



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.

We offer our condolences to Paul Sears, whose father passed away recently.

We also offer condolences to Bree Bailey Hancock upon the death of her dear grandmother, Mama Sue, from a blood clot following a knee replacement.

Paul Smith, a member who lives in California, recently lost his mother. Paul's mother, Lillian was a member of Unitarian Church of Ft. Worth and a long time piano teacher in Northeast Tarrant County.

Charlie Boren had knee surgery two weeks ago, and is in Global Rehab facility on Harris Parkway in room 226. Louise drives in to be with him during the day. Their daughter (from Austin) suggested that cards be sent to their home rather than the facility, as they don't know how long he will be there. Their address: 405 W CR 714, Burleson, TX 76028. 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

November 7 - *Ready Or Not...* by Bill Russell. It's been said that we should all give serious thought to the future because we'll be spending so much time in it. Bill will offer his perspective on future technological changes and the impact we can expect them to have on our everyday lives.

November 14 - *Stairway to Heaven* by Dr. Russell Elleven. Universalists believed that God was too good to damn anyone to hell. All souls went to heaven. What have people believed about heaven in the past, and what do they believe today? Russell will attempt to respond to these questions this Sunday.

November 21 - *Where to Find God* by Dr. Russell Elleven. There seems to be a wide variety of ways to think about God these days. Russell will go over some of these ideas and how they may (or may not) relate to Unitarian Universalism in the 21st century.

November 28 - *Thanksgiving Ethnic Bread Service*. After celebrating Thanksgiving as a family and a nation, Westside will celebrate with a bread communion. Plan to bring a bread representative of your ethnic heritage to share.

The Westside Story

November 2010

Monthly Newsletter of Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

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

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.

RE News

Don't miss Tricia Bowe's RE News. You'll find it on the last page of the newsletter (after the page with attendance).

Forum

The first Sunday (7th) in November, Chapter 11 of Jacoby's "Freethinkers" will be discussed, followed by the last chapter on November 14. On November 21, we shall begin a look at a much shorter book, but one with great potential for thought and discussion, Will and Ariel Durant's "The Lessons of History." It is only 91 pages long, and we'll be taking one or two chapters each week. Each of the Durants' chapters deal with history as applied to such areas as biology, morals, religion, economics, socialism, government, war, growth and decay.

The books can be purchased through Ama-

*You desire to know
the art of living, my
friend? It is con-
tained in one phrase:
make use of suffer-
ing.*

*-Henri Frederic
Amiel*

*Remarriage: A
triumph of hope over
experience.*

-Samuel Johnson

*It is a bit embarrass-
ing to have been
concerned with the
human problem all
one's life and find at
the end that one has
no more to offer by
way of advice than
"try to be a little
kinder."*

-Aldous Huxley

Month	Recipient	Amount
September '10	Samaritan House Dinners meat budget	\$1,229.22
August '10	Planned Parenthood of North Texas	\$1,526.07
June '10	Presbyterian Night Shelter	\$1,006.35
July '10	InReach Fund	\$1,171.60
May '10	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$1687.29
April '10	Trinity Habitat for Humanity	\$900.10
April '10	UU Women's Federation	\$276.05
March '10	Americans for the Separation of Church & State	\$1291.94
February '10	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

zon.com for approximately \$4.85 plus \$4 shipping. When one considers the Durants' incredible eleven-volume STORY OF CIVILIZATION, there can be little doubt of the insight and wisdom contained in this small book, "Lessons...." . Come join the study, exchange of ideas, and delight in discussions of the great thinking in this book.

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.

in & around westside

Where's Russell in November?

Russell is scheduled to be in Houston the first week of November. He will be offering a reflection at Spindletop Unitarian Church in Beaumont on November 7th. He will be at Westside all other Sundays in November and will deliver reflections on the 14th and 21st. He will also participate in the New Member ceremony on the 21st.

Office Hours for November will look like this:

Tuesday, November 9th: 9 am to 1 pm
Thursday, November 11th: 9 am to 1 pm
Tuesday, November 16th: 9 am to 1 pm
Thursday, November 18th: 9 am to 1 pm
Tuesday, November 23rd: 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 an appointment.

