

Red River Ramblings

Volume 8, Issue 4

April, 2011

Red River Unitarian Universalist Church
 ...a home for religious liberals in Southern Oklahoma and North Texas.

A Month of Sundays

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April 3
 Cancer Awareness Month: Taking Control Over Cancer

Cathryn A. Schmidt, facilitating

Cathryn came to Sherman in 1982 on a job rotation and liked the area so much she requested a transfer. She raised her family, started two home businesses, completed her college degree, and after being diagnosed with cancer in 2005, was co-founder of the Ann Fry Cancer Support Group in August, 2007.

Being involved with the Ann Fry Cancer Support Group has given **Cathryn many gifts.** "What we take away from weekly meetings is what every cancer survivor and their caregiver(s) should experience in a perfect world. Knowledge is power and can serve as a very useful tool as one navigates on the journey with **cancer.**" We will explore self-care, and examine the journey of cancer from diagnosis to recovery with tools that encourage, inspire and provide hope to all cancer survivors and their caregivers.

April 10
"Running through the Kitchen Window"

Nathan Ryan, preaching

Nathan Ryan is a seminary student at Meadville Lombard Theological School and is currently a candidate for the Unitarian Universalist Ministry. As the Director of Lay Ministry at the First Unitarian Church of Dallas, he oversees the membership experience of more than 1000 congregants. His upcoming sermon, entitled "Running through the Kitchen Window", is a sermon about what happens when our lives drastically change in an instant. When we run through the kitchen window, where do we, as a religious people, turn for strength, hope, or courage?

April 17
 Blessing the Animals
 Social Action Team, leading

Our "Blessing the Animals" service will be a "paws on" experience guided by the Social Action Team. Members and Friends are invited to bring well-

behaved, leashed pets to this service outdoors at RRUU. We will give thanks for our furry, feathered and scaly friends with stories, song and moments of meditation. A special collection of pet food will be received for distribution to a local "no-kill" canine sanctuary as part of the service. Those who wish will engage in a ritual of blessing one another's animals with thanksgiving and wishes for good lives.

April 24
 Ostara-Easter Eggstravaganza

Dianna Neiman-Harris, preaching

"An Ostara-Easter Eggstravaganza" is the theme as RRUU skips through the flowers with a celebration of Easter, Ostara and the return of Spring to our winter-weary world and lives. Rev. Dianna Niemann-Harris will be our pulpit guest and tour guide with what she anticipates will be an excellent experience for the scrambled, hard-boiled, baked and raw edges of our spiritual selves.



Adult Forum
 Worship & Children's RE

10:00am
 11:15am

Calendar of Events

April, 2011

- 1 Fri 7:00 pm- UJJAM
- 3 Sun 12:45- After Church Lunch Bunch
- 5 Tues 7:30 pm- Green Team
- 9 Sat 10:00 am- PFFFT
- 12 Tues 6:40 pm- RRUU Board Meeting
- 15 Fri 7:30 pm- Red River Earth Spirit
- 17 Sun 12:45- After Church Lunch Bunch
- 16 Sat ALL DAY- Earth Day, Green Team

After Church Lunch Bunch



On April 3rd, the After Church Lunch Bunch (ACLB) will go to La Placita, the Salvadoran restaurant in Sherman.

Lunch is cheap and good. A previous trip got excellent reviews from the ACLB. On April 13th we will try out a new location, which will be tested by our reviewers and announced soon. Anyone who has a suggestion for an ACLB location is invited to speak to someone on the Hospitality committee - Carolyn, Joyce and Dianna. We are always on the lookout for a place that has good food at very reasonable prices and is not too inconvenient for those who drive from Durant or Richardson or Whitesboro or Paris.

April Birthdays

- 02 Addi Jo Dunn *
- 07 Bruce Cameron
- 30 Jaxon Schwichtenberg



.....
 All May newsletter submissions are due
 to
newsletter@rruu.org
 by April 24th, at 5:00 p.m.



Green Team Tip of the Month

Have you ever stopped to think how much stuff you have? Do you even remember exactly what you own, down to the last mismatched sock in your drawer or screwdriver in your toolbox? A big cleanup around the home, shed and yard can lighten your environmental impact and save money.

