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# Connection

## Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice

*A welcoming, caring congregation encouraging spiritual growth, seeking meaning and pursuing justice.*

Issue No. 2048

Venice, FL

November 2020

## Sundays at UUCOV

### Sunday Services

#### November 1, 2020: Video Online Service: Adulthood Is Hard

**Rev. Khleber Van Zandt.** *Happy Birthday UUCOV!* In a country that has yet to 'come of age,' it's time for this congregation to leave its adolescence behind.



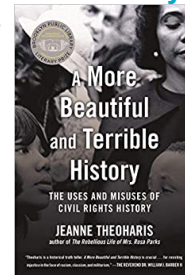
#### November 8, 2020: Video Online Service: Reflections on the Experience of a Newcomer



**Revs. Khleber Van Zandt & Gail Gesenhainer.** Many Unitarian Universalist congregations believe they are the most welcoming people ever. Regardless, it is always worthwhile to pay attention to the experiences of our newcomers. Rev. Van Zandt building the service and Rev. Gesenhainer preaching.  
*Rev. Gesenhainer is Minister Emerita of the First UU Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan.*

#### November 15, 2020: Video Online Service: A More Beautiful and Terrible History

**Rev. Khleber Van Zandt.** We like to think that the victory of civil rights over the forces of hate and oppression was a foregone conclusion. Jeanne Theoharis' new book, [A More Beautiful and Terrible History: the Uses and Misuses of Civil Rights History](#), reminds us that the way was often hard, the path never clear, and the stakes very high.



#### November 22, 2020: Video Online Service: Oh, Beautiful for Pilgrim Feet



**Rev. Khleber Van Zandt.** *Thanksgiving.* This intergenerational service will celebrate the diversity of our backgrounds as well as our links to those seekers of religious freedom, the Pilgrims.

#### November 29, 2020: Video Online Service: Black Women Suffragists

**Rev. Dr. Kristen L. Harper** (09-06-2020). Dr. Loretta F. Williams, UUA Director of Social Responsibility from 1980 to 1989, said, "We, the bearers of the dream, affirm that a new vision of hope is emerging. We affirm that there is struggle ahead, but yet in that struggle is our hope for the future."

*Rev. Dr. Harper is Minister of the Unitarian Church of Barnstable, Massachusetts*



## Special Offering

### November 8, 2020: CHAPS (Charlotte HIV/AIDS People Support)



CHAPS is an all-volunteer organization whose purpose is to provide supplemental food and hygiene products at no cost to persons in need living with HIV/AIDS and their dependents in **South Sarasota County**. Hygiene products cannot be purchased with food stamps, and they can be vital to a person with a compromised immune system, thus enhancing their lives through healthier living, as well as helping them maintain their dignity and self-respect. When CHAPS provides supplemental food and hygiene products to persons with limited funds, they are then able to use their own money to purchase fresh meat, dairy, and produce, or for medical care, which they otherwise might not be able to afford. If writing a check, please make it out to UUCOV with 'CHAPS' on the memo line. Thank you!

**Please note - There will be no 'in person' donation drop-off for CHAPS on the last Tuesday in November.**

## Minister's Corner

## How to Contact Us

### Not If. When.

What a crazy year this has been already. And CoVid numbers are drifting up again in Sarasota County. And since I'm writing this some days before



November 3, I have no idea how that all turned out. How does one make plans under such circumstances?

Myself, I made plans to restart Sunday services on July 19. And on September 6. And on November 1. None of those days worked out, obviously. But thinking about it helped me think about an overall plan, even if an actual date remains elusive.

So try this out: Whenever it seems safe enough, we could announce a "Restart Sunday" at which we'd open all the doors to the Sanctuary, arrange as many chairs as we can at appropriate social-distances within the building, and have a services inside with the wind blowing through. If being inside seems too close for comfort right now, there'd be plenty of room on the sidewalks along the sides or in the lanai or on the patio, and we'd do our best to help people see and hear. Assuming things have remained safe enough, we could reassess each week and see how to keep moving forward.

