



Red River Ramblings

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 7

JULY 2007

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

A Month of Sundays

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July 1

Ms. Scottie McIntyre Johnson
"It Ain't Necessarily So?"

Come learn about the origins of the Hebrew Scriptures and decide what relevance a study of these texts might have for someone who is not a Biblical literalist. Also come hear Darrah Dunn sing the song from which the title of this sermon comes, from George Gershwin's opera, "Porgy and Bess".

July 8

Ms. Christina Branum-Martin
"Welcoming Religious Transformation"

Many Unitarian Universalists are uncomfortable with the notion of being "transformed" by religion. Yet, at our core, we have the notion of faith being a journey of change. Let's explore how reclaiming the power of transformation can bring us closer to living out the principles and purposes of our faith.

July 15

Members and Friends of RRUU
"Summertime Sharing"

This mid-summer service will be informal and participatory, following a similar format to the "Poems and Prayers and Promises" service we typically do on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's Day. Anyone who wishes to do so is invited to bring a favorite short reading or poem to read or a song to perform with the group. If it has a summertime theme so much the better, but anything you really love will be fine. If you just want to come and listen, that's acceptable, too! The service will be facilitated by Dr. Elbert Hill.

July 22

Ms. Scottie McIntyre-Johnson
"Our Third UU Principle: What Does It Mean?"

During my first year of seminary, I was required to take "Spiritual Formation", meeting once a week with ten other students and a faculty mentor. Being so intentional about my spiritual development was something I'd never really done before. Our Third Principle states that we "covenant to affirm and promote acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations." It seems to me that we do a good job of promoting acceptance of one another but not such a good job of encouraging our spiritual growth. What might it mean to take this covenant, this promise, seriously?

July 29

Mr. Bill Mory, Ed.S, LPC, LMFT, LCDC

Fifth Sunday Forum

"Mindfulness Meditation: It's Not What You Think"

Information about this month's Fifth Sunday Forum is inside on page 2.



Worship & Children's Religious Education 11:15am

July 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Schedule of Events

- July 2 – Being Peace (evening)
- July 4 – A Moveable Feast
- July 8 – Immigration Lecture at First Unitarian Church of Dallas
- July 9 – Being Peace (evening)
- July 10 – Green Team goes to CORE
- July 11 – Board Meeting
- July 11 – Being Peace (afternoon)
- July 15 – Deadline for NAACP Dinner Ticket requests
- July 16 – Being Peace (evening)
- July 18 – Being Peace (afternoon)
- July 23 – Being Peace (evening)
- July 25 – Being Peace (afternoon)
- July 27 – Red River Earth Spirit
- July 29 – It Takes a Village

This Month's Worship Leaders

Bill Mory, a Marriage and Family Therapist with Brief Therapy Associates in Sherman, has been in practice for over 25 years. His approach has a strong mindfulness “base”, as well as an emotional growth focus, and he frequently recommends mindfulness meditation for his clients, in addition to practicing it himself. Bill earned a B.A. in Psychology from Birmingham Southern University and an M.A. in Counseling and Ed.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy from The University of Alabama - Birmingham. He holds state licenses in Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, Chemical Dependency Counseling, and Sex Offender Treatment. He is board certified by the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists (AASECT).

Christina Branum-Martin is a seminary student at Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago as a modified residency student preparing for the Unitarian Universalist ministry. Presently she serves as a student minister at Bay Area UU Church in Clear Lake, Texas.

Christina grew up in Houston, Texas and is a seventh generation Unitarian who has attended both Emerson UU Church and First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston. She still lives in the Houston area with her husband and 6 year old daughter.

Dr. Elbert Hill is a charter member of Red River UU Church. He retired in May of 2006, after 40 years of teaching, from his position as Professor of Literature and Philosophy at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Among the many courses he taught over the years are Children's Literature and Beatnik Philosophy.

Scottie McIntyre Johnson is a founding member of RRUU, a past president of the congregation and current coordinator of the RRUU Worship Arts Team. Having retired from a long career in Montessori education, Scottie will begin her second year as a student at Perkins School of Theology (SMU) in the fall, in preparation for the ordained UU ministry.

Caring Team News

The love of our neighbor in all its fullness simply means being able to say, "What are you going through?"

