

November 2016



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.

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Understanding a person does not mean condoning; it only means that one does not accuse him as if one were God or a judge placed above him. -Erich Fromm,

Our homeland is the whole world. Our law is liberty. We have but one thought, revolution in our hearts. -Dario Fo

Sunday Services

November 6: *Making the case for Unitarian Universalism* on January 20, 2017. How can we be a guiding light to help this country address its deep divides? How can we get through this election season together? What comes next? Join the Young Adults of Westside as we share personal stories and reflections on these questions.

November 13: *Music as a Means of Grace*. After the tensions and worries of the last few months, we all need to share something joyful, thoughtful, and beautiful. Music has the power to join us together and lift up our spirits. This service will be a hymn-sing. In the weeks prior to the service, everyone will be invited to name their favorite hymn from *Singing the Living Tradition* (gray book) or *Singing the Journey* (teal book) and, perhaps, why it is special to you. We will sing them together as a celebration of ourselves our community.

November 20: *The New Jim Crow* by Rev. Shari Woodbury. If racial oppression in the U.S. criminal justice system today were an iceberg, then excessive, discriminatory use of force by police would be its visible tip. Mass imprisonment would be the icebound behemoth under the waterline. Drawing from Michelle Alexander's landmark book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, we'll take a look at the contours and origin of this monstrosity. For those interested in going deeper, our Adult Forum will subsequently host a discussion of the book and the issues it raises.

November 27: *All in the Family* by Rev. Shari Woodbury

SUNDAY MORNING OPTIONS

Adult Religious Education Class

11:30-12:30 in the "Glass Classroom"

In November we will continue viewing and discussing a series of DVD lectures from the Great Courses entitled *Religions of the Axial Age: An Approach to the World's Religions*. Our lessons this month include the following titles:

- **Nov. 6:** East Asia and the Shang Dynasty
- **Nov. 13:** The World of Confucius
- **Nov. 20:** The Foundations of Confucianism
- **Nov. 27:** Thanksgiving Weekend: TBA

What could the beliefs and traditions of a Buddhist, a follower of Confucius, or a Christian have in common? How do religions evolve over time? All adults are welcome to join us as we enjoy lively discussions of these topics and continue to grow in our individual and collective faith journeys. For more information, contact Karen Moore at moorekandk@sbcglobal.net.

Religious Odysseys Will Resume in January 2017

Because the fourth Sunday of November falls during Thanksgiving weekend, we will not have a religious odyssey this month. Religious Odysseys focus on how a person's beliefs and life views developed. The person sharing his or her journey talks for 20-30 minutes and then the floor is open for discussion and questions. If you have not attended Adult RE to hear these inspirational odysseys, you are missing out on one of the BEST things happening at Westside! Fortunately, each odyssey is recorded on a CD that is available for check out from our church library. To volunteer to share your Odyssey, or to nominate someone to share theirs, please contact Karen Moore at moorekandk@sbcglobal.net.

Children's Religious Education Events

Children and Youth:

Activities vary by age. Please see www.westsideuu.org/re/re_home.html to learn more.

Coming of Age Class (Tree Room):

Class will be held in the Tree Room every Sunday through May 14, 2017, except November 13 and 27, December 18 and 25, January 1 and 15, February 26, March 26, and April 16 and 23.

If you would like additional information, please email Cameron Young at dlre@westsideuu.org.

Forum: 10 - 11 a.m.

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.

IN AND AROUND WESTSIDE

Minister's Message

The 4 C's of Relationships

Sound intimidating? Don't worry, these four C's of relationships are a lot more fun than the four horsemen of the apocalypse.

Let's start with Coffee and Conversation: Plenty of folks turned out when I held experimental office hours at Avoca last month. So I'll be doing Coffee Shop Office Hours again. If you'd like to connect in person, drop on by on Wednesday, November 2, anytime between 4-8 p.m. This time I'll be hanging out on the south side, at the Barnes & Noble café in the Hulen Shopping Center (4801 Overton Ridge Blvd). I'll be ready to listen, chat, or ponder with anyone who stops in.

