



The **Journey**
 The Newsletter of the
Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church
 A Welcoming Congregation



March 2018

February 2018 Worship Services
 Regular Services are held on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.



March 4
John Wrightington

“The Sacred Art of Generosity”

Worship Leader: Linda Mowers
Accompanist: Gary Smart

About our Service:

It is often said that we live our lives best giving our strengths, gifts, and competencies...time, talent and treasure. This giving makes a difference in our own selves, our families, our communities, and our congregations.

Lauren Tyler Wright, author and clergy, writes: “When practiced consistently and intentionally, giving can become a spiritual discipline and, even more, a sacred art. When we practice giving regularly and understand that our motivation has some connection outside of ourselves, we have the opportunity to radically transform our lives, the life of another person,

even the lives of entire communities...It’s about creating an entire lifestyle of generosity.”

Join us this Sunday for a collaborative service that explores the many ways that we can practice this sacred art--cultivating generosity and deepening our connections--in our personal lives, the greater community, and within our faith community at BBUUC.



Pennies from Heaven is March 4

Each quarter we alternate donations between Mandarin and Clay County Meals on Wheels. Please save all

your coins for the first Sunday of every month, and remember bills are welcome too! :)

March 11
Rev. Diane Davis

“Viewing Your Life in a More Joyful Way”

Worship Leader:
Viqui Hilliard
Accompanist: Gary Smart



About our Service:

An inspiring talk about everything from day to day purposes to life exploration and well.....more. More hope. More creativity of thinking. More Joy.

About our Speaker:

Reverend Diane R. Davis has 40 years experience as a medium/intuitive counselor, teacher, minister and speaker. Her inspirational lectures are often filled with humor, insights and hope for life and living it.

March 18

**Covenant of Unitarian
Universalist Pagans
(CUUPS)**

"Equinox Service"



**Worship Leader: Meghan Kaminski
Accompanist: Eileen Morrison**

About our Service:

Come celebrate the Spring Equinox as the Wheel of the Year turns toward the sunshine with a CUUPS service, a true celebration of rebirthing your life and nature itself.

March 25

Phillip Baber

**Worship Leader:
Grace Repass
Accompanist:
Sydney Crisp**



About our Speaker:

Phillip Baber is a graduate of the University of Kansas with a Juris Doctor degree from William & Mary. He is a former high school educator with extensive experience in youth and music ministry. He is happily married and the father of two beautiful girls. He is currently the minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Jacksonville.

Our Mission:

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church exists to create and nourish a loving community that seeks justice and respect for all.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



**Upcoming workshops from
Leadership Development**

**Sunday, February 25 and Sunday, April 29, 2018
from 12:00 - 2:00 pm in Pete Seeger Room**

Leadership Development will be conducting two upcoming workshops on Sunday, February 25 and April 29. These workshops have been designed to help new and established members enrich their experiences at BBUUC.

If you have never been a leader - these workshops are for you. If you would like to be a committee member - these workshops are for you. If you are a committee member but are interested in being a chair - these workshops are for you. If you have been a leader but are experiencing burnout - these workshops are for you. If you would like to serve on the BBUUC Board - these workshops are for you. If you want to enhance the time you spend at BBUUC - these workshops are for you.

Since these workshops have been designed for new and established members, any member is welcome to attend.

Childcare is available so let us know asap if needed.

Please respond to us if you are interested in being part of these workshops at: ld@bbuuc.org

Joann, Peg, Grace
Your BBUUC Leadership Development Committee



BBUUC's Vision For the Future We're almost there!

Last month BBUUC members turned in 103 Vision Surveys telling us their wishes for the future of our church. That's a 70 percent response rate! Your participation has made it possible to confidently understand what our church's next steps ought to be. Thanks so much!

The Vision Task Force held a Town Hall meeting in February, where we presented the survey results and heard feedback from the congregation. All of this will be incorporated into a final report, along with recommended next steps, and delivered to the Board in March.

Haven't heard the results from the Vision Survey yet? Here are the top findings:

1. Community amid Diversity - Our biggest value proposition as a church is our strong sense of community and our acceptance of one another's differences. Over 75 percent of respondents said this is why they come to BBUUC and what would be missing if our church didn't exist.

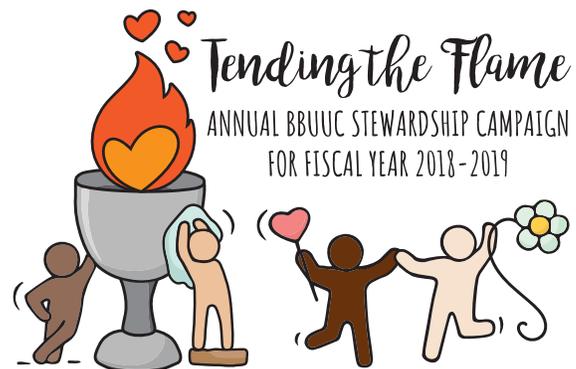
2. Invest More in Worship - While members counted the variety and quality of our services as strengths, they also ranked Worship as the top area they'd like to grow, by a margin of two to one over any other mission. Members especially want more sermons delivered by religious professionals and more spirituality included in Worship. Members ranked Faith Development and Social Witness as other areas for investment. They also want to see BBUUC better publicized.

