



November 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 & intellectual 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

November 2 – “*Music, the Great Uniter*” presented by some very talented members of Westside Unitarian Universalist Church! Music has been known to soothe the soul, speak to the heart, and be a universal language. We hope you will join us to enjoy the music of jazz musicians: Ray Pfeiffer (piano), Carol Cappa (flute) and Stuart Cheney (bass) as jazz, poetry, and readings are woven together to express the power of music.

November 9 – “*The Eighth Principle*” by Annie Foerster. If you had been asked to write the seven principles, what would you have included? That’s exactly how they came to be in the 80s. Folks were asked what they thought was most important to conclude and for three years we discussed them at General Assembly until the wording was just ‘perfect.’ So here’s a question for today: What’s missing? If you could write an eighth principle, what would it say?

November 16 – “*Reverence for Heart-Mind*” by Reverend Alex Holt. We Unitarian Universalists revere the gifts of our minds. Rational thought and reasoned debate are critical aspects of being in community together. Western traditions tend to separate ‘heart/emotion’ from ‘mind/intellect/rationality’. How might a unified understanding of ‘heart-mind’ look to us as religious liberals?

November 23 – “*Reverence for Body*” by Reverend Alex Holt. We will continue this series of services on the topic of reverence. This morning we will consider reverence for body – ‘body’ in this case is the body of the church, its people and its mission in the world. How is that reverence expressed?

November 30 – “*Thanksgiving Grace and Gratitude*” by Reverend Alex Holt. Thanksgiving Day is a special occasion in North America. It gives us the opportunity to eat and drink with enthusiasm with others. We are also invited to say grace and give gratitude. What does that mean to us as religious liberals?

SUNDAY MORNING OPTIONS

Adult Religious Education Class

11:30 in the “Glass Classroom”

WHO ARE WE AS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS? This is the theme this fall and winter. Beginning in October we will draw from several Tapestry of Faith workshops and another UUA document called “Engaging Our Theological Diversity”. There will also be several different facilitators that will rotate in leading the discussions. Come and join in lively discussion as we explore our UU history and how we fit in at Westside! For more information, contact Morris Meador at meadormorris1@gmail.com.

Religious Odysseys – November 30

If a rabbit defined intelligence the way man does, then the most intelligent animal would be a rabbit, followed by the animal most willing to obey the commands of a rabbit.

-Robert Brault

Once a month at 11:30 – 12:30, instead of the regular Adult Religious Education class we will share 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 one who has shared 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. Debbie Rake will share her Odyssey on November 30th. Send suggestions for others to share their Odyssey to Morris Meador (meadormorris1@gmail.com) or see me at church.

Forum – 10 to 11 a.m.

The Westside Story
November 2014

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.

Children's Religious Education

CRE Volunteer of the Month: Kimberly Lowe has worked tirelessly as the parent coordinator in bringing the Coming of Age Program to Westside. She has put together events, information packets, calendars, and recruited teachers and students. Without her diligence and passion, this program would not have been possible.

Coming of Age: The Coming of Age program has officially been launched at Westside! The program began in mid-October and will enable high school aged students to explore Unitarian Universalism and its relationship to their own belief systems more in-depth. The program will also include a Boston Heritage trip in the summer of 2015. Please welcome the teaching team for COA: John Huffman, Annie Foerster, Brenda Mckee, Cameron Young, Randy Gregory, and Lauren Leising.

Chalice Children: The Chalice Children program is underway. This program takes place at 10:30 a.m. and allows children in grades K-5 to experience worship in an alternative, more interactive way. Volunteer facilitators are always needed. Email Cameron Young at DRE@westsideuu.org for more information.

Youth Group for Middle Schoolers

The Youth of Unitarian Universalism in Middle School (YUUMS) group meets on the first and third Fridays of the month, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Westside UU Church. All middle schoolers in grades 6, 7, and 8 are welcome to attend.

In October, the YUUMS group investigated global hunger awareness and worked in collaboration with the high school youth group to create a haunted house for Westside's Halloween party. The group will make birthday pinatas for the food bank in November.

Please contact Amanda Oglesby (dfwplace@gmail.com) or Mary Noer (mary.noer@att.net) for additional information.

