

ONE ISLAND FAMILY

801 GEORGIA ST.

KEY WEST, FL 33040

WWW.ONEISLANDFAMILY.ORG

E-MAIL: OFFICE@ONEISLANDFAMILY.ORG



MAY 2024

WORSHIP

MAY SERVICES AT ONE ISLAND FAMILY:

JOIN US (LIVE OR ON ZOOM) SUNDAYS AT 11AM

5 Amelia: Boys and Girls Club

12 Rev. Bob Murphy: Mothers' Day

The discussion about women and organized religion continues. In honor of Mothers Day, we'll look at three women - all of them mothers - who helped to establish Judaism and Christianity. All three are often overlooked or underappreciated. Afterwards, we'll look at two women who deserve more credit among the Unitarian Universalists. All of the stories raise questions about organized religion in the 21st century.

19 Rev. Doug Slagle: will surprise us!

26 Memorial Day: picnic onsite - bring something to share and your stories, travel plans, summer ideas, etc.!

JUNE SERVICES AT ONE ISLAND FAMILY:

(Pride 5-9)

2 Queer Keys

9 Rev. Doug Slagle: "Pride Celebration"

Our "SEASON" officially ends with participation in the annual PRIDE PARADE on June 9. Watch for more details in the upcoming weeks! and don't miss:

23 We will share the zoom link(s) to the UUA General Assembly (June 20-23) that concludes on this Sunday

ZOOM IN TO ONE ISLAND FAMILY

For this week, April 28th, and May 12th, there will be Zoom services. If you are unable to join us in person, please feel free to connect with us online. It would be appreciated if you mute yourself as you enter the Zoom Room. This is the link that will be used for all future Zoom services as well.

April 28th - Rev. Doug Slagle "Let's Take a Spiritual (but Non-Religious!) Self-Inventory to Enrich Our Lives"

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6164793132?pwd=am5Cb3puRkFGOU8vNTAvbjRHSVZWZz09>

Meeting ID: 616 479 3132

Passcode: 018xPC

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

NEWS AND NOTES

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hello One Island Family!

This month I am pleased to give an update on the Welcoming Congregation (WC) project. You may recall that we completed an application to receive the WC designation from the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). The application recapped the ongoing work of our congregation to be an open and welcoming place for people in the LGBTQ+ community. As part of the process, we updated our by-laws and welcoming statements to be explicitly inclusive. We also committed as a congregation to the ongoing principles and work of being a Welcoming Congregation at our annual meeting in January. I am very excited and proud to announce that the UUA has reviewed our application and One Island Family has officially been declared a Welcoming Congregation! Our listing in the UUA Directory

will reflect the designation and we are able to use the Welcoming Congregation Logo on our materials. I have included the logo below.



Being a Welcoming Congregation is an ongoing effort and we will continue to engage in the efforts required to earn this valued designation. Next year we will talk more about the official process of “The Five Practices of Welcome Renewal”. I would like to thank all the members of One Island Family for the many years of Welcoming efforts that positioned us to receive this designation with very little change required to our existing practices. I also want to thank our Welcoming Congregation Committee; Barb Goldworm, Joy Taylor, Baires Serrano, Rev Doug Slagle and our Board Members, Dave Arnold, Liz Eastman, Alana Robles, and Claire Hurd for their work to complete the application and gain UUA approval. Congratulations to the whole congregation on this accomplishment!

In peace,
Karen Blackwell

IN OTHER NEWS:

The Board is seeking to keep up our exposure to, announcements of, and participation in various **SOCIAL JUSTICE** issues of interest to us all. To that end, we are seeking a dedicated SOCIAL JUSTICE CHAIR to keep an eye on and report all opportunities as they arise locally. INTERESTED? Please contact President Karen Blackwell at kblackwell07@yahoo.com or leave a message on our One Island Family office number: 305-296-4369

CARING CONNECTIONS:

From Pat Collins and Judy Lawrence:

Judy is so much better we are moving back to Rochester NY. May come see you next winter!

EXCERPTS FROM STEVE TORRENCE'S SERVICE IN DECEMBER, 2023

As we stand here in our island paradise, a place often seen as an escape from these harsh realities, we cannot turn a blind eye to the world's troubles. They reach us even here, at mile marker zero, challenging our sense of fairness, justice equality, security and testing our resolve as a community of faith.

In the vast expanse of life's challenges and uncertainties, hope stands as our guiding star – radiant, unwavering, and luminous.

It is not just a faint glimmer in the distance but a dazzling beacon that lights our way through the darkest nights and the most turbulent storms.

This hope is more than mere optimism; it's a dynamic and potent force, a celestial fire that burns bright in the heart of our community.

Hope illuminates our path with its brilliant sparkle, revealing the possibilities and potential that lie ahead. It dances like sunlight on water, reflecting the myriad opportunities for change, growth, and renewal.

We are called to infuse hope into our actions:

- Engage in community activities that foster unity and understanding. This includes participating in local events, volunteering at community centers, and supporting initiatives that bring diverse groups together.
- Encourage dialogues within the community that promote mutual understanding and respect. These conversations can bridge gaps, heal divisions, and strengthen our communal bonds.
- Stand up for policies and actions that support the marginalized. This means advocating for the hungry, the poor, the sick, and the oppressed not only in words but in deeds.
- Get involved in local politics or support organizations that work towards social justice. Use your voice and vote to make a difference in the lives of those who are often overlooked.

- Commit to truth and integrity in all your interactions. This involves being honest in your communications and dealings, and encouraging others to value and uphold truth.

