

# St. Cloud UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST Fellowship

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## November 2022

**10:30 a.m. Sunday, November 6: “In A Fix” – Rev. Shelley Dugan**  
*(Daylight Savings Time Ends Today. Fall Back!)*

As humans, we often feel compelled to try to fix others. We know better. What’s that all about? How does religion factor in? Join us as we explore the sticky wicket of trying to fix others.

**10:30 a.m. Sunday, November 13: “Beyond Grateful, Thankful, Blessed” – Ellen Eastby**

As Unitarian Universalists, we have a difficult time dealing with Thanksgiving because of colonialism and the harm to indigenous people. How can we move beyond “Grateful, Thankful, Blessed” and similar words and phrases associated with November and Thanksgiving? How can these phrases be internalized and become a way of life for 365 days and not just one day in November?

**10:30 a.m. Sunday, November 20: Remembering Margaret Fuller — Brenda Graves**

As the first editor in 1840 of *The Dial*, the transcendental journal, Margaret Fuller was equally important to the transcendental movement as Emerson and Thoreau. She became famous throughout the world as the author of America's first feminist book, *Women of the Nineteenth Century*. A trailblazer in a number of fields formerly closed to women, Margaret championed not only women's rights but also the rights of other oppressed groups.

**10:30 a.m. Sunday, November 27: A Celebration of Gratitude**

Gratitude is a powerful way to spread happiness. Gratitude practices have been found to increase psychological well-being, working memory, sleep, immune system function, relationships, and coping with emotional upheavals. Following Thanksgiving, we will explore how gratitude can help us individually and as a community. As a way of reaching out to the wider community, we will also collect items for the local food shelf, so we invite you to bring nonperishable food items to donate. This will be a multi-generational celebration with fun activities for all ages. We hope you can join us as we share gratitude, both as individuals and as a community.

**Sunday services are presented in the Fellowship building and on Zoom.**

*Some presenters will be in person, others on Zoom.*

Visit [www.uufstcloud.org](http://www.uufstcloud.org) for information to join on Zoom

Masks are optional in the building. Coffee/tea will be served following all services, and soup, bread, and crackers will be provided on November 6.

### **To contribute to SCUUF:**

- 1) Send a check to SCUUF, PO Box 805, St. Cloud, MN 56302, or
- 2) Make a contribution by debit/credit card or PayPal by clicking on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/Donate-SCUUF>

## President's Corner

by Pam Peterson

It's been wonderful getting back to a more "normal" kind of life at the Fellowship—at least for now. Many of us have been able to see each other in person, and we have seen others on Zoom. We will NOT require masks to be worn at the Fellowship beginning Sunday, October 30th. Members are certainly welcome to continue wearing a mask. The Board will be monitoring the level of COVID and adjusting our guidelines as needed. Right now we are at a LOW level for St. Cloud according to COVID Act Now.

It has been so exciting seeing many visitors these first couple of months. Please make them feel welcome. It is very refreshing to have new people and their ideas for the Fellowship. This is how we grow and evolve.

I am looking forward to our Circle Dinners starting. This will be a great opportunity for many of us to get to know each other better in a smaller group setting. Plus, it will give us the chance to have some great meals!

I look forward to continuing the development of our Beloved Community during this Fellowship year. I've been giving overviews of chapters in a book entitled, "Growing a Beloved Community." This month I will share points from the 4th chapter called "Give Everyone a Voice."

*"It's not the symphony of voices in sweet concert I enjoy, but the cacophony of democracy, the brouhahas and the donnybrooks, the full-throated roar of a free people busy using their right to freedom of speech. Democracy requires rather a large tolerance for confusion and a secret relish for dissent."—Molly Ivans*  
(p. 23)

In our UU congregations, we do not expect to have sameness and perpetual harmony. Democracy is very much in line with our principles and heritage. Theodore Parker, a Unitarian ancestor, was quoted by Abraham Lincoln as saying ours is a faith *"of the people, by the people and for the people."* (p. 24) Parker also said that *"Democracy means not I am as good as you are, but you are as good as I am."* (p. 25) Equality is emphasized rather than ego. When there is difficulty, the UUs and friends can count on an accepting and open home in our Beloved Community. *"People increasingly come to our congregations not merely to be fed but to feed others."* (p. 29) Many are interested in supporting social justice and environmental issues. We like to be challenged. *"The Hokey-Pokey is a fine metaphor for mature congregational commitment. We start testing the waters by sticking a toe in. If we can stand the temperature, we venture further in until we end up plunging into the flowing river of this responsible free religion."* (p. 30)

We gain our voices when we become more than a spectator. So I look forward to hearing all of your voices.

