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REMEMBER...

You can access the church calendar by clicking on the picture below.



Adult Forum  
10:00

Worship  
11:15

Children's R.E.  
11:15

Fellowship Gathering  
12:15

## Meaningful and Spirited Sundays ~Each Week!

**October 6, 2013**

**Conflict Management: UU Style**  
The Rev. Vickie Johnson, *preaching*

Few of us were taught to deal with conflict in an open manner. In this sermon we will discuss how doing so is actually following our deepest UU Principles.

*The Rev. Vickie Johnson is an ordained Methodist minister who currently is a lay member at the UU Fellowship in Oak Cliff. She is also preaching once a month to the UU Fellowship in Tyler.*

**October 13, 2013**

**Say What? The Right Wing in their Own Word**  
The Rev. Doug Strong, *preaching*

John Boehner could have saved the US government from shutting down. The shutdown continues. People are angry and there is plenty of blame to go around but when you scratch deeper most pundits point their fingers at the America's Right Wing. On Sunday we'll take a look at who some of these people are, listen to their own words and hopefully find ways to sooth frayed nerves and see if we might find glimmers of hope for our Republic.

*Today is "Share The Plate" Sunday, in support of the Earth Day Festival.*

**October 20, 2013**

**This I Believe - Credo Sunday**  
*Several among us will stand and share their credo with us.*

Credo Sundays are unique and inspiring times when we come together to listen to

some among us as they offer their personal credo statements. We've had two such mornings in the last year or so and they have been some of the most uplifting and meaningful worship experiences we've had.

Come listen as Gil Alexander, Jim Murphy, Amy Hoffman-Shehan and perhaps one more who have condense their beliefs into a 5-6 minute Credo Statement.

**Following worship we will have a pot luck lunch and our Fall Congregational Meeting.**

**October 27, 2013**

**Fun and Frolic in the Face of Life**  
Amy Martin, *leading*

Autumn and the upcoming Day of the Dead foster ruminations what it means to be mortal on this Earth, to be living and dying at the same time. Laugh in mortality's face, scoff at the inevitable ebb of life as we Carpe Autumnus! Amy 'Moonlady' Martin will help us set perspective, drawn from both from her childhood at Camp Lord of the Flies and from her decades-long career as a comedy reviewer. Car cut you off in traffic? To quote Bill Murray in Meatballs, "It just doesn't matter! It just doesn't matter!" Expect ridiculous songs and cathartic chants. Beach balls, flying frogs and fun with toilet paper will be involved.

*A journalist and writer of over 25 years experience, Amy Martin operates the online Moonlady News service that showcases North Texas spiritual, holistic, and progressive communities at [www.Moonlady.com](http://www.Moonlady.com). For 20 years she led the nonprofit Earth Rhythms that produced spiritual festivals and concerts, including the acclaimed SolstiCelebrations.*



## Elbert's Epistle ~ Update from the president

I think our fall retreat workshop was quite a success. We had about 30 people attending, and, with the help of our leader, MarySue Foster, we took a good look at where we are now and how we might grow to

where we want to be. Of course, where we want to go is probably not exactly the same for each of us. But I think we would all like our numbers, in both membership and attendance, to increase so that we might make a bigger impact on our communities, both in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

In the next few days, you will receive reports from many committees showing what we have done in the past year. Please read these, so that you will see the work and progress that has occurred over the past 12 months. You will also receive an agenda for the Fall Congregational Meeting, which will be on October 20, 2013.

Among the items to be discussed will be: planning our second-Sunday giving for the next year, instituting an endowment project, and our further involvement in the community of North Town in Denison (the neighborhood where our church is located) and in the larger areas of North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

On October 20, between worship and the Fall Congregational Meeting, we will have a pot-luck dinner. Bring finger foods to share and stay for the meeting, to be involved in planning the direction we as a congregation will take in the next year. Do you have an idea for a new

small group, a new way for us to be involved in our communities, or a new way we might make use of our building during the week? Please share your ideas!

