



Red River Unitarian Universalist Church

October 18, 2026: Fall Meeting



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1. Official Notice and Agenda

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Potluck and meeting following the service

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

Agenda

- **Call to Order – Jana Norris**
- **Light the chalice – Jana Norris**
- **Opening reading – Megan Hutchinson**
- **Roll call – Jack Bolerjack**
- **Approval of the minutes from the May 2026 Spring Congregational Meeting**
- **Financial Report – pledge income to date, UUA Common Endowment Fund transfer status – Vicki Kosloski**
- **Annual Reports**
- **Presidents Report**
- **Review the annual congregational goals**
- **Amendment of Bylaws**
- **Open Discussion**
- **Closing Reading & Extinguishing the Chalice – Cristin Mackey**
- **Benediction – Jana Norris**
- **Adjournment**

Other Docs

- **Proxy Form**
- **Ballot**
 - **May 2026 minutes**
 - **Proposed Bylaw Changes**
 - **Halt looking for a minister and dissolve the current Minister Search Team**

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 in your remarks
- Listen carefully to what others say without making assumptions
- Wait to be recognized by the current acting chairperson

2. Draft Minutes of the 2026 Spring Congregational Meeting

RED RIVER UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH MINUTES OF 2026 SPRING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was convened in the chapel by Jana Norris at 1:05 pm.

2. Lighting the Chalice

Jana lit the chalice with a reading of “We Gather in Sacred Space” by Emily Richards.

3. Opening Reading

Brand read our opening reading, which he had written.

4. Roll Call

Jack read the roll of active voting members prepared by our Treasurer.

5. Confirmation of Quorum

Jack confirmed that quorum has been met.

6. Guidelines for taking part when meeting on Zoom

The guidelines were read by Jana.

7. Approval of 2025 Fall Congregational Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the 2025 Fall Congregational Meeting were approved as submitted.

8. Annual Reports as outlined in Church Bylaws:

A. Board of Trustees: Jana presented the report contained in the meeting packet.

B. Committee on Ministry: Jim summarized the report contained in the meeting packet.

9. Review Current Financials

Carole presented our current financial statement.

10. Adoption of the fiscal year 2026-2027 operating budget

The proposed 2026-2027 annual operating budget was approved unanimously.

11. Election of church leaders

A. President: Jana was elected with one abstention.

B. Vice President for one-year term to fill a vacancy: Susie was elected unanimously.

C. Treasurer: Carole Harner was elected unanimously.

D. Committee on Ministry: Bruce Cameron was elected unanimously.

E. Nominating Committee: Marilyn Alexander was elected with two abstentions. Elbert Hill was elected unanimously to complete a two-year term to fill a vacancy.

12. Status of Minister Search

Because hiring a minister has been one of our congregational goals, Jim updated us on the Minister Search Team. There are far too few ministers for the number of churches looking for them, but NTUUC is working on a program where small churches could hire interns as part-time ministers and experienced ministers from the larger churches would mentor them. This seems our best shot at acquiring a minister.

13. Congregational Goals for 2026-2027: discussion and vote

The Congregation was asked if they had goals other than those from last year. No one suggested one. The congregation voted to continue with our goals from last year:

1. Expand visibility. Discussion resolved with having measurable criteria; wear church name tags or UU t-shirts to events; have member-staffed booths at four community events; have seven community events at the church; and provide training for those staffing booths.

2. Engage more interesting speakers for worship services. Members suggested that they could suggest topics to the Worship Team, suggest interesting speakers to the Worship Team, and ask interesting people if they would be interested in speaking and give their information to the Worship Team.

3. Seek a pianist.

4. Continue to seek a minister.

14. Web Team Update

Jim described the Web Team's creation of a Members' Area of the church's website for Minutes, the Directory, and other records. The general website will be geared towards visitors. Members and Friends will receive emails with their passwords for accessing the Members' Area of the website.

15. Open Discussion

Megan discussed the need for successor training for committees, especially for those requiring technical skills such as the AV Team, the Web Team, and the Worship Team members who prepare Power Points, etc. The Congregation agreed that it is a serious problem that must be resolved.

