



September 2014



The Westside Story

Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

901 Page Avenue
Fort Worth, Texas
76110

10:00 & 11:30 AM
Sundays

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.

Sunday Services

September 7 – *“Lifespan Religious Education”* by Reverend Alex Holt. Opportunities for growth and exploration are not limited to a few years of schooling. Join us on Sunday, September 7 as we hear highlights of religious education at Westside UU from all levels. Children and teens will participate as well as a special message about adult covenant groups.

September 14 – *“The Spirit of Humanism”* by Reverend Alex Holt. Religious humanism has a long and proud history in liberal religion. What is its continuing legacy as an important part of our Unitarian Universalist Six Sources?

September 21 – *“Pick and Choose”* by Ric Hansen. Our faith, belief, or excuses for how we live are all a matter of what sources we pick and what we choose to accept from those sources.

September 28 – *“Faith of Uncertainty”* by Reverend Alex Holt. Dr. Paul Rasor is a UU minister and thinker who wrote the book that’s the title of this service. Why does he call Unitarian Universalism a faith of uncertainty and what gift does that give us in these challenging times?

SUNDAY MORNING OPTIONS

Adult Religious Education Class

11:30 in the “Glass Classroom”

The Adult Religious Education (A.R.E.) class will meet on September 7 and 14. This month we will draw from several Tapestry of Faith workshops and another UUA document called “Engaging Our Theological Diversity” for varied and stimulating conversation. Beginning in October there will be several facilitators that will rotate in leading the discussions. You can look forward to a new year in Adult Religious Education! All are welcome and child care is provided. For more information, contact Morris Meador at meadormorris1@gmail.com.

Children’s Religious Education News Clips

Connect with CRE

Something Nuuw at Westside UU - For the Young and Young at Heart : Chalice Children – CRE is very excited to introduce something new to our children’s Sunday morning program. Chalice Children will now be offered from 10:00 to 11:00 for all children participating in Pre-K – through 5th grade RE. After the Story for All Ages, children will return to the RE wing for a short lesson involving Art, Science, Literature, or any other great ideas brought by facilitators. Youth that participate and are in Middle or High School are welcome to come and earn Service hours by helping the adult facilitators. Chalice Children will allow the children to participate in supervised activities during both services without repetition of programming, while parents participate in offered programming and attend services. Chalice Children also offers the opportunity for parents and other adults to contribute to the RE program without long-term commitment. Volunteers can provide their own lesson or the Chalice Children coordinator can have one prepared for you.*

I learned long ago that being Lewis Carroll was infinitely more exciting than being Alice.

-Joyce Carol Oates

Just as appetite comes by eating so work brings inspiration.

-Igor Stravinsky

Building Bridges for Tomorrow: Coming of Age – A strange phenomenon has occurred at Westside. The children of long time members have all grown up to be healthy, curious teenagers. In order to satisfy their craving for knowledge and help them find a place in our greater UU community, CRE will be introducing new programming for our Middle and High School Youth. One such program is Coming of Age. This is a wonderful program that many UU churches offer for their youth. It offers youth the opportunity to explore the values of Unitarian Universalism and apply those values to

their own lives and spiritual beliefs. High School youth that wish to participate will spend a large portion of the school year investigating each principal in depth while applying them to their own belief systems. Youth will also be paired with mentors who will share their own experiences as a Unitarian Universalist. At the conclusion of the program the youth are offered the opportunity to sign the book to become members of Westside and there is a trip to Boston to visit historic sites tied to UUism. All of the new programming for youth will be an investment for our entire church. For successful programs it will take a village of adults to facilitate committees, guide programs, mentor, and even travel with our youth. Our first need is to form a committee for the Coming of Age program. The duties of the COA Committee are to recruit all necessary adult participants: Guides, Mentors and other adults, create a calendar for workshops, and oversee the implementation of workshops, coordinate mentor activities, organize, plan, and oversee any fundraising for the Boston trip. Anyone is welcome to join the committee and offer their expertise.*

**Any adult interested in working with our youth must complete and pass a criminal background check.*

More Info: Join the conversation and get important CRE information at our Google group by going to groups.google.com/group/westsidere and click the link to apply for group membership. If you have any questions you can contact Leann Maxwell or Rachel Reed at re@westsideuu.org.

