



# The Communicator

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

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## June Programs

### June 7

**Discussion Group, at 9:45 – “Questions for the Minister” with Rev. Susan Berryman**

**Worship Service, at 10:55 – “A Fond Farewell” with Rev. Susan Berryman.** This is the last Sunday before our summer schedule begins in June 14th. Rev. Berryman will take the opportunity to reflect on her nine months as our minister and to express her gratitude and share some of what she has learned before she leaves for the summer.

### June 14 (Summertime Programs begin at 10:30)

**“How UU’s View Death” with Dr. Janeane Reagan.** As UUers, how do we handle the mystery of what happens after we die? Dr. Reagan will show a TED talk *“The 4 Stories We Tell Ourselves About Death”* by Stephen Cave and lead a discussion on how our views of how death impact how we live.

### June 21

**“Summer Solstice” with Dr. Franklin Pennington**

### June 28

**Open Forum (Pot Luck Lunch)**

### UUCLC Information & Contacts

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Russ Littlefield, Vice Pres.	Carl Skiles
Stu Anderson, Treasurer	Suzie Hanscom
Kit Tatum, Secretary	

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The Communicator is published each month, from September through June  
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## Dear Congregation,

May was “Worship” month and we started by looking at our relationship with the “language of reverence”. We focused on some of the discomfort we UUers have with religious words. We looked for ways to reframe our emotional reactions and find a more open and acceptable way to communicate our ideas, beliefs and experiences without being tripped up by meanings we find arcane, superstitious or fraught with religiosity.

Some of the words we discussed and tried to reframe are:

*Spirituality*; being in relationship with the transcendent or that which is out of the range of normal human perception and experience; or the creative process that transcends the material world; or perhaps the transformation of consciousness.

*Reverence*; something worthy of worship



(Continued)

*Worship*: seeing the worth and responding with wonder, devotion or awe. Pondering this, ... “We become what we worship.”

*Prayer*; seeking rapport with the object of worship; prayer as conscious or unconscious, planned or spontaneous language of the heart, of unconditional love and of hope; prayer as the longing of the soul.

*God or Divinity*; We agreed it is not a father with a white beard sitting in judgment, but if anything a subtle, mysterious energetic force that informs all existence, life and creativity.

We continued this lively conversation for two discussion groups.

We enjoyed a lovely talk from Eloise Fisher who spoke from her heart about her spiritual journey and the deep and profound meaning of worship in her life.

We also heard from the ordained Buddhist sansei Morris Sekiyo Sullivan who spoke to us about the relationship of consciousness and worship in Buddhism.

I hope when I return in the fall we can carry on this meaningful and needed conversation.

This my final letter before we break for the summer. I want to thank each of you for your support and for your love. I will miss you and I look forward to next fall. Please plan to join me when I return for one or both of the new groups I plan on starting next fall, one on the issues of aging and the other on our spiritual journey together. Wishing you a happy and healthy summer

With much love and appreciation,

**Susan**

### **Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting On May 11, 2015**

This was the first Board of Trustees meeting conducted by Chris Higgins as the President of the BOT. Chris introduced the two new members of the BOT; Stu Anderson, Treasurer and Suzie Hanscom, Trustee. The minutes of the April 16, meeting was approved.

The Treasurer's report was given by Chris Higgins, because she had been acting in the stead of Carl Hommel who became ill and had to hand over his duties to Chris. She presented a full financial report noting current expenses, income, and projections for the next fiscal year.

Written Protocols for the UUCLC Board Meeting Agenda Items was presented at this meeting.

The Committee Reports were written and submitted to the BOT at the request of Russ Littlefield.

Leadership Council: Gina Rossi reported the addition of signs attached to the original signs on our property. These signs relay when and where our Sunday meetings are held.

Finance Committee chairman, Stu Anderson, noted they had a draft of the Mission & Goals rules and will coordinate with the Membership Committee regarding lapsed members. Chris Higgins introduced the idea of having a 20th Anniversary of the UUCLC party in November and requested this committee to form a budget for the event.

The Membership Committee reported the induction of eleven new members on April 26.

