



The Flaming Chalice

Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta

Located at: 1951 East Park Avenue
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2342
 Valdosta, GA 31604
<http://uuvaldosta.net>
 229-242-3714 e-mail: uuvaldosta@yahoo.com



Tom Phillips – President	Carol Stiles - Vice-President /Program Chair
Doug Tanner – Treasurer	Susan Bailey - Director of R.E.
Kimberly Tanner – Director of Membership	Jim Ingram – Director of Building & Grounds
Joyce Rapier – Secretary	Carol Stiles – Newsletter Ed.

Please contact us by e-mail at uuvaldosta@yahoo.com

What's going on... **April 2019**

Sun	Apr. 7	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – Patti B., "Life is Short" Meet & Greet after the service
M	Apr. 8	11:00AM	Break Bread delivery
Sun	Apr. 14	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – Kimberly Tanner, "The Making of a Covenant" Meet & Greet after the service
Sun	Apr. 21	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – "UU Reflections on Easter and Spring" Meet & Greet after the service
Sat	Apr. 27	10 AM – 3 PM	Crafts Day!
Sun	Apr. 28	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – Rev. Dr. Anna Hall, "Building Resilient Communities" Meet & Greet after the service <i>Annual Congregational Meeting!</i>

April 2019

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is April 28, after the service! All members should plan to attend, please put this date on your calendar! We're introducing a new activity this month, too – Crafts Day! Saturday, April 27, see inside for more details.

Mission Statement

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta is committed to building a community of acceptance and love, where all people may strive for intellectual, moral, and spiritual enlightenment. We offer a place to celebrate life's passages and to join in social action on behalf of local and global communities.

Sunday Services

Sunday, April 7 – Patti, “Life is Short”

New member, Patti, speaks today at UU Valdosta for the first time. The main theme of her message is to live our lives with a purpose... because LIFE IS SHORT! Please see Patti’s bio elsewhere in the newsletter!

Sunday, April 14 - Kimberly Tanner, “The Making of a Covenant”

UU congregations, by being members of the Unitarian Universalist Association, do “covenant to affirm and promote” our seven UU Principles, which were adopted by UUA congregations through a democratic process at General Assembly. In addition, many individual congregations adopt covenants. From the UUA website: “Covenant is the silk that joins Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations, communities, and individuals together in a web of interconnection. The practice of promising to walk together is the precious core of our creedless faith.”

“‘Covenant’ is both a noun and a verb. It can be a written agreement among individual community members promising to behave in certain ways, and it can mean to engage in mutual promises with Spirit, with other people and communities.”

While UU Valdosta has a long-standing mission statement (see the first page of this newsletter), we have not adopted a covenant. In today’s service, Kimberly Tanner will present the finer points of developing and adopting a covenant.

Sunday, April 21 - “UU Reflections on Easter and Spring”

Today, we will share some reflections on Easter and the arrival of Spring, drawing from UU resources.

Share the Plate Sunday: Donations to the plate this Sunday, not otherwise designated as pledges, will go to VSU CampDISCOVERY Scholarships for children for summer camp. See Sue Bailey for more information.

Sunday, April 28 – Rev. Dr. Anna Hall, “Building Resilient Communities”

In the face of climate change, political polarization, and a growing sense that we are not

okay as a nation, what can be done on the local level to sustain and strengthen our connections with each other? Rev. Dr. Anna Hall explores theory and spiritual wisdom that may guide us and inspire us to build resilient communities: communities which ensure that all in the community are connected and supported no matter what the future holds.

Congregational Meeting!

Sunday, April 28th, after the service, we will hold our annual congregational meeting! We will vote on the proposed budget for next year as well as the slate of officers to lead the congregation. *All voting members are strongly encouraged to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting!* This is our annual opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to our 5th Principle: “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.”

Dee Tait chaired the Nominating Committee, which included Mary Thieme and Carl Ide as members. The following members of UUValdosta have accepted nomination to serve on the Board of Directors:

- President – Kimberly Tanner
- Vice President/Program Chair – Carol Stiles
- Treasurer – Doug Tanner
- Director of Religious Education – Susan Bailey
- Director of Membership – Dawn Renner
- Secretary – Carl Ide
- Director of Building and Grounds - Chris Renfroe

Our thanks to these individuals, willing to step forward as leaders for the next church year, which runs July 1, 2019 – June 20, 2020.

While all are welcome to stay and attend the congregational meeting after the service, please note the following eligibility for voting members, per our Bylaws: “Any member, who is at least seventeen years old, who has been a member for a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the vote and has made an annual monetary contribution of record to the congregation, is eligible to vote.” If you have questions about membership, please see Kimberly Tanner!

