

The Westside Story

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTSIDE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
901 PAGE AVENUE FORT WORTH, TEXAS • 11:00 AM • WWW.WESTSIDEUU.ORG

SAVE THE DATES!

NOVEMBER 11TH
RE IN THE PARK

DECEMBER 1ST
POTENTIAL MEMBERS' CLASS

MARCH 2ND
CHURCH DEDICATION
& OPEN HOUSE

Exploring Westside Membership Class offered December 1, 2007

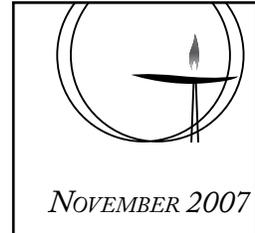
Potential new members and friends of Westside are invited to find out more about the membership journey at Westside on Saturday, December 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the church. You will get a brief history of Unitarian Universalism, view the DVD "Voices of a Liberal Faith", and hear a history of Westside. We will share our spiritual journeys as well as discussing what you expect from a church and what Westside expects of its members. This is an informative and fun event with the opportunity to join Westside if you choose to do so. Pizza will be served for lunch to the attendees. Please come and learn more about Unitarian Universalism at Westside. RSVP to Dr. Russell Elleven 817-370-2171. Let him know if you will need child care.

Sunday Services

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

November 4th - *Those Crazy Transcendentalists* by Dr. Russell Elleven. This morning begins a wonderful Adult Forum series on the Transcendentalists. Hopefully you will be able to attend. This Sunday, Russell will give an overview of the movement and tell us why it is important within the context of Unitarian Universalism.

November 11th - *Guest At Your Table*. Through this special tradition, Unitarian Universalist communities celebrate the worth and dignity of all people and learn how to put these values into action. The



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.

Where's Russell in November?

Unless something unexpected comes up Russell will be at Westside each Sunday in November. He'll facilitate Joys & Concerns each of those days and will deliver reflections on the 4th and 18th. While the realization of office hours actually in the Westside office is getting closer, it will be best to call him at home (817-370-2171) Tuesday and Thursday mornings for the time being. If you do not reach him during those times it is because he is with another church member and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

After-Church Lunch Bunch

During the month of November, the lunch bunch will meet at Luby's on Eighth Avenue. All are invited.

Guest at Your Table experience of families learning together has built lasting connections to UU values for generations of UU youth.

November 18th - *I Can't Believe I Did That!* by Dr. Russell Elleven. Have you ever made a mistake? Russell has (as if you didn't know!) What goes on in our minds when mistakes are made? How do we react? What do we do? Why? Unless Russell is mistaken, these questions will be answered this Sunday.

November 25th - *Thanksgiving Ethnic Bread Service*. After celebrating Thanksgiving as a family and a nation, Westside will celebrate with a bread communion. Plan to bring a bread representative of your ethnic heritage to share.

Sunday Adult Forum

9:45 AM - 10:40 AM

November 4th - *Emerson, Thoreau, & Transcendentalism* facilitated by Tom Woods.

November 11th - *The Roots of American Transcendentalism* facilitated by Brenda Baldwin.

November 18th - *The Week That Was* facilitated by Dick Trice.

November 25th - No Adult Forum.

Adult Forum Changes

Beginning in November, Dick Trice will facilitate a discussion of current events ("The Month That Was") each Potluck Sunday (the third Sunday of each month).

With the exception of Potluck Sundays from November through June, unless otherwise noted in the newsletter, a 30 minute DVD will be shown and followed by discussion. The DVD series we will be viewing is titled Emerson, Thoreau and the Transcendentalist Movement and is published by The Teaching Company. The Teaching Company recruits great teachers

from the Ivy League, Stanford, Georgetown, and other leading colleges and universities to craft courses for lifelong learners. Facilitators will include our church president and vice-president, Brenda Baldwin and Tom Woods, respectively, as well as our minister, Dr. Russell Elleven, when he moves to "full-time" in January. Although participation in multiple sessions is beneficial, please don't hesitate to join the group occasionally if you aren't available for multiple sessions. All are welcome!

