



CONNECTION

Join us for our Sunday 10 am service live in our Sanctuary
Or online at www.uucov.org

Introducing our New VP!

Please join us in welcoming Drew Stuart as new Vice President of our Board of Trustees!



[Click here to learn more about Drew](#)

With Deep Gratitude: A Community in Action

Our March 28 Save Democracy for All conference was a powerful reflection of who we are as a congregation—and it simply would not have been possible without the incredible dedication of our volunteers. From early morning setup to the final moments of clean-up, so many of you gave your time, energy, and heart to make the day a success.

Social Justice Committee Chair Anna Drallios shares a heartfelt message of thanks, along with reflections on how this event strengthened our shared commitment to democracy and community care.

[👉 Read the full message](#)

[👉 Read Anna Drallios' inspiring speech](#)

[👉 View photos from the day](#)

Meeting Highlights

Board of Trustees Meeting- April 16

- Rev. Amy is collaborating with staff to streamline duties and plans to appeal to the UU Ministers Association in September for her continued role as the congregation's minister.
- Planning is underway for the UUA General Assembly in June, with local sessions available in Sarasota from June 19–21.
- The Waters Hall Renovation group is preparing a survey and focus group to discuss project goals.

Coordinating Council Meeting- April 7

- Reclaimed water is available for new gardens, and bids are being sought for an automatic handicap door for the Sanctuary bathroom, funded by a \$1,000 donation. The Asta Linder House A/C unit needs a \$15,000 replacement from capital expenditures.
- Engagement initiatives include "D.E.E. Wednesdays" at 4 p.m. led by Honor Posey, the new Director of Education and Engagement

[To access all meeting minutes, click here](#)

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Ministers MUUsings



To read this month's Minister's Muusings, click Here

President's Message



To read this month's President's Message, click Here

UUCOV Mat Makers Need Your Help!

There is an ongoing need for sleeping mats for the homeless in our area. UUCOV's Mat Makers continue to help meet that need. We will meet in Waters Hall on May 2 and 16 from 10 to noon. Thanks to our friends at UU Sarasota, we have a LOT of bags to cut and need your help! Hot beverages and sweet treats will be served.



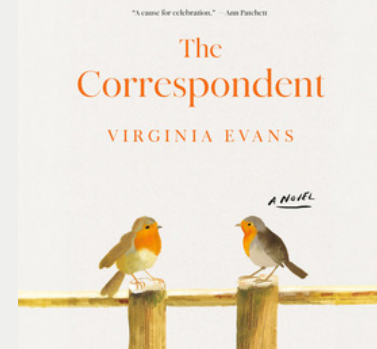
Food Donations – No Perishables, Please!



Thank you for your continued support of our weekly food collections on the lanai for our Neighbors in Need. Please remember that we can only accept non-perishable items. Food may sit on our lanai for days and perishable items will spoil in the heat. Consider delivering produce and other perishable items to South County Food Pantry's drive-up drop-off. Thank you!

May Book Club: The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

A critically acclaimed epistolary novel about Sybil Van Antwerp, a retired lawyer who communicates primarily through letters, forcing her to confront her past and the limitations of her isolated life as she receives unexpected correspondence. Join us May 14 at 1 PM for a lively discussion. All are welcome!



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Special Offering for Good Samaritan on May 10

Our Special Offering on Sunday, May 10, will benefit Good Samaritan Pharmacy and Health Services. Good Samaritan provides free medical services, tests, prescriptions, and over-the-counter medications to uninsured, financially needy people in our area. Please give generously. If you'd like to write a check, make it out to UUCOV and write "Good Sam" on the memo line.



May Green Tip



There will be a bin available for fruit and vegetable scraps so summer residents can continue to add to the composting project that has been a boon in the edible garden. Coffee grounds, torn brown paper and grass clippings are also acceptable. It helps if scraps are cut to a smaller size. We ask you to avoid citrus rinds, produce stickers, corn cobs, and large fruit pits as these items decompose too slowly or not at all. Thank you to all who make the effort to renourish the soil.

Legacy Friends: Planting Seeds for the Future



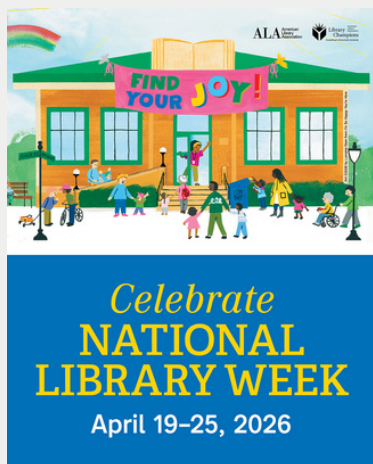
by **Bill Reynolds**

Our Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice has long been a place where lives are enriched through spirituality, deep friendships and social connection, creative expression, meaningful social action, and moments of shared joy. It is a community that gives so much to each of us, in ways both profound and simple...

[Click here to read the full article](#)

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Library News



April has been bustling for our UUCOV library! We kicked off National Library Week (April 19-25) on April 19 with the theme "Find Your Joy," leading to a record number of books checked out in one day!

We also launched a Puzzle Exchange program to encourage play and brain power. Feel free to take a puzzle from our library in Waters Hall or donate your own!

