

# OUR COASTLINE



September 2020

## OUR VISION STATEMENT

Our congregation's vision is to be a visible presence in the community, growing a just world through spiritual enrichment, compassionate action, and free religious inquiry.

## A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

We are an intentionally diverse community welcoming of an enriched by people of varying cultures, economic and ethnic backgrounds; by people of varying sexual orientations, gender identities and family compositions; by people of all races, ages and beliefs.

## Board Announcement

Thank you to all of our dear members and cherished friends who cast their votes regarding the sale of our property at 1300 Evans St. Your voice in determining UCF's future is necessary and valuable.

Number of Member ballots cast: 58

Number of Friend ballots cast: 10

Total ballots cast: 68

Number of Member ballots needed for a quorum: 47

**THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS** in favor of accepting the price offered for the sale of 1300 Evans St.

**CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!**

We close the sale on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 2—12:30 Women's Discussion Group**

**September 14 @ 4PM—Book Club**

**Wednesdays @ 10:30am Mental Health Family Support Group**

**Mondays @ 6:00pm Meditation Group**

**For more information on these Groups and how to get a Zoom Sign-in Link see articles in this issue.**

**Book Study Group: How to Be an Antiracist**

**Beginning September 21, Adult RE will be offering book study groups (meeting on Zoom) to read and discuss How to Be an Antiracist by Ibram X.**

**Kendi. See page 7 in this newsletter for additional information on these study groups.**

## September Reflections from Sally

Life comes with singing and laughter, with tears and confiding, with a rising wave too great to be held in the mind and heart and body..." (Unitarian Universalist minister Kenneth Patton).

And when life brings us joy or sorrow, surprise or uncertainty too great to hold alone, we confide – bringing our individual experiences into the heart of community, so that others can hold them with us, and witness to the life that holds us all.

Cancer came into my life this summer. Non-invasive bladder cancer, with a very good prognosis. After minor surgery, I am cancer-free, and I am having immunotherapy and follow-up monitoring to head-off any recurrence. So far, it's not slowing me down much, and I expect it won't. But if you notice me dropping balls, I hope that you will let me know, so that, together, we can adjust. For this is how we witness, and how we hold one another.

As we continue worship virtually, we are making a place for Joys and Sorrows in our Zoom services. When something big comes into your life, letting our community know about it can make the hard things easier to bear, and amplify the joyful ones. I invite you to phone me or text me at 252-622-1978, so that we may talk about what life has brought to you, or to those near and dear to you. With permission, I will weave your sorrow or your joy into our Pastoral Prayer – and into the heart of our community. With permission, these joys and sorrows will be included in the newsletter. As we witness to our lives, and to the life that holds us all, we support one another. And we build community – strong and resilient enough to withstand all that life holds for every one of us.



***Blessings on you.  
Be safe, and be well.***

***Sally***

## President's Column

Hello my friends,

This month's message comes at a time of in-betweens. We're in-between accepting an offer on the Evans Street property and closing the deal. We're in-between providing the site plan to the builders and getting their firm estimates. We're in-between fine-tuning our building plan budget and developing the contingency plans needed to reduce risks. We're actually in-between moving from our long-time church home into in-between lodgings while we faithfully wait for our new sanctuary to be built. I guess it's just the nature of the beast, these times of in-betweens.

As we look back over our trek to get to this point in our history though, the finish line is in sight. We *are* going to make it. Soon, we'll have the estimates and we'll be able to vote on the final design. Soon we'll be able to get our special permit and demolish the old sanctuary. Soon we'll break ground and be able to watch as our new home is erected. In our minds' eye, we can even begin to see cars entering the parking lot and familiar faces as they enter the building.

Even so, we have no choice but to move through one more in-between time; the time in-between paying for the first half of the construction and collecting all the money we need to make the final payment upon delivery. We need to be ready with ingenuity and generosity during that in-between time to find every last nickel to reduce our need to take a commercial loan. Doing that will reduce any risk of having to tighten our belts during another potential in-between time—the time between moving into our new home and the day we can retire the loan. No doubt, all of us want to avoid taking a loan if we can. May we find every bit of our ingenuity and every generous source available to us within and without our UCF congregation to avoid any more in-between times.

All the best!

Melva

## New Building Team

September News from your New Building Team.

For quite some time the NBT has been operating with just six of the allotted seven members. We are all pleased to welcome Tom Cullison as a new team member. Tom was appointed by the BOT a few weeks ago. The NBT has been re-chartered by the BOT to be active until the new sanctuary construction is completed.