**Mailing Address:** UUCOV  
1971 Pinebrook Road  
Venice, FL 34292-1563

**Website:** [www.uucov.org](http://www.uucov.org)

**Minister:** Rev. Khleber Van Zandt V  
Email:  
Phone: 314-223-0551

**Office Administration:** Salli L. Clarke  
Phone: 941-485-2105  
Email:

There are, of course, still lots of problems to be solved, like: How can we sit outside?

We'll need ushers to set up chairs. Some of us may have to bring our own chairs. Some of us may have to park so we can see and hear while sitting in our cars and listening over the radio.

What if too many of us show up to remain socially-distanced?

With all the doors open, we have a lot of space. But it's true that as we go along, we may have to somehow manage attendance enough to keep things safe. Let's see how it goes.

Can we sing?

Since singing sends potentially-virus-laden droplets far further than speaking, this is a difficult one. We may resort to using instrumental music or recorded hymn singing only.

Given the dangers, how will we stay safe enough?

We'll have to institute a behavioral covenant of some sort to make sure everyone remembers to wear a mask and understands the importance of following the distancing rules.

And last but certainly not least: How will we insure that it's safe to use the restrooms?

If you need to use the restroom (for myself, it's not 'if,' but 'when'), disinfectant wipes will be provided so you can wipe down any surfaces you are about to touch or have touched.

Whatever the new normal is going to be, we haven't quite found it yet. We don't know the date when it will arrive, either. But it will arrive, all indications to the contrary.

And we need to be ready for it when it gets here.

See you in church, not if we get there, but when,

Kleber

### **CONNECT with YOUR MINISTER via ZOOM**



Every Other Thursday, 5pm to 6pm.  
November 12th (Cancelled Nov. 26th -  
Thanksgiving)

Enter the ZOOM meeting at any time during the hour, 1.) to ask specific questions, 2.) to discuss last Sunday's service, or 3.) simply to check in and chat. Alternatively, you can reach him at other times by emailing

[minister@uucov.org](mailto:minister@uucov.org).

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81877591915>

Meeting ID: 818 7759 1915

Passcode = Khleber

### Is 'in-person' voting safe from Covid-19?

Yes! If you follow these guidelines:



<https://www.cnn.com/2020/09/18/health/voting-in-person-early-covid-19-wellness/index.html>

Remember –  
Election day is Tuesday, November 3rd!

## From the Board

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### President's Message

Like most of us I am missing UUCOV, or at least the UUCOV of old. Sunday service and coffee hour with friends and potential friends. Coffee made by Ruth and treats left from last night's parties. I long for trying to find a bench to sit in the shade because my sunglasses were left in the car. A quarantine for a pandemic is not fun even for those who learned how to bake bread, had time to read every book sitting on your shelves for years or discovered how to locate the stars in the sky.



We have been trying to bring some of the feelings of being part of an extended family through Zoom meetings and small group discussions and the uplifting sounds of a YouTube Sunday service with a chance to sing along. Much of this has been good, members spending time in other states have been able to attend. You can listen to the Sermon any time even in your pajamas. Fellowship Groups have been meeting more frequently and old members who moved away have been invited back. But many of us have missed the face to face, even if masked, interactions of longtime friends.

While trying to plan for a reopening of UUCOV the Covid-19 Task Force and your Board of Trustees have decided to start Phase one of a future reopening of the Sanctuary and Sunday Service. The Campus grounds are now open for small informal groups, willing to follow CDC guideline, to meet for conversation, contemplation of nature or just saying hi to friends.

