

*June 2015*



**The Westside Story**

**Westside Unitarian  
Universalist Church**

901 Page Avenue  
Fort Worth, Texas  
76110

10:00 & 11:30 AM  
Sundays

[www.WestsideUU.org](http://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

**June 7** – *“The Good Heart: Reflections on Buddhism and the Teachings of Jesus”* by Reverend Alex Holt. The late Marcus Borg wrote a book about the similar sayings and teachings of the Buddha and Jesus. How are these teachings similar to one another despite their different theologies? Can we understand terms like compassion and justice in new ways?

**June 14** – *“T-Shirt Sunday”* by Reverend Alex Holt. Do you have a t-shirt that says something unique or wonderful about you? When did t-shirts become billboards for individual expression? This morning we will share our special t-shirts with one another as ways to learn more about our passions and humor in our lives. This is also the last “regular” Sunday service of the church year before we begin our summer services.

**June 21** – *“Reflections from Those Who Father”* a Father’s Day Tribute. Every man has been a son; many men have had a part in the lives of children as fathers, grandfathers, and godfathers. On this Father’s Day, Westside members will reflect on their experiences and memories.

**June 28** – *“The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Dignity of All People”* by Don Jackson. The Reflection of June 28 will explore the efforts of Human Rights activists since 1948 to protect the rights and lives of all people. This is a crucial time for resolving ethnic, cultural and religious conflicts, given the rise of ISIS in the Middle East.

### **SUNDAY MORNING OPTIONS**

## Adult Religious Education Class

11:30 in the “Glass Classroom”

In June we begin a series on the Transcendentalist Movement that will be based on a series of 30 minute videos. This should be a great learning experience about a group who changed the course of Unitarianism. For more information, contact Morris Meador (meadormorris1@gmail.com).

## Religious Odysseys – June 28

Once a month from 11:30 to 12:30 (usually the fourth Sunday) 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 there will be discussion. 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. Contact Morris Meador (meadormorris1@gmail.com).

Religious Odysseys on CDs! Check the library for CD recordings of the Odysseys you have missed. We have had 15 Odysseys thus far from which to choose! Listen at home at your convenience. Learn something new about someone you think you know!

## Forum: 10 - 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 (jbarnes107@gmail.com) and ask to be put on the Forum roster.

The difference in mind  
between man and the  
higher animals, great as  
it is, certainly is one of  
degree and not of kind.

-Charles Darwin

# Children's Religious Education Announcement

The Westside Story  
June 2015

Join us this summer for Our Sacred Universe, which will include very special programming. In addition, congregants can sign up to teach this summer just a few weeks without long term commitment.

For additional information, please contact DLRE Cameron Young [re@westsideuu.org](mailto:re@westsideuu.org).

## **IN AND AROUND WESTSIDE**

### **The Traveling Minister's Road Show**

"What's T-shirt Sunday?"

A couple of years ago I was in Bend, Oregon doing a two-year interim ministry there. The congregation had grown rapidly in recent years and people were still learning about each other and Unitarian Universalism.

I thought it would be fun to try out a new way for people to learn more about one another and also have a fun Sunday. Hence the first annual 't-shirt Sunday' began there. I'd like to try the same idea here this year.

So on Sunday, June 14, I am inviting everyone to wear a t-shirt that says something about themselves. For example I have a t-shirt that Debra got me that says "O.C.D. Obsessive Cat Disorder" with the outlines of three cats. Many of you know my fondness for cats and so that shirt always gets some laughs as well as more conversation about the wily nature of cats. A t-shirt might not have any words or images on it but be very special to you. How might you explain its significance to someone else?

Of course there's no requirement to wear a t-shirt on that Sunday. I do hope that folks will try it out this year and wear a t-shirt that is special in your life.

