

3115 Friendship Place

Rockledge, FL 32955

Telephone: [321] 242-1117

Return Service

Requested

POSTAGE

**THE FRIENDSHIP
FELLOWSHIP**

AT PINEDA

**A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION IN THE LIBERAL
TRADITION**



Website: www.uuspacecoast.org

THE FRIENDSHIP FLYER

Volume 24 Number 10




Our mission is to promote living with love and reason

October 2017

DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT	SERVICE LEADER	GREETER	TOUCH OF BEAUTY	HOSP HOST	AV/TECH
Oct 1	Dr. Robert Tucker	"Kindness"	Helen Bennett	David Peterson		Arthur Urrows	Marnie & Rob Sippel
Oct 8	Dean Martineau	"Baha'i Perspectives"			Betty Allison	Lorraine Hennig	Marnie & Rob Sippel
SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING							
Oct 15	Dr. Aubrey Jewett (UCF)	"The Evolving Florida Constitution"		Donna Klamm	Rosemary Stroda	Birthday Cake: Kathy Lees	
Oct 22	Rev Bob Macdonald			Kitty Linton	Kitty Lindon		
Oct 29	<u>ALL UU PICNIC</u>						

October 2017

Comings, goings, and doings for FF@P

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Girl Scouts Sundays-Oct 1,,8,15 22, 29 2:00—4:00 PM Coffee House 		Choir Practice: Every Tuesday 7:00 PM 		1	2	3
1 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— CLC Mtg: After the Service Friendship Hall	2 Fall Film Discussion Series: <i>Cautiva(Captive)</i> Victim of Argentine 1970s military coup. Friendship Hall, 1:00 PM	3	4	5	6	7
8 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— <i>Current Events</i> Congregational Mid- Year Annual Meeting: following Coffee Time, after Service	9	10	11	12	13	14
				Book Club Coffee House, 10:00 AM		
15 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— <i>Current Events</i>	16 Fall Film Discussion Series: <i>The Lives of Others</i> 2006 Academy Award foreign film Friendship Hall, 1:00 PM (Helen Bennett)	17 Daily Bread Volunteers meet Tuesday at Daily Bread 10:30 AM	18	19	20	21
				Sierra Club Friendship Hall, 6:30 PM		
22 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— <i>Current Events</i>	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Sun. Svc 10:30AM Sunday Morning Discussion Music on the Hill 4:00 PM	30 Fall Films Discussions Series: Labyrinth of Lies (2014) Holocaust & Eichmann trial Friendship Hall 1:00 PM . (Helen Bennett)	31	The Editor needs your November inputs by Sunday, 22 October (Sooner is Better)			
						

Sept. 3, 2017—"Welcome Aboard—or—Go Away!"—Robert P. Tucker, Ph.D.

William Beckford, who died in 1844, was an extremely wealthy British eccentric who owned a huge mansion named Fonthill Abbey, a gothic structure with a central tower and a high wall encircling it to discourage visitors.



One day, when the main gate was opened for a tradesman, a curious and determined young man was able to sneak in. He soon came upon a vegetable garden where a man digging potatoes asked him to identify himself, and he explained that he had heard so much about the great estate that he just wanted to see it for himself. The gardener showed him around the grounds and gave him a tour of the mansion, even inviting him to stay for dinner, at which it became obvious that the gardener was Beckford himself. After dinner and conversation, a servant showed the young man to the door, telling him that since he had found his way inside without assistance, he might likewise find his way out, taking care to avoid the bloodhounds that were loosed each night to guard the grounds. The young man ran to the nearest tree and climbed it just in time to escape the reach of the snarling dogs, and there he remained until morning, when the dogs were penned up and he was able to escape.

With that beginning, our guest speaker on the first Sunday of September, the Reverend Robert Tucker, minister emeritus of the UU Congregation of Lakeland, introduced his topic of how we should welcome guests who are visiting us for the first time. All of us know the importance of showing hospitality and good manners; it has been drilled into us since childhood, and the Bible reinforces that notion, as we can see in many of its stories. Guests and their animals were to be provided with water, food, and lodging; and the guest's protection was to be guaranteed, even at the expense of the safety of the host. In fact, the entire ministry of Jesus was dependent upon such welcoming behavior, and early Christians upheld hospitality as one of the most important acts of virtue.

Unfortunately, however, some of us sometimes fall short of being the gracious hosts we ought to be, a shortcoming that plagues all congregations of whatever denomination. UU minister Tom Owen-Towle, in his book, *Growing a Beloved Community*, addresses this issue. "Mature church life," he writes, "begins with hospitality." He goes on to say that "the mission of every Unitarian Universalist community is to offer an open door to all souls, then to lovingly attend to those who choose to join our household."

