



The Westside Story

April 2010

Monthly Newsletter of Westside
Unitarian Universalist Church

901 Page Avenue Fort Worth, TX
11:00 AM • www.WestsideUU.org

Chaplains Corner

Westside's Chaplain Corps continues in our function of helping Russell keep in touch with various members and friends whom we've missed seeing or hearing from. Please contact Russell or one of the chaplains if you know of anyone who needs a call or a visit. You may contact us at Chaplain@westsideuu.com. If you cannot attend church and would like one of your Joys or Concerns mentioned during the Sunday service, please let us know and we will try to get it included.

Your privacy is very important to us; we will never share or publish your joy or concern without your permission.

The following have been brought to our attention this past month.

We wish Ed Furber a speedy recovery from his recent fall.

Apolonia Caraveo is well; in her absence she has been caring for her new grandson. She misses coming to church.

Cletis and Lee Ice are doing well, and come to church as often as they can.

Our sympathy to Karen and Kerry Moore in the recent loss of their dear friend and neighbor.

David Davis has been suffering from bronchitis and, also, has been trying to keep up with his book selling tours.

Troy and Betty Stiles miss coming to Westside. They enjoy cards and calls.

John and Dortha McVey have been having recurring health problems. Dortha has been in the ER twice recently; John is having numerous tests to try to diagnose the causes of his problems.

Listening to your Joys and Concerns: Caroline Nixon, Beverly Archibald, Jane Hansen, Diane Jones, Paul Maginnis, and Myrtle McMahan.

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.

Month	Recipient	Amount
February 2010	Safe Haven of Tarrant County	\$1092.63
January, '10	UUSC Haitian Relief Fund	\$1751.35
January, '10	Tarrant Area Food Bank Pet Food Division	\$ 763.61
December, '09	South Central Alliance of Churches (SCAC)	\$ 852.53
November, '09	Westside InReach	\$1305.01
October, '09	UUA Now is the Time Campaign	\$ 766.05
September, '09	Samaritan House Food Account	\$ 876.77
August, '09	Safe Haven of Tarrant County	\$ 832.35
July, '09	Allied Communities of Tarrant (ACT)	\$635.69
June, '09	Interfaith Environmental Alliance	\$539.85
May, '09	Women's Center of Tarrant County	\$1,135.31
April, '09	Community Hospice of Texas	\$1,032.39
March, '09	Westside UU "Go Green" campaign	\$816.75
February, '09	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$ 847.44
January, '09	Westside UU "Go Green" Campaign	\$ 1,231.80
December, '08	Samaritan House	\$ 1,057.54
November, '08	UU Church of Baton Rouge, LA	\$ 1,109.56
October, '08	UUA Now is the Time Campaign	\$ 704.00
September, '08	Kennedy Micro-Lending Group	\$ 1,272.12
August, '08	Heifer Fund	\$ 1,506.69
July, '08	Clinica Esperanza	\$ 1,149.78

Westside UUC Service Project

Each month at Westside, our undesignated plate offerings are donated to a worthy recipient organization. The following table lists these organizations and our recent contributions to them.

you encountered both helpful and not-so-helpful ideas from many religious philosophies? Have family and friends helped or hindered you in your search for inner peace? Westside's "own", Bill Russell, will offer his perspective on these questions and on the special appeal that Westside has for people who don't quite fit in at other religious organizations.

Evil is like a shadow - it has no real substance of its own, it is simply a lack of light. You cannot cause a shadow to disappear by trying to fight it, stamp on it, by railing against it, or any other form of emotional or physical resistance. In order to cause a shadow to disappear, you must shine light on it.

-Shakti Gawain

sunday options

Sunday Services

April 4 - Easter at Westside. Churches around the country are celebrating the resurrection of Jesus today. We will be doing something a little bit different. Here's hoping you can make it into the 9:00 or 11:00 service on this special day.

April 11 - Bumps, Detours, and Dead Ends on the Road to Enlightenment. In your personal quest for truth, have

April 18 - Are We Having Fun Yet?

