

The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

August 2016
Volume 58, Number 7

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September 2016 Issue Deadline

Sunday, August 14, 2016

Submit articles to:

submission@uucfl.org

Editors

Valerie Heller

Gary Ladka

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Established in 1958

**Welcome Our
New Minister
Rev. Susan M. Smith**

Meet-and-Greet Schedule
Wednesdays August 10 and 24
10:00am - 11:30am

Wednesdays August 17 and 31
7:00pm - 8:30pm

Rev. Susan's First Sunday Service - August 14 at 11:00am
See Rev. Susan's Introduction on Page 3



LifeNet4Families

Cooperative Feeding Program

LifeNet4 Families Workday

Saturday August 13
at 9:00am

Cast Your Net to Page 5 to Find Out More

Labyrinth Café
Season Opening Concert
"Rise Up Singing"
Singalong

Saturday August 13
at 7:30pm



Tune In to Page 6 for All 2016-2017 Season Dates



Annual Poetry Service
Sunday August 28
at 11:00am

Poems Sought

Gather Ye Rosebuds While Ye May on Page 2

Unitarian Universalist Church of Ft Lauderdale
Mission Statement:

To come together as a caring community and sanctuary
for seekers of spiritual growth, truth, and meaning.

FREEDOM, REASON
ACCEPTANCE + LOVE



President's Message

"Change is hard at first, messy in the middle, and gorgeous at the end." -- Robin Sharma

We've said our good-byes to our long-standing minister... We've searched high and low for a spiritual leader to help us stabilize and grow...and I'm proud to announce the hiring of our new developmental minister, the Rev. Susan Smith! She will tell you more about herself on page three, but I can tell you our search committee was very impressed with her knowledge, background and good humor.



Along with Rev. Susan comes something that can be incredibly difficult... change.

Keep in mind that we, as human beings, are hard-wired for change. It surrounds us, and in many ways defines us. Aad Boot (a change leader professional) said, "Change is everywhere around us. It always was and always will be. Our lives, the whole universe exists by the grace of continuous change. We all know this because we experience it every day. Not a day is the same. Our bodies change non-stop. The weather is always changing. Plants and trees, rocks, rivers, and seas change. Our relationships, friends, colleagues, customers, neighbors, they all change. We live through change every day and we are extremely capable of dealing with it." We can handle the changes we are faced with because we know, in the end, that it will bring us a stronger, larger, healthier, and more dynamic congregation.

You and I are about to embark on a grand journey, riding the waves of a sea of change. Without you, none of this would be possible. I always welcome calls to talk about what's on your mind. I'm at (954) 296-0089.

Jim Giblin

Annual Poetry Service Returns!



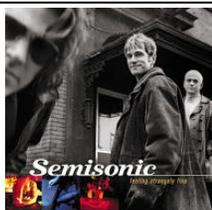
I am once again honored to carry on David Fisher's annual tradition of the UUCFL Poetry Service (begun in 2004) on Sunday, August 28. As before, I am requesting that members and friends submit a copy of their favorite poem (could be your own creation or another poet's) for presentation during the service. Please include a brief note telling me how the poem speaks to you and/or how it came into your life. I'll let you know by mid-August regarding inclusion in the service. E-mail me at ozwoman321@aol.com

Susan Moss

Building Usage Scheduling

With all of the activities going on in the building, especially with all of the exciting new things coming along, it will be very important to keep a close look at the calendar to make sure we have room for all events and renters that we have, and to have scheduling conflicts kept to a minimum. Please email me at dgriswold2001@hotmail.com with any inquiries or to schedule an event at the church. Thank you.

Dave Griswold



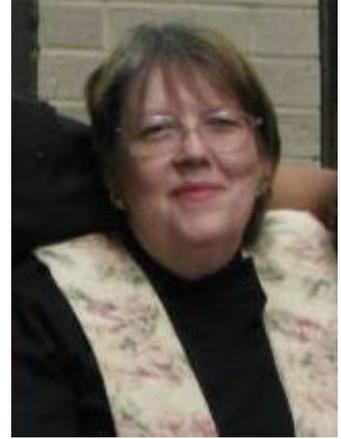
"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end."

