



- **Annual Goods and Services Auction, Sunday, March 6 and 13** - bid on beautiful art and jewelry, fun parties, delicious food, and much, much, more. Don't miss out!
- **Second Hour Sundays, March 6 and 20, April 10 and 24**, after services stay for a homemade lunch and classes. See page 6 for the details.
- **Get on the P.E.A.C.E. BUS, Monday, March 14.** We leave the parking lot at 5:00 pm sharp. Check out the sign-up poster display in Osias Hall to reserve your seat. We'll be joining other congregations at the Nehemiah Assembly, where we'll take meaningful action to help others in PBC. Enjoy the Rev's baked goodies during the trip. Be sure to wear your UUFBR T-shirt.
- **Pridefest Parade, Lake Worth, Sunday, March 20.** Wear your UUFBR T-shirt and carry our banner. We'll carpool to the event and meet up with the First UU Congregation of the Palm Beaches. Back at the fellowship, the RE programs for that Sunday include childcare and activities for those who choose to stay.
- **Dialogue: Racism Workshop, Saturday and Sunday, April 2 and 3.** See page 7 for the details on this unique workshop. Within a safe, respectful and loving atmosphere, participants will learn new information, share their experiences and ask questions to dispel fears, get to know each other, and stop separation.
- **Florida Earth Festival's 3rd Annual Earth Day Fair, April 23rd.** We're doing it again! Get ready for Green products, Urban gardening, Electric cars, Crafts, Biodegradable supplies, Workshops and more. Be on the look-out for all the details.



From the DRE

Ellen Cormier



Rituals

Meeting God, a book by Stephen P/ Huyler, speaks of the Hindu: “rituals...frame Hindu life,,,(and) prayers enfold the hours- acknowledging the sacred dawn, honoring the spirits within the tools of one’s work, seek the protection of deities in the night.”

All religions and cultures have daily rituals, a set sequence of activities, gestures, words, use of objects in a sacred or special place. The use of fire (candles), incense, chants, and water, food, or wine is universal. Native Americans welcome the dawn with tobacco held to the four directions, orthodox Jewish men perform prayers and washing as they rise from bed, Christians and Muslims, as well have morning prayer rituals. Those who practice Yoga, perform “downward facing dog” to welcome the day. There is a list of 37 religions and cultures, each with prescribed traditions and rituals. Why?

Religious Rituals aim to keep us connected with the divine, and specific customs and beliefs. However, not all rituals are religious. Non-religious rituals also can keep us in touch with something greater than ourselves, or simply keep our selves centered.

Many Unitarian Universalists, as we have become- leave previous lives of “mandated” prayer and ritual behind- for some they are unpleasant reminders, for others- meaningless.

Ritual practices can ground us, can allow ourselves to face the day- to give us space and time to refresh and renew. As UUs, and busy people, this often is neglected. Our jobs, children, and other life situations get in the way. We can re-frame the meaning of ritual practice.

Many of us have created our own daily rituals. Some choose a quiet time to write, meditate, walk, pray, or just be. We can teach our children to develop or share rituals. A quiet time in the morning to light a Chalice and just breathe- or before supper to “in-gather” our thoughts. We can welcome the dawn with a greeting. We can say “Goodnight” to the moon standing outside each night.

There is power in daily ritual. UUs can re-define and re-create this power. Our children, as well, benefit in the regularity and beauty of what we create.

-Ellen

All Peoples Day Diversity Festival

Jan Booher wants you to know about this March 19 event, held at Pompey Park (indoors) Delray Beach. It runs 11 am to 5 pm, with 20 performers and 50 Booths! Crafts, foods, music, and health are all highlighted. Reserve a spot for your 4-11 yr olds with susan@allpeoplesday.org. And see Jan for more information about how UUFBR is represented!

March 27: Annual Easter Egg Hunt: goes to the dogs (and cats!) Roberto and Vivi Valdez has arranged with *NINA’S NETWORK* to share their work helping low income persons keep and provide for their pets! The more “treats” found in our Easter Eggs- the more we give to the network! We are also asking for donations of pet food and supplies every Sunday until after Easter. Help is needed for egg stuffing, egg hiding, and monitoring the seekers! Contact Ellen, Rob or Vivi!