Forum – 10 to 11 am

The best way to get Adult Forum topics is to email John Barnes, the Adult Forum moderator. The Adult Forum strives to be timely in its topics, and sometimes they change at the last moment to address some major event that has just occurred. Email John at jbarnes107@gmail.com and ask to be put on the Forum roster.

Religious Odysseys

Religious Odysseys is taking a break this month so that everyone has an opportunity to enjoy the Book Fair.

IN AND AROUND WESTSIDE

The Traveling Minister's Road Show

"No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world"

The quote just above is from Robin Williams who died last month after battling depression and its sibling, addiction, for many years of his life.

I am sure that we would agree that words have tremendous power. Consider the words of the US Constitution and their power to change the world. And of course the meaning and inference of what the Founders meant when they wrote those words still is debated. Would an unmanned drone peeking in your window be a violation of your right to privacy? The writers of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights likely never imagined such a scenario but it's now working its way through the court system.

Many of you probably know that I invite us to wrestle with words to consider what they mean to us as Unitarian Universalists of the 21st century. Our religious ancestors in the late 1700's at the time of the

The problem with being sure that God is on your side is that you can't change your mind, because God sure isn't going to change His.

-Roger Ebert

A book is a version of the world. If you do not like it, ignore it; or offer your own version in return.

-Salman Rushdie

Constitution likely could not have imagined how we 'do' church in the 21st century. They'd wonder at the lack of crosses and Bibles. They'd appreciate the familiarity of pews in the churches that have them but secretly would probably prefer the (sometimes) comfy chairs we often have now. They might be puzzled about the missing words so common in Unitarian and Universalist churches of the time but they'd also applaud our outreach into the larger world to make a difference in social ills.

Here are three words that they would probably understand though two of them would be baffling to those ministers and laypeople of the late 1700's. The first one is 'sermon'. That would be familiar and well understood. You of Westside used that term at least in the early years of this new Millennium. I found a log of orders of service from those days and it was used each week along with other somewhat traditional words. Its original Latin 'sermo' meant 'discourse'. It has some relationship to the Sanskrit 'sutra'. Now it tends to be a pontification or address to an audience.

The second word is 'talk'. I've heard this word at UU congregations from time to time and it's a bit more like a lecture. It's more of a neutral word than 'sermon'.

The third word is 'reflection'. Two common definitions of reflection are: "a thought, idea, or opinion formed or a remark made as a result of meditation"; and "consideration of some subject matter, idea, or purpose." I know that Russell used the term 'reflection' rather than sermon.

I've used both as well and I know some of you are very attached to one or the other.

What I plan to do is be mindful that 'reflection' often means what is said based on meditation as above. I will be using both 'sermon' and 'reflection' while I am here so we can see how the power of these words can be used (I hope) constructively.

I will mostly use the word 'reflection' for services when we are considering the inner heart/mind work of being human. For example, I will probably do a series of four services on writer Wayne Muller's four great questions of life from his book "How, Then, Shall We Live: Four Simple Questions that Reveal the Beauty and Meaning of Our Lives." Those questions are deeply reflective ones and so those will be examples of 'reflection' services.

I'll on the other hand use the word 'sermon' for action oriented services. We might understand it as an active and action-oriented discourse on topics such as social justice and immigration or marriage equality.

Words and ideas can change the world...or not. It all depends on how we hear them and how their meanings can change with each generation. My hope is that we can explore these words, among others, not to wear them like a required uniform but to try them on to see how you as a community can wear them or not. If not then that's fine. Trying them on to see how we look and sound does very little harm and can give us the power to reframe language in ways that can indeed change the world for the better.

Since when do we have
to agree with people
to defend them from
injustice?

-Lillian Hellman

A note of music gains sig-
nificance from the silence
on either side.

-Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Reflectively yours,
Alex

A Word From Your President!

My first six weeks as president has been filled with many engaging UU activities. In addition to the vibrant hustle and bustle at Westside, I attended events at the North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC) and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).

Earlier this year, Westsiders Mary Noer, Bill Terry, and their daughter, Carina, attended the General Assembly (GA), UUA's annual meeting, in Providence, RI as on-site delegates while Tricia Bowes and I participated as off-site delegates (no, I wasn't president then).