When it comes to hardware fixtures and fittings, I can be a bit of a pack rat. The thing is, I'm not particularly handy. I'm like lightning with a hammer as I never strike twice in the same place. There's a part of me that wishes I could don a tool belt, grunt appropriately and actually know what I'm doing. Regardless of my limitations, my ambitions often exceed my capabilities and if I see screws, hinges and bits and pieces on sale, impulse buying can kick in. "I haven't got one of those - I reckon I'll be needing that for ?!!!; insert project never to be completed here". The problem is, often I do have one of those at home - or 6. Buying in bulk is green sometimes, but in these instances, it's certainly not.

As this was a recurring problem with me, I went through everything in my shed and was amazed at what I found. Memory refreshed, I won't be buying any of "those" items for a while. Larger items or ones in quantity I inventoried and entered the details on a spreadsheet. A quick look at that before I go to the hardware store should keep me in check for a while

Harmony House Concert Series



Harmony House Concerts is hosting a special performance by one of the foremost female singer-songwriters of this era, Eliza Gilkyson, on Thursday evening, April 7, 2011, at 7 pm. **It's a challenge to summarize the essence of Eliza Gilkyson's work and talent in a paragraph or two. When Red House Records released Eliza's CD, *Beautiful World*, in 2008, the Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter described it this way: "This may be my most joyful recording yet," says Eliza. "Maybe it is because dark times can illuminate all that is good and decent and worth living for."** This was Eliza's first studio recording release since her award-winning CD, *Paradise Hotel*, in 2005. This May she will release her newest CD, *Roses at the End of Time*. Her work has always reflected her vivid vision of the world around her, filled with equal measures of joy and sorrow, and this new CD is no exception. Please join us for this Harmony House Concert. To make reservations, please call [903/583-2661](tel:9035832661) and leave the number of seats desired and your contact information. The requested donation for this rare opportunity is \$18 per person. Make your reservations soon because seating is limited.

Member News

Kudos Go To...

...Dianna Niemann-Harris for the new set of lecturn/ pulpit/ candle table hangings. The tie-dye peace sign cloths add a festive Spring look when used in our sanctuary. Another set in a fern print fabric is in the works! (Dianna has a pattern and says it only takes about 4.5 yards of fabric and the ability to sew a relatively straight line to make these if anyone is interested.)

...Jim Murphy is due abundant thanks (as is his sound engineering consultant Tim Riek, and physical adaptation consultant Bruce Cameron) for fifteen months of effort leading up to our new sound system being fully operational. Jim wrote the grant which financed the system, researched the necessary components, selected, ordered and picked up components for the Audio-Visual system, then worked to install everything once secure storage and rampage was in place.

...RRUU newest member Dave Henderson who received one of the RRUU thank-you ribbons in March in celebration of his research in advance of visiting his new spiritual home at RRUU.

...Earth Centered Spirituality Chalice Circle is due our gratitude for the not-so-small task of creating and leading our morning service on March 20, 2011 in celebration of the Spring Equinox.

...the Hospitality Team for another tasty Baked Potato lunch last month and for re-introducing light refreshments after Sunday services. Please email hospitality@rruu.org to volunteer to bring simple finger food refreshments for fellowship time after services!

...Building and Grounds Chairperson Doyle Adams insures we have paper towels and other important paper on hand and in place in our restrooms weekly. It seems like a small thing until using facilities where no one has attended to the "paperwork"!

...Ways & Means Committee and Suzanne Durland for the delicious and entertaining Stewardship Dinner



Joyce Peak, Guest Speaker at Texoma Poetry Society

Texoma Poetry Society will offer a talk on Native American Literature - the history, traditions and ritual, places and people - on Saturday at 2:00 pm at the Sherman Library.

Learn about the Native American legacy of language and literature in a presentation by Joyce Peak, author of several articles in educational journals and student of Native American spirituality. Joyce is a retired history and art teacher having taught between Rosebud and Pine Ridge Reservations in South Dakota.

Joyce will touch on several well-known Indian writers and

recommend some readings. Guests are invited to this free event, April 2, 2:00 pm, at the Community Room of the Sherman Public Library. An open round-robin reading of poems on any subject will follow at 3:00 pm.

Camping, Anyone? *Update*

Camp one night, camp both nights or just come during the day to visit and enjoy the park! RRUU has been asked to join Community UU and Horizon UU Church for a camp out at Eisenhower State Park on April 8-10, 2011. Camp sites have screened shelters that hold two families, 8 people.