As this church year comes to an end I am mindful that it's been intense for many of us. We had several deaths this year of people beloved in the congregation. There were the natural disagreements that sometimes seem to become central to our conversations and vision of Westside. Nonetheless, you as always pull together when the community needs to mourn or to celebrate. Linda Ice and others did an incredible job with the 20th Anniversary celebration. The annual stewardship campaign appears to be a tremendous success thanks to so many of you but especially to Betty Sanders for her wonderful financial gift of \$20,000, to everyone who increased their pledge as a matching challenge from her gift, and to all those who managed the campaign itself. Much more good work has happened such as the wise and calm leadership of Cindy Fountain as board president, Lane Smutz in his role as treasurer, and all those on your board of directors. I think also of the chaplain corps, the transition team, and now the soon-to-be-elected ministerial search committee. Staff members like Cherri, Cameron and Gene have provided much assistance to keep Westside running smoothly and with great attention on programs and the physical plant.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be your interim minister. I am honored to be here and I have no doubt Westside will get a wonderful minister by this time next year. I've taken many opportunities among colleagues to brag about how great Westside is doing in the work of church and community. My hope is that there'll be good interest by potential candidates.

Have a wonderful summer and I hope you'll find the perfect t-shirt that speaks to who you are or what your passions might be in the world.

- Alex

**In some circumstances, the refusal to be defeated is a refusal to be educated.**

-Margaret Halsey

## A Word From Your President

Hello Westside! A new summer season will soon be upon us, and a new season will soon be starting at Westside. It is that time of year when new leadership faces, a new budget and new bylaw proposals take place. This particular year is also the start of the ministerial search, a process with optimism, nervousness and determination all rolled into one.

Over the past few months, not just me and not just the Board, but you, the Congregation, have done tremendous work. You have taken the time to learn about the search process; you have participated in the work of bringing a nominee slate together, and you have done the work of establishing the search committee. I know that you will continue this good work as you help compile a congregational record and support the search committee and Board in the coming year.

And, you, the Congregation were instrumental in building a budget that will make it possible to pay fair wages with benefits to our staff, among other good and needed items. The budget work-meeting had 19 people in attendance to help determine if Westside was going to take the “generosity route or the scarcity route.” That group decided on generosity. You showed up for sessions in which the proposed budget was reviewed and what Westside’s goals were. You gave your input and asked questions. But, you didn’t stop there. You started pledging, came to share in the Anniversary Celebration and, while there, received the wondrous surprise of Betty Sander’s donation. And, what did you do? Well, you upped your pledges or gave an extra one-time gift to honor and try to match Betty’s donation. You did this, Westside!

That is just some of the work you have done, in whatever position you hold – Chair, Friend, Member, Director, Staff, Officer, Teacher. You are doing the work of this church!

Thank You!!

It has been a true privilege to serve as your president, and I am ever grateful for the support and encouragement that I have received.

*In UU Faith & Love,  
- Cindy*

## Members, Note the Annual Congregational Meeting

June 7, 1:15 pm

Join the Board for the annual meeting after a short break and lunch following the second service. Childcare will be available; please RSVP Karen Vera at [childcare@westsideuu.org](mailto:childcare@westsideuu.org) by June 3, in order to ensure enough childcare workers for the number of children.

The agenda will include:

- **Youth Recognition Award**
- **President’s Report**
- **Treasurer’s Report**
- **Renewal of Endowment Investing & Distribution Policy & Socially Responsible Investing Policy**
- **Bylaw Vote to add Safe Congregation Description**
- **Adoption of Budget**
- **Election of Officers and Directors**
- **Election of Nominating & Leadership Development Committee**
- **Election of Endowment Committee Members**
- **Ratification of the Audit Committee appointed by the Board**

A teacher affects  
eternity; he can never  
tell where his influence  
stops.

-Henry Adams

Your participation is welcome! Contact [president@westsideuu.org](mailto:president@westsideuu.org) for questions.

## Rev. Alex Vacation and Work Plans for Summer

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Rev. Alex will be driving to UUA General Assembly to be held in Portland, Oregon the end of June. He will join several other individuals and families from Westside who will be attending GA. Later on he and Debra will go to Vancouver Island in British Columbia for a week before he returns here in mid-July. He will then likely travel to the East Coast as well as to the UUA headquarters in Boston and will return to work after the first week of August. He will always be available for emergencies.