I hope everyone will participate in our yard sale on October 26. It will be an opportunity to make some money for the church—especially the remodeling fund, which has been used up recently with the installation of new windows—and to dispose of those no-longer-needed-but-still-useable items we all have. Beyond the idea of raising money, though, I think we will have fun working together in a different way from our usual worship, Adult Forum, and small-group ministries. Hopefully, we'll also get to know some of our neighbors better as they browse and shop our sale. Please bring items to sell and plan to help each other in selling them.

Marion and I met last week with Ashley Earls, Director of the Grayson County Shelter, and talked about some ways RRUU could assist the shelter's efforts (other than donating money, which we already do through six Share-the-Plate collections per year; collecting school supplies for children living at the shelter; and preparing and serving a meal for shelter residents four times a year). For example, Ashley said that residents often need help with life skills, such as how to interview for a job, how to dress for an interview, and how to prepare meals using what's on hand, and one or more of us might teach these skills. The shelter will be an agenda item at the Fall Congregational Meeting, so if you have ideas of ways RRUU could help the shelter (our near neighbor across the street), please share!

## The Fall Congregational Meeting ~ Sunday, Oct 20<sup>th</sup>

*"Unlike some churches, our business meetings generally last only an hour or so. Please come!"*

The Fall Congregational Meeting is coming!

The agenda, along with reports from various committees and church activities and proxy ballots for those unable to attend are all available [here](#).

Important discussions will center on whether we, as a congregation, wish to join the TX UU Justice Ministry, our relationship with the Grayson County Shelter, selecting agencies to receive our "Share The Plate Sunday", the Church Endowment Fund, and

the upcoming Yard Sale.

The meeting starts at 12:35 PM with a pot luck lunch before. Please come!

Unlike some churches, our business meetings happen only twice a year and generally last only an hour or so.

While everyone may attend, only members who have made a "contribution of record" during the last year may vote.

## Adult Forum ~ Sundays @ 10 AM



**6 Oct** ~ *Building Your Own Theology* pp. 69-75.  
A Catechism for UUs---A Spiritual Check-Up:-  
Where Do We Go from Here?

**13 Oct** ~ *Cultural Literacy for Religion: Everything the Well-Educated Person Should Know*,  
The Great Books lectures by Prof. Mark Berkson. Lecture #19: Muhammad, Qur'an, and Islamic civilization. This lecture deals with the religion that seems to be most misunderstood in the West: Islam. The next three lectures explore the philosophers, mystics and scientists, Qur'anic chanting, Arabic calligraphy and the devotion to one God.

**20 Oct** ~ Lecture #20: This lecture is about The Five Pillars of Islam, The Shahada and the Call to Prayer, the Zakat and Ramadan, and the Hajj. There is brief discussion about a sixth pillar, the concept of jihad.

**27 Oct** ~ Lecture #21: This lecture is about forms of Islam---Diversity among Muslims---Sunnis, Shi'ites, Sufis, the Muslim Brotherhood, Progressive Islam, American Islam and the Nation of Islam.

## A nice letter ~ from the Dauenbaugh's

*Hello friends,*

*Can you believe we have been gone over a month already?*

*We are getting settled into our new house, and trying our best to make it a home. We live in a great neighborhood, surrounded by what seems like thousands of children, and the Weasels have already been absorbed by a pack so I rarely see them until dinner time. Our landlord left behind their full sized trampoline, so needless to say our backyard is quite popular!*

*We have spent a lot of time exploring northern Kentucky and Cincinnati, and we really like it. It's quite beautiful, and there is so much to do.*

*I am quite pleasantly surprised at how many open, liberal people we have met and we haven't gone to church yet!*

*While we miss our RRUU family dearly, it has been very nice living so much closer to our mid-western friends and family.*

*We would love to hear from y'all!*

*Love always,*

*Lesli*

*Dauenbaugh  
2110 Starlight Lane,  
Independence, KY 41051*

*PS Matisse sent a picture she drew of our dog River.*



## The Yard Sale ~ October 26<sup>th</sup>

With a hope that the weather will be perfect on the 26th, everyone is encouraged to clean out and dig out anything and everything - and bring it to church!

