



RED RIVER UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

28th Annual Fall Congregational Meeting | October 19, 2025



Packet Contents

1. Draft Minutes of the 2025 Spring Congregational Meeting	3
2. Financial Report	4
3. Annual Reports	6
1.1. Adult Forum.....	6
1.1. Aesthetics.....	6
1.2. Audio/Visual Team.....	6
1.3. Caring.....	7
1.4. Choir	7
1.5. Communications	7
1.6. Community Outreach.....	7
1.7. Conversations and Calories.....	8
1.8. Earth Day	8
1.9. Emergency Preparedness	8

1.10.	Endowment Committee	9
1.11.	Facilities - Grounds.....	9
1.12.	Facilities – Building.....	9
1.13.	Red River Rainbow Team.....	9
1.14.	Minister Search Team.....	10
1.15.	Moveable Feast	11
1.16.	North Texas UU Congregations.....	11
1.17.	Religious Education.....	11
1.18.	Safe Congregations	11
1.19.	Social Justice.....	12
1.20.	Strategic Plan (Long Range Planning).....	12
1.21.	Website	12
1.22.	Web of Life Monarch Waystation	13
1.23.	Worship Team.....	13
4.	Review Annual Goals	17
5.	Proxy Ballot and Voting Instructions	17
6.	Proxy Ballot - Fall Congregational Meeting, Oct 19, 2025	17

Official Notice and Agenda

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Potluck and meeting following the morning assembly

Join the meeting via Zoom 989 0789 7878 (we will extend the normal Sunday Zoom meeting)

Agenda

- ⌘ Light the chalice and opening reading
- ⌘ Roll call
- ⌘ Confirmation of Quorum
- ⌘ Approval of the minutes of the May 2025 Spring Congregational Meeting
- ⌘ Financial Report
- ⌘ The Annual Reports
- ⌘ Review of the annual Congregational Goals
- ⌘ Open Discussion
- ⌘ Closing Reading & Extinguishing the Chalice
- ⌘ Adjournment

Other Documents

- ⌘ Proxy Form
- ⌘ Ballot
- ⌘ May 2025 minutes

Specifics about congregational meetings and voting requirements can be found in our [church bylaws](#)

- ⌘ Remember and practice our Red River Unitarian Universalists Behavior Covenant
- ⌘ Each member may speak only once until all others have had an opportunity to speak
- ⌘ Be brief and focused on your remarks
- ⌘ Listen carefully to what others say without making assumptions
- ⌘ Wait to be recognized by the current acting chairperson

1. Draft Minutes of the 2025 Spring Congregational Meeting

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order by Jana Norris, Board President, at 12:34 pm
2. Jana lit the Chalice
3. Megan did the Opening reading
4. Jack, acting Secretary, did the Roll Call. Requirement for quorum is 16; 20 are present, no one is on Zoom; quorum achieved
5. Confirm Quorum
6. Guidelines for taking part on Zoom on screen
7. Approval of Fall Congregational minutes - Meghan move, Jim 2nd, pass unanimously
8. Annual Reports –
 - a. Kitchen - Jana outlined the construction, etc.
 - b. Membership - Susie Norris reported a concerted effort to follow-up with visitors by postcard, email and/or a phone call & calling on former members New Membership Packets have been created. There is an informal meeting every Wednesday at Blackbird Cafe and some of the men in the church meet informally at the Opera House coffee house in Durant at times. Greeters have been doing a great job getting visitors to do the information cards and we're welcoming 2 new members: George & Eva
9. Treasurer Report (see report) there are changes to outlined budget - there has been an additional one-time pledge of \$100 & we need to increase the Subscriptions line by \$200
 - a. Facilities are our largest cost - utilities, maintenance, etc.
 - b. Worship - 2 different costs - Mark and up to 9 lay speakers. Currently Marla is alone on this committee and needs help
 - c. We have cut Doug's "consulting fees" & Jack has taken a 50% pay cut as RE Director
 - d. Jack suggested we attempt to sell the art in the sanctuary
 - e. Meghan asked what subscriptions? The church app. How many people actually use it? Approximately 150/annually. What social media do we use? FB and Jim discussed that he had had a conversation with Daniel Polk from First Church regarding this issue and they determined that Jim needs another person to help him with social media. Meghan volunteered to fill that position.
 - f. Doug moved to accept the Budget with adjustments as listed, Meghan 2nd & motion passed unanimously with no abstentions
10. Election of Church Leadership -
 - a. Vice President – Paula Jennings
 - b. Secretary – Shana (Jack)Bolerjack
 - c. Trustee-at-Large Cristin Mackay
 - d. Nominations Committee – Walter Norris
 - e. Committee on Ministry - position 1: Marion Hill
 - f. Committee on Ministry – position 2: Bruce Cameron