On to Covenants and Colleagues: You may remember me, during Candidating Week last spring, talking about covenants as tools that help us create circles of love and trust (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=En2lMBOXUAY&index=6&list=PLydVAF2sCjU7hOG5w1Vi9bJUdHOnlpOL>). A covenant is an expression of the commitments people in a group make to each other about how they will be together. Almost every UU group I know develops and strives to live by a covenant – individual congregations, regions, small group ministries, boards, youth groups, women's groups, men's groups, young adult groups, retreat groups, classes, and on and on. Even the earth-based spiritual groups practicing in many of our congregations, long called CUUPS groups, are Covenants of UU Pagans (<http://www.cuups.org/>). Not covens, covenants! Here at Westside, the Adult Forum is the latest group to develop a covenant, to support the conversations held and connections made there.

At the national level, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association have a statement of covenant too. We covenant to affirm and promote our Seven Principles (<http://www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe/principles>) and Six Sources (<http://www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe/sources>). The statement concludes, "Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations, we enter into this covenant, promising one another our mutual trust and support."

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Our virtues and our failings are inseparable, like force and matter.
-Nikola Tesla

Conformity may give you a quiet life; it may even bring you to a University Chair. But all change in history, all advance, comes from the non-conformists. If there had been no trouble-makers, no dissenters, we should still be living in caves.
-A.J.P. Taylor



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*A scholar is just a library's
way of making another
library. -Daniel Dennett*

*Kindness is always
fashionable.
-Amelia Barr*

In such a culture of covenants, you probably won't be surprised to hear that religious professionals have covenants too. I affirm one as a member of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association (UUMA) (http://www.uuma.org/default.asp?page=guidelines#_Toc299361221). And when two or more ministers are present in the same setting, it is common practice for them to develop a collegian covenant together. Thus, Annie Foerster, a retired minister who is now happily a member of Westside, has established one with me. It affirms our shared commitment to the professional guidelines of the UUMA, acknowledges me as the called minister of Westside, to whom belong the authority and responsibilities of professional leadership, and no less, and recognizes Annie as a member with all the rights and responsibilities of membership, and no more. Such an agreement helps prevent the foisting of unwanted professional expectations on a retired minister, and preserves clarity about who is the called minister of the congregation. We are fortunate to have Annie in our midst as an enthusiastic member of Westside.

Is there a group or relationship in your life that would benefit from a clear expression of your intentions and commitments for how you will be together? You might consider developing a covenant too.

*In love and trust,
-Shari*

Rev. Shari Woodbury

Special Service Times for the Holidays!

Please mark your calendars for some changes in service times:

- **Christmas Eve:** 6:00 p.m.
- **Christmas Day:** 11:00 a.m. only
- **New Years Day:** 11:00 a.m. only

There will be further reminders.

Social Committee

Well, as they say – Life is what happens when you are making other plans! And that is what happened when we announced our date for Bring A Friend To Church Sunday. With the impending roof replacement and repair work scheduled for this fall, it just didn't seem to be a good time to invite friends and loved ones to visit. So, while we did cancel this special event for this fall, we have plans to implement on a pretty Sunday day next spring!

As the holidays are quickly approaching, we do have a few dates for Westsiders of all ages to save! Be watching for further details as the events get closer!

- **Sunday, December 4:** Holiday Wassail & Goodies...to coincide with the annual Hanging of the Greens service
- **Sunday, December 18:** Holiday Tamale Brunch before, between and after services
- **Saturday, January 14:** Church Wide Potluck & Games Night

And we hope that you will continue to participate in the recurring activities as noted in the previous newsletter! There is always something happening for you to share in community!