Carl Skiles reported the Building Committee had answered some questions from the Architect, who is continuing with the preparation of the plans. Don Griffey is working on assembling the plans, traffic study and documents needed for the site plan approval by the City of Eustis. A Landscape Architect has been engaged by the Architect. The topo and tree survey has been completed and the geotechnical testing work completed.

Betty Emery reported the Design Sub-Committee work is continuing. A request for submissions from the Congregation of chalice designs was requested. A motion was made to submit a logo concept design for future use by the congregation. The motion passed at this meeting of the BOT.

Gina Rossi reported for the Publicity Committee the recovery of the website and change of address from lakecountyuu.org to lakecountyuu.org. Chris Ayers, the site consultant, restored the site. She noted we are looking for a videographer volunteer. She would like to have the phone number for the church changed; it is now rings her home phone.

Social Justice reported in writing that the committee will bring to the Board their support for solar energy in the new church building.

The Sunday Services Committee has evolved from the WRAP Committee. It will be the work of this group to plan the future Sunday Services, obtain speakers and suggest the music for the services.

The BOT approved having the summer Sunday Services begin at 10:30 a.m. from June 21st and regular services commence on September 13.

The Discussion Group will direct the Sunday Services during the period noted above.

The Education Committee will continue to meet during the summer. They analyzed results from the Congregational Survey and will brainstorm ideas for classes, courses and workshops to be presented next fall.

Carl Skiles is leading the By-laws committee. If you have suggestions on areas of the by-laws which need to be changed please contact this committee chairman.

Ted Fessler joined the Ministerial Relations Committee as the representative chosen by the BOT. The other two members were chosen by the Minister. They are Eloise Fisher and Gina Rossi.

There has been some interest from a buyer regarding sale of some of our land. No prices or quantity of land has been expressed. The BOT members asked Carl Skiles to continue the conversation with the realtor representing the prospective buyer.

Ernie Rossi and Frank Bishop appeared before the BOT to present their findings on Solar Energy use and financing. There is an Attachment to the minutes regarding this portion of the meeting. Ernie suggested installing it at a later time and Frank suggested setting up an LLC arrangement for financing.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on June 18, at 1:00 p.m. in the office on North Grove Street.

Kit Tatum, Secretary

### **Building Progress Report** May 30, 2015

The preparation of the building plans has been quietly progressing and the plans are about 80 percent complete, including:

- Architectural
- Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing
- Civil Engineering
  - Site Plan Layout,
  - Construction Plans for parking and driveways, drainage, water, sewer and gas line connections.
  - Landscape and Tree preservation

The various committees have provided the architect with most of the information needed for windows, doors, floors, lights, some finishes, and other items for the plans. The selection of colors and remaining finishes are being made with the assistance of a design consultant who has much experience and knowledge about these items.

The next step in the approval process is the submittal of the site plan documents for final approval by the City of Eustis. The target date for this submittal is June 19<sup>th</sup>, and if all goes well, the process will be completed within a 150 day time period allowed by City Ordinance. The site plan submittal includes these plans and documents:

- Site Plan Layout
- Driveway and parking
- Drainage
- Tree Preservation
- Environmental Report (previously completed)
- Geotechnical Report (previously completed)
- Survey (previously completed)

During the 150 day period when the Site Plan is being processed and approved by the City, the construction documents and bidding process will be completed:

These tasks and consecutive time periods are:

- Completion of construction plans and specifications – 60 days
- Bidding process –30 to 45 days
- Bid review by UUCLC – 30 days
- Award of contract – 30 days
- Building permit obtained from City of Eustis.

If the bids are within our budget, we should be able to start construction about the middle of December, 2015.

**Carl Skiles.**

#### **President's Message...**

Hello, UUCLC! As you know, my husband John and I are traveling, visiting family and friends from NC to PA and NJ, including many UU friends from up north. Thanks to our UUCLC committees for their good work on behalf of our congregation. I look forward to seeing you all soon in mid June when I return.

**...Chris**

#### **June Birthdays**

June Sweeten, June 1  
 Bob Young, June 2  
 Franklin Pennington, June 23  
 Pam Ward, June 26