~ Closing Time - Semisonic ~

Rev. Susan's Space

New Beginnings

As I write this, I'm two weeks away from relocating from my hometown of Shreveport, Louisiana to begin my time as your developmental minister. It's twelve years since I did the "ordinary" ministerial work of serving our shared UU faith in one place with one congregation. In 2004, I became an Emerging Congregation Specialist with our Florida District. In 2006, I became the District Executive of the Southwestern Conference of our UUA, which had the distinction of being the district with the most congregations and the second largest geographical area. Since then, the Southern Region was formed from our four Southern U.S. districts, increasing my "parish" to 13 states, Mexico and the islands. I've preached at and consulted with more than 100 congregations, consulted with the Boards of our UUA and our UU Ministers Association, worked with a wide variety of congregational clusters, and taught close to 1000 leaders at our Southern Region Leadership Experiences and as guest educator for our UU Musicians' Network. When people asked how I liked this kind of ministry, I always said, "I have too much energy for just one congregation."



When I retired from the UUA back in January of this year, I had no plans to look for "just one congregation" in which to continue my ministry, but one day I curiously opened a link on an email from our Transitions Office and read through the materials of congregations looking for "developmental" ministry. Ministry holds periodic mystical moments in which there is a sense of destiny, of fate, of calling, of having one's "Spidey-sense" tingling; and I definitely experienced such a moment as I read (and then re-read to my husband Robert) the description of the ministry that your congregation envisioned for itself. I could see seriousness, optimism, practicality and just a touch of what we call in the Change Business "pain." "Pain" when we are talking about doing big is a mixture of dissatisfaction with things as they are and a hunger for something exciting that could be. It must be strong enough to overcome the typical inertia of systems and sufficiently life-giving to keep us fueled for the hard work of growth and change. In short, you looked to be serious about doing something absolutely wonderful, and I want to be a part of that.

Not only do you seem to be the right church to accomplish the goals that you have formed, but southeast Florida is a very exciting place to do the shared work of our UU faith at the moment. When most of the country fears the "Browning" of America, you are serving an area of rich complexity. The opening of Cuba means more where you are than just new tourism opportunities. Sea level rise must be taken into account in any long-term planning where you live.

I am starting my work with you on August 1 and preaching for the first time August 14. I'll be holding meet-and-greets at UUCFL at 10-11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 10 and 24 and at 7-8:30 p.m. on August 17 and 31. I can't wait to hear what your dreams and visions may be as we embark on this new ministry together.

Blessings,
Rev. Susan

I can't believe
it's over
A new beginning ...





Religious Education

Director of Religious Education (DRE) - Susan Dirgins-Friend
 Phone (954) 424-1910
 Email tiredmomofbob@aol.com



There's something in the air, and it's very exciting! Change is scary, but, I'm ready for our congregation to embrace it with gusto. I am so psyched about our new direction, I've cleaned my office to a state it has not been in for many years. I am in the process of working on next church year's Children's RE Theme and program and it will definitely involve history, change, and the future.

Much thanks to Valerie, Jeff and Dave for doing RE summer activities with our children while I am officially "off". The kids have cooked, had fun, and nature walked around our lovely grounds. Do you have an activity you might want to come and share with them? I've got one open Sunday left in August(28th)

I look forward to seeing everyone back on September 11 for Water Sunday-so enjoy the rest of our sultry summer and don't forget to get over to the beach-at least once!

Love and blessings,
DRE Susan

August Children's Religious Education Schedule

Sunday August 7, 11AM
 Fun with Mr. Jeff!!

Sunday August 14, 11AM
 Water Play Day with Ms. Valerie
 Wear water play clothes and shoes and
 bring a towel!

