



Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

March 2023

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist

SUNDAY PROGRAM SPEAKERS

MAR 5 TONY ALGOOD: “The Religion of Empire (Battle for the Bible)”

Looking at the Christian bible and the religion that has grown around it, there is a tension between the teachings of the gospel as recorded therein and the religion of empire that has grown around those teachings. Rev. Tony Algood is a former Union Organizer. He has previously acted as Union Officer, Director of Mobile Bar Association Volunteer Attorney Program, and Staff Attorney with Legal Services. He is presently Minister with the Freedom Church of the Poor, one of the Tri-chairs for Alabama Poor People's Campaign - A National Call for Moral Revival, on the Executive Committee for The National Union of the Homeless, part of the Leadership Committee for the Mobile Hub of Faith in Action Alabama, and on the Executive Committee of NAACP Branch 5044-B. To learn more about Rev. Algood's work, visit www.poorpeoplescampaign.org.

MAR 12 REBECCA DUNN BRYANT: “Home and Habitat”

Global environmental issues can be overwhelming to contemplate, but there is much you can do to support biodiversity and heal natural systems in your own backyard or business landscape. Architect and sustainability consultant Rebecca Dunn Bryant, AIA, will talk about how to garden for wildlife (without scaring your neighbors) and create regenerative landscapes that manage water, sequester carbon, feed pollinators, and soothe the soul! With over twenty years of experience in sustainable design, Bryant is the principal of WATERSHED, a sustainable design and consulting firm she founded in 2008. Her passion is creating sustainable built environments that inspire a greater connection to the natural world.

MAR 19 KRISTIN COSSAIRT: “Why The Pink Tax Is Bad For Business”

In the salon industry, as in many service industries, gendered pricing structures are the norm, and most assume that changing that would come at a cost to profits. But this is incorrect. The so-called “pink tax” is bad for employees, for clients *and* for businesses. Genderless pricing—which not only equalizes imbalanced costs for consumers, but also creates a safe space for people of all genders—can be implemented without loss of profits and can ultimately benefit employees, clients *and* the bottom line. Kristin Cossairt is a salon manager and stylist who has been working in creative fields for fifteen years. For nine of those years, she has been providing for the local community’s hair needs at Hair-do Salon in Daphne, Alabama, and managing the salon and education program for the past five years.

MAR 26 SARAH RUTLEDGE FISCHER, FACILITATOR: Renaming Ceremony

Nothing is as essential to identity within a community as a person's name. As an intentional community, our Fellowship invites all who have taken a new name and wish to affirm and honor that name in a ceremony of community support and all those who wish to hold space for and honor those individuals and their chosen names to join us for a Renaming Ceremony. If you would like to participate or have questions about the service, please email Program Committee Chairperson Sarah Fischer at fufprograms@gmail.com. **Following the service, please join us for an Open House Luncheon provided by the Fellowship Programs Committee.** We especially welcome our guests and visitors to stay and get to know us over a meal. To join us in welcoming our guests through fellowship, members are encouraged (though certainly not required) to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

SUNDAY SERVICE -- 11:00 AM (MUSIC PRELUDE BEGINS 10:45 AM)

(“In person” and on Zoom--check FairhopeUU/programs.org for zoom link)

SILENT MEDITATION 8:45; SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION 9:45 ;

CHILDREN’S FELLOWSHIP 10:45

All visitors are warmly invited to participate as our guests.

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

FairhopeUU.org

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Unitarian Universalist Seven Principles

Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides, rather than dogma or doctrine. We live out these Principles within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from [sources](#) as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

1. [1st Principle](#): The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. [2nd Principle](#): Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. [3rd Principle](#): Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. [4th Principle](#): A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. [5th Principle](#): The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. [6th Principle](#): The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
7. [7th Principle](#): Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Sources

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

The seven Principles and six [Sources](#) of the Unitarian Universalist Association grew out of the grassroots of our communities, were affirmed democratically, and are part of who we are. For more information visit uua.org.

Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship Mission Statement

To explore new ideas, to search for truth and knowledge, to take care of the earth, to enjoy fellowship with open-minded thinkers, to support and care for each other, and to create an atmosphere of love and understanding among our members and for those who come after us.

FELLOWSHIP BUSINESS



Financial Summary

	January	YTD
Support and Revenue		
Contributions	4,776	4,776
Other Revenue	100	100
Total Support and Revenue	4,876	4,876
Expenses		
Building	2,865	2,865
Committees	2,082	2,082
Donations	450	450
Total Expenses	5,397	5,397
Net Operating Increase/(Decrease)	(521)	(521)

Treasurer Position Opening for 2024

The Fellowship Board announces an opening for Treasurer in 2024. A volunteer will be chosen trainee for 2023 so that he/she may be prepared to take up office in 2024. An accounting background would be very helpful but is not required. Our current Treasurer is willing to train an individual that will take up the mantle when her term ends at the end of 2023. If you are interested or simply would like to know more about the position, please email Maggie Joffe at m.joffe@comcast.net by the end of October.

