

The Westside Story

The monthly newsletter of Westside Unitarian Universalist Church
901 Page Avenue Fort Worth, Texas • 11:00 am • www.westsideuu.org



Westside Purchases Building!

Westside became the proud owner of the property commonly known as 901 Page Avenue on March 23, 2007. The purchase was announced to the congregation on Sunday, March 25th. The building is 10,747 square feet and includes .75 acre of land. There is minimal green space around the exterior of the building and a fenced courtyard along one side of the building. The building sits on the southwest corner of Page Avenue (the east end of Elizabeth Boulevard) and Lipscomb, and our other two side boundaries are shared with Saint John's Episcopal Church. Part of the land is a parking lot across the street from the lot the church building sits on. The spaces in this lot bring our total paved parking spaces, which are in addition to street parking, to approximately 55.

Our building is located in the historic Ryan Place neighborhood, just south of the Fairmount Southside Historic District. Just to our north, the near Southside of Fort Worth is undergoing revitalization with upscale urban housing, historic preservation, development of the Magnolia Avenue pedestrian friendly retail corridor, and revitalization of the medical district. Our location is less than three miles from downtown Fort Worth and Texas Christian University.

We have been meeting in this building since January of 2006. Angel Montessori Pre-School continues to lease space in the building from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays.

Donations to our building fund campaign exceeded the amount needed for a down payment, so we are currently making plans to use those funds for repairs and improvements to the building and grounds. The building fund remains open to donations.

We plan to have an open house and building dedication in the fall. Although we hope you will join in that celebration, you are most welcome to visit us now.

Sunday Services

11:00AM – 12:00PM

May 6th - *Elder Cohousing: Building old-fashioned neighborhoods in a new way* by Janet Martinique. Cohousing communities are developed before building begins. The neighbors know each other over a two-year period of planning and determining their own living policies. This is the answer to isolation that most elders experience. Janet Martinique of the UU Church of Oak Cliff has been exploring cohousing on the district level for two years now, and will update us on this UU-friendly trend.

May 13th - *What Are You Afraid Of?* by Dr. Russell Elleven. On February 24th at the Mardi Gras Party and Service Auction one of our members, Jane Palmer, graciously bid a nice little sum to name the subject for one of Russell's reflections. Her topic: Fear. Come hear what Russell is afraid of.

May 20th - *Religious Education Sunday*; A Collaborative Service. After having studied peace this school year, the children and youth will present lessons learned by their individual classes. Come, learn how the Win-Win Rule, Helping Hands, and Peace are put together in our lives and in the world, and enjoy the interaction with our children!

May 27th - *My Struggles with the Bible (Part I)* by Dr. Russell Elleven. In part one of a two-part series, come hear how Russell has struggled with the Bible and how he relates to it today. Perhaps you have had the same struggles and can relate to his story?

Where's Russell in May?

Russell will be in the pulpit every Sunday in May delivering your "Day in UU History" and Joys and Concerns. On the 13th and 27th he will also deliver reflections. On Thursday, May 31st Russell and Gayle will leave for a few days in Chicago. On June 3rd Russell will graduate with the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree from our UU seminary there, Meadville Lombard Theological School.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
WESTSIDE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH MAKES A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR MEMBERS, OUR FAMILIES, AND THE WORLD AT LARGE THROUGH SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS, RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION, AND SOCIAL ACTION.

OUR VISION STATEMENT
WESTSIDE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH WILL GROW AND BECOME A MORE INFLUENTIAL LIBERAL RELIGIOUS PRESENCE THROUGH ACTIVE SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD AT LARGE.

Just for the record, he will not ask that we call him Dr. Dr. Russell Elleven :-)

Office Hours for May are as follows:

Tuesday, May 1st, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Thursday, May 3rd, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Tuesday, May 8th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Thursday, May 10th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Tuesday, May 15th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Tuesday, May 22nd, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Thursday, May 24th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Tuesday, May 29th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Just call him at 817-370-2171 during those hours. If there is no response, it means he is meeting with another church member.

