



Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

SUNDAY SERVICES 11 AM.

MUSIC PRELUDE BEGINS 10:45 AM

All visitors are warmly invited to participate as our guests.

Aug 1 BRISA ABLES, LUCY MERCER, SOPHIA MERCER, AND LINDA ABLES: “In Their Own Words”

An award of a scholarship to a young member confers recognition of their meaningful participation in the activities of the Fellowship. The gift of a scholarship creates a celebratory connection with the young recipients who make a transition from one stage of life to another. The founding objectives represent our collective responsibility to nurture our young adult community. This year’s scholarship recipients are will present this program.

Aug 8 REV. JULIE CONRADY: “2021: A New Renaissance”

During the pandemic, many UUs have explored the spiritual practices that deepen your lives and connect you to the world. Rev. Conrady will explore some UU spiritual practices inspired by the Great Humanist himself - Leonardo da Vinci. Spiritual Practices boxes will be available for you to take home for a suggested \$5 donation to cover materials. The Settled Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham, Rev. Conrady loves preaching on history, justice, UU values, and da Vinci. She received a Master of Divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School, and a Bachelor degree in Religion and Psychology from Oklahoma City University. She lives with her spouse, Josh Flores, and their children, Stark(7)and Ezio(2) with furbaby SamIAm, in Birmingham.

Aug 15 MIKE BUNN: “Fourteenth Colony:

The Forgotten Story of the Gulf Coast During America’s Revolutionary Era”

The British colony of West Florida, which once stretched from the mighty Mississippi to the shallow bends of the Apalachicola and portions of what are now the states of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, is the forgotten fourteenth colony of America. Mike Bunn will describe its tumultuous political history and the compelling saga of struggle and perseverance that brought about the end of its days under the Union Jack. Director of Historic Blakeley State Park and Chair of the Baldwin County Historic Development Commission., Bunn is author or co-author of several books, including Fourteenth Colony: The Forgotten Story of the Gulf South During America’s Revolutionary Era.

Aug 22 DONNIE BARRETT: “Oldest Tea Farm in the USA”

Mostly considered an industry secret, how to grow and process tea will be explained by the founder, owner, and operator of the oldest tea farm in the USA. Fairhope native and University of South Alabama graduate, Donnie Barrett was the Director of the Fairhope Museum of History from 1995 through 2017.

Aug 29 SARAH BOGDANOVICH: “Worms Will Change Your Life”

Reducing waste at the local level is more important now than ever before. Managing household waste at home is easy and only takes a few simple changes. Learn the basics of composting using various techniques, including worms. Plus learn other ways to reduce the waste you’re sending to our overflowing landfills. Sarah Bogdanovich is a social worker with a passion for composting and reducing waste. She has practiced vermicomposting for over 15 years

Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship welcomes and embraces people of any age, race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, ability, language, or cultural background.

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[www/ Fairhope uu.org](http://www/Fairhope.uu.org)

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MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP BUSINESS

