



# Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

October 2022

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

## SUNDAY PROGRAM SPEAKERS

### **OCT 2 SHEY THORN: “Living with HIV: The Path to Understanding My Dignity and Worth to Support Our Community”**

In addition to his personal story of living with HIV—from diagnosis to present—Shey Thorn will also share information on the many programs and services offered by AIDS Alabama South. As its Co-Executive Director and Director of Prevention, Education, Thorn focuses on outreach programs and services related to HIV prevention, testing, and public education. Having recently received his Masters of Public Health in Health Education and Promotion, he is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Public Health program at Samford University.

### **OCT 9 LEE YOKEL: “National Novel Writing Month - What's it all about?”**

Who, what, and when is the non-profit organization NaNoWriMo? Lee Yokel will describe the National Novel Writing Month (hint: November 2022) and, though not having an English degree, how she got involved as a volunteer. Now in her second year as the organization’s regional Municipal Liaison, she claims to have no idea what she is doing.

### **OCT 16 DEVIN FORD: “A Focused Journey”**

As a young photographer in Los Angeles, Devin Ford was at sea until she found the mentors and began building the relationships that nurture her professionally and personally to this day. Then, moving home to Mobile, despite being a 20-year veteran in the field of photography, Ford once again felt completely isolated—without resources or a network. Not one to shy away from a problem, Ford took action and created the Focus Women’s Conference. Now heading into its fifth year, Focus WC continues to give the women of Mobile and Baldwin Counties the tools and relationships needed to be successful.

### **OCT 23 SARAH BOGDANOVICH: “Mornings with Eugene: Memories of Eugene Walter”**

Mobile native, Eugene Walter, would have turned 100 this year, had he not passed away in 1998 following a life most can hardly imagine. Eugene was the quintessential Renaissance Man. He was an actor, cryptographer, artist, cook, poet, and so much more. FUF member Sarah Bogdanovich will celebrate Eugene’s birthday (November 30) with stories of his life and the time she spent with him in the early 1990s. Bogdanovich was born and raised in Mobile, Alabama, surrounded by live oaks, artists, and activists. She left the area to attend the University of Virginia and spent the next 20 years as a Coast Guard spouse. She currently lives in Fairhope with her husband and two sons.

### **OCT 30 FUF MEMBER GARDEN PARTY**

It’s once again time to tend to our beautiful grounds! Pack your gardening gloves and lawn tools and join us in spending an hour or two to beautify our green space—each according to her ability. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

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

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

CHILDREN’S FELLOWSHIP **10:30 am**; BOOK DISCUSSION **9:45 am** (See pg 6)

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](http://FairhopeUU.org) 1150 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope, AL 36532. Telephone. 251-929-3207



## 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](http://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



### August Financial Summary,

	August	YTD
Support and Revenue		
Contributions	1,847	22,692
Other Revenue	61	1,178
Total Support and Revenue	<u>1,908</u>	<u>23,870</u>
Expenses		
Building	1,118	16,115
Committees	353	10,344
Donations	0	1,450
Total Expenses	<u>1,471</u>	<u>27,909</u>
Net Operating Increase/(Decrease)	437	(4,039)



### FUF Board Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2022, 11:12 am

Attendees: Board Members: Harvey Joanning, Carl Couret, Michael Patrick, Dana Roberts, Thelma Topper, Maggie Joffe, Don Joffe; Guests: Sarah Bogdanovich, Jeanine Normand

Meeting Minutes: July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

1. The Treasurer's Report was distributed for discussion.
2. In July 2022 FUF was \$400 in the black.
3. A report which details the funds available for each committee will be distributed when the Committee Structure is finalized. Meeting Minutes: July 8th Meeting Minutes were approved.

Closed Session:

1. A closed session was held with only Board members present to discuss the two candidates and their proposals for the position of Board Member-at-Large for Fundraising. Carl excused himself from the closed session.
2. Each Board member was asked to speak about their thoughts on each proposal.
3. Discussion, also, addressed the issue of the overall negative financial situation at FUF and that just holding events may not meet the goal of creating enough income to substantially improve the situation.
4. A suggestion was made that Carla and Sarah could work together to address the above.
5. A motion was made and passed to table the selection of Board Member-at-Large and ask Carla and Sarah to discuss working together for ongoing fundraising and events.
6. Harvey will contact both candidates regarding the motion.
7. The two proposals are attached to the meeting minutes.

Open Session:

Old Business:

Ceiling Painting: Ceiling painting will begin on Monday, August 15 th .

Building Usage:

1. Carla will send her proposal dealing with building management when completed.

2. Carla asked the Board to consider changing the building cleaners.
3. Board passed a motion for Carla to solicit a proposal for building cleaning from anyone interested. The proposal should include scope of work, costs and references.

New Business:

Nominating Committee

1. Discussion was held on the Nominating Committee selection process and responsibilities.
2. The Bylaws state “the Executive Board shall appoint the Nominating Committee”.
3. The Volunteer Handbook states the Chairman of the Board “appoint Nominating Committee for next year”.
4. In the past, the Chairman of the Board has presented to the Board recommendations for the Nominating Committee. The Board then voted on those recommendations.
5. Motion made and passed to continue the procedure outlined in #4 this year, due to time constraints.
6. Harvey presented three member names: Georgi Dilemis, Sheena Patrick and Mary Matthews.
7. Motion made and passed to accept the recommendations, with two abstentions.
8. The Nominating Committee members have been asked to include all age groups for possible future Board members.
9. Carl will announce the Nominating Committee members to FUF on Sunday. This will also be communicated in the Newsletter and by email.
10. A suggestion was made to the Board that nominations for Treasurer should begin earlier in the year, due to time needed for training.
11. The Bylaws and the Handbook should be amended to agree on the procedure for selecting the Nominating Committee.

