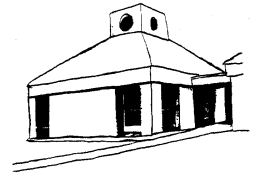


The Flaming Chalice

Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta

Located at: 1951 East Park Avenue
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 229-242-3714 e-mail: uuvaldosta@yahoo.com



Kimberly Tanner – President	Carol Stiles - Vice-President /Program Chair
Doug Tanner – Treasurer	Susan Bailey - Director of R.E.
Dawn Renner – Director of Membership	Chris Renfroe – Director of Building & Grounds
Carl Ide – Secretary	Carol Stiles – Newsletter Ed.

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

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

Sun	Aug. 4	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – Dr. Dennis Marks, “Experimental rejection of observer-independence in the quantum world” Meet & Greet after the service
Sun	Aug. 11	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – Dr. Patricia Marks, “How Cultural Symbols Offer Direction” Meet & Greet after the service
M	Aug. 12	11:00AM	Break Bread delivery
Sun	Aug. 18	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – “What Does it Mean to be a People of Expectation?” Meet & Greet after the service
Sun	Aug. 25	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – Rev. Anna Hall, “Borders and boundary crossers - reflections on immigration and culture.” Meet & Greet after the service

August 2019

Summer is close to ending, at least according to the calendar. Weather-wise is a different story! Join us when you can!

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, August 4 – Dr. Dennis Marks, “Experimental rejection of observer-independence in the quantum world”

In 1961, Eugene Wigner proposed an experiment in which he would observe his friend performing an experiment. If there is an objective reality that they are both observing, Wigner and Wigner’s friend should get the same result to their experiments. Recently, physicists devised a way to carry out this “Wigner’s friend” experiment using photons. Amazingly, the photons give contradictory results one-twelfth of the time! How can there be no objective reality? Quantum mechanics describes possibilities, not actualities. In interacting with those possibilities, we may each have different, even contradictory, experiences.

Sunday, August 11 – Dr. Patricia Marks, “How Cultural Symbols Offer Direction”

Patricia Marks offers a reflection on the way cultural symbols offer direction. Beginning with a reading from Luke 10:2—“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest”—she considers such examples as the Green Man, the Inuksuit, and icons, and asks us to give thought not only to the symbols we follow in our daily lives but also how we ourselves serve to point direction.

Sunday, August 18 – “What Does it Mean to be a People of Expectation?”

We will reflect upon the theme of “Expectation” with a message from Rev. Victoria Safford, White Bear UU Church in Minnesota, entitled “Recalculating.”

Share the Plate Sunday Offering: Donations to the plate this Sunday, not otherwise designated as pledges, will support the South Georgia Immigrant Support Network (SGISN). SGISN provides support for families of persons detained and for those released from an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) center (more below). SGISN is also collecting gift cards (Walmart, Visa, or MasterCard only), travel-size toiletries (unused), and casual shoes of all sizes (men and women’s,

clean and in good condition). SGISN is a grassroots network based in Tifton, Georgia, that supports the local immigrant & refugee community, especially those in or under threat of detention & deportation. SGISN has established a hospitality house, Casa Colibri (Hummingbird House) which provides support for and a place for families to stay when visiting family members at the detention center.

Sunday, August 25 – Rev. Anna Hall, “Borders and boundary crossers - reflections on immigration and culture.”

Anna Hall will share reflections on immigration - current and historical, on traversing physical and cultural boundaries, and on lessons from living in international communities.

Board of Directors Meeting News **June 1, 2019, 6:00 p.m.**

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

- Discussed need to repair sidewalk (Tom Phillips sanded off sidewalk where tree roots had raised a section slightly).
- Discussed early plans for Interfaith Pride Service for September.
- Next Meeting: Aug. 4, 2019, 9:30 a.m.

UU Valdosta Caring Committee

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

Crafts Day!

Crafts Day is taking a hiatus for July and August! If you have a craft or art that you can teach, or are interested in learning a specific craft, please contact Patti Bell!

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

Buddhist Meditation now meets two evenings per month!

The KTD Buddhist reading and meditation group meets for sitting meditation on the 2nd and 4th 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.

Oaken Circle CUUPS

Oaken Circle is a chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS). Watch for future Oaken Circle CUUPS Events! Contact CUUPS at valdostaoakencircle@gmail.com and ask to join their Facebook page.