HIGHLIGHTS July 12 Board Meeting



- The Little Free Pantry has been well-stocked and a success but members should be reminded in the fall to keep donating so supplies don't run out.
- Sarah Bogdanovich presented information about the new website and the capabilities of using the website for much of the Fellowship business, such as using the blog to distribute the Weekender.
- The camp-out for October 9-11 at Blakeley State Park is still planned, but a signup plan is needed. Sarah B. will survey the membership to see if the program should be outdoors at Blakeley or at the Fellowship.
- The immediate need for Sunday volunteers was discussed, especially the need for greeters in the lobby.
- In the August absence of Program Chair, Freya Sonenstein, co-chair Sarah B. will be in charge of supporting that month's speakers.
- The moratorium on building usage fees was rescinded.
- According to Erik Cortinas, the building official contacted by Carl Coret, the following would be needed before the shed could be occupied,
 - air conditioning unit (at least heat, window-mounted OK)
 - 240 W electric service (required for AC unit)
 - roof inspection (leak suspected), including attic access (scuttle hole in ceiling)
 - ceiling insulation
 - emergency lighting (battery powered)
 - A-B-C fire extinguisher
 - double-key door lock or alternative with "no thumb bolt" (push or lever door handle OK, but not round knob)
- The frequency of Board meeting was changed back to EACH month on the second Friday.
- Job descriptions and advertisements for the following three paid FUF positions will be created:
 - Administrative Assistant (Donna-temp)
 - Music director
 - Youth Coordinator
- A new Fund Raising Entertainment Committee was approved and will be chaired by Jeanine Normand.
- A November 6th performance at the Fellowship by Kathryn Scheldt was approved.
- The Board approved usage of the building for the Parenting Group/Circle of Security scheduled to meet every other Tuesday evening starting the second week of September. It will be run by Emily Patterson, LCSW, and Sarah B. It would be open to the public and cost \$10 per class for classes.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The June 2021 Financial Summary will appear in the September Newsletter.

SOCIAL/ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

As co-chair of the Social and Environmental Action Committee of the FUF, I welcome our new members: Sarah, Brandon and Lucas, Simone, Max and Oscar, Mia-Lucia, Carmen Daniela, Melissa and Lydia! If any of you are interested in joining our committee, contact me or Lynne Switzky. As you may know, the climate crisis is my Number 1 issue and related to our 7th principle of respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we all are a part.

If you are interested, I have an action item you can asap. Please call our Senators: Senator Richard Shelby, 202-224-5744, and Senator Tommy Tuberville, 202-224-4124. In support of the \$3.5 Trillion Infrastructure Bill being discussed during the Reconciliation process, tell them you support a Price on Carbon and that it be included in the bill. By enacting a federal carbon price, U.S. businesses can avoid paying the European Union border tariff and remain internationally competitive.

If you would like further information before you call or email, go to cclusa.org/senate. If you are interested in joining Citizens' Climate Lobby, their website is: www.citizensclimatelobby.org And if you can get three other people to do the same, perhaps we can make a difference.

I always say, what will this world look like when your kids and grandkids are my age (62 in a week), if we don't tackle this issue now?! Thank you for your time.

Riva Fralick, rivafralickoh@gmail.com, cell: 251-677-2001

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Happily, we have several new members and some with children. "Old" members, seek them out (they have nametags) and welcome them. They are excited to help.

Simone Normand: Max 7 and Oscar 11
Sarah Fischer: Lucas 8
Mia-Lucia Manifold
Carmen Daniella Pardo
Melissa Inge
Lydia Winn LeVert

More About New Member Winn LeVert

Winn LeVert is a native Alabamian (Marion, Orange Beach, Mobile), a resident of Fairhope the past twenty five years with lives in southern CA and The Netherlands previously. She has been a filmmaker, a teacher, a business owner and a musician-songwriter. "I'm enjoying retirement and delighted to be welcomed into the U. Fellowship fold.

Editor Request

New Members, I would like to publish a short bio and/or picture of you in this Newsletter so we can get to know you sooner. You can email it to jane09@gmail.com. Thanks you, Winn LeVert for yours.

FROM A MEMBER

PART I: PHI-CELLS AND THE VIRUS

(also published in the FUF November 2020 Newsletter)

by P. Strniste

As the pandemic has established its significance in our psyche, we have changed our behavior to minimize its presence in our lives, and in the lives we hold dear. Social isolation, wearing of masks, social distancing, and avoidance of large gatherings(especially indoors), have become the new norm. These behavioral changes are simple enough to execute, but for me only with constant vigilance.

As has been the case with all the previous pandemics in our collective history, this one will eventually pass. It is amazing how quickly we have learned about the causal agent, and how to thwart its propagation. Still, the risk quotient that we each have to determine for ourselves, is very complicated. Prudence alone will dictate when it is perceived safe enough to resume regular gatherings over and above the small ‘bubbles’ we have chosen, and are comfortable with.

