



The Westside Story

June 2010

Monthly Newsletter of Westside
Unitarian Universalist Church

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

Chaplains report on a Caring Community

The Chaplains Corps, working with Russell, has been contacting various members whom we've missed seeing or hearing from. If you know of anyone that has been sick or in the hospital, or is having a difficult time, please let Russell or a chaplain know. You may contact us at Chaplain@westsideuu.org.

If you cannot attend church, and want one of your Joys or Concerns mentioned during that portion of the Sunday morning service, let us know, and we will try to get it included.

Cletis Ice fell recently and sprained his ankle. The family (wife Lee, son Myron, and daughter-in-law Linda) are attending to his care at home.

Lois & Ken Robison haven't been at church for several weeks as Ken is recovering from kidney stones and outpatient surgery. Lois is recovering from the removal of a non-cancerous growth on her tongue.

Both the Mitchell family's and the Oglesby family's beloved dogs died last month.

Linda Jenkins is mourning the loss of her friend and ex-mother-in-law, Irene Jenkins.

Those on the Chaplains Corps are Beverly Archibald, Caroline Nixon, Diane Jones, Paul Maginnis, Jane Hansen, and Myrtle McMahan. Please give us a call or e-mail us with any concerns you may have.

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:

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.

"Starlings", by
Yahia Lababidi

*Hypnotic like a
school of airborne
fish
they frolic about in
the open sky
flickering into focus
and diffusing
back to the ether
that spawned them*

*Gathering like a
storm and breaking
in waves
raining hard, a
downpour of
butterflies
fitting like a great
kite, giddy it got
away
yet guided by a
steady and invis-
ible hand*

*How do they know
to spell such exalted
shapes
fluid arabesques
across the stage of
heaven
as they swarm and
glide as though of
one mind
a soundless sym-
phony, mysteriously
conducted*

Month	Recipient	Amount
April 2010	Trinity Habitat for Humanity	\$900.10
April 2010	UU Women's Federation	\$276.05
March 2010	Americans for the Separation of Church & State	\$1291.94
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

sunday options

Sunday Services

June 6th - Tara Perez, *Understanding Pressures on Families*. Tara Perez, from Allied Communities of Tarrant (ACT), will share an analysis of the economic, cultural, and community pressures that affect us. Her reflection also includes an examination of the power behind those pressures.

June 13th - Dr. Elleven, *From the Little I Know About...Hinduism*. Russell begins a summer series on world religions starting with the oldest, Hinduism. Come to church this Sunday and see what religious gems he can discern from the many gods of this ancient worldview.

June 20th - Dr. Elleven, *From the Little I Know About...Buddhism*. The second part of the summer series examines Bud-

dhism and how little Russell knows about this great religion. Hopefully, this will not deter your attendance but rather inspire you to pay close attention for any mistakes he may make.

June 27 - Carl Romano, *Pleasure, Ethics, and Progress*. We are biologically wired to seek food, warmth, and reproductive success. Is the goal of civilization and ethics to tame the hungry beast? Or, is the energy there the source of all creativity and progress? Let's reflect.

FORUM

Forum will continue with its study of Howard Zinn's A People's History of the U.S. Chapter 17, "Or Does It Explode?," will be discussed the first Sunday in June. This is a penetrating review of the black revolt during the 50s and 60s, all about such people as Martin Luther King, Langston Hughes'

poetry, Richard Wright, the gifted novelist, Rosa Parks, Stokely Carmichael, James Cheney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, Malcolm X, and many other prominent figures of that fantastic period. Beginning at 9:45, our discussions fit conveniently between the first and second services each Sunday. Come to Russell's first service at 9:00 and stay for Forum, or come first to Forum and stay for the 11 o'clock service. 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

Nominations

The Nominating Committee has suggested the following people to the Congregation for the Board of Directors:

President - Gwen Gipson
Vice President - Caroline Nixon
Secretary - Suzie Lotven
Members at Large - Cody Hancock, Nancy VanBoskirk, Diane Jones

