



Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

November 2022

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

SUNDAY PROGRAM SPEAKERS

NOV 6 HARVEY JOANNING, MIKE TURNEY, CARL COURET, AND DANA ROBERTS: “Stephen Foster: The Father of American Music”

We have all sung his songs beginning in grade school. We know many of the lyrics by heart. But do we know the man? Did he really believe the prejudices expressed in some of his songs? Our program will attempt to put his works in historic perspective. We will even have you sing along. Harvey Joanning is a university professor and avid Stephen Foster fan. Mike Turner is a music composer and accomplished musician. Carl Couret is an avid ukulele player. Dana Roberts is a professional stage director and singer.

NOV 13 BRINKLEY HUTCHINGS & TOM HUTCHINGS: “To Love and Respect All Living Things”

Since Brinkley was old enough to walk, Tom and Brinkley (father and daughter) have been working together to care for the natural world. They share their story of how their connection to the natural world motivates them to make positive change in our community. Tom and Brinkley Hutchings are a father daughter team working to protect the natural world. Tom is a marine biologist and owner of EcoSolutions, and Brinkley founded Nature Connect Outdoor School. They believe that helping people connect with nature is essential for the wellbeing of the planet and all of its inhabitants.

NOV 20 IRENE WEGNER & THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY TEAM: “Hunger and Help in Baldwin County”

The Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship’s Little Free Pantry was born during the early days of the Pandemic, in response to the heightened needs of two populations: families whose children had previously relied on school-provided breakfast and lunch and seniors whose costs of living had outstripped their fixed incomes. Two and half years later, we are more aware than ever of the incredible amount of hunger that surrounds us in Baldwin County. We will look at the causes of this problem and what we have learned about the population we serve through this effort. The Fellowship’s Little Free Pantry is making a small dent in the food insecurity of vulnerable populations in our area. This is thanks to the many Members who continue to make it a habit to contribute both items and funds. Items that are especially useful are: hearty canned soups, canned tuna and chicken, canned tomato sauce, dry beans, dry rice, dry milk, peanut butter, bread, boxed jello, cereals, ect. Let’s keep working to keep hunger at bay.

NOV 27 LARA HERSCOVITCH: “Shine: Remembering Our Superpowers”

This world needs us -- and we need each other -- to show up and share our superpowers. As we launch into the heart of the holiday season, let's take a moment to reflect and reconnect to our core, while also remembering small joys in and around us. Be who you are, Do what you love, Share your superpowers. Shine. Lara Herscovitch is a singer-songwriter-poet-performer and policy social worker with decades of humanitarian experience. She is a former State Troubadour of CT, described in The Boston Globe as “a luminous voice and a buoyant stage presence... big-hearted lyrics embrace the sum of life...” Acoustic Live in NYC adds, “She possesses not only a huge reservoir of musical talent and a voice with a bell-like clarity, but a keen sense of global concern and a fierce intellect... It might seem too good to be true, but true it is.” www.LaraHerscovitch.com

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

(“In person”and on Zoom--check FairhopeUU/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

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

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

	September	YTD
Support and Revenue		
Contributions	3,217	25,909
Other Revenue	118	1,297
Total Support and Revenue	3,335	27,206
Expenses		
Building	2,208	18,323
Committees	3,110	13,453
Donations	450	1,900
Total Expenses	5,768	33,676
Net Operating Increase/(Decrease)	(2,433)	(6,470)

Treasurer Position Opening for 2024

The Fellowship Board has asked that I send out an email announcing an opening for Treasurer in 2024. We will need to select a trainee for 2023 so that they 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 September 9, 11:00AM – 11:50PM

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 8th 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

Special Note

Long-time FUF members and recently relocated **Helen and Charlie Earl** have supplied their new phone number, 937-552-7320, and would like us to know that they miss all their friends here and would like to hear from everyone.

UPCOMING EVENT

FUF 2nd Annual Campout REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Register Today!

Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship
presents our 2nd Annual

CAMPOUT 2022

Blakeley State Park
November 11-13, 2022

For more information and to register, go to
www.FairhopeUU.org/campout

*Camping is better with friends!
FUF membership not required to
attend.*



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Yard Sale

The Fellowship will hold a Yard Sale on Friday and Saturday, December 2-3. Helpers are needed for pricing, displaying, and selling items. Collection of items to sell will begin the second week of November. There will be bins labeled "Yard Sale" in the lobby for small items and the TED Talk room will be used for larger items when the storage shed isn't accessible. If you can help, or need help getting your item to the Fellowship, please let Carla Couret know at the email address below.