- Simone Weil

June was a month when it seemed many of us were asking each other "What are you going through?" A summary of our collective lives will fill everyone in.

THE FLOODS OF JUNE caused severe hardships for Pam Gauthier and her partner Terri whose apartment was completely flooded out and for Claudia Anderson when Mission Oaks Nursing Home was hit with four feet of water. Pam and Terri have moved to 805 N. Cleveland, Sherman, TX 75090, where they will stay until the end of July, when they plan on moving to the Midwest or East Coast. Claudia was evacuated to a local hospital for a couple of days and is now settled into life at Texoma Specialty Care Center (1300 Memorial Drive, Denison 75020-2037). She expects to be there at least three months. Linda Woytasczyk ventured to General Assembly in Portland Oregon and missed seeing her apartment receive about 4 inches of water.

OUR HEALING PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS to many in our midst this month. Barbara Paulin is recovering from back surgery ... Christine Davis' back pain has been identified as rheumatoid arthritis; thankfully, the spot which was found on her lung is nothing serious ... Jim Johnson is recovering from a dislocated shoulder he received while in Maine ... Debi Hester recently broke her foot ... Marion Hill is improving after a brown recluse spider bite. ... Kathy Whisman's mother, Lillian, is recuperating at Community Specialty Hospital in Sherman and was able to celebrate her 97th birthday with all her grandchildren around her.. ... Noah Baird is home from the hospital feeling much better from his pneumonia ... Kris Riek's mother is doing better and Kris is making good progress recovering from her second broken knee.

OUR CONDOLENCES to Marion and Elbert Hill, Marion's aunt died on June 23rd.

The Caring Team is always ready to offer help in times of personal need. You can contact the Team via confidential email at:

Caring@rruu.org

You can also call Doug Strong at 972-889-2828 who is the team member on call during July.

RRUU Board of Trustees

RRUU Board of Trustees will meet on Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00 PM at the church. Meetings are open and anyone may attend.

To place an item on the agenda, contact the president, Kathleen Campbell, at 903-892-0576 or kcampbell@austincollege.edu.

July Birthdays



Claudia Anderson	7/1
Noah Dunn	7/9
Davis Gregory-Allen	7/12
Linn Cates	7/13
Felicia Blankenship	7/13
Tom Donahue	7/18
Ben Schulze	7/18
Kendall Caves	7/19
Tingey Tracz	7/21
Kyla Larkin	7/23
Christina Infante	7/25

Floods

There is a phenomenon in our world
That cannot be disputed
Please explain it to me
When rains come
Too fast and too much
It is the poorest that pay
And the rich take their money
To build again
To buy the property
In the flood plain
Where the poor will pay, again and again,
To live, where waters rise and destroy them
The poor people's green dollars
Go for the upkeep of the luxuriously green and
Rich and meticulously kept
Landscaped lawns
Up there
On higher ground.

-anonymous

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Kathleen Campbell, President;
Tom Rawson, Vice-president;
Jim Johnson, Treasurer;
Members: Dianna Butler, David Lawrence
Mary Larkin-Baker, John Ockels

Our Unitarian Universalist Heritage...

P. T. Barnum

Contrary to popular belief, Phineas Taylor Barnum never said, "there's a sucker born every minute." He did, however, say that "every crowd has a silver lining," and acknowledged that "the public is wiser than many imagine." Universalist P. T. Barnum, born on July 5, 1810 in Bethel, CT. . The oldest of five children, he showed his flair for salesmanship at an early age, selling lottery tickets when he was just 12 years old.

In his 80 years, Barnum gave the wise public of the 19th century shameless hucksterism, peerless spectacle, and everything in between -- enough entertainment to earn the title "master showman" a dozen times over. In choosing Barnum as one of the 100 most important people of the millennium, LIFE magazine dubbed him "the patron saint of promoters."

P.T. Barnum bought the American Museum in New York City in 1841 and turned it into an exhibition hall for the presentation of "freaks" such as "The Feejee Mermaid" and the ultra-diminutive General Tom Thumb (real name: Charles Stratton). A brilliant and shameless promoter, Barnum weathered accusations of fraud with the attitude that there was no such thing as bad press, and he became one of the richest men in America. His string of successful acts included European opera singer Jenny Lind, Jumbo the elephant and conjoined twins Chang and Eng Bunker (who were from Thailand and such twins were called Siamese for over a century).

