



## Sunday Services in December

**DECEMBER 1** - *“A Hanukkah Service”* led by Debby Rake. How much do you know about Hanukkah? Some of us have never had the opportunity to learn much about it. On December 1, we will look at the history and traditions of the holiday--and have a surprise for the kids.

**DECEMBER 8** - *“Hanging of the Greens”* led by Linda Ice. With the holidays come many traditions – including those at Westside UU! We hope you will join us for our sixth annual “Hanging of the Greens” service where lights, love, and logic are celebrated through story and special music!

**DECEMBER 15** - *“Awaiting the Prince of Peace”* led by Reverend Pam Wat. As we approach Christmas, Reverend Pam Wat takes a Unitarian Universalist look at this “Prince of Peace” and what this ancient prophecy offers us today, if anything.

Reverend Pam Wat is the minister of Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. She received her Master of Divinity from San Francisco Theological Seminary. In Denton, Pam’s energy is shared among interfaith collaboration and strengthening resources for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities.

**DECEMBER 22** - *“The Value of Religion Without A Conventional God”* led by Don Jackson. The theme of this reflection is that religion may be deeper and more important than any ancient or anthropomorphic god. Religion does not need or require that god be understood in the image of humankind, or indeed by human projection, however old or venerated those images may be.

**DECEMBER 29** - *“Ring in The New Year!”* led by Myron Ice. A celebration and recognition of New Year’s traditions from around the world. We will take a look at all the ways that people of many cultures and world faith traditions begin their new year. We hope you will be here as Westside prepares to “ring in” 2014!

### December 2013

#### 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.

#### THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTSIDE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

901 Page Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX  
10:00 & 11:30 AM Sundays  
WestsideUU.org

## SUNDAY MORNING OPTIONS

# Adult Religious Education

### WHAT WE CHOOSE: ETHICS FOR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

Meets in the glass classroom at 11:30 a.m. December: Cultivating a Virtuous Character. Virtue ethics, frequently traced back to Aristotle, holds that cultivating and practicing virtues leads to virtuous character and ethical living. In turn, our own virtuous behavior can inform our community and shape the world around us.

Jesus practiced virtue ethics. So did Mahatma Gandhi, and so does the Dalai Lama. This workshop examines virtue ethics as a framework for our moral choices and actions. Participants explore what it means to live a life of virtue. As always, this topic is going to lead to lively conversations!

All are welcome and child care is provided. For more information, contact Amy Youngblood at [atybwest@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atybwest@sbcglobal.net).

## Forum

Our Westside UU Forum meets every Sunday at 10:00 and concludes at 11:00, allowing 30 minutes for coffee and conversation before the second service; childcare is available. Because topics for discussion vary with interest, with current developments, and with availability of material or speakers, it is not always possible to know the subjects for four or five weeks in advance. Instead, each Sunday's Forum will be announced in the Weekly Memo on Monday mornings. The subject will also be emailed on Monday to all fans whose email addresses are on my Forum list. If you have questions or comments, or if you wish to be added to the Forum online group, please contact me, John Barnes, at [jbarnes107@gmail.com](mailto:jbarnes107@gmail.com).

A strong nation, like a strong person, can afford to be gentle, firm, thoughtful, and restrained. It can afford to extend a helping hand to others. It is a weak nation, like a weak person, that must behave with bluster and boasting and rashness and other signs of insecurity.

-Jimmy Carter

When I despair, I remember that all through history, the way of truth and love has always won. There have been murderers and tyrants, and for a time they can seem invincible. But in the end they always fall. Think of it, always.

-Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

# Children's Religious Education News Clips

### CONNECT WITH CRE

Mark your calendar for our winter YUULE BALL! On December 21st from 6:00-9:00pm, Westside will become a winter wonderland of music, dancing, and fun! Stay tuned for more details soon!

