

ONE ISLAND FAMILY

801 GEORGIA ST.

KEY WEST, FL 33040

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JUNE 2025

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

Rev. Bob Murphy and Rev. Doug Slagle

OUR NEXT BOARD MEETING:

The One Island Family Board will meet on June 4 at 1 PM in the sanctuary. Any and all are welcome to attend.

PRESIDENT'S NOTE:

Greetings, all!

Now we enter the quiet of our summer period—a great time for reading and reflection. I share this food for thought, a quote that resonated with me from the book Cutting for Stone:

“Not only our actions, but also our omissions, become our destiny.”

Oxford Dictionary provides this definition of omission: “a failure to do something, especially something that one has a moral or legal obligation to do.” In many religious traditions this becomes the proverbial “sin of omission,” or “any lack of conformity to God's law, or failing to do what God commands, which is as grievous as actively transgressing what He commands.” Oh my! And on to whatever awaits on Judgment Day as part of that destiny...

By any definition, an omission is a proactive failure. This is not benign neglect; this is a CHOICE. We see this behavior modelled all around us, from the microcosm of family relationships and local politicians to the macrocosm: the world stage of silent

intolerance, the passive disregard of inhumane treatment of others, the choice of not trying, of failing to speak up or act in ways dictated by mutual conscience.

What a world it could be if we all made the positive choice to TRY! Just think if our “omissions” became instead actions for the greater good! Just think if our results-driven society were to be immersed in the fullness of positive experience! What an affirmation of our One Human Family for all joined in community!

I wish you all some peace, quiet and moments of reflection this summer. And I wish you the action choice of doing something good, just because you can.

Joy Brown Taylor

“I shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.” (Grellet, Quaker missionary)

QUEERLY BELOVED FROM BRAVER/WISER:

“Queer... not as being about who you're having sex with (that can be a dimension of it), but queer as being about the self that is at odds with everything around it and has to invent it and create and find a place to speak and to thrive and to live.”

—bell hooks

I accidentally came out in a homily I delivered at Summer Seminary, a Unitarian Universalist program for youth considering becoming religious professionals. I had recently been leaning into my identity as a queer woman of color, and I said as much. I forgot, however, that I hadn't mentioned this fact to my parents yet, who were watching the livestream at First Unitarian in Chicago from their couch in Corvallis, Oregon. When my dad picked me up from the airport a week later, he brought it up almost immediately. “So I wanted to ask... what does queer mean to you?”

I've flirted with a lot of different labels throughout the years, from *ally* to *bisexual* to *lesbian*, but none of them have ever felt quite right. Each has a special place in my heart for the communities I've been in solidarity with and the identities that I've claimed, but I keep returning to the word **queer**.

I've had conversations with LGBT elders about the word queer. Not everyone uses it; some have too many memories of it being used as a weapon against them to have it sit right with their soul. My middle school counselor hated the word because for him, "queer" meant strange and odd.

That's still the first definition that comes up when you Google it. But for me, a mixed-race person of color, a gender expansive relationship anarchist, and of course, a Unitarian Universalist, queer is the perfect word not just to describe my sexuality but every part of me and what I embody.

As I've studied queer theology in seminary, I've actually become more and more convinced that Unitarian Universalism itself is a queer faith, defined not by a creed passed down through generations but by the real-world commitments we make to each other in the present.

Unitarian Universalism "queers" the idea of theology itself, not requiring the *theos* (God) to do the *logos* (talk). Our "God-talk" includes the atheists, agnostics, polytheists, and all those who endeavor to engage in the search for truth and meaning.

My queerness and my Unitarian Universalism are inextricably linked, informing each other at every bend in the road. I wouldn't be who I am without either of them.

Prayer

Spirit of Life, queerly beloved, God of the strange and the odd and the imperfect and the beautiful, help us find the words that embody who we truly are.