OUR UU COMMUNITY

The True Cost of War: A Moral Balance Sheet

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED AT UUA.ORG

One Day in Iraq: To date, more than 3,100 American military members have been killed in Iraq, and another 400 have been killed in Afghanistan. On average, another college-aged soldier (between the ages of 18 and 22) is killed every day.

The money the US spends on average in just one day in Iraq, \$259 million, could have provided 22,615 college-aged students with a full year's tuition or enrolled 35,500 three- and four-year-olds a full year in Head Start pre-school programs.

One Week in Iraq: The toll of the war on Iraqi civilians has been devastating. Estimates of the number of Iraqi dead range up to half a million.

As many as 3.8 million Iraqis have already fled their homes, and an additional 10,500 civilians become refugees on average every week.

The money spent in one week in Iraq could have provided three meals a day for nearly an entire year for 6 million children, the same number that dies from hunger and malnutrition every year.

One Month in Iraq: In addition to the tens of thousands of injuries American service members have sustained in fighting in Iraq, more than 500 have undergone "major amputations" – the loss of arms or legs. In the four years of fighting in Iraq, that totals ten servicemen and women

losing a limb every month (or one every three days).

For less than the amount spent in one month in Iraq, New Orleans' neighborhoods could be completely rebuilt and improved to meet standards that would better protect them against another hurricane.

One Year in Iraq: More than 34,000 Iraqi civilians were killed in Iraq in 2006 alone. That is equivalent to 93 civilians killed every day.

The money spent in Iraq in one year could have paid the health insurance premiums for half of all uninsured Americans, including all uninsured American children.

Four years in Iraq: More than 3,100 American service members have been killed since the invasion, and more than 23,500 soldiers have been wounded. As many as 300,000 veterans have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, two-thirds of whom are not being treated.

What could we have purchased with \$400 billion, had our national priorities matched our moral potential?

We could have funded full American compliance in the Kyoto Protocol, which is estimated to cost \$75 billion less than what we've already spent in Iraq.

We could have purchased life-giving treatment, including costly antiretroviral drugs, for every person in the world infected with HIV/AIDS, for almost six full years.

The Years Ahead: Even if it ends tomorrow, we will be paying for this war for decades to come. When we factor in the future costs of veterans' medical care, disability payments, and the price of rebuilding our depleted military, the total cost could exceed \$1.2 trillion.

Imagine what our world might look like in a few years if we had focused those resources on making the world healthier, wealthier, better educated, and safer.

As Americans, it is our duty to hold ourselves and our government accountable for any decision to spend American lives and money on a futile war. These are moral choices, and they have moral consequences.

UU Camp LaForet In Carbondale, Colorado

JULY 29TH THROUGH AUGUST 4TH, 2007

Did you ever think about going to a UU summer camp or spending a week in Colorado during the summer? Why not combine the two and come to Camp LaForet in Carbondale, Colorado? Located at the foot of Mt. Sopris between the hot springs in Glenwood Springs and the

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IGNORANT MEN.*

- BERTRAND RUSSELL

music festival in Aspen, Camp LaForet has activities for all: workshops and support groups for adults, a children's program led by experts, and a special haven for teens and young adults. Workshops may include music, massage, yoga, poetry, drama, mindfulness, nutrition, dance, meditation, and more. Afternoons are free for hiking, rafting, trips to surrounding areas, massage, games, and the gifts you bring to share. Evenings feature such activities as Dances of Universal Peace, talent night, and the Friday Night Party. Of course, there will be plenty of time to see old and new friends and just hang out, too. Come join in the fun! We'll be celebrating Camp LaForet's 50th anniversary in 2008!

Please explore our website for more information or to register: www.CAMPLAFORET.COM

UUSC Announces 2007 Civil Rights Journey

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee is excited to announce the 2007 Freedom Summer: A Civil Rights Journey, a JustWorks camp that will take you to the most significant sites of the civil rights movement.

Join UUSC for the fourth annual Civil Rights Journey to Atlanta, Selma, Montgomery, and Birmingham, July 7-14, 2007. During this intergenerational trip, we will travel together by bus to visit historical sites that were significant to people who worked, often at great personal peril, to register new voters during Freedom Summer 1964. Participants will also hear inspirational stories of people who were there.

