



**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Venice**

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

## CONNECTION

August 2023

Venice, FL

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

### Community Chalice Lighting



By Atticus Palmer

We call this light before us in hope that we may always remain a strong community,  
Working together to make the world a better place.

When we are grieving or sad, when we are challenged, when we need help.

This flame guides us out of the darkness.

When we are cheerful, when we celebrate, when we accomplish a great task,

When we return to a place that makes us happy,

The chalice reminds us to share our happiness with others.

**In-Person services in our Sanctuary, as well as live, online service,  
Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.**



audiofetch



**We invite you to join us online for Sunday Service any time during the week!**

**Go to [www.uucov.org](http://www.uucov.org) and click on the arrow on the video**

**August 2023 Minister's mUUsings**



Summer is here and, like many of you, I am not. I am on vacation and study leave from July 17th through August 28th. What does this mean for UUCOV? It means a lovely time of good services provided by our Worship Arts Team and pulpit guests. I look forward to watching online! I will be available for emergencies only during that time, but if you do have an emergency please call or email right away. With one church year down and one to go, I look forward to returning ready to jump into the hustle and bustle of September and the joy of an exciting search. Have a great summer and see you at the end of August!

Warmly, Rev. Amy

### More from Rev. Amy

Beloved Friends,

On Friday, July 14th , 2023, our UUCOV Office Administrator Salli suffered a bad car accident. Salli is currently hospitalized and is in serious condition. At this time, we don't know how long she will be in the hospital or a rehab facility, and her healing journey could take quite a while. She is alert and talking but is on strong pain medication and often dozing, and her movement is minimal because of her injuries. Salli isn't up to calls or visits, and her wife has asked that we wait to send cards or flowers or other get-well gifts because of the limited space and intensity of the unit she is on.

Please bear with your Board of Trustees and staff as we make arrangements to allow the work of the congregation to go forward while we hold Salli and Caroline in support and love. If you have questions or needs which cannot wait, please contact:

Kathy Avery for general office questions

Bill Reynolds for billing/financial questions (he will direct you to the right person to answer you)

Steve Leapley for grounds/buildings questions

Linda Underwood for Connections questions

Rev. Amy for serious emergencies only (she is on vacation but available to take emergency calls)

Thank you all for your love, concern, and prayers at this time. Please understand that the information here is deliberately limited, as our newsletter is a public document, and we value Salli's privacy. If you have questions about Salli, please reach out to Kathy Avery or a member of the Board.

Warmly,

Rev. Amy

**Late July Update.....Salli is Healing!** She will probably be discharged from the hospital to rehab soon. As soon as she is in her rehabilitation facility, we will be able to send cards and let her know she has her congregation pulling for her. Stay tuned for further information.



If you would like to donate flowers for our chancel for a Sunday service, please contact Kathy Avery at [dre@uucov.org](mailto:dre@uucov.org) . If you would like to dedicate them for a birthday, anniversary or in memory of a loved one, it can be included in the order of service for that week.

### Refreshments

After many years, Ruth Boysworth has retired from chairing the Refreshment Table on Sunday mornings at UUCOV. A new chairperson is needed. According to Ruth, this is a fun way to serve the congregation, is not hard work, and can be very satisfying. We thank Ruth for her many years of service. She would be glad to answer any questions and provide some direction for a new chair at [ruth51@aol](mailto:ruth51@aol)

## CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS NEWS



### Minister Search Report

Thank you to everyone who answered the survey! We phoned everyone and got a great response. The link will be active until August 4.

The next phase of the Search is our facilitated small group conversations, referred to as "Cottage Meetings." These will be more free-flowing than the Long Range Planning groups.

A summary report of the cottage meetings will be included in the congregational documents given to a ministerial candidate. Why is this important? You've heard the phrase "You never get a second chance to make a first impression." The Cottage Meeting and survey reports are where UU ministerial candidates get their first impression of UUCOV and start to decide whether we might make a good fit together.

Be on the lookout! Information about getting involved will be coming in early to mid-August.

### Anniversary Time for UUCOV



UUCOV will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary later this year. Our celebration will span from November 2023 to January 2024, and we have planned two off-campus events so **save these dates:**

**Sunday, November 5, 2023**, there will be an anniversary service followed by a luncheon at Hotel Venezia in Venice to commemorate our origins, pay tribute to our founders and to all who have contributed to our growth. On Saturday, **January 20, 2024**, an anniversary luncheon is scheduled at Plantation Golf and Country Club to celebrate our future as a congregation.

An anniversary is an opportunity to review our beginnings-how we were launched and who helped found this congregation. It will showcase how UUCOV has grown over the years and established its identity. The planning committee is now seeking a theme for our celebration. If you have an idea for this, please e-mail Serena Cannarelli at [serencacannarelli39@gmail.com](mailto:serencacannarelli39@gmail.com). Updates will continue as brief announcements during Sunday services. Stay tuned and plan to join our celebration.

LOOKING FOR ARTISTS TO HELP US CELEBRATE. GET YOUR SUPPLIES. For information [click here](#)

**The UUCOV Boutique is OPEN for Business!!!**

<https://uucovboutique.com/>



**The Boutique features a line of items, most bearing the UUCOV logo. If you have ideas for new products, please let Rev. Amy or Donna Schaffer know, and we will try to make it happen.**

**Because this is a newly opened store, please let Amy or Donna know if you run into any problems with ordering or getting an order. We are also looking for artistic folks who would either like to design products or who are creating art images they would be willing to allow the store to use on items.**

*Great gifts! Happy Shopping!!*



### **President's Message**

We have received a resignation notice from our treasurer Ken Boysworth who has decided to step down and devote more time to his family. We appreciate all you did, Ken. His dedication as a congregational leader and his ability to work with our finance committee has greatly enhanced our financial position.

