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THE FRIENDSHIP FELLOWSHIP

AT PINEDA

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation in the liberal

**TRADITION** 



Website: www.uuspacecoast.org



## THE FRIENDSHIP FLYER

Volume 25 Number 4

Our mission is to promote living with love and reason

April 2018

DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT	SERVICE LEADER	GREETER	TOUCH OF BEAUTY	HOSP HOST
April 1	Dr. Robert Tucker		Helen Bennett	David Peterson	Betty Allison	Linda Brown
April 8	Lynne Westmoreland	"Savoring the Bitter"	Sue Huseman	Laura Friedman	Marcia Berry	Spring Luncheon
April 15	Ann Fuller	"Me Too"	Sally Gourd	Donna Klamm	Rosemary Stroda	Laura Friedman
April 22	Rev. John Brown	"Anxious Moments"	Allen Claxton	Helen Bennett	Kitty Linton	David Peterson
April 29	Helen Bennett	"Stolen Children"	Nancy Shacklette	Kitty Linton	Kitty Linton	

### April 2018

### 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	Tai Chi 11:00 every Monday Fellowship Hall	Choir Practice: Every Tuesday 7:00 PM Friendship Hall				
1 Sun Svc 10:30 AM  CLC after service  Sunday Mrning Discussion: 9:15-10:15	2	3	4 Film Discussion Series The Young Victoria. The first of a ttrilogy about the ever-popular Queen Victoria. 1:00 Fellowship Hall	5 Women's Circle 10:00 Coffee House	6	7
8 Sun Svc 10:30 AM  Spring Potluck Luncheon after service	9	10	11 Social Justice Fellowship Hall 2-4PM	12	13	14
Sun Sve 10:30 AM  Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— Current Events	16	Daily Bread Volunteers meet Tuesday at Daily Bread 10:30 AM	18 Film Discussion Series Mrs Brown (1997) Judy Dench plays the mature Queen Victoria 1:00 PM Fellowship Hall	19 Book Club  Evergreen by Belva Plain Karen Atlas, presenting –10:00 Coffee House  Mothers of Multiples Friendship Hall	20	21
Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— Current Events	23	24		Turtle Coast Sierra Club Friendship Hall, 6:30 PM	27	28
29- Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 Music on the Hill 4:00 PM Fellowship Hall	30		Ma	ne Editor needs yo ay inputs by Sund 22 April (Sooner is Better)	ay,	for

### 2 New CLC Co-ChairS





Sue Holland

Bill Scott

Sue and I are looking forward to a new year as your Co-chairs. As your co-chairs, we pledge to always be open with you, listen to your ideas and where possible, implement them. All of us including YOU are responsible for the growth and well-being of our Fellowship community.

One of the problems we face is our older members are beginning to slow down, and we need for newer and younger members to step up to the plate. For example as, of the writing of this report we are in need of four committee chairs and folks to volunteer to serve on committees.

If YOU are a new member and are hesitating to volunteer please don't -- as there is no better way to learn about Friendship than to serve on a committee or as committee chair. There is no better way than serving on the Denomination Committee here's where you can learn about UU programs and the national organization. Another Committee that needs a chair and members is the Social Justice/Social Action Committee; what better way is there to help your community than working in this area. One other committee that needs a chair is the Internal Aesthetics Committee, a good committee for those who have ideas on making the interior of the Hall a great experience.

I've mentioned four that need chairs, but all committees could use new members and ideas. As far as I'm concerned it's the duty all members to serve on at least one committee, so I hope YOU will!

Sue and I pledge to work hard for the Fellowship and we hope "YOU'LL" do the same.

-- Co-Chair, Bill Scott

### MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

At the Annual Meeting last month, the lead members of the committee reported the recent results of the search:

Five people have expressed interest, two have dropped out, and we have met with two candidates and heard them speak. A third possibility is Claudia Jimenez, who will speak for us in May. When she spoke at the Memorial Service for the wife of Pete Crumpacker, many members commented on her very favorably. Claudia is an intern at Vero Beach, and she has not officially applied, so we should be "nice" to her. The candidates we have heard so far, were Rev. Michelle LaGrave and Rev. John Smith.