This series is taught by Professor Ashton Nichols. Professor Nichols's rich background—he worked as a journalist before going on to study, teach, and write about poetry, fiction, history, and nature writing—makes him an ideal teacher for a course that extends across so many subjects and so many remarkable individuals.

In Emerson, Thoreau, and the Transcendentalist Movement, Professor Nichols introduces us to these two remarkable thinkers and a diverse group of intellectual activists, literary figures, and social reformers whose ideas, often considered radical in the decades before and after the Civil War, would remake American society.

Yet as important as the dynamic figures you'll meet is Professor Nichols's own multifaceted approach—essential in a course examining Transcendentalism. Rather than focusing on a handful of well-known figures, or on a single issue such as slavery, religion, philosophy, or literature, he has created a course meant to instill a new appreciation of the individuals who made up the movement and of the movement's impact on America. You come away not with an arid list of abstract ideas, but with a real understanding of aspects of American life before the Transcendentalists' ideas took hold, of the contemporary reactions provoked by those ideas, and of the long-lasting changes they inspired, many of which are still with us today.

Adult Forum begins at 9:45 and ends by 10:40. It meets in either the fellowship hall or the sanctuary, depending on the choir's schedule. Please join us.

AS A SINGLE FOOTSTEP
WILL NOT MAKE A PATH
ON THE EARTH, SO A
SINGLE THOUGHT WILL
NOT MAKE A PATHWAY
IN THE MIND. TO MAKE
A DEEP PHYSICAL PATH,
WE WALK AGAIN AND
AGAIN. TO MAKE A DEEP
MENTAL PATH, WE MUST
THINK OVER AND OVER
THE KIND OF THOUGHTS
WE WISH TO DOMINATE
OUR LIVES.

- HENRY DAVID
THOREAU

OUR UU COMMUNITY

A Letter from the UUA President

October 3, 2007

Dear Friends:

The start of a new church year is always a time of great energy and optimism. We are gathered together once again in our sanctuaries and classrooms, and we delight in our connections to one another and to a shared past. Each autumn I am reminded that, for us, relationship is holy. Many of us will endeavor to live out this belief by inviting and welcoming newcomers, and this year we have a unique opportunity to open wide our doors and our hearts.

Our national marketing partnership with TIME magazine will promote our faith and encourage spiritually engaged dialog in the public arena. It will also bring seekers to our doors. They will be bringing gifts, and in order to accept these gifts we will need to reconsider what it means to be hospitable. We need to be ready not just to greet visitors, but to welcome them into relationship within our faith community.

I know that Unitarian Universalists can be shy about sharing the blessings of our faith. We are reluctant to be pushy, reluctant to assume that what brings us joy and fulfillment would do the same for another. But, my friends, while that stance

is a safe one, it is limiting—both to us and to those who yearn for the blessing of liberal religious community. If we truly believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every person, we are called to say to every visitor, “Come on in. Join us.” Each newcomer is another opportunity to encounter the holy.

My friend and colleague Peter Morales has written, “Hospitality is not something to be proclaimed; it must be lived. Hospitality is both a spiritual discipline and an expression of spiritual health.” Peter’s insight is a valuable one. A healthy community has abundant emotional resources and can extend loving attention to newcomers. When we are truly hospitable, we are alert to the needs of others, and—perhaps more importantly—we are receptive to their transforming gifts. Because, while the practice of hospitality is indeed about welcoming the stranger, at a deeper spiritual level hospitality is really about cultivating openness in ourselves.

As we learn to welcome the stranger, we learn also to welcome change and growth within our congregations. As we greet this unique opportunity, let us all remember that, for us, relationship is sacred.

Together in faith and in community, may our spirits be nurtured, may our world be healed.

In faith,
Rev. William G. Sinkford
President,
Unitarian Universalist Association

THE WESTSIDE STORY
NOVEMBER 2007

COMMON SENSE IS
GENIUS DRESSED IN ITS
WORKING CLOTHES.

—RALPH WALDO
EMERSON

WHAT DO I KNOW OF
MAN’S DESTINY? I
COULD TELL YOU MORE
ABOUT RADISHES.

—SAMUEL BECKETT

A FEW WAYS THAT YOU CAN PRACTICE A MORE OUTWARD ORIENTATION TO UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM (*originally published in The Membership Journey*) By Art Brewer, First Unitarian Congregation, Toronto, Canada.



