

## ONE ISLAND FAMILY

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## NOVEMBER 2024



### SERVICES AT ONE ISLAND FAMILY:

**ONE ISLAND FAMILY will RECONVENE for our weekly services  
on this Sunday, OCTOBER 27!**

**Mark your calendar NOW to join us at 11 am  
as we celebrate being together again.**

**Our friend (and member!) JT THOMPSON will lead off our season,  
Sharing his loving insights.**

**SEE YOU THEN!**

**Our NOVEMBER welcomes back some familiar faces:**

- 3 Rev. Steve Torrence will join us in person**
- 10 SOCIAL SUNDAY *and*: We will be led in celebration of our researched LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT by Nancy 3 Hoffman and Jorge Jimenez!**
- 17 Joy Taylor, “What are we if not an ACCUMULATION of our MEMORIES?”**
- 24 Rev. Bob Murphy, Affiliate Minister will zoom in**

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We welcome our **UUA AFFILIATE MINISTERS** on a regular basis:  
**Rev. Bob Murphy and Rev. Doug Slagle**

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## **PRESIDENT’S NOTE**

Hello One Island Family,  
Welcome back to Services! It is always great to be able to get together again and catch up on what everyone has been up to and share time together. Barb and I are on our way home but are literally taking a slow boat and will be home in late November. We look forward to seeing you then.

The Election looms large in the next 2 weeks. Whatever your politics, Presidential election years are always consequential. In fact, all elected offices are important.

As UUs, The 5th Principle of Unitarian Universalism:

“The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large” calls us to participate in the process so Vote, Vote, Vote!

Having been out of the country since September, we used the overseas voting process this year. I can say that the Monroe County election team did a great job of supporting this process. We were able to vote from an emailed ballot and sent it back by mail and received notification that it was received. Very impressive!

Good Luck to all of you in your opening services and we look forward to seeing you soon.

In peace,  
Karen Blackwell  
President

## LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD:

Your Service Coordinators continue to seek your ideas for unique services and your connections to invite guest presenters! Send your information to us via [jbt22ster@gmail.com](mailto:jbt22ster@gmail.com) and we will do the follow up!

## ARE YOU GETTING READY TO VOTE?

The non-partisan League of Women Voters invites you to check out VOTE411 for a chance to 'hear' what the local candidates have to say!

<https://www.vote411.org/plan-your-vote>



## FROM OUR UUA SUNSHINE CLUSTER:

### Growing Congregations with Peter Bowden

Promoting Connection, Meaning, and Membership  
Sunshine Cluster Annual Meeting

Sat., Nov. 16, 2024, 2:00 pm

FREE: To Register and receive a Zoom link please send your name & congregation to [sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com](mailto:sunshinecluster2023@gmail.com).

#### Program Overview:

In today's fast-paced and fragmented world, the need for deep connection, meaningful relationships, and strong communities has never been greater. This program will explore how small group ministries, community-building events, and relational strategies can help your congregation grow in both depth and membership. Peter Bowden will share specific, actionable strategies to support newcomers and foster connections that lead to long-term engagement. Whether you're looking to strengthen small groups, host more engaging community events, or build relationships that grow your congregation, this session will offer practical insights for congregational leaders of all experience levels.

Peter Bowden is known for his work helping Unitarian Universalist congregations grow by promoting connection, meaning, and membership, both online and onsite. He specializes in integrating a wide range of connecting strategies—including digital tools, in-person groups, social media, and small group ministries.

"We turn not older with years, but newer every day." Emily Dickinson

## OUR RELIGIOUS RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

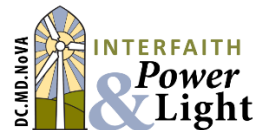
On the Zoom call Monday Oct 28 at 7pm. we can find out more information on possible grants for energy efficiency or weatherization upgrades needed for our building. See the following for more information.

Please let me know what you think we should be doing?

Dave 757-285-1609, Dave.Arnold@NetZero.Net



**Our Religious Response  
to Climate Change**



**October Clean Energy Shepherds Call:  
BUILT grant for energy efficiency upgrades**

**Monday, October 28, 7pm ET**

**[Register](#)**

Does your congregation have a good idea what energy efficiency or weatherization upgrades are needed for the building, but haven't had the funds available to get them done?

We wanted to share an [upcoming opportunity for congregations to apply for up to \\$100k of federal funds to undertake energy upgrades on your facilities](#)! Interested congregations (must be 501c3 nonprofits who own their buildings) will need to:

- Work with IPL to complete an online report about your baseline energy use (or have a recent report from an energy audit, contractor bid, or building assessment) by providing 12 months of energy bills or sharing your EnergyStar Portfolio Manager account with us.
- Be able to determine a reasonable estimate of what your proposed energy upgrades will cost (bids are not required).
- Be able to articulate how the proposed upgrades will translate into direct community benefits. **Because of the competitiveness of this grant, we expect that applicants located in [Justice 40 census tracts](#) or who directly serve a disadvantaged community will be in the best position to receive funds.**
- Be prepared to eventually pay the 20% cost share the grant requires. If you receive the grant and are worried about paying the 20%, IPL commits to working with you to find other funding or green bank financing for that 20%.
- Be willing to move quickly on this - **applications are due Nov 12.**

[Learn more about the BUILT Nonprofits grant](#) and/or [watch a recorded webinar](#) about it from the Department of Energy.

The heart of the case for BUILT funds will be a free online self-audit tool called [BETTER](#) that nonprofit facilities will need to work with IPL to log their current building energy use in if they don't already have a recent energy audit. While BETTER doesn't currently support worship facilities, we have been in contact with DOE and they are working on adding the worship building type to the tool as soon as possible. We anticipate being able to use BETTER to generate reports for our congregations to use for their BUILT applications based on a portfolio of data from a group of IPL congregations.

On October 28th at 7pm ET, [we'll be holding a special "Clean Energy Shepherds" call](#) just for congregations that have decided to apply for BUILT funds to answer questions and work on applications together. [Register here](#).

Are you already in the process of applying for BUILT, or seriously considering doing so? Please let us know by emailing [maddie@ipldmv.org](mailto:maddie@ipldmv.org).

If you want to apply and DO NOT have a recent energy audit, contractor, or building assessment report, please either share your EnergyStar Portfolio Manager account by [emailing Maddie](#), or [send them](#) the last 12 months of electric and gas bills (all meters) for your building and an ACCURATE number for your building's gross floor area (GFA).

Please don't hesitate to respond to this email with questions - I am here to help your congregation apply for these funds.

Best,



**Maddie Smith** (they/them)

Clean Energy Shepherd

Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA)



# Seeking Singers & Musicians

**Come make music with us!  
Christmas Concerts are Dec.  
10, 11 & 12. Rehearsals start  
Oct. 27 on Big Pine Key.**

***Lower Keys Community Choir  
& Keys Chamber Orchestra***

**For information, email:  
[keyschamberorchestra@gmail.com](mailto:keyschamberorchestra@gmail.com)**



We welcome diversity of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, culture, citizenship status, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity, gender expression, family status, religious background, socioeconomic status, education, political perspective, age, and abilities.

**WELCOME!**

VIEW THIS NEWSLETTER ONLINE AT [WWW.ONEISLANDFAMILY.ORG/NEWS](http://WWW.ONEISLANDFAMILY.ORG/NEWS)  
PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO [OFFICE@ONEISLANDFAMILY.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@ONEISLANDFAMILY.ORG)  
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