Board member Bill Reynolds will assume the role of treasurer until the nominating committee identifies a suitable candidate and submits his name to the board for a vote.

Ruth Boysworth who has been our "coffee lady" has also decided to step down from her Sunday after-service refreshment commitment. She will be available for consultation for members willing to take on this important service to the congregation.

The board, speaking for the entire congregation, wishes to thank Ken for what he accomplished as our treasurer and appreciate what Ruth has done towards making UUCOV Sundays so hospitable. We wish them both the best as they focus on their personal pursuits. They both have made valuable contributions to our church "home."





## **Monthly Meeting Minutes**

### **[Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting – July](#)**

**Barbara Buehring, Secretary, Board of Trustees**

### **[Special Meeting of Board of Trustees – July](#)**

**Barbara Buehring, Secretary, Board of Trustees**

### **[Minutes of the Coordinating Council Meeting – July](#)**

**Eileen Leapley, Coordinating Council**



**New Look for How We All Support our Congregation and our Community**

### **Florida Needs our Voice**

Here at UUCOV, we support our community and we support each other. How we do that has changed with each year – each year we have new members with new ideas and new strengths. Our congregation is ALWAYS changing and that is a good thing.

And speaking of change, this year the UUCOV Fiscal Team has designed a new Pledge Drive that will center on small cottage meetings, spread throughout the year. We believe this format will give you:

- A better opportunity to participate in identifying the congregation's goals and objectives
- The opportunity to learn more about UUCOV's finances
- More fun!

We plan to begin the Pledge Drive with the first cottage meeting in October or November, followed by monthly cottage meetings spread over the whole year. You will be invited to one of the monthly meetings to share some food and beverages, discuss UUCOV, and have your ideas heard.



Every year our Board of Trustees and Finance Committee works on goals and a budget to meet our needs. Just like at home, our budget has constraints; and we don't get everything we want.

The wish list is a list of things for the congregation that individuals, through the UUCOV teams, have identified and need funds. These ideas are vetted through the Coordinating Council and the Board of Trustees; and if accepted go to the wish list.

The Wish List will be shared regularly in the hope that something on the list might speak to you as necessary; or that you might wish to donate in the memory of someone or to honor a birthday or anniversary.

Anyone wishing to fund a Wish List item, either in part or total, is invited to contact Bill Dowling, Finance Committee member. Anyone desiring to add something to the Wish List should contact one of the team leaders most appropriate for the desired project for presentation to the Coordinating Council. An online "fillable" form is available.

**Currently on our Wish List:**

- Corner signage for Edmondson and Pinebrook: \$850
- Signage for the entrance from Edmondson Road: \$2,900
- Landscape Design for expansion of patio into the Lynch Memorial Garden: \$900
- Paved handicapped parking for Waters Hall: \$4,900

Interested in making any of the above happen?? Have a question? Contact Bill Dowling [wbd429@gmail.com](mailto:wbd429@gmail.com) or 941-228-3716

## Congregational Life



**The Caring & Remembrance Team** wishes to remind everyone that if you are experiencing difficulties, you are not alone. You can contact Eileen Leapley at [eleapley44@gmail.com](mailto:eleapley44@gmail.com) and she will reach out to team volunteers to help you. If you are in the Venice area throughout the summer and would like to be part of the team contact Eileen and she will add your name to the list.

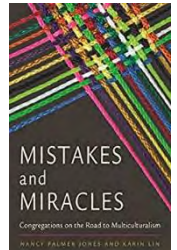
Meet our Congregant - Roxey Platte [Click here](#)



**UUCOV Book Club** will meet October 12, 2023, in Waters Hall A

Time for some summer reading!

*Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* by Nancy Palmer Jones & Karin Lin



## Social Justice



Community Outreach



Port Charlotte UU Congregation is sponsoring a Venezuelan woman and her two children as they work to obtain asylum status. Can you help?? [Click here](#)



## **Beat the Heat and Help the Homeless**

Feeling the heat? It's cool in Water's Hall! Join UUCOV's fun and friendly mat makers on the first and third Saturdays of the month. August 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> – as we cut and tie bags to make mats for the homeless. Muffins and coffee are served!

## **Classes**

### **Blue Lotus Buddhist Meditation Center at UUCOV**



*Our mission is to “To promote individuals’ peace within, compassion for all beings, spiritual growth, and an ethical way of life based on Buddhist principles.”*

**2023 Classes at UUCOV - <https://uucov.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/updated-blue-lotus.pdf>**

Mailing Address:

UUCOV

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

Office: [office@uucov.org](mailto:office@uucov.org)

Minister (Interim)

Rev. Amy Petrie Shaw

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

Call office or (513) 709-7058 (cell)

Please call, email or text to arrange Appointments as need, to directly schedule in-person or Zoom use:

<https://calendly.com/revamypshaw> (If it is an emergency, please use my cell number to call or text me 24/7)



Find us on Facebook!



“Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice “  
Or, for members only “ In-Touch-UUCOV”