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 '16	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$796.34
August '16	School-based health clinic sponsored by JPS Hospital, South Central Alliance of Churches, and Fort Worth ISD.	\$1,437.82
July '16	Supper Club Program at Samaritan House	\$1,086.33
June '16	One Safe Place Ministerial Search Committee	\$868.16
May '16	Minister Installation	\$1,378.75
May '16	South Central Alliance of churches	\$1,094.16
April '16	Sickle Cell Disease Association of Tarrant County	\$1,038.49
March '16	Downwinders at Risk	\$603.20
February '16	Texas UU Justice Ministry (TUUJM)	\$601.00
January '16	Aija Jansome, UUA ministerial candidate	\$774.80
January '16	Community Hospice of Texas	\$540.00
December '15	Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees	\$661.02
November '15	LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S	\$274.00
November '15	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	\$256.10
October '15	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$638.07
September '15	Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County	\$1,022.60
August '15	ACH Child & Family Services	\$1,135.52
July '15	School Based Health Centers	\$722.87
June '15	Planned Parenthood of North Texas	\$745.36
May '15	First Unitarian Church of Southhold, New York	\$990.23
May '15	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$296.75
April '15	Westside's InReach Fund	\$1,218.46
March '15	Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry	\$997.83
February '15	Texas ReEntry Service	\$801.00
January '15	Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County	\$833.20
December '14	Catholic Charities of Fort Worth	\$805.00
November '14	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	\$923.86
October '14	Friends of the UUA.	\$454.00
October '14	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$140.00
September '14	Day Resource Center, Fort Worth	\$876.59
August '14	The Unaccompanied Children from Central America	\$941.96
August '14	James L. West Special Care Center	\$827.28
July '14	Planned Parenthood of Tarrant County	\$854.16
June '14	Sickle Cell Anemia Assn. of Tarrant County	\$619.00
May '14	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$692.76
April '14	InReach Fund	\$675.73
March '14	Long Way Home	\$934.38
February '14	Gill Children's Services	\$504.00
January '14	Downwinders at Risk	\$777.82
December '13	Meals on Wheels	\$583.82
November '13	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	\$1,269.18
October '13	South Central Alliance of Churches	\$587.68
September '13	Mental Health & Mental Retardation of Tarrant Co,	\$1,151.33
August '13	Samaritan House Dinner Fund	\$842.58
July '13	Texas Re-Entry Services	\$1,100.41

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Conscience is a man's compass, and though the needle sometimes deviates, though one often perceives irregularities when directing one's course by it, one must still try to follow its direction.
-Vincent van Gogh

It is paradoxical that many educators and parents still differentiate between a time for learning and a time for play without seeing the vital connection between them. -Leo Buscaglia

Mankind's true moral test, its fundamental test (which lies deeply buried from view), consists of its attitude towards those who are at its mercy: animals. And in this respect mankind has suffered a fundamental debacle, a debacle so fundamental that all others stem from it.
-Milan Kundera

We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.
-Maya Angelou

Westside Welcomes our Newest Members!

Laurie Ertle and Steve Simpson: Steve, Laurie, Andrew, and Madeleine live in Mansfield. Andrew and Maddie attend Mansfield public schools, Laurie is a full time Biology instructor at TCC-SE campus, and Steve is a district admin in Arlington ISD. Laurie is originally from Ohio, and Steve bounced around the Midwest as a child. They met while Steve was a senior at TCU in 1999 and have, to their frequent befuddlement, called Texas home ever since. They enjoy family vacations, family dinners, and family movie nights.

Chloe Finn: Chloe is a homeschooled sophomore who has been attending Westside since she was 6 years old. She enjoys watching Netflix, coloring her hair and spending time at church and with friends. She has a passion for leadership and church work and hopes to pursue it in the future.

JuLane: Almost thirteen years ago I moved away from Ft. Worth after a sad event. It wasn't far, an hour east to Plano where I became a member of Horizon UU church. Seven weeks ago I moved back. I am happy to be near my massage therapy practice again, and to find old friends and make new ones, and I am very, very happy to return to Westside UU, where my membership in 2003 was the beginning of my UU journey. I've come home.

