



Worship

**Sunday services are now hosted on Zoom.
Please read our weekly eletter for updates.**

ONE ISLAND FAMILY SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2020:

SUNDAY NOV 1 Tanya Leto " What is Samuel's House?"

Tanya Leto will share the story of this remarkable community organization assisting local women, men and families in need of safe shelter in a sober setting. (samuelshouse.org)

SUNDAY NOV 8 Astoria Nickerson "Sophia Lyon Fahs"

This is our next program in the series "Taking a Turn for One Island Family" Tell about a Unitarian Universalist whom you admire. This could be a person living or deceased. Research that person and share 10-15 minutes highlighting what they did or how they made the world a better place.

SUNDAY NOV 15 Rev. Doug Slagle "National Transgender Day of Remembrance and the Shame of Pilgrim's 'Pride'"

As an early celebration of Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20th, Rev. Doug Slagle will call us to remember Transgender persons who were killed during the past year. Importantly, he will connect the call to honor the Transgendered as another way to reject the shameful beliefs and actions of the Pilgrims. They came to this land seeking religious freedom but, instead, laid the foundations for our nation's fundamentalist attitudes of religious intolerance toward those who do not live according to literal Biblical interpretations. Rev. Doug will ask that each November we remember the Transgendered along with other marginalized persons - while reimagining what Thanksgiving ought to celebrate.

SUNDAY NOV. 22 Rev. Bob Murphy "Let's Revise, Reclaim and Recycle Thanksgiving Day!"

Let's move away from the emphasis on Plymouth Colony or on any of the other colonies. Thanksgiving Day doesn't have to be associated with a particular time or place. What we need is a new emphasis on healing, reconciliation, and the expression of gratitude, in a multicultural context. We are asked to consider: "What kind of world do we want after we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic?"

SUNDAY NOV 29 Dr. Arnold Kerzner "Humor and Comedy in the time of COVID"

Dr. Kerzner gives us insight into the positive properties of humor and laughter. And he gives us a few laughs himself. Dr. Arnold Kerzner is a child psychiatrist who has had close to 50 years of working with children, adolescents and their parents, caring for them with knowledge, insight, love and humor. He and his wife, Joan, live in the Boston area.



News & Notes

ONE ISLAND FAMILY PRESIDENT'S NOTE

November 2020 Marilyn Smith

I have been on a "sentimental journey" lately, looking through scrapbooks of our congregation's history to create a PowerPoint for our service on October 25 ("One Island Family What's Our Story"). I would like to share some of the highlights of that research. The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Key West came to life after 15 people signed a statement on Easter Sunday, March 30, 1986 agreeing that they would like to start a UU group. News clippings in our archives reported that twice before that, including in 1974, attempts had been made to start a congregation! At least three of those earlier founders were part of the 1986 core group.

In 1998 when UUFKW voted to purchase the building at 801 Georgia St., the wise investing and capital campaign of those founding members allowed us to purchase the building without a mortgage! After some teamwork to make needed renovations, we started services in the sanctuary in March of that year, just a month after the closing. Then in November, 1998, we hosted a celebration and official dedication of UUFKW's permanent home.

After many years as a thriving lay led congregation, some members became curious about the possibility of having professional ministerial leadership. There were so many questions: How to find a qualified UU minister? Part time or full time? Called minister, consulting minister, interim minister or other? What could we offer for compensation? Housing? Benefits? What would be the job description? So in November of 2001, the UUFKW board approved the formation of a Minister Search Committee.

I was asked to lead that committee, and five of us soon got to work. (Ann Gallagher, S.J."Gill" Gilligan III, Michael Blades, Clifford Saylor and me.) We surveyed our members, held retreats and had workshops to exchange opinions and listen to each other. By networking with the UUA and Southern Region, we learned what might be possible. We created a packet with details about the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Key West to send to any minister candidates who applied. Finally, in 2003 we launched the search for our first minister.

