



## Sunday Services

**February 2** - *“Unitarian Universalist Theology”* by Dr. Don Fielding. Using history, Don will describe the origin and development of

both the Unitarian and Universalist theologies. So how do these two theologies merge into a single Unitarian Universalist theology? Don will be reviewing and exploring both thoughts from beginning through present day.

**February 9** - *“And We Went On”* by Daniel Polk. Stories from First Unitarian Church of Dallas, with some of the highs and lows, a bit of UU history, and a look at how they can guide and inspire us today. Daniel Polk is president of NTUUC, a longtime member of First Church, and a great friend of Westside.

**February 16** - *“Forgetting, but Remembering”* by Myrtle McMahan. Alzheimer’s or dementia is facing many of us as we age. Ten million Baby Boomers will develop Alzheimer’s in their lifetime. As a caregiver with a husband with dementia, Myrtle will share some of what she’s learned along the way.

**February 23** - *“A Band Of Travelers”* by Reverend Ellen Cooper-Davis. We are pleased to welcome Reverend Cooper-Davis back to our pulpit from Northwoods UU in The Woodlands, TX. Please join us as she offers a unique perspective to our time of transition and the aspiration that “all will be well.”

## Sunday Morning Options

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### Adult Religious Education

What We Choose: Ethics for Unitarian Universalists.

The Adult RE class meets in the glass classroom at 11:30 a.m.

The February topic is *The Story of Our Lives: Narrative Ethics*. This workshop

presents narrative ethics, a framework for ethical decision making grounded not in abstract concepts but in the more subjective, emotionally powerful reality of life experience. The narrative ethics framework for making moral and ethical choices fits easily with Unitarian Universalist values and practices.

## February 2014

### 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.

Our faith is rooted not in common scriptures but instead in common values, and as we live these values together, we draw on life experiences to illuminate, illustrate, and justify our moral and ethical choices and actions. Narrative ethics leads us to share our own stories and to attend to those of other people as we consider ethical and moral choices. All are welcome and child care is provided. For more information, contact Morris Meador meadormorris1@gmail.com.

## **Religious Odysseys - February 9**

A new and exciting offering as part of our Adult Religious Education program. Once a month at 11:30, instead of the regular Adult RE

class we will present Religious Odysseys. There will be a 20 minute period for a church member to tell of his/her life story focused on how their beliefs and life views developed. After this the remaining time will consist of a dialogue between the presenter and those in attendance. The emphasis is not on debating positions but sharing in a very intimate setting a person's life story. Come and get to know persons you may not know or know much better persons you think you have known for a long time. Our greatest learning happens when we share ourselves with each other. Sunday, February 9 Keith Miller will present his Odyssey. In March Myrtle McMahan will present hers. We will be recruiting others after this. We would appreciate any suggestions – whose story interests you? Send suggestions to Morris Meador (meadormorris1@gmail.com) or see me at church.

## **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 jlbarnes107@gmail.com.

## **Children's Religious Education News Clips**

Connect with CRE

Parents of Middle-Schoolers—It's CongrUUity time!! Your middle-schooler is invited to join us for the 7th annual social action

conference for middle-schoolers sponsored by NATUUREs (North Texas Area UU Religious Educators). Don't miss out on this fun overnight event!

**When?** February 21-22, 2014

**Time?** 6:30 p.m. Friday to 5 p.m. Saturday

**Where?** Horizon UU Church, 1641 W. Hebron Pkwy. Carrollton, TX 75010

**Who?** 6th – 7th – 8th graders in North Texas

**What do I bring?** Sleeping bag, pillow, clothes to sleep in, change of clothes for Saturday, and toiletries (there are no showers).

**How do I register?** Get a registration form from your DRE—Andrea Petty. Fill it out and return it to Andrea. Westside will pay all of the fees to attend!

Other fun activities: Bounce House! Carnival Cookout! Drum Circle! Games! Social Time! Hands-on Social Action project! Youth Worship!

