



The Communicator

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

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March Programs

Discussion Group at 9:30 am

March 3 – How We Became Greener by Buying into the Renewable Energy Certificates, with Barbara Marrow

March 10 – "Visitors – How do we make them feel welcome and how do we encourage them to return and possibly join the congregation?". Carl Skiles

March 17, 24 – To be announced

March 31 – Open Forum

Woerscippen at 11:00 am

March 3 – "The Church of What We Know", read by Peter Pitzele

March 10 – "Define the Devine" with Pete Kersey. This is based on a startling dream that I had one night. This is all about what do we as UU's really believe. How do we define that belief?

March 17, 24 – Reverend Tracie will speak.

March 31 – To be announced

March Birthdays

- Joyce Axelson, March 3
- Pat Barton, March 4
- Julie Champion, March 11
- Stuart Anderson, March 14
- Christie Cleveland, March 12
- Ted Fessler, March 22
- Ozell Ward, March 25
- Betty Emery, March 27
- Patti Stiner, March 27
- Fred Lorch, March 28
- Joyce Gray, March 30

UUCLC Information & Contacts

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Pete Conde
 Lois Sanford
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Minister

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

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LOST AND FOUND: A Ladies gold and diamond ring was found in the building.



Minister's Message...

As our Leadership Council and various committees know, we are gearing up to create the budget for our next fiscal year here at UUCLC. Right now, the committees are presenting to the Treasurer their budget requests. The finance committee then gets the difficult task of putting all of those together with the bills and other expenses the congregation has and presenting a budget. Part of that is looking at the previous year's pledges to see what kind of income we might expect for the following year. This, obviously, is where things can get dicey.

This week, a guest to our building glanced at our pledge update sign that is posted in the narthex. They first stated that it looked like we were doing well, we had reached \$86,492 amount out of \$115,000. When I pointed out that it was pledges coming in for the current pledge cycle, they realized it was not a good sign. This is the current status of our 2018-2019 fiscal year. We have achieved this amount of pledge thanks to the commitment of 59 pledge units (families, couples, individuals).

Very few people like talking about money. I know I was raised that it was a taboo topic. However, we must start talking about money and what it takes to fulfill our goals for this congregation.

Last year, I asked you to share your dreams for this congregation if you didn't have to figure out where that money comes from. You shared wonderful dreams of a vibrant community with full time staff, programming options for all ages, and inviting community spaces. I believe we can achieve those dreams. It takes commitment from all of us.

This month I spoke about thinking about our legacy here at UUCLC. We were blessed with gifts from those who have gone before us to allow us to get to where we are now. However, we cannot stop now. If we wish to fulfill the dreams they had for us, if we wish to fulfill the dreams we have for our future, we must act now.

I invite you this month to think deeply about what UUCLC means to you. Think about what it can mean to our community around us. This year, when leadership comes to you with the budget, I encourage you to dig deep and put a pledge amount that shows what UUCLC means to you.

...Rev. Tracie

From WRaP (Worship, Research and Programs Committee)...

Beginning in March, we will no longer be doing spoken announcements at the start of the service. The WRaP team has spent the past few months noting that most of the spoken announcements are the same ones that are in the insert in the order of service. As congregations grow, spoken announcements become harder for the congregation to process. We would like to make sure that if a spoken announcement is needed, such as for Annual Meeting and other vital things that must be heard that day, it is not lost in a slew of other announcements.

Please make sure that any announcement you have that relates to UUCLC is sent to Ted Fessler to be included in the insert. You may also put notices up on the bulletin boards. If there is an announcement that you feel must be made from the pulpit on Sunday morning (time change, cancellation, correction, etc, that did not make the insert), please write it clearly on a note and give it to the service leader at least fifteen minutes before the start of the service.

We appreciate all the work you've done in our community and hope that you will support this change to make our worship services more inviting and welcoming. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us.

...Val Conde, chair

President's Message...

Greetings UUCLC members and friends! UUCLC is a growing congregation yet we are small and must rely on our own resources to maintain the building, provide worship services, offer enriching programs, etc. Each one of us has a responsibility to do our part to care for UUCLC. One priority is the security of the building. We do not have an individual who is responsible for opening and closing the building. Instead, we rely on UUCLC members who have the code for the lock box for the front door key and a code to arm or disarm the security alarm system. These individuals are Committee Chairs, some members of the Board of Trustees, some members of the housekeeping team, individuals involved with the maintenance of the building and the Minister.