### 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.

April '15	South Central Alliance of Churches	<b>\$1,218.46</b>
March '15	Westside's InReach Fund	<b>\$997.83</b>
February '15	Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry	<b>\$801.00</b>
January '15	Texas ReEntry Service	<b>\$833.20</b>
December '14	Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County.	<b>\$805.00</b>
November '14	Catholic Charities of Fort Worth	<b>\$923.86</b>
October '14	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	<b>\$454.00</b>
October '14	Friends of the UUA.	<b>\$140.00</b>
September '14	South Central Alliance of Churches	<b>\$876.59</b>
August '14	Day Resource Center, Fort Worth	<b>\$827.28</b>
August '14	The Unaccompanied Children from Central America	<b>\$941.96</b>
July '14	James L. West Special Care Center	<b>\$854.16</b>
June '14	Planned Parenthood of Tarrant County	<b>\$619.00</b>
May '14	Sickle Cell Anemia Assn. of Tarrant County	<b>\$692.76</b>
April '14	South Central Alliance of Churches	<b>\$675.73</b>
March '14	InReach Fund	<b>\$934.38</b>
February '14	Long Way Home	<b>\$504.00</b>
January '14	Gill Children's Services	<b>\$777.82</b>
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 Co,	<b>\$842.58</b>
July '13	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 Pantry	<b>\$930.61</b>
December '12	Cancer Care Services	<b>\$974.93</b>
December '12	UUA Sandy Storm Relief	<b>\$375.75</b>
November '12	Lighthouse for the Blind	<b>\$931.54</b>
October '12	UUSC & UUA Sunday	<b>\$825.22</b>
September '12	South Central Alliance of Churches	<b>\$1,587.97</b>
August '12	Women's Center of Tarrant County	<b>\$937.52</b>
July '12	Samaritan House Dinners Fund	<b>\$808.66</b>
July '12	Mountain District Wild Fire Relief	<b>\$273.75</b>

Time is the fairest and  
toughest judge.

-Edgar Quinet

## CRE Teacher Appreciation Pool Party!

June 11: 7 - 9 p.m.

We have reserved Forest Park Pool for a wonderful night. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. All CRE teachers from this past school year and their families are invited. Want to go? Commit to teach three Sundays this summer and you'll be invited too!

## CRE Volunteer Spotlight

Leann Maxwell is a very important contributor to Children's Religious Education at Westside. She has served this past year as co-chair of the CRE committee and she was especially significant at keeping the program intact during the period where Westside did not have a full-time Director of Religious Education. She also co-facilitates Children's Chapel on a monthly basis. We love you Leann!

## Young Adults

The Young Adult Unitarian Universalists of Fort Worth will continue their monthly "Series on Oppression" this month on June 18 with "Gender: Inside Out." This session will be facilitated by Westside's own Layne Craig and should not be missed!



## Rainy Nights, Radio Play and Local Sponsors Made May Exciting for E@W

By Janell Broyles

Despite heavy rain and lightning, a good number of brave souls managed to come out to see Bethan give a great performance on May 9. If you couldn't make it, or just want to hear it again, the recorded show will start airing in June on The Southside Pirate. ([www.southsidepirate.com](http://www.southsidepirate.com)) Fort Worth's only radio station devoted to local music. Keep an eye on their Facebook Page (and ours) to find out air times.

We have six more great performances coming up between now and November; be sure and mark them on your calendar. You can also keep track via our website, [www.eveningsatwestside.org](http://www.eveningsatwestside.org) or by "Like"-ing our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/eveningsatwestside](http://www.facebook.com/eveningsatwestside)

*Our next performer is Fort Worth's Katsük. Lead by Daniel Katsük, this band seamlessly fuses world sounds with classical instrumentation, tribal percussion, infectious pop/folk melodies and the soaring voice of its frontman and founder. You can learn more about Daniel and his musical journeys at [katsuk.com](http://katsuk.com).*



If there's a book you really want to read but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.

-Toni Morrison

## Calling All Dramatic Types

The Westside Story  
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In October, we'll be putting on "Stories in the Dark" for our annual E@W fundraiser. This will include readings of chilling tales (or poems), performing murder ballads, and anything else that we think fits the program. If you have an itch to do a reading, or would like to be the dry-ice wrangler or help build a set/design the stage, we need you! Our first planning meeting was May 18, but if you missed that, don't despair; contact Janell Broyles at [janell.broyles@gmail.com](mailto:janell.broyles@gmail.com) (or just find her at church) and she'll add you to the list.