Sunday August 21, 11AM
 Kids Do Coffee Hour with Ms. Susan

Sunday August 28, 11AM
 Summer Activity



Lifenet 4 Families/Cooperative Feeding Program



LifeNet4Families
Cooperative Feeding Program

Thanks to all for keeping the baskets filled in the lobby. The summer is a time that the food insecure really need help from the food pantry. Children do not get the breakfast and lunch that they get during the school year, so some of these

families really depend on their monthly box to feed their children. Remember, canned and dry goods only, nothing fresh or in glass, and canned proteins such as meat, tuna, beans or peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, canned soups of all kinds, dried beans, rice, pastas and cereal are all the most desired items.

If you would like to join the crew working in the pantry with our friends from River of Grass, we will be there on Saturday August 13, from 9AM until about 11AM. We fill boxes, fill shelves and do whatever needs to be done. Wear comfortable, cool clothes and closed toed shoes (sneakers are best, no flip flops or sandals). The work is not too hard, and we get to socialize while we are working, so it is a win win. LifeNet is located at 1 NW 33rd Terrace, Lauderhill. It is on the NW corner of NW 33rd Terrace and Broward Blvd.

Info or questions, DRE Susan
tiredmomofbob@aol.com (954) 424-1910

Susan Friend

Vespers Update

Vespers is on summer hiatus, and this coming year there may be changes to Vespers. Vespers is our once a month, 45 minute,



2nd Friday service which features readings, music, meditation and is followed by a time for fellowship and sharing of wine and cheese. The format is always up for discussion, but the biggest issue has been finding volunteers to help set up, clean up, and organize the services. With a limited group of volunteers, perhaps we need to go to Vespers every other month instead of once a month, or once quarterly. We will be having a meeting in August to discuss Vespers going forward, and we assume our new Minister, Rev. Susan, will want to have input as well. Please look to the weekly announcements, the online calendar and the cUUrious cUUrrier email newsletter for the exact date of the meeting.

It will most likely be on a Sunday following church. If you have ideas that you would like to discuss before the meeting, please feel free to contact me.

Info or questions, DRE Susan
tiredmomofbob@aol.com (954) 424-1910

Susan Friend

Name Tags – If you have not yet received a name tag lanyard, please sign up in church on Sundays. You have a choice of designs between a picture of the church and a chalice. Please wear your name tags each Sunday so our veterans and our newer members and visitors recognize each other better.



cUUrious cUUrrier –

If you are not receiving our weekly email newsletter, the cUUrious cUUrrier or a mailed copy of The Journey newsletter visit our website at www.uucfl.org and click on "Subscribe" to sign up



The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalists

There are seven principles which Unitarian Universalist congregations 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.



Labyrinth Café Kicks Off Concert Series Season - Saturday August 13 at 7:30pm

Hope you're all having a great summer... :-)

Last season's Labyrinth Cafe was wonderful, beginning with Grant Peeples and The Sarah Mac Band, ending with Claudia Schmidt and our own Amy Carol Webb, and so much awesomeness in between. Wow!

We continue to be blessed by our dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers: Erik, Virginia, Brian, Donna, Kelly, Patty, Sandy, Lori, Jeff, Stephanie, Josh, Jessica, Victoria, Christy... and major thanks to Reverend Gail and the UUCFL for housing and supporting our series. Together we have created and sustained a musical community to be proud of and uplifted by.

We are also appreciative of our loyal audience, for continuing to choose live, original music on the second Saturday of each month. We do our very best to bring you stellar performers, some of whom you may not have heard of, but who we believe are more than worthy of gracing our stage. Thank you for trusting our judgment... :-)

~~~~~

I (Susan Moss) will be appearing on Michael Stock's Folk and Acoustic Show on WLRN Sunday, July 31 at 2 p.m. to preview the upcoming season. Listen live at 91.3 FM or webstreamed at [www.wlrn.org](http://www.wlrn.org) to hear about the talented performers who are on our schedule this year. Our website should be going live about the same time, and all will be revealed soon about the harmonic treats in store. We will once again be offering a Season Pass for \$150 per person, which entitles you entrance to all 9 concerts, a beautifully-designed Labyrinth Cafe T-shirt and premium, reserved seating!

### **In the meantime, save these dates for the upcoming 2016-17 Labyrinth Cafe season:**

Saturday, August 13, 2016 – Sing-Along!  
 Saturday, September 10, 2016  
 Saturday, October 8, 2016  
 Saturday, November 12, 2016  
 Saturday, December 10, 2016  
 Saturday, January 7, 2017 (first Saturday of the month)  
 Saturday, February 11, 2017  
 Saturday, March 11, 2017  
 Saturday, April 8, 2017  
 Saturday, May 13, 2017