Ministerial Search Committee, Sue Holland and Andy Petruska

### THE WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Our next Women's Circle meeting is on Thursday, April 5 at 10AM

We will have Kathy Jenner, a member of the Baha'i faith, speaking with us about her experiences. There will be plenty of time for conversation afterwards!

The Women's Circle is a loving, supportive, fun group and you do not need to be a member to attend.

Contact me with any questions or concerns (rides, dues, etc).

Susan Goldsworthy, 330-203-8381

Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the first candle is not shortened.

-- Gautama Buddah

Next Friendship Flyer Deadline, April 21

# THE MARTYRDOM OF HYPATIA ROBERT P. TUCKER, Ph.D.

March 4, 2018

To initiate Women's History Month, our guest speaker on March 4, the Reverend Robert P. Tucker, Minister Emeritus of the Lakeland UU Congregation, spoke about the Neoplatonist philosopher and mathematician Hypatia, who became a martyr for her pagan beliefs and the power she exerted over secular thought in Alexandria, Egypt during the early days of Christianity.

Plato died in 347 B.C., but hundreds of years later his philosophy was revived to create Neoplatonism. Its founder, Plotinus, taught that ultimate reality was a deity he called the "One," from which all other forms of reality emanated. Humans were far down the hierarchy of these forms and in need of salvation, but they could be redeemed through reasoning and meditation. Eventually Christianity absorbed Neoplatonism and strove to obliterate it by going so far as persecuting, imprisoning, and torturing those "pagans" who refused to accept the teachings of the Church.

In spite of the obstacles, Neoplatonism continued to exist within the Church in such figures as Augustine and such dogmas as the Trinity. Its influences can also be seen in Judaism and Islam and such modern philosophers as Spinoza and Hegel.

The historical record on Hypatia is sketchy, but the legend of this "beautiful young pagan scholar murdered by Christian monks in Alexandria" has been kept alive by artists and writers. French poets, Italian authors, and English historians have written about her beauty, intelligence, and pureness of spirit. By the nineteenth century, her death was seen as a symbol of the passing of an age, and by the twentieth century, feminists were interpreting her murder as a misogynist act; she was silenced because she was a woman.

Some of the quotes that have been ascribed to her clearly put her into the UU tradition, such as "All formal dogmatic religions are fallacious and must never be accepted by self-respecting persons

(Continued on page 5

# SPRING FILM DISCUSSION SERIES

FRIENDSHIP FELLOWSHIP AT PINEDA,
FRIENDSHIP HALL, 3115 FRIENDSHIP PLACE,
ROCKLEDGE, FL 32955

ON US 1, JUST NORTH OF SUNTREE BLVD. (242-1117)

### April 4: The Young Victoria (2009)

This is the first of a trilogy of films about the ever-popular Queen Victoria, whose progeny reigned all over Europe. Emily Blunt plays the young queen who marries her beloved cousin Albert, played by Rupert Friend. King Leopold of Belgium introduces her to Albert to secure a bond between his kingdom and hers. At age 18, Victoria assumes the throne, and refuses her domineering mother's assistance. Lord Melbourne (Paul Bettany) becomes her trusted advisor.

### April 18: Mrs. Brown (1997)

Judi Dench plays the mature Queen Victoria, who is called "Mrs. Brown" behind her back because of her friendship with her Scottish horse servant, John Brown (Billy Connolly). She is in deep mourning because of the death of her consort, Prince Albert, and refuses to resume her duties as queen. It is hoped that Mr. Brown will help coax her back to the land of the living (London).

