

As a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, we covenant to affirm and promote our UU Principles:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at-large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa Covenant

We, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa, covenant with one another:

To strengthen our church community while following our own spiritual paths,
To honor diversity as a source of communal strength and to be a welcoming community

Because our acts and words weave the web that connects us to one another:

We accept responsibility for what we do and say,

We communicate with one another in kindness and support,

We promote the safety and well being of the congregation,

We practice the democratic process,

We support this church with our money and time.

We make our contributions with compassion and commitment,

We work together to build a joyful community that affirms peace justice and spiritual fulfillment.

We hold ourselves and each other responsible for adhering to this covenant.

The vision of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa is to be:

- a center for liberal religious education for people of all ages;
- a community of caring and committed individuals diverse in identity and theology;
- a haven for those seeking a positive spiritual experience;
- a positive force in the community for justice and equality.

UUCT Board of Trustees:

Kim McDonald – President

David Reddy - Vice President

Pat Benedict- Treasurer

Trude Diamond- Secretary

Melissa Nicholson

Lynn Parrish

Roger Polcyn

James Shaw, Jr

Jeff Stover



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF TAMPA

One Place, All Faiths: Creating a caring, justice-seeking community

11400 Morris Bridge Road ♦ Tampa, FL 33637 ♦ Phone 813-988-8188

E-mail: info@uutampa.org ♦ Web Site and YouTube Services: <http://www.uutampa.org>

Rev. Patricia A. Owen, Minister



Sunday, December 18, 2016
‘The Weight of a Snowflake’

Speaker- Erin Powers

Director of Religious Education for Children and Youth

**Please remember to turn your cell phone ringers off during the service.*

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa
December 18, 2016
Eleven O'clock - Sunday Celebration

We recognize our *Joys, Sorrows, & Concerns* during our celebration by bringing the book on the table front left of the room to our pulpit and reading the citations. Before the beginning of our Sunday Celebration or during the opening music and welcoming words please write a short notation (with or without name) recording the significant experience or event you wish shared.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Gathering Music No. 346
'Come, Sing a Song with Me' ~ Yarrow Sticks

Opening Words ~Erin Powers

Welcome and Announcements ~Erin Powers

Chalice Lighting ~ Kya Eckelberger

*** Hymn No. 55 'Dark of Winter'**

Wonder Box ~Brian Eckelberger

Sharing of Joys, Celebrations and Milestones
~Care Team Member

Meditation ~Erin Powers

Meditation Hymn No. 1009 'Meditation on Breathing'

Teal Hymnal 'Singing the Journey'

Story 'The Tiny Snowflake' ~ Abby Baisley, Ayla Kirkendall, Alex Lee, Anthony Lee, Evelyn Mann, and Sophia Powers
Story by Arthur Ginolfi, Adapted by Erin Powers

Offering

Offertory 'For So the Children Come'
~Lisa Maddocks-Baisley and Yarrow Sticks

Yarrow Sticks: Jae Polcyn, Kim McDonald and Jamie Robe

Story 'The Weight of a Snowflake'
Speaker- Erin Powers

*** Closing Hymn No. 1021 'Lean on Me'**

Teal Hymnal 'Singing the Journey'

*** Closing Words ~Kya Eckelberger**

*** Traditional Closing and Extinguishing the Chalice**
~Erin Powers and Kya Eckelberger

"Touch each other with gentle hands, let your heart embrace the universe, hold to each other while life shall last, oh my friends, hold on."

*A warm welcome is extended to our visitors today.
Please join us in the small dome for conversation and brighten your day and ours by using a yellow mug for your refreshment.
We hope you will come again.*

Worship Leader- Erin Powers, DRE of Children and Youth
Worship Participants-Kya Eckelberger, Lisa Maddocks-Baisley, Abby Baisley, Alex Lee
Anthony Lee, Ayla Kirkendall, Evelyn Mann, Sophia Powers and Brian Eckelberger
Accompanists - Yarrow Sticks- Jae Polcyn, Kim McDonald and Jamie Robe
Sound- Jay Kirchheimer; Audio Visual- Mary Francis and Joe Adles,
Slideshow Content Provider - Mary Francis

Happening Today

Join us after the conclusion of the service today in the refurbished Little Dome for coffee. Please remember our coffee and snack fund is self sustaining, so before you partake, please stuff a dollar into the donation can. If you have been enjoying the variety and quality of snacks make sure you continue to fund it. Thank you and enjoy.