Others have lamented the growing lack of civility in American culture. Yale Law Professor Stephen L. Carter, in his book, *Civility: Manners, Morals, and the Etiquette of Democracy*, writes that "a big part of our incivility crisis stems from the sad fact that we do not know each other or even want to try." He cited

the work of several psychologists whose studies have shown that civility and niceness "ease our relationships with strangers."

Civility, said Tucker, doesn't just happen. We must work to achieve it. This involves more than politeness; we must, as our principles call upon us to do, promote the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, accept one another, and seek justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. In his book *Salted with Fire*, Tom Owen-Towle spells out at least ten other principles, four of which Tucker emphasized. The first is "Hospitality is practiced." We must recognize the uncertainty felt by the guest and behave as gracious hosts. Another is "Our religious life is intentionally diverse." As UUs, our task is to welcome all who come of whatever race or class, belief or orientation, to find spiritual nourishment in our midst. Another is "Joy fills the air!" Words of doom and gloom or of pettiness and self-centeredness have no place here. Finally, the last one Tucker emphasized is "Our community is evolving." When asked where Universalists "stand," L. B. Fisher wrote (in 1921), "We do not stand at all, we move... We are on the march." These words are still true today.

Some religions focus on "all saints"; others on "all souls," but we UUs focus on "all sorts"—Christians and Jews and Muslims, Buddhists and Hindus, Pagans and Wiccans, Agnostics, Humanists, and Atheists, believers and nonbelievers, even Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. We welcome one and all to our Unitarian Universalist community. ...rr

MONTHLY CHARITIES (updated)

Charities are selected by the Social Action/Social Justice Committee. Our charitable donations are intended to benefit the hungry, children in need, the mentally ill, the elderly in need, and abused women. The Committee has chosen a specific 501-C(3) entity from each group. Each month of the remaining Fiscal Year 2016 our Second Sunday Charity Donations will be sent to the following charitable organizations:



September	Serene Harbor
October	Aging Matters
November	Daily Bread (donated from our All UU Picnic)
December	The Childrens' Home Society (Xmas gift cards)
January 2017	TBD
February	Aging Matters

**Inputs to the *Friendship Flyer*
November edition
are due to the editor
by Sunday, October 22**

continued at the bottom of the next column



DREAMER

I am a DREAMER under DACA,
And I know it won't be much of a shocker
To learn that I'd like to stay right here—
For this is the homeland I hold so dear.

I come from Houston and I'm just fifteen,
And it's clear that I'm only in between
A child and a grownup, but what of that?
This is the place I hang my hat!

My house is buried under water,
And I'm cleaning up, for I'm the daughter
Of an immigrant who crossed the border,
But my mom's a permanent resident—sorta.

She had no papers, so she's illegal,
But she worships the American eagle,
Who crosses spaces with majesty,
And never questions legality.

And now I never cease to worry
That I'll be kicked out in a hurry,
But where would I go? Where would I study,
If I'm separated from my best buddy?

My life is so terribly insecure,
But of one thing I am certainly sure:
My home is where I live today,
My only home is the USA!

Helen Bennett
September 4, 2017

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

<i>Rosemarye Levine</i>	<i>Betty Allison</i>
<i>Loretta Winston</i>	<i>Chuck Hubbard</i>
<i>Dennis Tebbe</i>	<i>Alan Osborne</i>
<i>Elspeth Root</i>	<i>Annette Blanchard</i>
<i>Ashley Collins</i>	

**Inputs to the *Friendship Flyer*
November 2017 edition
are due to the editor
by Sunday, October 22**

Sept. 17, 2017—"Civility"—Bob Gabordi

On the Sunday after Hurricane Irma made its way up the entire length of Florida, guest speaker Bob Gabordi, executive editor of *Florida Today*, used some recent personal experiences with local newspaper readers to demonstrate the need for civility in public discourse. For a few days as Irma was on its way and then as it arrived, he noticed that the approach of the storm seemed to have sucked all the political hot air out of the atmosphere, at least temporarily. People of all stripes bonded over the shared danger, and nearly every conversation, all around the county, ended with "Be safe." Although the hurricane and its aftermath brought out the best in many of us, it also showed the pettiness exhibited by others.

