



Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

July 2022

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

SUNDAY PROGRAM SPEAKERS

July 3 “The 4th of July & the 5th Unitarian Principle”

This week we celebrate the Fourth of July--Independence Day, a holiday that, at its best, inspires us to pursue the ideals of the Fifth Unitarian Principle: The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. Fellowship will begin as usual, with music by member Pinky Bass, the lighting of the chalice, readings and announcements. However, instead of a speaker, we will conclude our service early and invite members, friends, and visitors to join us in an indoor potluck picnic. If it brings you joy and you are able, please bring a cold or room temperature dish to share. (We will not be heating or keeping dishes warm.)

July 10 ANNE KEENE MILLER: “Boosting Community Resilience with Energy Efficiency”

Many understand that energy efficiency plays a vital role in addressing climate change, but did you know it can strengthen communities in other ways? Learn the benefits of energy efficiency beyond greenhouse gas reductions and energy savings. Find out how to support efficiency efforts at the local and state level. Miller is a building consultant committed to sustainable development. Her company, Keen Living, improves the efficiency, comfort, health, and durability of residential and multi-family properties.

July 17 PINKY BASS: “Bodies of Work”

Award winning and highly acclaimed photographer and mixed media artist, Pinky Bass will discuss the new show going up at the Eastern Shore Art Center: Works by artists Pinky Bass, Carolyn DeMeritt and Sonja Langford. Bass describes, “We offer visual interpretations of individual experiences, and we are connected as women because of them. We, women, know our stories. It is through this exhibition that we hope to offer a glimmer of the universal collective unconscious that the viewer can feel as they consider the archetypes of the Maiden, the Mother, and the Crone, ever present in our world.” Pinky has been a long-time and very active member of this Fellowship, where she chaired the Art Committee for many years.

July 24 TONY LUKER: “Facility/Therapy Dogs, Transforming Our Lives”

Luker joins us to discuss how we interact with children in clinical and courtroom settings and the benefits of using a facility dog, especially with children who have to testify. His facility dog Mandy will assist him by doing a demonstration to help answer the question, “do facility/therapy dogs really have an impact on our lives?” Tony Luker is the program manager of a Facility/Therapy Dog program for Wiregrass Angel House, a nonprofit based in Dothan, Alabama. Luker is certified in Animal Assisted Therapy.

July 31 SOPHIA MERCER: “Fish, Reefs, and More Fish”

Sophia Mercer has lived in the Fairhope and Daphne area for most of her life and attended the Fellowship for many years. This fall she will be going into her junior year at Berea College in Berea, Kentucky. Majoring in biology with a minor in sustainability and environmental studies, she hopes to obtain a labor position at her college working at the Farm Store. Mercer, having just returned from an intensive period of travel and study, will join us to discuss the importance of fish on the coral reefs and the impact of climate change on reef ecosystems.

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

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

CHILDREN’S FELLOWSHIP **10:30 am**

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](https://www.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

FUF 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, May, 2022

	May	YTD
Support and Revenue		
Contributions	4,045	14,884
Other Revenue	109	1,056
Total Support and Revenue	4,154	15,940
Expenses		
Building	1,844	11,705
Committees	3,722	6,364
Donations	0	1,000
Total Expenses	5,566	19,069
Net Operating Increase/(Decrease)	(1,412)	(3,129)

FUF Board Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2022



Attendees: **Board Members:** Harvey Joanning, Carl Couret, Sarah Fischer, Maggie Joffe, Thelma Topper, Michael Patrick, Dana Roberts; **Guests:** Burt Sonenstein, Carla Couret, Irene Wegner; **Recording Secretary:** Don Joffe (Don Joffe will fill in as the Recording Secretary)

Meeting Minutes: (Carl's draft April 15, 2022)

Meeting minutes were amended with two (2) revisions.

1. Item B under Old Business, replace Facebook with Website.
2. Add under New Business, Item D the following statement:

Building Use

The Board fully authorizes Carla Couret to represent the Board in establishing building use contracts.

Treasurer's Report:

1. Treasurer's Report was handed out to Board members.
2. All bills have been paid to date.
3. Total support and revenue are below projected budget.
4. PayPal is averaging about \$300 per month.
5. Carl will announce to the Fellowship the current financial status.
6. Maggie will evaluate the availability and use of funds in several accounts.
7. Sarah will present to FUF several options on how members can make contributions.