### SEXUALITY EDUCATION AT WESTSIDE

In January we will be offering the Kindergarten/First Grade component of Our Whole Lives. Our Whole Lives is a comprehensive sexuality education curriculum that crosses the entire lifespan from Kindergarten to Adulthood. Classes are offered at the K/1, 4th-6th grade, junior high, high school, young adult, and adult levels. More details will be coming soon about our January Kindergarten/1st grade class.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS

Westside offers a middle school and high school youth group and both have meetings on most first and third Fridays of the month from 6:30p to 8:30p at the church. Our YUUMS (Youth-UU middle schoolers) group is led by Jess Zinn and Niki Tessier. Our High school group is led by Lane Smutz and Andrea Petty. If interested contact Andrea Petty, our DLRE, at [dre@westsideuu.org](mailto:dre@westsideuu.org) for more information.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**DECEMBER 6TH** - Youth Group

**DECEMBER 20TH** - Middle school Youth Group and Youth Group Holiday party at Andrea's House!

**DECEMBER 21ST** - YUULE Ball

### MORE INFO:

Join the conversation and get important CRE information at our Google group by going to [groups.google.com/group/westsidere](https://groups.google.com/group/westsidere) and click the link to apply for group membership. If you have any questions, you can contact Andrea Petty at [dre@westsideuu.org](mailto:dre@westsideuu.org)

# Transitions... A Message From Your President, Linda Ice

Well, this is the “lull” in this time of transition that we’ve been waiting for! And that is not a bad thing! We said our goodbyes to Russell and Gayle in the most meaningful ways possible and now the wheels are in full motion for us to begin the search for an Interim Minister as well as a contract minister. Rest assured, Westside is alive and well!

1. Attendance numbers remain strong for our Sunday morning activities.
2. We added four new members and six very interested prospective members at the most recent Exploring Membership class.
3. Several attended the NTUUC Fall Retreat in Glen Rose.
4. The auction was “wildly successful.”
5. Your Worship Team and specifically, Erin Smutz, have been working hard to secure interesting guest speakers to fill our pulpit for the next several months! We have a nice variety of speakers including several UU ministers, community speakers representing a variety of faith traditions, and some of our own Westside members who have wonderful Reflections to share.
6. All committees and interest groups are “up and running.”
7. We are gathering supplies to fill many Thanksgiving baskets for SCAC and will begin fulfilling Angel Tree wish lists very soon.
8. And this is just a short list of all the reasons to say that we are alive and well!!! Things may feel different at this time, but the energy, enthusiasm, and loving generosity continues to fill the life of our church community! We hope you are continuing to be a part!

The Interim Task Force held their organizational meeting on October 16th and selected

Mark McMurry as Chair and Andrea Petty as Secretary. They reviewed the schedule of deadlines for submission of applications and information to secure an accredited UUA Interim Minister. They will be meeting on the 2nd Wednesday evening of each month.

It might be a good time to remind you that during this entire transitions process there will be two committees charged with seeking our ministerial leadership. The first is the Interim Task Force. Appointed by the board, they will develop our application packet to send to the UUA. The UUA will match our packet to those of accredited ministers seeking a position and then we will make a selection from those who appear to be a “good fit.” The Interim Minister should be in place by September of 2014. At some point during the Interim Process, we will be forming the Ministerial Search Committee. The board will be creating a slate of 10 church members whose names will be put before the congregation for a vote. Of the 10, we will elect 5 – 6 members to fulfill the responsibilities to seek our next settled minister.

The Interim Task Force will also be developing a job description, salary package, and application for the search of a contract minister. This is the short term, limited responsibility position that the board has decided to seek to cover some of the vacant period of time without ministerial leadership at Westside. We would likely not have someone begin before March or April, but that is yet to be determined as well. The ITF will be working with the Finance Committee as well to make the most sound financial decisions for the church.

