

ONE ISLAND FAMILY

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JULY 2025

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

Rev. Bob Murphy and Rev. Doug Slagle

PRESIDENT'S NOTE:

Greetings, all!

As we ended the affirming experience of parading with and for **PRIDE** Sunday evening, I was feeling comforted for the first time in ages 😊. We were actively honoring “The inherent worth and dignity of every person,” one of the basic Principles that attracted me to Unitarian Universalism. Further, the participants were all united in “The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.” Does it get any better than that??? For those brief hours all participants and the ‘audience’ were united in celebration.

I spent some of our parade time in our decorated golf cart and most of the parade time handing out ONE HUMAN FAMILY bracelets supplied by Grand Marshal, JT Thompson. (If there is anyone who does not know this, we are proud to claim JT as a UU member.) What struck me was the positive energy of those who clamored for the bracelets (accompanied by my statement “we truly *are* One Human Family”), and the ‘thank you’ I heard from young and old as they donned the symbolic gifts.

The next night I watched the City Commission Special Meeting with the attendant vote that voids agreement 287(g) between our local Police Department and ICE. My takeaway comment: **Such beautiful speeches from the souls of our citizens!**

All of the above reminds me that we are allowed to be happy; we are allowed to celebrate our differences as the strengths that add to our community; we are **PROUD** to live in a kinder, gentler, more caring community.

Summer travels await. Thereafter? I will be delighted to be back in Key West and looking forward to reuniting with my One Island Family.

Blessed be to all.

Joy Brown Taylor

UUA 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

SOME OF THE INFORMATION TO TAKE AWAY FROM UUA, 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/uua-ga-2025-recap-vote-results-statements-actions-unitarian-universalism>

"Delegates voted to affirm all three Actions of Immediate Witness (AIWs) under consideration: "Faithful Defiance of Authoritarianism, a Call to Action: Reaffirming Our Covenants for Democracy and Freedom" (98.3 percent of votes), "Funding Global LGBTIQ Freedom Amid Crisis: A Call for Immediate Action and Solidarity" (98.3 percent of votes), and "We Declare and Reaffirm: All People Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights" (99.2 percent). AIWs are statements about a significant action, event, or development in the world that necessitates immediate engagement and action among UU congregations and affiliated groups."

SUNSHINE CLUSTER NOTES:

With thanks to Marilyn Smith for sharing this update!

UU Florida Sunshine Cluster's CLIMATE JUSTICE REVIVAL

On May 31, I dropped in by Zoom to our Sunshine Cluster's Climate Justice Revival. ("Sunshine Cluster" being a network of UU congregations in Florida.) Facilitator of the program was Rev. Amy Carol Webb, minister of River of Grass UU in Davie, FL (retiring). Purpose of this program was to give us time together to consider possibilities and collective future goals for Planet Earth.

Rev. Webb offered a quote "The goal of life is living in nature" (Zeno 450 BC) from [greenpeace.org](https://www.greenpeace.org). We've been doing ecological awareness for centuries,

including the first Earth Day in 1970, but we're now in a "state of overwhelm" designed to keep us divided. Nature knows what to do, so we should align with nature, as Thoreau reminded us. There's a difference between Environmental Activism (efforts aimed at saving the earth) and Climate Justice (recognizing the impact of climate change on low income communities and communities of color around the world). Hurricane Katrina exposed the intersectionality of many injustices of those communities.

We were guided into small groups to share our ideas. Other Florida congregations with large physical spaces shared some of their climate actions such as community gardens or composting. I was proud to say that One Island Family under the leadership of Dave Arnold (also attending by Zoom), has for several years participated in a DOT Highway Cleanup program from MM14 to 16 along US 1 where a road side sign credits the "Southernmost UU Congregation" for maintaining that section of the roadside with trash and recycle clean up.

UU Clearwater works with DART to create interfaith rain gardens and "food forests" for teaching people how to grow vegetables. UU Miami has worked in their community to advocate for planting more trees in low income areas, including urban school properties. Other congregations are starting Farmers Markets on church property. Rev. Bob Murphy, who also attended by Zoom, commended efforts like community gardens that bring people together and encourage more folks to get involved.

We can expand the groups with whom we align. (Suggestions included Mutual Aid and health equity groups in low income communities, Sustainable Urban Agriculture Coalition, or university agriculture extension services.) We can look for indigenous climate action, and nurture relationships with indigenous groups. There are people and structures we can join, if we're willing to partner with others whose goals we share. Some families could use Hurricane Supply Kits (donations of essential items such as food to carry in case of evacuations) or Preparation Packs (with donated cash or gift cards for fueling vehicles.) We gain inspiration and strength from each other, so "don't give up"! We don't have all the answers, but try stuff out! What are we willing to do in the next 90 days for Climate Justice?

