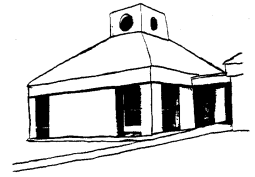


# The Flaming Chalice

## Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta

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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](mailto:uuvaldosta@yahoo.com)

### What's going on... **May 2019**

Sun	May 5	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children <b>Service – What does it mean to be a people of CURIOSITY?™</b> Meet & Greet after the service
Sun	May 12	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children <b>Service – Rev. Dr. Anna Hall, "Sustainable Communities: Thinking locally and theologically about creation and community."</b> Meet & Greet after the service
M	May 13	11:00AM	Break Bread delivery
Sun	May 19	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children <b>Service – “Flower Communion” Speaker: Carl Ide</b> Meet & Greet after the service
Sun	May 26	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	<b>Shared Service with Serenity Christian Church</b> Service at Serenity Christian Church, 1619 N. Lee St. Service at UU Valdosta Potluck dinner after the service!

## May 2019

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for 2019-2020! Join us for the annual Shared Service with Serenity Christian Church on May 26!

#### 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, May 5 – What does it mean to be a people of CURIOSITY?"

Today we will explore the theme of CURIOSITY, with materials from Soul Matters.

### Sunday, May 12 - Rev. Dr. Anna Hall, "Sustainable Communities: Thinking locally and theologically about creation and community."

Rev. Anna Hall will continue her theme of building resilient communities.

### Sunday, May 19 - "Flower Communion"

Bring a flower from your yard and join us for the annual Flower Communion! We will have extra flowers, in case you do not have flowers available.... The Flower Communion service was created by Norbert Capek (1870-1942), who founded the Unitarian Church in Czechoslovakia. He introduced this special service to that church on June 4, 1923. He developed the Flower Communion as a way to bring people together, in a way different from the traditional Christian communion service of bread and wine. The Flower Communion was introduced in the U.S. by Dr. Capek's wife, Maja V. Capek, in 1940. Join us for this annual service, celebrated by UU churches around the country!

*Share the Plate Sunday: Donations to the plate this Sunday, not otherwise designated as pledges, will be donated to the South Georgia Migrant Farmworkers' Clinic. The clinic provides health care to the farmworkers in the area. We will also collect food and clothing to be distributed at the clinic. These items may be brought to the church any time (please let Kimberly or Carol know....). Some suggestions include food staples such as rice, black beans and Maseca corn flour, household items, even small appliances (coffeemakers, etc.). Clothing items include men's and women's work pants, shirts, and small to medium size gloves, hats and sunglasses.*

## Sunday, May 26 – Shared Service with Serenity Christian Church

It's time for our annual Shared Service with Serenity Christian Church, which is located at 1619 N. Lee Street. Here's the schedule:

**9:00 - AM – Service at Serenity Christian Church, Speaker: Rev. George Bennett**

10:30 AM - Members of the Serenity congregation will follow us back to our church to attend our service.

**11:00AM - Service at UU Church Speaker: Pastor Gerald Williams**

*(Note: Our service and RE will begin at 11:00 AM rather than 10:45 this day.) The Children's RE kids have a special project planned that they will do along with Serenity children.*

**12:15 PM – Fellowship Potluck Luncheon** with Serenity at the UU Church. Please plan to bring a dish to share! Dee Tait will coordinate the potluck.

## Board of Directors Meeting News

**April 10, 2019, 6:00 p.m.**

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

- Discussed plans for the Shared Service with Serenity Christian on May 26.
- Discussed plans for congregational meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Next Meeting: TBA, probably May 8, 6:00 p.m.

## UU Valdosta Caring Committee

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

## 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](mailto:georgia@taoist.org)

## Congregational Meeting!

Our annual Congregational Meeting was held Sunday, April 28th, after the service. The following members of UUValdosta were elected to serve on the Board of Directors for 2019-2020.

Congratulations and thanks to:

- 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

In addition, the congregation voted to approve the proposed budget for next year. In new business, Kimberly Tanner presented a proposed covenant. The congregation discussed and approved the adoption of the covenant, which is included elsewhere in this issue.

Our thanks to Dee Tait, who chaired the Nominating Committee, which included Mary Thieme and Carl Ide as members. Our thanks to those who are rotating off of the board - Tom Phillips, Joyce Rapier, and especially Jim Ingram!

Jim Ingram has been Director of Buildings and Grounds since at least 2006 – and probably at various times before that! For those of you who are relatively new to the church, Jim and Josette Ingram are charter members of UU Valdosta. Jim received the Florida District Unsung UU award several years ago, largely for his leadership in the design and construction of our building and grounds. Next time you're in the sanctuary, read about Jim in the letter of nomination on the wall next to the kitchen!

## Crafts Day!

Saturday, May 25 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta! Patti B., of our church, will host a day of crocheting. Bring supplies if you have them, but supplies will be provided. Please bring a sack lunch. All are invited, bring your friends! (Ed. Note: Please watch for announcements confirming this event, or check with Patti, as the date gets closer.)

## A covenant is a living, breathing aspiration, made new every day

Rev. Victoria Safford, Minister  
White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church  
Mahtomedi, Minnesota

**At the Annual Congregational Meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 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.

## Buddhist Meditation meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month!

The KTD Buddhist reading and meditation group meets monthly for sitting meditation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:uuvaldosta@yahoo.com), if you are interested in this group.

### Communicating at UU Valdosta

Newsletter Editor: Carol Stiles

Newsletter deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> 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

## Meet our newest member, Jessica Gantt!

Jessica Gantt, left, with Membership Director, Kimberly Tanner



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

## Thank You! Thank You!

**For serving as Secretary and President of UU**

**Valdosta:** Tom Phillips

**For serving as Secretary:** Joyce Rapier

**For serving as Director of Building and Grounds:**

Jim Ingram (since 2006!).

**For our newly elected officers! (See list above)**

**For leading our efforts to adopt a covenant:**

Kimberly Tanner

**For lay-leading services:** Carol Stiles, Doug

Tanner, Dee Tait

**For speaking at Sunday Services:** Patti Bell, Rev.

Anna Hall, Kimberly Tanner, Carol Stiles

**For providing music at services:** Angela Duncan!

**For Meet & Greet:** Dee Tait, Dawn Renner, Doug

Tanner, Nicole Allemane

**For Preparing the Sanctuary!** Melissa Porterfield

For leading RE and nursery: Sue Bailey, Teagan

Dunn

## Oaken Circle celebrates Beltaine!

Note: May 4<sup>th</sup> event was cancelled due to illness, but read here about Beltaine:

Beltaine is a celebration that honors life. Representing the peak of Spring and the beginning of summer, it is a time when the fertility of the earth is at its strongest. In days of old, some of our ancestors who celebrated this Sabbat would join the earth in such a momentous occasion by “going a-Maying” – spending the night as couples in the forest in the oldest of rites and then returning in the morning with armloads of flowers, washing their faces in dew, and leaving baskets of posies for those they care about to discover on their doorsteps. For some of us these days, their practice is to celebrate this as a Lord and Lady event – the Great Rite and the Sacred Marriage of God and Goddess. For others this is a Fire Festival of revelry, vitality, and joy. For all of us, this is the best time of year to bring ideas, hopes, and dreams into play as well as spend a few hours enjoying each other’s company and celebrating what it means to be part of an Earth centered tradition.

Watch for future Oaken Circle CUUPS Events! Contact CUUPS at [valdostaoakencircle@gmail.com](mailto:valdostaoakencircle@gmail.com) You can also join CUUPS on Facebook for more detail: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oakencircle/>