Remember to price your items and once done, you can store them in the garage #4.

We will set up starting at 7 AM and the more people who can come help, the better!

We need hangers! We need tables! We need

**YOU!** If you have expensive items that you would like to sell, we ask that you bring those items and sell them yourselves, so that you can handle your own negotiation with buyers. This project is a chance to make a little money and meet our neighbors. Your input and help will be appreciated.

Contact [Gil and Marilyn Alexander](#)

580-283-3312, 580-980-1267

## Board Bits ~ from the September 2013 Board Meeting

*"All the church windows have been replaced with "low E" windows which will save a lot of money over the years"*

The Board decided to change the date of the all-church yard sale from September 21 to October 26, because several church members were planning to be away on the original date.

All of the church windows have now been replaced with "low E" windows, which should save a lot of money over the next few years on heating and cooling, especially cooling. Thanks to Building &

Grounds chair Marilyn Alexander; her son Kevin Bartell, who located and installed the windows at a reasonable price; and his stepdaughter, Kylie Buffington, who did quite a bit of painting at no cost to the church.

The Board also voted to move \$2,000 from savings to fix the sliding doors connecting the Clara Barton room to the upper foyer. This will cut down on noise as people arrive at the church while Adult Forum is in session.

The Board decided to re-establish our Endowment Committee. It had been absorbed into the Finance Committee, and all of the endowment funds raised had been used to help purchase our current building.

Gil Alexander will design and have built a small structure to house a "little library" in front of our church. Please save paperback books that you are through with, that can be put there for passersby to borrow or to take and keep.

## Treasurer's Report ~ A Monthly Update on our Finances

In the month of August, we had income of \$2,449 from general operations. After operations expense of \$1,383 for the month, we had a net income from operations of \$1,066.

In August, we also had renovation donations of \$500 and renovation expense of \$3,950, resulting in net renovation expense of \$3,450. The large amount of renovation expense was primarily due to the

window replacement project currently underway. We also had grant expense of \$462 for worship. For the year to date period of July 2013 through August 2013, we had net income of \$4,165 from operations, renovation expense of \$3,270, grant expense of \$1,025 and principal payments of \$977. The total change in cash for the year to date period was a decrease of \$1,108. This was lower than our

budget primarily due to the window replacement project which is funded by our renovation fund in savings.

As of the end of August 2013, we had cash of \$50,181 and debt of \$38,360. The cash amount includes \$1,074 reserved for renovations and \$9,333 reserved for grants for the RE program, worship and board retreats.

In August we donated \$81 from the Share the Plate program to the Earth Day Festival.



A new outreach project is in the works! A little free library which will soon open for business. The idea is a simple one, we build a small "library" (see picture) and stock it with a few books.

People are invited to take a book, read it and return a book (maybe the same one, maybe not).

We hope it will help us become better known in our community and encourage more people to enjoy the wonders of reading.



## Children's Religious Education ~ Exploring, Learning, Growing!

If you have children, grandchildren, neighbors or friends who would be interested in learning more about our wonderfully diverse religion please bring them to church Sundays from 11:15-12:15. We will meet in the Emerson Room and may move to the crafts room upstairs.

**6 Oct** ~ The topic of this Sunday's lesson is the use of the chalice, how it got its shape and what it means to us. The lesson will be read by Gussie (the gorilla) and a small color

book will be used to help illustrate its importance.

**13 Oct** ~ The lesson, presented by Buffalo Gal (the pig), and craft will about beliefs the children have in common with Buddhism and we will make Tibetan prayer flags.

**20 Oct** ~ The lesson will be about "The Stone on the Mangle" with reading and discussion led by Chaz (the chicken) and making a group poster of a variety of races and cultures.