Amy moved to approve slate, Jack 2nd, motion carries with no "Nays" or abstentions
11. Congregational Goals for fiscal year 2025-2026 -

- a. Marilyn - we should remove “hire a minister” or “continue to work...” because they are a duplication
- b. Jack - we should just drop the effort altogether and return the \$\$ because we’ve been so unsuccessful for so long
- c. Marilyn - use other sources to look
- d. Susie - I thought we were trying to recruit through colleges for new graduates?
- e. Walter - have contacted SMU, trying to do an advertisement there
- f. Bill - anything we can do to anticipate what kind of money is expected?
- g. Jana - we’re trying to maintain our savings as well as offer a competitive salary
- h. Bill - do we have any experts to help us?
- i. Jana - discuss getting experts at next Board meeting or at least get information
- j. Carole - our income is mostly from pledges
- k. Amy - how do we put raising money in our congregational goals?
 - 1) Continue to work toward getting a minister and improve our online calendar
 - 2) Susie - how do we put things on the calendar?
 - 3) Jim - email the web team at webteam@redriveruu.org
 - 4) Meghan - prioritizing increasing membership will increase everything else
 - 5) Jack - need to be more specific with our goals and start planning more events on-site
 - 6) Doug - move to make these changes: #2 - Expand visibility, #3 have more special events, #4 - increase membership. Bill 2nd
 - 7) Liz - hiring a minister isn’t a zero sum game & doesn’t agree with deleting that
 - 8) Marilyn reiterated - need to work toward hiring a minister & look at other sources
 - 9) Doug accepts the amendments as suggested to add - continue to hire a minister; Bill, as second, agrees. Vote is called - Jack opposes, all others agree, motion carries.
12. Jim - Minister search - looking at UUA Portal, which lists those churches looking for a minister. There are over 100 churches listed, 3 in TX. There are no listings of those ministers who are looking. Every December this list is released to ministers but we don’t get any applicants. Walter has been contacting SMU and Daniel Polk has let us know that the UUA is trying to streamline the path to becoming a UUA Minister.

Jack - have we looked at other denominations? Mark has been looking in Methodism & we’ve contacted TCU and SMU

Meghan - Jack has a valid question, we’ve struck out looking at only the UUA, we need to check with other churches.

Jim - email me with your ideas
13. Worship Team - Marla does all the work herself since she is the only one now actively on the Worship Team
 - a. Jim leads the Adult Forum and is looking at grants to get new equipment to do online streaming for this
 - b. Jack - what’s the status of the “choir”? There is little participation & copyright issues with certain songs so we cannot put them on our YouTube channel.
 - c. Please fill out surveys for Marla (surveys passed)
 - d. Ideas - try a shorter service with 30 min of active discussion, discussions of past experiences or full services of discussions in small pockets or the group as a whole
14. Bruce has the closing reading - Robert Frost “The Pasture”
15. Extinguishing the Chalice – Jana
16. Adjournment - Meghan moves to close the meeting, Marilyn 2nd, unanimously passes. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm

2. Financial Report

Annual Profit & Loss Statement

Fiscal Year July 2024 thru
June 2025

Operations

Donations and Other Income	51,254.86
Facilities Expense	22,110.59
Worship Expense	13,178.87
Consultation Expense	6,000.00
Social Action Expense	2,573.00
UUA Annual Program Fund	2,464.00
Communication Expense	2,322.75
Children's Religious Education	880.00
Other	1,412.75
	<hr/>
Net Income from Operations	312.90
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Renovations

Renovation Donations	79,361.00
Renovation Expense	58,170.07
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Net Remaining	21,190.93
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Cash Balances

Available Cash Balances:

Bank Checking Account	16,062.30
Bank Savings Account	9,944.49
Red River Savings Fund	20,902.78

Restricted Cash Balances:

Minister Fund	4,871.08
Trust for K Walston	5,951.89
Endowment Fund	15,843.31
Renovations and Growing	
Membership	21,190.93
Minister Compensation	51,000.00

UU Common Endowment Fund (UUCEF)