Submitted by Maggie Joffe, Treasurer



FUF Board Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2023, 1:00PM

Present: Sarah Bogdanovich, (Chair), Carl Couret, Mary Matthews, Irene Wagner, Michael Patrick, Maggie Joffe, Brandon Fisher, Nick Coulson (Minutes)

In attendance: Carla Couret, Jeff Bogdanovich, Don Joffe.

II Board Orientation:

A: FUF Board Handbook

Sarah announced that she had drafted a suggested revision of the Volunteer’s handbook and divided it into two: Board Handbook and Member’s Handbook. This involved rearrangement of the contents, the addition of Roberts Rules, and the interpretation of oversight of responsibilities for committees, supervision duties and chair responsibilities. It was based on the document outlining a revised structure for UU written by Sarah Fisher. The new Board Handbook was handed out to each board member. Board members were asked to read and comment directly to Sarah. Discussion of the Board handbook (p.1-12) and the document outlining a revised structure for UU was tabled. Maggie and Mary raised detailed questions about the use of Committee chair names and responsibilities respectively which will be resolved outside the Board. A discussion about Board communications with the administrator Carla ensued. It was affirmed that Carla is responsible to the board as a whole and not to individuals on the Board. When Board input is required Carla will get in touch with each Board member. It was confirmed that the Board determines who should have building keys, with Carla providing office keys on as a “as needed“ basis.

B: Board Priorities Discussion

Sarah presented the results of her anonymous Board survey. Discussion was tabled.

The minutes of the Board meeting 12/4/2022 were approved.

IV. Membership report:

Irene said membership was 90 with 30 friends and 10 new members in 2022. Irene, Rodney and Carla to liase with Sarah to confirm a robust membership list. Program report: Brandon Fisher presented the program till end May 2023. Financial report:

V: Maggie Joffe presented a financial report for December & 2022. Announcements and explanations ensued about changes to the program: Potluck Sundays were to be renamed “open house luncheons”: and the fellowship will pay the cost of the main dish. There would be a spiritually oriented program once every month with a speaker and 2 hymns. With Pat Smith resigning from collection duties, all Board members were authorized to collect.

VI: Old Business:

A: 1. Carla has purchased a computer and will be reimbursed. Another will be bought.

2: Irene proposed that UU put up a placeholder on wix with a different email address until a new website and provider is sorted. The motion was seconded by Brandon and approved by the board.

B: 1. Allyson Russell to be appointed children’s program manager.

2. The contract agreement with the administrator was circulated.

VII: New business:

A. It was agreed that at-large positions should be appointed for specific tasks. Once priorities were agreed, tasks would be clarified and potential at-large individuals identified.

B: Changes to the Sunday program: Story For All Ages and monthly hymnals/Book Signing were noted as changes. Carl agreed to requesting that length of chalice lighting be kept to 1 minute and reading to 3-5 minutes. Brandon to continue to advise main speakers to keep to 20-30 minutes leaving 5-10 minutes for audience questions. This should keep meetings to 1 hour.

C: Events:

1. Pi Day: Irene requested Board Participation; Sarah to sort digital payments.

2. Freedom Ride: Agreed to proceed with developing arrangements for UU to host Fairhope Freedom Ride to Montgomery by bus until a date to be determined by Sarah with respect to the drop-dead date for hiring a bus. The project will be re-examined by the committee before that date. Proposer: Brandon; seconder: Irene and agreed unanimously.

VIII: Board Meetings to be held typically 10-12 on 2 nd Saturday of month. Next: February 11 th

VIX: Meeting adjourned 3.20 p.m.

CARE & CONCERNS COMMITTEE



New Chairperson

Susan Hammack is the new Chair of the Care and Concerns Committee. If you have information concerning member illness or other problems where the Fellowship members could be of assistance, please pass this on to Susan. Her e-mail is susanhammacklmt@gmail.com. Her phone number is 205.527.3328. Texting is best if you need to reach her quickly.

Submitted by Susan Hammack

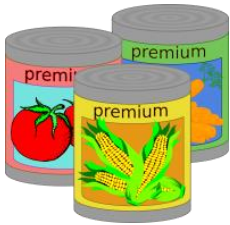
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

New Members



If you’ve joined the Fellowship in the last two years, we want to get to know you. Won’t you please tell us anything you’d like us to know about yourself to publish in a future Newsletter--include a picture if you’d like to. Send to “FUF Newsletter Editor,” jane09@gmail.com

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE



Little Free Pantry:

“The Food Pantry exists because FUF has a culture of generosity.”

