



# The Communicator

of the [Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Lake County](http://www.uu-lakecounty.org)

Like us on **Facebook!**



[facebook.com/UUlakeco](https://www.facebook.com/UUlakeco)

## November Programs

### Discussion Group at 9:30 am

**November 4 – “The Lost Art of Democratic Debate”** with **Michael Sandel** (Harvard Justice Lecture Series).

**November 11 – “UU Second Principle”**. **Rev. Sam Byrd** continues with his series on UU's 7 Principles. Discussion follows.

**November 18 – Discussion** led by **Lifespan Faith Development**.

**November 25 – Open Forum**

### Woerscappen at 11:00 am

**November 4 – Connie Goodbread “Fantastic Faith”** What are the foundations of our faith? Are we a religion of philosophy? What is the burning value at our core, the deepest reason why? How are we different? What is worship to us? In what do we have faith? What is it we serve? What is worth living for? What does the world need us to be?

**November 11 – Marta Pearson “We’ll be landing in a few minutes”** – Achieving Peace & Harmony in a Chaotic World” Unitarian Universalism has a base in reality that I found missing in all the other religions I studied or attempted to be a part of. Our acceptance that questions are more important than answers, that one book cannot hold all truth, that belief is tailored to and by the individual are all the reasons why Unitarian Universalism became my spiritual, social and intellectual home.

**November 18 – Blessing of the Hands**. Many hands do the work of this congregation. Join **Rev. Tracie** as she honors the work of this congregation and blesses it for the future.

**November 25 – “Thanksgiving”**. Recognizing that holidays centered around family and togetherness can be difficult, **Rev. Tracie** invites you to join with our community for a service recognizing the wonderful and difficult parts of this holiday season.

## UUCLC Information & Contacts

Address: 1235 Mt. Homer Rd., Eustis, FL  
Mail address: PO Box 1761, Eustis, FL 32727  
Office Phone: (352) 805-8451  
Email contact: lakecountyuu@gmail.com  
Website: lakecountyuu.net

Officers	Trustees
Betty Emery, President	Joyce Axelson
Suzie Lockwood, Vice Pres.	Pete Conde
Stu Anderson, Treasurer	Lois Sandford

Minister  
Rev. Tracie Barrett-Welser  
Phone: (863) 206-9086  
To schedule an appointment with Rev. Tracie, please use <https://calendly.com/tbarrettwelser>

The Communicator is published monthly.  
Editor: Ted Fessler Phone: (352) 735-7405  
Email: ted.fessler@gmail.com

Our Second **Annual Thanksgiving Potluck** will take place on Thanksgiving Day, November 22nd at 2 pm. If you do not have family in town to visit, please come join us here at UUCLC. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex to put down what you are bringing and how many people you'll have with you. Also, if you can sign up to help either set up (on Wednesday afternoon around 3pm) or tear down after, that would also be appreciated. This year will be a bit more low-key and we invite all members and friends to join us. See Rev. Tracie if you have any



### **Minister's Message...**

The weather has finally turned and it feels like fall is here. With it, the coming of the holidays. While typically a time of great joy and togetherness, for those who have experienced loss, troubled or toxic families, it can be a tough time. I want you to know that your family and community here at UUCLC is here for you.

We will have our second annual Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm here at UUCLC. If you have nowhere else to go, you are invited to bring a dish and share a meal with us. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex where you can list your name, your dish, how many people are coming, and if you're available for cleanup or setup. We will be setting up on Wednesday afternoon and cleaning up

directly after the meal. Last year was a great event, and I look forward to seeing you there this year.

Looking ahead, in December we will also have a Winter Solstice drum circle on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> as well our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. I have loved creating traditions and memories with this congregation and look forward to continuing to do so this year.

During this time, remember that if you are struggling with feeling festive, that is normal. The longer nights and the constant push for happiness and togetherness can be difficult. Know that I am here if you need to talk and process through this time. Be gentle with yourself and with one another during this season.

...Rev. Tracie

### **Message from the President**

Greetings UUCLC members and friends. November is a good month to think about all that we are thankful for in our lives including our family and friends. This reminds me of our UUCLC family which I am grateful to be a part of. We are truly a family in many ways and in some cases, we can feel closer to each other than our own blood relatives. We are truly a community of caring individuals who support each other. This week we all came together in response to Don Stearns accident. In times of need, we are there for each other. And in times of joy we celebrate with each other. It is a good feeling knowing we are not walking the paths of our lives alone. We are all part of this wonderful UUCLC family.