He didn't become involved with the circus until he was over sixty years old. In 1871 Barnum opened a circus, billed as "The Greatest Show On Earth." In 1881 he merged with competitor James Bailey, forming Barnum & Bailey's Circus (eventually it became today's Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus)

Most people don't know that he was elected mayor of Bridgeport, CT and that he served two terms in the Connecticut state legislature. He is credited as casting the deciding factor in the senate vote for the abolition of slavery after the Civil War. In spite of his reputation, he was a very moral and concerned man.

He was a very prominent Universalist layman, and in the 1880's the denomination published a pamphlet giving his reasons for being a Universalist. He firmly believed humanity needed to live a virtuous life in the here and now.

Following a funeral service that Barnum himself had planned and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," the great showman was laid to rest at Mountain Grove Cemetery in Bridgeport, Connecticut.



Chalice Circle News

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. You do not have to be a member of RRUU to attend a small group. Chalice Circles are always open to new participants. If you are interested in attending a particular circle, please contact the Chalice Circle Coordinator, Scottie McIntyre Johnson. (903-892-4751; scottieone@cableone.net.

BEING PEACE, A Meditation Circle (Afternoon Session) Facilitator: Barbara Paulin. Meets every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. @ the home of Nell Evans in Sherman.

BEING PEACE, A Meditation Circle. (Evening Session) Facilitator: Kathy Whisman. Meets every Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. @ the church.

EVENSONG, A Spiritual Deepening Circle. Facilitator: Scottie McIntyre Johnson. **WE WILL NOT MEET IN JULY.** We'll start-up again in August.

THE GREEN TEAM, An Environmental Action Circle. Facilitator: Linn Cates. Next Meeting: Tues. July 10, Meet @ 5:45 @ the home of Linn Cates in Sherman to carpool to the CORE meeting on water issues to be held in Bonham, TX, at 6:30 p.m.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE, A Circle of Parents Supporting Parents. Facilitator: Dianna Butler. Next Meeting: Sunday, July 29, after church. We will go see the new Harry Potter movie together.

A MOVEABLE FEAST, A Cooking and Eating Circle. Facilitator: Elbert Hill. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 4, 5:00 p.m. @ the home of Amy Hoffman-Shehan in Sherman.

ONE MORE STEP, A Social Action Circle. Facilitator: David Lawrence. Next project: TBA.

RED RIVER EARTH SPIRIT, A Nature-Based Spirituality Circle. Facilitator: Penny Armstrong. Next Meeting: July 27 @ 7:30 p.m. @ the church to plan for the Lammas celebration to be held in August.

THE REEL DEAL, A Movie Watching Circle. Facilitator: Linda Woytasczyk. **WE WILL NOT MEET IN JUNE OR JULY.** We'll start up again in August.



Fifth Sunday Forum—July 29

Mr. Bill Mory, Ed.S, LPC, LMFT, LCDC

Fifth Sunday Forum

“Mindfulness Meditation: It’s Not What You Think”

Whenever five Sundays occur within a month, we invite someone from the community to speak during the 11:15 hour, instead of holding a regular worship service.

This month, our speaker will be Mr. Bill Mory, a Marriage and Family Therapist for over 25 years. He will speak about mindfulness meditation: what it is, how to practice and what the health benefits are. Bill will speak about his own personal experience as a mediator as well as how he sees it benefiting his clients.

President's Letter

Disneyland for grown-ups—that's what someone has called General Assembly, the annual conference at which Unitarian Universalists gather to worship, learn, and take care of the business of the church. Marion and Elbert Hill, Linda Woytasczyk, and I just returned from this year's GA in Portland, Oregon.

GA is a whirlwind of worship, presentations, workshops, entertainment, and opportunities just to talk to UU's from around the country, and this GA was the second largest in the Association's history, with 5,697 delegates registered. I won't attempt a day-by-day account, or even to give you many details of the agenda. Copies of the Statement of Conscience on Moral Values for a Pluralistic Society, of the six Actions of Immediate Witness, and of other resolutions passed by the General Assembly (Linda Woytasczyk and I were RRUU's delegates) are available on the UUA web site; I will also have copies available at the church. I will be bringing some of the issues discussed before the board and the congregation during the year.