Recently, Vice President Dianne Nixon and I took part in the Presidents' Convocation and the following week some of us attended the "Ending the New Jim Crow" Workshop. Dianne and I then spent a week at the Dwight Brown Leadership Experience (DBLE) and, finally, a group of us attended the annual RE Teachers' Training sponsored by NTUUC.

Are these affiliations relevant to Westside and is it important that we participate in our larger UU Community? Yes! For us all, NTUUC and the UUA are very relevant; we are members of them by virtue of our bylaws:

Article 4. Denominational Affiliation

This Church shall be a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), the Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference (SWUUC), and the North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC). The Church intends to make annual financial contributions equal to its fair share as determined by the UUA, the SWUUC, and the NTUUC.

It is in our best interest to take advantage of what these affiliations have to offer as the benefits to Westside far exceed what we contribute financially. We received scholarships to help cover most of the cost of DBLE. As president, I received a rebate for my participation in GA and the regional assistance we are receiving since our transition started is being paid because of our membership.

I learn and grow to, hopefully, personify the principles of Unitarian Universalism. I was reminded during GA that the UUA was first to publish the complete text of the Pentagon Papers. It was through GA that I heard the inspiring words of Sister Simone Campbell, "Where we meet is in community. Where we meet is in the first three words of the Constitution, which is 'We the people.' It is an unpatriotic lie that we're based in individualism, and we've got to cut it out."

The Jim Crow NTUUC event brought together not only local UU's, but community organizations with whom we can partner to bring about change for good. The list goes on and on.

Most of all, I truly enjoy getting together with other UU's. We share our church and community experiences, and together we can all share our UU voices as one "out loud" to the world.

*In Westside & UU love,
Cindy*

Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice committee meets bimonthly on the second Sunday of the month. If you are interested in participating please join us at 12:30 in the Glass Classroom. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 14. There are many other opportunities for volunteering! If you would like more information, please email Kim Lucas at devinewoman@msn.com.

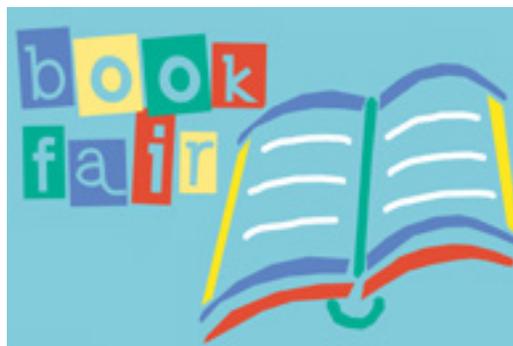
Money, n. A blessing that is of no advantage to us excepting when we part with it. An evidence of culture and a passport to polite society.

-Ambrose Bierce

Westside Book Fair

Sunday 9/21/14
Saturday 9/27/14
Sunday 9/28/14

Select titles from Skinner House and Beacon Press will be for sale. Children's titles included. Proceeds will fund the book fair and benefit the Library.



If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.

-George Orwell

Join a Circle Supper, September 20!

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 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.

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.

July '14	James L. West Special Care Center	\$854.16
June '14	Planned Parenthood of Tarrant County	\$619.00
May '14	Sickle Cell Anemia Assn. of Tarrant County	\$692.76
April '14	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$675.73
March '14	InReach Fund	\$934.38
February '14	Long Way Home	\$504.00
January '14	Gill Children's Services	\$777.82
December '13	Downwinders at Risk	\$583.82
November '13	Meals on Wheels	\$1,269.18
October '13	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	\$587.68
September '13	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$1,151.33
August '13	Mental Health & Mental Retardation of Tarrant	\$842.58
July '13	Co, Samaritan House Dinner Fund	\$1,100.41
June '13	Texas Re-Entry Services	\$982.42
May '13	Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas	\$1,033.22
April '13	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$801.70
March '13	In-Reach Fund	\$1,448.88
February '13	Fort Worth Day Resource Center	\$1,091.86
January '13	Don't Forget to Feed Me, Tarrant Pet Food Pantry	\$930.61
December '12	Cancer Care Services	\$974.93
December '12	UUA Sandy Storm Relief	\$375.75
November '12	Lighthouse for the Blind	\$931.54

Our society must make it right and possible for old people not to fear the young or be deserted by them, for the test of a civilization is the way that it cares for its helpless members.