This month, challenge yourself to apply these as you move through your daily life:

1. Bring someone to a Sunday service.
2. Talk with someone you don't know during coffee hour.
3. Visit other UU congregations.

Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Fall Conference 2007

The Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Fall Conference is scheduled for November 9th through November 11th at Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center in Glen Rose, Texas. This year's Fall Conference is arranged in five tracks: Lay Leader Faith Development, The Membership Journey, GROUNDWORK Anti-Racism Training, Leadership Development Conference, and Multicultural Religious Education. Detailed information is available at www.swuuc.org. For your convenience, online registration is available at <http://www.formdesk.com/swuuc/Fall-Conference2007>.

Nobel Laureates Praise Bold New Book by UU Evangelists: Historic Opportunity for UU Churches

Reverend Michael Dowd and his science writer wife, Connie Barlow, both members of the UU Church of the Larger Fellowship, are America's UU evolutionary evangelists. They have spoken in more than 250 UU churches and fellowships over the past five years and were recently featured on the cover of the UU World. They will speak at Westside in January 2008.

Reverend Dowd's forthcoming book, "Thank God for Evolution!", has been endorsed by five Nobel laureates and 120 other luminaries, including prominent UU ministers. It was mentioned in the September 17th issue of Newsweek magazine, even though media coverage will not begin in earnest until November. Dowd's publicist is scheduling him for radio talk shows nearly every day for the

next year as he and Connie tour America's major cities.

Millions who have never heard about Unitarian Universalism will soon hear about us for the first time, as Dowd includes dozens of stories from his and his wife's experiences in UU contexts. He and Connie are donating 100% of book royalties toward furthering the epic of evolution movement in and beyond the UUA. Let's be prepared for this as a congregation!

Thank God for Evolution! will be available in bookstores November 1st. To make it easy to publicize "Thank God for Evolution!", downloadable materials are available that can be printed off and posted in strategic places, such as coffee shops, grocery stores, neighborhood bulletin boards, etc. See here: <http://thank-godforevolution.com/evangelize.html>

Please spread the word. Let's help make this a bestseller and get the good word out to America and the world about Unitarian Universalism.



Holiday Bazaar Coming Soon

Plan now to attend the Alternative Holiday Bazaar the first weekend in December. There will be new vendors this year, so be sure to bring your holiday shopping list. The event will be held at First Jefferson Universalist Unitarian Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth, 76112 on Saturday, December 1st and Sunday, December 2nd. Hours will be from 10:00 am until 8:30 pm on Saturday and from noon until 3:00 pm on Sunday. The vendors have crafts from around the world along with fair trade coffee, tea, and chocolate. Many of these items are great stocking stuffers. Plan to shop and eat some of the best vegetarian food around our area!

*HAPPINESS IN THIS
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COMES, COMES INCI-
DENTALLY. MAKE IT
THE OBJECT OF PUR-
SUIT, AND IT LEADS US
A WILD-GOOSE CHASE,
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TAINED. FOLLOW SOME
OTHER OBJECT, AND
VERY POSSIBLY WE MAY
FIND THAT WE HAVE
CAUGHT HAPPINESS
WITHOUT DREAMING
OF IT.*

- NATHANIEL
HAWTHORNE

Arts Fifth Avenue

One of our church neighbors is a venue highly recommended by Fort Worth Weekly, Beverly Archibald, Charles and Jane Palmer, and Nancy Hynes. Arts Fifth Avenue is an alternative art space where classes in all manner of things from sculpture to tap dance, salsa to yoga, mondo drumming to gypsy guitar are taught and many pleasant weekend evenings are filled with live music.

Gracey Tune, one of the world's tap legends (really!) directs AFA. The focus for this neighborhood treasure is in serving our diverse neighborhood through art, music, performance...both indoor and outdoor. If you like jazz or blues, some of the best performances in Fort Worth happen at Arts 5th Avenue.

Arts Fifth Avenue does one of the best Dia de los Muertos events in the city... November 3rd. Upcoming events include December 1st MONDO Drummers in Concert; December 8th... A "5th" of Christmas (5 one-act plays); December 15th... A Jazzy Christmas. A music and film festival honoring the late Gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt is an intriguing January event.