The Long Range Planning Committee, under the leadership of Joy Counts, has been working very hard to create a comprehensive survey which will provide an updated profile of our congregation. The survey will be presented to the members of the congregation late in January for individual completion. Results will be published later in the spring or early summer. This profile will then be the foundation for collaborative efforts and dialogue within the congregation as we develop the next long range plan for our church. We are taking this whole project slowly and deliberately. The tentative goal for completion of the long range plan is summer of 2015. So, we are trying to be very thoughtful in the creation of this plan to meet the needs and desires of our growing congregation!

**The Westside Story  
December 2013**

The corporate grip on opinion in the United States is one of the wonders of the Western world. No First World country has ever managed to eliminate so entirely from its media all objectivity -- much less dissent.

-Gore Vidal

No, no, you're not thinking, you're just being logical.

-Niels Bohr

## IN AND AROUND WESTSIDE

# Garden of Gratitude

Is there someone or something that you are grateful for? Is it your incredible care giver; how about the smile that greets you from your little one, your dog, the woman in the grocery store? Is it something or someone at Westside?

The Stewardship Committee, along with our other committees, is giving you the opportunity to express your gratefulness in the Garden of Gratitude. From time to time, you will see this at the Committee Table in the Fellowship Hall.

There will be post-it notes and pens available for you to express your gratitude. With your help, Westside will cultivate a Culture of Generosity!

# Tamale Brunch

December 22 is our Tamale Brunch. Tamales will be served from 10-11:30. If you would like to sponsor a dozen tamales or make rice or beans, please contact Sandy Olah at [bullhead555@gmail.com](mailto:bullhead555@gmail.com).

# Second Annual Christmas Open House at Annie Foerster's

I had a great time last year when people dropped in for Christmas, so I'm going to invite you again. If you don't have family to help you celebrate Christmas, come find a ready-made family at my house. My daughter works Christmas Day so that someone with children can take a day off (and because

the holiday overtime is great), so we usually celebrate early. This leaves me free to offer food and fun to others on Christmas afternoon. Here's how it works:

**COME AT 4:00 IF YOU JUST WANT TO STOP BY FOR WASSAIL OR WINE**

**STAY OR COME BY AT 6:00 IF YOU WANT DINNER**

**I'LL PROVIDE A ROAST AND BEVERAGES  
YOU BRING A DISH TO PASS**

**PLEASE RSVP SO I KNOW HOW MUCH TO PREPARE**

**224 MCGEE DR., FORT WORTH, TX 76114,**

**REDSEAMRIPPER@GMAIL.COM, 513.301.4646**

# New Year's Eve Celebration!

Our annual New Year's Eve party will start at 7 pm and run past midnight. If you have a talent you want to perform or you want to help set up or clean up, please let us know. Bring a snack to share and adult beverages will be provided. Child care is available but we need your RSVP. Please contact Sandy Olah at [atbullhead555@gmail.com](mailto:atbullhead555@gmail.com) or at 817-988-4714.

# New Adult Religious Education Committee Chair Named

We're happy to announce that Morris Meador has agreed to be the new Adult RE Committee Chair. The committee is planning some new learning and teaching opportunities after the first of the year. Stay tuned for an announcement of our exciting plans. If you have any ideas for classes or teachers, contact Morris at [meadormorris1@gmail.com](mailto:meadormorris1@gmail.com). If you want

What is life? It is the flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime. It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset.

-Crowfoot

Imagine there's no countries,  
It isn't hard to do,  
Nothing to kill or die for,  
No religion too,  
Imagine all the people  
living life in peace.

-John Lennon

to be a part of the committee, contact Annie Foerster, who is doing the recruiting, at red-seamripper@gmail.com.

Remember, we're the people who brought you Covenant Groups, Sunday School for Adults and Library Renovation. Get ready for UUniversity.

# Summary of the October 23 Board Meeting

Committee reports available in the church office notebook.