Everyone's experience at General Assembly is different; here are some of my observations. One of the first things I think you might notice is that UU's are, on the whole, pretty nice people. This impression was reinforced by the people I met, by the efforts of the leadership and participants to stay in right relationship throughout the conference, by the stories I heard of projects and actions by congregations around the country. We can be proud to be part of a religious organization that continually tries to put its ideals into actions, whether large and small.

Second, I think you would be proud of our leaders. President William Sinkford continues to be an intelligent and eloquent spokesperson for Unitarian Universalism. His report at the opening session was informative and inspiring (you can watch it on streaming video or download the text at the UUA website). At UU University and the president's meeting, I had an opportunity to see him in a slightly less formal context and enjoyed his energy, his humor, and his commitment to supporting congregations and lay leaders. Our moderator, Gini Courter, runs the plenaries with skill, intelligence, and humor; watching her guide 2,428 delegates through the process of discussing and voting on a series of complex documents is an education in itself. Her report at the end of the conference, also available on the UUA website, is worth your attention. I found the same dynamic combination of intelligence, skill, grace, and humor to be present in all of the leaders that I heard in presentations and workshops; our organization is in good hands.

Finally, you would be thrilled to participate in worship with the attendees and guests from the surrounding community. I tend to tear up whenever we sing "Blue Boat Home," but singing it at the closing worship with almost 6,000 fellow UU's and friends, many of whom had been speaking about and standing up for environmental justice during the conference, was more moving than I could have imagined. We may, as UU's, be proud that our faith is grounded in logic and reason, but we should also be proud that our faith incorporates a strong spiritual dimension, which was evident in the closing worship of GA. The great balances that make our faith strong and healthy—reason and spirit, thought and action, tradition and change, individual and community—were evidenced throughout General Assembly. We may feel we have much further to go in many of our efforts, but we are on the right journey.

Kathleen Campbell

Let's Take Turns

The Hospitality Team has provided a sign-up sheet in the foyer for the after-service refreshments duty. This job has been largely carried, until now, by the Hospitality Team. They have asked that we pitch in and help. The church does provide coffee and juice, so volunteers need only bring refreshments. Thanks go out to all who have

already brought goodies and encouragement to those that have not. Suggestions from the Hospitality Team include bringing cookies, donuts, coffee cake or fruit. If each of our Red River Unitarian Universalist families signed up for just one Sunday, the sign-up sheet would be completed for a year!



Scholarship And Award Dinner

The Grayson County Chapter of the NAACP and the Sherman Ministerial Alliance will hold their annual Scholarship and Award dinner on Aug. 4 at Austin College. The RRUU Board has approved supporting the event as a sponsor, but we would also like to see the congregation make a statement through its presence. Tickets are \$25. If you have not already purchased tickets, consider purchasing them through the church so that we can show our support as a group. Please turn in your request for tickets, with money, to Kathleen Campbell by July 15.

Social Action Team

July will officially start a new fiscal year for the Social Action. With it will come an increased budget and new opportunities for expanding our service to the community. Since July and early August are busy times for family vacations and travel, we will plan on having a Social Action Committee meeting in late August to discuss projects and activities for the coming year.

The Great Days of Service food drive was a great success and could not have come at a better time. The food items collected during the past month as well as financial donations were delivered to the First United Methodist Church in Sherman on June 26. The recent weather related tragedies in the Texoma area are a constant reminder of the need to support the local service charities.

As Dr. Drew Wade pointed out last Sunday, there are many opportunities to donate surplus household goods and clothing to those that have lost so much. I hope that all of us take a few moments to gain some storage space by donating the suit or dress that we're going to wear once you lost weight or that backup television that's sitting in the attic.

The winning design for the NTAUUS Social Action network tee shirt contest was submitted by Jeanne Jones of the Denton congregation. The purpose of the contest was to develop a design that conveyed UU beliefs and ideals and could be used on tee shirts for church group activities. NTAUUS would help fund the printing of a number of shirts that could then be sold to area UU churches and possibly customized with the church name. We will be taking orders for shirts once the shirt colors and other issues are finalized.