The Civil Rights Journey will conclude with electoral-related skills training that will equip participants to return to their communities and campuses as activists.

Join us for this or one of our other JustWorks camps, meaningful social justice experiences and action opportunities for people of all ages. For more information, visit www.uusc.org/justworks.

Aging and Disability Resource Center Opens

The Aging and Disability Resource Center, established with the help of United Way's Area Agency on Aging, is now open. At the ADRC, almost two dozen government and nonprofit groups are working together to help older adults and people with disabilities obtain services easier and faster. The center is at 1300 Circle Drive in Fort Worth. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Dwight Brown Leadership Experience

The Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference is happy to announce the Dwight Brown Leadership Experience will once again be housed at Austin College in Sherman, Texas and will be held from 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 15th through 12:30 p.m. on Friday, July 20th.

DBLE is the cornerstone of Southwestern UU leadership development. For six intensive days, leaders and leaders-to-be from large, mid-sized and small congregations from all parts of our District live together, learn together, worship together, work together, and play together under the guidance of caring, able and experienced professional and lay leaders. DBLE has two interdependent objectives: to strengthen our congregations and to contribute to the personal growth of each participant.

Each UU congregation in the District is eligible to send up to three current or potential lay and/or professional leaders. Churches are strongly encouraged to send at least two people.

The faculty this year will include the Rev. Susan Smith, Ms. Constance Goodbread, and the Rev. Anthony David. Susan is our new District Executive; Connie is a Program Consultant from the Florida District UUA, on the DBLE faculty for the second time; Anthony, our minister at Pathways Church in Southlake, TX, will supervise worship at DBLE.

The cost, per participant, is \$400 for those registering prior to the May 15th deadline; later registrants will pay \$450. For more information, contact the DBLE Dean, Scottie McIntyre Johnson, at 903-892-4751.

*REASON AND FREE INQUIRY
ARE THE ONLY EFFECTUAL
AGENTS AGAINST ERROR.*

- THOMAS JEFFERSON

UUA Laments Supreme Court Decision on Federal Abortion Ban

April 19, 2007 (Boston, Massachusetts) - The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) responded with deep sadness to the United States Supreme Court decision to ban a medical procedure used very rarely to serve the health of women. UUA Director of Advocacy and Witness, Rev. Meg A. Riley, released the following statement:

Tragically, the U.S. Supreme Court has decided to politicize a medical procedure, which is used rarely and in critical circumstances for women who face devastating alternatives. Any minister who has counseled real families deciding to undergo this procedure knows that it is profoundly painful for all concerned. No political rhetoric can diminish the

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IS STILL NEEDED? THEN
I ANSWER THAT WORK,
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OF MAN FOR WOMAN AND
WOMAN FOR MAN AN EVIL
THING... THEY HAVE SAID
THAT SICKNESS WAS SENT
FROM GOD... NOW WE DENY
IT ALL, AND AGAIN PROCLAIM
THAT THESE WILL BRING
YOU ALL THE GOOD THERE
IS: HEALTH, WORK, STUDY
- LOVE!*

- ELBERT HUBBARD

agony that arises when a family learns that a fetus is not viable, or that a woman's own health is at risk from a pregnancy. Denying women and their physicians the right to make difficult, medically responsible decisions will undermine the constitution's right to privacy and will imperil the lives of American women when they are most vulnerable.

Health decisions, including reproductive health, are complex and personal. Eight men and one woman in Washington DC should not determine how families, consulting their doctors and their religious values, will discern the best way to move forward in difficult times. The future for all Americans is dimmer today because yesterday the Court decided not only that women are incapable of making these decisions, but that their very lives are not worth protecting.

Unitarian Universalists will rededicate ourselves to supporting the Freedom of Choice Act to prohibit the courts and legislative bodies from interfering with families' abilities to make medically sound decisions that are, ultimately, profound questions of conscience.

The Unitarian Universalist Association has supported women's right to reproductive health services, including abortion, since 1963. This continued support includes advocating leaving medical decisions to doctors and patients and working towards passage of federal legislation to guarantee the fundamental right of choice in reproductive health matters.

