



May 2016

Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship

www.Fairhopeuu.org

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

May 1 **KEN SIZEMORE: Labor Songs, Work Songs, Union Songs--the Music of Work in Early 20th-Century USA**

Songs that workers of that era sang to gather courage, to raise morale, to protest unfair conditions and pay, and to help themselves get through the long, hard days and nights of labor will be performed by Ken Sizemore. His presentation will make it painfully clear that many of the issues of those times still exist today. As a folk singer and guitarist, Ken, "The Old Folkie," has been performing the "classic" folk music of the 50's, 60's and 70's all over the country for more than 50 years in concerts, coffee houses, outdoor festivals, and listening rooms, as well as church groups, civic organizations, and clubs.

Introduction by: Ruth Geraci

May 8 **FUUF YOUTH: Where Are We Local, Where Is Home?**

All of us are multi-: multi-local, multi-layered. Beginning our conversations with an acknowledgement of this complexity brings us closer together. Fairhope UU Teen Fellowship's presentation and photography project will focus on people's faces and the stories they tell, finding how much one can see in a simple portrait of the face and draw people in to find their own stories in these images. "Unitarian Universalism offers a clear alternative - supporting the worth and dignity of every individual, respecting the rights of conscience, promoting the practice of authentic democracy, and recognizing our interdependence with all that exists. We do not have a required formula of belief. Instead, we embody a reverent, respectful religious pluralism..."

Introduction by: Brisa Ables & Lucy Mercer

May 15 **DR. M. LAL GOEL: Oneness in Hinduism**

Did you know that Hinduism is the world's oldest living tradition and the third largest religion in the world after Christianity and Islam? Most in the western world don't. Dr. M. Lal Goel will explain more about Hinduism that you might not know. For example, that it rejects the approach that divides humanity into believers and non-believers. Professor Emeritus of International Studies at the University of West Florida, where he teaches Political Science and International Studies, Dr. Goel is the author of five books in his field and lectures publicly on Hinduism and India, as well as radical Islam and its threat to civilization.

Introduction: Don Sawyer

May 22 **GINA B. WOMACK & MELISSA SAWYER: The Youth Empowerment Project: "What will it take to end the school to prison pipeline"**

Gina Womack and Melissa Sawyer will describe this first-of-its-kind re-entry program for juvenile offenders in Louisiana that is now the region's most comprehensive and established agency working with at-risk, court-involved and out-of-school youth. Youth Empowerment Project founder Melissa Sawyer spent three years working with the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana (JJPL), helping to reform the state's juvenile justice system. Gina Womack, a children's advocate for 18 years whose efforts devoted to Juvenile Justice issues have been featured in both national and local print media, radio, and reports, co-founded and now serves as Director of Families and Friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children (FFLIC).

Introduction by: Don Sawyer

May 29 **NASHID RUSHDAN: Jihad Misunderstood**

Many Americans' perception of the Islamic concept of jihad is incorrect. Nashid Rushdan will explain what jihad really means, as well as other Islamic words that have become associated with jihad. A native of Mobile, Mr. Rushdan (aka-L.B.Lewis, Jr) retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 2011 and is a Vietnam Era Veteran and Veteran of Foreign War. He became a reverted member to the Nation of Islam—a socio-religious group—in 1972 and has been a revert to the religion of Al-Islam from 1975 to present until life transition from this world to the hereafter.

Introduction by: Don Sawyer

SUNDAY SERVICE 11 AM.

MUSIC PRELUDE BEGINS 10:45 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.

TED discussion group 9:45 a.m. Current Events discussion group 10:15 am.

Children's Fellowship 11 – noon (Sept to May)

May 29: Last Sunday of the Month Potluck: Bring a dish and join us for fellowship and conversation.

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

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MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP BUSINESS

Summary – April 8 Board Meeting

- The Board will purchase a new projector for \$750.
- Don Sawyer made posters available for the Celtic Trio concert.
- There will not be a Gay Pride Parade in Mobile this spring. The Welcoming Committee had planned to participate.
- Building Committee report: a roof leak has been repaired.
- Diana Gardner discussed the General Assembly of UUA which is in Ohio this year, June 22-26. So far we have no delegates going, but next year's is in New Orleans, and some Board members may want to attend. The budget committee could consider that item when drawing up next year's budget.
- The Yard Sale earned \$600.