Ongoing: FAMILY Hours: have you given a minimum of two hours yet for the RE program? Please be aware that we need volunteers for the nursery/playroom, events and Special Sundays. We have been paying teachers when we have no volunteers. Our budget is limited, and we really prefer families to share the fun! See Ellen for suggestions!



From Healing Justice

After the Congregational Meeting on January 24, 2016, Healing Justice received a note from Dave VanCamp. It brought many of us to tears as we read it. Dave has given his permission for us to publish his message in the UNICORN. Here it is.

Thank you all so much for starting this conversation. It is much needed. Even though I disagreed with you on the BLM banner (more importantly, the organization), I whole-heartedly agree that there is indeed institutional racism and it needs to be addressed by all of us. I wish

I was stronger and could see past the issues I had with the BLM group and could support you in that particular endeavor. Even though the congregation chose not to accept your gift of the banner please, do not let this stop you in your quest for change. It seems obvious to me that our fellowship needs to be at the forefront of this change and you all are leading the way. I was very serious when I said that I would stand by you as you carried your banner (metaphorical banner, of course) and support you in this journey.

I admire you all for the work you are doing and would love the opportunity to join you in the future.

*With warmest regards and respect,
David VanCamp*



Auction

The Annual Goods and Services Auction is on March 6th and March 13th in Osias Hall. This is our last fundraiser of the fiscal year and we need 100% participation to help us keep our programs going at UUFBR.

You can bid on an amazing selection of items including dinners or events in someone's home, jewelry, art items, food items, gift certificates, and so much more.



P.E.A.C.E. Bus

Look for the poster display in Osias Hall to learn more and to sign up for a seat. Have fun on the bus trip and enjoy the Rev's scrumptious brownies and vegan chocolate cake.

We'll join with other congregations for meaningful action to help others in PBC. An easy and rewarding time!

The bus leaves promptly at 5:00 pm on Monday, March 14 from the UUFBR parking lot. We all chip in a little to tip the bus driver.

Please remember to bring some cash.



Pridefest

Let's go! On March 20th to the Gay Pride Parade in Lake Worth! March with the First UU Congregation of the Palm Beaches to show a large UU presence of support. Meet between 10:30 and 11:00 at the corner of Lucerne Ave. and L Street. Please note: Parking is a challenge. Get there early and grab breakfast at one of the small restaurants.

See this link:
<http://www.compassglcc.com/events/pridefest-of-the-palm-beaches/>



Healing Justice Group

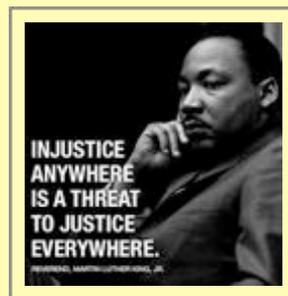
From Carolyn Brown, UUFBR Healing Justice Member

It seems clear after the January vote in the congregational meeting that we are divided by our beliefs about racism and our place in healing its wounds. But are we? Healing Justice brought the issue of the banner to the congregation last summer. We invited all of us to engage in conversations about racism, the banner and Black Lives Matter. While we will not be displaying the banner as representative of our congregation's viewpoint, the issues underlying the Black Live Matter movement and all manifestations of racism in our nation continue to live on. Thus, Healing Justice plans to offer more opportunities to learn more about the pernicious issue of racism. The truth of the matter is that the way we voted showed that something divides us. We just do not know what that is. So we now have an opportunity to learn from one another what we think and feel. Healing Justice asks that you continue to engage with us so that we may learn better how to be together as a faith community, one that truly enacts UU's 7 principles. Please go to <http://www.uua.org/> and you will see the deep commitment of our parent organization to racial justice. If you haven't thought about it for a while, look further to <http://www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe/> principles to see what we believe as UU's. While I do believe something divides us on this issue, more importantly, I believe something deeper unites us as a UU congregation and that we will somehow come together on how to best support racial justice.