- I. MEMBERSHIP**
- II. SOCIAL JUSTICE**
- III. ENDOWMENT**
- IV. LONG RANGE PLANNING**
- V. GREEN SANCTUARY**
- VI. CRE**
- VII. ABUC**

LDRE, Andrea has completed her application for UUA Credentialing.

The Board approved the Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy (EIDP) presented by Amie Hegeman. The proposal will cover the \$30,000 currently in the fund, and will be in effect until a successor policy is adopted in June, and will be voted on by the congregation in January. Adding memorial funds will be investigated and reported to the Endowment Committee by January.

The Board approved the following Loose Plate Offerings: Downwinders at Risk for December contributions and Gill Children's Services for January 2014.

The Board approved a request from Daggett Elementary and Montessori schools to hold Girl Scout meetings at Westside one night per week either Monday or Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m. through the school year.

Financial Statements are available in the church office.

The Board adopted a 2014-15 Budget.

The Interim Task Force selected Mark McMurry as Chair and Andrea Petty as Secretary. The committee will be meeting the second Wednesday of every month. The packet is due in April 2014, not in January.

Linda assigned Board members to write NTUUC Awards and Grant Applications. We will apply for a grant to help cover expenses associated with the ministerial search. We will also ask for a grant to cover continuing the salary for our Membership Volunteer Coordinator. We will also submit nominations for several awards.

We will hold the Nov. 6 Town Hall Meetings but will suspend future meetings until February when we will include a report from the Interim Task force.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 18 at 7 p.m. All members are welcome to attend. Copies of the full minutes and the financial statements are available in notebooks in the church office.

*Reed K. Bilz, Secretary*

## Inclement Weather Policy

1. During the work week, the church will follow the policy of the Fort Worth ISD. Any day the schools are closed due to bad weather, all church meetings and activities will be canceled.

2. During the weekend, the decision about whether to cancel church activities or Sunday services will be made by the Board President. The Board President shall make this decision after consulting with the Sunday speaker, the worship leader, DRE (or designated replacement for the day), and chair/organizer of an activity scheduled that day.

3. Once the decision has been made to cancel services and/or activities, the Board President shall send an email to the membership mailing list announcing the closure and have an announcement posted

## The Westside Story December 2013

Humanity also needs dreamers, for whom the disinterested development of an enterprise is so captivating that it becomes impossible for them to devote their care to their own material profit. Without doubt, these dreamers do not deserve wealth, because they do not desire it. Even so, a well-organized society should assure to such workers the efficient means of accomplishing their task, in a life freed from material care and freely consecrated to research.

-Marie Curie

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

-Dwight D. Eisenhower

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on the church's web site. The Board President shall also have the church's voice mail message updated. The Board President may delegate other capable individuals to carry out these tasks.

4. In the event that the Board President is out of town or otherwise unavailable, the Vice President shall assume these responsibilities. In the event that the Vice President is unavailable, the Board Secretary shall assume these responsibilities.

5. If there is no cancellation announcement on the web site, sent via email, or on the church voice mail, members may conclude that the activities or services will be held.

6. Members should keep in mind that this policy cannot cover every possible scenario. Therefore, members are welcome to use their own judgment as to whether it is safe to be on the roads.

7. The Chaplain Corps will ensure that a poster will be displayed during the winter season by the welcome desk stating our policy. Likewise, the Chaplain Corps will ensure that reminder notices of this policy will be published during the winter season in the OOS announcements, Weekly Web, and newsletter – with language similar to that of the poster.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN &  
SERVE**

2013  
“Progressive  
Dinner”  
& Auction

The surest way to corrupt a youth is to instruct him to hold in higher esteem those who think alike than those who think differently.

-Friedrich Nietzsche

Every saint has a past and every sinner a future.

-Oscar Wilde

**A WRAP-UP FROM YOUR AUCTION CHAIRS, MYRON  
AND LINDA ICE!**

Way to go, Westside!!! The total, as of this writing, raised at the 2013 “Progressive Dinner and Auction” is a spectacular \$32,572.58!!! That is money in hand for our beloved Westside

community! Unbelievable!!! We were honestly hoping to increase our last auction total by about \$7,000 giving us a goal of \$25,000...but we sailed right past that, didn't we?!?!?

