



# RED RIVER RAMBLINGS



APRIL 2024 ~ VOL 25, No. 10

## Sunday, April 7, 2024 - 11:15 am

Beloved Community in the Midst of Chaos  
the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies, *leading*

It is when times are chaotic that we need to commit to building the beloved community the most. The purveyors of chaos in our world count on the forces of beloved community in the world to be weak and to lack persistence but love and justice have the power to be resilient and regenerative.

## Sunday, April 14, 2024 - 11:15 am

TBA  
the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies, *leading*

Mark returns to share his perspectives on life, religion and the human condition with challenging, innovative and thoughtful discourses on the current condition of society, faith, and the beloved community.

## Sunday, April 21, 2024 - 11:15 am

Flower Communion and Compassion  
Jack, *speaking*

Compassion has to be the overwhelming force behind all that we do to apply all our 8 principles in our lives and to build the Beloved Community. Let's talk about how to create the world we want to live in.

This Sunday is also our annual Flower Communion ritual. Please bring a flower or two with you.

## Sunday, April 28, 2024 - 11:15 am

Power Sunday  
The Worship Team, *leading*

The premise of this morning assembly is that democracy is being threatened, but we are not powerless; we all have meaningful ways to save our democratic system. One way is to commit to being an active part of civil society, which means committing to our institutions, starting here at RedRiverUU and by joining the UU UUSJ, which is the only national UU organization lobbying for our values on the Hill. We hope people will leave worship on Sunday feeling empowered, connected, and hopeful about what's next for our collective work and our nation.



# To Question is the Answer

RED RIVER UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS – DENISON, TEXAS

# Marilyn's Musings

The mission of Red River Unitarian Universalist Church is “*A sanctuary for religious liberals celebrating compassion, diversity and spiritual growth.*”

I believe in our mission. Our church really is a sanctuary for religious liberals celebrating compassion, diversity, and spiritual growth. When my husband and I moved here from Montana in 2005, we felt like we could find no like-minded people in the area. It took years and we considered moving back to Montana because of this frustration. In 2012, we were invited to visit Red River UU and we did. We found a refreshingly liberal group of people who were diverse, compassionate, and accepting of one another's differing beliefs. This church saved us, and we found a home here.

I'm impressed with the quality of our lay-led services and the work that so many volunteers do to make us able to serve each other and reach out to others. We really pull together to make everything work.

We need to do more to let other people know about this refreshing liberal church, so that they can also find a home here. Our church and its mission are worth sharing!

We operate on a balanced budget based on the amount pledged. We have a Board of Trustees that is fiscally responsible, so your pledge contributions are utilized in a responsible manner. Last year, even though we had an unusual expense of \$5000 to repair the garages, we still ended the year with a very slight surplus. Look how much nicer those garages are.

We are continually maintaining and updating our building so we can provide meaningful, life-changing worship every week of the year. Since the downturn during the pandemic, we have started growing again. Our attendance includes those in the building as well as those on Zoom. Additionally, many people view our morning assemblies throughout the week on both our [Facebook](#) page and our [YouTube channel](#).

Our **Pledge to Progress** drive is about you. It's about your hopes for our church--and your belief in

our ability to move forward together. Every contribution strengthens our church. It ensures that we can continue to provide service to everyone here. Although contributions on Sundays are welcome, we can only budget on what is pledged. So, please pledge to help our church progress.

Our Stewardship Campaign will run through April 14th. You received a “[Pledge for Progress](#)” letter in early March with more details on the 2024 Stewardship Campaign and how the money will be spent. You may even pledge online [here](#).

Please give generously to support this important part of your life.

Yours in our liberal faith,

Marilyn Alexander, *president*

# Our Open House March 6

Our welcome to the becoming a member of the Denison Chamber of Commerce was officially celebrated at a special ribbon cutting and open house on March 6th, which the newest member organization or business sponsors, so the Chamber members can drop by and get to know us a bit. It was a pleasant afternoon, and we were welcomed warmly by the various people who visited. The church joined the Chamber as part of our outreach to become better known in the wider community.



# New Directories

New church directories have been emailed to all members and friends. Need one? Have a correction to your listing? Email Marla [here](#).