These sites are in the Deer Haven area & have a picnic table, fire ring, BBQ grill, water, and electricity. If you want to tent, they can be pitched next to the shelter. Shelters rent for \$30 for one night, \$50 for both nights. Saturday there is a Chuck Wagon style breakfast including your choice of bacon, sausage, home fries, pancakes, French toast, white/wheat toast, 24-hour beverage bar, and cooked-to-order eggs or omelets, all for the price of \$2.50 per meal. Sunday, RRUU is bringing breakfast out to the campers and holding a joint worship service at the park. Our regular services will still be held at our Church at the usual 11:15 time. Pictures of past camping experiences are at:

http://communityuuchurch.org/pages/outdoor_adventure.

Reservations should be made online at:

<http://communityuuchurch.org/pages/CampoutReservation>.

Have questions, see Jim Murphy, call 903.421.2473, or email papa.smurphy@suddenlink.net.



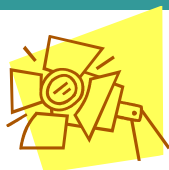
Greetings from our newest member:

My name is Dave Henderson, and I am proudly the newest member of the RRUU family. After researching Unitarian Universalism online, and having visited the services of the RRUU family these past few weeks, I have concluded that amongst this group of truth seekers is where I belong. My research lead me to conclude that Unitarian Universalism reflects the social values I maintain and cherish dearly, and my recent visits among you all has most profoundly confirmed such on a personal level to the utmost degree.

I believe that all humanity is a family, and that everyone (whether they realize it or not) is inseparably connected to each other and to grandmother earth. From grandmother earth, we are nourished and our needs for survival are supplied in benevolent abundance. From and to each other, we are all family, and thus I look forward to working with and alongside my brothers and sisters of the RRUU family to maintain the most natural of all societies in the most peaceful and loving of all settings.

Gratefully, respectfully, and thankfully your newest member,
Dave Henderson

Spotlight: The Committee on Ministry



The Committee on Ministry (COM) is a three member committee, selected by the congregation. The two-fold purpose for their existence is to keep a finger on the pulse of RRUU and to be a safe place for people to go when they have issues with others in the church. They are the check in a check and balance system between the board, minister (if we had one), and the congregation. Anything told to the COM is told in confidence and, without permission, should not be discussed outside the COM by any committee member.

Anyone with an issue about the board, an individual board member, or someone in the congregation should ideally attempt to settle the problem with that person or persons. However, if they are uncomfortable approaching said individuals alone, they may explain the situation to the COM and request someone to accompany them to any meeting in an attempt to work out issues. **The COM is not a “complaints department” where you get to complain and leave.** They are **“facilitators” to assist with the issues being worked out between individuals and groups.**

The COM is also the committee within the church that can hold informal discussions to find out what is running well at RRUU, and what changes individuals would like to see. Last year they performed a survey, the results of which were given to the worship team as suggestions and feedback on what congregation members would like to have included during worship.

The COM, in addition to a board member is also the final authority for the disruptive persons policy and as a group will deal with individuals who do not attempt to live the RRUU Behavioral Covenant.

So, if anything in the church seems out of sync with our **Behavioral Covenant, our policies, our bylaws and you don't** feel comfortable addressing the board, please seek counsel from any one or all of the individuals on the Committee on Ministry. Currently on the committee are Carolyn Cameron, Peter Schulze, and Jim Gauthier. An email to COM@rruu.org will reach them all.

Congregational Meeting and Requirements

May 22 bi-annual spring Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday May 22, 2011 after the worship service. Everyone, members and friends, are invited to attend the meeting. The business covered in a spring meeting includes re-

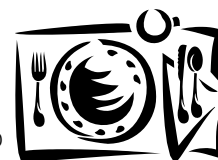
ports from the Board, Treasurer, Membership, and Committee on Ministry. Approval of the 2011-2012 goals, approval of the budget, and most importantly the election this year of a Treasurer and one Trustee for a one year term and three Trustees for two year terms. All voting members need to consider either attending or giving a proxy.

Eligibility for voting is set in our bylaws. "Section 2: Requirement for Voting Membership. Individuals who have been members of the Church for 30 days or more and who have (as an individual or part of a family unit) made a contribution of record during the last 12 months, which must have occurred at least 30 days prior to the meeting, shall have the right to vote at all official Church meetings."