SWUUSI 2007

The Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute (SWUUSI) is an annual extended family gathering sponsored by the Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference. There are opportunities for people of all ages and interests to develop or enrich their Unitarian Universalist identity. Do a lot, or do a little; choose workshops and activities that suit your interests and energy level.

After 27 wonderful years at Lake Texoma State Park and Resort, SWUUSI has moved back to its previous home, Lake Murray State Park. Lake Murray is very close to the town of Ardmore, Oklahoma.

The Theme Speaker this year is Steve Bhaerman (aka Swami Beyondananda). He will be presenting a four-part presentation entitled *A Story Worth Waking Up For*. He will be showing more of his "serious side" as he features insights from his upcoming book with cellular biologist Bruce Lipton, *Humanifest Destiny: Our Positive Future and How to Get There From Here*. Citing modern science and ancient wisdom, Steve offers a provocative and enlightening conversation about our destiny as a humanity which is -- in the words of Steve's cosmic comic alter ego Swami Beyondananda, "To re-grow the Garden from the grassroots up and have a heaven of a time doing it!"

Morning Workshops choices are diverse and include Lay Leader Faith Development, Myth and the Journey of Humankind, The New Paul Perspective and Learning the Night Sky. Other Morning Workshops include The Philosophy and Practice of

Yoga, Rhythm of Life, Gourmet Made Easy and Theology and Justice.

The Rhythm of Life workshop is described as follows: Our lives have certain rhythms: birth, growth, maturity, death, whatever lies beyond, and the ups and downs in between. These are, at least symbolically, like the rhythms we find in nature: the cycle of the seasons, the phases of the moon, and the daily cycle of day and night. As Unitarian Universalists, our shared tradition draws from the spiritual teachings of the earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and seek to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature. In Rhythm of Life we will explore ways in which practices of the various earth-centered traditions can be used to foster our spiritual growth. We will be exploring the topics of our internal and external rhythms, the rhythms of the seasons, the rhythms of the moon, and our daily rhythms. In addition to the workshop sessions we will be involved as a group in the planning and carrying out of this year's Lamas Ritual.

Afternoon Workshop choices include God Speaks, Nonviolence in Everyday Life, Strings and Things, Duplicate Bridge, and UU Evangelism in Theory and Practice.

The Nonviolence in Everyday Life workshop is described as follows: Immersed in a violent culture seeking to live peacefully, what do we do? Exercises and facilitated conversation will elicit the group's wisdom

for self-awareness, spiritual practices, communication and consensus-building skills, and congregational processes for conflict resolution. This workshop is serious, fun, and creative. It will be different than last year's nonviolence workshop.

One of the Late Afternoon workshops will be led by RRUU's Jennifer Innis. On Monday only, you can come learn about an emerging Unitarian Universalist curriculum called Spirit Play. Spirit Play is a child-centered and story-based curriculum with plenty of room for wonder and discovery in a supportive and spiritual classroom atmosphere. If you want to know more about this elementary-age curriculum, here is your chance.

There are camp programs for several different age groups. Kids under four are considered the Nursery group. The Kindergarten through Third Graders have a program directed toward Unitarian Universalist identity-building. The Fourth through Seventh Graders will be attending the Hogwarts School of Magic and Fun. The Coming of Age group is for Eighth and Ninth Graders and one aim will be to deepen their relationships with each other and the adult members within our denomination. The Drama Camp is designed for High School students. The Young Adult program encompasses people aged eighteen to thirty five.

Information about Lodging, room types and costs, is available on the SWUUC website at:

www.swuuc.org/swuusi



Citizens Organizing for
Resources and Environment

Presents

"The State of Water in Texas"

July 10th, American Bank (Eliz. May Room)
120 W Sam Rayburn, Bonham -- 6:30 p.m.

Speaker: Jerry Chapman
GM Greater Texoma Utility Authority

The average American family consumes 300 gallons of water a day to drink, flush toilets, water lawns, & wash their bodies, clothes, cars, and pets! At the same time, 1.2 billion people around the world, including 1 in 7 Europeans, do not have potable water to drink. It has been said that more children die every day from unclean water than from H.I.V./AIDS, malaria, war, and accidents all put together. Water issues are likely to become critical for all of us in the coming decades. Come learn about the water challenges that face Grayson, Fannin and Cooke Counties and how you can become a part of the solution instead of the problem.