Submitted by Lynne Switzky, Recording Secretary

May Board Meeting Agenda

Friday, May 13, 2016, 10 a.m.

1. Approve April 2016 Board meeting minutes
2. Treasurer's Report
3. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Unity Auction
 - B. New Projector
 - C. UUA Beta Program
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Program Committee Report
 - B. Membership Committee Report
 - C. Publicity and Events Committee Report

To add agenda items, please promptly notify Rodney Hoffman or Diana Gardiner. Board meetings are open to all friends and members.

Submitted by Diana Gardiner, Chair



Financial Summary

March, 2016

	March	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Support and Revenue				
Contributions	3,008	10,581	11,250	669
Other Revenue	176	835	2,250	1,415
Total Support and Revenue	3,184	11,416	13,500	(2,084)
Expenses				
Building	2,129	8,721	9,063	342
Committees	875	2,998	3,613	615
Donations	450	450	825	375
Total Expenses	3,454	12,168	13,500	1,332
Net Operating Increase/(Decrease)	(270)	(752)	0	(752)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Yard Sale May 7, 7 – 11

One more yard sale at the FUF shed before summer is planned for May 7 (weather permitting) , 7:00 – 11:00, so those of you who have indicated you have stuff to bring, now is the time. You may bring stuff on Sunday morning or contact Pam Perkins at [251-243-0028](tel:251-243-0028) or perkinsp947@gmail.com to arrange to meet you at the Fellowship at a mutually convenient time. If you haven't finished your spring cleaning, now is the time to collect those items that would be good to contribute to the sale. Please remember to price your items in advance.

We don't schedule the date for our sale too far ahead, since most of it is held outdoors. Instead, we wait until the Thursday before, check the weather report, make sure we have enough volunteers to help out, then put the ad on Craigslist and hope for the best.

We have a good core group of volunteers, but can always use more; that way, we can work in shifts and no one needs to stay the whole four hours. Please consider helping out. It's fun, and you meet some really interesting people. (And come away amazed at the stuff that people will buy! Last time, a woman bought every last piece of costume jewelry that we had, so we could really use some more.)

Submitted by Pam Perkins



The April 2nd Yard Sale brought in \$600.
Thanks, Pam, helpers and those who contributed items.
Let's plan for a another great sale!

Art Exhibition Opening May 7, 3 – 5 pm

On May 7, 3-5pm the Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship is pleased to host the opening reception for our new exhibition. The show is entitled: **Metal, Glass and Paper: Recent works by Susie Garrett and Robert Perrella.** Music will be provided by Heather Nutting and refreshments by Joyce Burkhart. The public is invited to attend.

Susie, daughter of our member Helen Garrett, does colored pencil drawings combined with reclaimed materials and functional items. Her husband Robert will exhibit his stained glass panels and lamps made in the Arts and Crafts style.



Susie writes that her inspiration comes from her environment: “everyday scenes focusing on architectural imagery, early morning or late in the day. Reclaimed materials, specifically rusted metals, architectural hardware, vintage hand tools and aged wood also serve as inspiration.” She has received numerous awards from the Colored Pencil Society of America and was recently included in an exhibition at the Huntsville Museum of Art.

Robert writes, “The glass and line development are what direct me when designing a new piece for myself or a client.” He uses predominately art glass, glass that is both subtle and dramatic, using the lead to create lines that determine the negative spaces.

Both artists maintain studios at the historic Lowe Mill in Huntsville, AL. Robert creates custom stain glass panels for commercial and residential applications. Susie is an Instructor at Calhoun Community College and contracts as an exhibit assistant for the Huntsville Museum of Art.

Submitted by Pinky Bass

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE NEWS

Lighthouse Supplies Needed

Our April and May collections will be for The Lighthouse in Robertsdale. The Lighthouse is committed to providing support, preventing violence and promoting justice for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Their shelter has an immediate need for toilet paper and paper towels, deodorant, toothpaste, two-in-one shampoo and



conditioner, women's socks, women's underwear of all sizes, laundry detergent, and Lysol aerosol spray. They can also use old cell phones. They have an ongoing need for dishwasher detergent, all purpose cleaners, 53-gallon trash bags, bleach, lotion, adult snacks and drinks, tea/coffee/cream/sugar, gallon/snack-size freezer ziplock bags, gas cards, phone cards, new bed pillows, latex gloves, facial tissue, antibacterial soap and gel, women's gowns/pajamas, and house shoes.



