

# Naples UU News

## 6340 Napa Woods Way, Naples, Florida

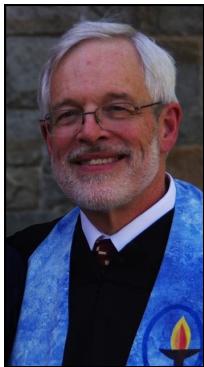
**We are a welcoming congregation freely seeking intellectual and spiritual growth.  
We strive to create a larger community of peace, justice and love.**



April 2015

## Connecting Points

### Responding to Growth



"We are a welcoming congregation freely seeking intellectual and spiritual growth. We strive to create a larger community of peace, justice and love." There are many ways to define growth in a congregation and our mission statement speaks to many of them. Growth can be defined by a deepening of the intellect and spirit, a continuing maturation towards beloved community. It can be evidenced by the increasing ways we give back to the life of the wider community expanding our sphere of influence while at the same time opening ourselves up to change. And, of course, it can be seen in the numbers of people who come through the doors seeking to be a part of a vibrant caring community.

The bottom line is that we at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Greater Naples are no longer just poised for growth, we are in the midst of it! We are being "discovered" in many ways. There are those who come to us through word of mouth and there are the people who have discovered us through some program or event like the Forum or Progressive Voices, or maybe they've seen us marching in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade. Of course, more and more people are moving to Southwest Florida and it's inevitable that among them are like-minded people who look for a community like ours to call home. However it happens, come "season" we find our facilities stretched to beyond capacity.

Since early January this year, we have had only one service where attendance was less than two hundred (which is the capacity of our sanctuary). Over that time period, there have been a number of Sundays when more than forty people have watched the service as it is streamed to the monitors in Thomas Hall. But even back in November and December we were well above 90% capacity on most Sundays, a level where many newcomers will not return feeling there isn't room for them here. If we are to live up to our mission of building a welcoming congregation striving to create a wider community of peace, justice and love, we need to figure out how to respond to this gift of people. There is a group that has been formed to try and meet this great challenge and wonderful opportunity. This month, they will be seeking your thoughts on how best we can meet the needs of our members while still welcoming those who want to be a part of the great community you have created here. I hope you will share your best ideas in the spirit of love.

Many options will open up for us, but right now the only option we must avoid is to do nothing. So lend your ears, your hearts, and your minds to the process and in the spirit of our mission and vision let's find the best ways to move forward.

Blessings,  
Tony

TONY

**HELP PUT UUCGN ON THE MAP!**  
**SUPPORT OUR HUMAN SEXUALITY FACILITATORS**



For the 1<sup>st</sup> time ever UUCGN will host an Our Whole Lives (OWL) training on the weekend of May 22-24, 2015 (Fri/Sat/Sun). OWL is the UU human sexuality class that we will be offering to our 7-10<sup>th</sup> graders next year. We will be training about 10 of our members (including: our Minister, our DRE, Ann Fisher, Jan Jurgens) in this newly revised program and hosting about 10 other UU's for the weekend.

How can you help? We need: hosts to put visitors up in their home for 2-3 nights; registrar; food shoppers; meal preparers/servers and dishwashers to help with the meals for 30 people (pick one meal or multiple.)

**SUMMER SUNDAY FUN WITH OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**Support our students & families!**

**Connect with our future!**

Each summer from June - August we invite you to be a guest teacher, activity leader or an assistant with between 5-15 students ages 4-17 from 10:30-11:30 on a Sunday in the RE wing. Some ideas of what you could do:

- Lead an activity
- Tell a story
- Do an art project
- Create a UU experience
- Play games
- Do an experiment





# Beyond Sunday

Held on Wednesday Evenings *Beyond Sunday* is an evening of food, discussions and activities designed to help all members and friends of our congregation connect with each other on a deeper level. Attend all four evening or choose some to attend.

## The Evening's Schedule Each Week:

5:30 Vespers

5:45 Dinner (Charge: \$10, children under 13 free)

To reserve spots for dinner, sign up on the patio on Sunday  
or call the office by the Friday immediately before the session.

6:30 Choose the Discussion or the All Ages Activity

## April

Wednesday  
15

**Adult Discussion:**

Spiritual but Not Religious

Led by the Rev. Tony Fisher

**All Ages Activity:**

ART with Juliet Aruajo: Masks

**Children's Free Play**

## April

Wednesday  
29

**Adult Discussion:**

"Faith in Action: Service Learning"

Led by the Rev. Tony Fisher

**All Ages Activity:**

ZENTangles with Betsy D., Emma D.