- Be a model of honesty in a world riddled with falsehoods. Challenge misinformation and stand firm in your commitment to authenticity and ethical conduct.

- Just as it takes time for a cruise ship to change course, understand that societal change is a gradual process. Cultivate patience and perseverance in your endeavors.

- Recognize that every small step towards a better world is progress. Maintain your commitment to positive change, even when immediate results are not visible.

Together, let us journey towards a future where hope is not an abstract concept, but a lived reality in every facet of our community.

Let us strive to create a world where love, peace, and justice are not distant dreams, but the bedrock of our daily existence.

As we depart from this place today, let us carry with us a renewed sense of purpose and the commitment to act.

Together, we can, and we must, for the betterment of our community and the future of our world.

Let's move forward with the conviction that, with hope guiding us and united action as our pathway, we can indeed forge a world that is brighter, more compassionate, and just for all.

CRISIS IN THE KEYS: WHAT'S HAPPENING TO OUR WATER?

JOIN US

MAY 7TH @ 6PM
HARVEY GOVERNMENT CENTER -1200 TRUMAN AVENUE, KEY WEST

DR. BRIAN LAPOINTE, RESEARCH PROFESSOR AT FAU-HARBOR BRANCH OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, HAS SPENT 40 YEARS RESEARCHING NUTRIENT POLLUTION FROM AGRICULTURAL RUN-OFFS AND OTHER SOURCES, HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND CORAL REEF DISTURBANCE IN THE WATERS OF THE FLORIDA KEYS AND BEYOND.

DR. LAPOINTE WILL EXPLAIN WHAT IS OCCURRING ON THE LAND AND IN OUR WATERS TO CAUSE THE "SPINNING FISH", HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND THE DIE-OFF OF THE ENDANGERED SMALL TOOTH SAWFISH AND WILL RECOMMEND ACTIONS FOR MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES ON THE MAINLAND AND LOCALLY IN THE KEYS.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERSTAND OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND TO LEARN HOW WE CAN IMPROVE IT. WE ENCOURAGE PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO ATTEND.

A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION WILL FOLLOW THE PRESENTATION.

PRESENTED BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LOWER KEYS, THE CITY OF KEY WEST SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT AND REEF RELIEF.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



















SNOW BIRD HAS FLOWN - FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR, NANCY 3. HOFFMAN

I'm leaving for my northern home on May 1st. It's been a great season serving as music Director for One Island Family. I so appreciate all of you who have volunteered your time, effort, and talents to make beautiful and interesting music every week. If any of you are near Portland, Maine, please get in touch and perhaps you can come over to Peaks Island and see the Umbrella Cover Museum. There are two active UU congregations in Portland as well. Have a great summer and early fall. I look forward to seeing you all next November.

MUSIC NOTES

Thank you to everyone who has sung with the One Island Family Choir this season! It has been a magical experience - leaving it open to the universe and to whoever decides to show up on Sunday morning. Then having an instant arrangement and practice session. Then melodiously and harmoniously singing for the service, bringing love and joy through music into our midst!

This Sunday, April 28th, will be the last official choir meeting of the season, so come at 10:15 if you are able. There may be impromptu musical events created while I am away, so stay tuned for any of them. I love being the Music Director at One Island Family, and I look forward to being back with you in the fall, around the beginning of November. And if any of you are in Maine this summer, let me know.

ALSO - This will be the last Sunday this season that I will be playing at The Little Room Jazz Club. Singing show tunes, standards, and international accordion hits in a relaxed atmosphere. 821 Duval Street from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Thanks to One Island Family members who have been joining me!

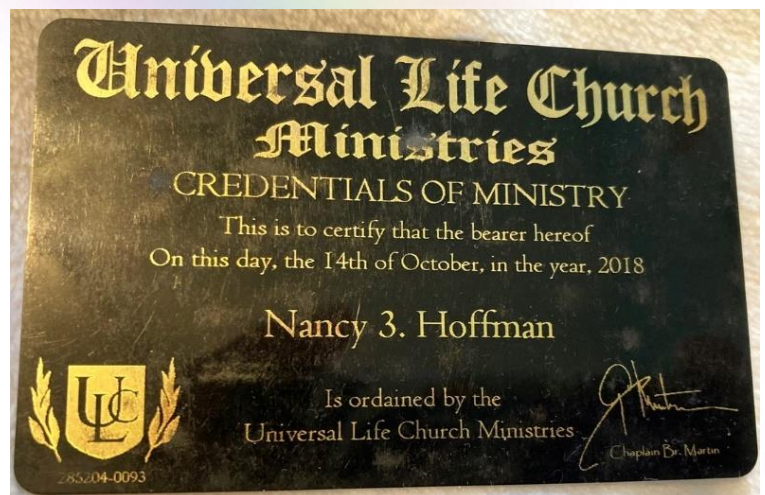
Musically yours,

Nancy 3. Hoffman, Music Director, One Island Family.

3nancy3@gmail.com or 207-939-0301.

MINISTERIAL SERVICES AVAILABLE

Surprise to all One Island Family participants - I am also a minister! Of the Universal Life Church (see photo below). SOOOOO, if you are thinking of getting married, having a commitment or re-commitment ceremony, having a very official divorce ceremony, baby naming, or any other activity that could use an officiant, please keep me in mind. AND I can provide music and dancing as well. Plan ahead for next season! Or fly me to your location. It's an option. Nancy 3. Hoffman. Contact me at 207-939-0301 or 3nancy3@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.



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