Rae Martinez: Rae was born and raised in the San Antonio area and graduated from Schreiner University. She now works as an RN for Texas Health Methodist in downtown Fort Worth.

Bob Smith: After a 45-year career in faculty and administrative posts at six research universities (including UT Austin and Texas Tech), Bob has settled in Fort Worth for semi-retirement. He is pleased to live in the Cultural District and delighted to become a member of the Westside UUA Community.

Aimee Stubbs: Aimee is a Library Specialist at TCC where she works to ensure a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. She is originally from Hamilton, Missouri, and has lived in Tarrant County for 10 years. Aimee became a UU in 2008 and joined Westside in April.

Alicia Butler: I was raised a Roman Catholic in a homogeneous upstate New York ski resort. After my parents moved to Kansas City and I married a RLDS man in his church when I got pregnant at 19. I divorced 3 weeks after Sean was born and went back to school and to live with my parents. When I was in nursing school at 21 I met my second husband February 25 and married him that same November when I was 22, he was an atheist. We had another child and I graduated from nursing school. I became involved with the pro-choice movement and developed into one of this movements staunch supporters. I had seen how teen pregnancy could make it very hard for girls to keep up and how it often led to poverty. It became an issue that touched my heart and soul and yet it was not compatible with my childhood religion. While working as a nurse, I befriended many male nurses, most of whom were gay in the 80's. It became very important to me for my children to understand the spectrum of sexuality and the worth of each individual within the spectrum. This also did not mesh with my childhood religion. I went on for 29 more years without religion, until Mike died. An old friend of his reached out to me, and feeling how hard I was struggling, told me to find and join the nearest UU church. "These are your people Alicia", he said to me. "These are the people that believe as we do and do something about it. So I did. And I am here. I love all of you for catching me in the web of life and sitting me on solid ground!"

Endowment Committee

Stop by the Endowment Committee table before, between, or after church service on November 13 for snacks and a copy of the brand new 2016 Giving Tips. This useful handout outlines painless ways to give to your favorite non-profits, including Westside's Endowment Fund. If you want to know more about the Endowment Fund and/or the committee that administers it, committee members will be on hand to answer your questions. The Endowment Fund has grown from its

original \$30,000 donation to over \$47,000 and with your help we can reach our calendar year-end goal of \$50,000. Donations can be earmarked for one of three subfunds: The Permanent Fund, from which only earnings can be distributed; the Building Fund that can be used only for building or land acquisition purposes; or the Flexible Fund that can be used for a variety of purposes. Of course, only the congregation can authorize disbursement of any funds from the Endowment Fund to insure that monies are used only to support the long-term viability of the church. No donation is too small and it makes a nice way to honor milestones in the life of church friends - births, marriages, anniversaries, accomplishments, and deaths.

Join a Circle Supper – November 19

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. For more information or to be added to the email list, please contact Elizabeth Campbell at batescampbell@gmail.com

Family Circle Suppers will also be meeting the third Saturday of every month at various members' homes. If interested, please contact Lauren Leising at eLLekaye@juno.com or 817-846-8012.

Highlights of the September 21 Board Meeting

(Detailed Minutes and related documents are available in the Minutes Books in the office)

A. The UUA is advocating evolving the Committee on Ministry (COM) into a Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM), and Rev. Woodbury wants us to look at “moving away from the COM-as-inadvertent-engine-of-triangulation-with the-minister-and-support-group-for/evaluator-of-the-minister; instead moving to a Committee on Shared Ministry that supports all of the teams of the congregation working to carry out our mission.” The board will work with her on the ramifications of making this change. The board also approved her request to fund one or two members of the Pastoral Care Team for training at the upcoming Southwest Fall Conference.

B. The Director of Lifespan Religious Education (DLRE) is working to ensure that new and visiting families receive informational material on CRE from our greeters in the Narthex. He praised our RE folks for their outreach, especially in attracting middle school aged youngsters.