16. Closing Reading

Susie read “Apache Blessing” by Elliott Arnold

17. Extinguishing the Chalice

Jana extinguished the chalice with the reading “Keep the Chalice Flame Burning” by Adam Slate

18. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.

3. Financial Reports

9:55 AM
09/04/26
Cash Basis

Red River Unitarian Universalist Church Profit & Loss July through August 2026

	Jul - Aug 26
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Interest	5.30
Pledges	11,190.00
Uncategorized Income	150.00
Weekly Offerings	181.00
Total Income	11,526.30
Gross Profit	11,526.30
Expense	
Administration	
Banking Fees	25.00
Postal Box	230.00
Supplies	76.97
Total Administration	331.97
Communications	
advertising	50.00
Subscriptions	233.88
Total Communications	283.88
Consultation	634.00
Facilities	
Building Improvements	3,079.50
Building Maintenance	212.10
Cleaning Service	150.00
Grounds Maintenance	370.00
Insurance	1,484.80
Utilities	1,869.03
WIFI Fund	170.88
Total Facilities	7,336.31
GIFT / Fair Share	
UUA	2,981.00
Total GIFT / Fair Share	2,981.00
Religious Education	
children	40.00
Total Religious Education	40.00
Social Action	
Projects	180.74
Total Social Action	180.74
Worship	
Honoraria	1,575.00
Mileage	300.00
Morning Programs	0.00
Total Worship	1,875.00
Total Expense	13,662.90
Net Ordinary Income	-2,136.60
Net Income	-2,136.60

9:56 AM

09/04/26

Cash Basis

Red River Unitarian Universalist Church

Balance Sheet

As of August 31, 2026

	Aug 31, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
RRUU NOW Acct	36,023.67
Savings	
General Savings	
Fund for K Walston	5,951.89
Minister Fund	4,871.08
General Savings - Other	9,980.96
Total General Savings	20,803.93
RR Endowment Fund @ UUCEF	12,058.50
RR Savings Fund @ UUCEF	54,725.90
Total Savings	87,588.33
Total Checking/Savings	123,612.00
Total Current Assets	123,612.00
Fixed Assets	
Purchase of Church Building	23,724.60
Total Fixed Assets	23,724.60
TOTAL ASSETS	147,336.60
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Due to Kat Walston	5,951.89
Total Other Current Liabilities	5,951.89
Total Current Liabilities	5,951.89
Total Liabilities	5,951.89
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	41,963.15
Retained Earnings	101,558.16
Net Income	-2,136.60
Total Equity	141,384.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	147,336.60

Treasurer Report as of August 31, 2026

For the fiscal year of July 1 through August 31, we had an operating profit of \$942.90. This was due to a number of factors including expenses charged to the restricted fund and the timing of various other expenses, partly offset by the timing of donations.

As of August 31, 2026, we had \$22,803.77 to be used for general operations in our bank checking account, \$9,980.96 available in our bank savings account, and approximately \$30,003.39 available in our UUA savings fund. The amount available in the UUA savings fund varies based on market value. In addition, we have the following restricted amounts: \$4,871.08 in our bank savings account restricted for the Minister Fund; \$5,951.89 in our bank savings account held in trust for Kat Walston; \$128.00 in our checking account for share the plate; \$17,848.58 in the endowment fund; and \$51,000.00 restricted in the UUA Savings Fund for minister compensation.

In addition to the results from operations, we have spent \$3,079.50 year-to-date from restricted funds leaving \$13,091.90 restricted to cover continuing repairs and renovations to the building and to increase visibility in the community in order to grow membership.

Carole Harner, Treasurer

4. 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

We are currently running the documentary **Country Music** by Ken Burns. This is a PBS series with 8 DVDs showing the history of country music from the early 1900's up to modern times. We are learning not only about the origins of many famous country songs but also about many famous country singers and about the impact of country music on the history of the United States.