Books Welcome at Fairhope Jail

We have learned that the Fairhope Jail would welcome donations of soft cover books (no magazines). If you have books to donate, just place them beside the rattan donation trunk below the bulletin board.

Submitted by Lynne Switzky, Committee Member



Here's an Idea



Chalice Lighters Have Raised Over \$1,000,000—\$20 at a Time!

Light the Flame - More than 25 years ago, Alan Elgy had an idea. He believed Unitarian Universalists might be willing to contribute a few times a year to help fund congregations' growth projects. Elgy's idea was first implemented in 1984 by the Prairie Star District (MidAmerica Region), and later became known as the Chalice Lighters program.

Becoming a Chalice Lighter is an easy and inexpensive way to help our sister faith communities. Lighting the flame for projects beyond the walls of our individual congregations deepens our belief in the value of Unitarian Universalism. The Southern Region's first Chalice lighter grant was in the Southeast District, in 1988, with a small grant of not quite \$3,000. In the years since, Chalice Lighters in the Southern Region have raised more than \$1,000,000. Many small checks can be pooled to make a huge impact. All proceeds, less call expenses (printing/ mailing of call materials) are given directly to the congregation selected for the call.

How the Program Works - Chalice Lighters are members and friends of congregations in the Southern Region who pool their contributions into grants awarded to other congregations. Most contributions fall in the \$10-\$25 range. Those individual contributions combine to give a significant boost to a member congregation for a growth project. Chalice Lighters commit to give a pledge of \$10 or more—up to three times a year, usually

in the fall, winter, and spring. The "call" for your commitment comes from the district Chalice Lighters committee, composed of members selected by the District President and the committee leadership. Your call is a letter describing the proposed project plus an update on past grants. Projects to be funded by your pledges are selected by the District Chalice Lighter committee. The Committee evaluates all District congregational grant applications and selects one (occasionally two) to be presented in the call letter. Grant criteria are flexible, but the CL Committee encourages innovative projects that demonstrate how a congregation will grow and strengthen Unitarian Universalism. If you would like to volunteer to serve on the Chalice Lighter committee near you, or have any questions about the Chalice Lighter program, please email southernregion@uua.org. The Southern Region staff will connect you with the Chalice Lighter committee in your area. You may learn more about the Chalice Lighters program in your district at www.uuasouthernregion.org



Tell a Board Member

What You Think

FUF GROUP DETAILS



NON-FICTION BOOK GROUP

Just over ten 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

GENTLE YOGA UPDATE

Starting time is now 1:00 p.m. Class meets every Monday through May 16 and will resume meeting sometime in August. Anyone is welcome to join the class whether you have attended the prior sessions or not. There is no charge but all donations, go to FUF. Thank you, Julie Brent!

WEDNESDAY MORNING COFFEE PLUS

Every Wednesday morning, people gather at 10:00 and enjoy coffee and conversation until 11:30. Some bring craft projects and others just come for the pleasure of getting together. There's no need to sign up...just show up. Everyone is welcome!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Regularly Scheduled Events

Sundays:

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

10:15 Current Events Discussion Group

10:45 Pre-program Music

11:00 Children's Fellowship

11:00 Sunday Program

Third Sunday: Social Action Committee, 12:20

Last Sunday of every month: Pot Luck Lunch, noon.

Mondays:

1:00 – 2:15 Gentle Yoga (through May 16)

Tuesdays:

3:30 Choir Practice

Wednesdays

10-11:30 UU Coffee Plus

3:00- 4:30 Back Porch Folk Singers

5:00 Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Fridays

5:00 Potluck Picnic at the Beach

Other Events

Sat., Apr 30: Irish Music Concert 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Thu., May 5: Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 am

Sat., May 7: FUF Yard Sale 7:00 – 11:00 am

Art Exhibition Opening 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Fri., May 13: FUF Board meets, 10:00 am

Sat., May 14: Game night, 6:30 pm

Thu., May 19: Nonfiction Book Group, 9:30 am

Tues., May 24: June Newsletter deadline, 5:00 pm

Sat., May 28: Game Night, 6:30 pm

SUNDAY BULLETIN INFO DEADLINE

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

Submitted by 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 to editor at:

Janef09@gmail.com