**27 Oct** ~ The lesson and craft will help us learn about earth centered religions, especially Native American. Mr. Turtle Band (a turtle) will present the lesson and we will make and color a medicine wheel.

### D.R.E. Search

The DRE\* Search Committee still needs your help.

As you know, our DRE moved in August.

If you are interested in the position, or know anyone who is, please pass on this information. We need someone who is enthusiastic and eager to teach UU principles to children. Planning lessons and teaching every week is the core of the job description. Click [here](#) to apply by email or for more information.

We also need the help of every person at RRUU to recruit children for the program. Even now there are plans for every Sunday.

\*Director of Religious Education

### Did you know ~

Once a year the various committees, teams, interest groups and Chalice Circles write an annual report outlining what they have been doing for the last year? This report not only contains a lot of interesting information but may also spark interest for something you'd enjoy doing.

All activities of the congregation are open to everyone (you can even come to the Board of Trustees meetings!) and a terrific way to learn about the various activities at church is to take a few minutes and read the annual report. You can download it [here](#).

### RRAMS ~ Red River Acoustic Music Society

The monthly gathering of Red River Acoustic Music Society will meet on Wednesday, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> starting at 7 pm. If you enjoy jamming with others, or you simply like to listen to live music, consider this your personal invitation to come!

### OMMMM .. Meditation Group ~ Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>

Remember that OMMMMM, our Meditation Group meets the last Sunday of the month, after things, in the Chapel starting at 12:35 PM. If you haven't given it a try - you won't ever know what you're missing until you do! Open to everyone who enjoys meditating or who would like to.

### Birthdays in October

Oct 5 ~ Marion Hill

Oct 18 ~ Joyce Peak

Oct 21 ~ Don Durland

## Things to say when someone asks, "What's a UU?"

*"The Adult Forum spent a Sunday writing sound bites you can say if someone asks about our church"*

"Want a church where you can say what you really think about religious questions? One where you can gather with others who share your commitment on social issues, human rights and the environment ~ and have fun besides? Try Red River Unitarian Universalist!" ~ *Marion Hill*

"Listen and learn and share with our open minded congregation of free thinking individuals. Come share the total freedom of spiritual freedom in a responsible community-minded group." ~ *Faye Shadrick*

"A free-thinking citizen is a dangerous citizen. Come be dangerous!" ~ *Shawn Kirby*

"Tired of being deceived? Interested in thinking? Willing to challenge the establishment? Any idea of what your own theology

entails? Join a group of progressive; liberal thinkers who will accept your eccentricities. Try Red River Unitarian Universalist Church." ~ *Gil Alexander*

"In a world where nothing makes sense, you are not alone. There is nothing wrong with you. You are important. You'll be surprised. Join us." ~ *Anonymous*

"Like to learn about world religions? Have beliefs to share and are willing to invite new thoughts? Want to be part of a non-judgmental, responsible, reliable, independent group of thinkers and learners? Red River Unitarian Universalist Church welcomes you." ~ *Joyce Peak*

## Booked For Lunch ~ October 10<sup>th</sup>?

What have you been reading lately? Inquiring minds want to know. Please join us for the book club meeting on Thursday, October 10, at 12:30 PM in the Barton Parlor. The conversation is always fun and this is a great way to find out about new authors and interesting books.

Iced tea and something sweet will be provided. You can bring a sandwich if you wish or eat before you come.

See you there, Carole

### **CALLING ALL UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ARTISTS** *An Invitation from Art on the Horizon*

Horizon UU's fine art exhibition program invites you to participate in a group show of the artwork of Unitarian artists.

**The show will run from November 17 through December 29th.**

**If you are interested in exhibiting, please send an email to [horizonart@horizonuu.org](mailto:horizonart@horizonuu.org).** The work will be accepted for hanging during the week prior to the opening date, and would need to be picked-up during the week following the closing date. The number of works accepted per artist will depend on response to the invitation. Please send digital images with your email and state the title, medium, size and price. (Any work sold gives a 20% fee to Art on the Horizon.)

