



The Westside Story

October 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.

Westside member Liz Campbell's mother, Jancy Campbell, has recently suffered a great loss.

Jancy's long time companion William "Bill" Pryde passed away in their home in Boulder, Colorado on August 8. He was 69, and his death was

unexpected. An autopsy revealed Bill died of an infection related to out-patient surgery. His memorial service was held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Boulder. Liz says that her mother is taking things one day at a time.

Melissa Salazar and her family have suffered the rather sudden death of her young cousin, Pete Valdez. He was 46, married to her cousin Patty, and they had two boys, aged 9 and 14. Pete was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer exactly one month before his death on August 26th. Melissa is grateful for a large supportive family to help each other through these difficult days.

Harry van Dam had his right hip replaced on September 7th. Ruth says, "Harry is hanging in there." After convalescing at the nursing home, he

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.

was home for a few days; he has now returned to Trail Lakes Nursing Home for continuing convalescence. Ruth and Harry appreciate Westside's concern. Ruth thinks Harry will be ready for visits this weekend but please call first: Trail Lakes Nursing Home, 817-263-2224.

Matthew Erikson, a Westside UU member, is moving to Phoenix, Arizona. Matthew, go with our blessings, bon voyage. Please keep in touch.

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 lists these organizations and our recent contributions to them.

Like cars in amusement parks, our direction is often determined through collisions.

-Yahia Lababidi

I once met a man who had forgiven an injury. I hope some day to meet the man who has forgiven an insult.

-Charles Buxton

Pride, like laudanum and other poisonous medicines, is beneficial in small, though injurious in large, quantities. No man who is not pleased with himself, even in a personal sense, can please others.

-Frederick Saunders

Month	Recipient	Amount
August 2010	Planned Parenthood of North Texas	\$1,526.07
July 2010	July, InReach Fund	\$1,171.60
May 2010	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$1687.29
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 Services

October 3 - *"I Don't Want to Talk About It"*. As UUs, we pride ourselves on being open-minded and willing to hear other viewpoints. But are we really as tolerant as we like to think? Westside's Jeff Rodriguez has some provocative observations on this -- and he wants to talk about it.

October 10 - *"Keeping Our Sanity in a Confusing World"*. In this crucial time in our country's history, which is filled with worry, uncertainty, hostility, and many conflicting religious and spiritual perspectives, how do we find our way? How do we maintain our sanity in the midst of confusion? We will explore a few ways to make sense of it all. The Rev. Xolani Kacela has fellowship with the UUA. Currently, he serves as an Air Force chaplain and is a professor of pastoral counseling. He lives in Cedar Hill.

October 17 - *Are You Smart Enough to be a UU?* We UUs seem to take some pride in our educational demographic. But does having a higher education necessarily make you smart enough to be a UU? Russell will offer his thoughts this Sunday.

October 24 - *Founder's Day Celebration*. In August and September of 1994, a small group joined to develop a new Unitarian Universalist community in Fort Worth. These were the founding members of our very own enthusiastic congregation, Westside UU! Join us as we recognize, acknowledge and express our gratitude for the efforts of

this group of dedicated trailblazers!

October 31 - *Rethinking Halloween*. Happy Halloween to one and all Westsiders! Today Russell will reflect on the holiday and what it has meant in the past. He will wonder aloud what it might mean today. Be afraid. Be very afraid.

Forum

Lin Wells and Dick Trice shall continue leading discussions of Jacoby's Freethinkers through the month of October, picking up Chapter 6 on the first Sunday and continuing through Chapter 10 on the fifth Sunday. Forum begins at 9:45 and ends at 10:40. Child care is available.

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

Where's Russell in October?

The last few days of September and the first two Sundays of October, Russell will be in an undisclosed location (do you think he's with Dick

The Westside Story
October 2010

Nothing which does not transport is poetry. The lyre is a winged instrument.

-Joseph Joubert

One man meets an infamous punishment for that crime which confers a diadem upon another.

-Juvenal

Some men of a secluded and studious life have sent forth from their closet or their cloister, rays of intellectual light that have agitated courts and revolutionized kingdoms; like the moon which, though far removed from the ocean, and shining upon it with a serene and sober light, is the chief cause of all those ebbings and flowings which incessantly disturb that restless world of waters.

-Charles Caleb Colton

The Westside Story
October 2010

Cheney?) on vacation. He will be back to church duties on Wednesday the 13th. Please do note that he will not be checking email or phone messages while away.

Russell will offer reflections on October 17th and 31st. He will be present to offer Js&Cs and the Day in UU History on the 24th. Because of vacation, monthly office appointments look like this:

Thursday, October 14th: 9 am to 1 pm
Tuesday, October 19th: 9 am to 1 pm
Thursday, October 21st: 9 am to 1 pm
Tuesday, October 26th: 9 am to 1 pm
Thursday, October 28th: 9 am to 1 pm

Please feel free to call Russell at home during these hours (817.370.2171). Do be aware, however, that often these hours are actually close to full with church appointments. Russell can meet church members and friends during these hours at homes, offices, coffee shops or restaurants. Please feel free to email relleven@gmail.com if you would like to set up a time to meet with the minister.