Our young ones are holding their annual RE in the Park festivities today. All of us hope they are having a great deal of fun. What about us older folks...are we having fun yet? Russell will offer you his thought today.

April 25 - A Musical "Thank You!" to Westside, led by Carl Romano. Our church is so significant and important to us, that it deserves to be thanked. Many of our musically talented Westsiders intend to provide non-traditional testimonials to just what Westside means to them, in song. Featuring Fourtune, the TrUUe Believers, the Westside Choir, and more!

FORUM

Our Forum will continue with a study of Howard Zinn's book, A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF THE US. We will probably discuss Chapter 10 the first Sunday in April and continue each Sunday with a new chapter; however, please check with me or a regular Forum attendee to be certain of the chapter. All are welcome.

- Dick Trice

RE News

Don't miss Julie Tribble's RE News. You'll find it in the last two pages of this newsletter (after the page with attendance).

in & around westside

UUA Social Action

Survey Results

by Reed Bilz

We took a survey at the congregational meeting as to what issues we would like the UUA to address in their social policy agenda. Here are the results of the survey (43 people participated):

WINNERS		
Place	Issue	Score
#1	Energy, Peace & Justice	142
#2	Ending Slavery	115
#3	Economic Reform	108
#4	Immigration	101
#5	American Democracy	98

We sent this report to UUA February 1, 2010.

Board Minutes Available to Westsiders

Copies of the minutes of all regular Westside Board meetings, from the beginning of FY 2009 to the present, may be found in a binder in the church office. Some attachments, such as reports from church committee meetings, are not yet included, but should be added very soon. Where available, there are also copies of the financial reports provided to the board by Westside's treasurer. Please do not remove the binder or its contents from the office. Thanks.

- Bob Vann, Board Secretary

Save The Date!

*"Sweets & Treats with
the Stars" is Saturday,
May 1st!*

Wonderful Westsiders! You are invited to join us for a hilarious, heartening evening of yummy desserts, great music, inventive musical theatre, and loads of warm fellowship as Westside presents "My Fair Share Lady"! It's an amusing and heartfelt play about what it means to make a meaningful contribution to Westside's stewardship in support of our programs and responsibilities as a community.

Carrying out our mission means committing to become a more influential liberal presence through active service here in our own community, and in the world at large. Put simply, "Sharing Our Light" – this year's stewardship theme – is about taking care of each other. It is about paying for the programs that we, as individuals and as a community, say that we want. Stewardship is about who we are as individuals and as a congregation, and how we see ourselves as citizens for good in the world.

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*It is necessary to the
happiness of man
that he be mentally
faithful to himself.
Infidelity does not
consist in believing,
or in disbelieving;
it consists in
professing to
believe what he
does not believe.*

-Thomas Paine

*The real index of
civilization is
when people are
kinder than they
need to be.*

-Louis de Berniere

Each spring, during the time of re-birth and new beginnings, Westside members focus on, discuss, and explore ways to make stewardship contributions to this community, both monetarily and through personal time and talents. "Sharing Our Light" speaks to each of us, and to the many ways we ALL can and do work together to create a loving, supportive, and enlightening environment for our families, ourselves, and our community as a whole. Our annual stewardship initiative occurs from April through June; the calendar for stewardship contributions runs from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011.

Your stewardship contribution not only helps pay the mortgage, utility bills, and printing and postage costs for the church, but also funds our essential religious education programming. You help provide supplies, bring in babysitters, and in so many other ways support our dedicated RE teachers. You make it possible to serve healthy, delicious food and beverages at our social gatherings – and much more.

Your time and talents are equally significant – and often pivotal! You offer volunteer teamwork at special events; greet and welcome our visitors, read stories, light the chalice, provide religious education and volunteer babysitting during Sunday morning services, and make it possible to provide maintenance and upgrades on the church building and grounds at Westside.

