



## *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](mailto: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.

After shattering her elbow in a bicycle accident, Caroline Nixon is recuperating from surgery and hoping to begin rehab in about a month. In the meantime, she welcomes all living-with-one-functional-arm-which-isn't-your-dominant-one advice.

Dick Trice had an ear operation the week of August 9 to help cure his vertigo. Reed Bilz also had this surgery, and Jay Lotven is dealing with the same problem.

Ric Hansen is scheduled for a hand operation at the end of August. Harry Van Dam is having hip surgery next month.

It was good to see the return of Troy and Betty Stiles. Troy's health has improved.

Sunday August 15 many members, friends, family and associates of Dr. Charles Ogilvie celebrated Charlie's life at services and a reception.

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.

## *Sunday Services*

**September 5 - *Further Thoughts of Death***, with Dr. Elleven. When we lose a good friend or loved one, thoughts of death and what it means seem to come more frequently. It is often best to talk about these feelings and thoughts than to withhold them. That is what Russell intends to do in this reflection.

**September 12 - *Labor of Love***. Gwen Gipson will share her thoughts on the importance of sharing our time and talents with the church community.

**September 19 - *Makin' Life Easier?*** with Dr. Elleven. We are confronted with a vast array of choices in life. Shall I do this or that? Shall I buy this or that? Shall I eat this or that? Having multiples choices makes life great...or does it? Russell will offer you his thoughts this Sunday.

**September 26 - *Association Sunday***, with Dr. Elleven. For the last three years Westside UU Church has participated in the Sunday dedicated to our association of churches, the UUA. To that end, Russell will talk about the work of the organization of our religious movement.

# The Westside Story

**September 2010**

Monthly Newsletter of Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

901 Page Avenue Fort Worth, TX  
11:00 AM • [www.WestsideUU.org](http://www.WestsideUU.org)

## **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.

## *Forum*

Forum meetings will continue with discussions of the book, "Freethinkers," probably through September. Everyone is invited, and the attendance keeps increasing. Come join the group, and share the ideas and history of freethinking so very well written in this great book. Forum begins at 9:45 and ends at 10:40.

## *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).

*Laughter and tears  
are meant to turn  
the wheels of the  
same machinery of  
sensitivity; one is  
wind-power, and  
the other water-  
power.*

*-Oliver Wendell  
Holmes, Sr.*

*To profess to be  
doing God's will is  
a form of megalomania.*

*-Joseph Prescott*

*Wear your learning,  
like your watch,  
in a private pocket,  
and do not pull it out  
and strike it merely  
to show you have one.  
If you are asked  
what o'clock it is,  
tell it, but do not  
proclaim it hourly  
and unasked,  
like the watchman.*

*-Lord Chesterfield*

## *in & around westside Choir in Gear*

"Keep warming up 'cuz choir continues practicing on Sept. 12th, 9:30am in the sanctuary. We'll rehearse again on Sept. 26th, then every other Sunday thereafter. Can't wait to hear you all!" -Cathy McConnell

## *Congratulations!*

One of our members, Linda Ice, recently was awarded a very prestigious honor by her peers in the field of music education. Linda recently retired from the classroom after 30 years of teaching secondary choral music. This summer, she was honored with the "Excellence in Choral Music" award, given by the Texas Choral Directors Association. She was honored with a standing ovation by hundreds of her peers at the TCDA convention in San Antonio this past month. She felt humbled and honored to be amongst such distinguished recipients. To even be considered for this recognition, the recipients of this award must have made a significant impact in the lives of their students, professional peers and music education in the state of Texas.

Linda has been named Teacher of the Year many times in her long career and has been named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers on three different occasions. Linda has conducted award winning choirs with consistent superior ratings, as well as having been selected to perform at the American Choral Directors convention in 1992. In addition, Linda Ice continues to serve as both a clinician and adjudicator across Texas. She has served as the Middle School/Junior High Division Vice-President of TCDA from 1993 through 1995. Her colleagues know her best not only for her excellence in choral music, but even more for her well known (and highly sought after) organizational skills, consistently sweet disposition, and kindness to everyone with whom she comes in contact.