The NBT met by Zoom with one of our two design/builders to review preliminary, detailed specifications and estimates for our new sanctuary. The team reviewed these last week and will meet with them again soon. Our second design/builder will present their first proposal the first week of September. We are moving ahead in this very complex phase of the project.

Moving on – by mid-September, the church offices will be in the annex. The phone number will remain the same as it is now (252 240 2283). The NBT is passing control of the annex to the Leadership Council with the Facilities committee in charge of upkeep and daily maintenance of the building. There will be some cross over of activity between the NBT and Facilities in regard to future construction to join the new sanctuary to the annex.

All restrooms are complete, including signs. As part of our new fire alarm system there are two (2) manual pull boxes that will activate the alarm. Please do not test the pull boxes.

Russ Dippman has completed re-caulking the windows in the annex. Again, Thank You Russ.

As noted in last month's NBT news, there will be a learning curve in operating the new building, but nothing that is overwhelming. Probably the most important item is to not test the fire alarm pull boxes. We are all excited to see the annex finally open for use.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Phillips



# Worship Services

## September Worship:

**10:30am** Sunday mornings by Zoom

Log-in information is in each week's Saturday UCF Update

Or email Marilynn Cullison at [mscullison@gmail.com](mailto:mscullison@gmail.com)



September 6: **The Meaning of Membership.** Each person who participates in this congregation brings unique gifts, needs, and insights that can enrich the lives of everyone in this gathered community. But those who choose to become members signal their willingness to live and work and share in the common life that keeps this Unitarian Coastal Fellowship vital and visionary; transforming and transformational. This morning we will covenant with 13 new members who have joined within the past year!

September 13: **The Importance of Closure.** The devastation of COVID and the adventure of moving out of 1300 Evans Street both remind us of the importance of marking endings in our lives. Creating closure as we leave a person, a place, or a chapter in our lives helps us being our whole selves to whatever comes next. Together, let us create a ritual of closure.

September 20: **The Families Project.** Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> will be an exciting day for our Junior High Youth Group. They will be taking the leadership role in planning this service and then presenting their Families projects to the Fellowship. The Families Project taught the youth about the diversity in our fellowship and Ella will tell the family story of Gwen, Marty and Holly. Abby will tell the family story of Leigh and Amy.

September 27: **Coping.** Pandemic, election, hurricane season – these days can feel like life is rushing at us like a speeding train. How do we – how do **you** – cope in the midst of so much change? Are there ways we can help each other? Members of the Pastoral Care Team join Rev. Sally in reflecting on ways of coping.

## Children's Religious Education

Abby, we hope you are healing well from your broken leg and will be off your crutches soon.

**Stories for All Ages** has been going well with fellowship members and friends reading every Sunday. I would love to have more children join us on Sunday morning at 10:00 to listen to the stories. For the following weeks we have these readers:

September 6	Jo Ellen Essex
September 13	Nan Reed
September 30	Jill Sutherland

October is open for sign up. If you would like to read to the children, please drop Sarah Sutherland an email at [ucf.re.sarah@gmail.com](mailto:ucf.re.sarah@gmail.com) and let her know the date and book you will be reading. After the story there is time for conversation with everyone. Anyone can log in and listen to the story. The log in information stays the same every week.

Topic: Children's Story Time

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83246447494>

Meeting ID: 832 4644 7494

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,83246447494# US (New York)

+13017158592,,83246447494# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 832 4644 7494

Find your local number: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/u/kbNdwZiVRj44>

With the State of NC and many schools trying to figure out how to continue the education of our children and for them to stay safe from the Corona Virus there are many choices that parents will have to make on how they want their children to be educated over the next year. These are easy decisions for some and not for others whether to send their children back to school so they can go back to work, let their children go back to school to see their friends and get their education face to face with the teacher all while social distancing, or do virtual e-learning through their chrome books at home. Life's choices are not easy and there have been many conversations around the dinner table about what to do. I know you will all make the right decision for your children and family this week and I hope that everyone will stay safe in whatever decision is made by your family.

Take Care and Be Well,

Sarah

## Adult RE

### Book Study: How to Be an Antiracist

Beginning the week of September 21 we will be offering book study groups (meeting on Zoom) to read and discuss How to Be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi.

For those who are new to current antiracism reading, we are offering “An Introduction to How to Be An Antiracist.” This 4-session class offers an introduction to concepts, terminology, and first steps in antiracist consciousness and action. There will be a group meeting Mondays 2-4pm, one on Wednesdays 6-8pm, and one on Fridays 10am – noon.