Bottom line: Through these initiatives, we get to know one another and ourselves on a deeper, more insightful and profound level. Who we are and what we mean to one another flourish and expand as we create new vision and extraordinary connections in our lives, our church, and in the world at large.

Join us in renewing our commitments to one another and the Westside family as a whole on May 1st at "Sweets & Treats with the Stars"!

Where's Russell in April?

Russell will be in the pulpit the first and third Sundays of April. He will be out of town the second and fourth Sundays, being in Houston and the SWUUC Spring Conference respectively. He will be out of town the entire first full week of the month (5th-12th). He will be presenting a program examining UU Addictions ministries to the SWUUC Conference.

Office hours will look like this in April:

Thursday, April 1, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday, April 6, No Office Hours.
Thursday, April 8, No Office Hours.
Tuesday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thursday, April 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday, April 20, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thursday, April 22, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday, April 27, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thursday, April 29, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please remember to call him at home (817-370-2171) first. If no answer, leave a message, and then try the church office (817-924-6988). If you do not receive an immediate response, it means Russell is with another church member at that time. He will return your call as quickly as possible (if you've left a message).

Mondays are Russell's days off and he tries to stay away from the computer and telephone on those days. He will always respond to emergencies unless out of town.

Name these Unsung Heroes!

Let's raise a cup of coffee to this month's fabulous heroes! On Sunday mornings this terrific team leaves their home by 8:00am in order to arrive at Westside by 8:30am so that they, (along with the fab Gene McKenon), are able to adjust the building

*The pages are still
blank, but there is a
miraculous feeling
of the words being
there, written in
invisible ink and
clamoring to
become visible.*

-Vladimir Nabokov

*Not far from the
invention of fire
must rank the
invention of doubt.*

*-Thomas Henry
Huxley*

temperature, make coffee, set up tables, make coffee, put out the beverage service, make coffee, heat water for tea/cocoa, make coffee, set out pastries, chips and cheese, etc, and make coffee! They claim that UUs drink a lot of coffee!! They also claim to have learned everything they know about beverage and snack service from Paul McClellan, the Jedi Master of the Westside Kitchen. Not unlike Blanche DuBois, these heroes profess to relying upon the kindness of volunteers in the kitchen, especially on potluck Sunday and hope folks will keep auto-graphing that sign-up sheet! As gracious Sunday and Potluck hosts, during fellowship with visitors and members alike, they create a comfortable and congenial atmosphere.

During the month our heroes purchase coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cookies, crackers, cheese, creamer, ice, napkins, paper towels, paper plates, chips, salsa and extra entrees for potluck. One of our heroes has a black belt in shopping and bargain hunting. She has really been able to put those skills to work for Westside!

In 2008, this duo also helped put on Greenfest, videotaping Michael Dowd's talk at Westside and making 50 DVDs of that presentation for Greenfest giveaways. One of our heroes is a member of the contemporary book club here at church, while the other claims to be a frequent, and possibly too vocal, participant in the adult forum! Outside of church, they are politically active and have worked on the election (now re-election) campaign of District 96 Texas house representative Chris Turner. Name these Unsung Heroes! Check your answer later in this edition.

Remember, if you would like to honor an Unsung Hero, please send an email telling us about your nominee!

Thanks,
Laurie and Steven Hagstrom
Hagstroms2@sbcglobal.net

Our New Window

*Originally appeared at
EricStevensArt.com*

I recently helped design a stained glass window for Westside Unitarian Universalist Church here in Fort Worth. This fantastic project became a reality though the combined Creative efforts of Master glass Artist John Kebrle, Carl Romano, and myself. The window was installed February 26, 2010, and is five feet across. There will be a Dedication ceremony later this month; please contact Westside UU for more details.

DEVELOPING THE DESIGN

The Unitarian Universalists are a great bunch: They are kind of secular and philosophic with a focus on altruism, and are influenced by a lot of very different spiritual traditions. However, there's not a ton of symbolism and imagery that is uniquely "UU" with which to play. I had recently started a painting that prominently featured a singular tree, and designed a big Tree tattoo for a friend of mine, so the Axis Mundi, Tree of Life, and Yggdrasil concepts were fresh and prominent in my mind.