To that end, I want to segue to an additional step FUF has taken to keep our meeting space safe. An article in Consumer Reports(JUL2020) entitled: “Can an Air Purifier Help You Stay Safe From the Coronavirus?” serves nicely as an introduction to this discussion because it details what is known about many of the variables involved in such an investigation -such as the virus’s size, aerosol dispersal of the virus, HEPA(High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter efficiency, and the importance of air flow rate(Clean Air Delivery Value). For those interested, models/brands that Consumer Reports recommend are also included in this article. Dr. Lindsey Marr, who specializes in airborne disease transmission and her perspective forms the basis of the report. I have not crunched any numbers for the FUF building with these types of air purifier, largely because of the cavern-like size of the main hall. Commercial grade air purifiers, I am sure exist, but are beyond the scope of this report.

Elsewhere I have heard about incorporating uv lighting into an ac air handler to sanitize the air moving through the system. This has largely been used to control microbial growth on the coils. Apparently its efficiency is variable and dependent upon how close the offending microbe is to the uv light.

Another way to purify the air is to follow Mother Nature’s example, that is to utilize the naturally occurring peroxides that continually bathe and protect us while outdoors. The PHI-Cell unit by RGF does just that. It is technology that utilizes phytohydroionization to create a stream of hydro-peroxides, super oxide ions(ozone) and hydroxides that get distributed throughout the building by the air coming out of an ac’s air handler. These ions are very effective at reducing micro-organisms in the air. This technology has been around for a number of years and has been clinically tested and proven to control viruses such as H1N1, the Avian Flu, the Norwalk virus, and MRSA. It has not yet been tested on the virus that causes COVID-19 however, but it has been shown to control other similar enveloped-RNA viruses. PDFs on this product can be viewed at www.rgf.com.

I placed an order for 4 PHI-CELL units in early July with Ingersolls AC. Clyde Ingersoll has had one in his home for several years, and recommended them to me when I started to ask questions about the use of uv light in controlling microbes. They have yet to arrive, but once installed(& its an easy installation), another level of defense in our ability to hold indoor meetings, will, in my opinion, be achieved.

PART II: THE MYSTERY WITHIN

It was an average day when I set about changing out the eleven air filters utilized by the four air conditioners in the FUF building. This ritual occurs about every three months and has only ever been punctuated by the question as to why three different sized filters are used. Obviously the nuanced engineering dictum used, trumps the practicality of the of the maintenance to be done. After checking to see if my inventory(I buy them by the carton) was sufficient I proceeded to the four 30”x16”x1” vents in the main hall. Upon opening the first vent I was startled to discover that the normally opaque colored filter material was evenly discolored black. This was most unusual and led my mind to entertain the idea