And the people who are to be voted on for the Nominating Committee for next year:

Reed Bilz
Beverly Archibald
Jeff Bullock
Linda Jenkins
Mary Noer

The Nominating Committee

Brenda McKeon
Bill Terry
Linda Ice
Dick Trice
Carl Romano

Definition of "Friend" of Westside

The Board has approved the following definition for Westside "Friend". We will vote on whether to add this definition to our bylaws at the June 13 Congregational Meeting:

A Friend is someone who is not a member but who attends church services and other church activities, gives of their time, talent and treasures, and acknowledges the Unitarian Universalist Seven Principles. A Friend may not chair a committee and may not vote in official church meetings.

Karaoke Night is June 12, 7 PM

"Come sing a song with me..."

Come to listen, come to sing, come for fun and fellowship at the church on Saturday night, June 12 from 7 - 9 PM. Song sign-up begins at 6:45 PM. Our own Scott Paulson (famed singer and recent incarnation of the "oh-so-upper-class" Pickering in My Fair Share Lady) will be the MC. Those of you who have attended our previous Karaoke Nights know how much fun we have at these events.

We will provide lemonade, water and light snacks. Those desiring wine or beer, please BYOB.

If you will need child care, please contact Jeff Bullock at 817-308-0463 or jbull63@gmail.com with the number and ages of your children.

Friends and relatives are more than welcome - it gives them a chance to socialize with us on an informal basis and get to know what fun folks we are! Here is the link to the song list: westsideuu.org/Karaoke/SongList.pdf

Don't forget Listeners are needed as well as singers. See you there!

The Westside Story
June 2010

Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind. Absolve you to yourself, and you shall have the suffrage of the world.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Obesity is a mental state, a disease brought on by boredom and disappointment.

-Cyril Connolly

A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on sympathy, education, and social ties; no religious basis is necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained by fear of punishment and hope of reward after death.

-Albert Einstein

The Green Scene

Our new, energy efficient LED lights which will use half the energy, contain no harmful materials, and last twice as long, have been shipped. Hoyt West is coordinating their installation with Angel Montessori. Shouldn't be long now. FYI: These will not affect sanctuary lighting. Hoyt is looking at some additional, energy saving features which could save Westside even more energy and money.

Your Green Sanctuary Committee has been postponing the simple congregational survey required for preparing our Green Sanctuary Action Plan until June, so we won't conflict with the great stewardship campaign currently in progress. We will launch it online via Survey Monkey the week of June 14th, and plan on leaving it up for two weeks. Those of you not into computers will find hard copies available in the church foyer. If you'll be away during that time, and would like to complete the survey, contact Bob Vann at rimrock42@ymail.com, and we'll send you an advance copy.

You have surely noticed the massive propagandist campaign by the natural gas extraction industry currently underway on television. And you've been around long enough to understand that when an industry is willing to spend that much money to try to convince you that something is very good, then maybe you ought to take a little closer look. Your Green Sanctuary Committee will offer you a peek beneath that glossy surface when we present the film Split Estate at Westside on June 10th, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Invite your friends and join us for an eye-opening evening.

Briefs: Hoyt West helped man the Interfaith Environmental Alliance (IEA) booth at Prairie Fest. Linda Hanratty arranged a wonderful Texas State League of Women Voters environmental luncheon presentation by EPA Regional Administrator Al Armendariz. If you haven't yet seen the marvelous, Sundance award winning film Gasland, it is scheduled to show June 21st on HBO.

Homo sapiens is the species that invents symbols in which to invest passion and authority, then forgets that symbols are inventions.

-Joyce Carol Oates

Philosophers / must ultimately find / their true perfection / in knowing all / the follies of mankind / - by introspection.

-Piet Hein

Every great advance in natural knowledge has involved the absolute rejection of authority.