C. A financial report from our Treasurer is available in the Minutes Binder in the church office. David noted that church financial leaders met and agreed to consolidate the Betty Sanders donation with current UBS assets and move all to a TD Ameritrade money market account. The Reserve Fund has increased to \$216,000, which includes the Sanders gift.

D. Dianne Nixon and Randy Gregory, along with other church members, continue to plan, prepare and negotiate with architects, contractors, and our insurance company on major roof repair for the church. The repair is pending cooler weather, probably late October or November, and will briefly affect church services and operations. The roofing company would like to re-shingle the pitched portions of the roof before tackling the much more difficult flat roof over much of the sanctuary. Storage for the church, the school, and for our SCAC Thanksgiving baskets are issues we must deal with. Watch for updates from James.

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*Curiosity is the lust of
the mind.*

-Thomas Hobbes

*Conscience is a dog
that does not stop us
from passing but that
we cannot prevent from
barking.*

-Nicolas de Chamfort

*Nature never did betray
the heart that loved her.*

-William Wordsworth

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*Life is short, short,
brother!
Ain't it the truth?
And there is no other
Ain't it the truth?
You gotta rock that
rainbow while you still
got your youth!
-Yip Harburg*

*All religions united
with government are
more or less inimical to
liberty. All, separated
from government, are
compatible with liberty.
-Henry Clay*

E. Church Mutual Insurance has reimbursed Westside \$60,000 to date towards roof repair.

F. Seven church leaders are participating in the Southern Region Expanded Leadership Experience, which meets monthly for four months. North Texas UU Congregations (NTUUC) is paying most of the cost, with Westside pitching in for two attendees.

G. The Board Liaison Policy has been rewritten and approved by the board as the Committee Chair and Board Liaison Responsibilities Policy, and will be available on our website soon.

H. A task force to update our church bylaws is forming. Any of our members with input, or skill and/or interest in being a part of this group, can contact James at president@westsideuu.org.

I. Dianne Nixon has board approval to begin soliciting donations to have a light box created for a beautiful stained glass work of art donated by a former member.

J. We are preparing an NTUUC grant request to help cover Rev. Woodbury's installation expenses, to include some building and audio-visual improvements.

K. The church is looking for two new volunteer representatives to the Texas UU Justice Ministry. The job entails working with other Texas UU congregations to lobby the Texas legislature on important social issues. Interested?

L. The board okayed initiation of planning for next year's fund raiser.

M. Also approved were revision of the Building Use Policy, Personnel Policy (under Rev. Woodbury), and digitizing, filing and protecting of church documents.

N. The board will meet November 16 and December 21 (the third Wednesday of each month), at 7:00 p.m. at Westside. We encourage members and friends to join us.

*- Bob Vann
Secretary*

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AND SERVE

Women of Westside Group (WOW) – November 5!

WOW meets on the first Saturday of the month for lively conversation, a brown bag lunch and a short program. The meetings begin at 11:30 and close about 1:30. This month, Suzie Lotven will enlighten us with the story of Dorothea Dix and her efforts in behalf of the mentally ill and prisoners. In December we'll have a potluck luncheon and make plans for next year's meetings.

If you would like to receive an email reminder of the meetings, contact Sue Anderson at Sander60tx@yahoo.com.

- Sharon Salih

Humanists of Fort Worth

The HoFW will meet at its regular time at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9, 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/>

Thursday Meditation Group!

The Thursday evening Buddhist meditation group will continue to meet weekly. Thayer, Matt, Jane and others will continue to shape the future of the group.

Contemporary Book Group

A big thank you to Reed Bilz, who presided more than ably at the September Contemporary Book Club meeting while I was away. Reed reports that attendees had a lively discussion of *The Lake House* by Kate Morton. Due to the holidays, the November and December meetings of the Contemporary Book Club will be combined into a December 11 meeting. As usual, we will meet after the second service. The Green Sanctuary Committee is graciously allowing us to meet in our usual meeting place, the Glass Class Room. The featured book is *Age of Desire*, a fictional account of the life and loves of American author, Edith Wharton, by Jennie Fields. For fans of *The Paris Wife*, a sparkling glimpse into the life of Edith Wharton and the scandalous love affair that threatened her closest friendship.