You may wonder why I said “so far”. There is still a little money coming in from the auction, so that total will continue to grow. And, we will be holding a “Last Chance Sale” on two Sundays: December 1 and December 8 to offer up those remaining items which, for whatever reason, did not receive a bid the night of the auction. We will simply place a “bottom dollar” price on them and make them available to purchase. So, save some of your holiday shopping budget for the Last Chance Sale...you might just find the perfect gift for a wonderful price. All proceeds from the Last Chance Sale will be added to the grand total for this year's auction!

We continue to be amazed and impressed with the generosity of “time, talent, and treasure” displayed through this year's dinner and auction. There was such a supportive team of committee chairs and their worker-bees who provided the footwork to prepare and implement every aspect of the auction; the very generous contributions of our 42 underwriter families who shared the expense of producing the auction; there were an unbelievable number of items donated to the auction; we encouraged reaching out to family and friends who are not Westside members and boy, did you ever; and finally the generous spirit of giving was felt throughout the evening! You “dug deep” in support of our Westside mission and vision! Westside – you did not disappoint! As you always do, you far exceeded our expectations! Pat yourselves on the back and relish in this wonderful success!

*PS – might we suggest that you reserve every weekend in the month of November 2015 so you won't miss the next “Progressive Dinner” and Auction?!?!?*

Contemporary  
Book Group

We will discuss “Half-Broke Horses” by Jeannette Walls on December 8 (not our usual 4th Sunday).

From Goodreads: "Lily Casey Smith, this novel's feisty Texas protagonist, is a frontier teacher, a rancher, a rodeo rider, a poker player, and bootlegger. In *Half Broke Horses*, she survives droughts, tornados, floods, poverty, and whatever else fate can throw against her. Based on author Jeannette Walls's grandmother, Lily is a plausible character because she has a voice that synchronizes with her history."

Walls also wrote "*The Glass Castle*", a memoir about her dysfunctional family which we read previously.

Back to our regular schedule, on January 26 we will discuss "Rules of Engagement" by Anita Brookner. Goodreads: "Elizabeth and Betsy had been school friends in 1950s London. Elizabeth, prudent and introspective, values social propriety. Betsy, raised by a spinster aunt, is open, trusting, and desperate for affection. After growing up and going their separate ways, the two women reconnect later in life. Elizabeth has married kind but tedious Digby, while Betsy is still searching for love and belonging. In this deeply perceptive story, Anita Brookner brilliantly charts the resilience of a friendship tested by alienation and by jealousy over a man who seems to offer the promise of escape."

Please join us in the glass classroom after the second service.

## Seventh Principle Notes from your Green Sanctuary Committee

### ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

Cruising towards the harbor mouth at Akaroa, on New Zealand's South Island, we watched the rare Hector dolphins speeding near our boat. As we approached the harbor mouth, high on the western cliffs a large wind generator appeared, then several others, and finally a field of them rotating in the stiff sea breeze. In the center of the

North Island, in a very active volcanic region around Taupo, steam rises from the ground and steel pipes carry it across the land to the electrical generators supplying the region. Around beautiful Lake Pukaki, at the foot of magnificent Mt. Cook, generating plants use the ample water supply to drive other generators. They have made a start in using readily available and relatively clean natural resources to power their nation.

Environmentally friendly policies are touted in both these countries: in their museums, in their gardens, and in city marketing information. New Zealand realizes that the past deforestation of their nation is a problem, and their museums explain the issue.

We visited areas in both countries where native habitat has been or is being restored to bring back native birds, mammals, and fish. The Tower Reserve in Victoria has been so successful at the reintroduction of koalas that they have had to limit the koala population by putting females on the pill.