As of June 30, 2025

	<u>Original</u> <u>Investment in</u> <u>2020</u>	<u>Change in</u> <u>Market Value</u>	<u>Ending</u> <u>Balance</u>
Red River Endowment Fund*	12,058.50	3,784.81	15,843.31
* The Red River Endowment Fund is restricted. No distribution until the fund reaches a value of \$50,000.00 per the Endowment Bylaws and the Policies and Procedures manual.			
Red River Savings Fund**	54,725.90	17,176.88	71,902.78
** The congregation voted to spend up to \$51,000 of the Red River Savings Fund on a Minister.			
\$20,902.78 is currently available			

3. Annual Reports

1.1. Adult Forum

The Adult Forum meets each Sunday from 10-11am in the Alexander Room. Our topics vary based on the desires of the attendees. This past year we have covered topics on:

- Long Strange Trip – A complete history of UU (currently running)
- Skeptics and Believers: A Religious Debate
- The God Who Wasn't There
- Slavery By Another Name
- Religulous
- Letting Go of God
- The Inexplicable Universe: Unsolved Mysteries

Permanent attendees are Jim Holmes, Marilyn Alexander, Marion Hill, Cristin Mackey, and Amy Hofman-Sheehan. Others are encouraged and welcome. We also stream live on Zoom with the Zoom ID 989 0789 7878.

Your Adult Forum Team

1.2. Aesthetics

The Aesthetics Committee has been involved in the remodel of the kitchen that was started in the previous fiscal year. The committee has discussed other possible projects that are currently not funded. The description and responsibilities of the committee in the Policy and Procedures Manual are being reviewed currently.

1.3. Audio/Visual Team

The AV Team runs the sound and camera equipment for the Sunday services and supports other events that require sound and/or camera.

We also record the Sunday service, edit it as needed, and post the service to our YouTube channel. Unfortunately, this year we lost Don Rogers, a key member of the team. A big thank you to Liz Rapp for joining our team and helping us cover some of what Don did for us.

Over the past year we have done the following:

- We recorded the record each Sunday service and post it to our YouTube Channel each Sunday.

- We added some miscellaneous XLR cables and adapters to allow us to better support live music.
- Added mic stands and choir mics to support our choir.
- Made some adjustment and tweaks to the sound board to clear up some issues. Sometimes Microsoft updates step causes us to do this.
- Updated all computer software and AV equipment software as needed.

Your AV Team: Carole Harner, Don Rogers, Marla Loturco, Liz Rapp, Jim Holmes.

1.4. Caring

I don't think anything should be changed in the Policies and Procedures Manual. I am not doing all the tasks it lists, but that is because there is only one of me to do them at this point.

The Caring Team continues to send cards to members and friends of the congregation that have been sick or had deaths in the family. We visit them in the hospital, assisted care facility, or their home when they are ill or recovering. We have helped to adapt members' homes for their changing physical needs when required and provided help with household chores as needed. We provide transportation to doctor's appointments if needed. We continue to coordinate providing meals for members that are recovering from surgery as needed. We submit information about members and friends that are ill to the newsletter and weekly update contact.

Submitted by Susie Norris

1.5. Choir

The Choir has disbanded due to decreasing participation.

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.6. Communications

The goal of the Communications Team is to promote the church, its values, and its programs by disseminating information to members, friends, and the larger community. This activity comes from several people depending on what needs to be done. Here are some of the activities that have been done in this past year.

- We created our monthly newsletter *Red River Rambling* in both a printed edition as well as an E-Edition. Readership over the last 12 months fluctuated from an average high of 107 monthly during the summer and an average high of 78 in winter months.
- We published the weekly UPDATE each Wednesday which covers events and announcements from Wednesday to the following Tuesday. Similar winter declines exist with the weekly UPDATE.
- We created various documents and a rollup banner about butterflies and pollinators for our booth at the Earth Day festival.
- Several publications and forms were updated to make them current.
- Several pages on the website have been updated to make them current.

1.7. Community Outreach

We participate in several outreach programs within the Texoma community. Here is a list of some of the activities done this past year.

- The church is a Member of both Dennison and Sherman Chambers of Commerce.
- We run the Texoma Earth Day festival each year and help with organizing, setup and takedown, and help in managing the running of the event.
- Had a booth at Earth Day.
- Had a table at Pride Festival.

- Had a table at Austin College Volunteer event.
- We posted our Sunday worship to our YouTube channel and posted links to them on our Facebook pages and Website.
- We livestreamed our Sunday morning assemblies using Zoom.
- The Rainbow Team has a Facebook page that they keep current with church activity.