Linda was moved to tears as she accepted the surprise honor in July! Congrats, Linda, on a job well done and an honor that you will remember the rest of your life!! We are proud of you!!

Family Circle Suppers: Please join us Saturday, September 11 @ 5 PM at a member's home (to be announced). Bring the whole family for food, fun and friends! Email or call Elizabeth Murphy at emurphywa@aol.com or 817-576-3193 if interested in attending or hosting. Also, save October 9th for the next dinner date.

## *The 2nd Annual Westside County (oops, we mean...) Committee Fair is coming!*

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 12, as we once again enjoy a little down-home fun, Westside style! Westside UU is an active community with many committees behind all that energy. Visit with committee leaders and members; see what they have been up to, and find out how you can become more involved! There will be plenty of "good 'ole county fair fare" (food & fun) to enjoy! You won't want to miss it!

## *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,  
*Suzie Lotven, Board Secretary*

## *Westside Annual Camping Trip*

Join us as we pack up our camping gear and head to Arc Ridge Ranch for the weekend of October 15, 16 & 17.

Arc Ridge is only 2 hours east of Fort Worth. It boasts a 300 + acre private camp ground with miles of walking paths, a lake for fishing, canoeing, & paddle boating, a beaver dam, and a great pavilion surrounded by our tents so we can share some great times together. All the food is provided, vegetarian and vegan too!! All you have to do is bring yourself, your family, your camping gear (it is all tent camping, there are no RV spots) your drinks and your smile! We have been known to sing songs around the nightly campfire, play games under the pavilion, throw horseshoes, nap during the day, sunbathe next to the lake, and get to know other Westsiders in a way that is hard to get to know each other in church. All the weekend campers even pitch in with the cooking and the cleaning. Adults 18 years and older are only \$30 for the weekend, teens from 13 to 17 are \$20, the kiddos 12 and under are only \$10 and the ones 3 and under are free !! Sign up sheets will be in church most Sundays until the trip is full. Space is limited to 50 total campers.

See, email, call, or text Bettina Pfeifferberger for more details. 817-343-8873 Zookittie@gmail.com. Anyone that signs the Camping Covenant is welcome.

## *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 September?*

Russell will be present each Sunday of September. He will be in the pulpit delivering reflections on the first, third, and fourth Sundays of September and will be facilitating Joys and Concerns on the second Sunday. Regular Tuesday and Thursday appointment times are available through the first three full weeks of September. Russell will be on vacation and out of the country September 27th – October 11th. He will be unable to respond to email or return phone calls during that time.

Appointment Times:

**Thursday, Sept 2nd: 9 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, Sept 7th: 9 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, Sept 9th: 9 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, Sept 14th: 9 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, Sept 16th: 9 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, Sept 21st: 9 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, Sept 23rd: 9 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, Sept 28th: Vacation**  
**Thursday, Sept 30th: Vacation**

The best way to make an appointment for these dates/times is to send Russell an email at relleven@gmail.com. Alternatively, you can call his home at 817-370-2171 to set up a time to meet. Ap-

*The Westside Story*  
**September 2010**

*Happiness is not a goal; it is a by-product.*

*-Eleanor Roosevelt*

*I live my life in widening circles that reach out across the world. I may not complete this last one but I give myself to it.*

*-Rainer Maria Rilke*

*Snakes and ladders: the game of organized religions.*

*-Yahia Lababidi*

pointments can take place at the church, your place of business, or a local eatery.