International Transgender Day of Visibility

... was held Sunday, March 31. Here is part of a prayer from Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray: "I am humbled and deeply moved by the prophetic vision of trans religious professionals and lay people across our movement who sustain and grow this vital religious tradition. Wherever you are on your journey, please know that you are seen, you are loved, and you are needed to make this Unitarian Universalist faith whole. On this day of visibility may we recommit our hearts, our spirits and our congregations to nurturing communities that celebrate every person for the sacred gift that they are, in the fullness of their being."

Crafts Day!

Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta! Patti B., of our church, will host an exciting class in the art of Watercolor! All supplies will be provided. Please bring a sack lunch. Amy Jackson and Oaken Circle will host a plant 'swap or sell' outside the church during the same hours. Bring your garden or houseplants that you might have extra clippings from or are just ready to trade!

All are invited, bring your friends! This event is a kick off for a monthly gathering of those interested in various arts, crafts, gardening, etc. See Patti or Amy with questions!

Oaken Circle CUUPS

Oaken Circle Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) will be meeting this month on Friday, April 12 (changed from April 13) and Saturday April 27, at 6:00 p.m. Please contact Oaken Circle for more information, email: valdostaoakencircle@gmail.com You can also join CUUPS on Facebook for more detail: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oakencircle/>

Religious Education

For Children: The RE program for children under 15 years of age meets at 10:45 AM concurrent with the Sunday morning service. Two adults are needed each Sunday to help with RE. Sign up on the volunteer list at the church or through Carol Stiles and the Worship Team

Buddhist Meditation meets 2nd Tuesday of each month!

The KTD Buddhist reading and meditation group meets monthly for sitting meditation on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Dan Gray and Anna Waddell are leaders for this group. You may contact them through Carol Stiles, uuvaldosta@yahoo.com, if you are interested in this group.

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Congratulations to...

- ❖ Carol Stiles, who has been named Character Educator of the Year for Georgia Military College Valdosta Campus.

Keep in your thoughts...

- ❖ Members of the Rapier family
- ❖ Our members and friends experiencing health concerns.

UU Church of Valdosta Board of Directors Meeting News March 3, 2019, 9:30 a.m.

Among other items reported elsewhere in this newsletter, highlights of the UU Board meeting:

- Discussed hiring a pianist to provide music and accompaniment at Sunday services.
- Discussed plans for congregational meeting on April 28th.
- Next Meeting: April 10, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

At the Church-in-the-Woods...

Taoist Tai Chi – Monday and Thursday, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Contact Dennis Bogyo or Luana Goodwin. You can e-mail the group at georgia@taoist.org

Communicating at UU Valdosta

Newsletter Editor: Carol Stiles
Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the previous month!
If you prefer reading this newsletter on the website, e-mail the editor to remove your name from the mailing label list.

Worship Team Chair: Carol Stiles
Website Manager: Carol Stiles
e-Mail List: Contact Carol Stiles or Kimberly Tanner
Facebook: Kimberly Tanner
Local Publicity: Dee Tait

Worship Team

Opportunities include organizing meet-n-greet after the service, helping with RE or the nursery, greeting visitors and preparing the sanctuary and RE building. Each Sunday, there will be a sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary for sign up for the upcoming services.

You can also send an e-mail to Carol Stiles, and she will put you on the list for that task.

UU Valdosta Caring Committee

Members of this committee include Dee Tait, Kimberly Tanner, David Rodgers, Carol Stiles, and Janet Koposko. If you are able to help when assistance is needed please see a member of the committee.

Thank You! Thank You!

For lay-leading services: Carol Stiles, Doug Tanner, Dee Tait

For speaking at Sunday Services: Dr. Cristobal Serran-Pagan, Rev. Anna Hall, Rev. George Bennett, Dawn Renner, Carol Stiles

For providing music at services: Doug Tanner

For Meet & Greet: Dee Tait, Dawn Renner

For Preparing the Sanctuary! Doug Tanner

For leading RE and nursery: Sue Bailey, Teagan Dunn

For taking out trash and recycling: Dee Tait, Lawrence Rapier

For delivering Break Bread meals: David Rodgers

For leading the Caring Committee: Dee Tait

Meet our newest member, Patti!



Patti signed the UU Valdosta membership book and will be speaking for the first time at our service, on April 7. Patti moved to Valdosta in 2018 after living in Schiller Park, IL, and Paducah, KY. She has been affiliated with United Church of Paducah, Westminster Presbyterian Church, and Metropolitan Community Church, in Paducah, before moving to Valdosta. She has worked as a florist and owned a picture-framing business and counts among her hobbies: watercolors and acrylic painting, glassware-painting, etching, and engraving, crocheting, and fishing.



Welcome to our new musician! Angela Duncan will be providing music and accompaniment for Sunday services, beginning April 7! More in our next issue!