Casino Night - Nov. 13

Casino Night is just around the corner. 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 drawings for prizes donated from local businesses. We will also have Karaoke in the sanctuary, and we will be serving finger foods and wine. If you would like, come in Vegas attire or costume.

Child care is available by RSVP. Please contact Sandy Olah, ASAP, at 817-988-4714.

Gay Pride Parade KUDOS

There was no shortage of UU's at the Tarrant County Gay Pride Parade this year. Westside, First Jefferson, and Daniel Polk, Board President from NTAUUS, stepped out in the sunshine, and we even won an award. Our NTAUUS sponsored float and large group won the "Stylish Stilettos" trophy which was for best walking group. Members of the Oak Cliff Religious Education program made the large globe and the heart elements of the float. We had a great time.

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

The Westside Story November 2010

*There is no excellent
beauty that hath
not some strange-
ness in the propor-
tion.*

-Francis Baconn

*Oh, how small a
portion of earth
will hold us when
we are dead, who
ambitiously seek
after the whole
world while we are
living!*

-Philip of Macedon

*Man is least
himself when he
talks in his own
person. Give him a
mask, and he will
tell you the truth.*

-Oscar Wilde

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

Although a democracy must often fight with one hand tied behind its back, it nonetheless has the upper hand.

-Abaron Barak

Oh, it is excellent to have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant.

-William Shakespeare

Now is the time to understand / That all your ideas of right and wrong / Were just a child's training wheels / To be laid aside / When you finally live / With veracity / And love.

-Hafez

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 408 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 48 grocery bags. Linda and Joe Tyson and Cindy Fountain will donate the bags. 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 two 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)**

Food for Life

The Ethical Eating group is sponsoring a Food for Life Program at Westside. "The Cancer Project promotes cancer prevention and survival through a better understanding of cancer causes, particularly the link between nutrition and cancer. Through research, education, and advocacy, we are saving lives."

Classes will be held on two Saturdays:

Saturday, Nov. 06:

Introduction to How Foods Fight Cancer/Fueling Up on Low-Fat Foods/Favoring Fiber/Discovering Dairy Alternatives

Saturday, Nov. 20:

Replacing Meat/Cancer-Fighting Compounds and Immune-Boosting Foods/Maintaining a Healthy Weight/Prostate and Breast Cancer Survival.

Classes take place from 9 a.m. to 3 pm.

The classes are free but you must be registered to attend.

Go to cancerproject.org and click on "Nutrition and Cooking Classes" in the upper right hand corner of the page to register.

Humanists of Fort Worth

Dr. Paul Boller's presentation at our last meeting was praised by all who came to hear the perceptive remarks of this fine professor of history and social science. He will be followed at our November meeting by Dr. Ed Furber, the distinguished psychiatrist, member of our church and regular attendee of our Forum. Dr. Furber's subject has not been chosen but, knowing Ed, one can ex-

pect a learned discourse on whatever topic he may select. Come take advantage of the learning and joy offered by great ideas, debate, and camaraderie with like-minded people. That's Nov 10, 7 p.m. at the church.

Contemporary Books

Contemporary Book Group meets December 5, after church. We will discuss *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery. The novel is a translation from French about the inhabitants of an upscale condo in Paris, told in two voices, the concierge and a 12-year-old resident.

Quilting & Handiwork Group

The Quilting & Handiwork Group meets the second Sunday of every month from 1:00 until 4:00. We are making small quilts for the children of Samaritan House. Or, bring your own project and come for the conversations. All skill levels are welcome--if you don't know we will teach you. Kids are welcome to help; parents please call for information first. We NEED donations of quilter's cotton fabric and yarn or crochet thread for tying. Call Debby Rake: 817-473-2414 or email dsrake@gmail.com with any questions.

The Gino Kennedy

Fund (KIVA)

Committee members are needed to serve on the committee that selects the people we give loans to.

Gino (Virginia) Kennedy was an early member of Westside U.U. Church. She commuted from Stephenville to Fort Worth to attend church. She served as Secretary of our Church Board. Gino was also President of the Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Women. While President, she expressed a desire to be able to assist women in Third

World Countries. Upon her death, an anonymous donation was made to Westside to do just that. A committee met, and after exploring a number of ways to use the money, we decided to invest through the KIVA Organization.