Karishma Gottfried

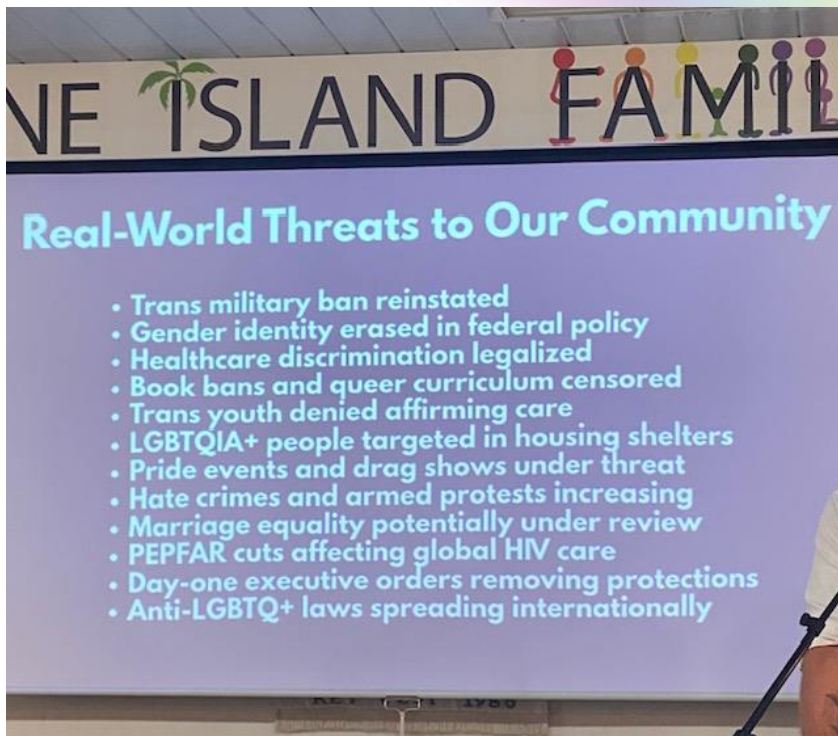
Karishma Neva Gottfried (they/she) was raised on fair trade coffee and love in the UU Fellowship of Corvallis, Oregon. They were an active youth leader regionally and nationally, served The Sanctuary Boston as Campus Ministry Organizer, and is currently a student at Union Theological Seminary. When not sharing their love of Unitarian Universalism, Kari can be found listening to audiobooks, playing viola, or sharing a cup of tea with a friend.



QUEER KEYS AT ONE ISLAND FAMILY:

WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING MORE!!!

Thanx to Chris McNulty for another importantly informative Sunday!



PRIDE PARADE, JUNE 29:

Join us to represent One Island Family UU in our community Key West Pride Parade to celebrate LGBTQ+ joy and pride, and stand together against hate.

Come show our support for diversity and creativity in Key West, and our UU belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.



When: Sunday, June 29 .

Staging and decorating of our golf cart at 6:00 PM, parade steps off at 7:00 PM sharp.

Where: Staging at Truman Waterfront Park, finishing in the 1300 block of Duval St.

Why: To celebrate PRIDE and show One Island Family is part of One Human Family. We have a golf cart for those who can't walk all or part of the parade route. But we also need walkers to carry our principals banner!



ONE ISLAND FAMILY

The inherent worth and dignity of every person

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth

A FREE AND RESPONSIBLE SEARCH FOR TRUTH AND MEANING

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process

THE GOAL OF WORLD COMMUNITY WITH PEACE, LIBERTY, AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

KEY WEST COMMUNITY ENERGY WORKSHOP:

The City of Key West is creating a 10-Year Energy Resilience & Cost Savings Plan to help our community lower utility costs, increase energy efficiency, and better prepare for extreme weather.

Be part of the solution! Attend an upcoming in-person Community Energy Workshop to learn about the plan, share your input, and help shape a more sustainable and resilient future for Key West.

Watch the pre-workshop video to learn what the workshop will cover and how it impacts you.

Project Goals

- Lower energy costs & increase efficiency
- Improve resilience to extreme weather
- Use more clean, local energy sources
- Support electric vehicle adoption

Supported by:

The U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Technology Innovation Partnership Project, with expert input from:

- National Renewable Energy Lab
- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- Southeast Sustainability Directors Network

How to Get Involved

Step 1: Take the Community Energy Survey [Click here.](#)

Step 2: Watch the Pre-Workshop Recording [Click here.](#)

Step 3: Sign up for the Newsletter for updates [Click here.](#)

Step 4: Attend our In-Person Workshop that works best for you:

Refreshments will be provided!

In-person Workshop Location

Bahama Village Community Center – 101 Olivia Street, Key West, FL 33040

Workshop Dates & Times

Friday, June 6 | 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Saturday, June 7 | 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Saturday, June 7 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Click here: to view [Energy Community Workshop's Facebook Event Invite](#)

Please note: All sessions are identical – attend the one that fits your schedule best.