3. Does BBUUC need a minister? Yes. By a margin of 19 percentage points members say they want a minister. Top reasons are to provide leadership, to offer chaplain services and to enhance the spiritual

side of church. Long-time members favor a minister 65 to 35 percent. Those opposed to a minister want to maintain the variety of services and BBUUC's inclusive culture. There also was concern BBUUC isn't ready for a minister.

To learn more details, download the PowerPoint presentation and recordings from the Town Hall at <http://www.bbuuc.org/vision-town-hall-recordings/>.

Have more input? The Vision Task Force will meet again March 4 at noon. We take comments prior to every meeting.



Stewardship Sunday (March 4th) is coming soon! On March 4th, we are hosting the Annual BBUUC Stewardship Campaign which will now include a Volunteer Fair so visitors, new members, as well as our established members have an opportunity to learn new ways we can all help in a lay-led congregation that primarily relies on volunteers in all facets of church participation.

We are looking at a new budget for 2018-19 which addresses new initiatives, emphasizes our incredible building and surrounding landscape, as well as creates contingencies for growth resulting from the Vision survey and Town Hall conversation.

Our annual pledge drive starts on March 4th and continues throughout the month. Our objective is 100% participation in submitting your pledge cards so our Finance team can then re-evaluate the final budget for Board approval. We come remarkably close to pledge commitment every year; it's just a matter of knowing that commitment at the beginning of the year to finalize the budget.

Small church, large hearts ... a pretty sweet combination.

MEMBER NEWS

We welcome Molly Brady to BBUUC



New Member Molly Brady defines herself as a mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Many of us might add “a package of energy and enthusiasm!” A person really needs to spend time chatting with Molly to get more than a little idea of her life and activities.

Politically Molly was highly involved in the civil rights and anti-war movements. She was proudly investigated by the FBI for activism in the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), worked for Bobby Kennedy’s campaign until he was assassinated, was gassed marching alongside Dick Gregory at the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago, and was arrested on election day 1968.

The active Girl Scout she had been as a child chose a career in the National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management, eventually managing 3.5 million acres of public land. (She also had a law enforcement staff and a fire station under her supervision.) For a time she attended meetings at the White House and had some input in proposed legislation and speeches. And much later, after 34 years of federal service, she was back in Girl Scouts as a troop leader for her Brownie granddaughter, and once again selling cookies!

When her daughter was a teenager, Molly became deeply involved with helping runaway children, taking many into her home, often under court direction. She estimates that she had 50 children and young adults in her home for some length of time over a 3-year period.

Of course her family took much love, time, and energy through the years as well. At various times she was a single mom, a caregiver for her mother as she suffered with early onset Alzheimer's, an advocate for many with Alzheimer's Disease and a grandmother deeply involved with the family of her daughter.

Fast forward (past work, marriage, widowhood, a battle with breast cancer and much more) to 2015 and 2017 when her great granddaughter and great grandson were born. Molly is a primary caregiver for her youngest grandson and her two great-grandchildren. She declares: “This is the best job of my life.”

Then she adds “The future is full of opportunity and I look forward to a lot of it unfolding in the context of BBUUC. Love you all.” And we’re so glad to have you with us, Molly!

Happy Birthday!

- Hampton, Peter 3/4
- LoTempio, Kelly 3/6
- Maskell, Cliff 3/8
- Rothberg, Ron 3/9
- Crisp, Tara 3/12
- Clontz, Kim 3/15
- Hunt, Rachel 3/16
- Knapik, John 3/17
- Miller, Howard 3/18
- Richards, Pam 3/25
- Hamilton, Mary 3/26
- Hillard, Viqui 3/28



Happy Anniversary!

- Bill & Kris Kines 3/11
- Jay & Shanna Gardner 3/19
- Phil & Kristin Hamon 3/24
- John & Leslie Sheffield 3/27
- Don & Myrna Kissinger 3/29



BBUUC Membership Anniversaries

- Karen Roberts 3/1/98
- Ken & Karen Christiansen ... 3/8/11
- Joshua Dean 3/9/13
- Lucy Warner 3/9/08
- Vanessa Birchell 3/11/12
- Kim Clontz 3/22/15



Help us keep our records up-to-date! If you see birthday, anniversary, or membership anniversary that needs to be corrected or added to our list, please send it to membership@bbuuc.org.