THANK YOU Habitors for continuing to fill the Pantry. Because of YOU we are able to provide food to a limited number of users. While filling the Pantry one Wednesday I met a woman who wanted some items. It was an opportunity to find out what we should be supplying. She told me to consider that many folks were diabetic, so peanut butter was great, but not jelly. Also, food that can make a meal is what is needed: Pasta, sauces, hearty soups. She loved the Jiffy mix! So, no more green beans. But, you knew that. Thanks again!

Submitted by Irene Wegner

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION:
Sharing our vision of a better Alabama



Thursday, March 2, 2023
6 - 7:15 P.M.
University of South Alabama Baldwin County
Classroom Complex - Room 11
111 St. James Avenue
Fairhope, AL 36532



The 2023 legislative session begins March 7. New lawmakers from Baldwin County will be making decisions that impact our communities. Join us and a few of our legislators as we share our stories and hopes for the session.

Sponsored by:
Alabama Arise
League of Women Voters, Baldwin County




For more information call 800-832-9060

UPCOMING EVENT

Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship
PI(E) DAY
3.14.2023



4 - 6 P M
Tickets \$ 3.14
Raffle & Prizes
FairhopeUU.org/pie

Tuesday, March 14, 4:00 – 6:00

We celebrated Pie Pay, 3.14, three years ago and then COVID shut us down. We thought we were soooo clever but it turns out we just wanted to have a good time! We’re making it a tradition and inviting others to join us.

Please sign up with the pie you might bring (you can come and just enjoy the fun),
And also sign up to help make Pi(e) Day a success.

\$3.14 will get you a great piece of pie, all the coffee or lemonade you want and a good time.
Raffle! Photo booth! Pie Walk!
See YOU on 3.14!
Submitted by Irene Wegner

GROUP ACTIVITIES

WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Several FUF women met last month in the FUF TED Talk room and decided to meet regularly every other Thursday morning at 10:30, beginning February 23. At least for now the main purposes of the group are to get to know each other better and to entertain various ideas for the future meetings. Depending on interest, lunch at an agreed-upon restaurant will follow. For more information contact Linnea Kralik, (lmockie@aol.com) or Jane Finger (jane09@gmail.com) or just show up in the FUF TED Talk room March 9 and/or March 23.

SILENT MEDITATION GROUP

The TED Talk room will be open for silent meditation for 45 minutes from 8:45 am on Sundays. It will not be guided or linked to any method or religion. Anyone will be welcome provided they respect silence. There will be a plate for offerings. Participants can come or go at any time during the sittings but are asked to respect silence. *Submitted by Nick Coulson*

SUNDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP

The Sunday Morning Book group meets Sundays at 9:45 in the Ted Talk room. Rodney Hoffman leads the current discussion of *Welcoming the Unwelcome*, by Pema Chodron. Everyone is invited to join. *Submitted by Jane Finger*

THE THURSDAY GROUP

(Formerly known as "The Beer Group"). Meeting every Thursday at a local restaurant (currently Fish River Grill), this group welcomes all comers who enjoy free-wheeling discussion and the option of complementing it by ordering dinner. *Submitted by Michael Patrick*

2023 Officers & Executive Board

President: Carl Couret
Vice President: Irene Wegner
2nd Vice Pres/Programs: Brandon Fischer
Chair of the Board: Sarah Bogdanovich
Treasurer: Maggie Joffe
Recording Secretary: Nick Coulson
Corresponding Secretary: Mary Matthews

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Regularly Scheduled Events at FUF

Sundays

8:45—Silent Meditation Group
9:45—Sunday Book Discussion Group
10:45--Children's Fellowship
10:45 -- Pre-program Music
11:00 -- Sunday Service

Mondays

2:00 - 4:00 Uke Club

Tuesdays

9:00 –10:00 Men's Discussion Group (Kind Café)

Wednesdays

3:00 – 4:30 Back Porch Folk Singers practice
4:45 -- Eastern Shore String rehearsal

→ 5:00 – **Weekly Bulletin & Weekender deadline.**

Thursdays

5:00 – 7:00 Thursday Group (Fish River Grill)

Other Events

Thu, Mar 9: Non-Fiction Book Group, 9:30 am
Women's Discussion Grp, 10:30 am

Tues, Mar 14: Pie Day, 4:00 – 6:00 pm

→ **Sun, Mar 19:** April Newsltr deadline, 5:00 pm

Thu, Mar 23: Non-Fiction Book Group, 9:30 am
Women's Discussion Grp, 10:30 am

SUNDAY BULLETIN & WEEKENDER DEADLINE

Wednesday at 5:00 pm is the deadline for information to be included in the Weekly Bulletin and the Weekender. 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 printed copy or email,

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

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