*I hate with a
murderous hatred
those men who,
having lived their
youth, would send
into war other
youth, not lived,
unfulfilled, to fight
and die for them;
the pride and
cowardice of those
old men, making
their wars that
boys must die.*

*-Mary Roberts
Rinehart*

*Morality is the
custom of one's
country and the
current feeling of
one's peers. Canni-
balism is moral in a
cannibal country.*

-Samuel Butler

*A man should live
with his superiors
as he does with his
fire: not too near,
lest he burn; nor too
far off, lest he
freeze.*

-Diogenes

know and want to learn, somebody will show you. Kids are welcome to learn and help out; parents please call me ahead of time. There is no babysitting--yet.

If you are interested please call or email Debby Rake, 817-473-2414, or dsrake@gmail.com

Casino Night

Westside is hosting a Casino Night on 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.

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 campground 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

Quilting Group

The new Quilting/Handiwork group of Westside UU will meet on the second Sunday of every month from 1:00 to 4:00. The next meeting will be Sunday October 10. We have three goals:

To learn new skills, and share those we already know.

To make small quilts or blankets for the children of Samaritan House.

To have great conversations and make new friends.

All skill levels are welcome. There are lots of different tasks. If you don't

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

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 cop-

ies 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

our wider community

Tarrant County Gay Pride Parade - Sunday, October 3rd, 2PM

The parade theme this year is ONE HEART, ONE WORLD, ONE PRIDE. NTAUUS is coordinating UU participation in this year's Tarrant County Gay Pride Parade.

This should be very exciting for local UU's interested in the festivities. Your interest/participation is requested. If you are available please contact Randy Gregory of First Jefferson UU.

817 230-4108 (home); 817 874-0084 (cell); email: rgregory@flash.net

Women's Alliance October 12, Japanese Garden Tour and Lunch

Come one come all, and bring a guest for a guided 1 1/2 hour tour of the Ft Worth Japanese Gardens on Tuesday, October 12, at 10 am, followed by lunch at 11:30 am, at the Garden's Restaurant in the Botanic Gardens. Admission for an adult guided tour is \$5. Lunch will be about \$14. We can meet you at the Gardens at 10:00 or at 9:30 in the FJUUC

The Westside Story
October 2010

In youth we feel richer for every new illusion; in maturer years, for every one we lose.

-Madame Anne Sophie Swetchine

Poetry, indeed, cannot be translated; and, therefore, it is the poets that preserve the languages; for we would not be at the trouble to learn a language if we could have all that is written in it just as well in a translation. But as the beauties of poetry cannot be preserved in any language except that in which it was originally written, we learn the language.

-Samuel Johnson

Truth, in matters of religion, is simply the opinion that has survived.

-Oscar Wilde

parking lot for carpooling. Please contact Diane Feldman, divfelt@aol.com, 817-461-2096, by October 1, for tour-lunch reservations, driving-parking directions, and rain date information.

Nov 9 - Potluck at FJUUC. The speaker will be Leslie Gordon who is a local author of children's books and has a column in the Handley Herald.

Interested in Meditation and Spiritual Growth?

Check out the new internet blog started by UUCA member John Kirszenberg: meditationandspiritual-growth.com. I have been a member of the UU Church of Akron, Ohio, for many years. In our 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

Dace Sultanov in Concert

Dace Sultanov will be playing at the SW Baptist Seminary, Truett Auditorium, at 7:30 PM on November 6, with the Fort Worth Civic Orchestra. More information is available at www.fwco.org. The concert is free and open to the public.

*Oh, threats of hell
and hopes of
paradise! / One
thing at least is
certain -- this life
flies; / One thing is
certain, and the
rest is lies; / The
flower that once
has blown forever
dies.*

-Omar Khayyam

*The past, -- well,
it's just like / our
Great-Aunt
Laura, / who
cannot or will not
perceive / that
though she is
welcome, / and
though we adore
her, / yet now it is
time to leave.*

-Piet Hein

*Poetry is the art of
saying what you
mean but disguis-
ing it.*

-Diane Wakoski

opportunities to learn & serve

Thanksgiving Baskets for our Neighbors

This year, Westside UU Church will again be participating through South Central Alliance of Churches (SCAC) in providing Thanksgiving dinners to needy people in our neighborhood.

SCAC will purchase the turkeys, for which the clients will pay \$5.00 if they are able to do so. In 2009, SCAC provided food to at least 400 families at Thanksgiving. Families ranged in size from one person — usually elderly — to 10 or 12 with children!

We will have a poster with items on it that people will select and fill and then bring back to the church. The Sunday before we take them to SCAC, we will fill the bags with each item required.