Well, this just gives you an idea of some of the cool things going on in our church neighborhood. Volunteers are always appreciated at Arts Fifth and classes always well done. Here is a link to the AFA website for more of the detail. Hope to see you there! <http://www.artsfifthavenue.com/index.htm>

Humanists of Fort Worth

An enthusiastic crowd of members and four first-time visitors attended the last meeting of HOFW to view the second part of the excellent DVD of "A Brief History of Disbelief." The third and last hour will be shown and discussed at the November 14th meeting in the Westside

sanctuary at 7:00 pm. The popularity of best-selling books of free thought by Dawkins, Harris, Dennett and Hitchens, not to mention the splendid book, *Freethinkers*, by Susan Jacoby several years ago, is animating new and vital interest in the life view of humanism. If you like to keep up with contemporary movements and thought and like reasoned discussion, this next meeting should be on your agenda.

NOTE: The HOFW Saturday Nite Movies have been cancelled until further notice.

For additional information call Dick Trice 817-446-3840

WestAid Food Drive Continues

By Beverly Archibald

The response to WestAid's call for help with the Thanksgiving Sacks for their clientele has been outstanding. Don Perry really outdid himself. When I went to WestAid to unload the bags he brought, they had to bring out TWO two-tiered carts to haul it all in! And many others of you have also been very generous. We have so much, and their clients have so little - it is good to be able to share our abundance with those less fortunate. Thanks to all who have brought food. I will continue to take it to WestAid each week.

Below is a list of the common items which are needed.

Canned: Green Beans, Corn/Hominy, Other Vegetables, Fruit; Cranberry Relish.

Other items: Flavored Gelatin, Cornbread Mix, Stuffing/Dressing, Instant Potatoes, Chicken Bullion, Cake Mix, Frosting and Ham or Turkey.

WestAid also appreciates cash donations (make check to Westside with WestAid in the memo line).

THE WESTSIDE STORY
NOVEMBER 2007

BE WHAT YOU WOULD SEEM TO BE - OR, IF YOU'D LIKE IT PUT MORE SIMPLY - A HOUSE IS NO HOME UNLESS IT CONTAINS FOOD AND FIRE FOR THE MIND AS WELL AS THE BODY.

- MARGARET FULLER

INSIDE WESTSIDE

Go Green!

Don't like using our Styrofoam plates on potluck Sunday? Well, you are not alone! A few of us are going to start bringing our own plates on potluck Sunday. We will bring them home to wash them so the kitchen crew will not have any extra work. Please feel free to join us and help us to live our 7th principle! The world will be a better place for each little thing we can do!

Karaoke Knockout

Well, you missed it! The Karaoke night held at the church on October 13, was filled with joyous song and dance. Much credit for the success of the evening goes to Brenda Baldwin and her daughter, Leah, as well as sound man Bill Terry. Many others pitched in and helped with the lighting, setting up and taking down, and other tasks involved in making the event happen. Bettina got raves for leading the Chicken Dance (some of the dancers were on the stage and others in the back of the room). The youth gave a spirited rendition of "YMCA". The performers were uniformly entertaining - and the audience most appreciative. Co-organizers Scott Paulson and Beverly Archibald have been asked when we can do this again. Nothing definite is planned at this time, but perhaps in the spring? Anyone who would like to help out, please get in touch with Scott or Beverly.

Beverly Archibald
bevanfw@wt.net
817-346-3303

A Weekend at Cleburne State Park

Wow - what an incredible weekend we had! There were over 35 Westsiders who went camping at Cleburne State Park.

