



The Communicator

[Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County](http://www.lakecountyuu.net)



May 2 2 Byrd Tetzlaff “Self Esteem “

May 9 Joe Donatone “Moms Are Complex Folk”

May 16 Randy Becker “Legacy- When our lives are completed, what do we wish to leave as our legacy?”

May 23 Libby Moore “Applying UU Principles to Real Life”

May 30 off

May Birthdays

Barbara Hill
Diana Reed

If you have not shared your birthday with us, please email christy.millat@yahoo.com so we can wish you a happy birthday too.

UUCLC Information & Contacts

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Officers

Russ Littlefield, President
Janeane Reagan, Vice President
Dottie Beebe, Secretary
Christina Wilkins, Treasurer
Chris Higgins, Asst. Treasurer

Trustees

Julie Twist
Pete Conde
Wendy Pacek

Committee Chairs

Membership – Julie Twist
WRaP (Sunday Services) – Val Conde
Building and Grounds – Christina Wilkins
Music – Kit Tatum
Finance – Chris Higgins
Social Justice/Environment – Barbara Hill
Communications– Christy Millat
Lifespan Faith Development – Christie Cleveland
Hospitality – Bernie Greenberg
Safe Congregation – Julie Twist
Care and Connect –Lois Sanford
Technology – Val Rosado
Technology Administration –Val Rosado
Library – Julie Champion

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Submit articles for the June Communicator by Friday, May 28.

President's Message



Attending General Assembly 2021: Circle 'Round for Justice, Healing, Courage

In many ways, General Assembly (GA), is at the heart of Unitarian Universalism. GA is characterized by the UUA as a business meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations which includes the folks who administer UUA as well as representatives from congregations all over the United States and even the world. While this is indeed a business meeting, it is much more. It is also an opportunity to express views and vote on matters that will shape Unitarian Universalism's future for years to come. There is nothing quite like getting together with folks deeply concerned about finding spiritual paths and social redemption. Because of these shared concerns, the experience of GA can be a source of renewal and strengthened commitment.

The full impact of GA is best experienced through in-person attendance. During this pandemic time, however, GA, like all other meetings and services, has been forced to go entirely virtual. That is what happened in 2020 and that is what will happen again this year.

Every congregation is allowed to send a certain number of delegates to GA, depending on its size. As we are a small congregation, we are only allowed two, however, anyone can register as a non-delegate and I encourage folks to do just that. While only delegates are allowed to join in discussions and vote on business matters, Study Action Issues, and Statements of Conscience; all registrants, not just delegates, can attend services, lectures, workshops and special ceremonies. Everyone who registers will need to study the program to find out what is being offered this year and when. This year's theme is Circle 'Round for Justice, Healing, Courage.

UUCLC's Board sets aside money for those who wish to attend GA as delegates. Last years representatives were Carole Armel and Henry Millat. If you are interested in attending this year, let Russ Littlefield or Janeane Reagan know. Here is a link that gives some general information about this year's meeting: <https://www.uua.org/ga>.

Spotlight—Lois Sanford



One might wonder where Lois Sanford got her deep compassion for the struggles of others and her intense passion for helping. After listening to her story, I am convinced that she hit the ground running with both. Growing up in Northeastern Ohio, Lois's childhood was divided between her parents home in ethnically mixed East Cleveland and her family homestead just down the road in Cherry Hill Grange, PA. She was keenly aware of the struggles of many immigrant families in her neighborhood, her own family having emigrated from Wales, plus she was very much in tune with the rhythms of farm life.

After graduating from Shaw High School, Lois attended Ohio University where she received her Associates Degree in child development. In 1962 she met her husband on the beach in Ft. Lauderdale during spring break and they married in 1963.

Lois' husband took a job in Huntsville, Alabama, working in the space program. It was there that she decided to try the UU church even though her parents had been Methodists. She was attracted to the strong social justice emphasis at the church and particularly their activism during the turbulent times of the '60's.

When the space program shut down, they moved to Ft. Lauderdale. While she was raising their two children, she went to work as a Vista Volunteer coordinating a mobile eye clinic for those who did not qualify for other programs. For five years she managed these clinics in migrant camps and low income housing projects. When the program ended, she was hired by the Broward County School system to coordinate visual screening in the schools. During that time she also returned to college and earned a Master's Degree in Special Education. She opened a private practice serving three developmental optometrists and did some consulting work which included helping the Hopi Nation open their first on-site school. Lois eventually moved to working in the classroom as a teacher for special education students, retiring from there after 35years.