## THE 2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

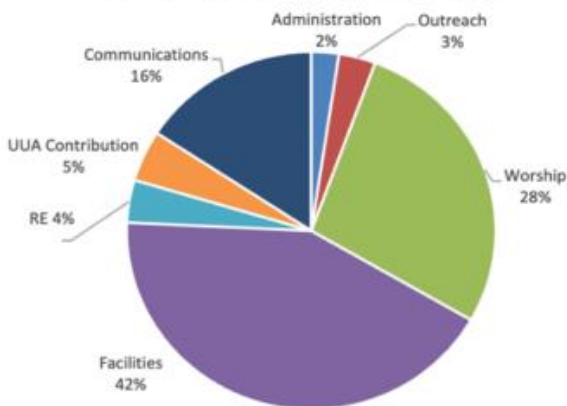
On Sunday March 24th, Bruce Cameron made a wonderful talk on his reason for pledging. If you missed it, we encourage you to watch it [HERE](#).

The Finance team thanks everyone that has pledged so far. As of 3/25/2024 we have \$29,530 in pledge commitments from 10 pledge units or 15 people counting family members. This represents 63% of our target goal of \$47,000. We are now about halfway through our Stewardship Campaign which officially ends on April 15th.

The proposed budget this year is \$53,300. This is our largest budget to date. We have seen some big increases in building insurance expenses and in utility expenses which are driving up the budget. This year we also put in some extra funds for RE and outreach that also added to the proposed budget. The breakdown for the proposed budget expense categories is listed below.

If you have not yet pledged, please do so and help us reach our goal of \$47,000 so that we may reach our goal of \$47,000 so that we may support our proposed budget. You may pledge online [HERE](#) or fill out our pledge form located in the lobby and give it to one of the Finance Team members. Jim, Carole, Marilyn to one of the Finance Team members. Jim, Carole, Marilyn

### 2024-2025 Budget Breakout



## March Birthdays

07- Willow Biasi \* | 07- Bruce Cameron  
18- Jolene Whitten | 29- Michelle Hayne

## Our Caring Circle



Jerry Harris had a bad fall, broke some ribs and his arm, and got a serious bruise on his hip which will

keep him from driving for a while. Jerry doesn't email or text, but he would appreciate phone calls or cards.

His phone – 903.513.1662

Address - 404 N Piney St, Dodd City TX, 75438

## Money Matters

In the month of February, we had total receipts of \$1,712.00. Total expenses for the month were \$2,867.63, leaving us with a net loss for the month of (\$1,155.63). The net loss for February was primarily due to the timing of pledge income.

We had a net profit for the fiscal year-to-date of \$2,904.68. The year-to-date net profit was primarily due to higher other income and lower worship expenses, partly offset by costs to improve building security and the timing of various other costs.

As of February 29, 2024, we had \$12,967.35 available in checking. There is a total of \$20,749.94 in the bank savings account, including \$4,771.08 restricted for the Minister Fund and \$5,951.89 held in trust for Kat Walston from the sale of her personal effects prior to moving into assisted living. There is a total of \$66,784.40 invested in the UUA Common Endowment Fund. The congregation voted to use up to \$51,000.00 of the Endowment Fund for minister compensation.

*Carole Harner, treasurer*

# From Our Worship Team

## The Worship Team Announces an upcoming change to our Sunday experience!

The worship team has decided to try out a new element in our morning assemblies, beginning the second Sunday in April 2024. We will be lighting one additional candle each morning, a Candle for Peace. The words we are planning on using for this are a Universal Prayer for Peace.

*Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth.*

*Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust.*

*Lead me from hate to love, from war to peace.*

*Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.*

*Peace. Peace. Peace.*

We light this Peace candle to remind us of all the places in the world where there is no peace.

# Be a Worship Associate

## Calling all individuals interested in being a Worship Associate.

The Worship Team will be holding up to three separate training courses so that people interested in being a Worship Associate have the opportunity to attend one of these sessions.

- The first session is Sunday May 5 starting at 1:00 pm.
- The second session will be Wednesday May 8, beginning at 5:30 pm.
- The third session will be Saturday May 11 beginning at 10:00 am.