*AS WE GROW OLD, THE
BEAUTY STEALS INWARD.*

- RALPH WALDO
EMERSON

We set up camp on Friday night and feasted on quesadillas - then first thing Saturday morning we all woke to the singing of the birds and the chirping of the bugs as we ate a wonderful breakfast of pancakes and bacon. After breakfast there was a group that went fishing and canoeing and a group that rested at the campsite. Late in the morning there was a wonderful guided nature hike where we learned the different trees at the park, different flowers and other fun tidbits about being outside. After a hearty lunch there was more resting, some hacky sack, we carved some fun sculptures - you can see them displayed along with some of our pictures - volley ball, Frisbee, and the best of all - MARSHMALLOW WARS! (Ask a camper about marshmallow wars!) Dinner was a delicious treat of grilled burgers and dogs and Portobello mushrooms and naturally there were S'Mores! We even had a few Westsiders join us just for dinner. After dinner we relaxed around the campfire and sang songs - we had a ukulele and our wonderful voices and lots of laughs! We never ran out of songs to sing!! The Flamingos even made their appearance outside Nancy's tent on Saturday night and Sunday morning. Sunday morning a few of our campers had to eat and run so they could be in the service on Sunday, but many of us stayed behind to hold our own outside service that was very calm and peaceful. We all had a wonderful time and the next trip is in the works - hopefully you can come!!

Service Project News for November

Starting this new church year on July 1st, Westside adopted a new approach to funding our service projects. Each month, non-designated plate offerings are donated to a worthy recipient organization. During October, our recipient was the Unitarian Universalist Association five year public awareness campaign "Now Is The Time." Your generous donations went towards this campaign's proactive effort to grow our faith.

For the month of November, the board is pleased to announce that the South Central Alliance of Churches will be our service project recipient. South Central Alliance of Churches is a needs service organization made up of twelve South Fort Worth churches, which Westside UU has just joined as its newest member. These are the guiding principles of their service philosophy:

- Help meet emergency or one-time needs (continuing assistance for a given client usually not provided)
- Emphasis on helping individuals and families past a single difficult situation, with hope that it will result in significant long term improvements in their lives
- Large range of services, but somewhat modest in amount and limited in frequency—in order to serve as many clients as possible
- Coordination with internal programs of member churches
 - food pantry and clothing room of Southside Church of Christ
 - children's closet of University Christian
 - Other
- Coordination with other social services agencies and organizations
 - referrals
 - minimization of duplication

Further information about South Central Alliance of Churches' members and specific services may be found at their web site: <http://www.fwscac.org/default.htm>.

Suggestions from Westside members for future recipients of service project plate offerings are encouraged. Please route them through Charles Palmer, treasurer, at charles.palmer@tyson.com, speak to him at church, or call him at 817-233-5198. Your Board of Directors will review the recipient's qualifications with two simple criteria: 1) "Do donations to the recipient further our church's vision and mission?" and 2) "Are the recipient's values in sympathy with the seven Unitar-

ian Universalist principles?" Service project donation recipients may be repeated throughout the year based on need and number of participating recipients. All qualified recipients not chosen one month will continue to be reviewed in the following months. Our record of donations and recipient organizations may be seen in the enclosed newsletter table or on our service projects poster located on the church bulletin board outside the office. Thanks!

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR WUU
SERVICE PROJECT SUCCESSES!

SERVICE PROJECT DONATION RECIPIENTS

JULY 2007
WESTAID

\$853.63 RECEIVED

AUGUST 2007
TARRANT CITY
FOODBANK

\$647.51 RECEIVED

SEPTEMBER 2007
CANCER CARE SERVICES

\$1,018.75 RECEIVED

OCTOBER 2007
UUA "NOW IS THE TIME"
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN

NOVEMBER 2007
SOUTH CENTRAL
ALLIANCE OF CHURCHES

DECEMBER 2007
SOMALI-BANTU
EMPOWERING WOMEN
PROGRAM

DO NOT SAY A LITTLE
IN MANY WORDS BUT A
GREAT DEAL IN A FEW.

- PYTHAGORAS

BRIC Update

By Gayle Elleven

As in previous months, we will use this month's newsletter to report the status of current and upcoming BRIC projects. Additionally, while we know the entire congregation is deserving of recognition for its collective contributions toward the BRIC's efforts, we will also take this opportunity to acknowledge a few individuals who have taken on specific BRIC projects.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, we would like to thank Paul McClellan for taping, bedding, and eventually painting, the unfinished room, which is often referred to as the sound room, located behind the front of the sanctuary. Paul's previous construction experience lends him the skills to take on a project of this magnitude, and we are extremely grateful. Thank you Paul! If you don't know what taping or bedding is, just ask him!