-Thomas Henry Huxley

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**

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

Where's Russell in June?

June begins the busy summer travel season for Russell. The first Sunday of the month he will be in California, the last he will be in Minnesota. On the second and third Sundays he will begin a summer series about world religions. Because of his travel schedule, please pay particular attention to his office hours this month. They are as follows:

Tuesday, June 1 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 3 – UNAVAILABLE
Tuesday, June 8 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 10 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 15 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 17 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 22 – UNAVAILABLE
Thursday, June 24 – UNAVAILABLE
Tuesday, June 29 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please call him at home first (817-370-2171) and leave a message if no answer. You may also want to call the church (817-924-6988). If no answer at either place, it merely means Russell is with another church member and will get back to you as soon as possible.

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.

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.

Ethical Eating Group

The Ethical Eating group had a wonderful time in May learning how to make a simple, yet delicious risotto courtesy of local UU (Pathways) chef, Bridget Rodewald. This month we will be viewing a DVD presentation by Registered Dietitian, Jeff Novick, concerning reading labels. You

might be surprised to know that food labels are sometimes difficult to read. Come be with us on June 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall!

Humanists of Fort Worth

**The second Wednesday of June (the 9th),
HOFW will meet at 7 p.m.**

Joel Bailey of First Jefferson UU Church will be our speaker for the meeting, and all are invited to join many visitors who will be coming from Jefferson. The title of the talk will be announced prior to the meeting.

Contemporary Books

We will meet on June 27 at church, after church, to discuss 1,000 White Women by Jim Fergus. Still to come: Suite Francais by Irene Nemerovsky, The Help by Kathryn Stockett, and Sea Ice by Anita Shreve. Please join us! Contact: Reed Bilz at rbilz@charter.net or 817-292-7974

Sound System Helpers Wanted

Bill Terry is looking for three people to help out with managing our sound system during the Sunday Service. Qualifications for these helpers are:

Coming to church on Sunday by 10:15

Willing to sit at back of Sanctuary during service

Not afraid of electronics

Prior Sound System experience is not necessary, only a willingness to learn. Please contact Bill either by phone (817-249-7341) or email, (terrynoerbill@sbc-global.net)

The Westside Story
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I have lived in this world just long enough to look carefully the second time into things that I am most certain of the first time.

-Josh Billings

All humanity is one undivided and indivisible family, and each one of us is responsible for the misdeeds of all the others. I cannot detach myself from the wickedest soul.

-Mohandas K. Gandhi

Do not condemn the judgment of another because it differs from your own. You may both be wrong.

-Dandamis

our wider community

In questions of science, the authority of a thousand is not worth the humble reasoning of a single individual.

-Galileo Galilei

The being cannot be termed rational or virtuous, who obeys any authority, but that of reason.

-Mary Wollstonecraft

For money you can have everything it is said. No, that is not true. You can buy food, but not appetite; medicine, but not health; soft beds, but not sleep; knowledge but not intelligence; glitter, but not comfort; fun, but not pleasure; acquaintances, but not friendship; servants, but not faithfulness; grey hair, but not honor; quiet days, but not peace. The shell of all things you can get for money. But not the kernel. That cannot be had for money.

-Arne Garborg

Fort Worth School Board

Congratulations to Westside's own, Ann Sutherland, who was just elected to the school board. What a tremendous asset for the students and our wider community!

From Ann: Thanks to everyone who helped with my election, whether by working, sending money, walking, lending their yards for yard signs, or just wishing me well. It was a victory for Westside as well as for kids.

Neighborhood Awareness Committee

Some of the following events may have already passed with the publication of the newsletter. If so, hopefully you caught them in the Order of Service:

Ryan Place Block Party is Saturday, May 29, 7-10 PM in the 1000 Block of Elizabeth Blvd. Check it out at www.HistoricRyanPlace.org.

Ryan Place 25th Anniversary Croquet Tournament, Monday May 31, at 10 am, 2530 South Adams.

