in both PDF and Google Doc format.

UCNWFL presents our 2024 Spring Concert

Singing for Our Lives

Monday, May 13th 7pm
St. Andrews Episcopal
1608 Baker Court



At this critical time in our history, music can bring a focus to issues touching us all. Songs like "Singing for Our Lives", "The Awakening", "We Shall Overcome", "Let the River Run", and "This is Me" will draw a glorious portrait of hope. Come live this music with us, make some waves, and be uplifted by the hope that has us singing for our lives.

To buy tickets:
Scan the QR
code



Get your tickets now... get them here. Seating is very limited. <https://www.zeffy.com/.../e2cfe063-37b6-45b4-aaaf...>



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

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

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

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