A small group has continued to meet every few months to decide who we wish to give to and how much to give. KIVA provides us (through the internet) countries, names, amounts. As the money is paid back to KIVA, it is deposited in our account with them, and we can reloan the money to others. We have been doing this since July, 2007, and only one loan defaulted. The interest on the loans is paid to KIVA, who administers the money, but the principal is returned to us as it comes in.

DATA ON LOANS: 163 given to date, \$24,475 loaned out, \$21,200 returned to date, 33 countries represented in our loans.

If you wish to be a part of this committee, please contact, Myrtle McMahan, Chair, at mahan34@sbcglobal.net, or 817/294-1363. We will select a meeting date convenient for the majority of committee members.

Christmas Angels

Again this year, Westside will be participating in South Central Alliance of Churches' (SCAC) Angel Tree, to provide gifts to needy children in zip codes 76104, 76110 and 76109. Last year we gave gifts to forty angels; this year, we will have fifty! Angels will be available for you to select on Sundays in the narthex, exact date TBA.

The Angels (green for boys and red for girls) will have information with each child's name, clothing sizes and "toy wishes". You are asked to purchase one outfit for your child, as well as a toy for him or her and an age appropriate book. If the toy needs batteries, please include them. When you take an angel from the tree, we will record the child's name and number (on the angel) as well as your name and telephone number. SCAC asks that each child's gifts be unwrapped in a separate bag with a handle, with the angel attached to the bag (like a gift tag). Pam Rogers will be heading up the Angel Tree Program this year, and Suzie and Jay Lot-

The Westside Story
November 2010

*If any man seeks
for greatness, let
him forget great-
ness and ask for
truth, and he will
find both.*

-Horace Mann

*While fame im-
pedes and con-
stricts, obscurity
wraps about a man
like a mist; obscu-
rity is dark, ample,
and free; obscurity
lets the mind take
its way unimpeded.
Over the obscure
man is poured the
merciful suffusion
of darkness. None
knows where he
goes or comes. He
may seek the truth
and speak it; he
alone is free; he
alone is truthful, he
alone is at peace.*

-Virginia Woolf

*Writing is like
driving a car at
night. You can only
see as far as the
headlights, but you
make the whole
trip that way.*

-E.L. Doctorow

ven have again volunteered to take the gifts to SCAC, as well as to help distribute them.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to put our faith into action and help needy families here in our own neighborhood. If you have questions about the program, please call Pam Rogers at 214-923-3330.

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.

*Walking is man's
best medicine.*

-Hippocrates

*Nobody made a
greater mistake
than he who did
nothing because he
could do only a
little.*

-Edmund Burke

*For all our conceits
about being the
center of the
universe, we live in
a routine planet of
a humdrum star
stuck away in an
obscure corner ... on
an unexceptional
galaxy which is one
of about 100 billion
galaxies. ... That is
the fundamental
fact of the universe
we inhabit, and it
is very good for us
to understand that.*

-Carl Sagan

our wider community

Women's Alliance November 9, Children's author, Leslie Gordon

The women of First Jefferson and of Westside Unitarian Universalist Churches are cordially invited to attend a merged Alliance. We meet on second Tuesdays for friendship, inspiration and adventure. We have service projects for our churches, and for the larger community.

On Tuesday November 9, at noon we will have a potluck lunch meeting at First Jefferson. Our speaker will be Leslie Gordon, who is a local author of children's books and writes a column in the Handley Herald. The title of Leslie's talk will be "The Homeless

Christmas Tree and Other Musings." She will read from her book and tell us about its history and mission. She also plans to include readings from some of her unpublished writing and talk about her work in senior living.

Our hostesses will be Marianne Herrmann (817-275-8092 or ulmar@att.net) and Marjorie Montgomery (817-885-8372 or mmontgomery@uuma.org).

From South Central Alliance of Churches

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

An IT Specialist is needed to update the SCAC website twice per month.

A Volunteer Coordinator is needed to recruit, retain, and plan activities in conjunction with the Program Director.

A Program Coordinator is needed to answer calls and client requests in conjunction with the Program Director.

If you can help out in any any of these areas, please contact Tiel Jenkins, Program Director of SCAC, at tiel@fwscac.org.