Questions? Contact: Sheetal Almas, Adaptation & Energy Coordinator

Sheetal.Almas@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

CARING CONNECTIONS:

This is an easy way to share and care!

Send any announcements, pictures of travels, events etc. to oneislandfamily@gmail.com and let us all know what you are up to!

FROM NANCY 3. HOFFMAN

It has been mostly cold and wet here in Maine, so I miss the Key West heat, but I persevere. The Umbrella Cover Museum opened successfully for its 29th season on May 24th. I have had about 350 visitors so far. My newest exhibit features the flags of all 5 countries I visited in the fall - each one has been turned into a (pseudo) umbrella cover. I still play my accordion for every group, and do our theme song, "Let a Smile be Your Umbrella." Here are a few pictures. Sending love and music to my One Island Family, wherever you are.





JUNETEENTH:



June 19th, 2025

9 AM

Juneteenth Celebration at
African Burial Grounds: Higgs Beach

Prayer.....	Pastor Mildred Roscoe Bethel AME Church
Speaker.....	Reverend Leo Green St. James Baptist Church
Poem	Sekayi Khita Hetep
Song.....	(see next page for song lyrics)
Poem.....	Demiyah Baptist
Dance Recital.....	The Carey N Me Group
Closing Comments.....	Mayor Danise Henriquez Commissioner Castillo

Juneteenth in Key West, FL, is observed on Thursday, June 19, 2025. Key West City offices are closed on this day, and the holiday commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas, in 1865.

UUJF LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2025:



Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida
Bending Florida toward Justice

[This link will take you to a Folder in Google Drive.](#) The folder holds all the contact information sheets and information that are listed in this Newsletter. Share the address if you wish. Anyone can view the materials and you can download anything you want.

The Florida Legislative Session has been extended until June 6, 2025. It just finished a week break and it will reconvene starting May 13. The Session was extended because the Senate and House could not agree on a budget. As soon as a budget is agreed on by both the House and Senate, the Session can close.

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

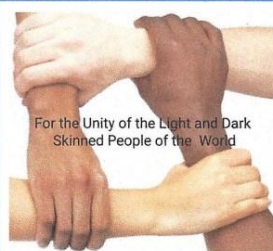
Here is the information for those who wish to follow!!

-General Assembly 6/18-6/22:

<https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>

<https://www.uua.org/files/2021-05/2021%20Agenda.pdf>

RACE AND CLASS, INTERSECTIONS AND DIFFERENCES:



Race and Class:

Intersections and Differences

A Convocation of the

Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council

**Saturday, June 7, 2025, 11 a.m.-1:00 pm Central time
(Starts at Noon Eastern, 10:00 am Mountain, 9:00 am Pacific)**

3 Authors are the Featured Speakers



Professor **Toure' F. Reed**, who has a PhD in History from Columbia University (NY), teaches 20th Century US and Afro-American history at Illinois State University. He is a third generation African American professor, son of the renowned activist professor Adolph Reed. He is the author of *Toward Freedom: The Case Against Race Reductionism* (2020) and other books.



Olufemi O. Táíwò is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University. He received his Ph.D. in philosophy at UCLA. Táíwò's theoretical work draws liberally from the Black radical tradition, anti-colonial thought, German transcendental philosophy, contemporary philosophy of language, contemporary social science, and histories of activism and activist thinkers. His public philosophy, including articles exploring intersections of climate justice and colonialism, has been featured in at least 10 magazines, plus several academic journals. He is the author of *Elite Capture: How The Powerful Took Over Identity Politics* (2022) and other books.



Rev. **Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove**, a graduate of Duke Divinity School, is a spiritual writer, preacher, and community cultivator. He serves as Assistant Director for Partnerships and Fellowships at Yale University's Center for Public Theology and Public Policy. He co-authored *The Third Reconstruction* and *White Poverty* with **Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II**, plus has written several book on his own.

**TO REGISTER send an email to UUMUAC@gmail.com;
Zoom codes will be sent the day before the Convocation**

UUA ACTIVITIES:



- Live Zoom event (no participant mics or breakout rooms)
- CART captioning provided
- Optional Zoom chat available
- Recording (without chat) + slides + links shared afterward at sidewithlove.org/the-gathering

[RSVP to join!](#)

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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