The symbol of the Tree is nearly universal and appears in all the major religions of the world. It can represent nature, reality and rationality. It can represent the World itself, while simultaneously aspiring skyward and suggesting the connection to the spiritual. And, of course, it can symbolize Life. The ring/circle in the middle is something I came up with, meant to suggest inclusion and community, and also the cycles of sustainability. The Flaming Chalice in the foreground is the traditional UU symbol; its inclusion identifies this Church, and embodies its traditions.

John Kebrle's aesthetic and visual style is amazing; strong forms, primary colors, yet fluid, and full of poetic subtlety. See his beautiful work at JohnKebrleStainedGlass.com.

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*A civilized society
is one which
tolerates eccentricity
to the point of
doubtful sanity.*

-Robert Frost

*Good men must not
obey the laws too
well.*

*-Ralph Waldo
Emerson*

Are you a new member?

In order to keep the pictorial directory fairly current, we schedule picture appointments on an on-going basis. Pictures for the directory are taken by Mary Cretsinger, a professional photographer and a member of Westside UU, at no charge to you. For more information and to set a time for your photo contact Mary at 817-292-7766, or marycret@yahoo.com, or www.marycret.com

opportunities to learn & serve

Self Management and Recovery Training (SMART)

These confidential meetings are held each week at Westside on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. for those who want or need to discuss strategies for confronting addictive behaviors. The group is sponsored by the Humanists of Fort Worth as an alternative to traditional 12-step meetings requiring belief in a higher power. For more information contact Russell at relleven@gmail.com or go to www.rke.cc.

*When love is not
madness, it is not
love.*

*-Pedro Calderon de
la Barca*

*Contradiction is
not a sign of falsity,
nor the lack of
contradiction a
sign of truth.*

-Blaise Pascal

Ethical Eating

The Ethical Eating group continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month. Last month we watched a DVD attempting to answer the question, Are we Carnivore's? by Milton Mills, MD. This month (4/15) we will be looking at the relationship of our eating and common types of cancer. The DVD presentation will be of Colin Campbell, PhD of Cornell University. Be there at 7:00 p.m. if interested, or contact Russell with any questions at releven@gmail.com.

Humanists of Fort Worth

HOFW will meet Wednesday evening, April 14, 7 p.m., at the church. A DVD of Noam Chomsky, considered to be the top living intellectual on the planet, will be shown. It is an address given in June, last year before more than 2,000 people at the Riverside Church in New York. Chomsky offers a powerful analysis of the current economic crisis and its structural roots, the continuity in U.S. foreign policy under the Obama administration, and the class interests driving U.S. domestic and foreign policy. Everyone is welcome to come, have coffee, and marvel at one of the most interesting thinkers in the U.S. His introduction by Amy Goodman is worth seeing alone.

-Dick Trice

Contemporary Books

We meet Sunday, April 25, at church, after church to discuss *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield; a Gothic Mystery. On May 23, we will discuss *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout; connected short stories. June 27, we will discuss *1,000 White Women* by Jim Fergus; July 25, *Suite Francais* by Irene Nemerovsky; and August 22, *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett.

- Reed K Bilz

Circle Suppers

Three Circle Suppers were held on Saturday, March 13. The hosts this time were Berry Bock and Jim Young (held at Liz Campbell's home), Jay and Suzie Lotven and Charlie Ogilvie, and Myrtle and Howard McMahan.

Paul McClellan coordinates these get-togethers, so send him an email if you would like to get on the list of

Circle Supper folks. This is a relaxed atmosphere where we can get to know each other better. We hope that more of you will take advantage of this opportunity to get together in small groups, and share a meal. There are kid friendly groups and adults only groups - something for everybody.

Paul's email is pclaypool@yahoo.com.