INSIDE WESTSIDE

Mother's Day Breakfast Planned

Calling all men of Westside to provide a Pancake Breakfast for all the Mothers and ladies of the church on Mother's Day, May 13 at 10:00. You will need to bring griddles. The Social Committee will provide pancake mix and syrups. Please contact Dolores Ruhs by phone or e-mail if you want to make pancakes, 817-249-1829, ruhsdol@sbcglobal.net. by May 6th.

*Q: WHY ARE UU
CONGREGATIONS SO BAD AT
HYMN SINGING?*

*A: BECAUSE THEY ARE ALWAYS
READING A FEW LINES AHEAD
TO SEE IF THEY AGREE WITH
THE WORDS.*

- ANONYMOUS

Welcoming Congregation

After completing six educational sessions and various other requirements, the Board of Westside UU Church

will ask the congregation to vote on their desire to become designated by the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Welcoming Congregation. The vote will take place, along with necessary votes that change our by-laws to reflect our inclusivity, on May 20th at the congregational meeting. See you there!

Adult Forum Returns

Our first forums on philosophy and religion began the last two weeks of April. Dr. Ed Furber began with "From the Upanishads to Homer" and, if the discussion of that presentation has been completed, it will be followed on May 6th and May 20th by "Philosophy--Did the Greeks Invent It?" and "Pythagoras and Divinity of Number." Professor Daniel Robinson of Oxford University introduces these subjects on disc in 30-minute lectures, part of a course called "2000 Years of Wisdom."

Dick Trice began the course on religion with a lecture on the origins of God/s, the how and why of religion, and the arguments regarding the existence of God. May and later Forums will follow in this order (but how many Sundays each unit will comprise will depend upon subject interest): (1) the Universality of Religion, (2) Zoroastrianism and Mithraism, (3) Hinduism, (4) Confucianism, (5) Taoism, (6) Buddhism, (7) Judaism, (8) Sikhism and Jainism, (9) Christianity, (10) UU'ism, (11) Islam, (12) Humanism and Atheism. For the major religions three weeks of discussion may be expected.

Philosophy and religion will alternate Sundays and, on occasion, may be delayed a week if important church matters require the use of that time.

All Forum programs begin at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall (it's time we gave a good name to this room) and end promptly at 10:30. Everyone is invited to come and join the discussions that should be lively and interesting following each presentation. What could be more interesting? Okay.... except sex and death.

Building Repair and Improvement Committee Meets

Members of Westside's Building Repair & Improvement Committee (BRIC) met for their inaugural meeting Wednesday, April 18th. The purpose of this ad hoc committee is, with input from members and friends, to develop and present to the WUUC Board for implementation a master building and grounds repair/improvement plan which improves building safety/code compliance and enhances the overall aesthetics of the building, all while

making fiscally prudent decisions and remaining consistent with UU principles and Westside's mission and vision. The BRIC's members are: Angel Montessori School (AMS) Representative: Cindy Greaves-Herridge; and Westside UU members: Bob Vann, Janice Williams, Jill Jung, Maria Schmidt and Committee Chair, Gayle Elleven.

The BRIC's top priority: spending the \$7500, which was set aside in escrow at the time of closing. In accordance with the building sales contract, this money must be spent by mid-May (05/23). Thanks to John Huffman and Dianne Nixon, the BRIC already has bids addressing several issues that were identified at the time the property was inspected. These include: roof repairs, HVAC needs and electrical issues. With these bids already in place, and the understanding that these issues are all critical, the BRIC hopes to be able to move quickly to meet the May deadline.

The committee also discussed its plan for developing a process by which Westside members can submit their recommendations for building and grounds repairs and improvements. It is the committee's intention to present its plan to the Board for approval in May. Once the committee receives approval from the board, it will communicate the process to the congregation via multiple avenues, including the Sunday Orders of Service, the Westside Weekly Web and the monthly newsletter.

