



Summer Haiku

by Don Mathis

Morning:

*My dark blue curtains
cast the rays of early sun
to an azure room.*

Mid-Day:

*Shadows fall on rock
just as they have forever.
The solstice begins.*

Afternoon:

*Pink petals peeking,
creeping through the
Crepe Myrtle,
herald the season.*

Evening:

*Evening immersion
in pool, in rainstorm, in
life,
whets my entity.*

Night:

*June's amber candle
radiates a golden glow
down my gallery.*

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Morning

Meditation - 9

Adult Forum - 10

Worship - 11:15

Conversations &

Calories - 12:15

Red River Ramblings

Five Sunday mornings to jumpstart your week.

Sunday, July 3, 2016

Founding Mothers

Rev. Barbara Prose, *speaking (video message)*

Last year Rev Prose wrote a splendid sermon about Founding Mothers - since most history focuses on those Founding Fathers.

Originally from Boston, MA, Barbara ran a homebirth midwifery practice in Maine. In 1999, she and her family joined the Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship where she served as Director of Religious Education and Minister of Music.



Barbara received her Masters of Divinity from Bangor Theological Seminary in 2009. She is the Executive Director of Ministry at All Souls, Tulsa.

Refreshments A-G

Sunday, July 10, 2016

Read Instructions Carefully: Unpacking

Luke 10:27

Rev. Anna Holloway, *speaking*

There are many instructions in the Greek and Hebrew scriptures, and Luke 10:27 is one version of one of those better known directives. But what does it really say? Can it be taken at face value?



Rev. Anna Holloway is an itinerant pulpit supply preacher for a variety of traditions. She was ordained in 1995 in a non-denominational church that had no educational requirements; she attended Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa as an "out" Pagan

Unitarian Universalist; she is now approved for ordination in the United Church of Christ pending a "call" from a congregation. Anna has studied and practiced several other religious traditions and claims that she never met a religion that didn't have something to teach her. She preaches regularly at UU congregations in Edmond and Lawton, and has also preached for UCC and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations. Anna also currently serves as director of the InterReligious Understanding program at Phillips Seminary in Tulsa.

Refreshments H

Sunday, July 17, 2016

Paging Dr God! Where does spirituality fit in medicine?

Rev. Jennifer Laing, MD, *speaking*

What role, if any, does faith, prayer and energy healing have in the western, allopathic health care model?



Reverend Jennifer Laing, MD-- a board certified family physician since 1995— has a foot in both worlds of healing: allopathic and 'alternative' medicine. Personal health challenges spurred her on to seek answers modern medicine lacked. In 1997/8 she became certified as a Reiki Master — Usui and Karuna traditions. Additionally, she's 27th Generation Mayan lineage energy healer and a Master Teacher for Divine Intervention/Spontaneous Remission.

Refreshments I-R

Sunday, July 24, 2016

The Least of These,

Lesa Lovejoy, *speaking*

Reflecting on the story in Matthew (for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me) Jesus had some definite things to say about charity and service. There are countless ways one can be charitable to others.



Lesa Lovejoy was born in Abilene and at age 12 moved to the Hendrick Home for Children where she became impressed with a desire to help those in need and found a love for cooking. She went on to earn a degree in Social

Work and Criminal Justice from Hardin-Simmons University. She married, raised two daughters and now that they are grown she decided to return to the workforce and currently is the Executive Director of the Grayson County Shelter.

Refreshments S-Z

Sunday, July 31 - SEE NEXT PAGE ➡

Church calendar
for the next
30 days:

Red River Unitarian Universalist Church ♦ Denison, TX

Dan's Dispatch



As our Texoma summer begins in earnest, “the warmth of community and the fire of commitment” are the heat-inspired phrases that come to mind. Our General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio has concluded.