July 4th Parade will be Saturday July 3, at 9:30. It will line up on South Adams. It will be preceded by a 5K Ryan Run in the 7 am to 7:30 am range. - *John Nagely, Neighborhood Awareness Committee.*

Coffee Party of Ft. Worth

The Coffee Party of Ft. Worth is holding its next meeting at Westside, June 12, 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Several members/friends of Westside also belong to the Coffee

Party, an organization whose aim is to bring civility back into the political realm.

The speaker for this event will be Senator Wendy Davis. The plan is for Sen. Davis to speak about the State Board of Education, Redistricting and Gerrymandering, and maybe another topic, then take questions.

Please feel free to join Coffee Party of Ft. Worth in the afternoon, and follow that up with Westside's own Karaoke Night at 7:00 pm. This event is sponsored by the Social Justice Committee and Adult Forum.

Set Your DVRs and Other TV Recording Devices!!

GASLAND: Fort Worth, Texas is prominently featured by first-time documentary director, Josh Fox, who exposes the shocking repercussions of the recent boom in natural gas drilling. The film poses urgent questions about the little-known drilling process "fracking" and the industry that has managed to exempt itself from practically all environmental laws and regulations in a quest for "clean energy" and profits. The film won a U.S. Documentary Special Jury Prize at Sundance earlier this year. The documentary will air on HBO, June 21.

From the Heart of a Woman

Because music is a powerful tool for integrating intellect and emotion, our retreat begins with a musical event entitled Heart of a Woman. Women musicians Kit Holmes, Dana Clark, and Wave Harless present music that evokes what is common to every woman's life journey; love, family, healing, personal growth, relationships empowerment, spirituality and sex-

uality. Besides their many original songs, they honor their musical foremothers from Bessie to Billie. The concert is designed to open our hearts to a deeper understanding of our lives, so that we may more clearly perceive our situations and discover new possibilities.

The activities that follow on Saturday and Sunday will expand on the mood set and help us leave our hectic worlds for a short time, gaining perspective so that we can return, renewed and refreshed. U-Bar-U is located near Kerrville, Tx.

Women's Retreat: U-Bar-U
June 18-20, 2010
Fee: \$65

To register: PayPal at www.ubaru.org, or call or email Sandy Barnwell, 830-864-4120, director@ubaru.org

Boston Bed & Breakfast

The Eliot & Pickett Houses, the UUA's bed and breakfast in Boston, is offering a discount for all new reservations made for a minimum three-day stay between May 17, 2010 and September 30, 2010. Discounts apply to new reservations made between April 25, 2010 and September 15, 2010.

NTAUUS News for publication - your help is needed

Opening Lines of Communication
-submitted by Scott Grey, NTAUUS Webmaster

Every congregation has members involved in a wide range of Ministries.

Though our sizes and structures differ, those Ministries have much in common. The North Texas Association of Unitarian Universalist Societies (NTAUUS) is opening new communication channels to help address some of these shared concerns. As a service to our thirteen congregations, our online forums allow people to share ideas, to discuss common problems and solutions.

Found on the NTAUUS website under "affinity groups" (www.ntauus.org/affinity.shtml):

COA Teachers
Lay Leadership Forum
Membership & Church Stewardship
Music
Newsletter Editors and Reporters
Property Managers
UU Seminary Students Forum,
Social Action Network (SANE)
Webmasters

These groups are available to anyone. Five groups have been created as private forums for pre-approved members:

NTAUUS Board Members
Directors of Religious Education (NATURES)
Our Whole Lives (OWL) Instructors
Congregation Presidents
Youth Advisors

To participate you simply need to register on the website. If you'd like to join one of the private forums and haven't been invited, just drop a note to webmaster@ntauus.org. Have a topic you'd like to discuss that's not on the list? Let us know.