Letter from Rev. Jennifer Innis

On the Journey

Greetings from the annual Unitarian Universalist village! I am just back from spending a week with 6,000 Unitarian Universalists from across the continent and around the world. I offer a few of the high points from a very lively gathering. As the annual business meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association, General Assembly is a time for refining the ways in which we work together on the larger scales. Discussion continued in the review of the Principles and Purposes that is the current way we frame our values. We heard of new strategies and campaigns for the future of this liberal tradition. Fellow General Assembly travelers Kathleen Campbell, Linda Woytaszyk, and Elbert and Marion Hill may sport tote bags with the logo “Now is the Time”

for the new comprehensive fundraising campaign. The total goal of this campaign is \$50 million in support of programs and resources directed toward the growth of Unitarian Universalism. For you and me, this campaign means new religious education programs, more visibility in the public sphere, better resources to develop our spiritual growth as well as increase in numbers – and that is just a beginning.

Picking up on “Now is the Time,” the youth at General Assembly reminded us that they are not just the future – they are a part of congregations today. The high school youth make a remarkable statement at every General Assembly as more often than not they are at the forefront of speaking up for social responsibility and for Unitarian

Universalists as a voice calling for justice. Whether at meetings, or in smaller workshops, the youth make themselves known as well as speak up for others.

Finally, on the theme of speaking up, Robert Fulghum shared stories of his life and from a few of his books. This Unitarian Universalist minister and author of “All I Ever Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten” reminded us that his stories always speak to Unitarian Universalism and are always about our larger messages to the world. I think I might take another look at his books for my summer reading and see what stories need to be found again.

Namaste,

Jennifer

Where in the (UU)World is Rev. Jennifer?

For July Patrick and I will split our time between vacation and hanging out with Unitarian Universalists from across the region. As of this newsletter deadline, he and I are about to drive up to Massachusetts for a couple of weeks around July 4 with my family. Then Patrick and I will join many of you for SWUUSI, the Southwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute held at Lake Murray, OK during July 22-27. At SWUUSI, Patrick will offer a weeklong workshop on Unitarian Universalist Evangelism, and I will lead a single-session introduction to the Spirit Play curriculum. Most of all I am looking forward to serving as one of the chaplains with the senior high school Youth Camp. As singer/songwriter Tracy Chapman says, the youth are “talkin’ about a revolution” with the theme of WUUDSTOCK. Check it out!

The best ways to find me are by my cell phone: 972-639-7900 and by email: revjinnis@earthlink.net. My day off is Monday. From June 27 to July 16, I am available for emergencies only. I will return general calls or email after my day off or times away are complete.

Bowing to the Light within,

Jennifer

Less Desirable People

Racism and the Politics of Immigration

Public Lecture & Book Signing with

Michael Phillips

Author of

White Metropolis:

Race, Ethnicity, and Religion

in Dallas, 1841-2001

Free & Open to the Public

7 p.m. Sunday

July 8, 2007

In the Sanctuary at

The First Unitarian Church of Dallas

4015 Normandy at Preston Road

A growing and angry anti-immigration movement has grabbed local and national headlines, demanding that a wall be built between the United States and Mexico and warning that Mexican newcomers refuse to assimilate with American culture, carry dangerous diseases, increase crime, and threaten the quality of schools. These sentiments sound familiar to University of Texas historian Michael Phillips, similar accusations were made against Jewish immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th century. In his public lecture, *Less Desirable People: Racism and the Politics of Immigration*, Phillips will discuss how the anti-Semitism and xenophobia of the Ku Klux Klan and other nativist groups in the 1920s parallels the anti-Mexican racism in modern anti-immigrant organizations such as “The Minuteman Project.” Phillips says that the status of Jews in America today might also provide clues as to future course of immigration politics.

Presented by the Adult Religious Education Department of The First Unitarian Church of Dallas. For more information call 214-599-8508 or EMAIL programs@dallasuu.org

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