IN AND AROUND WESTSIDE

The Traveling Minister's Road Show

Several people have asked me what the Six Sources are in Unitarian Universalism today. They are at the end of this column and I'd invite you to read through them to see what ones you find useful and what ones you might not like as much.

My reason to use the Sources is that our Seven Principles of aspiration and ethical values do not arise from a vacuum. They are the sum total of millennia of history, thoughts and deeds of courageous women

In a consumer society
there are inevitably two
kinds of slaves: the
prisoners of addiction and
the prisoners of envy.

-Ivan Illich

and men, and they represent the dreams of liberal religious and secular people from around the world. My approach to the Sources is that we cannot appreciate a few and discard the others. They all have value and they all feed our greatest hopes for ourselves and our world.

I will continue to speak about the Sources in coming months. I'd be delighted if anyone can identify a close affinity to any Source and would like to share more about why they like it so much. Many people, for example, are very appreciative of the Source on humanist teachings (the Fifth Source below). Others will resonate with the Sources that speak to wisdom or the words and deeds of prophetic women and men.

The second suggestion I have is to suggest you explore each Source of our 21st century faith and see if there's anything about it that moves you in a positive or nurturing way.

As we move forward into the holiday season I hope that the Sources will be like a spring of pure water to quench a thirst for meaning in these intense times.

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOURCES

1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
2. Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
3. Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
4. Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
5. Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
6. Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

A Word From Your President!

November is upon us and the end of 2014 is rushing to meet us head on.

As the Transition Team works diligently with Rev. Alex on mission, vision, and other interim ministry tasks, the Board leads our congregation toward calling a settled minister. Westside's interim ministry began in August 2014 so the timeline for the arrival of a new settled minister would be Fall 2016, per the UUA Settlement Handbook. (For more information on this see: http://www.uua.org/documents/mpl/transitions/settlement_handbook.pdf)

This means that between January and June of 2015, Westside will be consulting with resource personnel from the UUA. They are District Representative Rev. Susan Smith (she has already jump-started the interim ministry.), our Ministerial Settlement Representative Rev. Jennifer Innis, and our District Financial Consultant who will be assigned to us soon. They will bring their collective expertise and experience in guiding our congregation and the Search Committee towards its ministerial goal.

Your Board will plan the search committee process, adopt a search committee budget and the congregation will elect the Ministerial Search Committee from a slate of nominees, ideally, at the Annual Congregational Meeting in June.

Plenty of kind, decent, caring people have no religious beliefs, and they act out of the goodness of their hearts. Conversely, plenty of people who profess to be religious, even those who worship regularly, show no particular interest in the world beyond themselves.

-John Danforth

Please take time to consider whether you would be interested in serving on this team. I will tell you up front that it will require a stout commitment. After all, the selection of a full time, settled minister is very important in the life of our church. The Settlement Handbook states: No choice is more important to the future of a Unitarian Universalist congregation than its call of a minister. A thorough, uncorrupted, and mutually respectful search process is the essential first step in the hoped-for partnership of lay and ordained leaders. Please keep in mind as you consider this that you have the unwavering support of your fellow Westsiders, NTUUC and the UUA.

Westside's Bylaws do not preclude any member from serving on the team but the UUA recommends that: During the search, members should be released from other major duties in the congregation. So don't feel that you cannot serve because of current church commitments.

We have experienced some staggering changes since last October – Russell and Gayle moved to Chicago. Westside partied up a storm during our incredibly successful Progressive Auction and Dinner last November and this September brought us overwhelming shock and grief at the loss of our dear members, Mark and Jeff. Coming together to share the sadness, the memories, the love and goodness is a marker of our healthy beloved community. The vibrancy, activity and love in this community have been undeniable – together we continue to move forward.

*In Westside and UU love,
Cindy*

Westside Library

The Library Committee thanks everyone for supporting our Book Fair. Since we extended the Fair, the final results were not available at press time.

The Children's RE lending library is now housed within the main library, located by the Welcome Desk. We haven't gotten it all organized yet... if you would like to help please contact library@westsideuu.org.

Join a Circle Supper, November 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 needed. Please contact Gail Kilman at gailkilman@mac.com or 817-294-8938. Our Family Circle Supper will be taking a break until the third Saturday in January.

Casino Night – November 8!