“They say behind every great man is a woman. Behind Edith Wharton, there was Anna Bahlmann—her governess turned literary secretary, and her mothering, nurturing friend.”

Plan to obtain the book, which is available on-line at Amazon and Abebooks, and probably at the library or Barnes and Noble, and join us for a stimulating discussion.

Humanist Book Club

THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. Our next meeting will be held the fourth Sunday in January to discuss *The Metaphysical Club* by Louis Menand. This book won the Pulitzer Prize for history in 2011. All are welcome. Facilitated by Morris Meador, meadormorris1@gmail.com

The Green Scene

Chemicals in modern life can be wonderfully helpful. Unfortunately, they can also prove devastatingly harmful. Often, adequate testing and understanding of the effects of chemicals' deleterious effects comes years after they have become widespread and have caused damage that can transcend generations.

Remember Bisphenol-A? Its use has been banned in Europe, but in the USA the ban has only included baby bottles and nipples. Here, it is used in many plastics, in water bottles, to line food cans, and in cash register tapes. BPA has been linked to cancer and diabetes. More importantly, it is being demonstrated to affect various parts of human and animal endocrine and genetic systems. It causes estrogen problems, and is being linked to brain development anomalies. Its mechanism for causing genetic problems in brain development are now becoming clear. It has also been linked to behavioral problems.

“BPA Free” products can also prove problematic, however, because chemicals being substituted for BPA are likewise not thoroughly tested and may be at least equally dangerous. We would suggest that, to the best of our ability, all of us minimize contact with, and use of, products containing these chemicals.

The next John Huffman Green Movie will screen February 25, 2017.

The Green Sanctuary Committee will next meet November 13, at 12:45, location to be determined.

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*No greater mistake
can be made than to
think that our institu-
tions are fixed or may
not be changed for the
worse. ... Increasing
prosperity tends to
breed indifference
and to corrupt moral
soundness. Glaring
inequalities in condition
create discontent and
strain the democratic
relation. The vicious
are the willing, and the
ignorant are unconscious
instruments of political
artifice. Selfishness
and demagoguery
take advantage of
liberty. The selfish hand
constantly seeks to
control government,
and every increase of
governmental power,
even to meet just needs,
furnishes opportunity
for abuse and stimulates
the effort to bend it to
improper uses. ... The
peril of this nation is not
in any foreign foe! We,
the people, are its power,
its peril, and its hope!*
-Charles Evans Hughes

There is also an artificial aristocracy founded on wealth and birth, without either virtue or talents... The artificial aristocracy is a mischievous ingredient in government, and provisions should be made to prevent its ascendancy.
-Thomas Jefferson

The supreme accomplishment is to blur the line between work and play. -Arnold J. Toynbee

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

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 turkeys, for which the clients will pay \$5.00 as they are able to do so.

Visit the display in the lobby to choose what you would like to give. Take a tag off the display, purchase the food, and return your food by **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13**. Remember, items must be the sizes requested and must be well before the “sell by” date. SCAC cannot distribute food past that due date.

Should you prefer to make a financial contribution, place a check (or cash in the envelope) in the offering basket with memo marked “Thanksgiving Baskets.” A volunteer with the Social Justice Committee will be happy to shop for you.

Questions – see Brenda McKeon, Myrtle McMahan, or Suzie Lotven.

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 Jeff@vireomarketing.com or Ericasmartrecovery@gmail.com.

Angels at Westside

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

Westside will be providing gifts for 40 young people. Dates are not set yet, but plan on seeing the tree with red, yellow, and green angels to choose from beginning in mid-November. Westsiders can delight in shopping for a child in need, if they no longer have young ones to shop for. Some of the children and youth love helping pick out just the right item for an angel that is near their age. Partner up with a fellow Westsider if you like - fun and more affordable.