Vesper Service every Wednesday

UUCT will offer a short, contemplative service every Wednesday for anyone and everyone at **6PM in the sanctuary**. The service will last about 30 minutes. There are readings, reflections, music, joys, and concerns and some other components as well! If you are in the area, stop in for a hump day break



This Saturday, December 24 at 6:30pm

Christmas Eve Night

“The Silence of Night”

Rev. Patricia A. Owen

We will sing together the songs and message of the long ago birth of a baby named Hope.

Next Sunday,

December 25 at 11:00 am

Christmas Day Service

“The Silence of Morning”

Rev. Patricia A. Owen

This Christmas Sunday morning will be a contemplative and modern communion in the community sense. We will celebrate the true meaning of Christmas – a world with peace, justice and liberty for all.



TODAY / THIS WEEK AT CHURCH

Sunday, December 18	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Choir Practice (small dome) 9:45-10:45am ▪ Service 11:00am ▪ Curbing Gun Violence Meeting (MPB room 4) 12:45-2pm ▪ SGM The Cypress (MPB room 3) 1-3pm 	
Monday, December 19	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Memorial Service for Bill Davin 2-5pm ▪ Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Cancelled for the holidays; resumes on January 9 ▪ UUCT mUUsic (small dome) 7:30-9pm 	
Tuesday, December 20	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mindfulness Meditation (large dome) 6-7pm 	
Wednesday, December 21	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VESPERs (sanctuary) 6-6:30pm 	
Thursday, December 22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SGM The Dogwoods (MPB room 3) 6:30-8:30pm ▪ SGM The Mangroves (MPB room 4) 7-9pm 	
Friday, December 23	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yoga Class (MPB) 11am-noon 	
Saturday, December 24	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Al-Anon (MPB room 2) 10:15-11:45am ▪ Christmas Eve Service 6:30pm 	

NEXT WEEK AT CHURCH

Sunday, December 25	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christmas Day Service 11:00am 	
Monday, December 26	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Cancelled for the holidays; resumes on January 9 ▪ UUCT mUUsic (small dome) 7:30-9pm 	
Tuesday, December 27	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mindfulness Meditation (large dome) 6-7pm 	
Wednesday, December 28	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VESPERs (sanctuary) 6-6:30pm 	
Friday, December 30	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yoga Class (MPB) 11am-noon 	
Saturday, December 31	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Al-Anon (MPB room 2) 10:15-11:45am 	

Rev. Patricia Owen- Office hours: Monday; Appointment Only, Tuesday- Thursday; 11am-5pm. Friday is Rev. Patricia's day off. Only urgent calls please. Call her at 804-347-8159 or email at RevP@uutampa.org with questions, ideas, needs and to confirm her availability at church office. ☺ Erin Powers, Director of Religious Education for Children & Youth: Regular hours are Wednesday 3:30-8:30pm; Email her at dre@uutampa.org; Linda Turnipseed, Office Assistant: Regular hours are Tuesday & Thursday 9am-2pm; Office Number: 813- 988-8188

Announcements

Our Care Team sends greeting cards, makes hospital visits and follows up with congregants who are experiencing joys or sorrows. Please let us know if you or someone in our congregation is in need. Contact Tempie Taudte at 813-598-6740 or care@uutampa.org

The UUCT mUUSIC Group meets every **Monday evening at 7:30 in the Small Dome**. In the spirit of old-time hootenannies and good-time jam sessions, this is an informal gathering of musicians, vocalists, and just plain music lovers who want to make or listen to mUUSIC. Everyone is welcome, regardless of ability. muusic@uutampa.org

The practice will be cancelled for the holidays Dec. 19, 26, and Jan. 2. Resumes on **January 9. Padmasambhava Buddhist Center of Tampa Bay** now holds Buddhist practice in the large dome; **Mondays at 7pm** For more information on PBC International please visit www.padmasambhava.org

The UU Mindfulness Meditation Group: **Tuesday at 6:00pm**. This week we are meeting in the small dome. These are two twenty minute meditations with a five minute walking meditation between them. A short Loving-Kindness recitation is practiced. All are welcome. Contact: Grant Wilson and Diana Stevens; meditation@uutampa.org

Vesper Service every Wednesday at 6pm in the sanctuary; UUCT will offer a short, contemplative service every Wednesday for anyone and everyone. The service will last about 30 minutes.