Since each person attending will be asked to talk at the podium and will be recorded, the length of time for the meeting will depend on the number of people who attend.

If you want to be a WA you must attend one of these sessions, *even if you have already served in that role,*

and you need to let the worship team know which session you will be attending.

If no one signs up for a session, that time slot will be cancelled. Thanks for your cooperation.

Worship associates do *not* have to research readings, songs, or anything else. That's up to the worship team. Worship Associates do, *however*, need to feel comfortable 'up front,' and must rehearse their script prior to Sunday.

Worship associates are not needed when we have a minister or theological student in the pulpit, but rather are needed with lay speakers.

You are invited to speak with anyone on the worship team (Marla, Dan, Jana, and Jan).



## About UUSJ

### Vision

A just, compassionate, and sustainable world community

### Mission

Advance equitable national policies and actions aligned with UU values through engagement, education, and advocacy

### Moral Owners

Unitarian Universalists, UU congregations, impacted communities, and the organizations that support them

### Values

- We are effective and responsive
- We are faithful to our UU Principles
- We respect others

# Sharing Our Gratitude at the Appreciation Luncheon ~ Feb. 25, 2024

<b>arilyn A</b>	Board President, organizing & encouraging on lots of projects, inspiration,	<b>Biasi Family</b>	Helping with lots of hands-on events
<b>David D</b>	RE – kind & giving, Board, Caring Team	<b>Marla L</b>	Worship Team, WCT, sweeper upper
<b>Jack B</b>	Welcoming Congregation Team leader, greeter,	<b>Jan F</b>	Social Justice Team lead, Community Outreach, Worship, singing
<b>Amy H-S</b>	Welcoming Congregation Team (WCT), board, dedicated volunteer, greeter,	<b>Marion H</b>	All her years as Membership Chair, moveable feast, gluten free pies
<b>Adrian H</b>	Clothing Swap, WCT, Board games	<b>Sherilyn B</b>	WCT and clothing swap, greeter
<b>Cristin M</b>	WCT, facebook	<b>Carole H</b>	AV, Giving of herself, silent angel
<b>Jim H</b>	Soldier of kindness, AV, IT, board, facilities	<b>Cindy B</b>	Willingness to help & kindness, brought Joe via car or zoom
<b>Melleissa</b>	Helpfulness & kindness, RE assistance	<b>Bill H</b>	Singing, humor
<b>Diane N</b>	Guiding Spiritual Light	<b>Sue &amp; Curtis S</b>	Attending as often as they can, NAACP, events
<b>Carolyn C</b>	Greeting, COM, Caring Team	<b>Bruce C</b>	Bringing Carolyn & getting food, facilities team
<b>Mike J</b>	Took Xmas stuff to basement	<b>Dan A</b>	Worship, music
<b>Don R</b>	AV, Putting up Xmas tree, board	<b>Marsha R</b>	Chair yoga
<b>Mark D</b>	Being non-resident minister	<b>Elbert H</b>	Moveable feast, COM, watering
<b>Billie B</b>	Kindness; WCT	<b>Marko H</b>	Enriches all, keeps us on our toes
<b>Minnie C</b>	Great hugger, cleans up, willing to help on just about anything, serving	<b>Megan H</b>	MC at Earth Day Festival, OWL training
<b>Jerry H</b>	Provides videos for Adult Forum	<b>Susie</b>	Greeter
<b>Liz R</b>	Greeter	<b>Joyce P</b>	Chapel wall hangings, RE & AF
<b>Martina H</b>	Earth Day, bringing children	<b>Paula B</b>	Recovering health
<b>Doug S</b>	Newsletter, UPDATE, mobile app, chair setup, helping with musings	<b>Linn C</b>	Monarch Waystation
<b>Lisa C</b>	WCT events; supports Samuel	<b>Samuel C</b>	Finding Himself
<b>Kelly C-D</b>	Past work	<b>Ellie D</b>	We miss you; RE
<b>Rebecca C</b>	Supporter without attending	<b>Thomas G</b>	Worship Associate
<b>Michelle H</b>	Earth Day	<b>Tommi H</b>	Supporter without attending
<b>Paula J</b>	Membership, lawn & garden	<b>Darlene M</b>	Good food, quiet help
<b>Jana N</b>	Worship Team, WCT,	<b>Walter N</b>	Services
<b>Jackie O</b>	WCT; works hard at cleanup	<b>Hannah P</b>	Web team,
<b>Olivia P</b>	WCT	<b>Jim R</b>	Spiritual book club
<b>Everyone</b>	Who lends hands for many tasks	<b>Good Times Team</b>	All who bring food and clean up