The BRIC expects the month of May to be a very busy one. With that, the BRIC will meet as often as needed to ensure its goals are met. Once these initial goals are achieved, the committee will agree upon an ongoing meeting time and communicate it with the congregation and AMS.

As members of the BRIC, we know both the congregation and AMS are excited to enhance the aesthetics of its building; we believe the building has the potential to be as beautiful as the congregation and the school it represents!

Unitarian Universalist Spring Conference

Three Westside members, Howard and Myrtle McMahan and Amy Youngblood, were delegates to the Southwestern U.U. Conference (SWUUC) Annual Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas on April 20th and 21st. The theme speaker was John Seed, founder and director of the Rainforest Information Centre in Australia. We met at the 4H Club Conference Center, way out in the countryside. Morning worship was held outside in a beautiful (but wet) meadow. There were various workshops dealing with everything from District bylaws to World Religion Day. We attended different ones.

Saturday afternoon the annual meeting of the Conference was held. After much discussion and some contention, a by-law reducing the size of the board from 14 to 11 was adopted.

A budget was presented and adopted. It increases the per member support by \$1 as adopted last year. The per member dues to SWUUC will be \$19 for this next fiscal year.

The SWUUC Board is trying to become a "Policy Governance" Board. A resolution was proposed calling on the Directors of SWUUC to revisit and reverse the decision implementing Policy Governance no later than the next Annual Meeting. The resolution had not been submitted in time, so therefore became an "emergency" item, which by the constitution takes a 2/3 of the members present and voting to be considered. It did not receive the necessary vote for consideration.

Certificates were awarded to those congregations that had given their "Fair Share" to the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations last year. Westside received its certificate. We have been a "fair share" supporter of the UUA, SWUUC, and NTAUUS since we first organized.

Nominees Announced

The Nominating Committee offers the following nominees for the 2007-08 church year. The congregation at our May 20th meeting will elect these, or other floor nominees.

Current committee:

John Huffman, Chair
Beverly Archibald, Howard McMahan, Caroline Nixon, Michael Oglesby

Position

Board President: Brenda Baldwin (1 yr)
Board VP: Walt McConathy (1 yr)
Board Treasurer: Charles Palmer (2 yr)
Board Director: Amanda Oglesby (1 yr)
Board Director: John Nagely (2 yr)

Board Director: Dianne Nixon (2 yr)

Nominating Committee: (all 1 yr)

Carl Romano
Cathy McConnell
Michael Oglesby
Caroline Nixon
Beverly Archibald

Budget Discussions Scheduled

If you would like to discuss and provide input to the proposed budget for the 2007-2008 church year, please attend one of the following sessions at the church. If you are unable to attend one of these, please contact Brenda Baldwin directly (president@westsideuu.org or 817-988-9441). We will approve a budget at the congregational

*EXTRAORDINARY CLAIMS
REQUIRE EXTRAORDINARY
EVIDENCE.*

- CARL SAGAN

*IT AIN'T THE PARTS OF
THE BIBLE THAT I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND THAT BOTHER
ME, IT IS THE PARTS THAT I
DO UNDERSTAND.*

- MARK TWAIN

meeting on May 20, and your advance input is critical to timely approval at that meeting.

Sunday, May 13th, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 17th, 7 pm

Annual Congregational Meeting May 20, 2007

The meeting will be held following potluck lunch and is estimated to begin at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Agenda:

- (a) Elect Officers and Directors
- (b) Elect members of the Nominating Committee
- (c) Ratify the appointment by the Board of the Audit Committee
- (d) Set a minimum level for contributions by members
- (e) Vote on Welcoming Congregation
- (f) Vote on bylaws changes
- (g) Vote on increase to full-time ministry beginning in January of 2008
- (h) Adopt a budget

Board of Directors Meeting

The standing meeting of the Westside UU Church board is the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 at the church. Please check the church calendar at www.westsideuu.org to verify the meeting date, as it is sometimes necessary to meet at another and/or an additional time.

If you would like to add an agenda item, please contact the church president, Brenda Baldwin, at president@westsideuu.org in advance of the meeting. If you would like to attend a meeting as an observer, advance notice isn't necessary, but is appreciated and will provide more effective building access.