Lois is very proud of her three children. Her daughter, Michelle lives in North Carolina and works as a clinical social worker specializing in trauma recovery and has two daughters and one son. In June of 2020 Lois lost her son, Matthew who had been a

police officer in Las Vegas. He had two sons and one daughter. She has an adopted son, Jonathan, who also works on the police force in Las Vegas and was Matthew's best friend. Jonathan, has two sons.

In 2015 Lois moved to Lake Port Square in Leesburg and started attending UUCLC. She says she was attracted to our congregation by how warm and welcoming everyone was. She was impressed by the social justice involvement of the church. Since joining, Lois has served on the board of trustees, she is part of the Care and Connect Committee, has actively supported social justice projects and has enjoyed being part of a covenant group.

Lois is an avid quilter and belongs to a local quilting guide. She also looks after several residents in her community, particularly during the Covid shutdown. This year her daughter and adopted son presented her with a companion, her cat, Theodore, who she says has been a wonderful addition.

Lois is an optimist, so as she looks to the future, she feels that the new normal will be even better.

Solar Update

When UUCLC signed up to sponsor the Solar United Neighbors Solar Co-op in Lake County last year, our board also created a task force to explore options for UUCLC's going solar.

After a lot of research and negotiating, the task force provided their findings and proposal to the Board. The Board then convened a congregational meeting to present those findings and proposal to a quorum of voting members.

Following our Treasurer's excellent presentation, members voted overwhelmingly to indeed go forward.

The vote is only a first – or next – step in the process. There are still details to be finalized and numerous approvals needed before declaring we are in fact going solar. We are hopeful, but until those final i's are dotted, t's crossed, and approvals signed, we will remain cautiously optimistic. Watch for updates in the weekly Bulletin and next month's Communicator.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County invites you to join us for the second part of our three-part Online Lecture Series on Saving Our Environment

7 p.m. on Sunday, May 9, 2021

BEAUTIFUL LAKE COUNTY: MANAGING OUR GROWTH

Environmental advocates will tell us how we should manage our growth in Lake County.



Egor Emery



Lavon Silvernell



Doug Shields

Egor Emery currently sits on the Citizens Advisory Committee of Lake Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization. His more than 30 years of environmental and quality of life advocacy in Lake County also includes serving on the Lake County Planning and Zoning Commission, on advisory committees for Pear Park and Lake Griffin State Park, and on a committee for the Lake Comprehensive Plan.

Lavon Silvernell is a naturalist who has served Lake County as administrative director at Trout Lake Nature Center, president of the Lake Beautyberry Florida Native Plant Society, board member of the Ocklawaha Valley Audubon Society, and member of Lake County's Keep Lake Beautiful Committee. She still attends County Commission meetings where she advocates for preserving our quality of life.

Doug Shields is the Lake County Commissioner for District 1. He is concerned about the threats of traffic, pollution and excessive development in treasured rural areas, such as the Green Swamp. With a B. S. degree in accounting, he has experience doing CIA audits and investigations, performing security assessments for corporations, and teaching entrepreneurship to U.S. military veterans.

Also joining us will be Rob Kelly, a former member of the Lake County Local Planning Agency (LPA) and the team that developed the *Lake County Comprehensive Plan 2030 Horizon*. The effort took place over a 4-year period involving more than 250 public meetings throughout Lake County. With a B.S. degree in Computer-Aided Technology, he is the current CEO and President of an internet-based company.

The discussion will be followed by questions from the public

Please join us by phone or through the internet using Zoom. To register, click on this link:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0kdOCsqD8vHtRTW25PPm5MEo7_iWSiaBux

This link can also be found on our website, <https://lakecountyuu.net/>.



Thank you SJE Committee for your generous donations for Lake Cares and Open Door in April. We will take the month of May off for drop offs.

Lake Cares informed me that they pay 19¢ per pound of food so a financial donation is more advantageous.

If you would like to donate to either Lake Cares or Open Door, you can do so through UUCLC by:

--mailing a check to UUCLC, P. O. Box 1761, Eustis, FL 32727- 1761 and designating your charity in the memo line of the check

--OR --

--by credit/debit card or bank ACH. Go to our website: <http://www.lakecountyuu.net> and click the red DONATE button and follow the instructions.