## **Summer CRE**

I know it's only February, but it's time to start thinking about our summer program. This year we will continue the science theme and talk about the Environment. Younger grades will focus on environmental science topics, while older grades will go more in depth about important environmental issues. More information will be coming soon. In the meantime if the topic sounds good and you think you may want to teach, let Andrea Petty or Tricia Bowes know!

## **Thanks!**

A big Thank You to all of those who helped make our Yuule Ball a big success. The kids

Our virtues are most frequently but vices in disguise.

-François de La Rochefoucauld

A true friend is the greatest of all blessings, and that which we take the least care of all to acquire.

- Francois de La Rochefoucauld

loved it! We run on volunteer power and are always grateful for the help we receive!

#### Upcoming events:

**February 7th**—Youth Group/Middle School Youth Group at church 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

**February 21st**—Youth Group at church 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

**February 21st-22nd**—Congruity Middle School Social Justice Conference

#### 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

By it's definition, a transitional time is described as "a process of changing from one state or condition to another." That's

where we are folks! But during this, I continue to take pride in saying that your Westside Community remains strong and active during this time! Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the life of our church!

The Interim Task Force has now presented a job description and contract proposal for the board's approval and by the time you are reading this, we hope to be speaking to potential candidates. We are seeking ministerial leadership for a 25% – 37.5% time dependent on whether they will offer Reflections once or twice each month.

Other responsibilities we are hoping to fulfill include scheduled office hours for congregant calls or visits; attend monthly meetings of the Board of Directors; meetings with officers of the congregation and staff regarding planning, programs, and opportunities; work with the Membership Committee to welcome and orient newcomers and new members; provide pastoral care, including hospital and home visits as needed in coordination with the Chaplain Corp; attend church dinner or social events as available; attend

district, UUA, interfaith or other meetings as available; and perform rites of passage for members including child dedications, marriage, memorial services, services of union and similar events consistent with contract limitations. If you have a suggestion of someone who may "fit the bill," please contact any member of the Interim Task Force, or it's chair, Mark McMurry at [Mark.B.McMurry@gmail.com](mailto:Mark.B.McMurry@gmail.com).

The congregational survey is nearing its deadline for completion by members and friends of January 31. If you happen to be reading this before that date and have not yet completed the survey...drop everything and go do that right now!!! We are looking forward to the results of this questionnaire to help guide us in seeking our Interim Minister as well as moving the congregation forward in our next long-range plan.

Your input will be invaluable in the process. Full survey results will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting in June of this year.

We will hold our next Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, February 5, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Pertinent updates available at that time regarding the search for a contract minister will be provided and your church lay leaders will be there to answer your questions regarding any aspect of the transitions process. Childcare will be available.

For reservations, please contact Cindy Fountain by February 3.

## In and Around Westside

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### Membership Matters:

Meet Pam & Ray Pfeiffer

Ray Pfeiffer isn't your typical chair of an accounting department, especially one in the Neeley School of Business at TCU.

The blue stud in his left ear is just one hint. His talent as a jazz pianist is another. He also plays the upright bass – and tennis, cooks and bakes "a bit," and runs half-marathons. Ray describes his religious

## The Westside Story February 2014

All of us have sufficient fortitude to bear the misfortunes of others.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

Before we set our hearts too much upon anything, let us examine how happy those are who already possess it.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

and political beliefs as the real differentiator from his accounting colleagues, however. Raised Catholic, he “converted” to agnosticism at age 18. Politically, he says “I’m probably fairly rare as a business faculty member with socialist leanings.”  
Go Frogs!

Pam Pfeiffer’s career also resides in an academic setting; she is a public service (aka reference) librarian at the TCC South Campus. Pamela is a passionate bibliophile, particularly when it comes to Harry Potter and “all things Jane Austen.” Like Ray, Pam grew up in Pennsylvania although she lived in Germany for a year while earning her BA in that language. She went on to earn two Masters, one in library science and another in political science.

Lizzie (age 17), Catie (age 13), Tiger Lily (the cat) and Lucy (the dog) round out the Pfeiffer family. They all moved to Ft. Worth from Amherst, MA in 2009 and found

Westside via Google while looking for a “like-minded community.” Pam and Ray joined soon after, and both serve on the Membership Committee.