-Pearl S. Buck

The test of a democracy is not the magnificence of buildings or the speed of automobiles or the efficiency of air transportation, but rather the care given to the welfare of all the people.

-Helen Adams Keller

Summary of the July 16 Board Meeting

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The Board approved the meeting Minutes of June 18, 2014 and the following Committee Reports (available in the minute book): Endowment, Building and Grounds, ABUC, LRPC, Membership, Adult RE, Social Justice and Social.

The Board passed a resolution naming the new officers to the Endowment Fund agreement with E-Trade.

The Board agreed that the Membership Committee could add “We offer an Exploring class periodically for those interested in Unitarian Universalism in general, and Westside in particular. Contact Membership@westsideuu.org” to the Westside web page.

Mark Walz submitted an accounting of his time at Westside. Mark noted that Alex will be helping with pastoral care as soon as he arrives.

Lane Smutz submitted the Financial Statements and Report (available in the minute book). Lane reported that the balance sheet shows the \$12,000 building reserve fund creation, \$61,088.37 in the reserve fund (\$10,000 addition from Auction fund) and \$37,054.95 in the general fund as of July 1. The auction fund has been closed.

Tricia Bowes reported that the second candidate for DLRE turned us down because her husband’s job precluded her move from Arkansas. This means the search committee will start again with a job description adjusted to reflect our adopted budget.

Bob Vann will be asked to serve on the TXUJMJ Advisory Board.

The results of the LRPC survey are now online. The download is 104 pages.

The Interim Minister Transitions Team Start Up Meeting was set for September 6 at the church. The meeting will be led by Rev. Susan Smith and the Board, Transition Team and Committee Chairs are asked to attend.

The Board approved the first Sunday in August plate offering for Catholic Charities Fort Worth for border refugee children, and the last four Sundays in August offerings for the Day Resource Center of Tarrant County.

Paul McClellan and his committee will hold a Casino Night Fund Raiser on November 8. The Board also discussed a possible dinner theater musical event on February 14, 2015 as a fund raiser.

General Assembly Reports from Carina, Terry and Mary Noer are available in the minute book. Cindy Fountain and Tricia Bowes, who attended as off-site delegates, said it was a positive experience.

Cindy reported on the possibility of Westside serving as a UUA Beta Tester on “21st Century Curriculum” to appeal to new members.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 17, at 7 p.m. All members are welcome to attend. Notebooks containing copies of the full minutes and financial statements are available in the church office.

*Reed K. Bilz,
Secretary*

One is happy as a result of one’s own efforts once one knows the necessary ingredients of happiness: simple tastes, a certain degree of courage, self denial to a point, love of work, and above all, a clear conscience.

-George Sand

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

Endowment Fund

We are pleased to announce that the Westside UU Church's Endowment Fund is up and running and earning money! Many of you know that much hard work has been put into setting up this fund, and we want to make sure that our congregation is fully cognizant of and in accord with, the concepts and objectives of the committee as we start to publicize and grow the fund.

The Fund's purpose is to assist in assuring the long range financial future of the church, and to help pay for special projects that further the mission of the church. The long range plans and vision are still being developed, led by the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC). As plans evolve, we will work with the LRPC to implement those plans; however the Endowment Committee does not itself set strategy for the Church. Instead, we work to honor the wishes of the donors. In working with members and donors, we have found that some only want to donate to the building, others only to a perpetual fund, and others are flexible. For that reason, the committee created three (3) sub-funds within the Endowment Fund: Perpetual, Building and Land, and Flexible. This structure, which was approved by the congregation at the July 2014 annual meeting, allows a systematic way for us to honor donor wishes for decades into the future, and provides a straightforward way for the Endowment Committee to invest and track donations.

The Perpetual Fund operates like a typical endowment fund in that only the income generated by its investments can be used.

The Building and Land Fund, as its name states, may only be used to acquire land for buildings or to acquire, construct or renovate buildings.