1.8. Conversations and Calories

The purpose of Conversation & Calories is to provide an opportunity for everyone who attends the Morning Assembly to gather afterward and to have a light lunch and visit. We get to know each other better in a relaxed atmosphere.

There are four teams, and each team is responsible for a Sunday. Each team provides a light meal of a variety of items, sets up and cleans up. We are seeking additional team members.

Currently, team members are the following.

Team 1 – 1st Sunday: Amy Hoffman-Shehan, George & Eva Novak & Irene Register

Team 2 – 2nd Sunday: Carole Harner, Jim Holmes, Andrea Kysor & Walter & Susie Norris

Team 3 – 3rd Sunday: Elbert & Marion Hill, Liz Rapp & Cindy Buffington

Team 4 – 4th Sunday: Marilyn Alexander, Bill Holloway, Pat Bley & Mira Mory

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.9. Earth Day

The Earth Day Planning Team planned and coordinated the 2025 Texoma Earth Day Festival. We coordinated events with the Sherman Symphony Orchestra's Spring Concert and TCOG's Recycled Art Show and Contest. The Recycled Art Show and children's recycled sculptures through SISD's early development centers remained on display through the reception after the Spring Concert. Vendors at the festival were given free admission to the concert.

At the festival, children's activities were provided by Friends of Hagerman Wildlife Refuge, Boys & Girls Club of Sherman, Yvette Grove (children's author), Marilyn Alexander (plains Indians teepees), Grayson College Visual Arts Dept, and the Rainbow Team's children's clothing swap.

Vendors on the lawn sold art and earth friendly wares and provided information about their businesses and non-profit organizations. Music and other entertainment was provided by local musicians, singers and businesses.

A wide variety of recycling was offered to attendees- drug collection, electronic waste, textiles, Styrofoam, plastics including bubble wrap and shrink film, metals, paper and cardboard. First United Bank sponsored a community shredding event, and Habitat for Humanity collected household items and construction materials.

The Earth Day Planning team updated its recycling guide for distribution at the festival and through the utility billing office at the City of Sherman.

The team has started meeting and planning for the 2026 Texoma Earth Day Festival, after having taken a break for the summer and for Amy's shoulder surgery.

We have discussed possible workshops and vendors we would like to attract to the festival. We could use more people on the team and welcome anyone who would like to join us.

1.10. Emergency Preparedness

The Purpose of the team is to enhance methods to keep the congregation safe while using the building. Currently, Jana Norris and Jack Bolerjack are on this team. This team needs to add a person from facilities.

1.11. Endowment Committee

Our endowment is invested in the Common Endowment Fund that is managed by the UUA. According to the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures, the Red River UU Endowment Fund cannot be used until the amount exceeds \$50,000.

The current Endowment Committee members (appointed by the Board as per the Bylaws) are Carole Harner, Jim Holmes, and Marilyn Alexander

1.12. Facilities - Grounds

The purpose of this team is to maintain the church yard so that it provides an appealing image to the community. This requires lawn and flower bed maintenance, removal of leaves, broken branches and dropped pecans. Maintenance of the watering system for the flower beds is also necessary. It also requires maintenance of the playground equipment. Additionally, this team provides plants for the porch pots and flowers for the sign flower bed, and artificial plants for the porch pots for winter.

Elbert Hill does a great job of keeping the porch plants watered and that is appreciated.

We were fortunate to have Larry and Paula Jennings maintaining the grounds until they moved to Pilot Point. Then, an interim lawn person had to be hired, who only did some of the work. Now, a new person, Minnie's nephew Nick, is hired to maintain the grounds and he is doing a good job of mowing, trimming, weeding, etc. as he learns what is needed. He is using the church's equipment.

1.13. Facilities – Building

This year (going back to Fall of 2024) here is a list of activity that was done to the building:

- We had a few items to complete for the kitchen remodel.
- We had our fire extinguishers recharged, and a fire blanket made available for the kitchen should we have a stove fire.
- Replaced the batteries on all the emergency exit lights in the building.
- We made an adjustment to our WIFI contract with Sparklight to save us a few dollars on our monthly bill.
- We added additional support in the attic to the east wall of the chapel to reduce camera shaking when the front door was opened and closed.
- We repaired a leak in the ceiling to the bay window in the library.
- Added a handrail to the back steps and recalked around the back door.
- Readjusted the garage doors that were hard to open.
- We purchased a new canopy and banner to support our outdoor event activities such as EarthDay and the Pride festival. We also purchased a green screen so that we can use the frame to hang church information for those activities that are indoor where we only have a table.