### May 2: Victoria and Abdul (2017)

After the death of her dear friend John Brown, Victoria (Judi Dench) forms a friend-ship with a young Indian man and promotes him to be her "Munshi." He teaches her Urdu and the Qur'an, but she doesn't realize until later that he is a Muslim. She remains faithful to him until the end of her life, despite objections by her courtiers. A delightful film about a many-faceted woman.

#### **NOTE: FILMS ARE ON ALTERNATE**

WEDNESDAYS, 1:00 PM—4:00 PM. PLEASE STAY FOR DISCUSSION OF THESE FILMS

### Hypatia (Continued from page 4)

as final," "Reserve your right to think, for even to think wrongly is better than not to think at all," and "To teach superstition as truth is a most terrible thing."

In 1995, Harvard University Press published *Hypatia of Alexandria*, by Polish classical scholar Maria Dzielska, which provides the most authoritative account of her life. Born in Alexandria, Egypt, around 355, she died in 415, which would have made her around 60 years old. Her father was a well-known scientist, writer, mathematician, and philosopher. At some point Hypatia became head of the Neoplatonic school in Alexandria, teaching large crowds at her home, in public lecture halls, and on the streets. Students from wealthy and influential families came to study with her. She also advised municipal and visiting imperial officials on current issues and possessed great moral authority.

During the last three years of her life, a new imperial prefect named Orestes came to Alexandria, followed shortly by the death of the Church patriarch Theophilus, leaving the Church in the hands of his young and inexperienced nephew Cyril. Cyril wanted to assert his power by widening the influence of the Church over secular matters, and Hypatia, who had the backing of Orestes, tried to mediate, coming down on the side of traditional Greek values—discourse over violence, tolerance over bigotry, and secular authority over religious authority.

The conflict reached its height in 414-15. When Orestes resisted Cyril's attempts to encroach on civil power, monks assaulted and badly injured him, which led to Orestes having their leader tortured to death. Cyril tried to make the man into a martyr, but the civil leaders and the emperor did not condone the monks' attack on Orestes, so Cyril then turned to Hypatia, placing blame on her and spreading rumors that she studied magic and had cast a satanic spell on the prefect and on the entire city.

During the sacred period of Lent, a group of churchmen grabbed Hypatia out of her carriage, stripped her naked, and brutally murdered her, skinning her alive with oyster shells and roof tiles, after which they hacked her body into pieces and burned them outside the city walls. Orestes left the city, and no attempt was ever made to catch and punish the murderers.

Hypatia's murder marked a turning point for the city. Other intellectuals began leaving, resulting in a decline in its cultural influence. Scholars of women's history also see it as the beginning of the degradation of women in Christian society.

Anyone who, like Hypatia, defends free thought against religious dogma and superstition, ought to be a friend of Unitarian Universalists. Most of today's UU's are technically pagans, for we do not belong to one of the traditional biblical religions. Tucker concluded his talk by saluting all those "who reject dogmatic religiosity, who defend religious freedom as well as freedom from religion, who expose and cast out superstitions, and who exercise reason and free thought. In doing so we stand on the side of much needed intellectual progress in human culture." ...rr

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOC. WILL BE IN KANSAS CITY IN JUNE

June 20-24 in Kansas City, Missouri.

General Assembly is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Assoc. Attendees learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through the democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates. Most G.A. events will be held in the Kansas City Convention Center.

In addition to business sessions, the G. A. encourages member churches to bring programs about many dozens of subjects: Choir directors form a choir; one year a California church described how they built a huge array of solar panels, and not only saved money but sold the extra power back to the power company. One year Daniel Ellsworth was there to describe how our UU publishing company, Beacon Press, was the first to print the Pentagon Papers! Many more fascinating programs every year.

Registration cost for Adult Full-time, Wednesday-Sunday is \$395.

Like to try it? You can learn more at https://www.uua.org/ga/registration/

### Diving Deep into the Dark Reverend Marni Harmony

March 11, 2018

he Reverend Marni Harmony, retired UU minister from Orlando, and our guest speaker on March 11, began her talk with the opening verses of Genesis. The world began with darkness until God said, "Let there be light." At all times, much of the world is shrouded by darkness, both literally because of the earth's rotation and figuratively because of living conditions in much of the world, with children growing up with violence and ignorance, with no hope for the future. This, said Harmony, is the darkness that seeps into the bones and leaves us feeling broken-hearted for the world.