In New Zealand, native habitat is being restored on parts of the Banks Peninsula. Nationally supported volunteer efforts protect endangered white flipper penguins from predators. Many of these cute little creatures now inhabit the protected area, and their larger cousins, the yellow-eyed penguins, are arriving as well. Seals and the rare Hector dolphins thrive in these protected waters. Sheep and cattle still roam the hills on the Banks Peninsula, but tourists abound as well in this little paradise outside Christchurch.

Many hotels and motels have recycling programs, as do public places like airports. And the water is so uniformly good that there is no need for bottled water, other than perhaps in the Outback of Australia. Water saving shower heads and faucets are ubiquitous, as are dual flush toilets and low flow and waterless urinals.

Individual wall plugs have on and off switches. This cuts off those pesky, electricity-eating vampires, as well as providing a layer of protection for children and the elderly.

Of course, both countries have negative forces as well. Australia recently elected an ultra-right wing government which is set to repeal their carbon tax and has pledged to

### The Westside Story December 2013

If the rich could hire someone else to die for them, the poor would make a wonderful living.

-Jewish proverb

What I like in a good author isn't what he says, but what he whispers.

-Logan Pearsall Smith

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spend no money on global climate change. And planted, non-native pine forests abound in New Zealand, waiting to be clear-cut for timber. For the most part, though, we felt the environmental positives far outweighed the negatives in these two far-away lands.

The Green Sanctuary Committee wishes you a happy, environmentally friendly, holiday season, and a new year filled with earth-friendly practices world-wide. We pursue these policies with the thought that our lives and those of our children depend upon doing so.

## Humanists of Fort Worth

There will be no public meeting of the Humanists of Fort Worth in December.

## Quilting/ Handiwork Group

On November 20, the members of Westside Quilting & Handiwork group donated 10 small quilts and 3 knitted baby blankets to Samaritan House. The quilts will be given to the kids who live there as part of their Christmas. We asked the directors to whom we gave the quilts to tell the kids that those quilts were "made just for them."

Please note that the quilting/handiwork group will not be meeting this month.

## Vegan Potluck Saturday, December 21!

Have you ever wanted to eat in a healthier way but didn't know where to start? Have you ever wanted to eliminate animals and animal products as a way of eating more

compassionately? Have you ever wanted to eat lower on the food chain so as to be kinder and gentler to the earth? Have you ever wanted to hang out with others who want these same things? If you answered "yes" to any of these, please consider joining the Monthly Vegan Potluck group. We will hang out together, eat good food and exchange recipes. Vegan Potlucks will take place on the fourth Saturday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

You can sign up on our meetup.com website located at: [meetup.com/Vegan-Potluck-WUUC/](http://meetup.com/Vegan-Potluck-WUUC/)

Here's how the potluck will work:

**PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY (4:30 P.M.) IF POSSIBLE SO YOU CAN TO HELP SET UP TABLES AND CHAIRS**

**BRING A VEGAN DISH**

**BRING THE RECIPE FOR YOUR VEGAN DISH (OR BE PREPARED TO EMAIL IT TO OTHERS)**

**IN PLACE OF A PRAYER, WE WILL LIGHT A CHALICE AND JOIN IN A RESPONSIVE READING BEFORE THE MEAL**

**EAT AND ENJOY**

**TALK WITH OTHER POTLUCKERS**

**LOOK FOR DISHES YOU LIKE**

**HELP CLEAN UP.**

**COME BE WITH US!!**

Contact Andrea Petty if you have any questions about the Monthly Vegan Potluck at: [dre@westsideuu.org](mailto:dre@westsideuu.org)

## Chaplains Report on a Caring Community

The Chaplains Corps 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 a chaplain know. You

Hundreds of hysterical persons must confuse these phenomena with messages from the beyond and take their glory to the bishop rather than the eye doctor.

-James Thurber

Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested.

-Francis Bacon

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.

Jane & Ric Hansen are mourning the loss of their 13 year old Boston Terrier.