The Flexible Fund may be used for special church projects that further the mission of the church. Unless otherwise designated, all donations to the Endowment Fund are placed in the Flexible Fund.

The six (6)-member Endowment Committee is charged with managing the investment of the Endowment Fund under the supervision of the Board of Directors and Congregation. It is responsible for investing the funds, reviewing the Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy annually, and maintaining records with regards to restrictions on donations. The committee consists of a Chair, a Trader to invest endowment funds in accordance with the Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy (EIDP) and the Socially Responsible Investing Policy, and a Record Keeper to make sure donations are allocated to the correct endowment fund in accordance with donor wishes. The church Treasurer is the Endowment Committee's board liaison, and also works closely with the Trader. The Endowment Fund is invested in broad-based securities, including stocks and bonds, to maximize safety and minimize risk.

Distributions can only be made in one of two ways: First, a distribution can be written into the Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy, approved by the Endowment Committee, the Board, and finally by the Congregation. Second, the Board can call for, and the Congregation approve, distributing monies at either a regular congregational business meeting, or at a special meeting of the Congregation. Both mechanisms will require a majority vote by the Congregation present at the meeting and would be subject to the restrictions placed on the sub-funds, e.g. the Building and Land Fund can only be distributed for building and land purposes. We currently have no distributions planned.

Although the committee would love to accept all donations into the Endowment Fund, donations to the Fund should not be considered in lieu of an annual pledge. Annual pledges support the operation of the Church, which is so important to all of us. Donating to the Endowment Fund, either in a will, in honor of or as a memorial to someone, or as an additional donation over and above an annual pledge, is a way to assure the long-term financial health of the church.

The Committee is fortunate to have Amie Hegeman, a finance and CFP™ professional, as the Trader. Watch for the Committee's tips on donating in upcoming newsletters on how to reduce your tax bill, while supporting the Church.

So long as you have food
in your mouth, you have
solved all questions for
the time being.

-Franz Kafka

The measure of a
country's greatness
is its ability to retain
compassion in times of
crisis.

-Thurgood Marshall

The Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy and Socially Responsible Investing Policy are available on Westside's home page under Church Business, Policies & Procedures. If you have questions about the Fund, or are interested in making a donation, please contact the committee at endowment@westsideuu.org.

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OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AND SERVE

Fall Clean Up, October 18 - Be a Part of It!

Westside's semi-annual church cleaning day is Saturday, Oct. 18. Join us between 8:30 and Noon. Your helping hands are much needed and much appreciated! There will be inside and outside work available. Coffee, breakfast goodies, and fun fellowship will be provided. Please rsvp Gene McKeon your willingness. Let him know if you want inside or outside, and if you can provide a truck for hauling tree limbs, etc; eugenemckeon@gmail.com; 817- 455-2533. Thanks!!

Contemporary Book Group

On September 28 the Book Group will discuss "Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes.

From Goodreads: "WARNING: This book has the same title as the first version of this story, but is the longer -and not suitable for children- extended version. Do not confuse with the original work. (Banned by schools which is part of why we chose this book.)

With more than five million copies sold, Flowers for Algernon is the beloved, classic story of a mentally disabled man whose experimental quest for intelligence mirrors that of Algernon, an extraordinary lab mouse. In poignant diary entries, Charlie tells how a brain operation increases his IQ and changes his life. As the experimental procedure takes effect, Charlie's intelligence expands until it surpasses that of the doctors who engineered his metamorphosis. The experiment seems to be a scientific breakthrough of paramount importance--until Algernon begins his sudden, unexpected deterioration. Will the same happen to Charlie?"

We meet in the Glass Classroom after the second service on the 4th Sunday of each month. Please join us even if you have not read the book. We may inspire you to do so. We also need help in choosing future selections. Contact: Reed Bilz – reed.bilz@gmail.com.

Covenant Groups

New Covenant Groups will be forming in September. Look for sign-up sheets at the Welcome Table every Sunday and stop in at the Adult Religious Education table in the Fellowship Hall on September 7 for more information.

In a church our size, especially with two services, it's sometimes difficult to get to know people well. Covenant Groups are one way of overcoming that problem. Small groups of eight to ten people meet monthly with a trained facilitator, to discuss their lives, their faith, and what it means to be a human being and a Unitarian Universalist. Not only do you have the benefit of some of the brightest minds in Fort Worth, but you end up with a support group and a new set of friends.