**Children's Free Play**

## May

Wednesday  
13

**Adult Discussion:**

Led by the Rev. Tony Fisher

**All Ages Activity:**

ART with Juliet Aruajo

**Children's Free Play**

## May

Wednesday  
27

**Adult Discussion:**

Led by the Rev. Tony Fisher

**All Ages Activity:** Telling Our STORIES:

Collage/Journaling as Spiritual Practice,

Led by the Rev. Jennifer Dant

**Children's Free Play**

# Upcoming Events

Please refer to the foyer Event Board for detailed flyers.

## First Friday

### Friday, April 3, 6:30 p.m. at Nancy Medis' home

Look forward to seeing you with snack to share and your drink of choice.

## Easter Dinner at Ridgway's

For years, long-time Naples UU member, Ruth Hare, organized Easter dinner at Ridgway's Restaurant in Old Naples. We hope to continue the tradition. You order off the menu. The restaurant is off 3rd St. South on 13th Avenue. Time: 12:15 on Easter Sunday. Deadline for reservations is April

## Aging Wisely

The Aging Wisely group will be meeting Tuesday, April 21, 7-8:30 PM. Aging Wisely is a monthly gathering for women which focuses on various aspects related to the aging process. All women are welcome regardless of your chronological age. You do not need to commit to coming every month. We begin with a check-in, brief reading and then break into small groups for discussion. **The Alternate Aging Wisely (Brown Bag Lunch)** is on Thursday, April 9, at 12 p.m. on the patio (the second Thursday of each month,) for those who can't make it for the regular meetings.

## Circle Dinners, April 17

If you have questions or suggestions, or want to sign-up, contact Marjorie and Sal Corrallo, Once you are signed up for the December dinner, a host/hostess will call or email you to let you know where you will be dining and what you should bring. We always meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month. We look forward to getting to know you better; see you soon!

## Eighth Annual PFLAG Interfaith Convocation

Over 22 welcoming houses of worship, including Naples UUCGN, will participate in the eighth annual PFLAG (Parents, Family, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Interfaith Convocation, with reception to follow, on **Sunday, April 19, 3:00 p.m.** at the Naples United Church of Christ, 5200 Crayton Road. Your hearts, minds, and spirits will be engaged by beautiful music, moving personal narratives, and inspirational prayers. Don't miss this chance for people of all faiths and individual convictions to celebrate both diversity and community!

## Odyssey Presentation

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at UUCGN - Thomas Hall

6:30pm: Social, 7:00-8:00pm: Odyssey Program . Bobbi Berglund will be sharing her story. Don't miss out!

## DAWN

A new season of DAWN ( Dining Around The World in Naples ) will begin in May. On May 8th at 6 pm we will enjoy Greek food at Pelagos Café which is located at 4951 N Tamiami Trail , south of Pine Ridge , and just south of Driftwood Garden Center. The Menu can be seen at [menupix.com/florida](http://menupix.com/florida). Phone is 239-263-2996.

## Upcoming Sunday Services

**April 5:** Flower Communion and Easter Service

**April 12:** Unitarian Universalism - Why Social Justice?

**April 19:** Rev Bob Murphy - "The Environmental Justice Revolution"

**April 26:** Coming of Age Service

## We at UUCGN are Working toward Sustainability

### **Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup>**

♦ **9am forum:** "Let's Go Solar!" - **Tony Romano** (VP at Urban Solar Group in Pompano Beach, [www.urban-solar.com](http://www.urban-solar.com)) comes to Naples to explain solar technology.

Tony can answer all our questions, such as

- are PV solar panels too heavy for our roof?
- can panels be easily moved to another roof at any point in the future?
- are PV panels better than peel & stick solar strips?
- if we produce more solar-generated electricity than we use, does FPL buy that power?

Haven't seen the solar project feasibility study? Pick up a copy here.

♦ **10:30 am service:** **2015 Earth Day service with Rev. Bob Murphy** (from Falmouth, MA) to speak on "**The Environmental Justice Revolution.**" Jointly sponsored by our Green Sanctuary Program and our Social Justice Committee. This service concludes Climate Justice Month, committing to long-term actions to shift energy, advance human rights, and grow the climate justice movement – and committing to a future of clean renewable energy.

"Have you seen our **feasibility study** on purchasing/installing **solar panels** at UUCGN yet? If not, just [click here](#). The study was completed during the summer of 2014, presented to the Program Council & Board of Trustees in the fall of 2015, and just voted on by the congregation as part of the 2020 Vision Report."

## Weekly Forums

Forums are held every Sunday starting at 9:15 a.m. in Thomas Hall. The timely topics are presented by thought leaders.