Mark McMurry mourns the loss of his sister, Melanie.

Debra McCawley and Paul Corbett celebrated one year together!

Dolores Ruhs is recuperating after her hospitalization and in rehabilitation at Cityview Care Center.

Walt McConathy celebrated a birthday!

Dick Dodds is recuperating after recent hospitalization and re-gaining strength at Trail Lake Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Ruth and Harry Van Dam are also recuperating at Trail Lake Nursing and Rehabilitation Center due to Harry's broken leg and hip.

Gail & John Kilman welcomed the birth of twins Ashtyn and Drew – their new grandniece and grandnephew!

Linda McConathy is starting chemotherapy again as an early intervention.

Myron Ice is recuperating at home from a procedure to clear a post-operative infection.

Sara Munoz is mourning the loss of two friends from the Arlington UU congregation - Clara Blair and John Reed.

Those on the Chaplains Corps are Beverly Archibald, Caroline Nixon, Diane Jones, Myrtle McMahan, Tom Woods, Sandy Lord and John Gilbert. Please give us a call or email us with any concerns you may have.

## OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

# Express Lane to Creativity

Song writer David Roth's Song Writing Workshop will be held at Red River UU Church (515 N. Burnett Ave, Denison) December 8, 2013, from 2 – 4:30 PM. Cost \$30.00 People can register by emailing [info@rrou.org](mailto:info@rrou.org). If you don't know about David, check out his web site: [DavidRothMusic.com](http://DavidRothMusic.com). He's been singing and writing UU style music for years (and has a sister who is a UU minister). He's both terrific and wonderful. He will be presenting the morning worship service at Red River the same morning, should anyone wish to come, please do! You won't be disappointed.

# Angels at Westside

Westside will once again be participating in the Alliance for Children's Angel Tree program.

Alliance for Children is dedicated to the protection and healing of child abuse victims. "It is the only Tarrant County non-profit organization involved directly in the protection from child abuse through coordinated and teamed investigations with law enforcement, Child Protective Services, Cook Children's Medical Center, and the District Attorney's Office."

Westside will be providing gifts for 50 young people. Angel tags will be available for you to select every Sunday morning before and between services from Nov. 24 until Dec. 8. The Angel Tags will have information with each child's name, clothing sizes and "toy wishes". Westside also asks that a book be given to your child.

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You've got to have something to eat and a little love in your life before you can hold still for any damn body's sermon on how to behave.

-Billie Holiday

The vine that has grown old on an old tree falls with the ruin of that tree and through that bad companionship must perish with it.

-Leonardo da Vinci

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**YOU ARE ASKED TO PURCHASE ONE OUTFIT AND SHOES (IF SIZE GIVEN) FOR YOUR CHILD, AS WELL AS A TOY FOR HIM OR HER AND AN AGE-APPROPRIATE BOOK.**

**IF ANY TOY YOU BUY NEEDS BATTERIES, PLEASE INCLUDE THEM.**

**WHEN YOU TAKE AN ANGEL FROM THE TREE, WE WILL RECORD THE CHILD'S NAME AND NUMBER, AS WELL AS YOUR NAME, EMAIL, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER.**

**WATCHING YOUR BUDGET CAREFULLY THIS YEAR, YET WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE? CONSIDER "SHARING" AN ANGEL WITH ANOTHER WUUC MEMBER OR FAMILY - YOU CAN SPLIT THE COST, AND STILL SHARE THE PLEASURE IN GIVING!**

**WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CHOOSE WHAT FITS YOUR TIME/BUDGETARY ABILITIES; THE MORE MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATE, THE MERRIER THE PROJECT GETS!**