*Please remember to wear a mask. Follow social distancing guidelines stay at least 6 feet apart. Stay healthy and bring joy, love, concerns and an awe of your surroundings.*

I look forward to seeing many of you,

Pamela Palmer (nee MacFarlane)  
*President*

### From the Treasurer

***Thank You! Thank you!***

September was a great month. We asked for pledge payments and our congregation responded. We had new pledges: made and paid, total pledge payments, partial pledge

payments and even a considerable over payment plus our usual, faithful monthly and quarterly pledge payments.

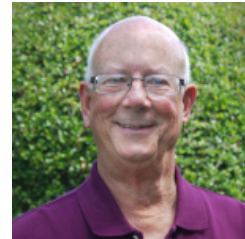
We have received 71.8% of pledges in 6 months.

For September, our income was \$28,545 and our expenses were \$16,463.

Expenses were \$8,866 under our COVID budget!

Monthly Social Justice donations: CHAPS \$135.00; All Faiths Food Bank/Backpack Kids \$300.00

Dave Lyon  
*Treasurer*



## From the UUCOV Coordinating Council

Click here for the minutes of the October 6th, 2020 Coordinating Council meeting - <https://uucov.org/images/phocadownload/Minutes%20CC%20Meeting%20Oct%202020.pdf>

Jack Head  
*Board VP and Chair of Coordinating Council*

## Congregational Life

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### Facebook

***“Don’t use social media less. Use it more intentionally. Follow people who inspire and motivate you. Engage with experts you can learn from. Create genuine, positive friendships. Just stop mindlessly scrolling, complaining, hating and engaging in negativity and bitterness.” - Quote from UU Post***

#### **UUCOV has three Facebook Pages!**

First we have our official congregation Facebook Page “**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice**”, <https://www.facebook.com> that is public and provides an opportunity for those in the community to learn about us. We post times of services, events, etc. To post on this submit your post to Erin Fangboner.



We have an open Facebook page “**In Touch - Justice Action**” (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/InTouchJusticeAction/>) that is public and provides an opportunity for political justice posts. You are free to post directly on this page. This is an immediate way to share information.

We have a closed Facebook page “**In Touch**” (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/InTouchUUCOV/>) that is closed and only available to members and friends. This provides a relatively secure place to share congregation events both announcing them and after providing pictures on the event. This is an immediate way we have of sharing information. It has provided a place for members/friends to ask questions about an event also. Originally “In Touch” was created as a way of keeping informed of happenings even when some were up north during the summer months. Once you have been admitted to the group you are free to post directly. *This is a politics free group.*

We do ask that all posts be respectful, as these are not created to replace face to face dialogue but rather to provide a vehicle for sharing of information on a timely basis.

If you are hosting an event please remember to use all of our communication avenues – Connection, Happenings, Website, Facebook pages and bulletin boards. And most important – please utilize these communication vehicles to keep involved and up to date with what is happening in this congregation.

## UUCOVfee Hour – Hosts needed!



Sunday, after the church service, we would often meet on the lanai for coffee, sweets, and friendship. We used this opportunity to exchange intellectual banter, family updates, and remind each other how grateful we are for our congregation. Since we are currently virtual, the coffee hour is as well. We are seeking someone to host future virtual Zoom Coffee Hours. If interested in being a host, check out

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4da9a72da4f58-uucov> .

## Virtual Office Hours Have Changed!

'Virtual Office Hours' are still every Monday and Wednesday – but have changed from 10:00am – 11:00am to **8:30am - 9:30am** This is to make more morning time slots available for morning meetings. You may enter the ZOOM meeting at any time during the hour to speak with Salli regarding questions, requests, assistance, UUCOV publications, etc. Feel free to sign-in and say hello!

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84352749746>

Meeting ID: 843 5274 9746

**Password = office**



## Deadlines for Newsletter Submissions

**HAPPENINGS (Weekly Newsletter) – Every Thursday morning by 9:00am.**  
If it is a holiday (short) week, the deadline is Wednesday at 9:00am.