For those who have been engaged with antiracism work, we are offering “A Deeper Dive into How to Be an Antiracist.” This 8-week class will be oriented towards individual transformation and collective action, for those who want to create a community of accountability for their own antiracism work. This group will meet evenings from 6-8pm. The day(s) for the meetings will be determined by the leaders and the participants.

Groups are limited to 10 participants, with two co-facilitators, and will be open to members and friends of UCF and to the wider community. Our facilitators are Sally Davis, Penny Hooper, Liz Morningstar, Kate Reavis, and Rev. Sally White.

We will have copies of the book available for purchase, for those who need one.

Please sign up by contacting Rev. Sally by email at [ucfministernew@gmail.com](mailto:ucfministernew@gmail.com) or by phone or text at 252-622-1978. Please indicate whether you are signing up for “An Introduction...” or “A Deeper Dive...”, and please specify your first and second choices for meeting time. If all groups fill, more groups will be offered later in the fall.

Ever wonder what the difference between racism and bigotry is? Ever wonder with all the civil rights legislation passed in the last half of the 20th century, why are so many non white people stuck in a permanent underclass? We will be discussing these things and more in RACE, RACISM, AND JUSTICE, a six part discussion and workshop with Delthea Simmons, UU author and social justice activist, sponsored by the UU Congregation of Kinston. Come join us on Zoom 3 pm second and fourth Sundays starting in September. To learn more contact [UUCKinston@gmail.com](mailto:UUCKinston@gmail.com).

## Social Action

The Social Action Committee is doing a lot of work around the upcoming election. UU the Vote is a non-partisan effort from the UUA that focuses on voter registration, educating voters about how to safely vote this year, getting out the vote, and fighting voter suppression. Some of the following activities, we are doing through the UU Justice Ministry of NC and others we are doing on our own.

### **UU the Vote News:**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Postcard project – we are in the process of writing 1,540 postcards to people of color in underserved areas of NC. The postcards encourage them to “Pledge to Vote” and to tell five of their friends to do the same.

We are co-sponsoring this year’s Voter Registration Drive at Carteret Community College from Sept. 21-24. We will be sending out information for those who would like to volunteer to help.

Members of the UU the Vote Team have been attending monthly Carteret County Board of Elections meetings to keep up with all the information about Absentee voting, Early voting and Election Day voting.

Miriam Green has created a new Facebook group, **Vote 2020 Carteret County**, and will be posting information about voting in the 2020 election. If you are a Facebook user, please go to the site (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/316553332800561>) and join the group.

Harriet Altman and Helene Kelly are working with a group of concerned citizens to hold voter registration and voter education events around the county. The events are targeted at black and brown voters.

There are phone banking opportunities available through an NC organization called You Can Vote (<https://www.youcanvote.org/volunteer>) as well as through Reclaim Our Vote (<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/reclaim-our-vote-signup>). Both are nonpartisan.

The national NAACP is launching a project called **Black Voices Change Lives**. If you sign up to volunteer with them, in October you will receive 10 names with contact information of people of color in your community who are infrequent voters. Your job will be to contact these 10 people by phone or text to encourage them to vote and give them information on how to vote. If you are interested, go to <https://blackvoiceschangelives.org/>. Click on “menu” in the top right corner for more information.

NC Council of Churches has an excellent handout called “Democracy Values and the 2020 Election: A Reflection guide for Faith Communities”. Everyone is encouraged to go to the website and download a copy. <https://www.ncchurches.org/>



## Social Action

### UU THE VOTE

If you are planning to vote absentee (by mail), you can download your Absentee Ballot Request form now at this website: [https://www.carteretcountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8717/2020 Absentee Request Form v2?bidId=](https://www.carteretcountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8717/2020%20Absentee%20Request%20Form%20v2?bidId=). You can fill out the ballot online and then print and sign it. You can then mail it, scan and email it, fax it, or hand deliver to the Carteret County Board of Elections in Beaufort. Absentee ballots will be sent out starting September 4<sup>th</sup> and can be filled out and mailed or hand delivered to the Board of Elections any time after that. There is plenty of time for even the slow US mail but don't wait until the last minute if you are mailing! If you have questions, email Barb Thomas [bsthomas2@gmail.com](mailto:bsthomas2@gmail.com) or Miriam Green [mwgreen@gmail.com](mailto:mwgreen@gmail.com).

