

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

# ONE ISLAND FAMILY SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2021:

February 7-11 a.m. "Celebrating One Island Family" with your 2020 board members

**11:30 a.m. ANNUAL MEETING**-to vote on our OIF budget for 2021 & elect the board. All voting members, *please* plan to attend (by zoom) so we have a quorum!!

### February 14- Paul Ward, PhD. - "Love is the Solution. Peace is Possible"

Dr. Paul Ward is a lay leader in the First UU Congregation of the Palm Beaches & author of "Conscious Leadership" He may be speaking to our congregation this Sunday by zoom from his home in the UK. See his most recent blog post: "Surrender" <u>https://drpaulward.com/surrender/</u>

**February 21- Astoria Nickerson - "Margaret Moseley"-** This continues our 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.

**February 28- Jeff Smith - "Music of the Mennonite Tradition"** We welcome the return of this religion professor from the College of the Florida Keys.



**News & Notes** 

## ONE ISLAND FAMILY PRESIDENT'S NOTE February 2021 (Marilyn Smith)

I recently ran across this newsletter note in the archives of the UU Fellowship of Key West from years ago:

"This is a story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody Could do it and Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up That Everybody blamed Somebody when Actually Nobody asked Anybody." (Author Unknown)

I guess this could be typical for many volunteer organizations; there will always be those ready, willing and able to jump in to action and do whatever is needed. And for others, watching at a distance is right for them. For One Island Family, it is my intention to change the balance of that somewhat in 2021. We have, over the years, had many dedicated members and friends leading our congregation. In 1988 we joined the UUA as the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Key West with the required minimum of 20 members. We grew over many years, and even reached 67 members by January 2010.

Our current membership is about 30 individuals. What is possible as we continue to rebuild in 2021? Why is it important to have a Unitarian Universalist congregation in our community? What is your understanding of the mission of One Island Family? Again from the archives of our earliest years, I found quotes used by Howard Crane on December 1, 1991 in his talk "The Past and Future of our Fellowship". Quoting John Wolf, minister in Tulsa, on reasons for supporting a Unitarian Universalist Church: "You want to support it because it stands against superstition and fear. Because it points to what is noblest and best in human life. Because it is open to men and women of whatever race, creed, color, or place of origin. . . You want to support it because it is a place where children can come without being saddled with guilt or terrified of some 'celestial peeping-Tom'; where they can learn that religions is for joy, for comfort, for gratitude and love. "

"You want to support it because it is a place where walls between people are torn down rather than built up. Because it is a place for the religious, displaced persons of our time, the refugees from mixed marriages, the unwanted free-thinkers, and those who insist that they must work out their own beliefs. . . You want to support a Unitarian Universalist church because it is more concerned with human beings than with dogma. Because it calls no one a sinner, yet knows how deep is the struggle in each person's breast and how great is the hunger for what is good."

"You want to support a Unitarian Universalist church because it can laugh. You want to support it because it insults neither your intelligence nor your conscience, and because it calls you to worship what is truly worthy of your sacrifice."

So for One Island Family, the Southernmost UU Congregation, I am starting a **2021 Leadership Team**. Let's begin by meeting once a month, informally, to begin thoughtful conversations about our future. What are our greatest needs? What are our goals for the next 6 months, 10 years and into the future? How do we share the "to do" lists of keeping us a vital UU presence? What leadership models will be the best fit for us? What does the "shared leadership" model offer? What are your concerns, your hopes and your vision for our UU congregation?

Call or email me today to tell me you are ready to join this conversation!

(Marilyn Smith (305) 304-3592, or marilynkw@bellsouth.net)

**Special thanx** to Heidi Golightly for sharing the inspirational story of this special program! And you can sign up for the monthly newsletter, too: <a href="http://www.keystobethechange.com">www.keystobethechange.com</a>

**BOOK CLUB:** Please join us for a timely discussion about race and racism. We're reading and discussing Waking Up White by Debby Irving and will look to meet approximately 6 weeks from now. For more information please text or phone Keri O'Brien at 215-840-4105 or via email at mailto:keri.obrien@outlook.com.

#### **CARING COORDINATORS:**

Are you in need of assistance from our One Island Family? Or can you join our Team to help with errands, doctor appointments, or just a listening ear?

Please call the church office at 305-296-4369 and leave a message; or write to <u>office@oneislandfamily.org</u>. One of our Team will get back to you!

#### PLANNING, PLANNING. PLANNING!

Your friendly Service Coordinators are looking for your input! We are planning services through the spring and beyond. Do you have a favorite community contact who would like to discuss their program? Do you know a minister who would like to zoom with us, UU or any denomination? Do you have an idea for a service that you and others could put together with our team? Please contact our Coordinators via jbt22ster@gmail.com with your ideas! Amelia Hanley, Nancy 3 Hoffman, Marilyn Smith, Joy Taylor

# Here's the link for the UU Justice Florida news letter: <a href="https://uujusticefl.salsalabs.org/january2021-newsletter">https://uujusticefl.salsalabs.org/january2021-newsletter</a>.

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