~~~~~

Help us kick off our 2016-2017 season on Saturday, August 13 at 7:30 p.m. (only \$5!) with this fun, lively and interactive sing-along! Local performers will host, emcee and lead the evening's festivities, refreshments are available for sale and plenty of free parking is provided. There is no pressure to sing out really loudly, or to sing incredibly well. The only common bond is that everyone in the group loves to sing. That's it. Sharing songs and creating magical sound is really way too much fun. Everyone is welcome. Without you, there is no sound!

We will be singing from the "Rise Up Singing" songbook (a wonderful guide compiled by SingOut Magazine with lyrics to over 1200 classic songs) as well as from our own memory. Selections will include a great mix of folk, gospel, bluegrass, jazz, contemporary, rounds, old-time. If you have a copy of "Rise Up Singing", please bring it. We will have copies for sale at the event. We will also have used folk/acoustic/roots/country/bluegrass CDs for sale. If you have any to donate, please bring them Saturday night.

Can't wait for you all to join us once again for song and camaraderie!

Susan Moss

Coordinator, Labyrinth Cafe Concert Series



Hollywood Slavery Symbols Campaign - Take Down Racist Street Names in Hollywood, FL



After the massacre at Mother Bethel in South Carolina in June 2015, The Black Lives Matter Alliance of Broward and Miami Dade Green Parties launched a campaign to change street signs named after Confederate Generals in Hollywood FL. Nathan Bedford Forrest was a confederate general most noted for his brutal war crimes and as a founding member of the KKK. Robert E. Lee and Jonathan Hood were traitors who deserted the U. S. Army to fight for profit in the rebel army during the Civil War. All supported and profited from slavery.

These streets run through the heart of the African American community in Hollywood. The names were changed only after the Civil Rights movement got into full swing and began to look like it might succeed.



Please add your name to the petition to the Hollywood Commission to change these street names. Forrest, Lee and Hood represent a brutal system of oppression, slaughter and enslavement. City officials must put an end to this bigotry. Visit our website at uucfl.org and find the link on the home page to sign the petition at change.org

Betty Brantley - Social Justice

Coming CUUPS Events

We have no Sabbats in August. Hope you enjoyed our Native American Lammas July 30.

Study Group continues with a different topic each Thursday evening.

- August 4: Our Annual Chocolate Ritual, very spiritual for many.
- August 11: The Saging of Shaper. Our leader is welcomed into elderhood.
- August 18: Full Moon Magick & Lore. Need I say more?
- August 25: Magick Squares with Alba Luna. Come and learn.



I will be leading the Friday Earth Spirituality Ritual at SUUSI this year. Come and participate

--Kip, Resident Pagan

With Blessings, Edie & Marty McAnulty - CUUPS Facilitators

TheMoonPath Chapter of CUUPS

UUA President: Through These Dark Days, We Must Nurture Hope

The Rev. Peter Morales, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), issued this statement following the news of police officers killed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana:

"The killing earlier today of three Baton Rouge police officers and the wounding of three others continue the cycle of violence that is afflicting our country.

My heart goes out to the families of the victims, to their friends, and to their fellow officers.

Violence against police officers is not the solution to the systemic racism that infects our society.

Violence breeds violence, and hate breeds hate.

We cannot continue this way.

The only solution to this mania is to seek ways to bridge the differences that divide us. These efforts must start with understanding and compassion. There is no other way.

Given the tragic events of recent weeks, many people will feel a sense of despair. Through these dark days, we must nurture hope. Guided by love, we must work for justice. There is no other way."





Black Lives Matter at General Assembly!

This year GA was held "In the Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect". We were in Columbus Ohio, my hometown. The huge convention center (which didn't exist when I was growing up) is right downtown in walking distance of everything from the farmers market to the state capital building.