Sunday Services:

1. A suggestion was made to include some additional elements in the Sunday meetings.
2. Examples included communal singing and/or readings from the UUA book of Hymns and Readings.
3. Discussion centered on communal singing. The issue would be finding someone to lead the singing and/or provide the music.
4. Carl will inquire on Sunday if there are any members who would be interested in leading the singing or would know of someone else that would be interested. Carl will coordinate with Gwen Snyder.

Board Meeting Agenda: Once a month, Mary Matthews will be asked to include a tentative Board meeting agenda in the Sunday Bulletin.

All handouts are attached to these meeting minutes. Copies are available from the Board.

Next Board meeting: September 9, 2022 at 11:00AM.

Adjourn: 12:25PM

*Respectfully submitted by Don Joffe, Recording Secretary*

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Reminder to All Members**

If you are a member of the Fellowship and have not yet signed the Membership Book, you can find the book in one of two places:

1. At the back on the Fellowship Hall after the service on Sunday.
2. In the Administrator's office any day.

Any communication with the membership committee should go to [Rod\\_me@bellsouth.net](mailto:Rod_me@bellsouth.net)

*Submitted by Rodney Hoffman, Chair*



## New Members

If you've joined the Fellowship in the (unusual) 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](mailto:jane09@gmail.com)

## SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

### Little Free Pantry:

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

\$460! WOW! We are paying \$460 more for food than last year at this time. Again, WOW. Or, maybe, OUCH! I know there's been an increase in food costs. Many a weekend we will have an additional three young people in their early twenties at our house. They are very good eaters. So, if I am feeling it, just think what it's like for the many seniors living near our Fellowship that are on fixed incomes. Where do you cut back? What do you eliminate? That's why the Pantry is here. People who used to donate are now using the Pantry to get by. YOU make the difference! We are a community service that is depended on. This wouldn't happen without your generous donations. THANK YOU!



### PANTRY ALWAYS NEEDS

- Canned meat (tuna, chicken)
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Cereal
- Pastas
- Tomato sauce
- Hearty soups
- Healthy snacks
- Rice
- Canned fruit
- Canned Vegetables (except beans)
- Soap
- Diapers- all ages!
- Toothpaste
- Cleaning supplies

*Submitted by Irene Wegner, Pantry Chair*

Thanks also for the anonymous cart donation. Sure makes filling the Pantry much easier!

And, as always, thanks to the crew that splits up the tasks and fills in when needed: Sarah, Don Joffe, Sheena Patrick and Burt Sonenstein. THANK YOU HABITERS

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## MUSIC COMMITTEE

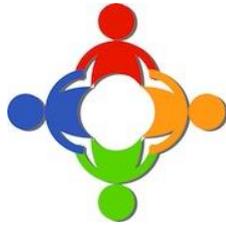


### Reminder to Congregation

As music coordinator, I would like to remind those present for the Sunday pre-program music (from 10:45 to 11a.m) that during the music, if they need to discuss something with someone in the audience, to please go to the lobby or wait until coffee hour. The musicians work hard and in return it is good manners to be respectful when they are performing.

*Submitted by Gwen Snyder, Coodiinator*

**GROUP ACTIVITIES**



**SUNDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP**

During the first three Sundays of October the Sunday Morning Book group will meet from 9:45 until 10:45 and discuss the remaining six chapters (two each week beginning with chapters 7&8) of Siddhartha by Herman Hesse. The book to be discussed the last two Sundays is yet to be determined. Anyone who would like to be part of this group contact Jane Finger ([jane09@gmail.com](mailto:jane09@gmail.com)) or just show up in the adult class room by 9:45.

*Submitted by Jane Finger, Moderator*

**MEN’S DISCUSSION GROUP**

Convening weekly at the local Kind Cafe –(on Section street across from the police station behind Section Street Pizza), this newly formed open discussion group meets from 9:00 – 10:00. Subjects of discussion are determined in real time by those present.

*Submitted by Rodney Hoffman.*

**NON-FICTION BOOK GROUP**

From its start individualism and consensus dominated the practice of our non-fiction group. Unlike most such 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. It be a book or, equally well, an article or pamphlet. Participants summarize their reading in ten minutes or so, before general discussion and questions. History, biography, science, and current politics are favorite topics. Only fiction is unacceptable. The group meets at 9:30 every other Thursday morning in the FUF lobby, unless public holidays clash. With presentations done, some members head for lunch and more talk at a local cafe.

*Submitted by Robin Fabel, Moderator*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Regularly Scheduled Events at FUF**

**Sundays**

- 9:45--10:45—Book Discussion Group
- 10:30--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  
(At 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 Beer Group (at Fish River Grill)

**Other Events**

➔ **Thu, Oct 6:** Non-Fiction Bk Group, 9:30 am

**Tue, Oct 25:** Nov Newsltr deadline, 5 pm  
(Unless otherwise noted, always the Tues. before the last Sunday of the month)

**Thu, Oct 20:** Non-Fiction Bk Group, 9:30 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](mailto:Janef09@gmail.com)  
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