She recounted some of her own experiences with darkness, including cancer, but there are other types of darkness that she has not experienced (depression, sexual abuse) or will never experience, such as having been born with dark skin or being blind. As the recent novel, *All the Light We Cannot See*, expresses, there can still be light in darkness. Written by Anthony Doerr, the novel tells the story of a blind girl during WW II who is able to find her way around town through becoming thoroughly familiar with scale model buildings of her surroundings, all lovingly carved by her father.

Harmony also told us about a restaurant opened in Missouri by four blind friends where diners eat in darkness. The concept has since spread to a dozen other cities. Because they cannot see what they are eating, diners must use other senses, and some cannot identify what they are eating. Others report a heightened sense of taste or hearing.

We tend to think of light and dark as opposites, with light having the connotation of "good" and darkness having the connotation of "bad," which implies bad things about having dark skin, but there is much good to be found in darkness. If we think about it, all life begins in darkness—a seed in the ground growing into a plant, a baby in the womb—and the darker the night, the brighter the stars appear to be. The familiar phrase, "the dark night of the soul," is not about dreading the dark

but about going into the dark and creating ourselves anew.

How, then, asked Harmony, should we begin to dive deep into the dark? First, we should not evade the darkness. We should go out into it and make friends with it. We can sit with someone in despair. We can comfort a frightened child. We can go somewhere that scares us, and in this painful, confusing, or fearful space, we can practice love, compassion, patience, equanimity, and wisdom. ...rr

#### **NEW CLC ELECTED FOR 2018-2019**

The new CLC Co-Chairs are Bill Scott and Sue Holland.

Departing CLC members are: Dex Dexheimer, Rosemary Stroda, Laura Petruska, Laura Kercelius, and Helen Bennett. Remaining are Sally Gourd and Pat Tebbe.

New CLC members are Loretta Winston, Nancy Shacklette (Secretary), and Ruth Rodgers.

Nominating Committee now consists of: Shirley Works, Andy Petruska for three years and Sue Huseman for two years.

The new slate was voted on and approved at the annual congregational meeting on March 18, 2018.

### FFP NEEDS YOU!

Yes, we need YOU to volunteer, for hospitality, to be a lay leader, TO HELP CLEAN UP AFTER PARTIES, to join a committee. We need YOU to step up to the plate and join your skills, your strength, your commitment, your knowledge, your warmth and friendship with ours. You will love us better if you do ... we will love you better if you do. This is your safe house, a Haven away from home. As a Unitarian Universalist, you share our strong commitment to our Seven Principles. No, we're not perfect, but we're here for you. C'mon! Be here for us!

# THE EVENTS COMMITTEE PRESENTS "WELCOME TO SPRING"

### APRIL 8TH LUNCHEON AFTER SERVICES



We may even have a few fun events to help put some spring in our step.

There will be sign-up sheets in the back of the hall for the foods we are requesting for this spring affair.

The committee will be passing a spring hat around and suggesting a donation of \$1 each to help cover the costs for this event.

We look forward to welcoming in the best spring season this year with your company.

Spring along with us.

#### WHERE DO YOUR CHARITY DOLLARS GO?

APRIL 2018 DAILY BREAD

May 2018 Serene Harbour

JUNE 2018 AGING MATTERS

July 2018 Transitional Vets

Every month, usually on the second Sunday. we have an extra offering that goes to a local 501(C)3 charity. An envelope is provided in the Order of Service for this offering. We share because we care.