With the free downtown bus service available, the capital lawn was an ideal site for this year's public witness - State of Emergence: Faith Filled People Rally for Racial Justice. The expected rain that kept us inside the convention center couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of thousands of UUs, many in the yellow "Love" t-shirts that the world is starting to recognize. Rev. Sekou and his band "The Holy Ghost" got us on our feet clapping to the music. Then the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II, President, North Carolina NAACP and originator of the "Moral Mondays" protest movement, whipped us into a frenzy. The chanting was still in the air when we all received pledge cards with web addresses and requests for contact info from each of us.

All of that was days after GA opened with the always exciting parade of banners. The music and Bill Sinkford's sermon at the "Service of the Living Tradition" was awesome. People we know well (or have at least met) were honored this year: Amy Carol Webb, Gayle Giese and John Smith. On the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr's Ware Lecture to the UUA GA, Martin Luther King III received the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights at the UUSC Awards Gala. Mystery and the Art of Living was the topic of Krista Tippett's *fantastic* Ware Lecture.

Workshops were organized into three tracts. The amazing, young, new UUA Board member, Elandria Williams, lead the inspirational final workshop "Our Continuing Work" of the BLUU tract. The Black Lives of UU tract offered "comprehensive guidance and training on how to organize and build a multifaith, multiracial movement based on a collective moral vision rather than from the traditional problem-solving approach to organizing".

There's never enough time or energy for everything. The booths in the exhibit hall were great. We heard the candidates running for UUA president next year. I didn't even try to participate as a voting delegate, consequently missing out on some deeply controversial issues.

This was an outstanding convention. Visit www.uua.org/ga for a link to Archived Video of the major events. Every UU should try to attend a few General Assemblies.

Next Year: New Orleans!

Betty Brantley

Directory of Staff, Board, Committee Chairs & Affiliates

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- **Minister**

Rev. Susan M. Smith.....318-550-8462

- **Director of Religious Education**

Susan Dirgins-Friend.....954-424-1910

- **Music Director**

Dorothy Muise.....954-731-8790

- **Choir Director**

Susan Dirgins-Friend.....954-424-1910

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Sandy Lange.....954-401-5675

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Donna Gutierrez.....971-267-9165

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Nelson Lamis.....786-223-4774

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Gary Ladka.....954-650-3728

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Molly St. Cavish.....954-752-5717

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Susan Moss.....954-478-8637

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Jim Giblin.....954-296-0089

Ministry

Claire Mostel.....786-512-5180

Nominating

Jerry Waltz.....954-527-5275

Religious Education

Michael Coburn.....305-409-7340

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Opal Murray.....770-265-6242

Wisdom and Enlightenment Series

Opal Murray.....770-265-6242

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The program runs between January 1 and the IRS income tax filing deadline (usually April 15) of the current year.

Mention the Church to any H&R Block Agent when you refer someone to make sure UUCFL receives the credit



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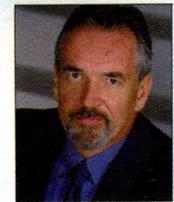
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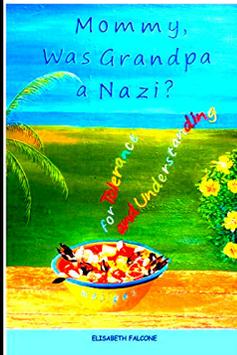
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New Book Release:
Mommy Was Grandpa a Nazi?
Recipes for Tolerance
and Understanding

Author Elisabeth Falcone collected true stories that show food connects people of all cultures. Recipes included. Available at all booksellers or at fla.osprey9@yahoo.com.



Remember the Hungry People Around Us

Please continue to fill the Food Baskets at the church with non-perishables for the LifeNet for Families |Cooperative Feeding Program.

Learn more about the CFP and other ways you can help.

Visit www.lifenet4families.org



Please Patronize and refer the above Friends and Members of the Church as they support the us with their advertising. Make sure you tell them you saw their ad in The Journey.