New Faces

Jim & Elizabeth Murphy
by Sara Munoz

Jim Murphy was born in St. Louis. He spent his childhood in Missouri and Illinois, and then moved to Florida as a young teen. Jim earned his BS from the University of Miami (Mechanical Aerospace Engineering) and an MBA from Jacksonville University.

In Florida, Jim met and married Elizabeth, a graduate of Florida Atlantic University (double major in math and education). The Murphys moved to Seattle, WA for four years before returning to Jacksonville, where daughter Marianne (now four years old) and son James (two) were born. With their children and rescue cats George and Gracie in tow, the Murphys would eventually follow Jim's job to Fort Worth in August 2009.

With their latest move came the anxiety of living not just in a new place, but in a state as conservative as Texas. The Murphys chose to embrace their new life by seeking out a church home that reflected their personal values: love, compassion, tolerance, social justice, and "being considerate, conscious citizens of the global community".

While Jim was raised Baptist, and Elizabeth, Methodist (although a self proclaimed "UU at heart"), the couple feels strongly about giving their

children a Unitarian Universalist upbringing. So not surprisingly, when asked what they enjoy most about Westside, the R.E. program was the emphatic response. Elizabeth also enjoys the musical selections, from the hymns to the interludes to the choir. And Jim appreciates being surrounded by like-minded people.

Jim estimates that he spends between 20-40% of his time traveling for work, to places like France, Germany, Great Britain and recently, Russia. Both he and Elizabeth count reading and cooking among their many hobbies, but above all, cherish their time together as a family.

Say hello to the Murphys next Sunday! Or you can contact them here:

6700 Amberdale Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76137
817-576-3193
jem904@hotmail.com
emurphywa@aol.com

our wider community

Feeding the Hungry

April is Westside's month to help replenish the food pantry at South Central Alliance of Churches (SCAC). Any canned or packaged food is welcome although we have especially been asked to bring canned meats, which are always in short supply.

Be sure to check the "sell by" date, as SCAC is not allowed to distribute food past this date. Please put your contribution in the big red cart, which will be by the door as you enter each Sunday. Watch the sales, and pick up some food to help feed the hungry in our neighborhood.

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The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena. Think of the rivers of blood spilled by all those generals and emperors so that, in glory and triumph, they could become the momentary masters of a fraction of a dot. Think of the endless cruelties visited by the inhabitants of one corner of this pixel on the scarcely distinguishable inhabitants of some other corner, how frequent their misunderstandings, how eager they are to kill one another, how fervent their hatreds.

-Carl Sagan

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If you prefer to make a cash donation, please put a check in the offering basket with SCAC in the "memo" line at the bottom of your check.

SCAC meets the third Monday of each month at 1:30, at Southside Church of Christ located a few blocks north of Westside at 2101 Hemphill. Anyone who has an interest is always welcome to attend.

Questions? Just ask Jay or Suzie Lotven or Beverly Archibald.

What:

A V-Day Book Event: A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer raising funds for the V-Day Global Campaign and a local beneficiary to be announced

Where:

Rose Marine Theater, 1440 North Main Street, Fort Worth 76164

When:

Sunday, April 25, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Admission:

\$15 each; cast members and volunteers earn one comp ticket each

Contact:

Amy Youngblood, 817-995-3933

Goal:

To raise awareness to stop violence against women and girls and funds for our beneficiaries

*This Month's
Unsung Heroes are
Bill Russell
and
Janice Sims*

*The noble art of
losing face / may
one day save the
human race / and
turn into eternal
merit / what
weaker minds
would call disgrace.*

-Piet Hein

*Thoughts are the
shadows of our
feelings -- always
darker, emptier,
and simpler.*

*-Friedrich
Nietzsche*

*V-Day Fort Worth 2010
Presents a Benefit
Reading of
A MEMORY,
A MONOLOGUE,
A RANT AND A
PRAYER: Writings To
Stop Violence Against
Women and Girls*

Join us as we raise funds and awareness to end violence against women and girls.

