

SJC Meeting

June 27, 2026

Present: Linda Stoller (chair), Barbara Hammond, Donna Polhamus, Christina Bellamy, Carole Vaughn, Margie Manning, Sue Hand, Miriam Soto and Anne Burnham (secretary)

Meeting called to order on Zoom at 9:30 AM. Barbara started Fathom (AI) recording, Linda lit the chalice and offered opening words, check-ins followed.

Minutes from June meeting accepted without any changes.

Treasurer's report (Bob)

"May donation to [Community Health Centers of Pinellas](#) (DBA Evara Health): \$694.06. (Email Bob, bobh.uuc@outlook.com, any questions. He'll answer after June 29.)"

Outreach (Trude)

- "Our June recipient, Equality Action Florida, donation will be reported in July.
- Our July recipient is [Florida Rising Together](#), a 501c3 organization dedicated to advancing economic and racial justice across the state by building power in historically marginalized communities. It develops leaders that will help shift power so communities get to decide their own destinies."
- Our August recipient is Clothes to Kids, with a speaker at the first service of the month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Racial Justice (Trude)

"In June, some RJ members supported Indivisible activities, attended racially diverse arts and cultural events, and of course supported Pride activities. Let us celebrate the closing of Alligator Alcatraz!"

FAST (Linda)

"Over the summer FAST organizers are making visits to area corporations and businesses to discuss investing in FAST. Network members are invited to attend these meetings."

NAMI (Christina)

"The NAMI Family Support Group is in the third year at UUC; details on the UUC website and in the UUC monthly calendar of SJC events. The Pinellas Chapter of NAMI is a vibrant one, offering many kinds of innovative, supportive, informative programs, all free. Their paid staff is diverse, offering ongoing webinars, support groups and classes to many specific groups concerned with mental wellness, such as veterans, LGBTQIA+, faith communities, and kids. NAMI paid staff is out in the community regularly and also receives excellent ongoing training to keep up with all the changes in services, laws, funding, etc. The NAMI national organization offers monthly informative free webinars online. I have Zoomed into several, and they are excellent. Check out the websites for further information."

NEW AND CONTINUING

Immigrant Interfaith Vigil

The vigil sponsored by mid-Pinellas Indivisible on Saturday mornings in front of the Pinellas County Deputy Sheriffs office has not had a huge UUC turnout, due to the extreme heat. We don't want to drop our involvement with the immigration issue; perhaps we could offer an indoor educational opportunity. Christina mentioned that at the last mobile health bus at UUC she met an immigration attorney named Nicole (Florida Immigration and Law Coalition?) who stressed that they need help and would like to work with UUC. Barbara suggested having a short documentary film followed by a panel discussion. Perhaps Nicole and Courtney (a leader at the vigils re: 287/g) as well as someone from Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community

Services could be. Christina offered to co-lead; she is asking for a team of 2-3 people to call panelists, provide a general suggestions of what we'd like them to talk about. Christina will contact Nicole to let her know that we've started making some plans. Linda will get in touch with GCJFCS. Donna suggested that we also try to meet with Rep. Luna to let her know where we stand. We will need to finalize plans for film & panel discussion by email since our next SJC meeting won't be until the end of August.

Postcard project

The next round of writing postcards to the same Hispanic precinct voters as before will start on July 5th after the service in the Social Hall. Linda will include the info in her monthly SJC report that morning and be in charge of the postcard writing that day; Barbara will do July 12th. Linda asked us to bring goodies for both dates. Donna said that she could take some of the cards for her UU church members to do in Maryland.

Mobile health bus for refugees

Christina and Sue volunteered for the shift on July 10th and will encourage those with appointments to wait in the Octagon to avoid the heat.

Backpacks for HEP

Anne said that the last two Sundays she and Sue have been signing members up to buy backpacks or donate \$\$ for us to buy the remainder of the 35 backpacks UUC pledged. The deadline for members to turn everything in is July 5th.

***Under G-D* documentary (August 29th)**

Discussion about panelists following the film: May Thach, from the National Asian Pacific Women's Forum, will focus on impacts on women of color; Christina will contact Michelle Miller (USF Women & Gender Studies) for a speaker suggestion; and Carol will send contact info for Amy Weintraub (NOW) to Barbara for another possible panelist. The Tampa Bay Abortion Fund will have a table to accept donations for their program. Christina made a motion for SJC to provide \$150 to cover costs; Carole seconded, passed

John Lewis Action Weekend, July 17-19

Anona Methodist Church will show the movie *Selma* on July 17 th with a dinner (donations welcome) from 5-6 PM and the movie from 6:15-8:15 PM. Linda will put a notice in the Octagram with Carol as contact person for carpooling.

There will also be protesting on Gulf-to-Bay that weekend.

Stories of Intersex and Faith (October 10th)

Linda saw the movie (1½ hours) at General Assembly last year. It features different stories of people who were born intersex and how their religions supported (or didn't support) them. A Jacksonville pastor who is in the movie has been affiliated with UUs and also PFLAG there. Linda will talk to Wendy (PFLAG Safety Harbor) about co-sponsoring this with us. She suggested we show the movie at UUC in October in conjunction with Intersex Awareness Day; the afternoon of October 10th is open on the UUC calendar. Linda made a motion to spend \$50 to rent the movie and pursue having a Zoom talkback with the director afterwards; Carole seconded, passed. Linda will ask Anne Gilbert to put the event on the UUC calendar for Oct. 10th.

The chalice was extinguished at 10:45. NO MEETING IN JULY. Next meeting will be on August 22nd at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Burnham