### Swiss Chard Casserole

By Lanan Shelton

#### Ingredients:

4 lbs. chard, ribs removed, cut in bite size pieces  
1/2 cup butter  
3/4 cup cracker crumbs  
1/3 onion, minced  
1 can cream of mushroom soup  
1/2 cup sliced mushrooms  
2 eggs  
or  
2 tsp. flax seed in 2 tablespoons water  
Topping (Optional): 1/4 cup buttered crumbs

#### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees
2. Cook chard 5 minutes in boiling water
3. Drain chard well
4. Mix 1st seven ingredients together
5. Pour into lightly oiled casserole dish
6. Add topping, if desired
7. Bake 30 minutes in 350 degrees oven
8. ENJOY!

**ACROSS**

- 1. Sewing Line
- 5. English Chocolate Cat
- 9. Regal Cat
- 12. American Playwright
- 13. Jai \_\_\_\_\_
- 14. Additions
- 16. Egyptian Sun Disk
- 17. Performer
- 20. Ohara Home
- 21. \_\_\_\_\_ Brooks
- 22. Crazy Bird
- 23. Jerk
- 25. Eggy Dish
- 27. Poetic Before
- 28. Soaked Bread
- 29. \_\_\_\_\_ Or Not
- 31. Meetings
- 34. Ached
- 36. Failed Ford
- 37. Actress Moore Head
- 38. Lose
- 40. Rue
- 42. Indian Cat

- 45. Ova
- 47. Alphabet Start
- 50. English Rock Band (Abbr.)
- 51. Of The Skin
- 54. Resistance Unit
- 55. Foster Role
- 57. Trades
- 58. \_\_\_\_\_ Dick
- 61. Opening
- 62. Unchained
- 63. The \_\_\_\_\_, Paris
- 65. Starters
- 67. Middle Eastern Cat
- 68. \_\_\_\_\_ Dawson, Quarterback
- 69. Particle
- 73. If You Don't Please (Cat)
- 74. Model Campbell
- 75. Surrendered
- 76. Medical Image
- 77. Limb
- 78. New Cadet

- 81. Stephen \_\_\_\_\_, Actor
- 82. Eastern Cats
- 87. Tsarist Cat
- 93. Hangman's \_\_\_\_\_
- 94. Energy
- 95. Back \_\_\_\_\_
- 96. Leveled
- 97. Beverage
- 98. Opera
- 99. \_\_\_\_\_ Girl!
- 100. Ready
- 101. Russian Mountains

**DOWN**

- 1. If You Please (Cat)
- 2. Applied Data
- 3. Eternal
- 4. Males
- 5. Tale
- 6. Spanish Cheer
- 7. Indian Culture
- 8. Smooch
- 9. Nerve Network
- 10. Israeli Airline

- 11. Size (Abbr.)
- 15. Rested
- 17. Too
- 18. Maine \_\_\_\_\_ Cat
- 19. A-One
- 24. Hurt
- 25. Overweight
- 26. Club \_\_\_\_\_
- 30. Something Unique
- 32. Slav
- 33. Greek Tale
- 34. Whittle
- 35. Old
- 39. Changes Color
- 41. Sticky Substance
- 42. Indian Cat
- 43. Ester
- 44. \_\_\_\_\_ Lava
- 45. Mall Event
- 46. Other
- 48. Confused
- 49. New Mexico City
- 52. Official (Abbr.)
- 53. Damage

- 56. Field
- 59. Scottish Hill
- 60. Hanking
- 63. Heavy Metal
- 64. It's You \_\_\_\_\_ !
- 66. Isle of Man Cat
- 67. Simple Simon
- 70. Maryland Gridders
- 71. Oblong
- 72. \_\_\_\_\_ Lansky
- 73. Yell
- 77. Opera Solo
- 79. Erupts
- 80. \_\_\_\_\_ Lauder
- 82. Not For
- 83. Type
- 84. Notes (Abbr.)
- 85. Off Shore
- 86. \_\_\_\_\_ Flanders
- 88. Chair
- 89. Lover
- 90. Den
- 91. Government Agency
- 92. And Others