If you would like to receive board meeting minutes and/or financial reports, please utilize the links available under "church business" on the church website, or contact Beverly Archibald for minutes and Mark McMurry for financial reports at their phone numbers listed in the church directory or leave a message on the church phone (817-292-3337).

Church Calendar, Contacts and Communication

Are you missing the calendar pages in the newsletter

this month? If so, please let us know your thoughts on it. But, first, please check out the church calendar at www.westsideuu.org. This calendar is a tool that allows the most up-to-date information to be posted at any time. If you click on an item in the calendar, a window will pop up that usually contains more information about the event and contact information for the organizer.

If you are planning (or canceling) a church event or committee meeting, please notify John Huffman at webmaster@westsideuu.org, so the calendar can be updated accordingly. This link to the Webmaster, as well as links to the newsletter editor, committee chairs, the board, and others may be found by clicking on "contact us" near the bottom of the homepage of www.westsideuu.org.

Announcements of upcoming activities are also included in the insert in each Sunday worship's Order of Service and sent out in the Weekly Web. If you not receiving timely notification of events, please let us know via e-mail or via phone (817-292-3337).

RE Fire Drill

In April we had our first successful Fire Drill. Even though it was only for RE, the children did a wonderful job staying calm coming and going to our safe places. October is usually Fire Safety month, but we wanted to get a head start on letting the kids know where to go and what to expect. They did a wonderful job! We have great kids!

RE Update

Please join me in congratulating our RE teachers! All of our teachers are now certified in CPR. Including Caroline Nixon, Dianne Nixon, Mary Noer, Amanda Oglesby, Michael Oglesby, Alan Wilhelm, Lela Woods, and Jessica Zinn.

CASA 2007

For the past eight years, a group of us, called CASA, have gone down to the Mexico border and built a small house for families that live there. This year's trip down to Progresso, Mexico is scheduled for June 3rd - 6th. We are building one house this year. If you are interested in joining us or want to know more about the project, please contact Bill Terry or Mary Noer (817-249-7341 or email terrynoer@sbcglobal.net). We are also accepting contributions to fund the building materials we use for the project. Any contribution will help and is greatly appreciated. You may contribute through the church. Just write CASA 2007 on the memo line of your check, and place it in the offerings basket.

IT APPEARS TO ME, ONE GRADUALLY FORMULATES ONE'S RELIGION, BE IT WHAT IT MAY. A PERSON HAS NO RELIGION WHO HAS NOT SLOWLY AND PAINFULLY GATHERED ONE TOGETHER, ADDING TO IT, SHAPING IT; AND ONE'S RELIGION IS NEVER COMPLETE AND FINAL, BUT MUST ALWAYS BE UNDERGOING MODIFICATION.

- D.H. LAWRENCE

New & Familiar Faces: Ric And Jane Hansen

BY ELIXABETH CAMPBELL

When Ric and Jane Hansen moved to Fort Worth last year, they began looking for a church where they felt comfortable. Jane came from a Methodist background, and Ric came from a Lutheran background. "Over the years, our ideas have changed. We were looking for a place where both of us could exist," Jane said. Ric and Jane said they liked the refreshing, friendly atmosphere of Westside. Ric discovered Westside when he found one of Dr. Elleven's sermons on the Internet. "He explained how a minister can be an atheist," Ric said. "I liked the fact that he stood up and said it."

Before coming to Texas, the Hansens lived in Salt Lake City. Since moving to Texas, Ric has done contract work for Lockheed Martin, and he recently announced that he was hired as a manager for the company. As a consultant, he helped create training materials for people who are "non teachers."

Jane joked that she is the CEO of Hansen Enterprises. "There is no such thing as a housewife anymore," she said. Jane also worked in marketing and management for non-profit organizations and shopping centers.

Ric and Jane said they look forward to participating in the activities of Westside. "We feel very welcome here," Jane said.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Contemporary Books

Fourth Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at 6130 Haley Lane. The next meeting is May 27th. We will discuss Fall on Your Knees by Anne-Marie MacDonald - a tale of five generations on Cape Bretton Island. Call Reed Bilz at 817-292-7974 for the gate code. We will discuss book choices of group members.

