

ST. JOHN NUUSLETTER: March 2022

Happy March St. John Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. March brings us Women's History Month, St. Patrick's Day, and the Equinox which marks the First Day of Spring.

At the fellowship, we will kick off the month with Giving Sunday and our Annual Meeting. After that, we are "lucky" to welcome three visiting speakers.

As a reminder, we meet at the **Giff Hill School Lower Campus** Sundays at 10 am. We require masks while inside and we encourage all to get vaccinated. We hope you can join us!

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 am - Lower Giff Hill Meeting Hall

March 6: Giving Sunday and Annual Meeting - David & Leanne DiGiacomo

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant." - Robert Louis Stevenson

Please join us in our annual gifting to the community. We will choose several St. John community organizations and allocate \$25,000 to plant seeds in our community. Below is the list of our contributions from 2021. Organizations can be added.

Love City Pan Dragons	1600
New Day St John	2300
Island Green Living IGLA	1600
Island Health and Wellness	3350
St John Rescue	1000
St John School of Arts	750
Friends of the Park	400
Comm. Found. VI	1150
My Brother's Workshop	500
Giff Hill School	1500
Animal Care Center	550
St John Singers	1000
Boys and Girls Club	500
Our Lady Mt. Carmel (food)	2100
Save Coral Bay	800
St John Land Conservancy	500
St John Comm. Found.	500
TOTAL	\$20,100

Following the abbreviated service, we will have our Annual Membership Meeting.

March 13: Unitarians Being Possibilitarians - Laurie Herrick

As many Unitarians have likely experienced, social justice systems change is hard. It takes time, perseverance, and resources. Historically, fundraising has simply been the hurdle – the necessary evil – that must be done to achieve the intended outcome. Perhaps this relationship with money and philanthropy is part of the problem. What if resource development could be a joyful and spiritual experience to engage and include our community?

For more than two decades, Laurie Herrick, author of *Choose Abundance: Powerful Fundraising for Nonprofits – A Culture of Philanthropy*, has been learning from and consulting not-for-profit organizations on how to build a culture of resource abundance to fulfill their missions. What she has discovered has been transformational – that we've overlooked the power of our mindset when it comes to enrolling people to invest their abundant resources – of all kinds, into their organizations.

When we stop defining philanthropy as something accessible only to the super wealthy and we go back to the Greek root of the word, *love of humankind*, it becomes something that we all can be a part of. Everyone has resources of some kind to contribute to making our world better. Love of humankind includes community engagement, deep partnerships and relationship building within our community. With this definition, philanthropy can be, in and of itself, a social justice change agent and a joyful experience.

In this interactive service, come prepared to engage in a lively dialogue to unlock the potential of mindset to create what is possible in our lives, our communities and our planet.

March 20: 1969: Woodstock and the dawning of the Age of Aquarius: Where were you and what did it mean to you? - Dan Zuckergood

In a stroll down memory lane, we will be stopping at the year 1969, one of the most interesting years in many of our lives. In a year where Sugar Sugar was the top selling song, out of the ashes of this comes Woodstock. With a new set of cultural mores that had never been seen before – drugs, the sexual revolution, the anti-war movement, the civil rights movement, the feminist movement - it all seemed to be pushing our country in a new direction.

Where were you during 1969? What were you doing? What were your thoughts about all the changes that seemed to be happening? How has 1969 affected your life today?

Dan Zukergood will be leading this very interesting “trip” back in time (no drugs will be necessary to enjoy it fully). He will be wearing his finest tie-dye shirt and asks you to join him by wearing yours if you so desire. Be prepared to tell your story and be ready to sing some of the songs sung at Woodstock.

March 27: Embracing Our Weird/Unique Self - Rev. Charles J. Stephens

Embracing our unique self, body and soul, is not easy for anyone. This 73 year old has been inspired by the 26 year old author and PhD (biochemistry), Dr. Camilla Pang, to create this sermon. Camilla calls her book a manual for humans. She writes that her “curious cocktail of neurodiversity” gives her the unusual insight to write an outsider's guide to life. We, as individuals, this Fellowship and the St. John community are who we are because of the peculiarities that have and continue to form us.

April 3: Rev. Charles J. Stephens

April 10: Kristen Carmichael Bowers

April 17: Easter Sunday - Flower Ceremony

STJUUF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, March 15: Discussion with Laurie Herrick

5:00p-6:30p National Park Visitor’s Center Pavillion

Laurie will provide a free download of a chapter of her book, *Choose Abundance: Powerful Fundraising for Nonprofits – A Culture of Philanthropy*. Please join us for a sunset discussion with the author and upcoming UU speaker. Feel free to bring a beverage and snacks.

Have You Ever Wanted to be a Preacher?

Now might be your big chance. We have a few open Sunday’s in May. If you are interested in sharing your story, please let me, Erin Lieb know.

We Are All in This Together

If you have information you would like to distribute, please let me, Erin Lieb, know. If you have a community event that you would like to submit for the April newsletter, pass it my way. If you have ideas for programs, outings, weekday classes/discussions, I am all ears.

MARCH COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Caneel Bay Comment Period
through Friday, March 4**

Virgin Islands National Park is excited to host additional opportunities for the community to connect with park staff and provide input on the redevelopment of Caneel Bay.

Staff will be available to receive comments at Bethany Moravian Church in Cruz Bay from 6pm-7:30pm on **Tuesday, March 1, 2022**.

On **Thursday March 3, 2022**, NPS staff will be available at Calvary Baptist Church in Coral Bay from 6pm-7:30pm.

Additionally, park staff will be present at the Virgin Islands National Park pavilion Feb. 28th - Mar. 3rd from 2pm-4pm daily to transcribe and/or accept written comments.

Comments may also be submitted online at

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm...> under "Open for Comment."

As a reminder, the National Park Service welcomes your written comments on the redevelopment of Caneel Bay through Friday, March 4.

VI Audubon - Plant Sale

Saturday, March 5 - 8am - noon

The Audubon Society's annual plant sale is here! They will set up on the second floor of the Marketplace next to STJ Hardware. Get there early to get the pick of the litter.

St. John School of the Arts –American Spiritual Ensemble

Saturday, March 12 - 5pm

Free sunset concert at the National Park Ballfield. See attached flyer.