Submitted by Jim Holmes

1.14. Red River Rainbow Team

Meets monthly on 2nd Sunday after C&C

Held Kid's Clothing Swaps (KCS) in Jan, April (EDF) & Aug

- Total # of families served - 30

Friendsgiving - RT provided meat & attendees brought different sides

- Total attendees - 26

Family Holiday Celebration - RT provided meat & attendees brought different sides

- White Elephant Gift Exchange
- Sweater contests with Prizes
- Total attendees - 20

Nerdy New Years - celebrate NYE with games & food

- Total attendees - 25

Fae & Fairy Tea Party - Tea Tutorials, traditional tea party fare, costumes

- Total attendees - 18

Hosted Transgender Day of Remembrance service at the Church

Earth Day Festival - multiple RT Volunteers

Grayson Pride Prom - 2 RT volunteers

Grayson Pride - multiple RT & church membership volunteers

Services - 1

Total events hosted - 7

Total events volunteered - 3

Grayson Pride - multiple Rainbow Team & church membership volunteers Plan -

- Combine Friendsgiving & Framily Holiday into a single Framily Holiday Celebration
- Continue to host 6 events
- Continue to host/volunteer church booths at local fairs/festivals
- Increase # of services
- Write Policies & Procedures for our Committee

1.15. Minister Search Team

This year we have had no official applicants apply to our open minister position. We received 2 emails from people that were interested in the position but neither person had any ministerial education or experience, so we rejected them.

We did post our open position request on the Perkins School of Theology (SMU) website but so far, we have seen no interest.

We have reviewed our current minister information on our website and have made some updates and improvements in the wording.

The UUA is putting effort into their intern program and NTUUC is supporting this effort through help and funding. An intern is a potential ministerial candidate in training. The program is designed to help the applicants develop ministerial skills. An intern is required to complete a minimum of 1000 hours of training in the areas of pulpit support, pastoral care, RE, and other areas that a typical minister would provide for their church. Each minister is required to have a supervising minister as their mentor and NTUUC will provide this minister that will meet with the intern on a regular basis and coach them as needed. Each church will require an Internship Committee that will interface with the intern and provide whatever they need to help them improve their ministerial skills. Intern salary is estimated by UUA to be around \$23,000/year and NTUUC will provide funding up to \$30,000. The intern program is typically a full time one year program or a half-time two-year program.

The Minister Search Team feels that this intern program would be a good fit for Red River UU and will be applying to the UUA Intern Clearinghouse Website in hopes of finding an intern. We will be submitting our application in September in hopes of attracting an intern. The interview and acceptance process is like that of selecting a minister and once a match is found and accepted, the intern usually starts in August.

Submitted by Jim Holmes, chair - Marilyn Alexander, Liz, Rapp Walter, Norris, Marla, Loturco, members

1.16. Moveable Feast

Movable Feast continues to be popular with the members and friends of our church. We had 20 plus attendees for July, 19 for August, and 8 for September. Having Movable Feast on weekends or during weekday evenings makes it possible for people who are still working to participate. Moving forward, we will incorporate these types of schedule changes when possible, especially during the months we are on Daylight Savings Time.

Submitted by Susie and Walter Norris

1.17. North Texas UU Congregations

North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC) consists of the twelve UU congregations in North Central and NE Texas. We work to support and grow our congregations, and to promote UUism.

The organization was founded in 1969 to build affordable housing using a federal program through Housing & Urban Development (HUD). Raible Place, in Irving, was the first integrated apartment complex in North Texas, and was considered HUD's ideal project; it was the reference for presentations in other cities. We had on-site healthcare and social workers, along with parenting and GED classes.

HUD approved the last project in 1974 and ended the program in the '90s. NTUUC sold Raible Place in 2002 and used the proceeds to establish an endowment which now funds our programs. We offer financial support for those wishing to attend our programs, regional and national UU conferences, and other leadership trainings; we also provide networking opportunities for congregation officers to learn from and support their counterparts.

We don't teach what to think, but more of how to think, and to consider new ways of thinking; we support people of all ages to learn and grow, and to deepen their own faith.

In an effort to increase the number of prospective ministers applying in the North Texas UU system, an internship program was approved that NTUUC will fund up to \$30,000 for a year. This should help with recruitment for our churches without ministers.

