

## ONE ISLAND FAMILY

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## APRIL 2025

### APRIL SERVICES AT ONE ISLAND FAMILY:

**6 Dr. Arnie Kerzner "Why Hope for Hope?"**

**13 Keys to Be the Change, Heidi Golightly, Executive Director**

"Keys to Be the Change, Inc. is making a significant impact in the lives of struggling students." Come learn all about this wonderful programming!

**20 Rev. Doug Slagle "A Deconstructed Jesus and Easter"**

By seeing Jesus and his death from a deconstructed perspective, people of all faiths - and no faiths - can learn and honor what he really exemplified - without rejecting their own spirituality.

**27 Jean Gregory: Poetry service**

April is "National Poetry Month." Our friend and Conch Poet J.M. Varela (aka Jean Gregory) will moderate a poetry service to include works by Key West celebrity writers, Unitarian poets, and some of her conchified poetry. UU's love poetry so remember to bring a few of your favorites to share.

We welcome our **UUA AFFILIATE MINISTERS** on a regular basis:

**Rev. Bob Murphy and Rev. Doug Slagle**

### EMAIL CHANGE

Please note, that we are phasing out our *uufkw@yahoo.com* email.

Emails to contact our office are either [office@oneislandfamily.org](mailto:office@oneislandfamily.org) or [oneislandfamily@gmail.com](mailto:oneislandfamily@gmail.com).

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Greetings, all!

Like most of us, I struggle to keep a smile on my face lately! I have turned repeatedly to two books on my shelves as antidotes to **my** fears. The first is A Chosen Faith (by John Buehrens and Forrest Church). This introduction to our tradition offers a summary of our faith, which I reread OFTEN to remind myself of what we can be in these current times and always:

"Unitarian Universalism is a fierce belief in the way of freedom and reverence for the sacred dignity of each

individual. With Jefferson, we have sworn eternal hostility against every tyranny over the mind.

Unitarian Universalism is cooperation with a universe that created us; it is celebration of life; it is being in love with goodness and justice; it is a sense of humor about absolutes.

Unitarian Universalism is faith in people, hope for tomorrow's child, confidence in a continuity that spans all time. It looks not to a perfect heaven, but toward a good earth. It is respectful of the past, but not limited to it. It is trust in growing and conspiracy with change. It is spiritual responsibility for a moral tomorrow."

SIMPLY?? It is what our principles direct us to be, guided more by common values than by common beliefs.





AND IN THIS, THE MONTH OF POETRY:

The second volume is Devotions, the Selected Poems of Mary Oliver. This American poet was known for her vivid imagery, clear observations, and awe-inspired observations of nature. Her work is characterized by a sense of wonderment.

Mary Oliver's perhaps most famous poem, known for its profound and relatable message, is "The Summer Day", particularly the final lines:

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do / with your one wild and precious life?"

Here is another favorite of mine (there are so many 😊): (FROM "WILD GEESE")

“WHOEVER YOU ARE, NO MATTER HOW LONELY,  
THE WORLD OFFERS ITSELF TO YOUR IMAGINATION,  
CALLS TO YOU LIKE THE WILD GEESE, HARSH AND EXCITING –  
OVER AND OVER ANNOUNCING YOUR PLACE IN THE FAMILY OF THINGS.”

I urge you to seek out your antidotes to the pervasive fears and choose instead the paths of love, kindness and caring in whatever ways are meaningful for you.

HEAL and Blessed Be!

Joy Brown Taylor

## SIDE WITH LOVE

Click on the link(s) to read and follow this powerful UUA movement!



[https://prod.cdn.everyaction.com/emails/van/EA/EA005/1/79085/vl8TxMKDdU6BK8xE6cTr04zCrzPW7s3CX1yz9k1462M\\_archive?emci=87c1405b-f304-f011-90cd-0022482a9fb7&emdi=6cdc90c3-5c06-f011-90cd-0022482a9fb7&ceid=6472165](https://prod.cdn.everyaction.com/emails/van/EA/EA005/1/79085/vl8TxMKDdU6BK8xE6cTr04zCrzPW7s3CX1yz9k1462M_archive?emci=87c1405b-f304-f011-90cd-0022482a9fb7&emdi=6cdc90c3-5c06-f011-90cd-0022482a9fb7&ceid=6472165)

## CLAIRE HURD DAY

Our One Island Family Secretary and Family member, Claire Hurd (in red) had her own day declared for her by City Council on April Fools Day. It also marked her retirement from 25 years of service to the City. That date was especially relevant, noted her boss, City Attorney Ron Ramsingh (left of Claire), as Claire has such a great sense of humor. We wish her well in her travels to Alaska, and look forward to hearing her stories in the fall.