To this end, starting in March, Healing Justice offers two opportunities to learn more through two educational events. First is a series of 2nd Hour Classes taught by members of our congregation entitled Healing Racism. See page 6 for details.

Then on April 2-3, 2016 The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton in conjunction with The Center for the Healing of Racism, Houston, Texas present a workshop, Dialogue Racism for both UUFBR and all of South Florida. The workshop features two award winning presenters: Cherry Steinwender and Lucy McLaughlin who have been engaged in this work for years. The UUFBR Endowment Committee funded this event. For full details, please see the flyer on page 7.

As a way to learn about diversity in our own community, plan to attend the seventh annual All People's Day Diversity Festival. It will be held indoors on Sat. March 19, 2016 at Pompey Park in Delray. "Prejudice against many groups of people is rampant today. Push back by showing that we respect everyone through All People's Day. Get to know people of different cultures and those with different issues from your own. When we work together we create bonds that strengthen our lives and our own organizations." (quoted from e-mail, Susan Berkowitz-Schultz)



The Latest NEWS



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton welcomed Mary Speer as its new Church Administrator/CFO.

She is responsible for the financial operations consolidating multiple information databases. Mary was the Controller at Retirement Housing Foundation managing the financial reporting for 60 separately owned housing facilities all across the United States and Puerto Rico. Her career included being the CFO of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and Planned Parenthood of Utah, Board Member for Utahans for Choice, serving the Utah Democratic Party on their platform committee and working as the Treasurer for Rotary International in Boquete, Panama. She graduated with a BA degree from California State University, Northridge, California and later earned her MBA degree from Pepperdine University, Malibu, California.



Change in UUFBR Policies

Following our process, the Board is presenting these changes to our Personnel policy for congregational comment. These changes bring our policies into alignment with current practices and law. These policies can become official at the next Board meeting on February 22. If you have comments please submit them to the board by February 15, so that they may be considered. <http://www.uufbr.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/uufbr-policies-and-procedures-2013.pdf>

***In the sharing of joys and sorrows, we lighten the burden in our hearts and make life sweeter.
In caring our friendship grows.***



- The Memorial Service for Robert Duchemin's wife, Laurie, will be on March, 20th at 2:00.
- Eva Engelmann's husband, Roderich, passed away on February 29th after a brave battle with cancer.
- A former member and beautiful lady, Geraldine Ludeman, passed away last Sunday. Send cards and condolences to Jerry Ludeman, 52 Biltmore Ave. #402, Ashville.NC 28801.
- A Request from Helen Schulman: The 22-year-old daughter of a friend has a terrible kidney disease and is in desperate need of a transplant. This young girl graduated Summa Cum Laude from a Florida University a year ago, when suddenly she was struck down with this disease. If you know of a generous O-positive person who is willing to be tested as a possible kidney donor, please contact Helen at 561-997-5874.

**The Annual Budget Drive is on its way!
Watch your mail for your 2016-2017 Pledge Cards.**

Submissions for the April Unicorn are due no later than March 15th.

Second Hour Classes

March 6 and 20, April 10 and 24

Three Classes to choose from.
After services, a homemade lunch is available.
Classes begin at noon.

Healing Racism

presented by members of the Healing Justice Group

- March 6: Seeing My Place In Racism and Moving Beyond It (Gail Price-Wise)
- March 20: Using Our Power to Make a Difference in the Struggle to Heal Racism (Jan Booher)
- April 10: Ways of Being an Ally in the Movement to Heal Racism (Gabi Aleksinko)
- April 24: Dealing with Challenges to What We Have Always Believed about Racism. (Grisell Martinez)

Hindsight, Humor, and Hope: Who, me, an Elder?

An Adult tapestry of faith program by Karin Peterson. Facilitated by Ellen Cormier, MEd, DRE.