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Meow Mix  
By Robert Shelton

## Leadership

### Board of Trustees

Elbert Hill, *president*  
 Gil Alexander, *vice president*  
 Carole Harner, *Treasurer*  
 Doug Strong, *Secretary*  
 Paula Blackshear, *Trustee*  
 Marla Loturco, *Past President*

### Committee on Ministry:

Gerry Shehan, Peter Schulze  
 Joyce Peak

### Team Leaders or Team:

**Adult Forum:** *Joyce*

**Aesthetics Team:**

*Bruce, Joyce, Maura, Paula*

**Building/Grounds:** *Marilyn*

**Communications:** *Doug*

**Chalice coordinator:** *Open*

**Acting DRE:** *Joyce*

**Finance/Endowment:** *Dan*

**Good Times:** *Carole,*

*Marilyn & Marion*

**Long Range Planning:**

*Amy, Gil, Marilyn*

**Membership:** *Marion*

**Nominations:** *Helen, L.D., Marla*

**NTUUC Rep:** *Marla*

**Safe Congregation Panel:** *Elbert*

**Social Action:** *Gil*

**Ways & Means:** *Open*

**Worship:**

*Dan, Doug, Faye, Marla*

## Out To Lunch ~ Sunday, Oct. 13th

Our monthly Out To Lunch will be Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> when we'll head out to try a new seafood restaurant in Sherman. Sam's Southern Eatery is located at 2119 Texoma Pkwy (a Mexican restaurant was in the building before they started up last month). Prices are reasonable and we'll have a private room.

Plan on arriving around 12:45 PM. Out To Lunch is our no-agenda get-together where we each pay our own fare and enjoy breaking bread together.

## Moveable Feast ~ Thurs, Oct 27<sup>th</sup>

The next moveable feast will start at 6pm on Thursday, October 24, and will be co-hosted by Faye Shadrick, Joyce Peak, and Carole Harner. It will be held at Carole's house in Denison.

We have a Tex-Mex Feast planned. Iced tea and coffee will be available. Please bring any other drinks that you want. If we have good weather, we will be eating outside. Entertainment to be provided by longhorns and ducks (if they cooperate).

Please confirm to [Marion](#) by Oct 18 so we know how much food to prepare.

## Chalice Circles/Interest Groups ~ for us all!

**GREEN TEAM**, an Environmental Action Circle is taking a well deserved break after another successful Earth Day Festival. Facilitator: Amy Hoffman-Shehan.

**MOVEABLE FEAST**, a Cooking and/or Eating Circle will go to the home Carole Harner on Oct 27th. See details above. Facilitators: Elbert & Marion Hill.

**OMMMM...** Meditation Group, Meditation meets the last Sunday of each month @12:35 in the Chapel. Open to all who wish to learn more about meditation and to participate in meditating. Facilitator: Paula Blackshear.

**BOOKED FOR LUNCH**, is an informal book discussion group will meet this month on Oct. 10th in the Barton Parlor. Join in the conversation. Facilitator Carole Harner.

**OUT TO LUNCH**, One Sunday a month after things we go out for a Dutch-treat lunch. There is no agenda, no reports, no minutes - just everyone heading out and breaking bread together. See above for details. Email announcements@rruu.org if you have a restaurant suggestion.

mail to:

PO BOX 1806

DENISON, TX 75021-1806

How to reach us:

Email: [info@rruu.org](mailto:info@rruu.org)

Phone: 903.231.3232

Web: [www.rruu.org](http://www.rruu.org)

Facebook:

RedRiverUnitarianUniversalist  
 Church (all one word)

