



Worship

SEPTEMBER

WE WILL RECONVENE WITH REGULAR WEEKLY SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER.

In the meantime, have a safe, healthy and relaxed summer!

HE WILL BE MISSED!!

I met **PETE PETERSON** shortly after signing the UUFKW Membership Book in 2008--and have been lucky enough to call him "friend" ever since! I will miss Pete--we share some fun memories and the dear man even took care of my dog when I was out of town. (Jake loved him, too.)

Pete has been a gem in every way: handling all of the administrative duties for One Island Family; keeping our calendar and bookings straight; last minute calls, emails and texts to all who needed reminders; a smiling presence on Sunday mornings, busily occupying his office at 801 Georgia. Occasionally you could even catch our multi-talented Admin at the piano in the sanctuary!

Our long-serving Administrator is stepping away from that post at this time. "Professor" Pete Peterson will still be found on keyboards around town belting out his great music--he is truly a journeyman musician--so go find him! Hope he will drop in every now and then to keep an eye on us. In the meantime, as we UU's are fond of saying, **BLESSED BE**, dear Pete!

JOIN US IN WELCOMING A NEW ADMINISTRATOR:

Reach out to join us in welcoming HELEN REBANE as our new administrator!



News & Notes

President's Note

Hello One Island Family!

I hope you are all doing well and surviving the heat! Barb and I have been doing a lot of traveling and spending time with our family. It has been wonderful, fun and a great reminder of how exciting it is to experience things with kids as they do something for the first time. The word most used during a week we spent with our daughter, son-in-law and our grandkids, on their first time out of the country, was “Amazing!!”. The ice cream and pizza that was available on the ship all day and until late at night was “Amazing!!”. The food which they got to order first directly from the waiter, which was then delivered to them first was “Amazing!!”. Climbing rock walls, aquatic obstacle courses, jumping off waterfalls and the kids’ program, all “Amazing!!”. Barb and I even participated in a few more of the activities than we expected. Amazing!! We are driving further north now to enjoy more time with our daughter and her family, as well as other family members, including more little ones in our lives. And more travel! We know we are very, very lucky to share in their lives, and to be able to travel like nomads.

In between our many adventures this summer, we are continuing to gather more information about ways that One Island Family can become involved, to help our congregation, our community, and beyond. One of these efforts, that you may be aware of, is called the Welcoming Congregation. It is a designation earned by a congregation and then approved by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) for congregations which have become intentionally welcoming and inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Of the over 1100 UU congregations in the UUA, more than 800 have achieved this designation. One Island Family does not yet have this official designation, since it has not participated in the official Welcoming Congregation program yet, although in reality, we have done much of the heart of the work.

While at General Assembly in June, Barb and I met with the Welcoming Congregation/Side with Love leaders to discuss what the process would be for One Island Family to proceed on a Welcoming Congregation path. Barb has experience with the original Welcoming Congregation Program and co-led the Congregation process at the UU Church of Boulder with our minister there back in 1998. The process has been significantly updated since then and also is now an ongoing process rather than a one-time event. We will continue to gather information on how to move forward with the process and will share it with the Congregation, with the idea of bringing a formal proposal to the congregational meeting in February.

In that spirit, the first step to understanding the effort that would be required for us to achieve the Welcoming Congregation Designation is to attend one of the UUA monthly Orientation zoom meetings held by Side With Love. With the approval of the Board to continue the data gathering process, Barb and I have registered One Island Family to attend the next orientation on Zoom on September 18, 2023. We are inviting any board members to attend, as well as any other congregational members who are interested in helping with the Welcoming Congregation Process. Please let me know and I can share the meeting information. We look forward to learning more about the new process and putting together a plan for One Island Family. With all the recent anti-LGBT laws, rhetoric, and sentiment coming out of the current Florida state leadership, moving forward with Welcoming Congregation efforts now seems especially meaningful and impactful.

In Peace,
Karen Blackwell

HELLO OUT THERE!

Some 'new news' from Therese and Bernie, relocating to Vermont!

Hello everyone!

Today Bernie and I check in with you while flying high above our national countryside sun-blessed by a summer of adventure that only a major life change brings!

We are healthy and happy yet deeply fatigued from constant movement. We are flying back from New York to KW now at this minute to return to the Golf Course townhome for our third and last load of household goods. I had to pay \$15 for 2 hrs of wi-fi on American Air just to write to you. Wi-fi is not as readily available in the mountainous terrain and small population groups in Vermont.

As of now, the plan is to load Bernie's SUV and trailer and drive back to Vermont via I-95 North. We will not be staying long in KW on this trip.

My Jeep was driven to Vermont on our second trip and left there in the mountains. Afterwards we rested for 4 days by frolicking with our brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews, camping, picnicking, campfiring, hiking, swimming, tetherballing, and telling stories. Our new little home is taking shape slowly as we unpack and re-organize.

We really appreciate your kindness in connecting with us during this somewhat chaotic time. We are so grateful to have you as friends. Our hearts are hopeful and full of good cheeriness as we rebuild our lives. Admittedly, the culture shock is extreme, but we prepared for the hard work and sacrifice required to create success. We take care of each other very well and continue to compromise our significant differences.

Our flight is landing now! Gotta go!
Love, Therese

and OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR IS CHECKING IN:

Music Director, Nancy 3. Hoffman, reports that it has been a very wet and cool summer in Maine. She has managed to get in a couple of beach days, along with curating and serving as a docent for her Umbrella Cover Museum. She has had thousands of visitors, and has received about 50 new umbrella covers to add to her Guinness World Record holding collection. She also attended a UU Service on Peaks Island. The New Brackett Church there decided to join both the UU's and the UCC's (United Church of Christ). They are doing a good job of finding elements from each religious group that work well together and appeal to their congregants.

Nancy 3. has also been playing music with both of her groups. And will be a model in a fashion show of immigrant, BIPOC, and LGBTQ designers later this week. Not her usual role. She misses her Key West, and One Island Families, and looks forward to seeing you in November.



And from Claire Hurd on a fabulous west coast cruise break:

Attended a lovely service at First Unitarian Universalist Church in San Francisco today :-)

Update from Joy Wood

As some of you may know, Joy Wood has moved out of Key West. Here is an update she gave us to pass on:

I just had long drive visiting friends in FL and Virginia then to my youngest son in MD where I am making my new home.

Son teaches at George Washington U in DC and his wife teaches at Loyola in Baltimore and they live between in Columbia MD.

Tomorrow I will move into my new home:

150 Frederick Road, Ellicott, MD

21043

I am Enjoying getting to know my 4 year old grand daughter, Zinnia, whom I only knew on zoom!

I am very sad to leave my lovely home on Cudjoe Key and my wonderful friends in Florida!

However, I hope to have room some day for company so plan to visit me!

Next I will find a UU church in this area!

Plus artists and gardeners and make new friends!

If any of you know this area and have suggestions for my new life here please let me know.

I am hopeful for a good life and excited about seasonal change!

Missing you!

I can see you if doing zoom services again!

I will also hope to still get UU newsletters too

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



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