## **Coffee time resumes at the Fellowship**

*by Marge Bates*

We will be having a coffee hour after Sunday services. After waiting a while for this, I hope we can make this work well.

These are the stipulations to make this plan work:

1. Coffee and tea will be served following all services, and on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in November (November 6), the SCUUF Board will provide soup. No food will be served at other services at this time.
2. Place your own chair at a table and return it when you are about to leave. (If you need assistance, please ask for help.)
3. Return your own cup to the dishwasher in the kitchen.
4. Use cups provided for you. Please do not use your own mug or cup since it is deemed unhealthy to put an unwashed cup under a coffee maker spigot.

Since we do not have full committees set up at this point, we each have to be responsible to make this work. Someone from the Membership Committee will be available each Sunday to answer questions. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please email me at [Margbates@gmail.com](mailto:Margbates@gmail.com).

## **Adult Religion Education meeting scheduled for December 3**

*by Ozzie Mayers*

Please join the next Adult Religious Education discussion on **Saturday, December 3 at 2:00 p.m.** We will have an opportunity to speak with Brenda Graves. At our Sunday service on November 20, Brenda will make a presentation on Margaret Fuller, an important voice in the transcendental movement and an early champion of women's rights. This ARE discussion will delve more deeply into Fuller's life, her influence, and the transcendental movement.

See the description of the November 20 service on page 1 to read further information about Margaret Fuller.

If you wish to join the ARE discussion on December 3, please send a request to Ozzie Mayers ([omayers@csbsju.edu](mailto:omayers@csbsju.edu)) and he will send you the Zoom link.

## **Meditation at the Fellowship—Saturday, November 12 at 10:30 a.m.**

*by Helen Manion*

We will meet at the Fellowship this month for meditation. Masks are no longer required, but are optional. Meditation will include Joys and Concerns, a short reading and poem about defining ourselves in relation to others, 20 minutes of silent meditation, followed by a time for sharing our thoughts.

## **Communications Report: Stay Tuned!**

*by Judy Foster*

Keep an ear tuned to MPR Weekend Edition Saturdays November 5-19 to hear our SCUUF ad!

On Oct. 28, we boosted our Facebook post for the Oct. 30 service, A Day of Remembrance, the celebrations of *Día de Los Muertos*, All Saints Days and All Souls Day. Stay tuned for a report on the results next month.

We will continue trying to tune in to students by seeking to table in Atwood Center, depending on budget restrictions.

Thanks to Shari Gieseke and Tom Hergert for keeping me on my toes and fully tuned on the committee!

We have a media list and can send press releases, so if a committee is planning an event that may be of interest to the public, please let us know. We can publicize it.

## **Postcard Writing Party Nov. 20: Promote Climate Action!**

*by Judy Foster*

The Social Justice Committee will host a postcard writing party at a special table in the Fellowship Hall after the service on November 20. Bring your coffee and your own snack to the table to write postcards to elected officials on climate legislation.

We will provide postcards and stamps, as well as addresses, information on the legislation, and “talking points.”

## **UUtheVote Report**

*by Judy Foster*

We again collaborated with the UU Church of Willmar on postcard writing ahead of the Nov. 8 general election. **Many thanks to Marge Bates, Louise Goetz, Carol Hamilton, and Charlotte Stephens**, who participated in the second round of postcarding.

