



The Communicator

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

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October Programs

Discussion Group at 9:30 am

October 2 – Open Forum - Please bring your topics.

October 9 – The Aging Brain – Lecture 2: The Aging Mind: “ Why Don’t We Live Forever ?” The Great Courses, by Prof. Thad A. Polk, U of Michigan.

October 16 – To be determined.

October 23 – To be determined.

October 30 – To be determined.

Worship Service at 11:00 am

October 2 – Doug Worthington: “Robert Frost's Poems through the eyes of a Unitarian.”

Three poems are read and interpreted. The speaker finds support for social justice efforts in Frost's writings.

October 9 – Randy Becker: “Deeper and Wider”.

Some spiritual traditions ask members to go deeply in faith, but not to explore widely. Other traditions encourage a wide exploration of faith provided that one does not go too deeply. But what would a tradition that encourages both depth and width be?

The Rev. Dr. Randy Becker recently retired after a 46 year career as a Unitarian Universalist minister. He is now facilitating a small, intentionally diverse spiritual community in Key West. He recently ran (unsuccessfully) for Mayor of Key West and has numerous stories about being a visionary candidate.

October 16 – Dan Gribbin: “Unitarianism and American Transcendentalism”.

Ralph Waldo Emerson’s contention that we have an innate sense of the good and the true by virtue of our status as human beings is a refinement of William Ellery Channing’s notion that God speaks to us individually, and that God’s will is put into action by our free will.

When the famous New England discussion group called the Transcendentalists formed, Channing was supportive, but he did not attend the discussions, fearing that in his presence others might have been inhibited. His ideas were present, however. Those ideas were shaped by his understanding of the movement in European thought called the Enlightenment. In this talk, I describe Channing’s Unitarian ideas and the influence they had on the New England intellectuals, the Transcendentalists, who ushered in the Romantic era, the next great movement in American thought.

October 23 – David Tomayo is an activist and community organizer who seeks to educate young Hispanics in the U.S. with critical thinking skills and the Constitutional ideals of keeping state and church separate.

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October 30 – Rev. Roger Seidner: “Adversity and Adversary”.

On October 30, many groups observe Reformation Sunday. Our minister emeritus will lift up the contrast between being part of a minority, discriminated group and the need to overcome that limitation by addressing the adversary. Doesn't sound like a liberal message? Come and share a service that lifts responsibility for reconciliation.

Building News Brief

Construction is progressing on schedule. Most of the site grading and the underground utility work has been completed. The building foundations have been installed and the service lines under the slab are in place. The concrete floor slab will be placed next week.

The steel structural members of the building have been delivered and stockpiled on site, and will be erected as soon as the floor slab is completed.

The trees that are remaining as part of the landscape plan have been trimmed and shaped, greatly improving the appearance of the site.

We are still looking forward to occupancy in March, 2017.

...Carl Skiles



Care Committee...

Our UUCLC has a program for members in need of some assistance. With the resurrection of our Care Committee, we are having a wonderful response from people who are joining this outreach to our members.

We are a committee of 6 members so far. Some committee people will continue, or begin, to participate through the “buddy” system. As a committee person is matched up with someone in need of visits or a ride to church, so their needs are taken care of. There is the comfort of a single focused relationship.

Being on this committee means one may be a “buddy”, or choose to make phone calls, email, or even little notes with cards I can provide. Hospital visits are another option when committee people are able to visit. I have a particular calling to visit members who may find themselves in a nearby hospital.

We are a small, yet growing, congregation. My goal is to see that every member of UUCLC is contacted when necessary. I feel confident that we may accomplish that goal by simplifying our methods and committee people spend only the amount of time that also meets their personal comfort needs.

It is my joy to serve in this manner.

...Shalom, Hinda

President's Message...

Beginning on September 18, we resumed our 'regular' Sunday schedule with 9:30 am Discussion Group and 10:45 am Sunday Services. Reverend Janet Onnie from our sister Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Marion County kicked off our new church year with a discussion of what it means when UUs covenant with one another to behave, consistent with our values.

Expect to hear more about covenant and how we all share responsibility to build a Beloved Community, as this is the broad theme for the current year.

Of course, we have many practical challenges before us. Let's begin with a relatively easy one.

Office Space—Since February of 2013, we have been renting an Office at 127 North Grove Street. Last year, the building was sold and rehab commenced around us, resulting in deterioration of our office space. Long story...short, as of Tuesday, September 27, we have relocated the office to the second floor (elevator accessible) of the Wells Fargo Advisors Building at 127 North Bay Street. The new office is accessed from the back door which is off McDonald Street and McCulloch's Alley. The building is brand new. We have use of facilities immediately off the elevator: a conference room (on the left) and an office (on the right).

The 127 North Bay Street door is open weekdays from 7am to 5pm and the elevator is operable 24/7, (I think). Board members will soon have a key to the door for after hour and weekend use. Committee Chairs should coordinate with their Board Liaison to ensure after hour access for committee meetings.

This brings me to opportunities for participation in congregation committees and activities. Elsewhere in this Communicator, you will see evidence of the energy and participation of our members in congregational ►

wish that i could just get up on my witch's broom!

flying across the October sky-
with healing herbs in hand
spread amongst Earth's children,
where all good health is known.

with flaming wand
I'd point towards rapists,
procurers of Hate,
and leaders who march with Satan.

equipped with golden magic dust
my seeds would spread forgiveness.
within my mind I do maintain,
the vision of a global healing.