NTUUC presented an Elevator Speech Workshop.

NTUUC is paying for a subscription to Faith Forward Spiritual Practice Curriculum at \$1750 for the first year and \$437.50 for annual renewal. The program can take several years to integrate into congregations.

The NTUUC Board also participated in a retreat focusing on UUA's Meet the Moment.

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.18. Religious Education

Lacking children of an appropriate age to participate in an organized program, more than just childcare, no additional support has been provided. Some excellent programs are available and will be used when children can be present.

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.19. Safe Congregations

The purpose of this team is to ensure that children and members are being taught by people who have been vetted. This committee has not met.

1.20. Social Justice

No report submitted. Our Lead, Jan Fletcher, has been on sick leave for many months and hopes to return soon to her more active and involved work in social justice.

1.21. Strategic Plan (Long Range Planning)

The Plan was revised to cover 2023-2028.

Revised plans from hiring a 2-year contract minister to possibly hiring a ½-time or full-time intern. Seeking a business manager/marketing person to enhance our social media presence, website and other marketing outreach, hopefully using some of the NTUUC grant funds. Marketing expertise and strong ties to the Texoma community would make for an ideal candidate, with the purpose to increase membership of younger families, especially from the many people arriving in the area for the high-tech manufacturing plants.

We suggest providing new outreach programs with childcare available.

We suggest monitoring existing programs and utilizing those data to assist the Membership Team in improving attendance in those programs and visibility in the community.

We recommend coordination of programs and services where applicable.

We recommend that Communications and Outreach work closely for maximum exposure of Red River UU.

We recommend working through the membership team to communicate consistently with members, friends and visitors who miss two consecutive Sundays.

Fortunately, many of the large facility management problems that were in the plan are being addressed.

Eventually, a building expansion or new building fund needs to be established.
Jim Holmes and Marilyn Alexander.

1.22. Website

Our current website uses a WordPress template provided by the UUA web team and have adjusted it to our needs without having to do any serious custom coding.

Over this past year we have performed various duties to ensure the website is properly running:

- Ensuring that proper backup to the site is done before any major updates are applied.
- Keeping the website updated with the current version of WordPress.
- Updating the various plugins (small apps) that we use with WordPress, as needed.
- Updating the church calendar and services, NOTE: this requires that the web team is informed in a timely manner of any upcoming activity that needs to go in the calendar.
- Keeping the articles on the home page fresh.
- Updating the SEO (search engine optimization) data so that we show up close to the top on browser searches requesting information on local churches.
- Keep all the church group emails current as team members change.

Rumor has it that UUA will no longer support their UUA provided template, and the UUA recommended plugins (apps). We are currently exploring a major redo of our site to make it be more appealing to first time visitors that want to know more about UU and about Red River UU. We are also looking into adding a “member’s only” area. All of this is a major job so we will be looking for some funding to get a consultant to help with this work once we define the scope of what we are planning.

Marla Loturco, Hannah Peterson, Jim Holmes, and Doug Strong on certain content.

1.23. Web of Life Monarch Waystation

As we move into the cooler temperatures of fall, we're beginning to see our Monarch Waystation come alive with the delicate beauty of butterflies and bees feeding, dancing, and resting among the pollinator plants. We are grateful for RRUU member and Master Naturalist, Linn Cates, for her vision and dedication in planting these gardens years ago. I am especially thankful for her expertise as I navigate gardening in this region after living in the temperate climate of the Pacific Northwest all my life.

While butterfly activity is lighter this year, I have noticed an increase recently. I established a new pollinator garden on the north side of the garage this summer by transplanting plants from our original garden on the north side of the sanctuary. The plants are thriving.

This is from last year's report.

1.24. Worship Team

From the Policies & Procedures Manual, comes the definition of the Worship Team.

"We cannot have a church without coming together as a community for worship services. The goal of our worship program is to provide services that help those in the congregation perceive the spiritual aspects of everyday reality, develop a sense of meaning and connection in their lives, live more congruent lives, and better the world through social action. The responsibility for assuring that we have weekly worship lies with the Worship Team."

They are joined by Worship Associates who assist in leading the worship service, working in partnership with the Sunday morning speaker, usually through a script created by the Worship Team. The last two pages of this report show the statistics of attendance by week, along with the speaker and title of their discourse.