# Well Done, Don Rogers

Editor note: *Don Rogers had an op ed piece published in the Durant Democrat on Wednesday, March 6, 2024*

Abortion: A man's view

For many years, some people have been making the case for "life begins at conception." Is there a united opposition to that view? Where is the pushback?

In my opinion, the lack of a consistent and direct counter-position is why *Roe v. Wade* got overturned, and why the Alabama State Supreme Court has ruled that frozen embryos in an IVF clinic are "extrauterine children." And why using an IUD is equated now with abortion, along with the "morning after" pill.

The counter narrative to "life begins at conception" has to be more than "No, it doesn't."

Pointing out that rigidly enforcing "life begins at conception" will cause many deaths from pregnancy complications, even though true, is dodging the issue.

Legalism is a cold, unfeeling position in opposition to love and compassion. No sane, rational person can feel more compassion for a microscopic speck of an ovum than for a living, breathing, suffering woman in pain.

To allow a woman to die an excruciating death due to an ectopic pregnancy rather than removing the source of her suffering is as evil and immoral as anything I can think of.

A God who would command such a thing is no God I would waste my time worshipping.

Historically, there was no such thing as conception until less than 200 years ago, when the mammalian ovum was first found (in 1827) by Karl Ernst von Baer (Edward Dolnick, "The Seeds of Life," Basic Books, 2017).

For thousands of years, the belief was that the woman was a garden where the man planted the seed. If the garden was fertile, the seed grew and was harvested at the birth of the child.

If she didn't become pregnant, she was considered not fertile, or barren. Failing to conceive a child was her fault, and she could be replaced with a more fertile woman.

Seems to be what worked for King Henry VIII.

Biblically, the texts are plain. In those days (when the Bible was written), the soul and the breath were equated. Genesis 2:7 says, "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and

breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

The same equation is evident in Job 27:3, "All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils."

Conversely, when the breath is gone, that is the end of life. Psalms 146:4 says, "His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish."

Not that long ago, that black bag that doctors carried everywhere contained a small mirror. If the doctor held the mirror up to your nose, and the breath wasn't visible on it, he declared you dead.

For those of us who believe that there is no better person to make a decision on whether to stay pregnant or not than the woman involved, there needs to be a forceful campaign to publicize the disastrous harm that the banning of abortion is doing to our freedoms and our privacy.

With women being thrown in jail after a miscarriage, the right to travel across state lines for better health care being threatened, and data of clinic visits, GPS locations and license-plate photo-captures being accessed by police for anti-abortion enforcement, the New Inquisition is here.

The cruelty to women is the point. Denying them their right to life (a possibility when a life-saving abortion is prohibited) and their right to control what happens to their own bodies (a certainty when the decision to remain pregnant or not is denied) violates the U.S. Constitution.

The Fourth Amendment states: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Wresting control of a woman's own body from her, it seems to me, constitutes "unreasonable search and seizure."

It is way past time for freedom-minded people to fight back.