We would also like to recognize Shelly Hattan for leading the donation efforts of the Dallas/Fort Worth Ethical Fellowship. This gracious donation will not only expand our library but will also provide us with some much needed bookcases. Thank you Shelly, I think I can speak for all of us when I say we can't wait to review many of the books in our expanded collection.

And finally, thank you to Dick Trice, for agreeing to paint many of these donated bookcases. Dick's attention for detail will ensure each bookcase is meticulously sanded and painted. Dick, we thank you for your time toward this project.

PROJECT UPDATES:

October's newsletter included a detailed list of projects scheduled for completion by the middle of the month. Most of those projects are complete and include: replacing and relocating the HVAC (Heating/Ventilation and Cooling) unit formerly located at the rear of the sanctuary; tearing down the wall which surrounded the former HVAC unit to provide room for

additional seating for our growing congregation; removing the lower stage near the front of the sanctuary, which was also an effort to provide more seating; completing various electrical projects to improve our sound system; and closing off one set of the double doors located at the rear of the sanctuary. We had also hoped to finish painting the sanctuary and following up with new carpet throughout the sanctuary, hallway and offices; however, as has been evident to anyone who has attended our worship services in recent weeks, these two projects have been delayed.

After testing the paint colors we originally chose to complement our carpet selection, we decided to reconsider. BRIC member Jill Jung took on the task of organizing a trip to the carpet store to review carpet samples in our price range. On October 16th, these samples were reviewed by the Board. A choice was made and based primarily on the carpet's stain resistance. Jill Jung will now move forward to schedule carpet installation. Once the carpet is installed, the BRIC will revisit the task of selecting a color for the accent walls in the sanctuary.

We still have much to do, especially as it pertains to the exterior of the building. Our goal is to complete these internal tasks then assess the amount of funds available before we begin any more projects.

Once again, we thank you for your patience.

Chalice Lighter Program

Congregations, new and old, struggle with limited resources. There are times, in their development, when some big new step must be taken. It may be a crossroads of growth, stagnation, or decline. In such a "development crisis", a congregation must define some special project and "move" on it.

The Chalice Lighter Program provides grants to congregations in the Southwest Unitarian Universalist Conference, which includes the congregations that make up

AN OBJECT IN POSSESSION SELDOM RETAINS THE SAME CHARM THAT IT HAD IN PURSUIT.

- PLINY THE ELDER

A FRIEND MAY WELL BE RECKONED THE MASTERPIECE OF NATURE.

- RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana, parts of Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mexico. These grants are funded exclusively through contributions from the congregations that make up the SWUUC Chalice Lighters. Chalice Lighter grants are intended to assist congregations in achieving their growth potential.

It is very easy to become a Chalice Lighter. You will be called on about three times a year to contribute anywhere from \$10 - \$1,000. Your contributions go directly into the Chalice Lighter Program to help our liberal religion grow.

Once you sign up to become a Chalice Lighter, you will receive a letter no more than three times a year. The letter will explain the purpose of the call and ask for your pledge. Every dollar you send will be used for the purposes explained in the letter for that congregation, so you know exactly where your money is going.

Here at Westside we are applying for more than \$20,000 to landscape and revitalize the outside of our new church and the more Chalice Lighters we have, the better it looks for us. Our grant application has been written by Charles Palmer and was submitted near the end of October. Please contribute to the Chalice Lighter Program to aid in beautifying our church.

An enrollment form is included in the newsletter. Please return it to Bettina Pfeiffenberger with your pledge. Do not hesitate to call Bettina at 817-343-8873 or email her with any questions at Zookittie@gmail.com.

RE HAPPENINGS

RE in the PARK

On November 11th the Religious Education students and teachers will be having their own service and classes at Daggett Park, across the street from the church. (Only nursery care will be provided at the church.) Please plan on arriving early, around 10:40 a.m., to sign in your child,

and plan on picking up the kiddo after church by 12:30 p.m. The teens will be leading our worship service before we all break up into our individual classes. Afterward we will have snacks and games! This is a wonderful event, back by popular request!! Anyone wishing to help out or take part, please contact Mary Noer (817-249-7341) or Jessica Zinn (817-763-0109). See ya there!