In July 2005 the UUFKW congregation voted to approve a contract with Rev. Barbara Jamestone, PhD, to join us as a half time consulting minister. She came from the UU Congregation in Gainesville, FL, and was with us in Key West from September 2005- August 2006. In addition to leading Sunday Services, Barbara Jamestone started our first covenant group, guided us in creating policy and provided pastoral care. She joined our UUFKW members for hurricane Wilma recovery and distribution of relief funds. A year after she arrived, Rev. Jamestone accepted a call to a full time position with the Unitarian Society of Hartford, CT.

Our next search committee, led by John Gish, along with Ro Scalzo, Lisa Morris, and Barb Dreher began a search for the second UUFKW minister. They chose Rev. Dr. Randolph W.B. Becker who joined us as a full time consulting minister from February, 2007 until March, 2016. Under his

leadership we selected a new name for our congregation. In 2012 the UU Fellowship of Key West chose the operating name of One Island Family, the Southernmost UU Congregation. In July 2014 we became a Teaching Congregation when we welcomed a ministerial intern, Kimberley Debus, who served with Rev. Becker for a year.

There is much more to tell of our congregation's history! We are still creating our story and hope you have enjoyed these highlights of where we started. Anyone with stories to tell or memories to share is invited to send notes for our newsletter to office@oneislandfamily.org.

Turn, Turn, Turn: UUA Southern Region Virtual Assembly 2020

Saturday, November 14, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join your Southern Region staff team and sibling Unitarian Universalist congregations in the Southern Region for a day of collaboration and learning! UUA President Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray will be our keynote speaker in the morning.

Afternoon workshops include:

- Widening the Circle of Concern with Kathy McGowan and Rev. Nato Hollister
- What's Next? The Changing Congregational Landscape with Natalie Briscoe and Connie Goodbread
- Small Group Ministry and Membership Paths with Cameron Young and Lillian Drab-Braddick

Registration fee: \$20 per person. [Register today!](#)

<https://uua.wufoo.com/forms/turn-turn-turn/>

Message from Rev. Richard 'Bud' Murphy, UU Justice Florida President "Just Saying 10/2020"

Sometimes we may find ourselves questioning the validity of what others think, feel and do. We ask, "How can they think that way? Why do they promote beliefs that seem to defy common sense, let alone the established principles of science?"

In thoughtful moments, we may question who we are, and why we have inclinations to certain thoughts, feelings and actions. While most behavioral experts consider self-knowledge, a part of wisdom they also admit it is not easy to achieve. Like the nature of human consciousness, the nature of self is a challenge to understand. The Eastern philosophers invite us to be the observer as we move through life. They encourage us to examine what we consider to be true, while at the same time to recognize that once we designate something as true we are inclined to cling to that conclusion and filter our future observations to reinforce the validity of our truth.

Our truth with its resistance to change includes our truth about our own lovable-ness and the lovable-ness of others. For most, these truths are established early in our lives and rarely questioned. In fact, we humans have developed ways of being in relationship that reinforce those early conclusions. Our lives follow a script that we adopted in our childhood. Reviewing the script gives us the opportunity of change for the better.

As our country undergoes the forces of political, economic and ecological struggle we each feel the stress of uncertainty which tends to make us resistance to change just at the point when it would be

useful for us to increase our ability to look at the world from a variety of perspectives and to acknowledge the experience of others even when they seem out of touch with our reality. Many studies report that mindfulness practices, activities that encourage calm, restore our resilience and increase our plasticity, our ability to adapt to change. I'm taking breaks from the 24-7 news. I'm focusing on breathing and the validity of just being for a few moments. Join me. I'll see you on the other side ready to nurture the Earth, our only home. (Bud Murphy, President of UU Justice Florida)

One Island Family
801 Georgia St. Key West, FL 33040
oneislandfamily.org e-mail: office@oneislandfamily.org

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