



The Communicator

[Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County](http://www.uuclakeco.org)

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November Programs

Discussion Group Sunday at 9:30 am

November 3 Open Discussion

November 10 Special Discussion Group and Service on the theme of 'Creating Green Environments.' 9:30 - 10:45 - Special showing of the film "Paris to Pittsburgh" followed by a "Green" service with Orlando's Director of Sustainability and Resilience, Chris Castro. Chris, who is featured in the Orlando section of the film, will be staying after the service for a Q and A and discussion.

November 17 Open Discussion

November 24 Open Discussion

Woerscippen Sunday at 11:00 am

November 3 "God of the Margins" - Connecting with God or our spiritual side through those who are on the margins by Rev. David Crump.

November 10 "Green" service with Orlando's Director of Sustainability and Resilience, Chris Castro. Chris, who is featured in the Orlando section of the film, will be staying after the service for a Q and A and discussion.

November 17 Radical Hospitality. What does it mean to provide "radical hospitality"? Are we doing that in our lives? In our congregation? Rev. Tracie explores this topic.

November 24: Agree to Disagree. As we approach the holidays and with it, family meals and discussions, how do we navigate those conversations with people who are entrenched in their own beliefs? How do we continue to fight for truth and justice and love and have a peaceful holiday dinner? Rev. Tracie tackles this timely topic.

November 24--Potluck 4th Sunday of every month.

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To schedule an appointment with Rev. Tracie, please use <https://calendly.com/tbarrettwelser>

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Submit articles for the December Communicator by Sunday, November 24.

Minister's Message...



November 2019

This time of year is always precious to me. So many different traditions from different parts of my life interact and make it a whirlwind time. Even in the midst of the whirlwind, there are so many pockets of joy and community.

At the end of October we held our annual Remembrance Service. As always, I was deeply touched at the sacred sharing that took place in the sanctuary. Sharing memories with one another helps us remember those we have lost and find connections among those still living.

November will bring us more traditions. What I hope turns into a new tradition is our Veteran's Pancake Breakfast. Make sure you're getting your tickets as well as selling (or gifting) tickets to your neighbors and friends. It should be a fun event!

As we have in years past, we will hold a Thanksgiving Potluck at UUCLC on Thanksgiving Day. The meal will start at 2pm, and as always, needs you to make it happen. Much like in a family Thanksgiving Dinner, many hands will make light work. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex soon and you can let us know how many people are coming with you, what yummy dish you're bringing to share, and whether or not you can help with set up or clean up.

In the midst of traditions is the through line that we are all connected. We repeat traditions because it helps us remember and tells a story to the next generation. My hope is that as we continue our traditions (and start new ones) we remind ourselves that we are connected one to another.

I hope to see you at both events this month!

- Rev. Tracie

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!



President's Message...

Greetings

As I write this letter to the congregation on this afternoon of Halloween, I am wrapped in bandages on both arms and still slightly groggy from the discomfort of outpatient surgery yesterday. I need do nothing today for a Halloween costume as I feel I look frightening already! Last year on Halloween I desperately wanted to wear a fabulous gold sequin gown (I was going to be Ginger from Gilligan's Island). I had put the gown on and could squeeze into it. However, sitting down was not an option and the "back cleavage" was awful. My dear husband, who is always cautious not to say anything about how I look so as not to offend, said something. I knew it was not a good dress to wear. So, I put on a much larger blue dress. No back cleavage anymore and I could sit without splitting the dress wide open. I still could go to the Halloween party as Ginger but not in the dress I wanted to wear. This year, I'm fairly sure I could fit that gold dress but not with this bandage. Certainly, Ginger did not wear wound dressings on her arms, so the gold dress will hang in the closet until another time. Tonight, when I hand out Halloween candy to the kids in my daughter's neighborhood, I will be the mom who has not had a shower in 2 days who looks like a Frankenstein character. A very simple and cost effective costume and I am ready and looking forward to tonight.



Halloween is one of my most favorite days of the year and I would not miss this for anything! I love seeing the kids all dressed up. They can be so cute! Many costumes are very creative and the darling trick-or-treaters are such fun to see. They are so innocent, trying to be polite and slightly timid, asking for candy. I make sure I buy the good kind – the kind I would be willing to eat if we have leftovers. I do not want to be known as the person who gave out the yukky candy because I think the kids would remember! I want to see them again next Halloween. And I will try for that gold sequin dress one more time! It will be safe in my closet until next year.