If you are not yet a member and would like to be able to vote in this meeting you must sign the book by April 22, 2011. All voting members must make or confirm a contribution of record by April 22, 2011.

After Church Lunch Bunch Invites You to Dine-in on May 1st

Mark your calendar now to deviate with the ACLB* on May 1st (UU's tend to be a bit deviant you know)! Members, friends and visitors at RRUU are invited to "dine-in" for a sumptuous meal in fellowship hall. Our own Elbert Hill will prepare brisket as others bring tasty treats to accompany...potato salad, green salad, beans, bread and dessert. Rumor has it the bread will be home-baked and shall include some variety including gluten-free options.



Everyone is most welcome to join in the meal with a suggested donation of \$7-\$10 (or whatever you can afford) with proceeds to RRUU operating budget. So arrange those schedules, free up an hour or so after worship. Come, relax, visit, celebrate Spring and enjoy some of the finest food ever to pass over the lips and past the gums! The date: Sunday, May 1st. The place: RRUU fellowship hall. The event: Who needs a reason to savor good food and excellent company!

Save the Date !

*The spring Congregational Meeting
will be held on May 22, 2011,
after worship.*



Board Bits

What your Board did at their last meeting, March 8th, 2011



All members were present and Marie Bellman attended **at the Board's request.**

In addition to normal board business the following topics were covered.

Thanks and Appreciation campaign.

Possible Rental space –

Planning the Special Congregational meeting for Mission / Vision.

Plan for developing the Time & Talent Sheets for RRUU.

Potential issues with the email to a friend of the church.

Board and leadership pledges – to be turned in by March 20th if possible

The next board meeting is April 12th, starting at 6:40 p.m. Board meetings are open to all, if you wish to be on the agenda please contact a board member. Deadline for the agenda and reports to the board is April 5th.

Those wishing a few minutes during the “open mic” will want to be ready to speak around 7:00 pm.

you each and all for your patience during my recurrent battle with kidney stones. Your expressions of care and support have been wonderful. Thanks also to each person who carried some part of the treasury responsibility the weeks I could not be at RRUU. We are family...and that is a good thing!

Respectfully submitted,
Dianna Niemann-Harris, Treasurer

Small Gifts, Big Difference



From the preliminary results of our annual campaign and the number of people choosing to make a pledge for fiscal year 2012, it is obvious we take the needs of the mission and ministry of RRUU seriously. Still, sometimes it just plain feels good to make a small gift of something other than paper money or a check! Some of we human earth creatures like to shop, thinking of others we love when making purchases, and to give surprises.

For those whose spirit of generosity is fed in part by giving non-monetary gifts, there are many small items, under \$10 each, which are recurrently needed at RRUU. A list of some items you might wish to gift your church family with follows. If you choose to join in the small gifts program, please place whatever you bring in the container marked "Small Gifts" in the church office. Be sure also to put your name on the receipt from your purchase and put the receipt in the envelope attached to the small gifts container in order to receive credit for a "gift in kind" to RRUU!

Batteries for the wireless microphones and
Batteries for the LCD projector
White card stock paper
White printer paper
Books of stamps
Envelopes
Paper towels for the rest rooms
Toilet tissue
Kleenex
Hand sanitizer
Greeting cards of all types
Long life (spiral type) light bulbs
Cleaning products
Snacks for children (individually packaged please)



Treasurer's Report

February was a good month fiscally at RRUU as our income was \$2885.85 and expenses totaled \$2,718.21. That put us in the black \$167.64 for the month. Please note as well with our treasurer out several weeks in January due to illness, one deposit was entered late. Once entered that deposit cut our January loss by 50%.

In addition to all of the regular duties as treasurer, this month I was able to:

- assist the finance committee in developing a limited and a challenge budget
- work with the stewardship committee on the FY12 campaign kick-off
- meet with treasurer apprentice Marie Bellman for training
- receive and tally pre-campaign pledges from RRUU leadership
- arrange payment for campaign dinner expenses and deliver checks

Please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation to

Message From Marla

Marla Loturco, President, RRUU



Participation is a keyword for small congregations like RRUU. I just want to take a moment to remind everyone how important this concept is. RRUU, with our members and friends numbering approximately 66, forms an oasis for religious liberals in the Texoma region. In order for us to exist, members and friends must take positive action.