We have restricted giving out the code to only those who need access to the building to open it up for an event, a meeting or have work done on the premises. The reason for this is to maintain the security of our building and reduce the risk of accidentally having the building left unsecured. However, over the past couple of months, there have been a few lapses in following the security protocol. Several times the building has been left unlocked, the security system unarmed or the key not secure in the lock box. It is the responsibility of all of us to make sure our beautiful building is kept secure and our congregants are safe. Thus, we are going to re-visit the procedures necessary to open and close the building.

One step that has already been taken is to deactivate security codes for users who no longer need access to the building (those who were affected were notified). In the near future, we will be changing the code for the lock box with the front door key and at that time we will be having a re-training of all users with a security alarm code. This retraining will be necessary for everyone with a security code to maintain their access to building. Those UUCLC members will be notified when the re-training will occur and the key code for the lock box change will take place.

If you are a UUCLC member or friend who does not have a code, please do not feel that this in any way reflects how we value you as a member of this congregation. Every member and friend is valued and important. However, we have limited access to only a few who absolutely need it. It is a very big responsibility to maintain the security of the building. If you do not have a security alarm code and feel you need one, you will need to contact Christina Wilkins, who is head of Building and Grounds. Nevertheless, all congregation members and friends must do their part to ensure the building remains secure. When using the key from the lock box, be sure to return the key to the box immediately and turn the dials of the code so the key cannot be removed without re-entering the code. Also, make sure the cover is covering the dials for the code. Before leaving the building please check to make sure everyone has left before setting the alarm. Also, it is critical that all doors are checked to make sure they are locked. If you are assisting someone with the opening or closing of the building, please help by following these guidelines. We all need to do our part to make sure the building is secure. If you find yourself in a situation where you are the last to leave the building and do not know how to lock up, PLEASE call me (352) 978-0795 or Christina Wilkins (352)250-9124 or Suzie Lockwood (561) 670-0134 for immediate assistance. It is much better to ask for help than leave the building unsecured. Also, if you find the building unsecured, please let one of us know as soon as possible.

I also want to share that we have seen an increase in the sightings of the homeless campers in the woods behind our building. The police have been called out again. We must remain watchful for activity and report what we see to the police when we see it. Please call the non-emergency number when reporting to the police (352) 357-4121. We currently have an active no-trespassing warrant on file with the Eustis Police department. Christina Wilkins has installed locked covers on the exterior outlets to discourage the homeless from charging their cell phones. New no-trespassing signs have been ordered and will be installed. Do not interact with these individuals for your safety but certainly call the police department to advise them.

I wish to sincerely thank everyone for their efforts to keep our congregants and our property safe. We are very fortunate to have such a beautiful building to enjoy fellowship with each other. I am grateful to be part of our UUCLC community.

...Betty Emery

African American Heritage Parade and Unity Walk

About a dozen Members and Friends of UUCLC participated in both the Tavares Unity Walk on February 2nd and the Eustis Parade on February 16th, celebrating each town's African American Heritage festivals. In the Tavares Unity Walk, we each paired up with someone we didn't know, and it truly was a "Unity Walk". We stopped in front of the old Tavares Court House and jail to pray for the "Groveland Four". In Eustis we walked near the end of a very long parade, ending at the festival grounds. David Crump and his wife joined our social action. The act of participating in community events is a step toward listening to those people who are marginalized by society. Below is a photo of the banner we carried in the Eustis parade.



Take some "Me Time" with Tai Chi

The UUCLC Tai Chi class will be hosting a **World Tai Chi & Qigong Day** event at UUCLC on **April 27th at 9 am until about 11 am**, which is open to the public. It's a good opportunity to sample and learn about Tai Chi. T-shirts for the event are available by ordering from Christie Cleveland for \$22. Similar events will be going on in hundreds of cities in over 80 nations on the same day. The primary mission of this event is personal and global health & healing. Tai Chi has been shown to improve blood sugar and pressure, reduce arthritis pain, improve focus and memory and aid in better health in many ways. More than 20% of the world's population practices Tai Chi! Purposes of this event are to educate the world about the profound health and healing benefits of Tai Chi & Qigong for individuals, communities and nations. It promotes joining people together, for the purpose of health and healing, and provides a peaceful example to the world.

Check it out at www.worldtaichiday.org

UUCLC also offers **Tai Chi classes (for members only) on Tuesday mornings; Experienced class at 9-9:45 am and Beginners class at 9:45-10:30 am.** Contact Christie Cleveland chrisclleveland1951@gmail.com for more information.

Unlike traditional exercise, Tai Chi energizes you, rather than tiring you out. We hope that you will pamper yourself by trying Tai Chi, either by taking a class and/or coming to the April 27th **World Tai Chi & Qigong Day** event.