



# Worship

## JUNE SERVICES

As we conclude our regular season of Sunday services, please join us for these special gatherings:

### **JUNE 4: FLOWER CEREMONY** Marilyn Smith:

Join us as we celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the Flower Ceremony- an annual Unitarian Universalist ritual that celebrates beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. It began in 1923 as a creation of Rev. Dr. Norbert Čapek, of The Liberal Religious Fellowship in Prague, Czechoslovakia. We invite you to bring a flower from your yard, if possible, to add to our common vase. Some flowers will be provided.

### **JUNE 11: PRIDE SERVICE with QUEER KEYS** Barb Goldworm and Karen Blackwell:

Our Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is proud to partner with Queer Keys for this celebration! Sharing LGBTQ Stories of Being Out and Joyful in Key West and Why it's So Important Today.

### **LOOKING AHEAD TO THE SUMMER MONTHS:**

Please watch your newsletter emails for updates on special activities and fun times. We are encouraging all ideas for summer gatherings:

- Have a pool area you could share some Sunday?
- How about organizing a "First Sunday freebies for locals" outing to the Botanical Garden? the Aquarium? etc.
- A pop up brunch at a favorite spot? Oasis? Salute? Geiger Key? etc.
- A creative conversation about anything you want to examine? (This could be at One Island Family)

### **REACH OUT TO STAY IN TOUCH!** Many of us travel and are in and out during the summer.

Please email Joy ([jbt22ster@gmail.com](mailto:jbt22ster@gmail.com)) OR leave a message on the congregation's phone (305-296-4369) and one of our program planners will get back to you to help coordinate/facilitate any gatherings.

### **JOIN IN THE FUN!**

How about a "pop up" Memorial Day PICNIC this Sunday after the service?  
Please bring a finger food to share!



# News & Notes

## President's Note

Happy June to all! I am happy and proud to say that our congregation took a significant step in increasing our community visibility and involvement in May. We joined the Key West Business Guild as a non-profit. Many thanks to Amelia for proposing this membership! For those who may not know, the Business Guild is the LGBTQ chamber of commerce in Key West. We were voted in and introduced as a new member at their monthly luncheon on May 10, 2023, with five folks from our congregation attending. During the luncheon, I was able to formally introduce us as a welcoming spiritual community and invite the membership to join us on any Sunday. We also completed and distributed new One Island Family UU brochures at the meeting. You can find some at the Welcome Table by the front door on Sundays. We are planning to use them to distribute at Pride also, and they will be available at the KW Business Guild Welcome Center.

During the Q & A part of the meeting, I was also able to publicly ask the new City Manager as well as Mayor Teri Johnston about the city's plans to address the oppressive new anti-LGBTQ and migrant laws in Tallahassee. The Don't Say Gay and Anti-Drag/Anti-Trans Laws strike at a core part of our Key West culture. I believe that they violate our 1<sup>st</sup> UU principle of affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all people. These laws are also creating an "individually policed" rule set that is a minefield for professionals –medical providers, teachers, law enforcement, etc. What can they say/do and not say/do, what must they report and to whom? In addition, most recently, the Florida Congress reduced the minimum necessary notice to monthly renters before rental termination or rent increases greater than 5% to 15 days. 15 days! That overrides our city rule requiring 60 days' notice. How can we expect someone to find another affordable place to live in 15 days! It's not possible! This will continue to drive workers out of town. Last but not least, the overturn of Roe v Wade, and the 6-week abortion restriction imposed in Florida in April of this year (regardless of what you personally believe about abortion), removes the choice for most Florida women, who may not even know they are pregnant by 6 weeks.

Mayor Johnston said they are officially responding to each of the laws stating the city's strong disagreement. She also said that it is up to each of us to contact our legislators and VOTE. The recourse in our democracy is of course, contacting our legislators, protesting, and voting. In case you didn't know, a contingent of Key West's drag queens went to Tallahassee during the legislative session and very openly opposed the legislation. I continue to appreciate their bravery. I have been writing emails to our legislators even though I feel like I am probably just a drop of water in an ocean, but I secretly hope to be part of an avalanche of responses that eventually makes a difference. In hopes that you will be part of an avalanche with me, below is the contact information for our legislators. Please tell them what you think of the recent legislation and what you want for Key West.

Office of Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Office of Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez  
314 Senate Building  
4402 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100  
(850) 487-5040

(850) 717-9337

Office of Representative James Vernon (Jim) Mooney, Jr.  
212 The Capitol  
402 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
(850) 717-5120

In Peace,  
Karen Blackwell  
President

**Dan's cans:** I'm sorry to report Dan is having some medical issue and won't be picking up cans at this time. His parents aren't sure when he'll be able to resume pick ups. This please hold your cans if you can until we're notified he'll resume pick ups. Dave Arnold 757-285-1609

**Whoever you are, we welcome you.  
Wherever you come from, we welcome you.  
Whatever you worship, we welcome you.  
Whomever you love, we welcome you.  
We ARE One Island Family!**

**Join us for the 2023 KW Pride Parade: June 11 at 4.00**



Join us to represent One Island Family UU in our community Key West Pride Parade to celebrate LGBTQ+ joy and pride, and stand together against hate.

Come show our support for diversity and creativity in Key West, and our UU belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

**When:** Sunday, June 11. Staging and decorating of our golf cart at 4:00 PM, parade steps off at 5:00 PM sharp

**Where:** Staging at Truman Waterfront Park, finishing in the 1300 block of Duval St

**Why:** To celebrate PRIDE and being part of One Human Family and One Island Family.

We have a golf cart for those who can't walk all or part of the parade route. We also have walkers who will carry our newly updated banner!



ONE ISLAND FAMILY

*The inherent worth and dignity of every person*

**Justice, equity and compassion in human relations**

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth

**A FREE AND RESPONSIBLE SEARCH FOR TRUTH AND MEANING**

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process

**THE GOAL OF WORLD COMMUNITY WITH PEACE, LIBERTY, AND JUSTICE FOR ALL**

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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Monthly Calendar: <http://www.oneislandfamily.org/calendar>



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