Check the Bulletin Board

Ever wonder what happens after the children leave for their classes every Sunday? Do they just disappear? Well, don't miss the new Religious Education bulletin board in the hallway by the water fountain! Many answers are there! You'll find pictures and art work, not to mention the latest on who's been flocked!

T-Shirt Fundraiser

COMING SOON – NEW WESTSIDE UU CHURCH T-SHIRTS! The teens are in the process of designing some awesome new shirts for our church friends and members. They will be on display soon and available to buy this month.

Westside UU Youth News

Something is going on every Sunday with our youth! We meet at 12:30 p.m. at church for classes every other Sunday. The other Sundays we have events planned. All youth 13 years to 18 years are welcomed and encouraged to join us as often as they can!

Here is our current schedule:

November 4th - We will be leaving right after church to attend the YMCA Camp Carter ropes course for team building fun. We only have room for eight teens, so hurry and contact Alisha Scott if you are interested.

November 11th - We will be leading the worship service for RE in the Park at Daggett Park, then breaking up into our class.

November 18th and 25th - We will be in class at church, starting at 12:30 pm.

A POWERFUL IDEA COMMUNICATES SOME OF ITS STRENGTH TO HIM WHO CHALLENGES IT.

- MARCEL PROUST

December 2nd - We plan on playing paintball!!

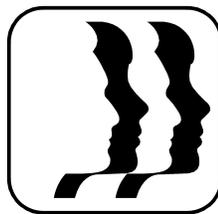
December 9th and 16th - We will be in class at church, 12:30 pm.

December 23rd - We plan on leaving right after church to go the Union Gospel Mission to volunteer for the afternoon.

Flocking!! Birds Are Everywhere!!

Some of you are aware that the youth are very busy on Friday and Saturday nights—Flocking!!

To participate, just sign up on the list in the hallway at church, and you will receive a call when it is your turn. You pay \$20, and the teens take 24-30 flamingos, at night, and put them on the lawn of the member you choose. They also leave a note, so the member knows who to “thank” the next day! If you are the one who has been flocked, you may either pay \$5 to have the teens remove them the next day, or pay \$15 to redirect the flock to a buddy of yours! This is a great community builder, and those who have been flocked have LOVED seeing the birds on their lawn the next morning. (However, you may also sign the “do not flock” list, also in the hallway, if you do not want to take part in the event.)



New Faces

Welcome Ed and Diane Renfro
By Audrey Weil

Ed Renfro, born in Sherman, Texas, grew up in nearby Pottsboro. He received his BA in chemistry from Austin College. Diane, who was born in Greenville and reared in Commerce, majored in chemistry and received her degree from Baylor University in 2000.

Ed and Diane grew up attending small-town Southern Baptist churches.

They met at UT–Austin while each was working toward a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. They married in 2003 and received their degrees in 2005.

Science, religion, and philosophy classes at college opened Ed’s mind to new ways of thinking about his world. He gradually came to the belief that atheistic naturalism best explains the world as he experiences it.

Diane became increasingly apathetic toward religion while at Baylor. In part she was influenced by what she felt to be the hypocrisy of many Baptist students who partied on Friday and Saturday nights, but projected an image of innocence in church on Sunday mornings.

Here in Fort Worth, the Renfros pursued their careers at Harris Methodist Hospital. Ed currently works as pharmacist in the Emergency Department. Diane works throughout the hospital as a clinical pharmacist.

Ed and Diane enjoy running. Diane also cycles. Both are readers. Diane especially likes the Harry Potter series. In high school she competed as a cheerleader at the national level. While at Baylor she was on the sailing team. She also enjoys redecorating their home, which they share with their yorkies, Roxie and Chloe.

Until they came to Westside, Ed says, he and Diane had never gone to church together. Now just felt like a good time to join a group that is willing to ask and seek answers to the difficult religious questions.

The Renfros bring a special blessing with them to Westside – they are expecting their first child in February.

Ed and Diane Renfro
7015 Tameron Tr.
Fort Worth, Tx 76132
817-706-6483
817-706-5243
edrenfro@gmail.com
diane_truitt@hotmail.com

*A MAN WHO HAS NOT
PASSED THROUGH
THE INFERNO OF HIS
PASSIONS HAS NEVER
OVERCOME THEM.*

– CARL JUNG

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 Charles Palmer 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 & Communication

If you are planning (or canceling) a church event or committee meeting, please send the information to calendar@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 are not receiving timely notification of events, please let us know via e-mail or via phone (817-292-3337).