Positive action or participation may take many faces, and includes things like:

- * Attending Adult Forum (we currently average 14 in attendance);
- * Worship Services (33 adults is an average and 3 children);
- * Taking time to attend all church meetings and other functions (22 at Mission/Vision Workshop, 42 for Celebration Dinner);
- * Voting by attendance or proxy for congregational meetings;
- * Participating in Chalice Circles (4 circles currently active);
- * Being a leader and/or committee member (we currently have 26 members of 41 involved at this level – WOW!)
- * Pledging financial support or time

Many of our members and friends are active participants. That is what keeps our church so vital. Please remember this when you are contacted by the Nominations Team and consider how you might either continue to play or join the play of making RRUU grow.

Dear Members and Friends of RRUU,

It was good seeing many of you Saturday night at our kick off dinner for the pledging period. RRUU friendships mean so much to all of us, and it is heartwarming to celebrate life together and do some bonding. All of us are busy and many of us tend to put off time to reflect about how much being a part of RRUU means to us daily. We missed those of you that were unable to attend, but you were in our hearts.

There are many of you that I wish to thank for the spiritual help and physical support that was given so lovingly and freely to me. The planning for this event began back in September and accelerated as the weeks and months moved along in our church year. Marion and Charlotte were truly Goddesses, upbeat, positive at all times, and gave so much of their personal time and energy throughout. Dianna was a great resource person for contacting Steve Brooks and bringing him to us for part of the evening entertainment. She also had good information about wine(s) and the pledge and service cards, and she also created a nice new box for us to hold them in when filled out. Thank you all.

Leon and Charlotte brought us the wine and sparkling drinks as well as the large (heavy) tables. It was great seeing

faces in a circle as we dined. Charlotte was very busy making coffee for all of us throughout the evening too. Thank you all.

Dean, Doyle and Don D. joined in to help move the tables and chairs from the truck to the gallery and on Monday Dean, **Don D. and Mary Karam helped move things back to Dean's truck** for the return trip. Dianna tracked down chairs for us to rent that were a lot easier to move than the very heavy ones from our church. Thank you all.

Our hostesses/hosts were the greatest with creativity and charm. All of the tables were a delight to view. Thank you, Kat and Don, Marie and Dean, Patricia and Bill, Doug and Joyce, Shann and Darrah, and Dianna and Tim. Thank you all.

Our entertainment was super, as usual, with our MC, Elbert. Don Durland started us off with a toast to put us in the spirit of the evening and togetherness. The beautiful voice of Jan is for sure a/our RRUU treasure. Tim and L.D. also are always welcome musicians that we are delighted to hear. **Don Mathis' poem was enjoyed by all. Steve Brooks was the finishing touch** to a nice relaxing evening spent with our RRUU family. I watched as folks kept the beat, and smiled throughout the songs. Thank you all.

Our Pres. Marla always has good sense and grounds us, making us aware of our reason for celebrating this event and why we have gathered for this special evening. Thank you, Marla.

Our finance Committee helped us to understand how important it is to support our RRUU and its future. Without **us/you/me... it can't survive. Sometimes we need to remind ourselves what makes living here in N. TX meaningful.** Fund raising **so well played with Cynthia's game** got our heads/brains spinning and ideas abounded. L.D. and Marion added information to the finance report that helped sort out a bare bones budget and an extended one. We will all be looking at this later this spring. Thank you for the hard work put into getting it all down on paper for us to view.

Dianna gave us a blessing before dessert and the service and pledge cards were placed in the collection box. This was your ticket for the delicious dessert that Marion had baked for us (homemade cake, fresh strawberries and whipped cream). Thank you both.

Cleanup was awesome; it was like a flash and all was back **to an Art Gallery. I was so proud of this group... Mary was so good** to us allowing us to use her space. *Feast On This* were our caterers.

The last part of this on-going celebration is to get the pledge cards returned by members and friends.

And finally, a request for those of you that were at the event is to fill out a document that Doug is preparing and send constructive feedback regarding the event. I need your input for the next celebration.

Thanks to all of you. Best wishes for a Happy RRUU year ahead. Our new year begins in July.

Suzanne Durland
(Ways & Means Chair)

Mission and Vision Statements

On March 27, 2011 the congregation approved these new Mission & Vision statements.