Just like Halloween, at UUCLC we rely on the generosity of the congregation to fill our baskets. Even though we are not quite wearing a "bandage" to dress a wound, we are not yet able to pull out the "gold sequin" dress to wear. It will hang in the closet for the moment. The dress is a metaphor for the hopes and dreams for this congregation. It is a metaphor for the Vision and Mission that we need to work on. It is a metaphor for all we want to have and accomplish. Help us pull the gold dress out of the closet so we can wear it proudly. Become an active member, volunteer, contribute, bring others who are looking for a liberal faith. We will accept you, with all your bandages that are dressing your wounds. But please, only avoid showering if medically directed to do so. Happy Halloween to all!!

Betty Emery



Notes from the Social Justice and Environment Committee



Join us for a special discussion group and service on the theme of 'Creating Green Environments' on Sunday, November 10. Beginning with a showing of the National Geographic documentary film 'Paris to Pittsburgh' at the 9:30 discussion group, we will see examples of how local communities are combating climate change while sustainably growing their economies. One segment is about South Florida and Orlando and features Orlando's Director of Sustainability and Resilience, Chris Castro. Chris will be our speaker during the service and will remain afterward for discussion and Q & A.



Photo Courtesy The Daily Commercial

Support the Stand Down event for homeless veterans happening Saturday, November 16 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 101 East Maud Street in Tavares. Stand Down refers to a grassroots community-based program designed to help the nation's estimated 107,000 homeless veterans. Homeless veterans are brought together and are provided access to community resources needed to begin addressing their individual problems and rebuilding their lives. This event is sponsored in part by The Veterans Organization of Resource & Recovery for the Homeless in Eustis. The planning committee is asking **for help in collecting items for the veterans and in finding veterans to act as 'Battle Buddies' to the homeless vets during the Stand Down event.** Their job will be to escort homeless veterans around the event. Signup sheets, the list of items requested, and a bin for collecting them are available onsite at UUCLC.

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Meditation for All group meets weekly for an hour of readings and meditation. Meditation is simply another word for concentration and is a way of getting in touch with the spiritual nature. Open to all. Mondays 6- 7 pm.

Tai Chi, a healing, slow motion martial art will meet every Tuesday from 9:00-9:45 am in the Social Hall. Now all may attend, including non-UUCLC members. All skill levels are welcome, from beginner through experienced. For information, please consult Janeane Reagan at janeane99@gmail.com.

The Science and Philosophy Group is a meeting of persons to discuss and express their knowledge of various topics and exchange ideas and opinions. Thursdays 10:30 am open to all. For information, please consult Franklin Pennington at fdpennington11@gmail.com.

Dharma Book Club meets on the first and third Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7 pm. Open to all.

Graceful Aging is a thoughtful conversation conducted by and for members and friends of UUCLC. It meets the second and fourth Monday of every month from 10:30 to noon in the Social Hall. It is an open group, which means folks are free to come and go as they wish, and the drift of each meeting emerges from the concerns of those present. For information, please consult Janeane Reagan at janeane99@gmail.com.

Peacemakers Covenant Group This will be a small group, which will meet at 1:00 pm on the fourth Friday of each month, to learn compassionate communication, in which we listen deeply to the stories of others.

Do you have an idea for a class? If you are interested in facilitating or teaching a class, please complete a class proposal form and give it to Christie Cleveland (chriscleveland1951@gmail.com). Forms are available in the church office in wall rack beside the door.

If you are interested in taking any of the following classes, please sign up on the table in the narthex and put it on your calendar.

Building Your Own Theology-Rev. Tracie Barrett

Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 pm

Jan. 2-Mar. 5, 2020

Limited to 10 participants.

This program, based on the assumption that everyone is their own theologian, guides participants to develop their own personal statement of faith. Book needed: *Building Your Own Theology, Vol. 1*. Some copies are available in our library.

Life Stories-Peter Pitzele

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30 am

Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5 & Mar. 4, 2019-2020

Participants will be guided in writing their personal memoirs, reflecting on life experiences, learning and sharing with each other.

Florida Seminars-Julie Champion

Fridays, 10:30-11:30 am,

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 & Mar. 6, 2020

A collection of Florida-related media is available in the UUCLC Library. Begin reading these interesting books to participate in this book/discussion group. Feb. 7th will be on Florida hurricanes and Feb. 14th will discuss the Florida Seminole Indians. For more details call Julie at (407) 929-9796.