**IT'S FUN TO "PARTNER UP" AND ENJOY THE ADVENTURE OF SHOPPING FOR "MAGICAL THINGS" FOR A CHILD!**

Please bring your child's gifts, unwrapped in a separate bag with a handle, with the Angel Tree tag attached to the bag's handle (like a gift tag). Please deliver to Westside by December 15. If you would rather make a financial contribution, place a check in the offering basket with memo marked "Angels at Westside." Contact: Cindy Fountain, 817-526-1375, vanessa4907@sbcglobal.net

## Calling All NTUUC Activists!

**WHAT?** A meeting to learn what social justice work the UU congregations are doing, and what we want to accomplish.

**WHY?** How we can be more effective working together?

**WHO?** All North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC) who are interested in social justice.

**WHEN?** January 11, 2014 9:30-3:30

**WHERE?** Community UU Church, Plano

In the morning, we'll hear from groups working for justice: Jericho Road, Dallas Area Interfaith and Allied Communities of Tarrant, CitySquare, the Dallas Peace Center, Texas UU Justice Ministry, the UU-United Nations Office, the UU Service Committee, and others. They will join us for lunch and conversations about their organizations. In the afternoon, we'll look at how we can work together to leverage NTUUC resources.

## Attention High School Seniors!

**HAVE YOU PICKED YOUR COLLEGE AND IS IT COOL?**

What are you are looking for in a college or university? Location? Course offerings? Degree plans? Class size?

Did you know you can also consider how "cool" a school is being run? Check out Sierra magazine's seventh annual top-ten ranking of the nation's greenest universities at <http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201309/coolschools/default.aspx> to find out whether your school is on the list.

If you are pursuing a degree related to environmental work, the NED FRITZ SCHOLARSHIP can help grow some money for you!

\$2,000 in scholarships will be awarded annually to one or more graduating high school seniors who have been actively participating in Unitarian Universalist congregations in North Texas.

Applications will be accepted between January 1 and April 1, 2014 for the 2014/15 academic year. - The Application form and additional information is available at: [ntuuc.org/scholarships.shtml](http://ntuuc.org/scholarships.shtml)

If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.  
If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.

-Nelson Mandela

It is kindness immediately to refuse what you intend to deny.

-Publilius Syrus

# Put Your Tom Thumb Reward Card to Work for NTUUC

Would you like to promote UUism while buying groceries? If so, check out Tom Thumb's Good Neighbor Program FAQ page for details at: <http://www.tomthumb.com/ShopStores/Good-Neighbor.page>

To add NTUUC as a beneficiary of your Reward card, please use number 2776.

# 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. To learn more, please contact Carolyn Glenn at [carolynyg@gmail.com](mailto:carolynyg@gmail.com)

The Westside Story  
December 2013

Email submissions  
to our Editor Janice Sims  
at [janicesims@tx.rr.com](mailto:janicesims@tx.rr.com).  
Deadline for submissions  
is the 15th of  
the month.

The only thing one can give an artist is leisure in which to work. To give an artist leisure is actually to take part in his creation.

-Ezra Pound

If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn't seem so wonderful after all.

-Michelangelo Buonarroti

## Our Board

**President: Linda Ice**

**Vice President: Cindy Fountain**

**Treasurer: Lane Smutz**

**Secretary: Reed Bilz**

**Directors: Karen Moore, Mary Noer, Alvin Migdal,  
Tricia Bowes, Ric Hansen, Sally Johnson**

## October 2013 Attendance

	<b>10AM Adults</b>	<b>11:30 Adults</b>	<b>10AM Kids</b>	<b>11:30 Kids</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Oct. 6</b>	68	100	12	17	197
<b>Oct. 13</b>	51	73	11	14	149
<b>Oct. 20</b>	54	6	75	11	146
<b>Oct. 27</b>	100	129	12	18	259
<b>Averages</b>	68.25	77	27.5	15	187.75

\* Campers - 18 adults, 17 children/youth. Divided them up among the categories.



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 & compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free & responsible search for truth & 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 UU 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

Sean Wildman, Chair, Sue Spell, Myron Ice, Linda McConathy, Shirley Miller

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