Now you know a bit about the Pfeiffers. Be sure to say “hi” the next time you see them!

This column is the first in a new series by Westside’s Membership & Volunteer Coordinator (MVC), Susan Gore. In addition to profiling new members, Susan will cover various topics of interest to Westsiders.

### Lanyards for Nametags Have Arrived

Don’t want to clip your nametag to a leather jacket or silk blouse? Royal blue lanyards with Westside’s name and website are now available for \$5 each. Contact MVC Susan Gore (s.gore@tcu.edu) to get one – or more - now!

## 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.

December ‘13	Downwinders at Risk	<b>\$583.82</b>
November ‘13	Meals on Wheels	<b>\$1,269.18</b>
October ‘13	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	<b>\$587.68</b>
September ‘13	South Central Alliance of Churches	<b>\$1,151.33</b>
August ‘13	Mental Health & Mental Retardation of Tarrant	<b>\$842.58</b>
July ‘13	Co, Samaritan House Dinner Fund	<b>\$1,100.41</b>
June ‘13	Texas Re-Entry Services	<b>\$982.42</b>
May ‘13	Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas	<b>\$1,033.22</b>
April ‘13	South Central Alliance of Churches	<b>\$801.70</b>
March ‘13	In-Reach Fund	<b>\$1,448.88</b>
February ‘13	Fort Worth Day Resource Center	<b>\$1,091.86</b>
January ‘13	Don’t Forget to Feed Me, Tarrant Pet Food	<b>\$930.61</b>
December ‘12	Pantry	<b>\$974.93</b>
December ‘12	Cancer Care Services	<b>\$375.75</b>
November ‘12	UUA Sandy Storm Relief	<b>\$931.54</b>
October ‘12	Lighthouse for the Blind	<b>\$825.22</b>
September ‘12	UUSC & UUA Sunday	<b>\$1,587.97</b>
August ‘12	South Central Alliance of Churches	<b>\$937.52</b>
July ‘12	Women’s Center of Tarrant County	<b>\$808.66</b>
July ‘12	Samaritan House Dinners Fund	<b>\$273.75</b>

Behind many acts that are thought ridiculous there lie wise and weighty motives.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

Few are agreeable in conversation, because each thinks more of what he intends to say than of what others are saying, and listens no more when he himself has a chance to speak.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

## Committee on Ministry: Who? What? Why?

The Westside Committee on Ministry would like you to know who we are, what we do, why we do it, and how this will change

when a new interim or settled minister arrives. The current Committee on Ministry is made up of Sean Wildman, Theresa Kaufman, Myron Ice, Shirley Miller, and Linda McConathy.

Each COM member normally serves a two-year term, with two new members rotating on each year. However, due to the fact that our interim minister is expected to arrive in September of 2014, the current Committee has been asked by the Board to extend their service beyond the normal schedule until the arrival of the interim minister. Upon arrival of the interim minister, a new COM will be created, partially made up of members from the Interim Task Force, so they may transition that minister into life at Westside.

Just what is a Committee on Ministry anyway? I asked myself that very question when I was first called to serve. A UUA definition reads: "The Committee on Ministry is a continuing body whose purpose is to strengthen the quality of ministry within the congregation. It serves as a support group for the Minister and as a communication channel between the Minister and members of the congregation.... The committee shall meet once a month, with a written agenda for each meeting, so that during the course of the year, each aspect of the Ministerial/Congregational relationship will be reviewed. Reviews of the Minister's performance...should be undertaken annually. The committee shall annually recommend the Minister's compensation package for inclusion in the budget."

But wait...what about Westside? We don't have a minister, you say? While it's true that the presence of a minister certainly makes for a more structured, and busy, COM schedule, we continue to serve Westside nonetheless. We are called to monitor, assess, and continually educate ourselves and the congregation regarding all aspects of ministry. At our monthly meetings, we ask ourselves questions such as, "How do

we minister to each other?" and "How do we model healthy, deepening relationships between the congregation and church leaders?" We also receive comments and suggestions from the congregation regarding various aspects of the life and programming of our Church.