**Voting Info:** If you have any questions about how to vote, when to vote, or who to vote for, here are two very informational websites to visit: Vote.org (<https://www.vote.org/>) and Vote411.org (<https://www.vote411.org/>). Both can provide specific information on voter registration and voting. Vote411 also lists the candidates that will be on your ballot along with their answers to questions about the position they are running for. Miriam Green is starting a Facebook Group called "Vote 2020 Carteret County" (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/316553332800561>) that will provide specific information for those voting in Carteret County. If you're a Facebook user, please join the group and share the content on your page. Let's get the vote out in eastern NC!

## News of UUs

Joys and Sorrows

### August 2:

*Christoph Hintz's brother George and a family member of Steve Daniel have health issues.*

### August 16:

*Christoph Hintz's brother George, who is dealing with complications of diabetes and high blood pressure, and is working on getting better.*

### August 23:

*The family of Landon Owen, a friend of our congregation for many years. Landon died suddenly on August 9. You may send cards to Landon's wife Grace, or to their family, care of Carteret Landing (221 Friendly Road, Morehead City).*

*Penny Hooper and her family, who ask for healing thoughts and a good recovery for Penny's nephew Dennis in South Bend, Indiana.*



## UCF Women's Group

Our next Women's Discussion Group will be Wednesday, September 2 from 12:30 to 1:30 via Zoom. Get your lunch ready and your computer fired up and join us for an interesting discussion. Our topic for September is **Favorite Movies**. Did you have a favorite as a child? Do you have favorite RomCom? A favorite musical? A must-see movie to share with us? I'm looking forward to finding out! If you are not on the Women's Discussion Group email list and would like to be, contact Susan Roberts at [landfall2@mindspring.com](mailto:landfall2@mindspring.com) or 843-217-1885.



## Book Club

ATTENTION READERS AND CODE BREAKERS! Come join us on Monday, September 14 at 4 pm in Pat Harms' beautiful backyard on Calico Creek for our next UCF Book Club discussion. We will be reading and talking about Code Talker by Chester Nez. It is the story of the Navajo Marine recruits who during WWII created the only unbroken code in modern warfare. We will have Zoom as a backup if the weather doesn't cooperate

## The Meditation Group

The Meditation Group is now meeting via Zoom every Monday evening. Starting on September 21st at 6PM a short class will be added. During the first half hour various topics relating to Meditation will be addressed. The guided Meditation begins at 6:30 PM. All are welcome—you may come to either or both, it is up to you. For Zoom link or other information regarding the guided meditations contact: Vicki Barrett at [vlbarrett142@gmail.com](mailto:vlbarrett142@gmail.com)



## Mental Health Family Support Group

The **Mental Health Family Support Group** is an opportunity to share experiences and challenges of having family members or friends who live with mental illness. This group meets online (using the video-conferencing platform Zoom) on Wednesday mornings from 10:30am to noon. If you would like to join these virtual meetings or would like more information, please contact Rev. Sally at 252-622-1978.

## September 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 10:30-N MHFSG via Zoom 12:30 to 1:30 - Womens Discussion Group via Zoom	3 10 AM Leadership Council Meeting via Zoom	4	5
6 10 am Children's Story Time via Zoom 10:00 Worship Service via Zoom	7 6pm Guided Meditation Group via Zoom	8	9 10:30-N Mental Health Family Support Group via Zoom	10	11 2 PM Green Sanctuary Meeting	12
13 10 am Children's Story Time via Zoom 10:00 Worship Service via Zoom	14 Book Club 4PM  6pm Guided Meditation Group via Zoom	15	16  10:30-N Mental Health Family support Grp via Zoom	17	18	19
20 10 am Children's Story Time via Zoom 10:00 Worship Service via Zoom	21 2-4 pm How to Be an Antiracist Book Study 6pm Guided Meditation Group via Zoom	22	23 10:30-N Mental Health Family support Grp via Zoom 6-8 pm How to Be an Antiracist	24	25 10 am to Noon How to Be an Antiracist Book Study Grp	26
27 10 am Children's Story Time via Zoom  10:00 Worship Service via Zoom	28 6pm Guided Meditation Group via Zoom	29	30 10:30-N Mental Health Family support Grp via Zoom			

### Cooking outdoors on the grill avoids raising the temperature of your home.

To clean your grill after cooking mix a mixture of baking soda and a few drops of dish soap. Brush on and rinse.

Another tip place half an onion (skin side up) on a grill fork and rub over a hot grill.

Happy grilling!



How lucky I  
am to have  
something  
that makes  
saying goodbye  
so hard.



Contact Us

**Unitarian Coastal Fellowship**

252-240-2283

### **UNITARIAN COASTAL FELLOWSHIP**

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