An invitation from Tara Crisp, Caring Committee Co-chair:

Below are some of the Joys & Concerns we share with each other during the Sunday service each week. I invite you all to find the phone numbers, email addresses and addresses of your fellow congregants in our directory and reach out!

This month and every month and this Sunday and every Sunday, I invite you to make contact with those you are keeping in your heart when news of a health challenge or significant life event is shared. It isn't easy to share our life events or feelings with each other but let's strengthen our beloved community by reaching out.

Thank you! Tara Crisp

Joys and Concerns

Concerns for **Kris Kines** who is recovering from knee surgery and **John Giordano** who is recovering after multiple foot and leg procedures.

Congratulations to **Lee Plumb**! She is now a Nationally Certified Insurance and Coding Specialist (NCICS).

Our condolences are extended to **Dani Slader**. Her uncle **Robert Miller** passed away in February.

Carole Hawkins has a friend recovering from brain tumor surgery.

A joy for **Nicki Glassman** and **Abby Crisp** who were inducted in The National Honor Society.

Gary and Marilyn Smart's god-daughter **Sarah** has just passed the 2-year mark after being diagnosed with breast cancer and gone through treatment. It is a tremendous joy!

Please continue to pray for little **Henry Glassman**, **Jen Glassman's** nephew in his fight against cancer. This year has been rough on him and his family.

A concern for **Judy Culpepper** who has been diag-

nosed with Parkinson's. She has begun taking medicine that she says is really helping with her symptoms.

Kirsten Williams' father **Edward** had his first of two knee replacement surgeries recently. He is improving everyday and this should improve his life dramatically.

Congratulations to **Elizabeth Teal** and her canine partner **Tomi**! The Clay County Humane Society announced that "in recognition of their support and dedication to enriching the lives of others" they have been honored as the *2017 pet-assisted Therapy Team of the year*.

And finally a great joy for **Mx. Anunnaki Ray**: "The Magistrate of Clay County courts has declared that my biological sex is indeed intersex and not a disorder or a syndrome. I have received a letter from her to mail to vital statistics for my birth state Colorado to correct my birth certificate to intersex. If they agree, I will become the 3rd in the country. Prayers please for justice."

Are You Shopping on Amazon? Amazon Affiliates Fundraiser

This a great way to support BBUUC with no cost or effort! Revenue we have received from Amazon purchases made through our BBUUC link:

\$118 for purchases made in May, received in July
\$118 for purchases made in June, received in August
\$144 for purchases made in July, received in Sept.
\$118 for purchases made in August, received in Oct.
\$176 for purchases made in Sept., received in Nov.
\$100 for purchases made in Oct., received in Dec.
\$131 for purchases made in Nov., received in Jan.
\$300 for purchases made in Dec., received in Feb.
\$93 from purchases made in Jan., received in March

Remember to use the BBUUC link to Amazon every time you make a purchase, and ask your family and friends to do the same—you don't need to be a Member of our church to contribute.

Just use this link (also found at the bottom of our webpage www.bbuuc.org)

<http://amzn.to/1LcEwFZ>

No special login or code is needed. How easy is that?



Join us for a friendly discussion of the issues of the day. All are welcome!

Every Sunday @ 9:30am

JACKSONVILLE
COVENANT
OF
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
PAGANS



<https://www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleFICuups/>

March 7th & 21st @ 7pm



PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

<http://www.bbuuc.org/connection/affinity-groups/prayer-shawl-affinity-group-2/>

FIRST FRIDAY @ 12pm



Lunch Bunch @ Pengree's

RSVP: Call or Text
John Sheffield
at 904.728.3565

SECOND WEDNESDAY @ 11:30am

unitarianuniversalist
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

freely following jesus



<http://www.bbuuc.org/connection/affinity-groups/bbuucf/>

Monthly on the 4th Sunday @ 9am



First Coast Freethought Society

<http://firstcoastfreethoughtsociety.org/cms/>

**THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
6:30 - 8:30pm (doors open at 6pm)**

BBUUC's Full Calendar can be found on line at:

<http://www.bbuuc.org/activitie>



Childcare is available for many church activities, but must be requested in advance when you sign up for an activity. Please contact the activity sponsor listed in the announcement for more information.



Lunch Bunch @ GiGi's

inside the Ramada Inn
(in Mandarin)
RSVP to Ron Nowack
ronow@yahoo.com

FIRST FRIDAY @ 12pm

BBUUC NEWS

BBUUC Second Annual



BBUUC's Auction Team would like to proudly announce that our second annual Service Auction raised around \$7,500!! We would like to thank all of our donors, bidders, and volunteers, without whom the event would not have been possible.