Westside is hosting a Casino Night on November 8 to raise money for the general fund. Bring some friends and enjoy an exciting evening playing Blackjack, Roulette, Craps, and Poker from 6:30 to 9:30. Along with the games, there will be Karaoke (what happens in Karaoke stays in Karaoke – you hope) from 7 to 9 plus a bake sale. We will also be serving finger foods and wine (donations appreciated). If you would like to volunteer to help, please email Paul McClellan at jmclaypool@yahoo.com or call him at 817-556-9458. Please RSVP for childcare to childcare@westsideuu.org. You must RSVP by Nov. 5.

If more politicians in this country were thinking about the next generation instead of the next election, it might be better for the United States and the world.

-Claude Pepper

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.

September '14	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$876.59
August '14	Day Resource Center, Fort Worth	\$827.28
August '14	The Unaccompanied Children from Central America	\$941.96
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
October '12	UUSC & UUA Sunday	\$825.22
September '12	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$1,587.97
August '12	Women's Center of Tarrant County	\$937.52
July '12	Samaritan House Dinners Fund	\$808.66
July '12	Mountain District Wild Fire Relief	\$273.75
June '12	Alliance for Children	\$614.79
May '12	Water.org	\$617.75
April '12	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$863.81
March '12	In-Reach Fund	\$1225.38
February '12	Presbyterian Night Shelter	\$971.72
January '12	Multicultural Alliance	\$807.83
December '11	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$1,096.25
November '11	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	\$730.07
October '11	Child Study Center	\$643.42
October '11	UUA Association Sunday	\$149.00
September '11	InReach Fund	\$1,071.26
August '11	Free the Slaves	\$1,030.91
July '11	Samaritan House Dinner Fund	\$1,082.64
June '11	Mental Health Mental Retardation Vision	\$819.52
May '11	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$1,010.67
May '11	Mobile Recreation Summer Day Camp	\$148.00
April '11	UUA/UUSC Japan Relief Fund	\$960.25

There is no greatness
where there is not
simplicity, goodness, and
truth.

-Leo Tolstoy

Summary of the September 17 Board Meeting

The Westside Story
November 2014

Consent Agenda (reports and minutes in the minutes book):

A. Board Meeting Minutes August 20, 2014

B. 2014 Grant Request Information

C. Committee Reports:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| a. Safe Congregational | d. Social Justice |
| b. CRE | e. Nomination & Leadership |
| c. LRPC | f. Council of Committees |

Other Reports:

A. Digital Communications – the committee is investigating better discussion groups than the Yahoo listserv that will allow for monitoring.

B. Membership – Yearly Status letters will be sent to a list of inactive members provided by the committee.

C. Social - The school has moved one microwave to the front of the church and we have a donation for a replacement in the kitchen.

Minister's Report (full report in the minutes book) – In addition to his written report Rev. Alex told us that the Montessori school would like a status report as to whether or not we plan to sell the building. The lease ends in 2018. After discussion the Board decided to inform the school that we want our own building after that.

DLRE Report – Cameron told us a bit about his background. He has established an office and looks forward to working with us.

Financial Statements (full report in the minutes book) – The financial reports will be filed for review. Lane noted that the Building Committee is over budget at this point.

Audit Committee – The committee is reviewing the books and will make a report to the October Board meeting.

Board Retreat – The Retreat will be held at the The Villa's on the Bluff Clubhouse on October 25, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ABUC and Classroom Doors – Folding doors are too expensive so the committee is considering bifold or barn doors instead. We have a bid for \$6,000 that covers the door installation but not the demolition and flooring. Floor tiles cost \$3.00 per sq. ft.

Grant Applications – Board members will prepare grant requests from NTUUC for Evenings at Westside, permanent signage, and flooring repair in the classrooms.

Appointments – The following appointments and approvals were made:

1. Nominating & Leadership Development Co-Chairs, Caroline Nixon and Lela Woods
2. Digital Communications Chair, Craig Bowes
3. TXUUJM Advisory Board member, Peter Bagley
4. Chaplain Co-Chairs, Beverly Archibald and John Gilbert
5. Loose Plate Offerings:
 - a. October, UUSC & UUA Sunday
 - b. November, Catholic Charities
 - c. December, Meals on Wheels

The most important scientific revolutions all include, as their only common feature, the dethronement of human arrogance from one pedestal after another of previous convictions about our centrality in the cosmos.