Light Yoga Class, Friday at 11 am. Yoga Class meets in the Multi-Purpose Building. Bring a mat or towel and wear loose or stretchy clothing. We do light yogic stretching with no difficult poses. Cost: \$6. (a church fund-raiser) Facilitator: Grant Wilson; yoga@uutampa.org All are welcome.

TEEN & ADULT GAME NIGHT, second Friday of the Month; we meet in the main room in Multi-Purpose Bldg., 6:30-9:00'ish. - If you haven't been to Game Night recently, come on out - it's a lot of fun. Make new friends or hang out with old ones. Come play Mexican Train Dominoes (a perennial favorite) or other games of your choice. Excellent refreshments provided, if any questions, email gamenight@uutampa.org

Circles in the Woods CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) holds Full Moon Celebrations on the Saturday closest to the full moon and occasional other activities; All activities are open to the public and held at UUCT. Families are welcome but no pets please. There is no cost but love donations are gratefully accepted. Bring a dish to share afterward. For more information about Circles in the Woods CUUPS email cuups@uutampa.org or check out our online calendar <http://uutampa.org/cuups-calendar/>

AI-Anon meets in the multi-purpose building on **Saturdays at 10:30 am each week**. For additional information about AI-Anon in Hillsborough County, call 813-881-9372 or visit us on the web at www.tampabayalanon.org

Announcements

Sing Out UU Tampa. Every Sunday morning 9:45 -10:45am, the flash choir will be making harmony in the small dome. Join us! Questions? See Kristen Wilde.



UUCT DAY TRIPPERS – Join us on our next excursion to the **Webster Westside Flea Market on Monday, January 23, 2017**. The huge 35-acre market is located less than one hour north of Tampa. Treasures galore await you! Wear your walking shoes. Carpool will leave the church **promptly at 9:00am** and return by 4:00pm. Cost is lunch at the flea market, and \$5 cash gratuity to carpool driver for transportation and parking fee. RSVP with one of the co-organizers, Ron Phillips at 813-997-0920 or Mary Wolgemuth at 720-252-3443 or mary.wolgemuth@gmail.com. Please include your telephone number and indicate passenger only or willingness to drive, if needed.

Jay Hall is taking up a collection for **“Love Has No Borders”** The Basket will be found in the entryway of the Church and your donations to be delivered to the Tampa branch of “Love Has No Borders”. Please limit your donations to the specific items listed: Non-perishable foods (no 'pork' products), lunch snacks for children, school supplies, head scarves, gift cards, service vouchers (like haircuts, teeth cleaning, etc.)

Amazon.com will donate a portion of their profits to our church if you do two things: (1) instead of going straight to Amazon, go to the church's website (www.uutampa.org) and scroll down to the bottom of the page and click the Amazon link there; and (2) if you haven't already done so – and you only need to do this once – search for and designate “Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa” as your designated charity with Amazon Smile. James Shaw (jshaw@butler.legal) has volunteered to assist anyone who has questions about how to do it.

If you would like to go to the Columbia restaurant in historic Ybor City on Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25 at 6:30 pm please contact Marjorie Acker at 941-753-7115 or marjfi@yahoo.com.

WhaleCoast Alaska 2017: Have you ever dreamed of visiting Alaska? If so, **WhaleCoast Alaska 2017** is for you! Four Alaska UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program next summer! See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Seward, and Sitka with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, seals, and otters. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Forget the cruise ships – our program is the best way to visit Alaska! Programs led by Dave Frey, member of the Fairbanks UU congregation and Alaska travel expert. Find out more about this Alaskan trip of a lifetime before our tours sell out! Visit www.WhaleCoastAK.org, email dfrey@whalecoastak.org, or call 907-322-4966. We would love to share our Alaska with you!