The COM concerns itself with the practice of Ministry itself, and with the quality of congregational relationships. To that end, the Westside COM is also charged with administering the church's In-Reach Fund. The In-Reach Fund is a special fund, which is made available to Westside members or friends who find themselves in great need. All undesignated funds placed in the offering bowl during Sunday services in the month of March will be going to this In-Reach Fund. You may also contribute to this fund at any time by placing your offering in one of the envelopes in the bottom of the bowl. Checks may be made out to Westside UU Church with the memo "In-Reach Fund" earmarked.

Each COM member wants you to know that we are available with listening ears and open hearts. You may approach any of us individually with comments, questions, or concerns. If you'd like to address the group, to request assistance from the In-Reach Fund, or to report concerning behavior that requires our attention, please send an e-mail to [com@westsideuu.org](mailto:com@westsideuu.org) or place a written message in the Committee on Ministry inbox in the church office.

## Join a Circle Supper, February 15!

For those who have not attended a Circle Supper, it is the opportunity for getting to know members/friends of the church over good food and conversation. These are dinners in small groups of six to eight people, generally, and held at the home of a member/friend of the church. If you would like to host but have limited space, you may partner with someone who has the room but would prefer not to host alone. The dinners are held on the third Saturday of every month. The host will organize the meal and will ask the guests to bring something like a side dish, bread, wine, or whatever is

## The Westside Story February 2014

Few things are impracticable in themselves; and it is for want of application, rather than of means, that men fail to succeed.

-Francois De La Rochefoucauld

Good advice is something a man gives when he is too old to set a bad example.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

needed. Please contact Gail Kilman at gailkilman@mac.com or 817-294-8938.

Our Family Circle Supper works just the same way, but it is not required that you have children to attend. For the Family Circle Supper, please contact Lauren Leising at ellekaye@juno.com or 817-846-8012.

## **Summary of the Dec. 18 Board Meeting**

We welcomed new Director Jeff Bullock. He will take over as liaison to Adult RE.

The Board approved Reports from the following committees which are available in the minutes book in the church office:

- i. Membership**
- ii. Social Justice**
- iii. Green Sanctuary**
- iv. Long Range Planning**
- v. Social**

**LDRE's Report** - Andrea reported that she met with the Adult RE Committee which has been reorganized to include the Library and Covenant Circles committees. Orientation for OWL classes for K-1 will be held January 5, 2014. Due to time constraints Andrea is resigning from the Long Range Planning Committee and the Interim Task Force.

**Membership Volunteer Coordinator Report** - Susan suggested and the Board approved that we purchase 200 name tag lanyards for up to \$300. Lanyards will be given to new members and sold to existing members who wish to buy them. Susan will seek someone to handle the Kroger gift card funding project.

Financial Statements are available in the minutes book in the church office.

### **Leadership Appointments**

- a. Theresa Kauffman will join the COM.**
- b. Jeff Bullock has joined the Board as a Director.**
- c. Sara Munoz has joined the Interim Task Force.**

The LRPC congregational survey is ready for distribution via Survey Monkey in January. The survey will be sent by email with hard copies available for those without internet access.

**Auction Final** - We added \$1,633 from last chance sales for a total of \$34,164.58.

We will pursue obtaining a listing for TV notice of closing for inclement weather publication.

### **January Mid-Year Meeting**

- 1. Bylaws change proposal
  - a. The following to be added as a second sentence to Article 9. Committees. of the Bylaws. Chairpersons will be asked to serve a minimum of one year as Chair.
  - b. Linda will announce that we are considering changing President-Elect to Vice President.

Westside will host the NTUUC Training on Saturday, February 8, 2014.