-Stephen Jay Gould

Mid-Year Congregational Meeting – The meeting will be held January 18, 2015.

Usable Sunday Space – Tricia Bowes did a study that shows that a total of 1,593.1 sq. ft. of building space is being used for storage by the Montessori school each Sunday.

Start-Up Leaders' Meeting – Notes from the meeting will be put on our website. The Board assigned the following priority issues to the appropriate committee:

1. Behavioral covenants/policies to be discussed at our Board Retreat.
2. Different configurations of worship service are referred to the Worship Team.
3. Re-wording of the Mission and Vision statements are referred to the Transition Team.

Settled Minister – The steps for calling a settled minister were distributed to Board members. Rev. Alex noted that a 3 to 5 year Developmental Minister is a possible alternative to a Settled Minister.

Candidate Forums – The Board approved holding two candidates forums for the District 12 Congressional race and the Texas Senate District 10 race, in conjunction with the League of Women Voters, at the church in October.

The next meeting will be November 19, 2014. All members are welcome to attend. Notebooks containing copies of the full minutes, reports, and financial statements are available in the church office.

-Reed K. Bilz. Secretary

Got Tools Handy?

Over the years Westside's Toolbox has become somewhat bare of needed tools. Tools get borrowed, passed around, don't get put back, or get put someplace other than the toolbox, and like socks in the dryer, just up and disappear.

Gene McKeon has an idea on how we can address this. It is likely that some of us have an oversupply of tools in our garages, shed and junk drawers. So, we can help out by donating to Westside's Toolbox. Here is a list of what is most needed:

- Tape measure 25 ft.
- Set of screwdrivers flat and Phillips head of five - ten each
- Pliers different types, adjustable, etc.
- Hammer
- Crescent wrench
- Assorted wrenches
- Two vise grips large and small

Please, please contact Gene before you make your donation. He may have already received what was needed from another generous person. You can email him at eugenemckeon@gmail.com, or call or text him at 817-455-2533, or give him a holler at church. THANKS!

Westside Giving Tips

You may not be able to change the world, but at least you can embarrass the guilty.

-Jessica Mitford

November is here! 2014 tax year is ending soon; here are some more tips save on taxes and benefit Westside at the same time:

– Do you have appreciated stocks? Avoid paying capital gains by donating the stocks directly to the Westside. There is no need to itemize nor are there income restrictions. However if you do itemize, you can also deduct the fair market value of the stocks up to 30% of Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).

- Do you have unneeded life insurance? You can benefit from a current year tax deduction and remove the value from your estate by naming Westside as the irrevocable beneficiary of the policy.
- Do you have unneeded real estate or property or are you updating your retirement or estate plans and would like to include Westside? Check out more tips in December or contact us.

Some of these strategies can also be used to fulfill your annual pledge. Remember, giving to the Endowment is in addition to your annual pledge. Your annual pledge keeps our day to day operations funded and Westside serving our community. If you would like more information on any of these topics, contact us at Endowment@WestsideUU.org.

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

There is no disguise that
can for long conceal love
where it exists or simulate
it where it does not.

-Francois, duc de La
Rochefoucauld

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.

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.

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AND SERVE

THANKSGIVING DAY POTLUCK?

Rev. Alex would like to know if people are interested in a Thanksgiving Day (November 27) potluck at the church. Anyone from Westside UU who doesn't have a place to go or people to visit would be welcome. My guess is early afternoon meal with omnivore, vegetarian and vegan options if people bring a variety of foods. Alex will purchase, prepare and cook a free range turkey. Please contact him at revalexholt@earthlink.net if you are interested in attending.

Covenant Groups

New Covenant Groups were formed in September, but it's never too late to join one if you find the time and want a really good way to get to know a small group of people on a deeper, more meaningful level. Groups meet once a month for a year to discuss personal takes on general questions regarding Unitarian Universalism and matters of faith. Each group of from six to ten people creates a covenant of how they will be with one another and promises to provide a service for the church or the neighborhood sometime during the year. Each group has a trained facilitator at its center. If you wish to learn more about Covenant Groups or are ready to join, you can find a brochure on the welcome table on Sunday mornings or you may contact Annie Foerster at red-seamripper@gmail.com. Choose your preferred time to meet from Wednesday, Thursday or Friday evening or Saturday afternoon.

