

August 2023

## Meet Ministerial Intern Randy Blasch

**Meadville Lombard Theological School recently approved the Unitarian Universalists of Coastal Georgia and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Statesboro as teaching congregations.** The congregations will be hosting, and I will be supervising an intern serving half-time during the next two program years. Randy Blasch (rhymes with wash) will begin in August and be with us during our Ingathering Service, sharing the Story for All Ages. For the coming year, Randy will be working with us in a hybrid arrangement since he is also completing an extended Clinical Pastoral Education Unit in the Atlanta area. Since Randy is half time – that means one-fourth time for each congregation. However, it may well be that some of the activities he provides (an example would be an adult RE) could be done via Zoom with interested members from both congregations. He will be with us on one of the “Rev. Jane Sundays” each month and could be in person for any Saturday activities that we plan for that weekend. During his second year with us, he will be living in southeast Georgia and can be in person for more meetings and activities. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to be involved in the development of a future UU minister who WANTS to minister to smaller congregations! Plus, he brings many skills and talents that can help us in our further efforts to minister to the members, friends, and our communities. I asked Randy to share a brief introduction of himself and here it is!

*"I'm Randy Blasch. I'm a late middle aged CIS White Man with lots of gray hair. I've been at UU for over 25 years and currently reside in Gainesville, GA with my 9-year-old dog Bentley. I'm divorced with two grown boys and 2 1/2 grandchildren - number 3 is due in December. I am an outgoing introvert and really enjoy learning about all sorts of new things. I grew up in Illinois, but love living in the south. I am a graduate of the University of Iowa, many moons ago, and am finishing up my seminary studies at Meadville Lombard. I am really excited to be coming to learn from everyone there, because that's what life is about for me, learning something new every day. I can't wait to meet you all in person!!"*



Randy Blasch and Bentley

Rev. Jane Page