



The Communicator

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

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11 AM Worship Service

October 4 – Dr Robert Tucker

October 11 – Rev. Dr. Randy Becker

October 18 – to be announced

October 25 – Rev Roger Seidner

9:45 Discussion Group

October 4 – Natural law and human nature.

October 11 – Questions of value (tentative).

October 18 – Bernie Greenberg, “Brain Talk”

October 25 - Open Forum.

President's Message...

How was your summer?

It was good for me to get back from visiting family in NJ/PA to catch up on congregation happenings. I know that UUCLC members and committees have been active, we have had very good Sunday services, several new and very capable lay leaders and attendance has been good.

Starting with the October 4th service, the 9:45 am Discussion Group will resume and the Celebration of Life Service will begin at 11 am.

When we resume, you will see changes—some bigger than others. I saw some new faces—YAY!! and am hopeful that the missing faces will hurry back again soon.

One of the faces that I miss is our Developmental Minister, Susan Berryman, (and of course, her husband, Peter, and their sidekick, Tucker.) Susan had planned to be with us, ministering to UUCLC by mid October. Instead we received a phone call, followed by an email to the congregation in which she advised that her return must be delayed. Here is an excerpt from Susan's email to us.

“Peter is having some medical problems. It's been recommended that he have surgery and after some consideration he has opted to go back to Arizona for further consultation, treatment and recovery.

This comes at the very time I am preparing to return to you, so I feel torn in my responsibilities, but I'm sure you will sympathize with my desire and need to be with Peter. I do not know for sure when I will be able to return perhaps as early as late November, but for sure no later than the end of the year.”

UUCLC Information & Contacts

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Roger Benton Seidner, Minister Emeritus.

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So, please keep Susan and Peter in your hearts and thoughts and wish them well and a speedy return to Eustis. We will keep you updated as we receive information.

Our Minister Emeritus Roger Seidner has been recovering from his back injuries and sends his regards from Brookdale in the Orlando area, where he is getting help caring for his wife Clarice. He plans to be with us for a number of Sundays on the last Sunday of the month beginning in October. Please plan to attend on October 25 to welcome Roger back after his recent difficulties and extended absence!

On a lighter note, one of Susan's recommendations for the Order of Service was implemented successfully during the summer and will continue. That is...(drum roll, please)... the offertory collection is being taken AFTER the sermon, but before the extinguishing of the chalice. Some of us had felt that taking the collection before the sermon was disruptive and ushers were unable to hear the message. Good change!

Another change relates to the music program. During the summer, our member Eloise Fisher frequently played the piano for us and on occasion brought a friend Logan Heinzelman, who plays both piano and guitar. The Board remembered last year's trumpet/piano duet by John Landers and Paulette Johnson and hoped for more innovative music opportunities. So, the Board approached our church pianist Lynette Auberjeunois, suggesting that for church year 2016, she would play for us only on alternating Sundays. After thoughtful consideration, Lynette responded, thanked UUCLC for the opportunity to serve the congregation for 12 years, but decided not to return in October. We have asked Logan Heinzelman to play for us on a trial basis for three months. This trial period is the perfect time to revamp our music program. The choir will be convened; new recruits are welcome. Don't be shy-- join the choir; offer suggestions, in the suggestion box or to a Board member, about the music...about anything else we do in YOUR congregation.

Looking forward, we have a lot on our plate.

As you know, last year we convened the Leadership Council, which includes the chairs and co-chairs of the standing committees and the board members. This council will be meeting soon to review suggestions from the survey we conducted last spring and to outline an agenda for this church year.

Our committees are always looking for a few good men and women. So, if you have some ideas, or questions or interests---come to a committee meeting; speak to a board member or committee chair or member.

As you read in the September Communicator, the site plan for our new building was submitted to the city of Eustis and as anticipated, it was approved on September 17. Yay!! Good job, Building Committee!! It has taken much work to bring the project to this point, first finding and purchasing the property, finding and working with the architect and engineer, and approving the plans. But there is much, much more work in front of us.

We will also need to determine whether our current plans fit into our budget or, as Carl Skiles said in last month's Communicator, if we have to 'value engineer' our plans. (hmmm... 'value engineer'...I just got comfortable with the term 'downsize'.)

Next month in this space you will read about a proposal to provide Solar Energy to our new building. I believe that I speak for most of our members when I say that I'm all for Solar Energy. My only concern is cost. As a member of the UUCLC Board I have a fiduciary responsibility on behalf of the congregation. I looked up 'fiduciary', which Wikipedia defines as an ethical relationship to "prudently take(s) care of money or other asset for another person." So, the questions I have relate to how best to provide the congregation with "the home of THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF LAKE COUNTY, INC." as specified in Ruth Gray's Will, Second Codicil.

As they say, watch this space. And talk to me or one of the other UUCLC Board members and get involved. I firmly believe, what we get from our congregation is commensurate with what we give, be that our time, energy, talent, treasure or all or the above.

...Chris Higgins

Book Group

The next meeting of the UU book group will be on October 13 at 3 in the Grove Street Office. We will discuss Jonathan Safran Foer's novel, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*. This is one of a number of novels written in response to the terrorists' attacks on the World Trade Center, September 11, 2001. It was one of the most widely read of those written as post 9/11 fiction. It is narrated by a nine-year-old boy named Oskar Schell. Oskar is unusual, to say the least. He considers topics that move him way past any average nine-year-old, as you will discover. A film version of this novel was released in 2012, but please read the novel first. Anyone, UU or not, is welcome.

...Russ

October Birthdays

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