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

THE WESTSIDE STORY
NOVEMBER 2007

AFTER-CHURCH POTLUCK LUNCH – Third Sunday of each month. The next one will be November 18th. Please join us for food and fellowship. A special table is reserved for visitors and newcomers.

CONTEMPORARY BOOKS – Fourth Sunday of each month at 6:30 pm. The next meeting is November 25th at Linda Hanratty's house, 4236 Oak Park Court, 817-924-6629. We will discuss books written by Anthony Trollope. Planning ahead, we will meet December 16th at Reed Bilz's house to discuss *Bridge of San Luis Rey* by Thornton Wilder.

BRIDGE NIGHT – First Sunday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the church. The next night is November 4th. 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.

THE WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH (formerly known as the Kimbell Lunch Bunch) is now meeting at various restaurants around town. See the Weekly Web for the restaurant of the week, and join the group for food and fellowship.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES - We will have birthday and anniversary celebrations on the first Sunday of each month. Please call Dolores Ruhs, 817-249-1829 or e-mail ruhdsol@sbcglobal.net.

WESTSIDE GREAT BOOKS - First Sunday of each month at 12:30 pm. The next meeting is November 4th. November's readings are four poems. The first is "Lapis Lazuli" by William Butler Yeats; the second is "Sunday Morning" by Wallace Stevens; the third is "Design" by Robert Frost; and the last is "The Armadillo" by Elizabeth Bishop. Discussions are open to all. For additional information, call Dick Trice, 817-446-3840.

DINNERS FOR NINE - For information, contact Dolores Ruhs, Social Chair, at 817-24-1829 or at ruhdsol@sbcglobal.net.

*A CASUAL STROLL
THROUGH THE LUNATIC
ASYLUM SHOWS THAT
FAITH DOES NOT PROVE
ANYTHING.*

– FRIEDRICH
NIETZSCHE

Chalice Lighter Enrollment
For
Westside UU

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

I/We would like to support growth in the Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference by becoming a Chalice Lighter.

I/We pledge to contribute at least \$10 for each call, up to three times a year

I/We would like to be "Keepers of the Flame" and give \$100 for each call, up to three times a year

I/We would like to be "Torchbearers" and give \$1,000 for each call, up to three times a year

Signature(s)

Give this enrollment form to Bettina Pfeifferberger, Westside's Chalice Lighter Coordinator, or mail to the SWUUC office at 6720 Brentwood Stair Rd., Fort Worth TX 76112.

WESTSIDE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Board of Directors 2007-2008

President – Brenda Baldwin
Vice-President – Tom Woods
Secretary – Beverly Archibald
Treasurer – Charles Palmer
Director – Amanda Oglesby
Director – John Nagely
Director – Dianne Nixon
Director – Audrey Weil

Committee on Ministry

Chair - Caroline Nixon 817-922-9742
Reed Bilz
Jane Palmer
Maria Schmidt
Mark McMurry

By The Numbers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Sunday, September 02, 2007	90	6	96
Sunday, September 09, 2007	74	11	85
Sunday, September 16, 2007	87	15	102
Sunday, September 23, 2007	95	12	107
Sunday, September 30, 2007	75	12	92
Monthly Average	84.2	11.2	95

Committee Chairs

Adult Education - Vacant
Building - Gene McKeon 817-921-3692
Finance - Howard McMahan 817-294-1363
Membership - John Nagely 817-292-3629
Social Justice - David Burlingame 817-294-0401
Religious Education - Jessica Zinn 817-763-0901
Social - Dolores Ruhs 817-249-1829
Worship - Amy Youngblood 817-924-1358



This congregation has taken part in the UUA Welcoming Congregation Program to become more inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people.

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.

Westside Unitarian Universalist Church
901 Page Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76110

Have an announcement?

Submit announcements for the next monthly newsletter by November 12th. 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.

When you have finished reading your Westside Story, share it with a potential UU.