The Board decided that we should refer those seeking financial or other assistance to 2•1•1 or to the United Way website. We will place flyers to this effect in the foyer.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 19, 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

Gratitude is merely the secret hope of further favors.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

He who lives without folly isn't so wise as he thinks.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

the closure and have an announcement posted 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 and Serve

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### Contemporary Book Group

The Contemporary Book Group will meet in the glass classroom on February 23 after the second service. We are in

the process of soliciting suggestions for future reading and will make selections at the February meeting. Meanwhile, check out our group on Goodreads, Westside UU Readers. Contact: Reed Bilz - reed.bilz@gmail.com

### UU UNIVERSITY

COMING SOON TO WESTSIDE!

The Adult Religious Education Committee is pleased to announce a new program called UU University, where

classes will be taught by members, for members. Saturday afternoons, twice a month (2nd & 4th) will be our opportunity for classes and learning experiences in a wide range of areas. During this time, classes will be presented depending on where there is an interest and a person(s) who can teach. Do you have a subject, book, talent you want to share? Do you have something you would like to know about? The Adult Religious Education Committee would like to know. Classes can be a one time event, multiple, or on going.

Currently we have at least 3 classes planned:

- **Annie Foerster on Journal Writing**
- **Amie Hegeman on Financial Planning**
- **Humanist Book Club led by Morris Meador**

### Seventh Principle Notes

from your Green Sanctuary Committee

#### Green Movie Night

On February 22 at 7:00 p.m., we'll feature "The World According to Monsanto." From Agent Orange to

Genetically Modified Crops, a Biotech Giant with Your Best Interests at Heart; a film by Marie-Monique Robin from 2008.

#### Landscaping Energy Tips

Plant trees on the west and south sides of your home to help keep your house shaded during the season's hottest temperatures. Consult with an expert on planting distance from your home. Generally, a good rule is a distance at least equal to the mature crown radius of the tree, or 25' to 30' for a large tree.

Shade your A/C equipment outside with plant life, and you can increase the efficiency of your A/C equipment by as much as 10 percent.

Place plants at least three feet away from the outside A/C condensing unit to allow proper airflow and increase the efficiency of your A/C equipment.

### The Westside Story February 2014

Hypocrisy is the homage which vice pays to virtue.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

If we had no faults of our own, we would not take so much pleasure in noticing those of others.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

Trim plant life and grass near your A/C equipment or vents to help them run more efficiently and prevent them from getting clogged.

### **News from UU Ministry for Earth**

An Action of Immediate Witness (AIW) titled "Consider Divestment from the Fossil Fuel Industry" was passed nearly unanimously at General Assembly (GA). The AIW calls upon delegates "to begin a denomination-wide conversation within their congregations about divesting from fossil fuels or exercising shareholder influence" and suggests actions for discussion.

Speakers Wendell Berry and Tim De Christopher, in their addresses preceding the GA's "Public Witness Event" (a clean-energy rally), both endorsed the call for divestment in their own words. Berry urged listeners to "understand that fossil-fuel energy must be replaced not just by clean energy, but also by less energy." He admonishes us to consider that "If we're not in favor of limiting the use of energy, starting with our own use of it, we're not serious. If we're not in favor of rationing energy, starting with the fossil fuels, we're not serious. If we have the money and we're not willing to pay \$2 to keep the polluting industries from getting \$1, we're not serious. If, on the contrary, we become determined to keep the industries of poison, explosion, and fire from determining our lives and the world's fate, then we will steadfastly reduce our dependence on them and our payments of money to them. We will cease to invest our health, our lives, and our money in them.

### **Humanists of Fort Worth**

The Humanists of Fort Worth will meet at the church on Wednesday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m. Charles Lockhart, Professor

of Political Science at TCU, will explain the inherent unfairness in our system of elections in a talk entitled, "How the American Electoral System Steals Citizens' Votes." The system is rigged, and the problem is not just gerrymandering. If you care about being truly represented in Congress, don't miss this one.

It is often merely for an excuse that we say things are impossible.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

No persons are more frequently wrong, than those who will not admit they are wrong.