The Elder treasure of wisdom and insight is grounded in experience and a deepened understanding. As Elders become aware of and bring forth inner gifts, as they commit to caring for themselves physically, emotionally, and spiritually, they can be proud to wear the tee shirt that says: "Aging is the Ultimate extreme Sport." Join Ellen as we figure out how we got here, and share the lessons we have learned! All ages invited- remember: you, too

Unitarians and Universalists

Then Unitarian Universalists

A tour through our history and theology, with juicy stories, interesting questions and maybe a video or two. Presented by Harris Riordan.

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton in conjunction with The Center for the Healing of Racism present

Dialogue: Racism

Two Day Workshop co-presented by
Cherry Steinwender, Executive Director and Co-founder of the Center for the Healing of Racism and Lucy McLaughlin, RN BSN MED MCHES

Participants will examine what has led to racism in today's world through multisensory experiences in a safe, loving atmosphere -- viewing films, questioning, sharing experiences and coming to know fellow participants.



Day 1 - Saturday, April 2, 2016	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Day 2 - Sunday, April 3, 2016	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

TOPICS COVERED OVER THE TWO DAYS

- **Defining prejudice and racism:** Overview of the history of intolerance in America
- **How racism is perpetuated:** Childhood experiences, misinformation and segregation
- **Unaware racism and White Privilege:** Confronting this country's history of White Privilege
- **Stereotypes, and how they affect us:** The deep-rooted stereotypes and dehumanizing caricatures that have fueled anti-Black prejudice
- **Cultural racism:** Native-Americans, Hispanics, Italians, Irish, Religious groups, etc.
- **Internalized racism:** When the anger, hurt and frustration turn inward. Exploration of discrimination that exists between the lighter-skinned and darker-skinned members of the same community and how it affects young women within the African, Caribbean, and South Asian Diasporas
- **Institutionalized racism:** The systems that affect us daily: media, justice system, educational system, health care system, and economic system. Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*, etc.
- **Next steps:** Ways to put this knowledge into action

\$20.00 fee includes lunch on Saturday and refreshments on both days.

Men hate each other because they fear each other, and they fear each other because they don't know each other, and they don't know each other because they are often separated from each other. ~ Dr. Martin Luther King

LOCATION

Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Boca Raton
2601 St. Andrews Boulevard
Boca Raton, FL 33434

uufbr.org
561-482-2001

**Registration deadline
March 25th**

**Registration limited to the first
50 people who sign up.**

**Mail your check
payable to UUFBR for
\$20.00 with
"Dialogue" in the
memo line.**

Here's What's Happening!

Sundays

Second Hour: UUFBR's popular lunch and second-hour classes will return after winter break. March 6 & 20, April 3 & 17 there will be lunch after services followed by your choice of classes.

The Forum Discussion Group: Sundays at 9:00 am, Living Room. This group meets every Sunday Morning to discuss social and political issues. Robert Goard, coordinator.

Mystics and Metaphysics - The Spiritual Quest: This group meets the second Sunday of the month at 6:00pm at Harris' House. This is an adult-centered group to explore individual spiritual quests. Pot-luck meal and discussion. Resuming this month.

Odyssey Group: The 3rd Sunday of the month 30 some-thing's (give or take ten years). Meet at Harris' House at 6:30 pm. Bring something for the grill—salads, beverages and desserts provided. Resuming this month.

Night-time

Choir: Typically meets Thursday at 7:30 pm. New voices are always welcome to join.

Conversation on Race in America: Meets the third Tuesday of the month. A dialogue to heal our differences.

First Friday Fellowship: The 1st Friday of each month at the VanCamp household. Bring a dish to share or some-thing to throw on the grill. This is a child-free zone with chil-dren dropped off at Harris'.

Girl's Night Out: The 3rd Friday of each month UUFBR Ladies, their friends, and sympathizers will meet for an evening activity. For more information contact Vicky Kemish.

Green Sanctuary: Meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in the Smith room. Join the group that is making our Fellowship more environmentally sustainable.

Healing Justice Group: The 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in Osias. All are welcome to become a part of this group as we work for justice in our communities.