*Don Rogers was born and raised in Merced, California, and educated in Adventist schools, including a year studying Mechanical Engineering at Walla Walla University in Washington. He worked as a Mechanic/Machinist at various electric power plants in Colorado and Nevada for over 35 years but retired in 2006. He moved to Durant when his wife, Carolyn Wright, developed Alzheimer's disease in 2016, then chose to remain in Oklahoma after his wife died in 2018. He is now a volunteer poll worker in Bryan County and a member of Red River Unitarian Universalist Church in Denison.*

# Social Action Updates



Texas UU Justice Ministry Annual Gathering

*“What a weekend! Thank you so much to all of you who made the TXUJIM Annual Gathering so meaningful. But first a fun photo,”* Rev. Erin Walter

The event was hosted by First Unitarian Church of Dallas and included Election Year Updates, a Keynote Panel on Bodily Autonomy, safety and state control, Safety Trainings, Singing, Small Groups and a Youth Caucus. As a reminder, in even numbered years TXUJIM focuses on democracy and Get Out the Vote. We will be working with Sarah Berol-Harrop to bring this to Red River UU in this election year. In odd numbered years, we mobilize Texas UUs to be a loud and proud voice in the Texas Capitol. So we look forward to inviting your to 2025 Legislative Action Day next spring

If you are interested in viewing the event, please get in touch with me, Jan Fletcher, Social Justice Team and I will be happy to send you the 2 hour plus video.

## Minister Search Team

There has been no new candidates applying on our UUA portal website as of 3/25/2024.

To help in the search process, Walter Norris is going to contact a friend of his at the Brite Divinity School. This is a liberal school located on the TCU campus. We would be looking for promising liberal students about to graduate that would have some interest in the UU philosophy.

Daniel Polk has also said that he will check with some of his connections at Divinity schools to see if there also might be some interest from possible candidates.

In 2007 the board was asked by the District office to hire a 1/4 time minister and the board hired one. Things didn't work out well and at the spring meeting the board voted to presented 2 budgets, one containing funds for a minister, the other excluding such funds. The budget excluding funds for a minister prevailed. I checked the Chalice Lighters and they said that this would certainly be a consideration in determining who gets grants. But, they did not say no so we will be applying for a grant.

Jim Holmes, David Dyer, Jana Norris, Marilyn Alexander, Marla Loturco

# *Earth Day Details* – from what’s happening and to how you can get involved.

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Texoma Earth Day Festival will be April 20, 2024, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The festival is a fun, family-oriented event with a broad range of things attendees can participate in and enjoy. The event is at the Sherman Municipal Ballroom, Lucy Kidd-Key Park, and surrounding streets. The event offers children’s activities, educational workshops, vendors, music, demonstrations, displays and recycling. Registration for Vendors and sponsors will close on April 10, 2024.

Children’s activities are in the Municipal Ballroom. The Welcoming Team from Red River Unitarian Universalist Church will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual free clothing swap on the Municipal Ballroom stage. It is not necessary to bring clothes to swap, but please make sure anything brought to the swap is clean and free of stains and holes. The Texoma Quilters Guild will provide a sewing project using upcycled materials. The Boys & Girls Club of Sherman will provide a flower planting activity. Bluestem Master Naturalists will offer several activities, including fossil digging, identifying pelts and skulls, and information about birds found in our area. Recycled sculptures from Perrin and Fred Douglass Early Childhood Centers will be on display during the festival.

Five workshops will be held in the kitchen of the Municipal Ballroom. Byron Compton of STG Farms will offer a workshop on Bee Keeping, including how they live, how they make honey, and their importance to our food chain. There will be products and a live hive on display during the workshop. Paul Kuhar of Champion Waste & Recycling will present a workshop on composting. Champion is a commercial composting company based in Pottsville. Members of the Bluestem Master Naturalists will present three workshops, All About Fossils, Identifying Types of Butterflies and Native and Endemic Plants. Matt DeLozier will talk about fossils, including defining what fossils are, how they are formed, and how to find them. He will also talk about the types of fossils found in Grayson County. Sue Abernathy will conduct the butterfly workshop. She will help the attendees understand the life cycle of a butterfly, the functions of their body parts, how they spend their day. Attendees will learn simple ways to attract butterflies to their yards. Mavis Sauer will speak about native and endemic plants. Attendees will learn how beautiful native plants can be while also offering a local food pantry for wildlife. She will focus on local favorites, give tips for use in your landscape, and identify local sources for native plants.