## *Name That Unsung Hero!*

Mr. Here, There, and Everywhere, that's our August Hero! He comes from a humble Fort Worth background. However, in the early 50's he caught the eye of his first employer, Mr. Charles Tandy, and was "strongly" encouraged to attend TCU. Mr. Tandy paid for every A or B our Hero made! He left TCU with a degree and "his best teacher in life", a lovely wife. Later, they adopted a son and a daughter, who has given him a fine granddaughter. He and his lovely wife were married 54 years until she died in November of 2008. In February of 2009, he says "great good luck" was with him a second time when he met a UU widow with whom he could share the grief of recent loss, and go on to share love and more happiness than he ever thought possible.

Our Hero has been a contributing member of the Fort Worth UU community since 1956. After a two year stint in the army, he and his wife, beginning to feel like religious "misfits", at last discovered UUism. Our hero initially became a member at First Church, later was a charter member of First Jefferson UU, and lastly, a founding member of Westside UU. In each church setting he has served in too many capacities to list: doing everything from serving as President and Vice President of the board, to presenting dozens of sermons, to serving as the chair of committee after committee, teaching RE, presenting UU history to the Exploring Membership Classes, leading Great Book discussions, sponsoring a neighborhood GED program and LRY (liberal religious youth), facilitating the Westside Forum, serving with the Supper Club for Samaritan House, and so much more.

Outside of church our hero is a member and has served as president of the Humanists of Fort Worth, currently hosts meetings of the Ft. Worth Coffee Party,

is a member of the Ft. Worth League of Women Voters, has taught senior's classes in world religions, philosophy, and literature on TCC campuses, was an active member of the Ft. Worth ACLU, Common Cause, and the Democratic Party throughout the 90's, and again, so much more!

He states that "My interests and philosophy can be explained most succinctly from the activities I have listed and from my choice of the Seven UU Principles as the best defining of my ideals."

Name That Unsung Hero!! Turn (or scroll) to the last page to check your answer.

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

*Each morning puts  
a man on trial and  
each evening passes  
judgment.*

-Roy L. Smith

*We perceive when  
love begins and  
when it declines by  
our embarrassment  
when alone together.*

-Jean de la Bruyere

*A society that  
presumes a norm of  
violence and  
celebrates aggression,  
whether in the subway,  
on the football field,  
or in the conduct of its  
business, cannot help  
making celebrities of the  
people who would  
destroy it.*

-Lewis H. Lapham

## *our wider community Bring food for SCAC in April*

September is Westside's month to provide toiletries at South Central Alliance of Churches. Don't forget - this serves the people in our neighborhood and is our way of connecting with and helping those in need who live around us.

The toiletry packs contain the following:

- 2 Rolls of Toilet Tissue**
- 2 Bars of Soap**
- 2 Deodorants**
- 2 Razors**
- 1 Shaving Cream**
- 1 Shampoo**
- 1 Conditioner**
- 1 Tube of Toothpaste**

Other items needed:

- Children's cold medicines**
- Tylenol**
- Motrin**
- Feminine products**

The packs are assembled at SCAC - we only need to provide the items. Dollar Stores are an excellent place to purchase the items, or watch the sales at local drug stores.

Please bring your items any Sunday in September, and put them in the big red cart by the front door. As usual, Jay and Suzie Lotven will deliver our donations to SCAC.

Westside is a vital member of SCAC, and our contributions are greatly needed and appreciated. Call Beverly at 817-346-3303 for any questions. Thanks!

## *An Invitation- Women's Alliance*

The women of First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church and of Westside Unitarian Universalist Church are cordially invited to attend a merged Alliance. We meet on second Tuesdays at noon for friendship, inspiration and adventure. We have service projects for our churches, and for the larger community. Our programs in 2010-2011 are:

Sept 14 - "Getting to Know You" Potluck at First Jefferson. Westside UU women will be invited to all our future meetings, and we will focus on getting to know each other.

Oct 12 - Trip to Japanese Gardens.

Nov 9 - Potluck at church. Speaker Leslie Gordon, local author of children's books and a column in the Handley Herald.

Dec 14 - Potluck at church. Speaker Rev. Jennifer Innis. Bring one gift to exchange.