**April 5:** "Earth's Footprint," Dianne Rhodes

**April 12:** "Physics of the Future," by Michio Kaku, Kathleen Teach

**April 19:** "Let's Go Solar!," Tony Ramudo

**April 26:** "Two months in Australia," Dick Macken

## Unitarian Universalist Book Club

Our Unitarian Universalist Book Club meets monthly, October through April, to discuss literary works that have been agreed upon by the membership. The novels, poetry or dramas are selected in late spring or early summer from a list generated by the membership. Meetings are held at the UU, usually on the third Thursday of each month at 2 p.m., and last about 1 hour. The lively discussions are facilitated by a volunteer who has signed up when the season list has been finalized. We welcome all members and friends of the UU community.

### **UU BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE 2014-15 SEASON**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>
April 16	<i>Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter</i>	Tom Franklin	

## New Committee

A new ad hoc committee is being formed to evaluate alternatives for upgrading the patio. If you have a background or skills in architecture, engineering, construction or related disciplines we can use you. Please email Anna: [office@uunaples.org](mailto:office@uunaples.org) your interest and a brief history.

## **UUCGN Prospective Member Orientation Series**

For those who would like to find a way to connect and learn more about our congregation as well as anyone ready to join, we offer Orientations (consisting of two sessions) 6-8 times per year. The objectives of these get-togethers are to better learn about you and what you are looking for from UUCGN, explain what we offer, and provide you a brief background of Unitarian Universalism and our congregation. The next Orientation Series will be at the church on two Sundays, April 26 and May 3, from 12 – 2:30 pm in Thomas Hall. Typically, 3-9 newcomers attend the sessions led by Rev. Tony, Roger Brown from our Membership Committee and former UUCGN President, and Bob Bollinger and Bobbi Berglund, membership committee chairs. It is important that you attend both sessions. We will have light sandwiches and good conversation. These are informal opportunities to do some exploration, ask questions and get to know each other. If you would like to attend, please contact Bobbi Berglund, 431-5437, [readboulder@yahoo.com](mailto:readboulder@yahoo.com), or Bob Bollinger, 596-3174, [bbollingerx@gmail.com](mailto:bbollingerx@gmail.com).

## **Endowment Board**

"Build it and they will come" was the famous line from the 1989 movie FIELD OF DREAMS. The same may apply to what it takes to build an endowment. The power of endowment is in its continuity. The annual stewardship drive seeks contributions to fund the operating budget with money coming from one's disposable annual income while the endowment fund exists to help secure, strengthen and extend the mission of UUCGN. Endowment funds enhance the work of the church beyond what is possible through the usual operational budget.

One of the most effective ways to grow the endowment fund is through planned giving. Please consider the importance of this congregation to you, and become a member of the Legacy Circle by placing a bequest in your will. Estate planning confirmation forms are available from one of the endowment board committee members.

Possible uses of endowment funds could include new and expanded social justice programs, additional educational opportunities, community outreach and scholarships for deserving UUCGN youth as well as others here in the greater Naples area and beyond. The endowment fund could help become the engine to empower the recommendations of the Vision 2020 committee.

Endowment Board Committee Members

Johanna Parkes Bob Ainsworth Adrienne Cady Robin Petty Russ Duggan



# Social Justice Committee

## Split the Plate

Our Split the Plate for April will be used to protect our region's water. Half of the morning's offering will go to the *Conservancy of Southwest Florida*, which has a long history of monitoring and protecting our water, and this research continues to make up a large part of its work today. We're donating to the *Estuaries Report Card* to create a comprehensive report of ecological health of our region including that of water resources in each watershed in SW FL and policy recommendations to improve management of these resources. This Split the Plate will be collected during our Earth Day Service, which will be on April 19. Thank you in advance for your generous giving.



## Weekend Meals for School Kids

A big thank you to all those who help us pack the kids' meals and to those who have anonymously donated food to the food bin in the lobby. We hope you will continue to sign up to help us pack since this program continues through the end of May. Please note that we are moving the meal packing to 10 a.m. on Wednesdays.

**YOU SAVED THE DATE, YOU RESERVED YOUR SEAT,  
YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHECKBOOK!**

**THE UU COMEDY CHARITY SHOW  
TO BENEFIT IMMOKALEE HOUSING & FAMILY SERVICES  
PRESENTED BY IMPROV ANONYMOUS  
& FELLOW UU COMICS**

**WAS SATURDAY, MARCH 28**

**THE SHOW INCLUDED RAFFLES, GAMES  
LIVE AUCTION VACATIONS  
& MATCHING GRANTS**

**WINE, HORS D'OEUVRES ON THE PATIO  
& ITALIAN DINNER BUFFET**

***Our Goal Was \$10,000.00 & We Made  
WE LAUGHED ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK!  
IT WAS SERIOUS FUN TO SERVE OTHERS***