Discussion topics for this year will be based on a book by Unitarian Universalist minister Jane Rzepka, "From Zip Lines to Hosaphones." The discussion manual was written by former First UU

Often the accurate answer to a usage question begins, "It depends." And what it depends on most often is where you are, who you are, who your listeners or readers are, and what your purpose in speaking or writing is.

-Kenneth G. Wilson

The best way to be more free is to grant more freedom to others.

-Carlo Dossi

Church of Dallas minister, Laurel Holman. Rzepka's famous sense of humor allows her to look at the glorious diversity that is Unitarian Universalism and provide something for everyone to laugh at (mostly at themselves).

If you would like to be a facilitator this year or if you want more information on the program, contact Covenant Mistress (I just gave myself that title) Annie Foerster at redseamripper@gmail.com or 613.301.4646.

Buddhist Meditation Group Begins September 3

Alex plans to begin a weekly meditation sitting group at the church on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. These times may change depending on the wishes of the group over time. This is NOT a class. It will be sitting meditation with instruction if needed followed by tea and a short conversation about Buddhist dharma teachings. This group will meet weekly for an indefinite time though there may be occasional weeks cancelled due to holidays or other events. No special clothing or knowledge of meditation is needed nor do you have to sit in awkward positions. Please contact Alex at revalexholt@gmail.com if you have questions.

UU University (aka U-Cubed) Prepares for an Exciting Fall Semester!

Do you have a passion, hobby, and/or talent that you would enjoy sharing with others? Are you a lifelong learner who is interested in acquiring new skills? Then UU University is for you! Whether you want to teach a class or attend as a student, or both, U-Cubed has classes designed to meet your social, intellectual, religious, and/or spiritual needs.

Our summer classes have been well-attended and successful, so we are truly excited about planning for fall classes. The Adult Religious Education (A.R.E.) committee is now recruiting teachers and students for the fall semester which will begin on Saturday, September 20. All U-Cubed classes take place on Saturdays for an eight-week semester, so mark your calendar and stay tuned! Also note that Gentle Yoga classes will continue every Saturday morning at 10:00 during and between U-Cubed semesters.

The A.R.E. will host the committee table in the fellowship hall on Sunday, September 7, so come by to sign up for another fabulous session of U-Cubed! See you there!

People are like stained
glass windows: they
sparkle and shine when
the sun is out, but when
the darkness sets in their
true beauty is revealed
only if there is a light
within.

-Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

Humanist Book Club

Fourth Saturday, 3:00 - 4:30

The Humanist Book Club meets at Westside UU Church on the fourth Saturday of the month, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. A book is chosen by the group and the next month it will be discussed together. The new book for September will be "THE GOD ARGUMENT: The Case Against Religion and for Humanism" by A. C. Grayling. We will look at Part 1 of the book - "Against Religion" this month. All are welcome. Facilitated by Morris Meador, meadormorris1@gmail.com.

It is a truism that almost
any sect, cult, or religion
will legislate its creed
into law if it acquires the
political power to do so.

-Robert A. Heinlein

Potluck Sunday

Our Potluck Sunday will be held on September 14 from 10:45 to 11:45. Please bring a dish to share with others and join us in the Fellowship Hall for fun, lively discussions, and delicious food. For additional information, contact Paul McClellan at jmclaypool@yahoo.com.

Seventh Principle Notes from your Green Sanctuary Committee

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The City of Fort Worth will host a series of free Water Saving Seminars at the Rolling Hills Water Treatment Plant over the next three months.

The first is Drought Tolerant Turf, Wednesday, September 10, the second is The Edible Landscape, Thursday, October 16, and the third is Rain Gardens, Wednesday, November 5. All are from 6-8 p.m., and you must present an official ID, like a driver's license, for admission. You must register, and there are limited tickets available. Go to FortWorthTexas.Gov/Water and click on Water Seminars and Events on the right.

You have noticed the new shades installed in the sanctuary, haven't you? Dianne Nixon, of the Aesthetics and Building Use Committee (ABUC), along with the Green Sanctuary Committee, hosted several vendors before settling on this solution. Your support of our big church auction made these possible. Thank you.