-Francois De La Rochefoucauld

### **Gentle Yoga**

Coming Soon to a Floor Near You

Gentle yoga is a form of yoga that can be done by anyone, inexperienced or temporarily challenged. It emphasizes balance,

stretching and deep breathing, all important aspects of our daily lives. It's also very relaxing and will support you through the vicissitudes of your day.

Beginning Saturday, February 22, at 10am, Annie Foerster will guide you through the asanas (postures) of Gentle Yoga, and show you how to inhabit your body more comfortably. Don't be fooled by the name. Gentle Yoga means anyone can do it, but Annie knows how to challenge the adept as well. Classes will be held every Saturday morning unless an all-church event precludes the use of the space.

Bring a yoga mat or thick towel, wear comfortable clothes and be prepared to be amazed at how good you can feel.

### **Quilting/ Handiwork Group**

Westside quilting and handiwork will meet on February 16 after the second service at church until 4:00. Everyone is invited to join us.

Bring whatever you would like to work on, or come to help with the quilts. We share our tools and our skills and great conversations. For more information or to be added to our email reminder list, call Debby Rake at 817-473-2414 or dsrake@gmail.com.

### **Vegan Potluck**

Saturday, February 22

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 at: [www.meetup.com/Vegan-Potluck-WUUC/](http://www.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 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.

Dick Dodds' cancer has returned and he is now under Hospice care.

Lela and Tom Woods are expecting their fourth grandchild in August!

Jane Hansen is quickly recuperating from her hip replacement and femur fractures surgery.

Karen Moore's father-in-law is now recuperating in a nursing home after a

hospitalization for a serious illness.

Cindy Fountain celebrated a birthday!

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

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### WhaleCoast Alaska 2014

Have you ever dreamed of visiting Alaska? If so, WhaleCoast Alaska 2014 is for you! Four Alaska UU fellowships

invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program next summer! See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, seals, and sea otters. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Forget the cruise ships – our tour is the best way to visit Alaska! Programs led by Dave Frey, a member of the Fairbanks UU congregation and an expert in Alaska travel. To find out more about your Alaskan trip of a lifetime, visit [www.WhaleCoastAK.org](http://www.WhaleCoastAK.org), email [dfrey@whalecoastak.org](mailto:dfrey@whalecoastak.org), or call 907-322-4966. We would love to share our Alaska with you!

### Westside Receives Caring Award!

Several Westsiders attended the annual volunteer recognition dinner given by Samaritan House in November. It is a wonderful pleasure to

announce that Westside received the Caring Award for 2013! Here is what Samaritan House had to say about Westside:

*"The Caring Award goes to Westside Unitarian Universalist Church! They are a very dedicated group that never misses and always provides our residents delicious*

## The Westside Story February 2014

Nothing is less sincere than our mode of asking and giving advice. He who asks seems to have a deference for the opinion of his friend, while he only aims to get approval of his own and make his friend responsible for his action. And he who gives advice repays the confidence supposed to be placed in him by a seemingly disinterested zeal, while he seldom means anything by his advice but his own interest or reputation.

-Francois De La Rochefoucauld

*food. Besides their Supper Club dedication, they help Samaritan House in other ways. They have a wonderful quilter's group, led by Debby Rake, that provides us beautiful quilts several times a year. They are just gorgeous! The Westside Supper Club is led by Jay and Suzie Lotven who continue to do a great job! Thank you to everyone at Westside UU for doing such a tremendous job volunteering and supporting Samaritan House!"*

Westside also distributed warm winter gloves, scarves, mittens, and hats to Samaritan House in December. The Council of Religious Education (CRE) invited everyone to decorate the tree in the Sanctuary with these colorful, warm, and oh so needed donations. Thanks to CRE and all who could participate!

## **Angel Successes!**

"Neither rain, nor snow," nor cobblestone ice shall keep Westsiders from pursuing our Vision. With the wild and wintery ice

shutting church down December 8, came a plea to finish tagging the Angels we had received from the Alliance for Children. As soon as the call went out, the offers to help started coming in! It was incredibly inspiring to witness the momentum that suddenly erupted. Westsiders who often can't make it to church stepped right up and offered to take Angels. Others, who couldn't do the shopping, donated cash to make sure that no Angel went without. There was even some extra cash left and it was donated to the Alliance in Westside's name. Every child (50 Angels) got clothes, shoes, books and gift wishes. I am so proud of Westside and, also, for what I saw as the concept that church doesn't always have to happen at church.