We were once again ably represented there by two of our stalwart founding members, Marion and Elbert Hill. They have figuratively waved our banner there for several years running, and their passion for the Unitarian Universalist movement has been inspirational. Here at home, the continuing work on our facilities is spearheaded by Marilyn Alexander. Under her leadership, the upstairs spaces of our beautiful building are being transformed into clean, safe, attractive, and bright rooms for our church library, church office, and children’s Religious Education.

But creating the warmth of community is accomplished in ways both big and small. All of us who attend church, who support Adult Forum, who greet people on Sundays at the door, who bring refreshments, who contribute to the financial well-being, who participate in or lead our interest groups or chalice circles, who work our audio-visual system, who serve as worship associates, who build, repair, paint, or move things,

who contribute articles or announcements to our wonderful monthly newsletter and weekly E-News, who make the deposits, who write the checks to keep the lights on and the doors open, who spread the word among their friends about our oasis of liberal religious thought... Well, you get the idea! A truly comprehensive list of how we make our community and come alive would take the entire newsletter. It truly does take a village, and as villages go, we’re quite something.

This small but mighty congregation, which has seen its share of adversity and stress in the past, is a well-respected member of the North Texas cluster of Unitarian Universalist congregations. This is due to all our work and aspirations as a liberal religious community, which is led entirely by the lay membership. That is no small or easy thing.

And so, THANK YOU, one and all. While there is always work to be done, just as there’s always something to be done around our homes, it is entirely appropriate to take a moment to lift up our eyes from the work we’re doing, wipe our foreheads, step back, and appreciate and admire what we have built together—because it is indeed admirable, this warm community built with the fire of commitment.

Dan

Sunday, July 31, 2016- 11:15 am

Poetry Sunday
with Ron Wallace



Back again to share with us some of his poetry is Ron Wallace. He is an Oklahoma Native of Choctaw, Cherokee and Osage ancestry and is the author of seven volumes of poetry published by

TJMF Publishing. He is a three time finalist in the Oklahoma Book Awards. His work has been recently featured in “Oklahoma Today”, “The Long Islander”, “Concho River Review”, “Cybersoleil journal”, “Cobalt”, “Red Earth Review”, “Dragon Poets Review”, “Sugar Mule”, “Cross-timbers”, “Gris-Gris” and a number of other magazines and anthologies.

All Church Potluck

After Things: The 5th Sunday **In 4 Lunch Potluck**. Bring a dish to share and plan on tarrying after things for a great meal, fine company and a chance to get to know some folks you may not have met!



Extended Leadership Training

For many years a series of Leadership Training experiences have been offered throughout the country. These week-long, intensive, workshops have given many people valuable leadership training. The work well but have one major drawback. They are 6 days long, at a hotel or conference center, which means being away from home, work, and family.

Starting in October, however, there will be a different approach with the leadership experience extended over four Saturdays rather than a week-long experience. The dates are October 1; December 3; February 4; and April 1. Each Saturday will be at a different Dallas area UU church. The cost is \$120 for all four Saturdays, however people can attend individual Saturdays, if one cannot make all four. The church has scholarship funds available to assist and there may be additional scholarship aid from NTUUC.

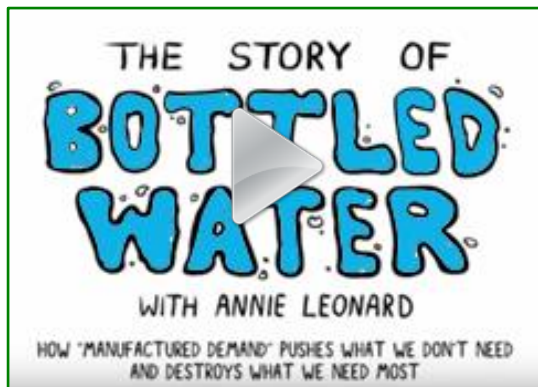
If you might be interested, please speak with Marla Loturco about details. You might also speak with Lanan and Robert Shelton, Joyce Peak, Marion and Elbert Hill or Dan Althoff as well because they all have been to the week-long version of the Leadership Experience.