that the smoke from the chalice burning was the culprit. However, not only did the other three vent intakes in the main hall look the same, but so did the four in the foyer area, and so did the ones in the office, the kid's room and the TED talk room. With this additional evidence my focus shifted from the chalice to the PHI-Cell units themselves. I took one filter as a sample to Ingersoll's-the ac company that installed both the four new ac units as well as the recently installed PHI-Cell units(December of 2020). It was the end of their day when I got there, and they patiently listened to my story and examined my sample. This visit was especially propitious since I knew they had also installed many of these same PHI-Cell units in a much larger local church. They weighed the evidence, cut a piece off, rinsed it off with warm water, and concluded that they didn't know what it was, and hadn't seen anything like it in the other church. Other than having an independent lab examine and analyze it they really had no advice on how to proceed. The secretary in the room who had patiently listened to the menfolk in the office, however, then spoke up and suggested that since the filters had just been changed out, I should check them again in two weeks, and see if a clearer pattern could be ascertained. I did, and was surprised to find that the four filters in the main hall were already staining, but the four in the foyer were noticeably less so, while the ones in the office, kid's room, and TED talk room were even less so.....a gradient effect. I next called the Firefly company from whom I had purchased the fuel for the chalice from. The label on this fuel states that it burns smokeless(clean, odorless, soot less); and is good for both outdoor as well and indoor use. The representative heard me out before unequivocally dismissing my conclusion. So I called the company that makes the PHI-Cell units(RGF) and spoke to their customer rep. After hearing me out she too was at a loss to explain what I was seeing in the air filters. But she quipped that obviously they are cleaning the air inside the building of something! I did take the opportunity to make an additional unrelated inquiry about an update on the research being done relative to the effectiveness of PHI-Cell units in inactivating the SARSCoV-2 virus(the virus that causes COVID-19). She replied that this had been completed, and the PHI-Cell units were found to inactivate 99.9% of the airborne SARS-CoV-2 virus in the test chamber. In conclusion, although I cannot explain the discoloration occurring in the filters, I have no reason to think it is in any way harmful; AND the shower of peroxide molecules generated by air moving by the PHI-Cell units in the FUF ac system is a good thing in that it offers an additional layer of viral protection against the SARS-CoV-2 virus for people meeting in the FUF building.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Mobile Symphony Eastern Shore Strings Class

This class will take place at Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship on Wednesdays, from 4:45 to 5:30 PM starting on August 25th. Any student grades 5-10 with 3+ years of experience and note reading proficiency is welcome to register. Private lessons are also available. For more information please go to mobilesymphony.org or contact Daniela Pardo at (251)432-2010 / daniela@mobilesymphony.org



GROUP ACTIVITIES



SUNDAY TED DISCUSSION

The "TED Talk Discussion Group" meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 sharp in the room adjacent to the Children's Classroom. Often moderated, the group chooses among several suggested TED Talks and other short videos on a wide variety of topics. After the group watches the video, an interesting discussion often follows. All ideas are welcome.

NON-FICTION BOOK GROUP

Several years ago the late Ed Lawrence, then the highly respected president of the FUF, asked Charlie Earl to form a Non-Fiction Book Group. From the start individualism and consensus dominated its practice. Unlike most book groups, its members do not all read the same book or author. Instead each reads and reports on whatever he or she is reading at the time. Usually it can be a book, but may be a pithy article or pamphlet. Participants summarize their reading in ten minutes or so, before general discussion. History, biography, economics, and current politics are favorite topics, but nothing is banned, except fiction.

The group meets at 9:30 every other Thursday morning in the FUF office unless public holidays clash. After a couple of hours someone will mention lunch. The hungry convivial will then adjourn to a local café chosen by consensus.

Despite its negative name, newcomers joining the Non-Fiction Book Group could have a positive experience.

Submitted by Robin Fabel

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Weekly Scheduled Events

Sundays:

9:45 – 10:45 TED Discussion Group (Please be on time)

10:45 Pre-program Music

11:00 Sunday Service followed by Coffee Hour

Mondays: 2:00(Aug 2,16);

5:00(Aug 9,23): Uke Club

Wednesdays

3:00- 4:30 Back Porch Singers

5:00 Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Other Event

Thu., Aug 12: Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 am

Fri., Aug 13: FUF Board meets, 11:00 am

Sun., Aug 15: EAC/SAC Committee

Mon., Aug 23: Newsletter deadline, 5:00 pm

Wed., Aug 25:

Children's String Class, 4:45 – 5:30 pm

Thu., Aug 26: Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 am

SUNDAY BULLETIN DEADLINE

Wednesday at 5:00 pm is the deadline for information to be included in the weekly bulletin. Submit to Mary Matthews.

NEWSLETTER

Submit calendar events or articles specific to the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship by the date noted in the newsletter calendar section. For events, please include all pertinent information. Members and Friends are invited to submit poems, quotations or other brief words of wisdom to be published as space allows.

Provide written copy or email,

"FUF Newsletter" Subject In, to Janef09@gmail.com

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