August Birthdays

- Sophia LETOURNEAU 8/2
- SUSAN MOSS 8/5
- LORE BERNIER 8/7
- JANET BURNETT 8/11
- SUSAN McAlpin 8/11
- THOMAS KARNETH 8/12
- DANE RAMSON 8/14
- DOUG FRIEND 8/16
- VICTORIA ABBOTT 8/23
- Sandy LANGE 8/24
- Gail MORRISON 8/24
- Molly LESNICK 8/29



If you would like to see your birthday announced here and in the cUUrious cUUrier email newsletter, please contact the office to make sure we have your updated information in the computer

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



August Calendar



1 Every Sunday : 11:00 AM- Church Service and Children's Religious	2	3	4 •7:00pm Mens Group •7:30 pm CUUPS	5	6
7 •9:30am- UU Sisterhood	8 •7:00pm - Board Meeting	9	10 •10:00am - 11:30am Meet Rev Susan! (See Page 3)	11 •7:00pm Mens Group •7:30 pm CUUPS	12
13 •9:00am - LifeNet4 Families Workday (See page 5) •7:30pm Labyrinth Café Concert (See page 6)	14 •Journey Article Submission Deadline •11:00am - First Sunday Service with Rev Susan! •12:30pm - Fellowship Lunch Day	15 •7:00pm - Sunday Services Committee	16	17 •7:00pm - 8:30pm Meet Rev Susan! (See Page 3)	18 •7:00pm Mens Group •7:30 pm CUUPS
19	20	21 •9:30am- UU Sisterhood	22	23	24 •10:00am - 11:30am Meet Rev Susan! (See Page 3)
25 •7:00pm Mens Group •7:30 pm CUUPS	26	27	28 •12:30pm - Fellowship Lunch Day	29	30
31 •7:00pm - 8:30pm Meet Rev Susan! (See Page 3)	Religious Education Events See special calendar on the RE page 4	Visit our on line calendar for late-breaking events www.uucfl.org and click "Coming Activities"			

Unitarian 
Universalist
Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue
Oakland Park, Florida 33309

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Office Phone: 954-484-6734

Minister Phone: 318-550-8462

E-mail: uucfl@aol.com

Website: www.uucfl.org

Sundays Service & Children's
at 11 am: Religious Education

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

AUGUST 2016

August 7 – Fins, Furs and Feathers - Let's look at our complex relationships with animals, particularly from a healing and spiritual approach, including totem and message animals who visit us at significant points in our lives. Their message may also help us to think about the proposed change to the UUA 1st principle to include other species.

This dynamic husband & wife duet are currently based in St. Augustine, Florida, after a lifetime of playing music in the Midwest which is now transformed and known as Beachgrass. Uncle Eddie and Robin are new to UUCFL but not UU.

August 14 – Praying With My Eyes Open by the Rev. Susan M. Smith (UUCFL's New Minister!)

In the midst of these painful and challenging times, we need every resource at our disposal to cope and to thrive as individuals, as a congregation, as a community, as an ecosystem.

There is a place for both the practices of faith and of pragmatism so that we can both dream dreams of a better future for all and "stay woke" to life as it is.

This will be Rev. Susan's first Sunday Service in our pulpit. Please join us in welcoming her on this special day.

August 21 – Vespers Sunday – Dreams -

This sermon is an offshoot of a recent Friday Vespers presentation. Rev. Opal Murray is joined by our Board Chair Jim Giblin for an inspiring yet amusing Vespers informed sermon on dreams and dream interpretation. Be curious and experience the nourishing meditative ambiance of Friday Vespers on a Sunday.

August 28 – Poetry Sunday – Susan Moss is once again honored to carry on David Fisher's annual tradition (begun in 2004) of the UUCFL Poetry Service. Members and friends will be reading poems (original or otherwise), as well as sharing the story of the relevance to their lives (and hopefully yours as well). See Page 2 for more information.

September 4 – Honor Labor Day with Pink Slip Duo

September 11 – Annual Water Sunday Ingathering Service with Rev. Susan and Pres. Jim Giblin