**CONNECTION (Monthly Newsletter) – The 20th of each month by the noon.**

## Pluses of COVID-19

In a speech given in June of 1966, Robert Kennedy said living in interesting times held danger and uncertainty but also offered opportunities for creative energy. COVID-19 definitely qualifies for all of us as one of those times. In an effort to try to focus energy on capturing some of the positives, we're hoping UUCOV members and friends will share via Connection what some of them have been for you. Whether serious, funny, eccentric, or maybe even a little bit weird, please send them in to Salli at [office@uucov.org](mailto:office@uucov.org).

### **“In the Time of Pandemic”**

By Katherine M. O'Meara

And people stayed at home  
And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And did exercises  
And made art and played  
And learned new ways of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply.

Someone meditated, someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed.



And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
The earth also began to heal.

And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves,  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed.

## Telling Your Tale: Following the Oral Tradition

**Monday, November 9th at 2:00pm**

Take part in a Zoom Meeting using the 'Ancient Art of the Oral Tradition of Storytelling.' Each session will have a spark to get you started in telling about who you are and how you got here. Remember everyone's story is interesting and another's story might bring back a memory. Contact Pamela Palmer (MacFarlane) 631 413-5775 or .



The first suggestion or spark for a story is, ***“Tell about a door that you remember from your childhood or was important to your life.”***

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97922520542?pwd=RGRZdENhc1V1MDIOQzgycFVWRjdBQ09>

Meeting ID: 979 2252 0542

**Passcode: Stories**

## News from the Caring Team

The Caring Team would like to thank the many Team members who have been helping our UUCOV friends in need. You are very much appreciated!

The Caring Team is always on the lookout for UUCOV members and friends who would like to be added to our list to be called when a meal, a phone call, or a ride to a doctor appointment is needed. You may not be called often, but when the need arises, it's comforting to know we have a group of caring, concerned people to call on. Please contact Eileen Leapley at to be included on the list.



Please remember that all UUCOV members and friends can keep their personal data stored in a confidential ministerial file, to be used only in case of emergency. The file includes who should be called in case of emergency, your health and professional services providers, your personal wishes, and final arrangements. Contact Caring Team leader Eileen Leapley at for a copy of the form, which will be kept in a sealed envelope in the minister's confidential file.

If you are interested in pre-purchasing a plaque for the UUCOV Memorial Wall, located in our beautiful Memorial Garden, please contact Eileen Leapley at [eleapley44@gmail.com](mailto:eleapley44@gmail.com). If you have any questions about the Memorial Wall, Eileen will be glad to talk with you.

These are stormy times - in myriad ways - for all of us. Over the summer, a handful of committed UUCOV members have been meeting and training to be part of a Pastoral Care Program. A pastoral visitor will “walk with you” as a representative of our congregation, ready to listen to and support you with your concerns. Feel free to email ; someone from the Pastoral Care Program will contact you.

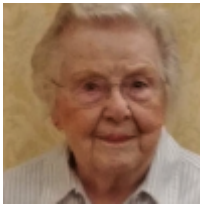


Fellowship Groups are still going strong, despite this time of lengthy isolation. Many of our groups are meeting via Zoom, and even though our congregants are spread out over various parts of the country, they can participate in lively virtual discussions. This contact is more important now than ever. If you are not presently in a UUCOV Fellowship group, you are urged to contact Wendy Voigt at [wendyvw1126@gmail.com](mailto:wendyvw1126@gmail.com).

## Reflections from Centenarians

*UUCOV members who are centenarians have been invited to share with their congregation their lives over the last century. This is a gift to their congregation.*

Elaine Carlson - I was born in Chicago and wasn't expected to live. Because I continued to be sickly, we moved to Park Ridge, a northwest suburb of Chicago. I went through their elementary school system but went to girls' boarding school for high school. Then I chose Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, where I majored in French. After graduating I brushed up on my shorthand and typing skills and joined the workforce. I worked in several places before being hired for the advertising department at A. B. Dick Company, the makers of the Mimeograph. It was there that I met Bud, who worked in the credit department. We got married in May 1947.