Ukulele University: The third Thursday of the month at 5:30 in the Sanctuary. This group meets to learn songs on the ukulele, have fun and keep active. All are welcome.

Vespers Services: The second Tuesday of each month this meditative services is at 7:30pm. Vespers Services focus on the broad definition of communion in the Unitarian tradition.

Daytime

Gardener's Work Party: Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:30 am. This group has dwindled in numbers and could use some new blood to care for our green spaces.

Movie Group: Meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 10:30 am to discuss movies of interest—membership to UUFBR is not required.

Non-Violent Communication Circle: Meets the first Tuesday of the month at 12:30pm in the Reverend's office.

Tony's Team: Meets Wednesday at 9:30 am. Helps with the routine maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

Writers Circle: Meets weekly from 12:30 to 3:30 in the Living Room. The group is open to all who seek supportive peers for thoughtful, constructive comments on their writings. Interested writers should contact Carolyn Brown.

On-going

Food Pantry: Please bring non-perishable food items (no glass) for Boca Helping Hands and Similac Formula, Ready to Feed with Iron, for Florence Fuller Child Development Centers.

P.E.A.C.E. People Engaged in Active Community Efforts. A congregation-based community organization charged with the mission of effectively fighting injustices in the communities of PB County. Current work includes affordable housing, health care, homelessness, and alternative schools.

Family Promise: The faith community's unique response to homeless families is a network of area congregations who open their doors to families in need. Families receive hospitality from congregations for a week, with each family sleeping in a private area at the facilities. The program is to bring temporary shelter, meals, and support to these families.

Remembering Their Names. Each quarter during worship we will remember the names of coalition forces killed in conflict abroad. Creating peace and justice in the world calls us to explore the power of peace in ourselves. In December 2004 we began a meditation practice. With this ritual we stretch our hearts so that together we might find a path to peace.

Share the Plate. Half of each Sunday's offering is shared with an organization outside of UUFBR, which has been suggested by our Members/Friends. The rest helps to pay our bills. Currently our plate is being shared with P.E.A.C.E. (People Engaged in Active Community Action).

March 2016 Fellowship Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 12 Noon Non-Violent Communication 7:00 Green Sanctuary Meeting	2 9:30 Tony's Team 12:30 Writers Circle	3 7:30 Choir Practice	4 6:30 First Friday Fellowship	5
6 9:00 Forum 10:30 Service 10:30 RE Classes 11:30 Auction 11:30 Lunch and 2nd Hour Classes 5:00 OWL (Our Whole Lives) Classes	7	8 7:30 Vespers Service	9 9:30 Tony's Team 12:30 Writers Circle	10 10:30 Movie Group 5:30 Climate Action Coalition 7:30 Choir Practice	11	12
13 <i>Day Light Savings</i> 9:00 Forum 10:30 Service 10:30 RE Classes 11:30 Auction 11:45 RE Council 5:00 OWL (Our Whole Lives) Classes 6:00 Mystics & Metaphysics	14 5:00 Bus to P.E.A.C.E. Assembly	15 7:00 Conversation on Race in America	16 9:30 Tony's Team 12:30 Writers Circle	17 6:00 Ukulele University 7:30 Choir Practice	18 6:30 Girls Night Out	19 8:30 Gardening Team
20 9:00 Forum 10:30 Service 10:30 Child Care Only 11:30 Lunch and 2nd Hour Classes Lake Worth Pride Parade 5:00 OWL (Our Whole Lives) Classes 6:30 Odyssey Group	21	22 7:00 Healing Justice Group	23 9:30 Tony's Team 12:30 Writers Circle	24 10:30 Movie Group 7:30 Choir Practice	25 <i>Good Friday</i>	26
27 <i>Easter</i> 9:00 Forum 10:30 Easter Service 10:30 Easter Egg Hunt and more fun! 5:00 OWL (Our Whole Lives) Classes	28 7:00 Board of Trustees Meeting	29	30 9:30 Tony's Team 12:30 Writers Circle	31 7:30 Choir Practice		