## Do You Have a Business You'd Like to Promote? We Have a Deal For You!

The Southside Pirate and Evenings at Westside have teamed up to offer a tremendous deal for local businesses; \$25.00 a month to be a sponsor of our broadcast performances. What this means is that your business name (and slogan, and contact info) will be mentioned in the Pirate promos for upcoming broadcasts and during the broadcast itself. Your business will ALSO get mentioned in event programs and on Facebook and the E@W website. Support local music and promote your business; win-win!

### 2015 Evenings at Westside Calendar:

**JUNE 13: KATSÜK**

**JULY 11: A Night of Spoken Word**

**AUGUST 8: Little Jack Melody and His Young Turks**

**SEPTEMBER 12: Dramatic Readings (Details to come!)**

**OCTOBER 10: Stories in the Dark**

**NOVEMBER 14: Dramatic Readings (Details to come!)**

## A Message from the Director of Lifespan Religious Education

I can't believe we've already finished the school year, and what a great one we've had! I know this transition period has not exactly been easy for Westside, but you've shown some very strong dedication and resilience, and as a result, I'm truly honored to be a part of this church. We have amazing kids, who are keenly aware of their religious identity, amazing teens who are excellent models of how to be UU in the greater community, and incredible adult and young adult leadership who have worked tremendously hard at putting Westside on the map. Having people like this in place makes it much easier to have a great Religious Education program. Here's to you!

- Cameron Young, DLRE

## Endowment Fund

Peter Bagley has offered to prepare last wills and testament at no cost for full members of Westside UU Church if they agree to name Westside UU Church as a beneficiary of their will for a minimum bequest of \$20,000.00 or more. The limitation to this offer is that Peter will prepare what is called a "simple" will for a single person or reciprocal wills for spouses. A simple will is one that does not require developing strategies to avoid estate taxation, the establishment of a testamentary trust for beneficiaries, or a complex disposition of property, such as one involving multiple beneficiaries or devises of unique property. Peter will be the judge of whether a will is "simple" or not.

Peter will do one will a month on a first-come, first-served basis. In making a simple will, Peter will start preparation of the will without an in-person consultation by conferring with the Westside member by telephone and/or email, and will meet with the client after the will is ready for signature.

Architecture is inhabited  
sculpture.

-Constantin Brancusi

## Join a Circle Supper - June 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 Trudy Sena at esena6236@yahoo.com.

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 April 15 Board Meeting

Consent Agenda (reports and minutes in the minutes book)

**A. Board Meeting Minutes March 18, 2015**

**B. Coming of Age T-shirt sale/fund raiser**

**C. Committee Reports**

**a. Building & Grounds**

**b. Social Justice**

**c. Membership**

**d. Stewardship**

**e. Adult RE**

**f. Evenings at Westside**

**g. NTUUC**

**D. GA Delegate Approval of Tricia Bowes, Bill Terry, Andrea Petty and James Finn**

**E. Letter from Gene Walker**

**Minister's Report** - (full report in the minutes book)

**DLRE Report** - The board agreed to pursue steps for Cameron to be issued a debit card.

**Financial Statements** - (full report in the minutes book)

**Other Reports:**

**A. Classroom Doors** - Construction is complete and doors will be hung April 16.

**B. Safe Congregation Policy** - A draft will be ready for our review next month along with an update of the Disruptive Behavior Policy.

**C. Sign and Gutter Repairs** - Work is progressing on the sign, and gutter repair is pending favorable weather.

**D. Search Committee** - Names of the ten Nominees will be conveyed to the congregation May 3 and May 4. Selection of the committee will be completed May 17 between the church services.

**E. Hardwick Fund** - We will set aside \$2,000 from this fund for Leadership Development, and the remaining \$8,000 will be placed in an accessible fund for Board distribution.

**New Business:**

**A. In-Reach/Minister's Discretionary Fund** - We will discuss this proposal next month.

**B. Lunch for Annual Meeting** June 7 will be provided by the youth as a fund raiser.

**C. SMART Group** - The \$956 in the SMART fund will be given to the new SMART facilitators. The Board agreed to allow SMART to use the building without charge as a community outreach.