NTAUUS has also joined the world of Twitter and you can follow us at @North-TexasUUs. We're tweeting on upcoming events of interest to our congregations and breaking news from within the UU universe in North Texas. We also have a Facebook page- just search for NTAUUS. Please add us to your friends list and join in the activity on our wall.

The Westside Story
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Men rarely (if ever) managed to dream up a god superior to themselves. Most gods have the manners and morals of a spoiled child.

-Robert A. Heinlein

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it -- and stop there -- lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove-lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove-lid again, and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one any more.

-Mark Twain

We all wear masks, and the time comes when we cannot remove them without removing some of our own skin.

-Andre Berthiaume

*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

April	9am	11am adults	11am kids	Total
April 4	24	106	36	166
April 11	12	121	38	171
April 18	18	112	40	170
April 25	36	112	43	191
Average	22.5	112.75	39.25	174.5



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.



RE News

DRE: Julie Tribble

June, 2010

Chair: Andrea Petty

Treasurer: Susan Farris

Committee:

Amanda Oglesby

Brenda McKeon

Sara Munoz

Tricia Bowes

Jessica Zinn

RE Yard Sale

We had a very profitable yard sale over the weekend of May 7 & 8. We made \$650.00. This money will help us with storage solutions and training for our teachers, as well as cover expenses not in the RE budget like: the Halloween party, outings for the teens and middle schoolers, etc....

Summer Session of RE:

This summer our curriculum is from Putamayo. It is called *World Playground*, and is very cool!!! Each child will get a Passport with their picture and other pertinent information in it. As they visit each country and learn its customs, language, games and music - they will get a stamp or sticker on their passport. We are dividing the group

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.

into 2 classes - one will be 8 years and younger, the other 9 years and older. If you are interested in teaching this summer, contact Tricia Bowes, to see what Sundays are available or what country you might like to teach about.

End of year 'Party in the Park'

We will have the end of year party for all classes at Daggett Park on May 30th. We will have a short service and then play until the parents come sign the kids out. We will have snacks and play tug-o-war, have sack races, and other fun games.

New Playground Rules

We have gotten big enough that it is necessary to come up with some rules for the playground. They are simple and easy to remember:

1. The little kids toys/equipment are for the little kids, including the plastic playhouse by the fort. (Cindy has informed us that the little kids equipment is designed for ages 5 and under)
2. Clean up after yourself.
3. Accidents do happen, so please report any breakages.
4. We will clean up and close down the play area at 12:30

Hogwarts Academy

We are taking registration for the Hogwarts Academy that runs June 14 - 18, at First Jefferson UU Church. This is once again a joint project of Westside and First Jefferson, and will be better than ever!!! Ages 4 - 14 are welcome. Cost is \$100.00 for the week long camp. The campers will be in the same House as last year, with new campers being sorted the first day. It's going to be a fun week with Incantation, Potions, Herbology, Muggle Studies, Transfiguration, Charms, Defense Against the Dark Arts and Quidditch! For more information talk to Julie or Andrea. The brochures and registration are available in the hall outside of the Sanctuary. See you there!



Westside's Camp

Don't miss out on the totally awesome camp that Westside UU offers in August! This year our theme is: The 3 R's : Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!

The camp will run August 11 - 14 from 2pm to 5pm. Each day we will concentrate on one of the "R"s.

We will once more have songs, crafts, games, snacks and time to work on a project for the church. We will have registration ready by mid-June, and the best part is...its free! The ages for WOW are 4 - 12.

SWUUSI - Southwest UU Summer Institute

If you haven't heard of SWUUSI, it is the Southwest district's summer family camp. We spend 5 days in eastern Oklahoma at Western Hills Lodge outside of Tahlequah, OK. It has something for everyone, the children's programs range from nursery to high school. Julie and Andrea are working the 3-6 grade program with a Harry Potter camp, the 7-9th grade is doing the World According to the Simpson's and the high school will be studying 'My name is Earl' curriculum. and that doesn't even cover the adult programs. Come check it out!