The membership of the Worship Team has fluctuated this year. Jan Fletcher had to resign because of health issues and Dan Althoff resigned from the church after living in Florida for several years. New members joined the team after the Spring 2025 Congregational Meeting including: Eva Novak, Megan Hutchinson, Susie Norris, and Marilyn Alexander. We meet via Zoom @ 6:45 pm the last Thursday in the month. The meeting is open, visitors are welcome, and we use the Sunday Worship Zoom link.

All Worship Team members attended either an in-person or online training class.

The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies continues to be with us twice a month. His commitment with us significantly eases the burden of the Worship Team in finding other speakers. We follow the UU Ministers Association guidelines and give an honorarium of \$315 to ordained clergy, \$250 to ministerial students and \$200 to lay speakers. Following a long-standing tradition, we do not offer honoraria to church members (they may ask for an in-kind donation for their taxes).

Our average attendance has gone down this past year from 28 in last year to 25 this year. Out of 52 weeks, 23 weeks showed more attendance in person than on YouTube, where our average viewing is 31. We have had 43 visitors in person in the last year.

I believe we have excellent Sunday support from all teams and deliver good Sunday experiences. Still our numbers continue to decline. To grow our church, each of us needs to make an effort to invite people to our services and to be there as many Sundays in a year as possible. We all need to care and support Red River UU Church with our attendance and love.

If you are interested in joining the worship team, check out the duties in the Policies & Procedures Manual pages 57-63, and contact Marla.

Submitted by: Marla Loturco, Eva Novak, Megan Hutchinson, Susie Norris, Marilyn Alexander

Note: visitors are already counted as adults or children

Church Totals				Visitors		OL	
Total	Adults	Zoom	Child	Live	Zoom	You Tube	Grand

Avg	25	22	2	1	1	1	31	56
Max	33	30	5	4	6	3	79	112
Min	16	14					5	21
Totals	1285	1168	90	25	43	4	1592	2877

2 pages of weekly statistics follow

September 2024 - August 2025 Sunday Worship Attendance - Red River UU Church

2024	Church Totals				Visitors		OL	Grand	Worship	
	Total	Adults	Zoom	Child	Live	Zoom			Leader	Topic
09/01	25	24	1	0	1		17	42	Don Mathis	Water Celebration
09/08	24	22	1	1	1		31	55	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The Problem of Patriarchy
09/15	17	16		1			27	44	Video - James Talarico	Got is Not A Christian, Confronting Christian Nationalism
09/22	18	17		1			x	18	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on <i>Liberating Planet</i> , <i>People</i> , and <i>Religion</i>
09/29	18	17	1				22	40	Cameron Young	One Love: The Gospel of Marley
10/06	23	22	1				44	67	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	A Critique of the Capitalocene
10/13	29	29			4		55	84	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The Heresy Trial of Borden Parker Bowne
10/20	24	22	1	1	2		13	37	Jenel Marie McGrath	Giving Hope. Making a Difference. Defeating Breast Cancer
10/27	20	20			2		51	71	Marion Moore Hill	A Journey In and Out of Religion
11/03	23	22		1			49	72	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The F-Word
11/10	27	26		1	6		12	39	Matt Meyer via video	Tension and Release: Music in Motion
11/17	22	22			1		50	70	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Take Courage
11/24	29	28	1				31	60	Adam Salazar	The Original Code Talkers
12/01	30	28	2		2		35	65	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Our Shared UU Values: Interdependence
12/08	24	23	1				15	39	Credo Sunday	Doug Strong, Dan Althoff, Elbert Hill, Jana Norris & Maria L.
12/15	19	19					40	59	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Our Shared UU Values: Pluralism
12/22	24	22	2				25	49	Sonshine Sisters, Jim H, Carole H	Holiday Sing Along
12/29	26	24	2				24	50	Congregation	Laugh out the Old Year
2025	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		
01/05	28	25	2	1			60	88	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Our Shared UU Values: Justice
01/12	21	19	2				38	59	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Our Shared UU Values: Transformation
01/19	31	27	1	3			13	44	Worship Team	A Ritual of Letting Go, Cleansing, Intention, and Hope
01/26	25	24	1		3		10	35	Rev. Renee Ruchotzke (video)	Freedom as a Liberating Love
02/02	29	26	3		2		48	77	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on our Shared UU Values: Generosity
02/09	25	22	2	1			26	51	Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn - video	Wise Choices
02/16	24	21	3				14	38	Dr. Riem Rostom - video	The Significance of Ramadan
02/23	33	29	4				44	77	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on our Shared UU Values: Equity