With over 700 items available, you can search our catalog at www.librarycat.org/lib/UUCOV by keyword, title, or author. Just fill out the 'Check-Out Sheet' at the circulation table. For questions, visit us on Tuesday mornings (10-12) or email library@uucov.org.

Special Request: We seek more Banned and Challenged books for our collection. Check the American Library Association's Censorship Search Portal at www.ala.org/bbooks/censorship-search-portal for suggestions. To see our current titles, search for 'ban' in our online catalog.

Looking ahead, Little Free Library Week kicks off on May 17. UUCOV's LFL features mostly 'beach reads' and fiction, while our main library focuses on non-fiction and banned books. Watch for a display in the lanai celebrating our LFL!

See you in the stacks!

The Library Team (Barbara, Laura, and Cathay)



SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER



Hello Friends,

Here are some ways to support voting and fair elections in Florida:

- 1) Check your voter registration status by calling your **County's Supervisor of Elections** and encourage others to do the same.
- 2) Consider serving as a **paid Poll Worker** to support the election process firsthand.
- 3) Get involved in **Election Protection work** by joining the **League of Women Voters**, which offers training for volunteers.
- 4) Help people get ID for voting by connecting with **Vote Riders** to conduct ID clinics.
- 5) Contact your Congresspeople to oppose the **SAVE and SAVE America Acts**.
- 6) Use the **toolkit** to oppose mid-cycle redistricting in Florida.
- 7) Invite your **County's Supervisor of Elections** to speak with your group about elections-related concerns.
- 8) **Sign up as an advocate** for the **National Task Force on Election Crises** to receive accurate information to share.
- 9) Join or donate to organizations supporting voting and fair elections.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lowe-Minor

President

League of Women Voters of Florida



UPCOMING EVENTS

a femme centric program
about mothers and hope
(and faith, maybe magic)

May 6, 2026 • 4:00 PM

UUCOV • Sanctuary

Refreshments provided •
discussion after encouraged

ALL ARE WELCOME



Contact DEE@UUCOV.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Ages Apple Pie “Happy Hour”

4pm May 13, 2026

at The UUCOV Sanctuary

1971 Pinebrook Rd, Venice, FL34292

NA Beverage & Nibbles Provided

BYOB

**an afternoon community gathering
of good-spirited fun**

& social respite

well-intentioned humans welcome;

Trained Service Animals Only

Contact: DEE@UUCOV.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 20, 2026

UUCOV



 4PM

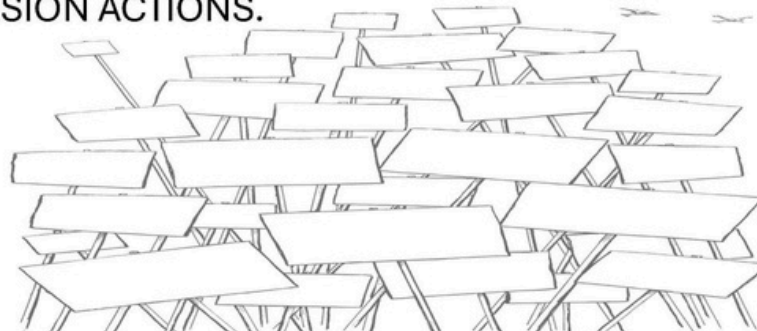
SANCTUARY

“#DOYOUROWNWORKWELL:

FINDING YOUR OWN LANE IN THE RESISTANCE”

LOCAL, LONGTIME ACTIVIST DEVON OPPENHEIMER WILL SPEAK ON HOW THE GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT IN SARASOTA COUNTY HAS FOUND ITS FOOTING AND BEYOND *BECAUSE EVERYDAY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WILLING TO STEP AWAY FROM “LIFE AS USUAL” AND INTO THE FRAY.*

THIS TALK WILL FOCUS ON HOW WE CAN EACH DO OUR OWN WORK WELL, STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES WHILE INCREASING OUR INVOLVEMENT IN SOCIAL COHESION ACTIONS.



MAY CALENDAR

All meetings and gatherings take place in Waters Hall, unless otherwise noted

- **Mat Makers:** May 2 & 16 - 10 am
- **Blue Lotus Meditation:** Every Saturday- 10:30 am (Sanctuary)
- **Freethinkers of Venice Secular AA Group:** Every Tuesday - 6:30 pm
- **Death and Grief Support Group:** May 6 & 20 - 1:30 pm
- **AA Meeting:** Every Thursday - 5:45 am (Sanctuary).
- **Choir Rehearsal:** Every Thursday - 4 pm (Sanctuary).
- **Men's Open Group:** May 23 & 30- 10:30 am
- **Book Club:** May 14 - 1 pm
- **Rummikub & Hugs Learn/Play:** May 7 & 21 - 12:30 pm.
- **Bridge:** Friday - 1 pm to 3 pm. (Last Session!)
- **MahJongg:** Every Wednesday at 1 pm. (New Time!)
- **Ladybird Group:** May 7 & 21 - 1 pm.



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice

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



(941) 485-2105



Office@UUCOV.org



www.UUCOV.org



www.UUCOVboutique.com

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Services are Sunday at
10 am at our Sanctuary,
or live on our [website](#) or
[YouTube](#) page