Auction

On December 20 the Fellowship will host a unique auction that will feature the talents of FUF members as auction items. For example: Mr. H is an excellent handyman and chooses this talent as his auction item. Participating members will (hopefully) bid on Mr. H's assistance as a handyman at their home or office. We need volunteers! If you are interested in offering a talent up for auction, whether it is: music, quilting, clothing mending services, Spanish lessons, yard weeding, housekeeping, watercolor lessons, babysitting, a pleasant morning wake up call, or even 30 minutes of encouraging verbiage, let Carla Couret know: fairhopeunitarianfellowship@gmail.com

As we approach the holidays, these events may be just the opportunity to find the unique gift that you are looking for to give to a special someone while helping the Fellowship at the same time. We are looking forward to orchestrating these fundraising activities and will be grateful for your support.

It's going to be a blast!

Submitted by Carla Couret

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Reproductive Freedom Rally

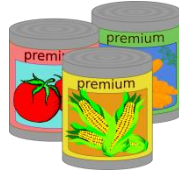
On October 8 at 6:30 p.m. Femmsouth.com hosted a Reproductive Freedom Rally/Vigil in front of the Fairhope Civic Center. The local NBC news affiliate, Channel 15, reported on the event. In attendance were six members of the FUF, standing in solidarity with about 25 others in support of women's reproductive health care rights. Candles were lit, speeches were made, songs were sung and signs such as "Vote for Reproductive Freedom" were held. The group waved to vehicles driving by as those in support honked their horns. FemmSouth members handed out pamphlets with data and source websites such as The Women's Fund of Greater Birmingham, WFAlabama.org. Additional websites for further information are: Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, RCRC.org; Spiritual Alliance of Communities for Reproductive Dignity, SACReDdignity.org; ANSIRH.org/Research "The Turnaway Study: Ten years, a Thousand Women, and the Consequences of Having- Or Being Denied-an Abortion," by Diana Greene Foster, PhD, American Journal of Health; www.amnesty.org; SIECUS.org; Stevenson, A. J., "Demography," December 2021; "The Pregnancy-Related Mortality Impact of a Total Abortion Ban in the United States" webmd.com/baby/news/20211124/abortion-remains-medically-safe-for-us-women; "Report: 2020 Status of Women in Alabama," WFAlabama.org; YellowhammerFund.org; goodgoodgood.co/articles/abortion-rights-resources; All-Options.org, 1-888-493-0092; AbortionFinder.org; Parents.com; ARC-Southeast.org, 855-227-2475; PewResearch.org; CDC.gov

Thank you to everyone who attended.

Little Free Pantry:

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

If you love soup like we do, maybe you’ve noticed that the good, chunky name brand soups have gone from \$1.69 to, in some cases (Publix), \$2.79. Whaaaaat??? I checked the prices of most of the items we like to keep in the Pantry, and this one seems to be the most egregious. Chunky soup usually has carbs, veggies, meat and gravy in it. It’s filling. It goes a long way to making a meal on a fixed income. Maybe that’s why I am most offended by that price increase. However, I have found that Walmart has it for \$2.24 and Dollar General, \$2.25, although the choices at the latter are slim. My point? YOU continue to be generous and giving. I don’t like seeing you being taken for an outrageous price any more than I like seeing folks regularly depending on our Pantry.



This month we need the soup, tuna, pasta, personal items, cereal and jam.

THANKS for your GIVING!

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

Pantry workers will be speaking about hunger in Baldwin County and the Pantry at our November 20th. Sunday Program. We will be sharing some interesting as well as amusing tales of the Pantry. Please consider doubling your donation on that day.

ART COMMITTEE



Oil painting artist Steve Ricker, Loxley, AL is our next artist. Steve has art in his blood and has been drawing and painting for as long as he can remember. He started painting on a regular basis upon retirement. He even works part time at Lowes in case he doesn't have enough to do. He paints in an abstract way, with a palette knife, but nature scenes are his inspiration and does plein aire painting and sketching when he can. We will hang the show November 2 and have it up through November 30.

The twenty or so paintings will be hung on Wednesday, November 2 at 1:30, and will hanging through November 30.

Mr. Ricker has them wired, info on their backs and with really nice ID placards. So, with help, I can have them hung and tagged fairly quickly. Please let me know if you can help.

Submitted by Mark Oehler, Chair

GROUP ACTIVITIES



**“THE BEER GROUP”
RENAMED**

As the number of non-imbibers now out-numbers the beer drinkers attending this group that meets every Thursday at a local restaurant (currently Fish River Grill), the regular attendees have decided “**The Thursday Group**” now more aptly describes their group,” which welcomes all comers who enjoy free-wheeling discussion and the option of complementing it by ordering dinner.

Submitted by Michael Patrick

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.

SUNDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP

Having completed “Siddhartha” in October, the Sunday Morning Book group will NOT meet again until the first Sunday after New Year’s Day (January 8). More details will be published in the January Newsletter

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

- 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 Thursday Group (at Fish River Grill)

Other Events

Thu, Nov 3: Non-Fiction Bk Group, 9:30 am

Sun, Nov 6: Begin Garage Sale Items Collection

➔ **Fri, Nov 18 :** Dec. Newsltr deadline, 5 pm

Thu, Nov 17: 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

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: JANE FINGER