We began the "transfer" route through New Orleans, Boston, Birmingham, Michigan, Dallas, back to Birmingham, and finally to Barrington, Illinois. We had our three daughters, so my time was mostly spent with them. I now have six grandchildren and one great grandson. I always found moves exciting because each area has its own "feel." In New Orleans I learned about eating seafood (something Mother never served). In Dallas I joined the League of Women Voters. My family

(staunch Republicans) were interested in politics, so the League was appropriate. I worked in the League for many years. To my mother's and brother's disappointment, I became more liberal as time went on.

Through the years I was an avid reader and was interested in needlework: crewel, cross stitch, quilting, needlepoint, and sewing. I also was interested in investing and managed the finances for our family.

I think of all the changes in these years, most of which I just adapted to without giving them any real thought - console radios, portable radios, sound on our computers and cell phones. When my daughter is told by someone that they are too old to learn computers, she tells them that if her mother could learn, they could. I have always been extremely independent, working on the theory that if I put my mind to something, I can handle it. I guess I could also be called a "loner," probably because I grew up with two brothers in a neighborhood with no girls my age. Going away to school further isolated me from the neighborhood. I did have good friends here in Venice, but sadly I am the only one left.

I have always been interested in religion but grew up in a family with no church connections. I never went to church until high school chapel services. When I met Bud, I said that we would be a unified family and I would join his Episcopal Church. After he died, I began to think of things I couldn't agree with. I decided one Sunday to try UUCOV, which I had known of because of my friend, Rhoda Bernstein. I was totally blown away that first Sunday because of the openness of the service. Though I don't get to services now, I still feel like I "belong." My daughter came with me one Sunday and was so impressed that she has joined her UU church in Woodstock, Illinois.

## Meet Our Congregants

*This our newest column to introduce both new and not so new members, friends and visitors to each other. During this pandemic when we can't be together it just seemed like a good idea to introduce each other to each other.*

**Steve Doublestein** - After retiring from 35 years of teaching in Michigan and in the Chicago area, my life partner John, and I purchased a home in East Englewood and after several years as snow birds, we are now full time residents of the Sunshine State.



I am originally from Allegan, Michigan in the SW corner of the state. I attended Grand Valley State University in Allendale and in 1979 graduated with a degree in Spanish and Art and a minor degree in Elementary Education. For the past 32 years I taught bilingual education in Blue Island, Illinois. Glad to be retired but I miss the students and teaching them English, culture, music and natural history.



John and I currently have one dog, Honey who is queen of our household. My interests include art, history, gardening, antiques, amateur photography and enjoying the flora and fauna of Florida. Most recently I have become fully involved in music, specifically the ukulele. And I now own 9 ukuleles and 2 banjos. I am performing with a partner and we are raising moneys for charity. Our most recent concert was sold out and supported 4Oceans.

I had been searching for a spiritual home and a place where I will feel accepted and welcome. I became a member in 2015. I was happy to have found the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice and most recently I have been working with shOUT, a UUCOV Social Justice Committee, on projects supporting the LGBTQ community.



**Richard and Barbara Buehring** - Richard and I lived most of our married life on Long Island, NY. We moved to Venice in August 2016 and have been enjoying the laid-back atmosphere, exotic (to us) wildlife, and absence of anything a Northerner would call “winter.” Pre-pandemic, we were having a great time attending the many concerts, shows, and ballets on the Gulf



Coast.

We are still enjoying the homier aspects of Florida living—no snow shoveling, lawn mowing (the HOA does it), or stairs to negotiate! We enjoy participating in some of the many volunteer opportunities UUCOV has to offer; Barbara as Social Justice Team Leader and Richard as part-time mat maker.