Also, the Lake Cares Food pantry has lost way too many volunteers who used to just sit, ask questions of their clients before they get their food. If anyone might be interested they should contact: lakecaresvolunteers@gmail.com.



Good News from Social Justice

The UUCLC's Social Justice and Environment Committee has good news about House Bill 257: State Representative Anthony Sabatini's bill to end the North Lake County Hospital District and its funding for indigent health care has been stopped by a bipartisan vote in the Florida House's Ways and Means Committee. Strange things can happen before the legislative session ends on April 30th, but we hope HB 257 is dead. We thank everyone who made phone calls and sent emails to Florida House members. Together, we made a difference!

A Changing of the Guard- or at least part of it.

Each year in May our UUCLC Board of Trustees experiences some changes. This year we have two trustee positions and the secretary position being handed over to new members. As this transition occurs, we want to thank our hard working Board members who are departing and welcome the new ones.

Lois Sanford has just completed a three-year term as a trustee. Lois brought to the Board a questioning mind and a social consciousness that often enriched Board discussion and decision-making. We hope she enjoys some well-earned rest, but we know she is committed to UUCLC and her talents, wisdom and passion will still be present in her other roles here.

Ted Fessler kindly filled in for a vacated trustee position this past year. Ted brought to the Board his knowledge of our history and his caring for the future of UUCLC. Ted is well known for his clear thinking and computer expertise which he has shared with UUCLC for many years.

Wendy Pacek has served as secretary for the past year, a vital job for the effective working of the Board. She got our minutes out quickly after each Board meeting as well as after special events like the Annual Meeting. This is not an easy job and Wendy proved willing to meet any challenge. We thank her for her service as secretary, and are happy that she will continue to serve the Board as a trustee for a couple more years.

Thank you Lois, Ted, and Wendy.

While Wendy will continue on the Board as a trustee, joining us this month in a three year position as trustee is Julie Twist. Julie has served us in many vital roles including heading up Leadership Council and our Congregational Safety Committee. She recently took on the chair position on the Membership Committee. We are delighted that she will be joining us on the Board.

Finally, Dottie Beebe has agreed to serve as our new Board secretary. Dottie is a familiar figure at UUCLC as she often has acted as service leader, both at our pre and post-pandemic services. As we said earlier, this is one of the most challenging of the Board positions and we are grateful to Dottie for taking on this challenge.

Continuing on the Board in this new year will be Pete Conde, who will be completing his final year as trustee; and Christina Wilkins, who will begin serving a two year term as Treasurer after completing her one year appointment to the Board. Chris Higgins will continue on as Assistant Treasurer. When we enter our UUCLC home again – and that is getting closer -- we hope that you will make a point of thanking outgoing Board members and congratulating our new and returning officers and trustees. We -Janeane and Russ - are grateful to each of them and also for the support you, our members and friends, give all of us as we work to carry forth the mission of UUCLC.

Sincerely, Russ and Janeane

Looking for a job?

There is more than one job opening for drivers to take residents of Lakeview Terrace Retirement Community in Altoona, FL. They are looking for mature drivers. Contact information: Transportation Office 352-69-2133 Ext. 2294.

There are other job openings, such as administrative assistant, housekeeping and laundry, etc. at Lakeview Terrace as well.. Just google Lakeview Terrace Retirement Community, Altoona, FL, job openings.

Sylvia Wince
SandBwince@gmail.com



PLEDGE CARD

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County
For July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

I / We commit to supporting the UU Congregation of Lake County with our financial pledge.

I / We pledge \$_____ (circle) weekly monthly quarterly annually

for a total of \$_____ per year,

to support the UUCLC Budget for fiscal 2022.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

It is understood that if our financial situation changes significantly, I / we will contact the Treasurer to decrease or increase this pledged amount.

Progressive Guidelines for Pledging

| Annual Income | Percent Pledge | Annual Pledge | Monthly Pledge |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| \$10,000 | 2% | \$200 | \$17 |
| \$25,000 | 3% | \$750 | \$63 |
| \$50,000 | 4% | \$2,000 | \$167 |
| \$100,000 | 5% | \$5,000 | \$417 |
| | | | |

Send completed pledge card to UUCLC, PO Box 1761, Eustis, FL 32727 or email to office@lakecountyuu.net. Thank you!