MISSION:

We are a sanctuary for religious liberals celebrating compassion, diversity, and spiritual growth.

VISION:

Our religious community will

- * welcome and accept all people, regardless of religious beliefs, race, or sexual orientation
- * act out of love and compassion, doing no intentional harm
- * promote free intellectual pursuit and personal growth
- * provide opportunities for social and spiritual activities
- * explore the wonders and mysteries of the universe
- * encourage cultural involvement and healthy diversity
- * be involved in service and social action, extending our reach into the world
- * share our joy, time, talents, and money to sustain our community
- * value and acknowledge contributions made by each individual
- * live the Principles and Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association.



you contribute with a designated check or cash on second Sundays upcoming you will be reaching out to:

- April 2011 - Texoma Earth Day Festival
- May 2011 - Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Texoma
- June 2011 - The Crisis Center in Sherman
- July 2011 - Families Feeding Families in Durant
- August 2011 - Free-to-Live No-Kill Animal Shelter in Durant
- September 2011 - Spirit Horse Therapeutic Riding Program
- October 2011 - Black Tie Dinner, Inc. (for GBLT youth)
- November 2011 - Callie Clinic (HIV/AIDS programs)
- December 2011 - Holiday Gifts for Needy Persons
- January 2012 - Grayson County Shelter
- February 2012 - NAACP, Sherman Chapter Membership
- March 2012 - Cooke Co. Court Appointed Special Advocates

Our ongoing food pantry collections at RRUU are sponsored and administered by the Social Action Team. This is an opportunity for everyone to bring non-perishable foods, paper products and/or hygiene items to stock local food pantries. Cash is always a good pantry donation as food pantries can purchase food for cents on the dollar making our gifts go further. The items and money donated are delivered quarterly (more frequently if necessary) and over the next year will go to:

- 1st Quarter 2011 - Your Neighbor's House, Whitesboro, TX
- 2nd Quarter 2011 - Loaves and Fishes in Durant, OK
- 3rd Quarter 2011 - Grayson County Shelter in Denison, TX
- 4th Quarter 2011 - Community Care Center in Bells, TX
- 1st Quarter 2012 - Your Health Clinic in Sherman, TX (Callie Clinic)

Social Action will sponsor our annual roadway pick up along Harrison Street and Kat Walston, SAT member will organize this event. The Social Action Team will be leading worship on April 17, 2011 for a Celebration of Animals. This outdoor service welcomes members and friends to bring their pets to church. It will include a pet food collection, blessing one another's animals and hopefully a speaker from the Free-To-Live shelter in Durant.

The Team also hopes to work with The Green Team in co-sponsoring another book exchange and at a different time, a second clothing exchange at RRUU. These events afford members an opportunity to bring used books/clothing and take home any thing they wish which others have brought. Books and clothing remaining after the events are donated to local programs.

The Social Action Team is always open to people who have a passion for justice and desire to be proactive. We are seeking a chairperson or co-chairs to guide the group as Dianna Niemann-Harris, Acting Chair by Board appointment ends her term on the Board of Trustees in June. Chair responsibilities are not complicated nor time consuming. The Chair insures an article is submitted for the monthly newsletter, sets dates for the two yearly meetings coordinating with the Adult Religious Education co-chairs and receives emails (from the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and other UU sources) to print and post on the SAT bulletin board in the entryway.

Social Action Committee

Your Donations at Work in the World
Discussion-Deliberation-Decisions



Who receives our Share the Plate offerings and where do our Food Pantry items go when they leave RRUU? Who makes such decisions, when and how? Are there ways I can become more personally involved in reaching beyond the walls of our rented building without it costing too much of my limited time? Read on oh member or friend of RRUU for the answers to these and other questions!

Share the Plate describes a program and monthly action at Red River Unitarian Universalist. The second Sunday of every month, all the cash in the offering plate (and any checks designated) is given away to a specific, local non-profit organization. When our Social Action Team met March 20, six previous and half a dozen "first time" recipients were chosen to receive Share the Plate offerings over the next year. When

RRUU Chalice Circles: Which Small Group Is Right For You?

Chalice Circles are small groups of people who meet regularly for the purpose of getting to know one another while learning, discussing, and acting on topics of common interest. All members and friends are welcome! If you are interested in attending a particular circle, contact Circle Coordinator, Jan Fletcher, at chalicecircles@rruu.org.