You can still vote early until Nov. 7: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-in-person/>

**Our own Linda Saupe was a superb moderator of the candidate forums!** In case you missed them, check them out using the following links:

St. Cloud City Council Forum: <https://govtv.stcloudcity.com/CablecastPubli.../show/1343...>

District 742 School Board Forum: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x\\_BGUa7LBJ0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_BGUa7LBJ0)

MN Legislative District 14 Forum: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L19ZqW1363I>

MN Legislative District 13 Forum: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2iecYbJATxk>

Thank you League of Women Voters St. Cloud Area: <https://www.lwvsca.org/>

## 8th principle

### *Feedback requested on the draft from the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle Learning Community of the UUA*

*by Judy Foster*

The Article II Study Commission is excited to share a [full draft of Article II \(PDF, 3 Pages\)](#) for feedback. (*Click on the underlined link to read.*) The Study Commission's outreach team will be hosting Zoom feedback sessions in the first half of November, along with gathering feedback through a forthcoming online form for individual comments.

The Study Commission will present its final draft to the Board in January for inclusion on the agenda for General Assembly 2023. It will then be the subject of mini-Assemblies before the initial vote at GA 2023. If it passes that delegate vote by a majority, it will require a 2/3 majority vote at GA 2024 to become the new Article II of the Bylaws.

This draft makes significant changes to Article II. We invite you to read it using one of the practices we have started following in our work:

1. Read it the first time to observe how it makes you feel.
2. Read a second time, observe what it makes you think.
3. Finally read it a third time before thinking about any suggestions.

It will be ideal if you can hold suggestions until the online form is available so suggestions can be more easily gathered and read. But do feel free to direct questions to [changemanager@uua.org](mailto:changemanager@uua.org)

### ***Zoom Feedback Session Registration***

- [Saturday, 11/05 at 3 p.m. Eastern](#)
- [Sunday, 11/06 at 2 p.m. Eastern](#)
- [Tuesday, 11/08 at 10 p.m. Eastern](#)
- [Wednesday, 11/09 at 8 p.m. Eastern](#)
- [Thursday, 11/10 at 7 p.m. Eastern](#)
- [Saturday, 11/12 at 3 p.m. Eastern](#)
- [Sunday, 11/13 at 2 p.m. Eastern](#)
- [Monday, 11/14 at 9 p.m Eastern](#)

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission/blog/draft-feedback>

## SCUUF Book Club

*by Judith Siminoe*

We will gather at the Fellowship on **Saturday, November 19 at 10:00 a.m.** to discuss the book *Grey Bees* by Andry Kurkov, a Ukrainian novelist. “With a warm yet political humor, Ukraine’s most famous novelist presents a balanced and illuminating portrait of modern conflict.” Even if you don’t intend to attend the meeting, I recommend reading this book.

We can also discuss other politically-related books we’ve been reading.

## The Caring Committee

The Caring Committee has been formed for the times in each of our lives when we need help from another person. The members of the Caring Committee are available to help members and friends of the St. Cloud UU Fellowship in a variety of ways.

Feel free to contact any member of the committee:

Linda Saupe (chairperson), Marge Bates, Hanni Epp, Doug Polley, Chris Smith,  
Charlotte Stephens, and Ron Syme.

For anyone with emergency needs, a wide range of services is available from agencies and organizations in the community. These can be accessed by calling 211 (or 800-543-7709).

## Calendar Reminders

**AVOID ZOOM CONFLICTS:** We encourage you to use the Zoom licenses for video conferencing, but please follow the standard reservation process to ensure the Zoom “meeting room” (license) is available at the time you would like to make use of it and to allow others to see planned meetings on the calendar.

Please check the online calendar on our website for scheduled in-person and Zoom meetings at [www.uufstcloud.org/calendar](http://www.uufstcloud.org/calendar). A meeting event/room reservation button to submit a form for reservation requests can be found below the calendar on the website. This same button can be used to schedule in-person and Zoom meetings. Please send an e-mail to [calendar@uufstcloud.org](mailto:calendar@uufstcloud.org) if you have any questions.

*Tom Hergert has agreed to be the contact for the Zoom license and will provide a tutorial for anyone needing to learn how to host a Zoom meeting. His contact information can be found in the UUF Directory.*

**WELCOMING CONGREGATION:** We are a welcoming congregation that seeks to be a spiritual home for people of free faith. We value the full range of human diversity, including race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, affectional/sexual orientation, age, national origin, socioeconomic status, and ability.

St. Cloud Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship

3226 Maine Prairie Rd.  
P.O. Box 805, St. Cloud, MN 56302  
320-252-0020

[www.uufstcloud.org](http://www.uufstcloud.org)