New Water Filtration System

The new Royal Berkey water filter arrived and you can see it sitting on the counter next to the sink in the Soul Café. The system, approved at the May Meeting, can produce enough water for Sunday coffee and drinking. By using the reusable water bottles left over from the Earth Day Festival, we will be able to ween ourselves away from having to use bottled water.

Why do we have this world-class filter system at Church? Click on the image below and watch the brief video.



Improvements at Church

The Third Floor continues to look better and better. Here's proof:



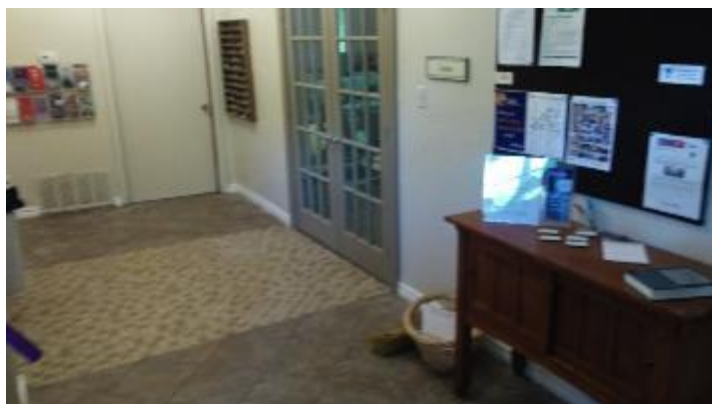
Before



After

Thanks to Marilyn Alexander, David Dyer, Robert Shelton and friends who made it possible. In addition to fresh trim paint, the old chapel carpet was recycled and now is wall-to-wall in the Anthony Room; F. Church Library and the hallway.

The Foyer also got a face lift



We are now greeted with new glazed porcelain tile in the foyer. The carpet throughout the rest of the first floor - to match the chapel carpet - has been ordered for delivery late in July.

Board Bits ~from the June 12 meeting

During the meeting the board

- Welcomed Kelly Cofield-Dyer, our new treasurer
- Received an update from the nominating committee that, to date, they have not found a candidate to serve as the president of the congregation
- Approved ordering new signs for the restrooms indicating each is gender neutral
- Gratefully accepted donated funds to replace the foyer carpet with ceramic tile *and* to replace the carpet in the upper foyer, Barton Parlor and the Emerson Room
- Agreed to put out the "Register to Vote" banner on selected Sunday's indicating people can stop by an register to vote following worship
- Agreed to see if we can find volunteers to participate in an Extended Leadership Experience

Worship Team Update

During their June 20th meeting, the Team said thanks to Faye Shadrick who decided to move on to other volunteer opportunities at church and welcomed Robert Shelton who accepted the invitation to join Dan, Jan, Marla and Doug on the committee.

Rest Room Signs



The board agreed at their last meeting to show support for the transgender community that we change the labels on the rest rooms at church to be inclusive, by being gender neutral. Temporary signs have been put up while permanent ones are being ordered.

MAKE FOOD.
FEED VOLUNTEERS.
FEEL GOOD.

You don't have to play to Jam!

UU JAM - The June UU JAM involved three guitars; one banjo, a keyboardist, a soloist and a couple of folks who came to enjoy the jam. For nearly two hours performers delighted the audience, and one another, with a wide assortment of acoustic music. If you've not dropped in for a Jam, you're missing out on a wonderful (and free) experience that will lift your spirits and make you smile all the way home!

The monthly acoustic music circle for musicians, singers & music loving listeners meets the last Saturday of the month @ 3 pm, in the Chapel. In July that's Sat. July 30th. The group takes turns performing and those who enjoy listening get to hear some fine music. Bring a snack to share.

Treasurer's Report

In the month of May, we had income of \$5,144 from general operations. After operations expense of \$2,748 for the month, we had a net income from operations. In May, we received a donation of \$15 for the Wi-Fi fund and spent \$68 for service leaving us with a total of \$1,109 in that fund. For the year to date period, we had a net income of \$9,232 from operations. Those included restricted amounts of \$2,599. The total change in cash for the month was an decrease of \$2,396. As of the end of May, we had total cash of \$62,654 and our debt totaled \$26,945. In May, we donated \$107 from the Share the Plate program to the Grayson County Shelter.