Old Business:

Membership:

1. Board members reviewed Carl 's Summary of Listing Guidelines.
2. Following discussion, a motion was made by Michael and seconded to refer back to the Membership Committee (Rodney Hoffman, Chairman)with a request to study the guidelines and recommend any actions required.
3. Harvey will monitor the Membership Committee's progress.
4. A distinction between UUA list and FUF administrative list was discussed.
5. Day to day list will be administered by Carla.

Building Usage:

1. Building Usage policy guidelines were reviewed and discussed to determine if changes to the guidelines were required.
2. Carl distributed a two (2) page summary of the Building Usage guidelines.
3. Following discussion and questions regarding tax exemptions under the 501(c)3 Tax Guide for Churches and Religious Organizations and the current listed three (3) use categories, a motion was made and seconded to refer back to the Building Usage Committee for further study and recommendations regarding the policy. Motion passed by vote.

Committee Organization:

1. Sarah distributed a diagram of the current committee structure and a proposed FUF committee flow.
2. Several Board members are responsible for reporting on specific committees. These are spelled out in the FUF Guidelines.
3. Board members will review proposed committee flow and send comments to Sarah.
4. A summary of comments will be sent to Harvey.
5. The Board agreed to table further discussion to the next Board meeting once all comments have been received and distributed.

New Business:

1. Painting walls and ceilings: Phil will obtain bids from painting contractors. This could be delayed due to contractor availability.
2. Handicapped parking: Harvey distributed a handout of cost (approximately \$3,000) to pave two parking spaces. The availability of concrete contractors is questionable. Harvey will continue to obtain more information, including asphalt paving. There are permitting issues to resolve. FUF is not ADA compliant.
3. Office Security: Motion made by Michael, seconded and passed to change the key to the office. Only Board members, Carla and Phil will be given new keys. Carla will have the office rekeyed.

Schedule for Board Meetings:

June 10, 11:00AM	August 12, 11:00AM
July 8, 11:00AM	September 9, 11:00AM

Adjourned: 12:35PM

Respectfully submitted by Don Joffe



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 Newsletter editor, janef09@gmail.com

Reminder from Co-chair, Rodney Hoffman

Any communication with the membership committee should go to Rod_me@bellsouth.net

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Little Free Pantry:

Habit. We've been asking you to make the Pantry a habit. This is one of the **DEPENDABLE WAYS** we can insure the Pantry will continue. So, put that can or box near the door or in the car and bring it with you on Sunday. Not coming Sunday but you'll be at FUF some other time of the week? Simple. Bring it with you then and put it in the bin in the lobby. Or, bring something both times!

Some folks have been most generous with cash donations. We take those, too! This enables us to fill in the needed food supplies. The pantry is filled every Wednesday and Sunday. With your support, we can continue this schedule. Adding another day would be helpful, but right now it is a future dream.

THANK YOU!

Submitted by Irene Wegner

PANTRY ALWAYS NEEDS

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



Thank you, Lynne and Harvey Switzky,

for the many years of volunteer work at the Fellowship on the Board and as head of the Social Action Committee. Lynne has been such a steady hand and hard worker, with all the duties associated with funding and administration of the FUF Nursing Scholarship and other philanthropic work, the UUA fundraisers, holiday gift-giving programs, and food collection program. Recently, because of Covid, they could not participate in person, but they have been on almost every Zoom service offered. The world is a more beautiful place because of their dedication and passion for Social Justice. They really care about everyone; they are Love in Action. It would be hard to list all the activities that she and Harvey have participated in. After their upcoming move to Texas they will be greatly missed. Best wishes, Lynne and Harvey, in your new home.

Submitted by Riva Fralick, Social and Environmental Action Committee Cochair



FUF Table at Color Fairhope With Pride Event



Allyson Russell, Riva Fralick, Jeff Bogdanovich, and Sarah Bogdanovich staffed a FUF tent on Saturday, June 18th at Color Fairhope with Pride. They gave away temporary UU chalice tattoos, rainbow seed packets, activity books for kids, lots of info about the Fellowship, and had a wheel that folks could spin to get a trivia question about famous UUs or our seven principles, and win a prize! More than 100 people visited the tent over the four-hour event, resulting in a long sign-up list to receive more information about the Fellowship. Thanks to all who participated and donated to the effort!

According to overall festival organizer, (and FUF board member), Sarah Rutledge Fischer, the FUF booth “was one of the most well thought out and engaging at the festival. Amazing job, Sarah B. & crew. Thank you so much for being there!”