Jan 11- Trip to a Museum to be announced. Lunch nearby.

Feb 8 - Potluck at Church. "Jokes we know and love" and a sing-along with Marjorie Montgomery on Uke.

March 8 - Potluck at church. Speaker Michelle Youngblood on a famous woman. March is women's history month.

April 12 - Trip and tour of Cowboy Stadium. Lunch nearby.

May 10 - Trip to OMNI Theater at Museum of Science and History. Lunch nearby.

June 14 - Potluck at church. Plan program for the next year. Choose Treasurer and Coordinator.

Contacts: Karen Burkett, m.k.burkett@att.net, or Peggy Portmann, pegportman@aol.com

## *After School Care & Tutoring*

Hello PARENTS! Are you looking for someone to care for your child/children after school? Need them picked up from school and taken to extra-curricular activities but can't get off work in time? Do you want someone who can help them with homework and/or tutor them in subjects that they are finding challenging? Are you tired of having to make an additional trip to the daycare to pick them up after work? If you answered YES to any of these questions then call me, Erin Hart, and let's see if we can work something out. I'm a former teacher who is getting a second bachelor's degree and looking for opportunities to help from 2-6 pm. My number is 817-507-3938.

## *Interested in Meditation and Spiritual Growth?*

Check out the new internet blog by UUCA member John Kirszenberg: meditationandspiritualgrowth.com.

I have been a member of the UU Church of Akron, Ohio, for many years. In our

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*I don't hate my  
enemies. After all, I  
made 'em.*

*-Red Skelton*

*Neither a man nor  
a crowd nor a  
nation can be  
trusted to act  
humanely or to  
think sanely under  
the influence of a  
great fear.*

*-Bertrand Russell*

*No matter that we  
may mount on  
stilts, we still must  
walk on our own  
legs. And on the  
highest throne in  
the world, we still  
sit only on our own  
bottom.*

*-Michel de Montaigne*

services, Reverend Tim Temerson often sets aside a few minutes for silent prayer and meditation.

To encourage the practice of meditation and provide some useful information on that topic, I have started a web log (blog). As I have been a teacher of meditation for over 35 years, there is much to write about. Perhaps you and other members of your congregation would be interested in reading this blog?

I hope that you will read some of the blog postings, and share that information with your members.

Thanks,  
-John Kirszenberg

## *opportunities to learn & serve Green Sanctuary Committee*

The results of the Green Sanctuary Survey are in; our thanks to the 74 Westsiders who took the time to complete the survey. Survey results will be posted on the Westside UU Church website, but in the meantime here are a few of our findings. While very few of us carpool to work or to church, almost all of us recycle and encourage others to do so. Most of us donate or recycle used clothing, furniture, or appliances and properly dispose of hazardous waste. Very few of us use public transportation, but most of us use LED and/or fluorescent light bulbs. Fortunately, over two-thirds of us do not have asthma or similar respiratory problems; however, only 23-percent of us are allergy-free. Over half of us report being within a quarter mile of a gas drilling site, and almost 46 percent of us live within one-quarter mile of one or more roads with heavy traffic. Respondents favored practical environmental workshops on household water and energy conservation. North Texas Water Quality and

Conservation and North Texas Air Quality topped the choices for environmental issues.

At our August 12, 2010, meeting, Green Sanctuary Committee members brainstormed on how to use the survey results to prepare an Action Plan for the Green Sanctuary Application. You will be hearing more about this in the coming weeks. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2010, at 7:00 pm, at Westside. Please come help us craft a Green Sanctuary Action Plan that meets the needs and goals of our congregation. If this meeting time is inconvenient, please send your suggestions to Committee Chair, Linda Harratty at llswenson@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you.