Robert Shelton, Treasurer

Moveable Feast

The July Moveable Feast will be an outdoor supper at the home of Cylvia & David Lawrence in Van Alstyne. *We plan to have a simple taco bar and fixings. Drinks & appetizers at 6:00 and dinner at 6:30. No need to bring anything unless you have specific drinks. We'll have beer, wine, and non-alcoholic libations. We plan on being out on the deck, so dress as coolly as possible. It's shaded, but it's still July in Texas.*



Saturday, July 2nd and July 30th are our turns to prepare and serve lunch to the volunteers building a Habitat for Humanity house at 420 S. Rusk in Sherman. If you are willing to help make lunch (Habitat provides the drinks), call the church number 903-231-3232 and leave a message. The food delivery time is 11 AM.

Leaders

Board of Trustees

Dan Althoff, *president*
Marla Loturco, *vice president*
Kelly Cofield-Dyer, *Treasurer*
Doug Strong, *Secretary*
Helen Schulze, *Trustee*
Elbert Hill, *Past President*

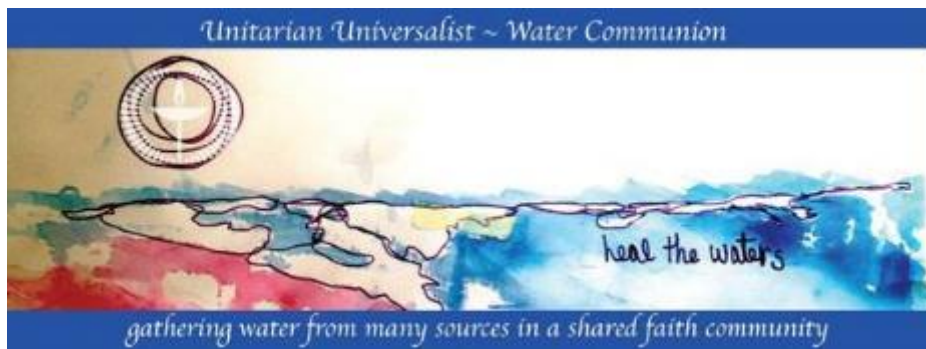
Committee on Ministry:

Carole Harner, Gerry Shehan,
Robert Shelton

Team Leaders/Members:

Adult Forum: *various members*
Building & Grounds: *Marilyn*
Communications: *Doug*
Finance:
Long Range Planning: *Amy,*
Marilyn
Membership:
Nominations: *Elbert, Kat, Lanan*
NTUUC Rep: *Marla*
RE Team: *Dan, Tommi*
Safe Congregation Panel: *Dan*
Social Action:
Worship: *Dan, Doug, Jan,*
Marla, Robert

Remember the Water!



Everyone goes somewhere - be it across the street or the world. So, wherever you happen to go this summer, remember to bring back a small container of water for our Annual Water Communion service that will be in September.

Chalice Circles / Interest Groups ~ open to all

BOOKED FOR LUNCH, an informal book discussion group which usually meets the second Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Emerson Room. However, the group is on summer vacation until September. Facilitator Carole Harner.

GREEN TEAM, is taking a well deserved sabbatical for a while, in order to recuperate from creating another wonderful Texoma Earth Day Festival. Facilitator: Amy Hoffman-Shehan.

MOVEABLE FEAST, a Cooking and/or Eating Circle will gather at the home of Cylvia and David Lawrence on Saturday, July 16th. Details on the previous page. Facilitators: Elbert and Marion Hill.

UU JAM, an acoustic music circle for musicians, singers & music loving listeners usually meets the last Saturday of the month @ 3 pm, in the Chapel. In July that will be on Saturday, July 30th. Facilitator: Jan Fletcher.

Contact Us

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