MINDFULNESS, a Meditation Circle, is currently without a host location and facilitator. If you are interested, please contact Chalice Coordinator.



FREETHINKERS, a Humanist Circle, is currently on temporary break. Facilitator Jim Gauthier will resume in the coming months.



GREEN TEAM, an Environmental Action Circle, will meet more in April, as we march toward the 2011 Earth Day Festival. Meetings will be announced in E-News weekly at 7:30 at Amy Hoffman-Shehan's house. Check out the website (www.earthdaytexoma.org) and our facebook page- Texoma Earth Day Festival- for frequent updates. Facilitator is Amy Hoffman-Shehan. ALL THOSE WHO LOVE THE EARTH ARE WELCOME!



MOVEABLE FEAST, a Cooking and/or Eating Circle, meets on moveable dates at moveable locations. Due to the Stewardship dinner, MF will not meet during March. April 30, the group will travel to the Metroplex, and to Gainesville in May. Facilitators are Elbert & Marion Hill. ANYONE WHO LOVES COOKING AND/OR EATING IS WELCOME!

PFFFT, an Outdoor Activities Interest Circle, meets each month on a Saturday. They will meet at the 2nd Saturday lecture at Hagerman's on April 9. Watch the weekly E-News for info. Facilitator is Suzanne Durland. ANYONE WHO LOVES THE OUTDOORS IS WELCOME!



RED RIVER EARTH SPIRIT, a Nature-Based Spirituality Circle, will meet Friday, April 15 at 7:30 pm at the church for drumming. Facilitator is Penny Armstrong. NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! !



UJJAM, a Music-Making Interest Group, meets the first Friday of each month at 7 pm at the home of Jan Fletcher in Sherman. The group meets in an informal session circle with guitars, dulcimers, flutes, keyboards & voices to share favorite songs of all genre and all musicians and listeners are welcome. Bring your instruments, songs and snack/drink to share. Friday, April 1 is the next gathering. Facilitator is Jan Fletcher. ALL MUSIC MAKERS AND LISTENERS ARE WELCOME!



LAID BACK BOOK GROUP, a Book Reading and Discussion Interest Group, discusses the selection via email. Facilitator is Suzanne Durland. ALL WHO ENJOY THOUGHTFUL LITERATURE ARE WELCOME!



SPIRIT WITHIN, a New Thought Chalice Circle, is currently taking a break. The group will continue to study *Spirit of Life: Exploring Spirituality for UU's*, a new UU Tapestry of Faith program when it resumes. Facilitator is Richard Newlin.

Call for Chalice Facilitators



If you have an interest in current but inactive chalice groups, or would like to start a new group of a different interest, please contact Chalice Coordinator, Jan Fletcher. Small Groups are vital for the life of RRUU.



Red River Unitarian Universalist Church
 ...a home for religious liberals in Southern Oklahoma and North Texas

102 West Harrison Street
 PO Box 1806
 Denison, Texas 75021

Phone: 903-465-5515
 E-mail: info@rruu.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.RRUU.ORG

Church Leadership

Board of Trustees

Marla Loturco,

President

Don Durland,

Vice-president

Dianna Neimann - Harris,

Treasurer

Amy Hoffman-Shehan,

Trustee-at-Large

Jim Murphy,

Trustee-at-Large

Vacant

Trustee-at-Large

Penny Armstrong

Trustee -at-Large

Safe Congregation Panel

Jim Gauthier, Suzanne Durland,

Marla Loturco, Helen Schulze,

Penny Armstrong

Team Leaders

Worship: Darrah Dunn

Chalice Circles: Jan Fletcher

Adult Forum: Penny Armstrong & Suzanne Durland

Children's Religious Education: Helen Schulze

Youth Advisor: Open

Membership: Marla Loturco (acting)

Social Action: Dianna Niemann-Harris (acting)

Building and Grounds: Doyle Adams

Communications: Doug Strong

Caring: open

Finance and Endowment: Marion Hill

Hospitality: Carolyn Cameron & Joyce Peak

Historian: Open

Newsletter: Cynthia Evetts & Shann Schubert

Website: Open

Ways and Means: Don & Suzanne Durland

Committee on Ministry

Jim Gauthier, Carolyn Cameron, Peter Schulze

Nomination Committee

Cynthia Evetts, Shann Schubert, Elbert Hill