### *Kroger Cards-fundraiser*

Kroger Cards are a fundraising project for Westside Church. If you do not yet have a card, Howard McMahan still has some. You take the card to the Service Desk at Kroger, and load it with money. The card is used like a debit card. Westside receives 5% for every dollar that is loaded on the card. The card can then be reloaded at Kroger and used again. This fundraising project will last until April, 2011, and may be renewed.

### *Humanists of Fort Worth*

Many members of Westside came and were unusually rewarded by an outstanding and unforgettable presentation by Myron Ice at our best attended August meeting. That success will be followed by our September 8, get-together when Dr. Don Jackson will speak on one of the most important documents in our lives, the U.S. Constitution. His talk is entitled, "One Document, but Four Constitutions---And Heading for the Fifth." Don writes, "While we still have the principal ingredients of the Constitution of 1787, by interpretation we have had four constitutions, and---depending on election outcomes---we

*I have always  
found that mercy  
bears richer fruits  
than strict justice.*

-Abraham Lincoln

*The artist brings  
something into the  
world that didn't  
exist before, and he  
does it without  
destroying some-  
thing else.*

-John Updike

*The propagandist's  
purpose is to make  
one set of people  
forget that certain  
other sets of people  
are human.*

-Aldous Huxley

may be on our way toward the fifth.” If you want to know more about this awesome document, we could not have a more knowledgeable and respected source than our speaker. This is a splendid opportunity, not only for our Humanist group, but for our Westside group, too. September 8, 7:00 pm, in the sanctuary.

## *Ethical Eating Group*

Last month the group examined obesity through a talk on DVD by Dr. Joel Furhman. Weight problems affect 2/3 of the United States adult population and is now also affecting our children at an alarming rate. This final regular session of the Ethical Eating group will watch a talk on DVD by a Buddhist monk Rev. Heng Sure who will discuss the inherent cruelty involved in eating animals. Join us Sept. 16, 7:00 pm at the church.

## *Contemporary Book Group*

September 26, after church at the church, to discuss “Memoirs of a Geisha” by Arthur Golden. On October 24 we will discuss “The Family Album” by Penelope Lively.

## *Diabetes Class Coming!!*

The Ethical Eating Group is sponsoring a class concerning diabetes at Westside. This event is free and open to the public but you MUST be registered (see below). Uncontrolled diabetes can lead to many challenges. Research has shown that a low-fat, plant-based nutrition approach can turn type 2 diabetes around – it can prevent complications and reduce the need for medication. This scientifically proved approach is easy to learn. It has been shown to help

prevent and treat other medical problems, such as cancer, heart disease and obesity. Tell your friends!

Register by October 18th online at [www.pcrm.org/diabetes](http://www.pcrm.org/diabetes) or by calling Katherine at 817-526-4811.

More information about the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine can be found online at [www.pcrm.org](http://www.pcrm.org).

## *Casino Night!*

Westside is hosting a Casino Night November 13, to raise money for the general fund. We will have Blackjack, Roulette, Craps and Texas Hold'em. Along with the games, we will have Karaoke in the sanctuary, and we will be serving finger foods and wine. If you would like to volunteer to help, please call Sandy Olah at 817-988-4714.

Child care is available by rsvp. Please contact Sandy Olah at 817-988-4714.

## *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](mailto:relleven@gmail.com) or go to [www.rke.cc](http://www.rke.cc).

**This Month's Unsung Hero is Dick Trice!**

*The Westside Story*  
**September 2010**

*Gold in its native state is but dull, unornamental stuff, and only lowborn metals excite the admiration of the ignorant with an ostentatious glitter. However, like the rest of the world, I still go on underrating men of gold and glorifying men of mica.*

*-Mark Twain*

*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*

*We are all of us more or less echoes, repeating involuntarily the virtues, the defects, the movements, and the characters of those among whom we live.*

*-Joseph Joubert*

*The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 15th of the month.  
Email submissions to our Editor Cindy Fountain at [vanessa4907@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vanessa4907@sbcglobal.net).*

# Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

## Our Board

President: Gwen Gipson

Vice President: Caroline Nixon

Secretary: Suzie Lotven

Treasurer: Bob Rake

Members at large: Cody Hancock, Diane Jones, Nancy Van Boskirk

## By The Numbers

July	9am	11am adults	11am kids	Total
July 4	18	93	27	138
July 11	16	113	23	152
July 18	20	120	30	170
July 25	18	130	33	181
Average	18	114	28.25	160.25



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](mailto: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

DRE: Julie Tribble  
Chair: Susan Farris  
Committee:  
Brenda McKeon  
Tricia Bowes  
Lela Woods

September, 2010

Sara Munoz  
Jessica Zinn  
Andrea Petty

## World Playground

This has been quite a whirlwind trip around the world! We are ending the summer with a world party on August 22. A little food from here and there, some music from all over...the perfect ending to our summer!

## Ingathering on August 29th

We will gather and get sorted into classes on August 29th to start our Religious Education year. The classes and Curriculum this year are:

*Beatrix Potter (Nursery)* - Peter Rabbit

*Clara Barton (3-5)* - Dr. Seuss & UUs

*Susan B. Anthony (6-7)* - Dr. Seuss & UUs

*Louisa May Alcott (8-9)* - Dr. Seuss & UUs

*Whitney Young (10-11)* - The new You, the Creator



*Ralph Waldo Emerson (12 & up)* - Popcorn Theology

## New Storage Cabinets in Classrooms

Check out the new cabinets in each classroom for storing RE supplies. We have a total of 8 cabinets; one each in the glass classroom, the 'Tree' room, and the Anthony classroom, and 5 cabinets in the Barton Classroom. We are currently working on how to number the classrooms so that we know which room is being discussed. We will start numbering from the southeast classroom to the southwest classroom. The classrooms off of the Fellowship Hall will be given numbers and letters to distinguish which side of the room the classes will meet. We are getting pretty close to capacity in each of our classes. Isn't

it great?! We have so many kids we need more classrooms!!!

### WOW Going Green!

#### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

We had 32 children for the Week of Westside Going Green : Reduce, Reuse, Recycle camp! This has been so much fun!!! We used recycled things for all of our crafts; Capri Sun packs turned into wonderful coin pouches, bottle caps made great pendants for necklaces & our old t-shirts were tie-dyed into new shirts. We even learned about solar ovens made from a pizza box! The kids all took a project/story class to learn about how to reuse, reduce, recycle materials from our everyday life. Our 9-12 year olds are now working on starting an Eco Club at the church. The music has been even more awesome this year than last! The kids are looking forward to singing it for the congregation while we all get to watch the slide show from camp. I want to give big thanks to all the people who helped at camp this week: Tricia Bowes and Andrea Petty for getting camp ready for the campers! Laurie Hagstrom, Brenda McKeon, Kevin Kirkland, Suzie Lotven, Lauren Keefe, Jennifer Pullen, Kendra Whitson, Tina Harmuth and Nicole

McKeon Langston for their help with teaching, feeding, and guiding our children from class to class. Thank you everyone!!!

#### OWL (Our Whole Lives)

This year we are offering Our Whole Lives sexuality training to the Kindergarten - 1st grade and, once again, the 4 - 6 grade groups. If you have any questions or are interested in helping out, contact Andrea Petty, our resident OWL expert! We will be offering parent information classes prior to setting any dates for the classes, so keep watching in the RE News for information.

#### Teacher Training at Westside

August 14th we had Westside's teacher training. We had a pretty good turnout with 6 brand new teachers (to RE anyway) in attendance and 9 of our returning teachers. Russell Elleven was our guest speaker and did a powerful presentation on the history of the Unitarian, Universalist and Humanist roots of the modern Unitarian Universalist church. Thanks for the inspiration Russell!!!! Its going to be a GREAT RE year.

District training was August 21 at First Dallas with the SW District Executive Susan Smith speaking!