A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer: Writings To Stop Violence Against Women and Girls, is a groundbreaking collection of monologues by world-renowned authors and playwrights, edited by Eve Ensler and Mollie Doyle and commissioned by V-Day for the first V-Day: UNTIL THE VIOLENCE STOPS festival, which took place June 2006 in New York City. The writings are inspired, funny, angry, heartfelt, tragic, and beautiful. But above all, together they create a true and profound portrait of how violence against women affects every one of us. A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant, And A Prayer are a call to the world to demand an end to violence against women. All proceeds from the book benefit V-Day.

About V-Day

V-Day is a global movement to end violence against women and girls that raises funds and awareness through benefit productions of Playwright/Founder Eve Ensler's award winning play The Va-

gina Monologues and other artistic works. In 2009, over 4200 V-Day benefit events took place produced by volunteer activists in the U.S. and around the world, educating millions of people about the reality of violence against women and girls. To date, the V-Day movement has raised over \$70 million and educated millions about the issue of violence against women and the efforts to end it, crafted international educational, media and PSA campaigns, launched the Karama program in the Middle East, reopened shelters, and funded over 11,000 community-based anti-violence programs and safe houses in Democratic Republic Of Congo, Haiti, Kenya, South Dakota, Egypt and Iraq. V-Day was named one of Worth magazine's "100 Best Charities" in 2001 and Marie Claire's "Top Ten Charities" in 2006. The 'V' in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina. <http://www.vday.org>

About the V-Day Global Campaign

V-Day and UNICEF (in partnership with UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict,) launched Stop Raping our Greatest Resource: Power to Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo, a global campaign to: Raise awareness of ongoing sexual violence against women and girls in DRC and the devastating impact on their health, their spirits, their families and their communities; Call for specific measures to end impunity

and punish perpetrators; Economically and socially empower women and girls so that they can become leaders in the rebuilding of a country devastated by conflict; Build and open the City of Joy in partnership with UNICEF, Panzi Hospital and women working on the ground in DRC.

The City Of Joy will be a safe facility and community for women survivors of sexual violence where they will be provided with support to heal and training to further develop their leadership and life skills.

Westside's Kennedy Fund tops \$21,000 in loans to Third World

Westside's microbank fund is going great guns. We started with \$6,000 from the congregation, but Kiva.org, which handles our contributions, reports we have distributed over \$21,000 to over 150 different groups! We concentrate on women in Latin America, but lend throughout the world. We are partners with the Unitarian Universalists, started by a Texan. That team has nearly 400 members throughout the US. They have given a total of \$142,000.

Our next meeting will be June 10th. Join us!

- Ann Sutherland, chair, Social Justice Committee

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In an earlier stage of our development most human groups held to a tribal ethic. Members of the tribe were protected, but people of other tribes could be robbed or killed as one pleased. Gradually the circle of protection expanded, but as recently as 150 years ago we did not include blacks. So African human beings could be captured, shipped to America, and sold. In Australia white settlers regarded Aborigines as a pest and hunted them down, much as kangaroos are hunted down today. Just as we have progressed beyond the blatantly racist ethic of the era of slavery and colonialism, so we must now progress beyond the speciesist ethic of the era of factory farming, of the use of animals as mere research tools, of whaling, seal hunting, kangaroo slaughter, and the destruction of wilderness. We must take the final step in expanding the circle of ethics.

-Peter Singer

The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

Email submissions to our Editor

Cindy Fountain at vanessa4907@sbcglobal.net

Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

Our Board

President: Sandy Olah

Vice President: Gwen Gipson

Secretary: Bob Vann

Treasurer: Bob Rake

Directors, two- year terms: Reed Bilz, Michael Muñoz, and James Finn. Director, one-year interim term: Nancy Van Boskirk. Directors, continuing: Brenda McKeon and Ann Sutherland

By The Numbers

	9am	11am adults	11am kids	Total
January				
Feb 7	16	84	25	125
Feb 14	22	100	25	147
Feb 21	17	114	25	156
Feb 28	25	114	27	166
Average	20	103	25.5	148.5



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 & 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

How are we doing?