**THANK YOU ONE AND ALL**



## Exciting New Art Group Forming at UU !!

**A**  
**t**

Artists and Wanna-be Artists who are UUCGN attendees-- sign up for the February class on Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This group will continue to meet on the last Saturday of each month at this same time. You need to call/email the office to sign up each month. The class will be limited to 10 people. Come and enjoy the spiritual experience of painting in the beautiful Memorial Garden. A donation of \$20 per session to UUCGN will be expected. Rona Steingart, instructor and UU member, Check out her website: [artschool-rona-steingart.com](http://artschool-rona-steingart.com). Need to bring: a set of colored watercolor pencils and a watercolor paper tablet -- 11x14 is a good starting size. Rona will give the basic instructions and a wonderful painting will be created the first session. You'll find your creative side in a fun, uncompetitive way.

## Coalition of Immokalee Workers

Photographs by Nic Provenzo

Over 100 UU members from as far away as Georgia attended the Coalition of Immokalee Workers rally in St. Petersburg on Saturday, March 21. Next to the delegation of actual CIW members various UU groups with their Ministers made a very visible presence. One member of the Fort Myers Congregation and two from the Naples Congregation were also participants. With both Congregations just mere miles from the epicenter of this most important cause, we hope to see more people rallying to the cause next time. If we want to "talk the talk we must also walk the walk".



## Volunteers Needed!

### The Sunday Sextons Need Your Help

The Sunday Sextons are responsible for opening the church; getting everything ready for the service and, during season, the Sunday Forum; and closing the church after the coffee session is over. This requires arriving at church at 8:15 a.m. during season and 9:45 a.m. during the rest of the year. The Sunday Sextons take turns being on duty for a month at a time. Right now we only have three Sunday Sextons, and we desperately need to add to our ranks. Our duties are not that onerous and take up just a little extra time on Sunday morning. Your participation would be greatly appreciated.



**Ushers** are needed for Sunday services - please contact Jon Pipkin

**Hospitality** Volunteers are needed and much appreciated in the kitchen every Sunday. Please sign up on the form in the foyer. Many Thanks!

**Garden Crew Volunteers** are needed every Tuesday at 9 a.m. Everyone is welcome and much appreciated to help our garden grow more beautiful.

### Did You Know About Saturday Evenings?

Since September a Young People's AA meeting has been held in Thomas Hall on Saturday Evenings from 8-9 p.m. We need members to be on duty during this meeting. Would you open & close the building and be present from 7:30-9:30 on a Saturday? If you are willing and able, please contact Heather Desrocher, DRE.

# April Birthdays!

## Happy Birthday

Jane Anderson  
Monique Bondeux  
Sandra Brown  
Bonnie Cousineau  
George Evans  
Barbara Glasgow  
Patsy Sachs  
Janet Siegner  
Hap Slocombe  
Joanne Swonk  
Bill VonSeggern



### Have we missed you?

If you would like your birthday or anniversary to appear in the monthly newsletter, please call the office at (239)455-6553, or email Anna at [office @uunaples.org](mailto:office@uunaples.org)

### Streaming

If you have missed a Sunday service or can't attend on a Sunday, you may want to watch the service in the comfort of your home using your computer. Here is the way to do it:

1. Log into the church website [uunaples.org](http://uunaples.org)
2. At the top of the screen, select "Weekly News", choose from an option on top of the page.
4. To watch the service live on Sunday morning, click on Streaming Church. You need to log into Facebook or enter a nickname that you choose.
5. To view previous services, click on Media Vault.
6. Click on the arrows to reach the video of the service you wish to view.



### April Calendar

To view the full and updated calendar for February and the following months, please visit our website or

[Click Here!](#)

2015 Calendar												
January			February			March			April			
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Sa
							1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31	29	30	31
May			June			July			August			
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Sa
							1	2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31	29	30
September			October			November			December			
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Sa
							1	2	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31

Federal Holidays 2015  
Jan. 1st New Year's Day  
Jan. 19th Martin Luther King Day  
Feb. 16th Presidents' Day  
Mar. 20th Good Friday  
May 26th Memorial Day  
July 4th Independence Day  
Sept. 7th Labor Day  
Oct. 12th Columbus Day  
Nov. 26th Thanksgiving Day  
Dec. 25th Christmas Day

### Newsletter and Weekly News Article Submission Rules!

Please use the following format when submitting items for the weekly and Sunday news and no later than every Wednesday:

Title

Date and Time

Location

Contact information

Short blurb (2 sentences) that can be linked to a more detailed article on the website if necessary.

The deadline to submit information for the monthly newsletter is the Monday before the ;last Friday of each month. The deadline to submit information for the May Newsletter is Monday, April 27.