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." [Desmond Tutu](#)

"VISITING CHURCH"

This in from Marilyn Smith:

I can recall that when we lived in Key West and it came time for One Island Family's annual break for the season, that I'd scratch my head and wonder, but *what will I do* on Sunday mornings all summer? For this season, I offer a suggestion. A year ago we moved to Islamorada and, as you know, that put us 80 miles from our One Island Family UU Congregation, and about the same distance from the UU Congregation of Miami. So for the Sundays when One Island Family wasn't zooming, I began to explore on line.

Here's what I found: by searching the website uua.org, there's a place to "FIND A CONGREGATION". So, pick a place. I have entered "Miami, FL", or "New London, CT " - where we were members years ago at All Souls UU. If that congregation has a website, go exploring. You can discover the time of their Sunday Services, whether they have a Facebook or Zoom link for whatever they are doing that morning. At the scheduled time, just tune, watch and listen. Watching makes me proud to be a UU and helps me make sense of the chaos of our world. Enjoy your summer!

PARADE WITH PRIDE 6/29? YES, WE DID!

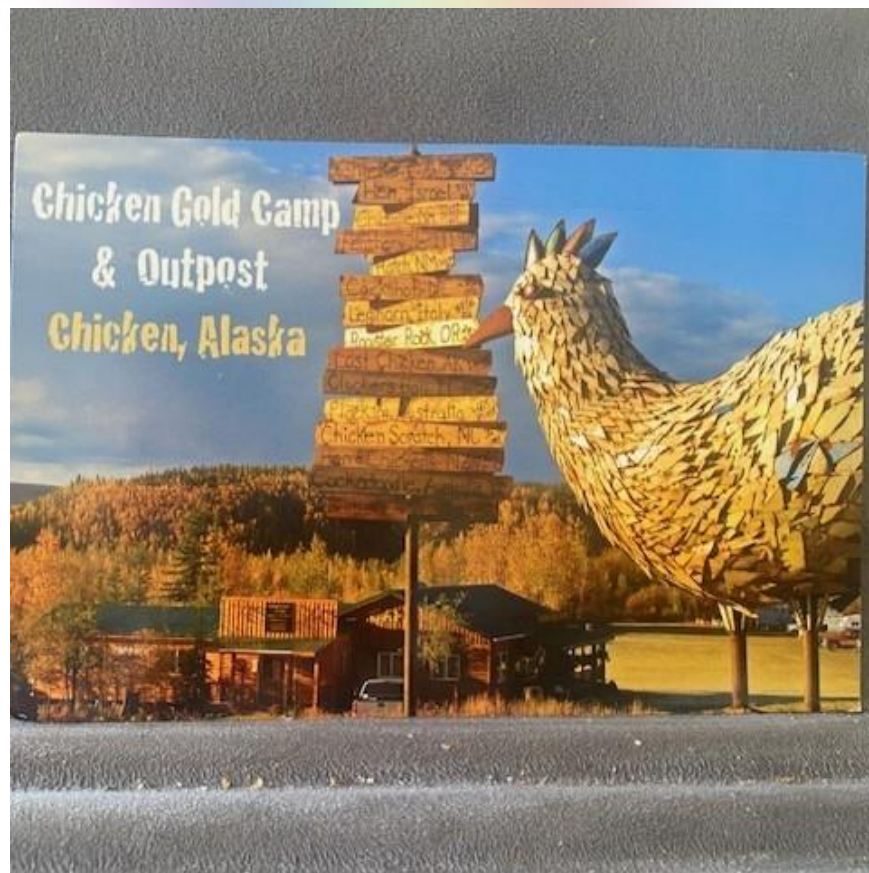
Fearless driver Amelia; participants Joy, Dave, Liz, Anne, Alana, Ray, Tosha







CARING CONNECTIONS:



Sent from Claire Hurd while on the road!!

ONE ISLAND FAMILY NORTH



Claire Hurd made a northern swing on her way back from Alaska, to visit Nancy 3. Hoffman and her quirky Umbrella Cover Museum. They had a wonderful time together, exploring the island by golf cart, watching sunsets and trying to stay cool. Claire picked the two hottest days so far to visit Maine. Nancy 3. had a gig playing with members of her accordion band, The Maine Squeeze, during that week as well. Nancy 3. And Claire enjoyed each other's company, without having to set up food or rehearse a choir.



Most recent news from the museum is that it was mentioned during a taping of the NPR show, "Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me" last week in Portland, Maine. It has not been aired yet, but might be on later this summer. Stay cool y'all!



EMAIL CHANGE:

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

Emails to contact our office are either office@oneislandfamily.org or oneislandfamily@gmail.com.

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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