Do you feel that our church is doing something right? Should we be doing more or less of something? Should we be doing something different? If so, let the Committee on Ministry (COM) know. The committee also wants to know if you have a criticism, concern, or question. Look for us after the service, call us, or email us at COM@westsideuu.org.

Committee on Ministry

Dick Trice, Chair

Mary Cretsinger

Kay Kubala

Lin Wells

Tom Woods

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



Mission Statement: Our RE provides a safe environment that supports development of an open mind, helping hands, and a loving heart in our children and youth.

RE News

RE Committee: April 2010

Chair: Andrea Petty

Treasurer: Susan Farris

DRE: Julie Tribble Natalie McKeon

Brenda McKeon Sarah Skiles

Tricia Bowes

Easter Egg Hunt

We will be having our annual Easter egg hunt on April 4, after church. We are once again separating the children into 2 groups, our Nursery and Clara Barton class (1-6 year olds), and the Anthony and Young classes (7-13 years). The playground will be our hunting grounds, unless it rains, in which case the Sanctuary and Foyer will be used.

I hope you can make plans to come; it is great fun!!! We will be supplying the eggs, and bags to put them in - just bring yourselves and have some fun!

RE in the Park

This year we will be having our spring RE in the Park on April 18th. We are going to have the parent sign-in sheet out at 10:15, for those interested in coming to the Children's book club meeting at 10:15. Our service starts at 11:00 with the Chalice Lighting. RE classes will start at 11:20 followed by fun and games.

Don't forget that the Church Potluck Picnic will be at the park after the service, so come sign your children out and enjoy lunch in the park.

Ropes Course at Camp Carter

The Young class is scheduled to go to Camp Carter on April 17th for a fun exercise in bonding and working together to solve problems, with the low and high ropes course. We will meet at Camp Carter, a YMCA camp in River Crest, from 2-6. The zip line and games are lots of fun and I think this will be a day that the Young class talks about for a long, long time!

Westside Camp Out

The Westside campers have scheduled the camp out for April 9 - 11th. We may be missing some students to camping but we will be having a great time in our RE classes too! We may have to see about doing a special craft or snack of our own that day! Hmm! I'll give that more thought.

שָׁלוֹם
SHALOM

سَلَامٌ

What in the World is happening in our World Religion Young Class: Classes?

Barton Class:

All the children's classes will join together on April 4th for egg hunting and other Easter celebrations. RE in the Park is back just in time for Earth Day. Our class will be across the street at Dagget Park learning how to respect our precious earth. Will our class tree be in bloom? We will find out during our Beauty of Spring lesson.

Anthony Class:

The Susan B. Anthony class has a great April planned! On the 4th we observe Easter. Make sure the kiddos stick around for Westside's Easter Egg hunt following class. On the weekend of April 11th, many of our RE teachers and students will be attending Westside's camping trip. But class is still on at church, and we'll be celebrating Buddha Day.

This month we will be a study on choices, balance, simplicity, humility & consequences.

April 4-The Three Wishes

This English tale offers a lighthearted comment on greed and the folly it can produce. I wish for a house. I wish for a palace. I wish for gold. In this tale of wishes will I ever get my wish?

April 11-A Farmer's Horse Ran Off

Based on a Tale from China by the Chinese prince and Taoist Lui An. "sai weng shig ma yen chip fai fu" (the old man lost his horse. How could one know that it is not good fortune?)

April 18-RE in the Park: Traveling to Tondo

A tale of the Nkundo of Zaire, Africa. Once there were four friends traveling to Tondo. And what a silly foursome they were! Will they ever reach their destination?

April 25- The Wise Master

A tale for the Jataka, Ancient India. Jataka tales were told to illustrate concepts such as compassion, a reverence for all life, and an understanding of karma or the laws of cause and effect.