Vendors on the lawn (Lucy Kidd-Key Park) will sell their wares, give information about services they provide or their non-profit organizations. Two Austin College environmental groups, Austin College Climate Summit, and Austin College

Thinking Green, will help bring awareness to the work they do and current environmental issues. In addition, three vendors will accept recyclables at their booths. The Sherman Noon

Lions Club will accept donations of eyeglasses, sunglasses and reading glasses. Function 4 will collect used printer ink cartridges so they can be refilled or recycled. Holmes Family Rustic Kitchen will accept donation of canning jars. The jars must be clean and dry. Anyone who wants to recycle these items will need to bring them onto the grounds while visiting the vendors. New to our vendor area are booths for young entrepreneurs, sponsored by SCRAP Sherman Creative Reuse. Any young entrepreneurs who want to sell their goods should contact SCRAP Sherman Creative Reuse to learn how to participate. Attendees will be able to shop for original art, jewelry, handmade soaps, canned goods, upcycled craft items, Tupperware food storage and more. Food vendors are on Rusk Street adjacent to Lucy Kidd-Key Park. They include Tacos Hondumex, Lemonade Depot, Sugar & Spice State Fair Donuts & Dipping Dots, Rollin’ Woodfire Pizza and Old Man Kettle Corn.

While visiting the vendors make sure to visit our photo props and displays. New this year are a series of displays about the benefits of trees to our environment, physical health, and mental health. You will also be entertained by demonstrations from Legend Martial Arts, Little Goddess Trybe, The CAMP Military School of Boxing, and Sapphire Lotus Belly Dance. Musical entertainment includes Children’s Chorus of Greater North Texas, Neon Toboggans, Band on Grand, Sherman High School Jazzcats Band, Keepers of the Sound and Canyon Creek Players.

Recycling continues to be a major attraction at the Texoma Earth Day Festival. All recycling will be on Elm Street between Mulberry and Elm Streets. Anyone with recycling must enter the south end of the street from Pecan Street. We request everyone study our website for detailed instructions, lists of materials accepted, and the rules. No trailers will be allowed to enter the recycling area. We are accepting electronic waste (no tube style televisions or monitors), latex paint, plastics 1,2, and 5, plastic bags, bubble wrap and shrink film, paper, flattened cardboard, Styrofoam and bagged Styrofoam peanuts, and textiles. A shred truck sponsored by First United Bank will be in the recycling area from 9:00 am to noon for shredding of sensitive documents. Patrons are limited to 10 boxes of paper. Cardboard boxes will be flattened and added to the cardboard recycling bin.

The Texoma Earth Day Festival is an official outreach project of Red River Unitarian Universalist Church. We depend upon our congregation’s support and volunteerism. If you haven’t signed up to volunteer yet, please reach out to Amy Hoffman-Shehan this week.



# From our non-resident Poet

## The Gospel according to Don Mathis

By Don Mathis, *Mar 25, 2024*

Long ago, a poet-king (David, Psalms 139:14) told us we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." I know I am. Each of us is unique.

I want to talk about someone who is most unique, and very wonderfully made. John the Elder talks about his birth in one of his books (Revelations 12:4):

"...The dragon stood in front of the woman who was going to have a child, to devour her child as soon as it was born."

This is not the familiar nativity scene in a manger that we're all so used to.

"She gave birth to a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a scepter of iron. And the child was snatched away and brought to God and to his throne."

Some of you might not want to believe it happened that way. And you might find it hard to believe his mother was a virgin. And, if that's the case, I imagine you have an explanation for the reports that he rose from the dead. That's all right. If you want to believe the Holy Bible is a work of inspired fiction, it's all right.

What is your favorite book? When I was a kid, I loved reading Mark Twain. I used to imagine myself floating down a river with Tom and Huck. And when I was a teenager, just fixing to head out on my own, I read *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac. It changed my life. I knew it was fiction. Well, it was probably inspired by actual events. All I'm asking of any of you atheists and agnostics, Buddhists and Baptists, so-called Christianists and ex-Catholics, Darwinists and Dharma Bums, is to accept the fact that the Bible has changed the lives of a lot of people. It could change yours, too.

Ever feel like calling on a Higher Power? This is how to do it.

Call his name. Tell him what a great guy he is. Tell him what a great job he's doing. Apologize for anything you've

done that you're sorry about. At this point, you can ask for any special favors for yourself or others.