**D. Peace Pole donated by Kim Lucas** - The Board agreed to accept the pole as a collective memorial for deceased church members. ABUC will investigate proper display of the pole and suitable plaques for our 17 deceased members.

There is nothing worse than a sharp image of a fuzzy concept.

The next meeting will be June 17, at 7:00 p.m. All members are welcome to attend. Notebooks containing copies of the full minutes, reports, and financial statements are available in the church office.

## **Westside Library**

The Westside Unitarian Universalist Library currently contains over 900 books. Since the Library Committee was formed in October of 2012, we have worked diligently to balance our holdings and to carry books that you won't find in other Fort Worth libraries. Our library provides books about not only secular humanist philosophy, but also a wide range of spiritual paths and current books on Unitarian Universalism. The library now better reflects our progressive, inclusive and positive presence in the world through both modern writings and relevant classics. I guarantee that any Westside member or friend who walks into our library or searches our online catalog will find an author or idea that ne\* has never before encountered. Take me up on that at [www.librarything.com/catalog/Westsideuu](http://www.librarything.com/catalog/Westsideuu) or by visiting the library on Sunday morning.

\*That is a gender-neutral pronoun for you; as in 'neutral he or she' - the e sounds the same way.

- Anita Snyder, Library Sub-committee Chairperson

## **Meditation Group Plans for Summer**

Rev. Alex and the Thursday meditation group will take a break between June 18 and the end of July. Given the restrictions for key use at Westside we probably cannot meet at Westside on Thursdays while Alex is gone for General Assembly and vacation in July. We will have our final Thursday meeting on June 11 at 7 pm in the sanctuary. We will begin again in early August. If there's any change to that plan or if we work out a way for the group to meet anyway there will be further announcements in the weekly email and the newsletter.

## **Westside Women's Group**

A women's group is being developed at Westside. At the initial gathering, we decided that we will meet at the church on the third Saturday of every month at 11:30 for a brown bag lunch and brief program. We are also including plenty of time for conversation; we want to get to know each other. So far, we intend that our primary purpose will be social. We will rotate leadership (whatever leadership might entail as time goes by).

We also agreed that all of the above is a place to start. We are open to changes in purpose and structure. We invite everyone to come to our next meeting, June 20, at 11:30. Bring your lunch and your ideas. And come prepared for great conversation. Contact: Debby Rake [dsrake@gmail.com](mailto:dsrake@gmail.com).

## **Contemporary Book Group**

On June 28, we will discuss "The Light Between Oceans" by M. L. Stedman. From Goodreads:

After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, nearly half a day's journey from the coast. To this isolated island Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel. Years later, after two miscarriages and one stillbirth, a boat washes up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby.

Tom, whose records as a lighthouse keeper are meticulous and whose moral principles have withstood a horrific war, wants to report the man and infant immediately. But Isabel has taken the tiny baby to her breast. Against Tom's judgment, they claim her as their own and name her Lucy. When she is two, Tom and Isabel return to the mainland and are reminded that there are other people in the world. Their choice has devastated one of them.

**The theory of democratic government is not that the will of the people is always right, but rather that normal human beings of average intelligence will, if given a chance, learn the right and best course by bitter experience.**

-W.E.B. Du Bois

## **The Westside Story June 2015**

M. L. Stedman's mesmerizing, beautifully written novel seduces us into accommodating Isabel's decision to keep this "gift from God." And we are swept into a story about extraordinarily compelling characters where justice for one person is another's tragic loss.

"The Light Between Oceans" is exquisite and unforgettable, a deeply moving novel.

Join us in the glass classroom after the second service to discuss this book and help us select future books. Contact: Reed Bilz – reed.bilz@gmail.com.



### **Potluck Sunday**

Our Potluck Sunday will be held on June 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 Debra Slane (debraslane@hotmail.com).