The windows are covered with dual shades: blackout and solar. The blackout shades (closest to the glass) darken the room to allow us to see what is projected on our screen during daylight hours and to enjoy a theater atmosphere when we have performances that begin before the sun goes down. Glass in the doors are covered only with blackout shades, as they could not accommodate dual shades without covering the door handles.

The solar shades on the windows let the light in and are intended to stay in the down position during hot/warm weather, because they limit solar heat gain and block 95 percent of the UV rays. This is just another step we've taken to lower our energy consumption! Groups that must raise the solar shades for a specific activity are reminded to lower them again before they leave the sanctuary.

We are also pleased to remind everyone that bulbs in the overhead light fixtures in the sanctuary have been replaced recently with LED bulbs. "Turning on the lights" now uses less energy and reduces guilt! (You were feeling guilty for using all those lights, weren't you?)

Recommended Reading: *"The Sixth Extinction"* by Elizabeth Kolbert, available on Kindle.

October Committee Meeting: We will meet again October 12 at 12:45 p.m. in the Glass Classroom. All are welcome.

Green Movie Night

On September 27 we'll be featuring "Living Downstream." This is an 85 minute movie, completed in 2010. It is not rated. "Based on the acclaimed book by ecologist and cancer survivor Sandra Steingraber, this award-winning documentary follows Sandra during one pivotal year as she travels across North America, working to break the silence about cancer and its environmental links." As always, the film will be shown at 6:30 p.m. in the Westside Fellowship Hall, immediately after the Vegan Potluck. It is free and open to the public. See you there.

Humanists of Fort Worth

The Humanists of Fort Worth will meet on Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m. Two environmental experts will discuss air quality in North Texas and solar energy. In addition, a dealer representative might bring a Chevy Volt to the meeting and discuss the incentives available for electric car purchases. Everyone is invited to join the HoFW Meetup site to keep apprised of all HoFW meetings and events at <http://www.meetup.com/Humanists-of-Fort-Worth/>

Every reader finds himself. The writer's work is merely a kind of optical instrument that makes it possible for the reader to discern what, without this book, he would perhaps never have seen in himself.

-Marcel Proust

Any life, no matter how long and complex it may be, is made up of a single moment -- the moment in which a man finds out, once and for all, who he is.

-Jorge Luis Borges

Quilting/Handiwork Group – September 21

The Westside Quilting Group will meet 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, September 27!

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 at: <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!!

If you have any questions about the Monthly Vegan Potluck, contact Rachel Reed at rachelreenered@yahoo.com or James Finn at finncrowd@hotmail.com.

Chaplain Corps Corner

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.

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.

Mark McMurry has been diagnosed with adrenal gland cancer and has started a treatment plan that will include trips to M.D. Anderson in Houston.

Lela & Tom Woods welcomed new grandbaby Mary Liliana Ivy Woods on August 10th!

Jeff Rodriguez, Caroline Nixon, and Isaac Garcia are mourning the sudden loss of Jeff's mother, Carole Ann.

Glenda Hood has been diagnosed with Polymyalgia Rheumatica but is responding well to treatment!

Cheryl Osborne is recuperating from aggravating an old injury.

The power to define the situation is the ultimate power.

-Jerry Rubin

I have one share in corporate Earth, and I am nervous about the management.

-E.B. White

Tricia Bowes officiated the beachside wedding of Craig's uncle Michael & Cyril in Massachusetts!

**The Westside Story
September 2014**

Lois Roskoski just celebrated ten years of sobriety!

Happy birthday to Ginger Courtney, Dianne Nixon, Caroline Nixon, Jeff Rodriguez, Isaac Garcia, Van Pineda, Bohdi McMurry, Mary McMurry, Aminda Cheney-Irgens, Dub Horn, and Tom Woods!

Happy anniversary to Theresa & Greg Kauffman (16 years) and Pam and Ray Pfeiffer (25 years)!

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

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.

Trinity Trash Bash



In any free society, the conflict between social conformity and individual liberty is permanent, unresolvable, and necessary.

-Kathleen Norris

The bicycle is the most civilized conveyance known to man. Other forms of transport grow daily more nightmarish. Only the bicycle remains pure in heart.