Gabordi said that he saw his role in the hurricane coverage as being like the groom at the wedding, whose only responsibility is to be where he's supposed to be, do what he's supposed to do, and to not step out of line. The newspaper, operating on a generator, with reporters all around the county sending in reports, many sleeping at the office on cots, did its best to keep up with its publication schedule, but some issues were combined due to conditions affecting printing and delivery. One reporter with a *Florida Today* placard on her car was yelled at and given an offensive hand signal by another driver, while another reporter was called "an angel" by a reader who called the newspaper trying to get information about her father's house. The reporter who took the call wrote down the address, drove out to personally check on the house, and then called her back to report that all was well.

And then there was the man who called Gabordi at the newspaper office on Wednesday morning to ask, "What's wrong with you?" He was upset because he wanted to know when his garbage was going to be picked up. When Gabordi told him that garbage pickup dates were indeed in that day's paper, on an inside page, he wanted to know why that information wasn't on the front page, for it was obviously the most important news of the day.

In such cases, said Gabordi, remaining civil is hard work, but he did his best to be polite. He then referenced the article he had written for *Florida Today* a few weeks ago, asking what it would take for all of us to put aside the anger and hate over politics, religion, race, and other differences, and come together to discuss issues important to us all. That newspaper column had been inspired by the shooting in Washington, DC, at a baseball practice of Republican Congressmen, where Steve Scalise was critically injured. At that point, Democrats and Republicans came together to denounce the shooting, and Democrat Pete Aguilar of California organized a blood drive to help those who were wounded. The baseball game went on as scheduled, an example of sports bringing people together. Likewise, when Senator John McCain was diagnosed with a brain tumor, there was immediate sympathy from both sides of the political spectrum.

continued at the bottom of the next column

To demonstrate the need for civic discourse, Gabordi told of a young *Florida Today* reporter who had to be put under police protection after she was threatened with rape and with death to herself and her family after an article she wrote about Puerto Rico.

Gabordi is presently putting together a diverse group of people in Brevard County to discuss starting a public forum that would work much like one he organized in Tallahassee while he was editor there of *The Tallahassee Democrat*. That group, called Village Square, drew up a set of rules that they would operate under, such as addressing issues, not persons; not raising voices; not applying labels to people, and ringing a bell whenever things started to get out of order. The group would first agree on those issues most important to Brevard County and then create a way of talking about those issues that values ideas and leadership, not hatred and divisiveness.

Since *Florida Today* has the biggest megaphone in Brevard County, it is in the best position to lead this effort to help change the direction of public discourse. All of us who value civility can look forward to hearing more about this new group in the coming weeks and months. ...rr

**Inputs to the *Friendship Flyer*
November 2017
are due to the editor
by Sunday, October 22**



**THE CREATIVE ARTS FOUNDATION
OF BREVARD, Inc.**

Presents

**MUSIC ON THE HILL
(MOTH)**



Welcome to monthly music concerts, performed by the most talented young artists in Brevard County, including: violinists, cellists, pianists, flautists, horn players, percussionists and vocalists . . . ranging from opera to Broadway to country. A fun event for all.

When: The Last Sunday of Every Month at 4:00 PM. Shows are generally 60 to 90 minutes in length.

Where: The Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 3115 Friendship Place, Rockledge, FL, 32955 . . . just off US Hwy 1, 2/10 of a mile North of Suntree Boulevard.

Cost: Free, but Donation (say . . . \$5) is requested per person.

Tickets: Pay at the door.

Dress: Casual.

The Creative Arts Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting exceptional artists throughout Brevard County who have needs for assistance.

Information: 321-254-3398 Visit Web site: www.CAFOB.org

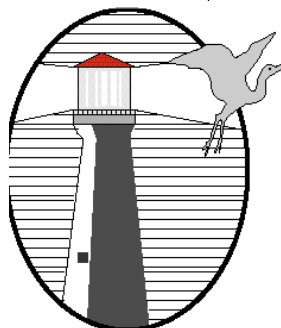


GUESTS

We extended our Friendship Welcome to these guests . . . and we encourage them to return again and again!

Gloria & Mike Parra Rockledge

THE FRIENDSHIP FLYER



is the monthly newsletter of
**THE FRIENDSHIP FELLOWSHIP
AT PINEDA**
A Unitarian Universalist
Congregation
District 62, Society #2923

Sunday Services at 10:30 AM
3115 Friendship Place, just off US Hwy 1

Sunday School
available for children at 10:30 AM

Editor John England — jengland@cfl.rr.com
Printing & Mailing Brad Baker

Find us on the web at www.uospacecoast.org

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair..... Laura Petruska
Vice Chair..... Laura Kercelius
Treasurer..... Donna Dalton
Secretary.....
Member..... Sally Gourd
Member..... Dave Dexheimer
Member..... Pat Tebbe
Member..... Rosemary Stroda