See [OneIslandFamilyOfficial](#) on FB for the entire 'ceremony'!!!





## THE ILLUSTRIOUS ONE ISLAND FAMILY CHOIR



Led by pianist and music director Nancy 3 Hoffman  
Anne, Marsha, and Claire

## DEMONSTRATE – NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

**DEMONSTRATE**  
**National Day of Action**

801 WOMEN'S MARCH INDIVISIBLE

**SATURDAY APRIL 5 • 11 am -12**  
**National Weather Service • 1315 White St. • Key West**

**HANDS OFF!**

Our wallets  
Our bodies  
Our Medicare  
Our Medicaid  
Our Social Security  
Our personal data  
Our Veteran services  
Our Cancer research  
Our Free speech  
Our jobs  
Our LGBTQ  
Our COUNTRY

**Please  
come  
& bring  
friends!**

## TIMELINE OF MILESTONES FOR OUR CONGREGATION

Fall of 1987	Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Key West Inc became incorporated in Florida.
January 1988	UUFKW joined the UUA.
February 1998	UUFKW purchased 801 Georgia St.
September 2005 – August 2006	Rev. Barbara Jamestone, PhD, served as minister.
February 2007 – March 2016	Rev. Dr. Randolph W. B. Becker served as minister.
February 2012	One Island Family the Southernmost Unitarian Universalist Congregation was registered as our fictitious name.
August 2014 – July 2015	We became a Teaching Congregation when we welcomed ministerial intern Kimberly Debus who served with Rev. Becker for a year. She was ordained on May 27, 2017, by two congregations – UU Congregation of Saratoga Springs and the First Universalist Church of Southold, NY.
2020 - 2021	Mostly Zoom services due to Covid 19 pandemic.
December 2023	Rev. Bob Murphy and Rev. Doug Slagle become affiliate ministers of One Island Family.
November 2024	Land Acknowledgement adopted.
January 2025	One Island Family officially designated as a UU Welcoming Congregation.

## CARING CONNECTIONS

### ***THIS FROM OUR AFFILIATE MINISTER, REV. BOB!***

"The Green Sanctuary program is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. There will be a zoom program on April 16<sup>th</sup> with the national UUA's president. If One Island Family would like to be involved in the Green Sanctuary program, please let me know. The Green Sanctuary program is the UUA's major environmental justice program.

Earth Day is April 22nd.

Lyn and I have been asked to help with some mutual aid and food-related projects for the national UUA.

Some of this effort is based on One Island Family presentations. The One Island Family video about mutual aid is still being used in different places. Thank you, One Island Family. We'll have more information in April.

With best wishes for springtime,

Bob Murphy"

### ***THIS FROM JORGE AND RON!!***

"We are almost at the end of our trip to Taiwan and then moving to the last country to visit - Japan. It has certainly been a great trip and amazing cultural experience from one country to the next. Singapore was just amazing and so modern - it is like Disney World for adults!!

Vietnam is beautiful but it really needs to get its act together to solve the air pollution due to agricultural burning and traffic nightmares pretty much everywhere.

Thailand is such a delight and its people so gracious, honest and friendly.

Taiwan is so modern with Taipei and its mass transit system, and also so friendly and honest. Beautiful landscapes and the food to die for!!

I am eagerly awaiting to arrive in Japan and enjoy the culture and food.

Please pass our regards to everyone in the congregation.

Best regards,

Jorge and Ron"



(photos attached to match with Jorge's comments!))







***AND FROM KAREN AND BARB!***

Asia has been amazing so far! Food and culture incredible. We are heading to a water blessing in a Buddhist temple in Cambodia right now.  
and some fun photos (to compare with Jorge and Ron?!?)









## YOGA SCHEDULE IN OUR SANCTUARY:

Jan Bergh	Mindfulness Meditation Sangha	TUE	5.30 PM
Carl Ferrette	Yoga	MON, THU	6.00 PM
Mike Mulligan	Mindful Movement	TUE, THU	10 AM
Marjorie Paul-Shook	Gentle Pilates	WED, SAT	10 AM

## OUR LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ADOPTED 11/10/24

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE LAND THAT ONE ISLAND FAMILY NOW STANDS ON AND THE WATERS SURROUNDING KEY WEST, WERE THE TRADITIONAL HOMES UNDER THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE MASCOGO, SEMINOLE, TEQUESTA, CALUSA AND TAINO PEOPLES. WE COMMIT TO SHARING THE HERITAGE OF OUR UNIQUE FLORIDA KEYS ENVIRONMENT, AND TO PROMOTING ITS PRESERVATION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS**



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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