Buddhist Meditation Group

Rev. Alex will continue to lead the new Buddhist meditation group meeting at the church every Thursday at 7 p.m. The group is open to anyone and no painful physical positions are required. If you are interested but have little or no meditation experience, please contact Alex and arrange to arrive a few minutes early for basic instruction. We meet for about an hour with sitting followed by discussion and occasionally refreshments.

The man who is always
waving the flag usually
waives what it stands for.

-Laurence J. Peter

Contemporary Book Group

The Westside Story
November 2014

On December 7 (not our usual 4th Sunday) the Book Group will discuss *Red Water* by Judith Freeman. From Goodreads:

In 1857, at a place called Mountain Meadows in southern Utah, a band of Mormons and Indians massacred 120 emigrants. Twenty years later, the slaughter was blamed on one man named John D. Lee, previously a member of Brigham Young's inner circle. *Red Water* imagines Lee's extraordinary frontier life through the eyes of three of his nineteen wives. Emma is a vigorous and capable Englishwoman who loves her husband unconditionally. Ann, a bride at thirteen years old, is an independent adventurer. Rachel is exceedingly devout and married Lee to be with her sister, his first wife. These spirited women describe their struggle to survive Utah's punishing landscape and the poisonous rivalries within their polygamous family, led by a magnetic, industrious, and considerate husband, who was also unafraid of using his faith to justify desire and ambition. We meet in the glass classroom after the second service on the 4th Sunday of each month (except November). 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.

7th Principle Notes from Your Green Sanctuary Committee

Experts deliver mixed outlook at 'Energy Summit' in Addison Louanne Rice, Linda Hanratty, and Bob Vann joined around 250 others at the "Earth, Wind & Fire" Energy Summit Oct 4-5 in Addison, organized by the Dallas Sierra Club. Pre-eminent experts in climate science and energy resources from across the country presented a fascinating and very high level array of information. Most presenters used Power Point style slides, and the DSC is working hard to get these up online. As this is written, they haven't yet announced the pertinent web address, so check with Bob Vann on where to view or download this information.

As Winter approaches, here is a recap of Tips for Managing Home Energy Use, courtesy of Atmos Energy:

Insulate older windows using storm or thermal windows with double-paned glass.

Seal leaks around windows, doors, and openings, such as pipes and ducts, using caulking and weather stripping.

Put water-flow restrictors in showerheads and faucets to reduce your hot water use. Water-saving showerheads and faucet aerators can save up to 50 percent on your hot water use. We installed water-saving showerheads, finally, and they work better than the old water-wasters.

Close vents and doors in unused rooms, and close cabinet and closet doors on outside walls, which can leak a good deal of air.

Avoid blocking vents and air returns with furniture, area rugs or draperies. Have your heating contractor inspect and seal ductwork to ensure adequate airflow and eliminate energy loss. It's not uncommon for ducts to leak as much as one-fifth of the air passing through them.

Insulate electrical switches and outlets with foam gaskets. These inexpensive, pre-cut gaskets help to stop cold air from entering your home through switch and outlet plates, particularly on outside walls.

Set your water heater temperature at 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Lowering the water heater's setting could cut your water heating cost by 20 percent. Another tip is to put an insulating blanket around older (only) water heater tanks to retain heat. Water-heating is a typical family's third-largest energy expense.

It is difficult to get the
news from poems yet
men die miserably every
day for lack of what is
found there.

-William Carlos Williams

**The Westside Story
November 2014**

In cold weather, use ventilating fans in bathrooms and the kitchen sparingly. In just one hour, these fans can extract a houseful of warm air. We cover the vent on our stove surface in cold weather.

Recommended Reading: *Storms of My Grandchildren* by James Hansen.

Green Movie Nites: Due to the upcoming holidays, there will be no movies in November or December.

December Committee Meeting: The Green Sanctuary Committee will meet again December 14 at 12:45 p.m. in the Glass Classroom. Whether you're interested in membership, or just want to sit-in, you will be very welcome.