## From the Legacy Friends



With our UUCOV services confined to viewing recordings, John Spitzer finds he is grateful for the technology that allows him to call up our past Sunday services. By going to the UUCOV website and clicking on Past Sermons, he can draw upon those past presentations of UUCOV's mission and values.

But what about the future? How can we project our mission and values into the lives of our community during the decades to come? It is the purpose of the Legacy Friends to do just that – support UUCOV's mission and values far into the future. We provide that support by making contributions to the UUCOV Endowment Fund and the UUCOV Futures Fund. For more information, email John at or call him at 319-331-5914.

## Pathways

Are you interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism or in learning more about UUCOV? We will be having a two-session Zoom group meeting for those who are considering Membership or who are curious and want to hear more. The minister, the Membership Team and a Board representative will be participating.

These zoom meetings will be held on **Mondays November 9th and 16th from 2pm until 4pm.**

We ask that you register for the sessions so that we can send you materials to review and the meeting invitation.

Join us, meet other newcomers and learn something!

Janet Lemoine and Nancy Wilson,  
*Welcome and Membership Team,*



## Lifespan Education

### Message from the Director

***“Courage is not having the strength to go on; it is going on when you don’t have the strength.” - Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), 26th President of the United States.***

I don’t know about you but I’m done with this pandemic.

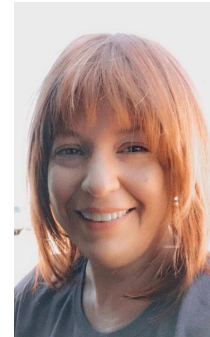
I’m ready to stop wearing my mask. I’m ready to meet up with my friends and family. And I’m ready to live life as I was used to before COVID-19! I miss the activity of our Sunday mornings! I long to see you all IN PERSON!

Although I feel this way, now is the time for courage. Now is the time to continue even if I don’t feel like I have the strength. To keep myself and my family safe, I need to continue keeping my distance and wearing my mask.

I wish all of you the courage to continue even when you feel you don’t have the strength.

Please call, text or email me. I would love to hear from you!

Kathy Avery  
*Director of Lifespan Religious Education*  
Ph: 941-270-6187



### Youth Religious Education



We have started our new year of curriculum. On Sundays at 10:00 am through Zoom, we breakout into groups and use ‘Soul Matters’ curriculum. If you are interested in attending, have a topic you’d like to share or know a kid who would like to join, please

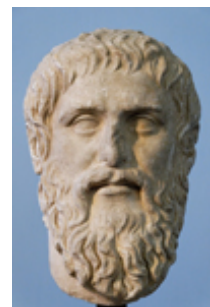
contact Kathy Avery at or 941-270-6187.

### Interest Groups

#### Virtual Plato’s Circle

**Noember 4th, 1:30pm - 3:00pm**

A gathering where people of different backgrounds discuss important ideas and issues. Each 90-minute session begins with a topic that forms the basis for thoughtful discussion reflecting participants’ unique experiences and perspectives. The gathering provides an opportunity to



have an intelligent and stimulating conversation in an atmosphere of support and respect. All are welcome! Contact: Bill Dowling - or Linda Underwood -

The topic for November is *"The 2020 November Election - What have I learned from this election?"*

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86551017426>

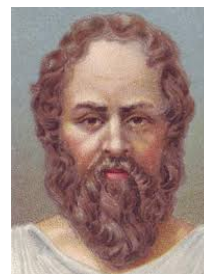
Meeting ID: 865 5101 7426

**No password required.**

## Virtual Socrates Café

**November 18th, 1:30pm – 3:00pm**

A gathering where people of different backgrounds discuss important ideas and issues. Each 90-minute session begins with a topic that forms the basis for thoughtful discussion reflecting participants' unique experiences and perspectives. The gathering provides an opportunity to have an intelligent and stimulating conversation in an atmosphere of support and respect. All are welcome!



### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97047078103?pwd=NnlEMGhVSUVESkxoZUxIMENGeGNKdz09>

Meeting ID: 477 531 7382

**Password: socrates**

## ZOOM Online UUCOV Book Club



**Thursday, November 12th, 1:00 pm**

In November, our selection is The Dutch House, by Ann Patchett.

*"A richly moving story that explores the indelible bond between two siblings, the house of their childhood, and a past that will not let them go. The Dutch House is the story of a paradise lost, a tour de force that digs deeply into questions of inheritance, love, and forgiveness, of how we want to see ourselves, and of who we really are."* A tale of real estate lust, paradise lost and a wicked stepmother.

All are welcome. For more information speak to Barbara Smith at 941-786-8559 or . Book Club meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of the month.

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85216887362>

Meeting ID: 852 1688 7362

**No password required**

## Mat-making for the Homeless

**Saturdays November 7th and 21st, 2020 10:00 a.m.**

Mat-making is meeting via ZOOM on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00am – 12:00pm. If you'd like to join us for a friendly chat, contact Janet Knudsen at or 781-424-0660 to request the ZOOM link.

(Photo: John Mohler, partner of UUCOV member Steve Doublestein, donates one of his beautiful sleeping mats for the Homeless Coalition. The mats are crocheted from 'plarn' [plastic yarn] made from recycled grocery bags.)

## Book Talk with Richard Cannarelli

**Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Please join us talk about a current or favorite book.

If you have read a particularly good book lately and you think that other UUCOVers might be interested in reading it, we



invite you to participate in an ARE/ZOOM meeting on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 10:00 AM.

Richard Cannarelli will be leading the discussion and anyone who wants to make a brief presentation of their book and engage in a short discussion is welcome. There are no limits to what type of book that can be shared including science fiction, sports, history, etc., but since this is an ARE activity, books that are relevant to the UUCOV/UU mission are especially

welcome.

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/4775317382?pwd=bXFOVndQd096ZFR4aURRMk54c2dGQT09>

Meeting ID: 477 531 7382

**Passcode: booktalk**



## Afternoons to Ascertain

We will skip November and December as this meeting falls on holidays.

## Social Justice

### Community Outreach



#### Interested in Helping with Homework at LCA?

Laurel Civic is trying different socially-distant approaches to providing homework assistance for a limited number of students this Fall. They would like to schedule a get-together to explain the different ways that volunteers can be involved, and their new safety protocols. This information session will be helpful to

those who have participated in this program before and to anyone considering participation. They will provide the session in person or via Zoom, depending on the comfort level of participants. If you're interested in taking part or have any questions, call or email Janet Knudsen at 781-424-0660 or [janet@knudsen3.com](mailto:janet@knudsen3.com).

### Headline News

All people interested in social justice and headline news are invited to participate.

**Friday, November 20th, 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84323433072>



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## Letters to the Editor

### Letters to the Editor

Comments, questions, concerns, musings - all welcome. **325 word maximum**. Send yours to .

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### Publication Deadlines

**Connection:** Articles and announcements for the *Connection* are due on the 20th of each month for the next month's edition. Please email your submissions to .

**UUCOV Happenings:** Events submissions are due at Thursday 9:00am for inclusion in *UUCOV Happenings*. Please email your submissions to .

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### UUCOV Mission and Covenant

A welcoming, caring congregation encouraging spiritual growth, seeking meaning and pursuing justice.

In a climate of joy, goodwill and trust this congregation covenants

- to treat one another with kindness and respect,
- to listen with openness and acceptance,
- to support and protect the environment of which we are all a part,
- to solve problems responsibly as we grow and change,
- to encourage learning and nurture the growth of diverse human spirits, and
- to dedicate time, talent and resources in an effort to make a difference in local and world communities.

In the spirit of our free religious heritage, we promise these to one another.

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### UU Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

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### UU Sources

The Living Tradition we share draws from many sources:



- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of spirit and an openness to the forces that create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men 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.

Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

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