### **Humanists of Fort Worth**

The HoFW will meet at its regular time at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10 at Westside. All Freethinkers are welcome to attend. Please check the HoFW Meetup site for further information at <http://www.meetup.com/Humanists-of-Fort-Worth/>

### **Humanist Book Club**

The Humanist Book Club meets at Westside UU Church on the fourth Saturday of the month 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. A book is chosen by the group and the next month it will be discussed together. In June the book is "The Age of Reason" by Thomas Paine. We will also discuss the Third Humanist Manifesto. All are welcome. Facilitated by Morris Meador, meadormorris1@gmail.com

### **Seventh Principle Notes from your Green Sanctuary Committee**

Recycling: Thanks so much to all of you Westside recyclers. Paper; EMPTY bottles, cans & plastic or glass containers; & CLEAN food containers are welcome in the big, blue cart in the Fellowship Hall. Please, NO plastic bags, napkins or tissues, or plastic knives, forks or spoons. And thanks, also, for recycling your used small batteries in the box near the Sanctuary entrance.

If you need to dispose of old human or veterinary meds, Ft. Worth has three sites at police substations where you can drop them off (do not contaminate our drinking water by flushing or pouring down the drain):

350 W. Belknap St. (Note: Parking may be a problem here, it was for me) (open 24-hrs., seven days a wk)

East Patrol, 1100 Nashville St. (8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.)

West Patrol, 3525 Marquita. St. (8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.) (Near the Weatherford traffic circle)

Environmental Tip from "The Green Life"

When shopping for paint, look for paint labeled "Low-VOC." So, what are VOCs?

Volatile Organic Compounds are chemicals that easily evaporate at room temperature (volatile) and are carbon-based (Organic, in this case, refers to the type of chemistry, not the farmer's ethic). VOCs are a major cause of ground-level pollution like ozone, which causes and exacerbates asthma.

**Mirrors, those revealers  
of the truth, are hated;  
that does not prevent  
them from being of use.**

**-Victor Hugo**

They're just plain unhealthy to be around – headache-inducing and linked with risk of cancer and other serious diseases.

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Paint, adhesives, and some plastics, give off VOCs in your home. So when you're buying paint, it's a good idea to look for paint labeled low VOC or VOC-free. Thanks to government testing and enforcement, you can actually trust these labels. In fact, the FTC recently caught two paint companies red-handed, so to speak, misleading consumers about VOC levels. Sherwin-Williams and PPG were advertising paints as "zero-VOC," when most of them were nothing of the sort once you actually add the color to the paint (marketers can be creative).

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

Green Movies: Green movies are currently on hold. The committee will determine in the near future when--or whether--to resume showing.

June Committee Meeting: We will meet June 14 at 12:45 pm in the Glass Classroom. All are welcome.

## **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 (carolynyg@gmail.com).

### **Standing on the Side of Leadership – June 13!**

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, Dallas

NTUUC's annual Standing on the Side of Leadership Conference will focus on developing new skills and opportunities for effective community engagement in a multi-cultural world. The morning sessions, led by Rev. Tamara Lebak, will concentrate on Cultural Competence, the ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures and socio-economic backgrounds, particularly in the context of organizations. Ginny Goldman, Texas' Executive Director of Texas Organizing Project will start the afternoon session which will continue with breakouts offering a variety of ways to apply knowledge gained in the morning into action in North Texas.

Whether you're an elected leader in your congregation or a member/friend who'd like to learn more about this important work and help your congregation open and grow, - See more at: [http://www.ntuuc.org/Standing\\_Leadership\\_2015.shtml#sthash.JoYWJIL1.dpuf](http://www.ntuuc.org/Standing_Leadership_2015.shtml#sthash.JoYWJIL1.dpuf).



*Email submissions to our Editor  
Janice Sims at [janicesims1617@att.net](mailto:janicesims1617@att.net).  
The deadline for submissions is  
the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.*



He that respects himself  
is safe from others; he  
wears a coat of mail  
that none can pierce.

-Henry Wadsworth  
Longfellow

## 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**

## March 2015 Attendance

	10AM Adults	11:30 Adults	10AM Kids	11:30 Kids	Total
April 5	78	49	18	5	150
April 12	45	59	7	11	122
April 19	135	0	24	0	159
April 26	65	44	12	18	139
Averages	80.75	38	15.25	8.5	142.5



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.

## The Six Sources

- 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;
- 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;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- 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;
- 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.

## 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](mailto:TransitionTeam@westsideuu.org).

### Transition Team

Sara Munoz: Chair, Myrtle McMahan, Suzie Lotven,  
Tanner Trask, Robert Slane

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