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. In November the book we will discuss is *In Defense of Secular Humanism* by Paul Kurtz. The book contains essays on the subject by one of the leading Humanist thinkers of the recent past. He drafted the Humanist Manifesto II and was editor of *The Humanist* magazine for many years. All are welcome. Facilitated by Morris Meador, meadormorris1@gmail.com.

Potluck Sunday

Our Potluck Sunday will be held on November 9 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.

Humanists of Fort Worth

The HoFW will meet at its regular time at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12. All Freethinkers are welcome to attend. Please check the HoFW Meetup site for further information at <http://www.meetup.com/Humanists-of-Fort-Worth/>

Quilting/Handiwork Group – November 16

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, November 22!

Kindness is in our power,
even when fondness is
not.

-Samuel Johnson

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.

**The Westside Story
November 2014**

You can sign up on our meetup.com website located at: 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.

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

Call for Nominations for the 2014 NTUUC Recognition Awards

Please submit your nominations by December 8.

The goal of these awards is to recognize and honor those who contribute to the cause of the Unitarian Universalist religion and congregations in North Texas.

Nominations may be submitted by individuals or congregations, and there are no requirements of age or length of membership of nominees.

There will three categories of awards, for service by ministers, lay staff members, and volunteers. The Robert Raible Award honors the twenty-two year ministry at First Unitarian by the beloved 'Daddy Bob,' the Ruth Clark Award recognizes the many years of dedicated service by the first paid DRE in the Southwest Conference, and the Marty Robinson Award commemorates the decades of wide-ranging contributions of this treasured volunteer and member.

See more at: <http://www.ntuuc.org/awards.shtml#sthash.TEuCSVHj.dpuf>

Thanksgiving Baskets for our Neighbors

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

SCAC will purchase the turkeys, for which the clients will pay \$5.00 if they are able to do so. In 2013 SCAC provided food to over 400 families at Thanksgiving.

We will have a poster with items on it that people will select and fill, and then bring back to the church by November 16. Remember, the items must be the sizes requested, and must be well before the "sell by" date - SCAC cannot distribute food past that date by law. Sunday, November

Art is partly communication, but only partly. The rest is discovery.

-William Golding

**The Westside Story
November 2014**

23, we will fill the bags with each item required. On Monday, Jay and Suzie Lotven will deliver them to SCAC. In 2013, Westside provided 54 bags. This year, we have committed to that same number. Please let Jay, Suzie, or Kim Lucas know if you would like to donate bags for the groceries, paper or cloth. Each bag will contain the following items:

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

If you would rather make a financial contribution, place a check in the offering basket with memo marked "Thanksgiving Baskets". Volunteers from Social Justice will be happy to shop for you.

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 EvolUUtion camp, and a renaissance module on youth ministry.

Learn more at: <http://www.uuasouthernregion.org/fallharvest2014.html>.

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.

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. 23 until Dec. 7. 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.

Loyalty to a petrified
opinion never yet broke
a chain or freed a human
soul.

-Mark Twain

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 14. If you would rather make a financial contribution, place a check in the offering basket with memo marked "Angels at Westside." Contact: Kim Lucas at devinewoman@msn.com.

**The Westside Story
November 2014**

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



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



Our conscience is not the vessel of eternal verities. It grows with our social life, and a new social condition means a radical change in conscience.

-Walter Lippmann

Our Board

President: Cindy Fountain

Vice-President: Dianne Nixon

Secretary: Reed Bilz

Treasurer: Lane Smutz

Directors: Tricia Bowes, Ginger Courtney, Ric Hansen, Don Jackson, Ken Leising, Bill Russell

September 2014 Attendance

	10AM Adults	11:30 Adults	10AM Kids	11:30 Kids	Total
Sep. 7	56	77	9	17	159
Sep. 14	56	74	9	20	159
Sep. 21	51	73	9	17	150
Sep. 28	40	85	8	24	157
Averages	50.75	77.25	8.75	19.5	156.25



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 Transition Team know. The Transition Team also wants to know if you have a criticism, concern, or question. Look for us after the service, call us, or email us at TransitionTeam@westsideuu.org.

Transition Team

Sara Munoz, Chair, Myrtle McMahan, Suzie Lotven,
Tanner Trask

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.

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