-Iris Murdoch

It's that time again!!! We are registered to participate in Trinity Trash Bash this year! Save the date for Saturday, September 20 from 8:30 -11 a.m. We had a great time last year! Please email Kim Lucas at devinewoman@msn.com if you are interested in signing up, and don't forget to send me your T-shirt size!



People hate as they love,
unreasonably.

-William Makepeace
Thackeray

There are stars whose
radiance is visible on
Earth though they have
long been extinct.
There are people whose
brilliance continues to
light the world though
they are no longer among
the living. These lights
are particularly bright
when the night is dark.
They light the way for
humankind.

-Hannah Senesh

Annual Gay Pride Parade/Picnic – Join Us October 4 and 5!

On Saturday, October 4, in downtown Fort Worth, First Jefferson UU is taking the lead on organizing the float and NTUUC, as always, is the sponsor. You are invited to join up and show Fort Worth that Westside is proud to support the LGBTQ Community. Participating in this event is one way for Westside to carry out its vision through active service in our community. As the date gets closer, time and meet up place will be published. Questions, contact Cindy Fountain, 817-526-1375, vanessa4907@sbcglobal.net.

On Sunday, October 5, from Noon to 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Park, Mary Noer and Carina Terry will be hosting a table for Westside and NTUUC at the picnic this year. We will be putting braids and beads in hair for a donation. The donation will support School GSA efforts. Please come see us – talk, keep us company, and enjoy the picnic!!

The annual Pride Picnic is the largest GLBT family friendly event held in Tarrant County. Located in the heart of Trinity Park, the picnic overlooks the river and features a DJ and live entertainment, group activities and friendly competitions. A FREE Pride Kids Zone for the kids is a big hit and Community Booths representing organizations will educate and encourage support. Beer, beverages and good picnic food are served by local GLBT organizations and volunteers.

Bring the family, bring a chair and stay for the day!

Carter BloodCare Needs Your Help!

Blood supplies are dangerously low this summer. Our friends, neighbors, and perhaps members of Westside may need blood.

Please go to any convenient Carter BloodCare donor center and donate. If you have never donated it is time to start. If you were temporarily deferred try again. If you have questions call CBC at 800-366-2834 or talk to Gene Walker on Sundays at Westside. Thanks!

The Westside Story
September 2014

Westside Story Staff:
Janice Sims, Editor
Eric Stevens, Designer
Sharon Salih, Distribution

Fall Harvest Leadership Training, November 7-9

Join us at "Fall Training 2014: Oh! The Places You'll Go!" at Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center in Glen Rose, TX, to explore the dynamic nature of congregations and their leaders, and gain tools for navigating these often choppy waters. Where will your congregation go next? We have tracks on advanced conflict training, leadership as a spiritual practice, stewardship, young adults and allies, the march to Selma, children's EvolUtion camp, and a renaissance module on youth ministry. Learn more at: <http://www.uuasouthernregion.org/fallharvest2014.html>.



One must be drenched in words, literally soaked in them, to have the right ones form themselves into the proper patterns at the right moment.

-Hart Crane

— ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ —
Email submissions to our Editor
Janice Sims at janicesims1617@att.net.
The deadline for submissions is
the 15th of each month.



At least half the mystery novels published violate the law that the solution, once revealed, must seem to be inevitable.

-Raymond Chandler

Our Board

President: Cindy Fountain

Vice-President: Dianne Nixon

Secretary: Reed Bilz

Treasurer: Lane Smutz

Directors: Tricia Bowes, Jeff Bullock, Ginger

Courtney, Ric Hansen, Don Jackson, Ken Leising

July 2014 Attendance

	10AM Adults	11:30 Adults	10AM Kids	11:30 Kids	Total
July 6	58	56	13	21	148
July 13	62	62	13	21	158
July 20	40	57	10	16	123
July 27	40	57	4	10	111
Averages	50	58	10	17	135



This congregation has taken part in the UUA Welcoming Congregation Program to become more inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people.

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.

Committee on Ministry

Sean Wildman, Chair. Myron Ice, Shirley Miller, Theresa Kauffman, Spencer Maxwell

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

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.