As was mentioned in the original call for help, the workers at Alliance know these children personally, and know what they have been through in their young lives. They are grateful for Westside's commitment.

So, a very heartfelt thanks to everyone's contributions in the 2013 Angel Tree project!!

- Cindy Fountain

One cannot answer for his courage when he has never been in danger.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

Our repentance is not so much regret for the ill we have done as fear of the ill that may happen to us in consequence.

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld

## **Help Fight for Social Justice in Houston**

Become a Chalice Lighter!

In the early 1980s, UU minister Alan Egly had an idea: he wondered if members of UU congregations might be willing to contribute a small amount—such as \$20—a few times a year, specifically to help out fellow congregations. Egly's idea became known as the Chalice Lighters program, and has raised millions of dollars for congregations all over the U.S.

In fact, Westside has received Chalice Lighter funds more than once, when we needed help finding space or making improvements.

Three times every year, a "call" goes out to every UU congregation, asking for a donation of \$20 or more to help a congregation in their district complete a special project linked to growth. These can range from help with calling a minister, constructing a building or addition, or establishing a new congregation or support ministry.

### **The Fall 2013 Chalice Lighter Call for the Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference has been awarded to the First Unitarian Church of Houston.**

They have requested the grant for the purpose of creating a Social Justice Rapid Response Network Manager position that will serve the greater Houston area through organizing, communicating, and facilitating on-site Social Justice actions. This position will also develop an on-line presence across congregations.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston is a growing congregation in the heart of the museum district of Houston. They have a dynamic minister and a brilliant Religious Educator, along with a powerful Social Justice program that includes monthly social action in the local community.

This Call for First Unitarian Church of Houston will end March 31, 2014.

### **How Do I Help?**

In order to be a Chalice Lighter, you are asked to give a minimum of \$20 in response

to each Call. There are no more than three Chalice Lighter Calls each year.

#### **How Do I Donate?**

There are two ways to make your donation.

#### **By Mail**

First, fill out a donation form; you can use one of the copies left on the table outside the sanctuary or download one from <http://swuuc.org/pages/stewardship/chalice-lighters.php>.

Send the form, with your check, payable to SWUUC Chalice Lighters, to:

SWUUC Chalice Lighters  
9704 Mallard Creek Road  
Charlotte, NC 28262

Include the memo line SWUUC CL/  
Houston/from Westside UU FtW

#### **Online**

You can also donate online by using the SWUUC's Chalice Lighter page on the Southern Region website, where a PayPal button is provided: <http://www.uuasouthernregion.org/clswuuc.html>.

## **Self Management & Recovery Training**

(SMART)

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).

These confidential meetings are held each week at Westside on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. for those who want or need to

**The Westside Story  
February 2014**

**Email submissions  
to our Editor Janice Sims  
at [janicesims@tx.rr.com](mailto:janicesims@tx.rr.com).**

**The deadline for  
submissions is the 15th  
of each month.**

Perfect courage means  
doing unwitnessed what  
he would be capable of  
with the world looking on.

-Francois de La  
Rochefoucauld

## 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, Jeff Bullock**

## December 2013 Attendance

	<b>10AM Adults</b>	<b>11:30 Adults</b>	<b>10AM Kids</b>	<b>11:30 Kids</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Dec. 1</b>	59	71	13	22	165
<b>Dec. 8</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Dec. 15</b>	50	62	15	25	152
<b>Dec. 22</b>	67	74	8	14	163
<b>Dec. 29</b>	50	73	7	20	150
<b>Averages</b>	55.67	69.67	10	19.67	155

\* 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, Myron Ice, Linda McConathy,  
Shirley Miller, Theresa Kauffman

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