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

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Congratulations to:

- ❖ Dr. Crystal Rapier, who has received a fellowship to do research at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, in Beersheba, Israel. She is one of five people to be named a Zuckerberg Scholar and will be conducting research in the Biomedical Engineering Department, to develop a blood-brain-barrier-on-a-chip. Best wishes and we will miss you!

Keep in your thoughts...

- ❖ Our members and friends who have recently lost family members.

Our Covenant:

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on April 28th, we voted to adopt the following covenant:

We covenant to:

Encourage one another to be our authentic selves on our individual journeys.

Care for one another by listening actively and supporting genuinely in a spirit of compassion and kindness.

Create safe environments by respecting one another, remembering that we each come from unique backgrounds and beliefs.

Nurture relationships, where diversity is acknowledged and celebrated, by designing inclusive and welcoming spaces and experiences.

Strive to be open and learn from each other when faced with new ideas while on our search for truth and meaning.

Share our time, talents, and resources to support the mission of our church.

Faith Leaders Rally at Detention Center in El Paso

In El Paso, TX, on July 29, over 500 faith leaders gathered for a Moral Monday rally for an end to inhumane treatment of immigrants, led by Rev. William Barber, co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign: "We have Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Red Letter Christians, Unitarian, and people not of faith but who believe in a moral universe coming together at the border today, not for our own agendas but for the immigrant children and families who are facing injustice," Barber said. (quoted by Jake Johnson on Common Dreams: <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2019/07/29/it-doesnt-have-be-way-faith-leaders-rally-detention-center-demanding-end-inhumane>)

David Taffet, writing in *The Dallas Voice*, July 29, reported that the 500 faith leaders were not allowed into the detention center. A few then crossed the border to meet and pray with immigrants. When the group returned only one was detained for questioning: Imam Omar Suleiman of Irving, TX, a U.S. citizen, who was born in New Orleans. Online at: <https://dallasvoice.com/local-pastors-join-moral-monday-protest/>

Thank You! Thank You!

For mowing the lawn and multiple other items around the church-in-the-woods: Chris Renfroe
For lay-leading services and speaking at services: Doug Tanner, Dee Tait, Kimberly Tanner, Dawn Renner, Carol Stiles
For speaking at Sunday Services: Rev. Anna Hall, Rev. George Bennett
For providing music at services: Angela Duncan
For Meet & Greet: Dee Tait and others
For helping with RE:
For Preparing the Sanctuary!
For leading RE and nursery: Sue Bailey
For taking out trash and recycling: Dee Tait
For delivering Break Bread meals: David Rodgers
For leading the Caring Committee: Dee Tait



Buddhist Meditation now meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month!

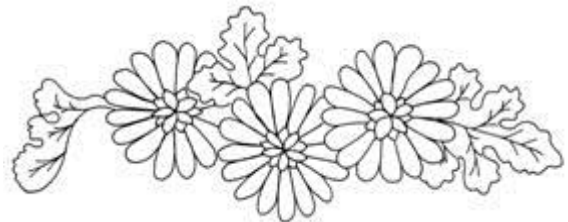
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A Message From Rev. Susan-Frederick Gray, President, Unitarian Universalist Association, posted on Facebook on July 30, 2019:

I am grateful for these prophetic and pastoral words from Rev. [Elizabeth Nguyen](#): “Our theology says that we are all saved, and salvation is what we strive to build now, for each other. So we resist any laws, policies or practices that deny anyone their humanity. We know that now on earth is our chance to create heaven. We know that love crosses borders and prison walls, lives in queer families and disability justice organizers, thrives among trans young people and working-class elders.”

She also quotes this powerful call from Rev. angel Kyodo Williams that feels so true to my own experience: “today’s progressive leaders must systematically and lovingly prepare us to tolerate the inherent discomfort of change now in order to wedge open the way to transformation in the future...They must do this under pressure; they must do this while in motion; and they must do this with and on behalf of others.”

I hope you'll read her reflection in its entirety, from UU World. <https://bit.ly/2Yq11b4>, “Moving mountains one stone at a time.”



Communicating at UU Valdosta

Newsletter Editor: Carol Stiles
Newsletter deadline is the 20th of the previous month!
If you prefer receiving the newsletter by e-mail, please contact the editor.

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