Special thank you in particular to the following individuals who devoted many, many hours to making the auction a tremendous success during the planning process: Peg Christenson, Claire Goodrich, Linda Mowers, Pam Richards, Christine Rothberg, Ron Rothberg, Madeline Sims and John Wrightington.

Also, MANY thanks to our wonderful volunteers who helped out in a big way the day of the event:

- Hospitality team who provided many scrumptious treats for the auction: Cindy Gaunder, Janice Knapik, John Knapik, Lee Plumb, Ken Weintraub, and John Wrightington.
- Bartenders Don Repass and Brad Goodrich.
- Peg Christenson, Kimmy Kines, Meghan Kaminski, Ella Rothberg and Madeline Sims for running the check-out process.
- Facilities Committee David Christenson and Paul Christenson for set-up and clean-up as well as running the AV during the auction.
- Peg Christenson and Grace Repass for checking people in.
- Auctioneer Ron Rothberg and his team of volunteers who helped make the silent and live auctions run as quickly and smoothly as possible: Claire Goodrich, Pam Richards, Christine Rothberg, and Jennifer Stokes.
- And finally, THANK YOU to all of the donors and bidders who helped us raise over \$7,000! We could not have done it without you!

ICARE

(Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation & Empowerment)



ICARE picks issues that are important, controversial, and winnable, based on the input received in House Meetings in all 38 ICARE congregations in the fall. This past year about 85% of the congregations had one or more significant issues raised in the area of Crime And Policing. These ranged from members of ICARE congregations losing relatives to unnecessary police violence to profiling and the apparent use of different standards of policing in white and black neighborhoods.

These issues raise questions that have often been seen as controversial, particularly in white middle and upper class communities such as ours where police are generally experienced as protective and helpful.

To explain the “losing relatives to unnecessary police violence” statement further, one ICARE congregation member called police to help calm down her ex-husband who suffered from PTSD. They calmed him down alright – with a choke hold that killed him. Another ICARE Network Member lost her brother at a gas station when non-uniformed officers in an unmarked car mistook him for someone else they were looking for. As her brother left the station, the officers shot and killed him.

At the other end of the spectrum, profiling can be seen in the 8 minute documentary video filmed in Jacksonville recently: Walking While Black (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JFqvRwOiiis>).

So how does ICARE approach these issues? During the past two months, the ICARE Crime And Policing Research Committee has met with Internal Affairs, the Professional Standards Division, and the Professional Oversight Unit of the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office; States Attorney Melissa Nelson; the Department of Corrections; the Public Defender; the JSO Strategic Planner and the Commission On Progress; the national VERA Institute (<https://www.vera.org/>); and several Jacksonville citizens groups that are concerned with these issues.

ICARE Research Committee members, including several from BBUUC, are now contemplating what solutions steps can and should be proposed to improve the current situation of Crime and Policing in Jacksonville. Plan on attending the Nehemiah Assembly on April 23 where ICARE and public officials will meet. If you wish to become more involved before then, contact ICARE@bbuuc.org.

Introduce Yourself!

If you are a recent member and we have not run an introduction article about you for the Journey yet, please feel free to contact publishing@bbuuc.org. We're interested in how you found BBUUC, what you like here, and what you would like other members of the BBUUC community to know about you. We can help you write the article or you can write a 400 word or less article about yourself. We would also like a photo so that people know who you are and can introduce themselves to you during Fellowship Time after the service.

Church Directory

If you would like online and quick/easy access to the BBUUC directory on your computer, tablet, or smart phone (always up to date and with photos), contact membership@bbuuc.org or see Pam Richards or Peg Christenson for login instructions.

If you would like the PDF directory and separate Picture directory emailed to you so you can access the file on your computer, tablet, or smart phone without an internet connection (or so you can print a hard copy), contact admin@bbuuc.org or see Stacy Asimos in the church office.

If you don't use a computer and need a hard copy, see Stacy Asimos in the church office.



Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church

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 Church Phone: (904) 276-3739 • www.BBUUC.org

The Journey is the official newsletter of the Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church. It is distributed monthly by electronic means to members and friends of the BBUUC community. If you would like to subscribe, please send an email to publishing@bbuuc.org.

Physical printouts of the Journey are also available at the Membership Table in the Sanctuary. (If a pledging member of the community does not have home Internet or computer access, a mailed printout can be requested from admin@bbuuc.org, or by contacting the church administrator at 904-276-3739.)

If you have comments or suggestions about the format or content of the Journey, please contact the editorial team at publishing@bbuuc.org.

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GARY SMART
Performs

Sunday, March 18
 and Sunday, March 25
 at 1:00 PM

Claude Debussy's
Twenty-four Preludes for Piano Solo
 IN TWO CONCERTS:
 Book I and Book II Complete

Held at
 Buckman Bridge
 Unitarian Universalist Church
These concerts are free and open to the public.