Bridge Night

First Sunday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the church. The next night is May 6th. All levels are welcome, and we are always glad to have new players. Please call Ann Sutherland at 817-294-0401 if you wish to attend or to have further information.

Kimbell Lunch Bunch

Every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m., Westsiders and friends gather at the Kimbell for community discussion and a good lunch. Look for a crowded table with familiar faces.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

We will have birthday and anniversary celebrations on the 1st Sunday of each month. Please call Dolores Ruhs, 817-249-1829 or e-mail ruhsdol@sbcglobal.net.

The Humanists of Fort Worth

The HOFW meets every second Wednesday of each month in our church sanctuary beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending on or before 8:30 p.m. Many members of our church and of the Jefferson UU Church are also members of HOFW. The program for May 9th is a lively debate between Jim Cheatham and Joel Bailey on the subject of "Globalization---Praise It or Damn It?" Plenty of time for discussion (and argument?) will follow their 30 to 40-minute debate. Everyone is invited to attend. A board member of the American Humanist Association will visit HOFW on May 12th and 13th to discuss growth and national connections. Ms. Marilyn Westfall, who also happens to be a leader in the Lubbock UU Church, plans to attend our church service on the 13th. Her church is slightly smaller than ours and has many of the problems familiar to small fellowships. She is particularly interested in our Religious Education program for the kids.

Westside Great Books

Our Great Books discussions will resume the first Sunday, May 6th, at 12:30 in the sanctuary with a look at Saul Bellow's book *Seize the Day*. This is the last reading in the series of selections called "Great Conversations." The group has ordered the next set of readings from the Great Books Foundation called "Order and Chaos." It includes nine selections plus questions for two additional complete books. Among the selections are works of Nikolai Gogol, Flannery O'Connor, Yeats, Frost, Wallace Stevens and others. It's not too late to place an order for the readings (\$16 plus shipping and tax) if anyone would like to join the new discussions beginning in June. See Dick Trice for information.

THE WESTSIDE STORY - MAY 2007

*UNIVERSALISTS ARE OFTEN
ASKED WHERE THEY STAND.
THE ONLY TRUE ANSWER TO
GIVE TO THIS QUESTION IS
THAT WE DO NOT STAND AT
ALL;
WE MOVE.*

- LB FISHER

WESTSIDE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Board of Directors 2006-2007

President – Brenda Baldwin
Vice-President – Linda Hanratty
Secretary – Beverly Archibald
Treasurer – Mark McMurry
Director – Dianne Nixon
Director – Charles Palmer
Director – Audrey Weil

Committee on Ministry

Reed Bilz, Chair
John Huffmann
Walt McConathy
Jane Palmer
Maria Schmidt

Committee Chairs

Adult Education - pending
Building - John Huffman 817-924-9845
Finance - Howard McMahan 817-294-1363
Membership - Reed Bilz 817-292-7974
Social Justice - Linda Hanratty 817-924-6629
Religious Education - Jessica Zinn 817-763-0901
Social - Dolores Ruhs 817-249-1829
Worship - Amy Youngblood 817-924-1358

Westside Unitarian Universalist Church
c/o McMahan, 3600 Lawndale Ave.
Fort Worth, TX 76133

Have an announcement?

Submit announcements for the next monthly newsletter by May 20th. Submit announcements for the weekly Order of Service by the Thursday before you want the announcement to appear. Specify where you want your announcement to appear. All submissions should be made to Jane Palmer at Cpalmer263@sbcglobal.net or 817-847-9713 or 2609 Silver Hill Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76131.

By The Numbers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Number of Adults</i>	<i>Number of Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Sunday, March 04, 2007	60	7	67
Sunday, March 11, 2007	54	8	62
Sunday, March 18, 2007	56	6	62
Sunday, March 25, 2007	71	5	76
Monthly Average	60.3	6.5	66.8

The 7 UU Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to 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.

Spread the Faith!

When you have finished reading your Westside Story, leave it at the doctor's office, barbershop, wherever it might be read by a potential UU.