Coincidentally, I am going to a mini-family reunion in 2 weeks. I will get to spend 5 days in New Orleans with a few of my cousins from Seattle and a cousin from Virginia. In preparation for our trip, 3 of us decided to do a 23 and Me genetic test and the plan is to compare our results with each other. We each have the same maternal grandmother who was from Denmark so we thought this would be very interesting to see how closely we are related to each other. When I received my results, I was truly surprised. All my life I thought I was 50% Danish. Turns out that genetically that is not the case. I am only 25% Danish! In fact, most of my genetic material is Ashkenazi Jew. I had absolutely no idea. Almost 47%! There are other interesting things I learned about my genetic heritage including something I am now very proud of... I have more Neanderthal genetic variants than 91% of all people tested through 23 and Me. Hard to explain why I find that so thrilling but I do. Something I can now brag about!

I did not get to choose my family, as really none of us do. I am still very close to my cousins although I am not as genetically close to them as I thought I was. It does not change the fact that they are some of my most favorite people in the world. Genetics does not necessarily determine who we bond with. The wonderful thing is that it does not have to be a genetic family, but a family in community and mutual caring that makes us want to be with each other. I am thankful to be part of our UUCLC family and I wish each one of you the joy of being with the family you feel closest to, genetic or not.

Happy Thanksgiving

**Betty Emery**

## October Leaks from Leadership Council

**On Behalf of the Leadership Council I send speedy recovery wishes to:**

**Suzie Lockwood** – accepting emails, FB messages, phone calls

**Don Stearns** – Don is recovering from necessary surgery to stabilize his spine following injuries incurred while doing 'grounds work' at the church.

**Leadership Council** has had another very busy month and acted on many items. The following is a snapshot view:

We welcome to Leadership Council:

Bernie Greenberg and Egor Emery to Chair and Co Chair of Hospitality Committee. And Bernie has already recruited an impressive list of volunteers to assist that Committee and their work.

Toni Prather to Chair of the Sub-Committee Care and Connect. Toni is recruiting new members.

**PLEASE MARK ON YOUR CALENDARS --- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH – COMMITTEE FAIR...Do not miss this fun event**

**COMMITTEES:**

**Social Justice Committee** is being organized by Russ Littlefield and members, Barbara Hill, Jane O'Connor and Julie Twist.

**FUND RAISERS**

Gina Rossi has created and implemented a fund raiser utilizing the giving tree to purchase and install solution to the glare from windows in the sanctuary. Collections have realized almost half of the monies needed to complete this project.

The fund raiser sponsored by Janeane and Bernie for chairs for the meeting room is completed and the chairs are there for your comfort and use.

Kit Tatum organized the Lake County Band Concert that was on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Barbara Marrow has organized the Bing Futch concert on December 8th

Janeane and Bernie are organizing the David Roth concert on January 18th

**CLASSES**

Candi Tipton has started up a Zumba class. This class is highly recommended for those who love to dance without physical injury. Zooming with Zumba a way to keep your heart healthy and happy. Check with Candi for details.

A discussion was facilitated on the concept of Communicating with a WHO ELSE NEEDS TO KNOW THIS (WENTK) awareness. We are a growing organization and with that comes the responsibility of Communicating clearly, concisely with intention and purpose and knowing who needs to know the information.

I leave you with the following questions to reflect on...

How do I communicate?

What is the resource for my communication?

Am I communicating 'FAKE' news within the congregation?

Am I willing to take a look at how I can communicate more efficiently and effectively?

With best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving,

**Joyce Axelson.**

## November Birthdays

John Landers, November 1  
Alexander Emery, November 10  
Ginny Morgan, November 12  
Eloise Fisher, November 18  
Connie Sanford, November 21

The **safety committee** is requesting that anyone who could provide shelter for people in emergency situations such as hurricanes please let the office know by contacting: [office@lakecountyuu.net](mailto:office@lakecountyuu.net). Please advise if you have rooms available for how many people, if you can allow pets and if so which types or how many etc.

This information will be handled by the safety committee and will link people in need, by first calling the people who are available to see if they could accommodate people at that time. Also, people offering their home may specify if they prefer only females/males, children etc.