With a bigger vision than last year’s, the second annual Color Fairhope with Pride festival occupied the entire South Beach Park. The expanded event included live music from Meredith Hicks and Emily Stuckey, a Pride Flag Fashion Showcase and a much larger array of participating businesses and organizations.”It’s a development whose time has come,” said Fischer, Site Director of the Fairhope Chapter of Prism United, a nonprofit that serves the comprehensive needs of LGBTQ youth in South Alabama. “While the mood of the event is intended to be upbeat and joyous, there’s a serious purpose. From a Prism perspective, Fairhope has always been a place that has been accepting of all people, no matter what the dominant political and social forces around and outside of Fairhope have said was the status quo.

For more on Prism United, visit www.facebook.com/PrismFairhope.

MUSIC COMMITTEE



Request for Summer Music Performers

As music coordinator I would like to thank all who participate in presenting Sunday morning music. As we roll into summer, many of us go on vacation, so there may be some Sundays with no preprogram music. For talkative UUs that should not be an issue. I am on the lookout for those who would like to perform this summer. Either new or seasoned musicians are urged to call me at 251-928-4311 to set a date for you to play.

Submitted by Gwen Snyder, Music Committee Chair

UPCOMING CLASS

THE POWER OF *Writing*

Memoir Writing Group:

**Tuesdays 10-11:30, July 5, 12, 19, 26
(2022)**

Please call Donna Orchard if you are interested in the workshop so she'll know the number to prepare for: 251-947-8411

The group will use *On Writing Well* by William Zisser. All you will need is spiral notebook and a pen or your computer if you prefer. .

Other book references:

Tell it Slant: Brenda Miller and Suzanne Paola

The Situation and the Story: Vivian Gornick

Living to Tell the Tale: Jane Taylor McDonnell

Bird by Bird: Anne Lamott

Writing Down the Bones: Natalie Goldberg

The Art of Memoir: Mary Karr

Becoming a Writer: Dorothea Brande

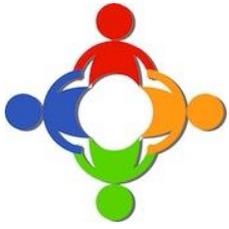
The Glass Castle: Jeannette Walls (My all-time favorite memoir.)

Writing A Woman's life: Carolyn G. Hellbrun

“We will occasionally ‘get into the weeds’ and talk about the reliable narrator or how wonderful it feels to find the perfect verb. But mostly, it will be good ole- fashion storytelling, writing and sharing. Sharing is voluntary. I will write along with you to become a better writer. You are welcome no matter what your experience. We are all in this together.”

Submitted by Donna Orchard

GROUP ACTIVITIES



“BEER” DISCUSSION GROUP

Convening weekly at a local restaurant (currently Fish River Grill) where beer is sold--as well as food and other beverages--this free-wheeling discussion group welcomes all comers. (One doesn't have to know anything about beer or even like beer to be an active participant in this group). Some choose to complement the discussion by ordering dinner.

Submitted by Michael Patrick

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 July 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

“SUNDAY MORNING BOOK DISCUSSION

The four members in attendance at the last two Sunday meetings decided **not to meet again until September 4**, when the group will begin its discussion of Siddhartha by Herman Hesse. Anyone who would like to be part of the group contact Jane Finger (janef09@gmail.com)—or just show up on Sunday morning.

Submitted by Jane Finger, Moderator

2022 Officers & Executive Board

President: Carl Couret
Vice President: Thelma Topper
Chairman of the Board: Harvey Joanning
2nd Vice Pres/Programs: Sarah Fischer
Treasurer: Maggie Joffe
Recording Secretary: Don Joffe
Corresponding Secretary: Dana Roberts

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Regularly Scheduled Events at FUF

Sundays

10:30—Children’s Fellowship

10:45 -- Pre-program Music

11:00 -- Sunday Service

Mondays

2:00 - 4:00 Uke Club

Tuesdays

10:00—11:30 Memoir Writing Group

Wednesdays

3:00 – 4:30 Back Porch Folk Singers Practice

4:45 -- Eastern Shore String Rehearsal

5:00 – Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Thursdays

5:00 – 7:00 Beer Group (at Fish River Grill)

Other Events

Thu, Jul 2: Non-Fiction Bk Group, 9:30 am

Thu, Jul 14: Non-Fiction Bk Group, 9:30 am

Sun, Jul 17: Envir’l/Soc’l Act’n Com, 12:20

Tue, Jul 26 : Aug Newsltr deadline, 5 pm

(Unless otherwise noted, always 5 days before the last Sunday of the month)

Thu, Jul 28 Non-Fiction Bk 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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