### YES, TECH CAN BE FUN!



On Feb 10 FFP held its first "Fun Technology Evening" or FTE. About 25 people attended the event with free pizza provided by Bella Luna Restaurant (located just around the corner from FFP on Wickham Rd). A good time was had by all. Members shared their favorite apps and procedures from their smart phones and computers. Jan Pridmore demonstrated a program for website creation. Members also shared recommendations for movies and TV programs available on the Web. Brad Baker provided procedures for accessing the Brevard library system. There were many calls for "let's do this again" .... and somehow participants consumed \$200 worth of Bella Luna pizza!

-- Andy Petruska



### **REV. ROGER BREWIN**

*Take Courage: Ethical Issues of Today March* 25, 2018

ur guest speaker on March 25, the Reverend Roger Brewin, Minister Emeritus of First Unitarian in Hobart, Indiana, began his sermon by reminiscing about growing up in England in the 1950s and seeing a big billboard with the words "Take Courage." Beneath the words was a glass topped with foam and beside it a bottle lying on its side, with the words "Courage's Best Bitter Beer," a brand popular at the time. The slogan, dating back to the days of WW II, was comforting to him, and he would repeat it to himself whenever he was unsure and frightened. His childhood heroes were the brave spitfire pilots who had defended the skies over Britain, but even they did not automatically become courageous by just climbing into the cockpit. "Even in a dogfight," one said, "you get brave slowly."

As he grew, Brewin realized that courage isn't something you can "take." We accumulate it bit by bit as we face new situations and repeatedly go a little beyond where we feel comfortable. Brewin admitted that although he is comfortable in the pulpit, he feels awkward in social situations and does not find it easy to engage with others at coffee hour and other social events.

Sometimes courage is thrust upon us because of a situation we find ourselves in. Barbara Mancini, while visiting her 93- year-old father in a hospice facility, handed him a bottle of morphine on the table that he asked her to give him, which resulted in her being arrested for assisting in her father's suicide. She was offered legal advice by a group called Compassion and Choices. and a judge finally dismissed the charges, but she is now a committed advocate herself for allowing dying patients to make their own end-of-life choices.

With random gun violence occurring all around us, from road rage incidents and domestic violence to shootings fueled by anger, emotion, and alcohol, Brewin said one of his current fears was of guns. He recently sent an email to Gov. Scott to thank him for the recent bill passed by the Florida legis-

lature. That bill, however, did not go far enough to protect people from gun violence. Some gun owners are careless, leaving loaded guns in homes with children, or shooting through a door without knowing who or what is on the other side. Are we brave enough, he asked, to insist that our friends and neighbors store and use their guns responsibly? We can march for gun safety or send emails or contact groups we find on the Internet to promote responsible gun ownership.

We need to build up our courage to stand up to injustice in spite of our fears and find others to stand with us. Courage can be contagious, as Amanda Poppei, leader of the Washington Ethical Society, wrote in an article titled "Courage for the Resistance." A young black woman at a recent racial justice march in Washington led marchers in a chant, "Black Women Matter, Black Children Matter," encouraging them to keep going even when they thought they couldn't continue, lending her courage to them.

Bryan Stevenson, an advocate of criminal justice reform, talked about defending people on Death Row and identified four steps to finding courage to do what he does: (1) Get proximate, (2) Change the narrative, (3) Be hopeful, and (4) Do uncomfortable things.

Sometimes, however, we jump in to "fix" things without taking the time to listen or ask questions. Marie DeYoung, a former nun and military chaplain and now a UU, is an outspoken social and political conservative, and when the UUA Board voted to provide \$5.3 million in support of Black Lives UU, she was very vocal in criticizing them for having done so without asking approval of the delegates to General Assembly, without a clear plan for how to raise that money, and without asking for much accountability for how those funds would be spent. Sometimes we need to step back and learn from those who have the most personal stake in the matter, letting them frame their own issues and determine the path forward.

All of us have fears, but we must not let them drive us. At some point we must trust that most people are good, and we must take courage together. ...rr

# CREATIVE ARTS FOUNDATION OF BREVARD PRESENTS

For more information, visit www.CAFOB.org or call 336-580-1224.