Then tell him again what a great guy he is. Say amen.

That's it! Here is a sample of how to talk to a greater power (Matthew 6:9-13):

Our landlord, who lives upstairs, you are the greatest.

Your apartment is fantastic.

Your lease agreement is OK for us as it is for you.

Today, we ask you for a break; just like we give the guy down the hall a break.

Don't make it too easy for us to cheat others;

Keep our cars and karma running smooth.

Because you are the best CEO of the most Earth-Friendly corporation we ever saw.

Selah!

The man who wrote that died a long time ago. This is just my translation. But he didn't just die. He was lied to. He was betrayed. He was arrested on a false warrant and brought to trial at a kangaroo court.

While he was being tortured, he was insulted by passers-by. Even two thieves who were being tortured along with him couldn't resist throwing some insults. And just before he died, he looked down, and there were some jerks throwing dice to see who would 'win' his clothes.

Christ forgave them all. Then he died.

But he didn't stay dead. After three days, he started living again; just like the flowers and greenery around us come to life in the spring. And by striving to be like him, we can have a new life on earth, here and now.

If you want to be like the budding trees, and have new growth; if you want to be like the spring flowers, and bloom again; if you want to be part of the ideal universe, unfolding as it should; give the Good Book a second glance.

Give it a second chance. Read it for the allegory, the allusions, and the imagery. Look for the metaphors, the motifs, and the archetypes.

You may find a second chance too.

# Make a Joyful Noise?

If you enjoy more music during worship, please step up to help me bring us more music. First, if you know someone who is a pianist, it would enhance our service to have a live keyboard artist provide our music.

Next, if you enjoy singing, we could use a small group of singers to perform a special song during worship a couple of times a month. Singing in harmony would be great, but not necessary. Please contact me, Jan Fletcher-Worship Team, if you are interested in helping this become a reality.

# On the April Calendar

- Weekly
  - Mondays: Overeaters Anonymous 6 -7pm
  - Tuesdays: Spiritual Perspectives 6:30-8 pm
    - Apr 11- Earth Day Planners 7-8 pm
    - Apr 14- LGBTQIA+ Meeting 1 pm
    - Apr 18- Minister Search Team 2pm
    - Apr 20- **Earth Day Festival** 9-4
    - Apr 21- Board of Trustees 1 pm
    - Apr 24- Worship Team 6:30 [Zoom]
    - Apr 27- Newsletter Deadline 10 pm

# Our Leaders

## Board of Trustees:

Marilyn Alexander, *President*  
Amy Hoffman-Shehan, *Vice-President*  
Carole Harner, *Treasurer*  
David Dyer, *Secretary*  
Don Rogers, *Trustee*

## Committee on Ministry:

*Carolyn Cameron, Elbert Hill, Jim Holmes*

## Nominating:

*Jana Norris, Jim Runnels, Walter Norris (not related to Jana)*

## Our Various Teams:

*The first name is the team leader*

**Adult Forum:** *Marilyn, Jim, Amy, Marion*

**Aesthetics:** *Amy, Jana, Adrian*

**Audio Visual:** *Jim, Carole, Don, Marla*

**Caring Circle:** *Carolyn, David*

**Communication:** *Amy*

**Earth Day Planning:** *Amy, Marla, Jan, Megan, Cristin*

**Endowment:** *Carolyn, Doug*

**Facilities:** *Jim, Carole, Marilyn*

**Grounds:** *Marilyn, Paula*

**Long Range Planning:** *Jim, Marilyn*

**Membership:** *Paula*

**Minister Search:** *Jim, David, Jana, Marilyn, Marla*

**Monarch Way Station:** *Lynn*

**Moveable Feast:** *Elbert & Marion*

**NTUUC Rep:** *Marilyn*

**Publications:** *Doug*

**RE Team:** *Jack*

**Safe Congregation Panel:** *Marilyn*

**Social Justice:** *Jan*

**Web Team:** *Hannah, Jim, Marla*

**Welcoming Congregation:** *Jack, Adrian, Amy, Billie, Cristin, Jana, Olivia, Sherilyn, Thomas*

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