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’s participation in this project is greatly appreciated by the Alliance. Thank you, Westsiders!

Angel Tree contact: Cindy Fountain, vanessa4907@sbcglobal.net

The Eighth Annual NTUUC Awards Nomination

The call is hereby issued, with a chance to honor your volunteers who have taken our good news beyond the walls of our congregations and helped grow UUism in North Texas. There are three categories of people that can be nominated: Lay Volunteers, Paid Staff, and Ministers.

Last year our very own Cindy Fountain received the Volunteer Award. Linda Ice received it in 2014. Prior to that, Membership Chair, Jeff Bullock, and Cheri Mayberry, our office administrator, were selected as winners. In 2010, our minister, Dr. Russell Eleven, received the award for outstanding ministers.

The nominations will come from the 13 UU congregations in North Texas. I hope we can nominate several people who are deserving of recognition. Your nomination is due to the committee by December 2. The awards will be given at the annual NTUUC Luncheon on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at the Oak Cliff UU church in Dallas. More information about the luncheon and purchasing tickets will be in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, please use this link to send in your online nomination:

<http://www.ntuuc.org/events/recognition-awards>

For more information, please contact our NTUUC board representative, Carol Cappa at 817-229-9017.

The 2016 Fall Leadership Conference is here!!!

Fall Conference, November 11-13, Glen Rose, Texas

From Principles to Partnerships: Incarnating Unitarian Universalism Through Relationship

We must do the work, but we don't have to do it alone! Come to Fall Conference to learn about working for justice and building the beloved community! You might discover that you have more partners than you ever dreamed!

There are so many great reasons to attend Fall Harvest Leadership Training this year!

- **Spend time** with FIVE members of the Southern Region staff!
- **Gain access** to leadership development and faith deepening to enhance your relationship to Unitarian Universalism and your service to your congregation!
- **Collect the newest resources** that will help you carry out your congregation's mission!
- **Learn as a team** by sending many members of your congregation to different tracks to get the most out of the experience!
- **Meet and share stories** with Unitarian Universalists from around the South, strengthening our community and gaining valuable insights into congregational life!
- **Share in outstanding** worship and fellowship!
- **Enjoy an intentionally inclusive community** that welcomes people of all ages.
- **Explore gorgeous Glen Rose, Texas**, with a fun downtown and many natural sights surrounding the town!

Download the Fall Conference handbook/brochure at: UUA Southern Region Fall Conference 2016.

Register for the Fall Conference:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/uua-southern-region-fall-conference-2016-registration-26910736738>

For more information, contact our Westside NTUUC board member, Carol Cappa at 817-229-9017-cell

The Westside Story November 2016

WESTSIDE STORY STAFF:

Janice Sims; Editor

Eric Stevens; Designer

Sharon Salih; Distribution

Every act of conscious learning requires the willingness to suffer an injury to one's self-esteem. That is why young children, before they are aware of their own self-importance, learn so easily; and why older persons, especially if vain or important, cannot learn at all.
-Thomas Szasz

You can only protect your liberties in this world by protecting the other man's freedom. You can only be free if I am free.
-Clarence Darrow

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

Our Board

President: James Finn

Vice-President: Bill Terry

Secretary: Bob Vann

Treasurer: David Burlingame

Directors: Randy Gregory, Brenda McKeon, Debby Rake, Don Jackson, Matt Sacks, Paul Corbett

September 2016 Attendance

	10AM Adults	11:30 Adults	10AM Kids	11:30 Kids	Total
Sept. 4	45	47	6	8	106
Sept. 11	45	68	13	18	144
Sept. 18	58	58	12	26	154
Sept. 25	50	63	9	17	139
Averages	49.5	59	10	17.25	135.75



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.

Committee of Ministry (COM):

Cindy Fountain, Chair, Carol Cappa, Sara Munoz,
Jane Hardwick, Morris Meador, Jeff Rodriguez,
Tom Woods

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.

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