JPS Clinic:

Work has begun, but the clinic will probably not open until next year. Tiel had spoken to Dr. Barker recently: The foundation is being worked on; asbestos was found, and the lease with FWISD for \$1 has been worked out. SCAC/SSCofChrist/JPSH are to decide details for the arrangement to support the clinic. Tiel and Dr. Barker will meet to discuss possible options that will be presented to all parties involved. Mike encouraged Tiel to include the SCAC Board liaison Gary Vaught in these discussions about the Clinic.

Jubilee Theatre

God's Trombones will be performed by Jubilee Theatre from November 27 through December 26, with previews on November 19, 20, and 21. If you have not seen it, you

are in for a treat. I have seen it twice and will go again this year. It is an original work with the book by the late Rudy Eastman and music and lyrics by Doug Balentine. It is "a musical celebration that will lift your spirits and rock your soul." It is well worth the effort to see it. Go to: www.jubileetheatre.org for more information. Beverly Archibald

GENERATION NEXXT - Accepting workshop proposals

**Southwest District UU Women's Conference
March 4 - 6, 2011**

**Holiday Inn Select 2645 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX
(same location as 2010)**

Celebrate 25 Years with us!

**Rev. Tamara Lebak, Associate Minister All Souls
Unitarian Church, Tulsa, OK**

Rev. Tamara Lebak is an independent consultant, executive coach and ordained Unitarian Universalist Minister with change management experience that focuses on maneuvering between multiple levels of system from the personal to the global. In her ministry, coaching, as well as her consulting, Tamara integrates her training in Gestalt Organization and Systems Development, conflict management, appreciative inquiry, and community organizing in diverse racial and economic settings.

Tamara has worked with numerous educational, religious, community and non-profit institutions including the National Park Service and the World Bank. In 2008 Tamara

co-authored Reverend X: How Generation X Ministers are Shaping Unitarian Universalism with Rev. Bret Lortie. Tamara currently serves as Associate Minister at All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Also a gifted musician, Tamara plays guitar, sings, and has composed her own music. Tamara and her partner Jill Webb of 15 years have recently celebrated the birth of their first child in June of this year, a daughter, Beckett Elizabeth.

Workshops Proposals: Please submit proposals for workshops on spiritual practices and values, social action concerns, personal growth, yoga/tai chi, or other subjects of interest to women in Southwest UU District.

For more information about workshop proposals, contact Barb Rodman at barodman@verizon.net or 940-382-5419.

Dace Sultanov

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.

2010 SWUUC Fall Leadership Training

**November 12-14 Glen Lake Retreat, Glen
Rose, Texas.**

For topics, registration, etc, go to swuuc.org/pages/services/conferences/fall-leadership

*The Westside Story
November 2010*

*Be good and you
will be lonesome.*

-Mark Twain

*If only I could so
live and so serve
the world that after
me there should
never again be
birds in cages.*

*-Isak Dinesen (pen
name of Karen
Blixen)*

*Not that I want to
be a god or a hero.
Just to change into
a tree, grow for
ages, not hurt
anyone.*

-Czeslaw Milosz

*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

	9am	11am adults	11am kids	Total
September				
Sept. 5	16	123	48	187
Sept. 12	9	114	37	160
Sept. 19	18	103	27	148
Sept. 26	13	104	27	144
Average	14	111	34.75	159.75



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

November 2010

Chair: Tom Woods

DRE: Tricia Bowes

Board Liaison: Michael Munoz

OWL: Andrea Petty

Curricula/Supplies: Tricia Bowes

RE Parties: Laurie Hagstrom

Brenda McKeon Lela Woods

Jessica Zinn Susan Farris

Sara Munoz Lauren Keefe

Fall RE in the Park

We love this time of year when the blistering heat has taken a break. November 7, we will have service and classes "RE-style", one block west of the church at Daggett Park. We invite parents to enjoy the sunshine with us or sign in and out your children, and attend regular service. The kids will run the service; we'll break into classes on blankets and then have various games and activities for everyone.

Ornament Making Party

Our ornament party will be on December 5th, from 12:00-1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will have all the crafting supplies you need to make your addition to our unique Christmas tree. Music, snacks and crafting - you won't want to miss it.

Google Group

To help with communication for all the fun activities planned for RE, we've joined Google groups. Now it just takes one email address, westsideRE@googlegroups.com, to contact all RE parents, teachers, volunteers, and council members.

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.