September 2024 - August 2025 Sunday Worship Attendance - Red River UU Church

2025	Church Totals				Visitors		OL	Worship		
	Total	Adults	Zoom	Child	Live	Zoom		Grand	Leader	Topic
03/02	31	30		1	3		24	55	Tom Neilson	Music as Social History: A Special All Music Sunday
03/09	23	22		1	1	1	76	99	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Love at the Center
03/16	33	27	3		3		44	77	Adam Salazar	Choctaw Gift to the Irish
03/23	27	26	1		1		26	53	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on our Shared Values: Solidarity
03/30	32	29	3	1	2		64	96	Adrian Hinman	Trans Day of Visibility
04/06	28	26	2		3		41	69	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	I Dissent
04/13	25	23	1	1			24	49	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The University and Human Flourishing
04/20	25	22	3				30	55	The Worship Team	Essence of Spring
04/27	29	26	1	2	2		20	49	Marla Loturco	Skills for Stressful Times
05/04	31	25	2	4	2		38	69	Rev. Dr. Don Fielding	What Do We Do Now?
05/11	22	19	3				66	88	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Swim Down Together: Breaking the Net of American Fascism
05/18	28	26	2				44	72	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Freedom
05/25	24	20	2	2	1		17	41	Rev. Dr. Debra W. Haffner - video	For Such a Time as This
06/01	20	20					35	55	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Human Rights
06/08	26	23	3				12	38	Worship Team	Point of Pride
06/15	25	20	5				26	51	Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Collaboration
06/22	23	18	5				10	33	Rev. Summer Albayati - video	When the Storm Comes, We Move Together
06/29	16	14	2				5	21	Worship Team	A Different Kind of Morning
07/06	27	23	3	1			51	78	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Interdependence
07/13	20	17	3			3	79	99	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Science and Religion
07/20	24	20	4				16	40	George Ensle, in concert	Be A Better Me
07/27	20	15	4	1	1		12	32	The Rev. Dr. Nicole Kirk (video)	Revolution Began with a Dream
08/03	21	20	1				12	33	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Design Justice
08/10	21	19	2				13	34	Rev. Tim Kutzmark (video)	What is Unitarian Universalism
08/17	24	21	3				6	30	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	How Much is Enough?
08/24	22	21	1				7	29	Megan Hutchinson	A Different Kind of String Theory
08/31	16	14	2		1		4	29	The Worship Team	Exploring What Guides Us

4. Review Annual Goals

From Spring 2025 meeting

- 3 Day SumFun (was canceled until we can have enough regular attending children to make it possible)
- Expand increasing visibility
- Attract more special speakers and events
- Seek music leader
- Increase membership
- Continue to work toward hiring a minister

5. Proxy Ballot and Voting Instructions

Options for Voting

1. Vote during the meeting via Zoom.
2. Vote online [HERE](#). Voting opens Monday, Oct. 6, 2025, and closes Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025 at midnight.
3. Vote using the church app. Tap the red 'Vote Online' on the home screen.
4. Fill out the open proxy and give to your representative (must be a voting member) and return it no later than Sunday morning. Oct. 19, 2025, prior to the start of the meeting.
5. Vote using a directed proxy. Download, print, vote, and return it no later than Sunday morning. Oct. 19, 2025, prior to the start of the meeting.
6. Show up to the meeting and cast your vote and any open proxy you may have been given,

6. Proxy Ballot - Fall Congregational Meeting, Oct 19, 2025

You can use either an Open Proxy or a Directed Proxy **BUT NOT BOTH!**

☐ **Open Proxy** for: Red River UU Congregational Meeting Oct 19, 2025

I, _____, do hereby assign my open proxy for the Red River UU Church
Congregational Meeting of Oct 19, 2025, to _____

(assigned person must be a member in good standing and hold no more than one other proxy. They must attend
the meeting. The Secretary may not accept an Open Proxy).

Signature:

You must sign and date for your proxy to be valid _____ Date Signed

You must return your Directed Proxy by October 19, 2025, 12:30 pm to Jack Bolerjack,
Secretary, Red River UU Church, PO Box 1806, Denison, TX 75020

_____ **Directed Proxy** for: Red River UU Church Congregational Meeting October 19,, 2025

Congregational Minutes from May 18, 2025: ____ For as presented ____ For as amended in meeting
____ Against ____ Abstain

Signature:

You must sign and date for your proxy to be valid _____ Date Signed

Remember to complete either an OPEN or a DIRECTED proxy ballot, not both.