In 2009, Westside provided 42 bags. This year, we have committed to fill 47 grocery bags. Last year Cindy Fountain provided reusable "green" bags for the groceries. Do we have a volunteer who would like to provide the bags this year? Each bag will contain the following items:

- 1 15-16 oz can cranberry sauce
- 1 15-16 oz can chicken broth
- 1 15 oz can corn
- 1 14 oz bag stuffing mix (or 2, 4 oz boxes) Pepperidge farm, StoveTop or equivalent
- 1 15 oz can green beans
- 1 15 oz can yams
- 1 small box tea bags or drink mix
- 1 15 oz can fruit
- 1 box cake mix (for 13" x 9" cake)
- 1 3 or 6 oz pkg jello
- 1 pkg icing for cake (ready to use)

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 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.

Humanists of Fort Worth

HOFW will meet the second Wednesday, Oct 13, at the church, 7 p.m. Our speaker will be Dr. Paul Boller and he wants to whet our curiosity by keeping the subject of his talk quiet but entitling it “What is the Question?” Dr. Boller is professor emeritus of TCU, having held the Lyndon B. Johnson Chair of History. He has written 17 books,

one a Book-of-the-Month Club winner, and has won too many awards to list. Here is a wonderful opportunity to hear another truly great man. We have been very fortunate. Dr. Boller will follow two superb speakers in August and September, Myron Ice and Don Jackson. Where else could we experience so much talent and experience at no cost and right in our own backyard??

Contemporary Book Group

We will meet and discuss *Moon Tiger*, by Penelope Lively on October 24, at church after church.

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.

The Westside Story
October 2010

The World is divided into armed camps ready to commit genocide just because we can't agree on whose fairy tales to believe.

-Ed Krebs

Familiarity is a magician that is cruel to beauty but kind to ugliness.

-Ouida

A man is not idle because he is absorbed in thought. There is a visible labor and there is an invisible labor.

-Victor Hugo

*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: Gwen Gipson

Vice President: Caroline Nixon

Secretary: Suzie Lotven

Treasurer: Bob Rake

Directors: Brenda McKeon and Ann Sutherland

Directors, two- year terms: Reed Bilz, Michael Muñoz, and James Finn

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

By The Numbers

August	9am	11am adults	11am kids	Total
August 1	12	112	18	142
August 8	19	124	27	170
August 15	15	127	42	184
August 22	20	133	28	181
August 29	20	120	40	180
Average	17.2	123.2	31	171.4



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

Mary Cretsinger, Chair

Linda Hanratty

Kay Kubala

Jeff Rodriguez

Tom Woods

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



RE News

Acting DRE: Tricia Bowes October, 2010

Chair: Tom Wood

Board Liason: Michael Munoz

Committee:

Brenda McKeon

Andrea Petty

Sara Munoz

Susan Farris

Lela Woods

Jessica Zinn

Its a New RE Year!

September 5 was the first day of classes for our new RE year, and it was a barn-burner!! We had 49 children in the classes! Can't wait to see how many will be here next week!! Update! as of September 12 we have 66 children and youth registered!!!!

Autumn Fire Drill

We held our fall firedrill and are happy to announce that everyone got out safely and gathered where they were supposed to...Potter, Barton, Anthony and Alcott classes met in front of St. John Episcopal Church, and the Young and Emerson classes met at the parking lot across Lipscomb Street. All were accounted for and made their way back to class, to finish their lessons.

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.

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 the RE News for information.

Middle School RumpUUs

The 6,7 & 8th grade students in the North Texas area UU churches are invited to The First Annual Middle School RumpUUs on October 2, sponsored by the North Area Texas UU Educators (NATUUREs). This will take place at Group Dynamix - 1215 Trend Dr - Carrollton, Tx. The cost is \$18.00 each with lunch included. The permission slip for Group Dynamix and Westside, interest form and payment are to be turned in to the DRE. We are working on carpools to get the kids there. This will be followed by an overnight middle school

conference in February and a trip to Heifer Camp in Arkansas in June.

Halloween Party

The Halloween party is scheduled for October 23rd from 2-5p.m. with trick-or-treating for UNICEF afterward in the neighborhood. We will have games (bean bag toss, tic-tac-toe, hanging apple grab and more...) and spooky food as well as the haunted house and lots of fun! So find your costume and dress up as your favorite ghoul. If you would like to help out at the party please contact someone on the RE Committee. The party is open to all children of Westside's members or friends.



Just a private note to let you know how much I have loved working and getting to know all of you here at Westside. I am a better person for having been here!

Thank You!!!

With great affection, Julie

Restructuring of the Religious

Education Committee

The RE committee has voted to restructure how they do business. The old way of every decision being made by the entire committee was bogging everything down. It is now structured similar to a Board, in that there are representatives to the RE Committee that are primarily responsible for different "jobs". The areas that we have chosen to cover are:

Fundraising: this person would plan any fundraising event for the RE as well as oversee the RE Special fund.

RE Events: Organizes RE in the Park, RE Sunday, In Gathering, etc...

Curricula and Supplies: Organizing and keeping track of teaching materials and supplies, helping teachers get needed items for their classrooms.

Publicity: Going beyond the DRE's regular publicity and contact through email. Assist in making posters, signs, flyers, sending emails or updating the website for RE events and activities.

OWL (Our Whole Lives): Recruiting to teachers, planning space and time for an OWL program and leading the parent training and information sessions.

All to better serve Westside's RE.