Hinda-jonathan

▶ activities. Our members have devoted many hours working on the Building Project, Membership, Public Relations, Newsletters, Websites, Sunday Set-up and Kitchen, Social Events, Worship-Research-and-Program (WRAP), and Finance Committees. While there is always room for more help on these committees, the following committees especially need some volunteers. Please review the following list and talk to a member of the Board of Trustees to **let us know of your interest to participate**.

This Congregation needs **YOU**. Each of us becomes richer when we participate.

Caring (Pastoral Care) Committee – Hinda Jonathan is the new chair of this committee and is working to organize volunteers to visit or contact homebound members.

Committee on Ministry (COM)– The Committee On Ministry is concerned with the spiritual health of the entire ministry (lay ministry, as well as clergy) of the congregation—as a reflection of mission fulfillment. Last year we had a Ministerial Relations Committee which can serve as the nucleus for this effort.

Congregational Health Committee (Safe Congregations) – Congregations can take pro-active steps to create environments that are safe and prepared. Developing a Comprehensive Safe Congregations Policy is a significant and meaningful process to educate the congregation and build safer communities. We have materials that this new committee can review to begin UUCLC efforts.

Education Committee – We have had various educational activities in the past, including Tai Chi and Exploration/Discussion Groups around Spirituality and Aging. As we prepare to move into our new building, we will have classrooms and facilities that will allow us to provide programs for our members as well as the community. Now is the time to convene a committee to brainstorm and coordinate educational programs. When/how will we develop a children's Religious Education (RE) program? This committee needs a chair. Is this your calling???

Fund Raising Committee – this sub-committee of the Finance Committee is being led by Robert Myatt to help finance the building construction cash shortfall. Come help with your ideas and energy!

Long Range Planning – UUCLC is at a turning point: from small lay-led congregation, meeting in rented space, becoming (hopefully) a mid-sized congregation growing into our new congregational home. What does that mean...specifically? What goals do we have related to: membership growth, facility needs, staffing, finances, programs? If these questions interest you, you should be on this committee.

Nominating Committee – a 3 person committee is needed to develop a slate of officers for church year 2018. Vacancies will exist for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Social Justice (SJ) Committee – UUs are known for “deeds not creeds,” and UUCLC members do participate in SJ activities, supporting the local homeless drop-in center and food bank and the Lake Interfaith Council, but we do not currently have a committee to coordinate SJ activities.

We have some wonderful opportunities to get involved...to make a difference...and to get to know like-minded UUs. This can be very fulfilling work---a ministry (if you are comfortable with the words) to build our Beloved Community. Won't you help?

...Chris Higgins

Highlights of the Board of Trustees (BoT) Meeting of Thursday, September 15, 2016

Note that DRAFT Board Minutes are posted in hard copy on the bulletin board which is displayed at Sunday Services, three Sundays after each meeting. Minutes are posted on the UUCLC website (lakecountyuu.net) when they have been formally approved, generally one month after a BoT meeting. Members are welcome to attend Board meetings and/or ask Board members about agenda items and discussion. ▶

- ▶ Board Secretary Pam Ward resigned her position on July 29, 2016 and the vacancy was announced to the Congregation in August. New member, Joyce Axelson volunteered for the position and the Board appointed Joyce Axelson as Secretary of the Board until the upcoming Congregational Election in May 2017, per Bylaw provision VIIA.3.g. Also, per the Bylaws at VII.A.1. the Board waived the one (1) year qualification limit for a voting member who is a prospective officer or trustee, for the benefit of the Congregation.
- Treasurer's Report – financial status is good. The treasurer reports to the Congregation in the Communicator quarterly.
- 127 Grove Street Office Repairs – After lengthy discussion regarding problems with ceiling tile damage, mold, inadequate AC, failed electricity, spiked utility cost, the Board was pleased to consider the possibility of relocation. Chris and some other board members and members of UULC will visit the two sites on 9/19 to determine if those sites would work for us. See President's message for update on NEW OFFICE!
- Consultation with the Reverend Kenneth Gordon Hurto, Lead Executive for the UUA's Southern Region regarding assistance in seeking a part time minister and developing UULC. Discussion at Leadership Council and ad hoc with members indicated membership support for a part time minister. Next step is for us to develop a 'job description'. Kenn was supportive and optimistic.
- The October Board Meeting will be on October 13th at 1:00 p.m.
- The November Board Meeting will be on November 17th at 1:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building Project—is on schedule. See article elsewhere in this Communicator.

Membership Committee—Orientation Class for New Members is scheduled for October 15.

WRAP—See Sunday Discussion Group and Service schedule elsewhere in this Communicator.

...Chris Higgins



Hello "Snow birds!"

We miss you! Whatcha been doing? Traveling? Where to? Or, did you stay close to home and grow a fabulous garden? Take up the banjo? Tell us! We want to hear from you!

We'd also like feedback on the Communicator articles and the Communicator itself.

Send Ted an email: tedandeleonor@gmail.com

October Birthdays

Henry Gray, October 1
 Steve Vucic, October 2
 Gina Rossie, October 11
 Gladys Becker, October 13
 Melba Seron, October 14
 Carl Stiner, October 17
 Janeane Reagan, October 24
 Karen Herchen, October 25
 Kathy Collins, October 26