Brevard's Got Music Talent,
Youth Music Competition
Cash prizes will be awarded nearly \$3000

Pianists, Clarinet, Sax, Vocal, Violin, Top ten finalists will vie for top prize of \$1500 On



Sunday, April 8, 2018, 4 p.m Advent Lutheran Church of Suntree 7550 N Wickham Rd, Also Our Next

### Music on the Hill

is set for April 29, 4 p.m. At the FFP of Pineda





This performance is joined with Professor Pervin Muradov's organization that

advocates for students of music who are afflicted with Asbergers and/or Autism.

The line-up of performers is not yet fixed They will be young artists aspiring to play in Carnegie Hall.

### CHILDREN'S R.E. NEWS

The Children's R.E. Committee held a work meeting in March to give the children's RE room a thorough spring cleaning. We sorted and organized materials, discarded the old, broken, and no longer functional items, made lists of needed new supplies, and gave the room a general sprucing up—a task we hadn't done for a few years. We invite you all to drop by and take a look at our newly decluttered and organized space.

I call that mind free which masters the senses and which recognizes its own reality ...

I call that mind free which jealously guards its intellectual rights and powers, which does not content itself with passive or hereditary faith ...

I call that mind free which is not passively framed by outward circumstances and is not the creature of accidental impulse ...

I call that mind free which protects itself against the usurpations of society and does not cower to human opinion ...

I call that mind free which resists the bondage of habit, which does not mechanically copy the past, nor live on its old virtues ...

I call that mind free which sets no bounds to its love, which, wherever they are seen, delights in virtue and sympathises with suffering ...

I call that mind free which has cast off all fear but that of wrongdoing and which no menace or peril can enthrall: Which is calm in the midst of tumults, and possesses itself, though all else be lost: Which is calm in the midst of tumults and possess itself, though all be lost.

-- William Ellery Channing (Edited for length, # 592)



Our dear Member-Friend, Loretta Winston, will greet you at the door

### WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

We love to welcome members, visitors, and Friends to our services each Sunday at 10:30, and Sunday school is available for our youngest guests and members.

### THESE ARE OUR RECENT SUNDAY VISITORS

Sandy Freeman of Melbourne John & Kathleen Harker of Nashville, Peggy Schyeldahl from Lenox, MA Donna Signer from Severy, KS Betty Shuman from Macon, GA Sandy & John Karsh of Viera Brandi Smith, of Melbourne



### HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS

JOHN CURRY
ARTHUR URROWS
DAVE DEXHEIMER
MARSHALL FRANK
LINDA BROSIUS

#### **Our Warmest Thanks**

Every month, Someone hand-records every sermon and sends it to us so you can read the words you might have missed. (Not me!) Every week, that same Someone oversees the Children's R.E and makes sure there is a story time for our very youngest Member-Friends. She also helps to proofread this publication to iron out any spelling and grammar problems.. And now she has accepted the position of CLC Secretary! Wow! Whatta woman!

THANK YOU, RUTH RODGERS!

If God had meant for us to vote, he would have sent us candidates (Neal Stannard, 2016)

That's a joke! PLEASE VOTE EVERY TIME!



### Friendship Fellowship at Pineda

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation 3115 Friendship Place, Rockledge, FL www.UUSpaceCoast.org

### **Congregational Leadership Committee**

Co-Chair Bill Scott Co-Chair Sue Holland Donna Dalton Treasurer Secretary **Ruth Rodgers** Member Nancy Shacklette Sally Gourd Member Member Loretta Winston Member Pat Tebbe

Newsletter Staff: Marcia Berry, editor, Brad Baker, Bill Horsfield, Kathy Lees, Nancy Shacklette, Ruth Rodgers, Helen Bennett, and Rosemary Stroda,

Unitarian Universalist Association, UUA.org
District 62, Society 2933

Friendship is located on the west side of Highway 1, just north of Suntree Boulevard.