Permanent attendees are Jim Holmes, Marilyn Alexander, Marion Hill, Cristin Mackey, Amy Hofman-Sheehan, and Curtis and Sue Severns. 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

Members: Amy Hoffman-Shehan, Jana Norris, Brand Kosloski

The aesthetics committee has approved the design of the replacement locks for the chapel and restrooms. We have explored options for reinforced security for the original wood front door, but we haven't reached a decision. There is no budget for this committee, so we have not explored any large projects in the past year.

1.3.Audio/Visual Team

The A/V team has been running smoothly for the past year. We did lose Marla but picked up Vickie who has been doing an excellent job on camera. Liz has also been doing an excellent job running the sound board and PowerPoints for service. Carole floats between camera and sound – wherever she is needed. Jim runs Zoom and tries to do little else.

Your AV Team: Carole Harner, Vickie Franklin, Liz Rapp, Jim Holmes.

1.4.Caring Circle

The Caring Circle has been busy sending cards, emails, and texts to church members or friends who have been ill or had surgery. We have also contacted our friends or members who have not been around for a while. In addition, we have provided rides to church for those that need it.

We need more people to help with Caring Circle activities. If you would like to participate, please see the Caring Circle section on our website.

Submitted by Jana Norris

1.5.Communications

The Communications Team currently consists of one person who receives a monthly stipend, the outlines my responsible for the creating, editing and releasing of the following publications:

1. The monthly issue of *Red River Ramblings* that I started doing on the July 2009 issue and still edit.
2. The weekly UPDATE that focuses on church activities, programs, meetings, etc. from Wednesday of the current week through Tuesday of the next week. I created the UPDATE in December 2008 and continue publishing it, although during the last year there have been a few delays in meeting the Wednesday deadline.
3. The church's mobile app which I update usually each Monday to reflect Sunday's information as well as information geared to those active members and newcomers. The app contains a link to introduction videos about Unitarian Universalism, the monthly newsletter, links to the church's two Facebook pages, a map to find us, a gallery of images and a page "About Us" as well as opportunities to form to pledge to a minister compensation form.
4. Assisting the membership team's in assuring that a visitor packet of information for visitors, brochure on *The Path to Membership* to explain the steps one follows when wanting to join the congregation and creating *Visitor Cards* which invites first time visitors to fill out, if they wish, so the membership team can follow up with new visitors.
5. Apart from my specific responsibilities outlined above, I also print issue of the newsletter and the weekly UPDATE, I print a hard copy of each and place them in the current yearbook binder so there is a lasting church history.

Part of Communications involves the 'pass thru' email system [where a list of members of each committee, activity, interest group etc. submits an email list of its members which is managed by the church's web team. I check three distinct 'pass through' email accounts:

1. news@redriveruu.org
2. info@redriveruu.org
3. hello@redriveruu.org

These three email addresses are often used by a plethora of organizations, companies wanting to sell us something, political and social organizations along with a spattering of lonely hearts (often from foreign countries) wanting love. When appropriate I forward them to whatever group in the congregation who might be interested.

Submitted by: Doug Strong

1.6. Community Outreach

We currently lack a specific Community Outreach committee, and we need one.

However, several committees do outreach activities. Since our spring meeting, the Rainbow Team has volunteered at Pride Prom, had a booth at the Grayson Pride Festival, and hosted a back-to-school clothing swap. They are getting ready for their annual Family Holiday Celebration, which will be held on November 14th. The Social Justice Committee had booths at Denison Juneteenth and the Sherman Arts Festival. The Grayson Family Shelter Meals Team will be preparing a meal for the shelter on October 10th and on New Year's Eve.

Thursday Night @ the Movies has not taken off (yet), but the Banned Book Club does have some members from the community at large. The church had a table at Divine Equine's Kentucky Derby Gala and at the NAACP's annual banquet (with the costs donated).

We've had several guests come because of our FaceBook presence (thank you, Amy!), and we are working on stepping up our social media game.

Last but certainly not least, The Lantern Room made its debut in September and will host another open mic event on November 7th.

Submitted by Jana Norris

GRAYSON FAMILY SHELTER MEALS TEAM

This year, the team has prepared meals for the residents of the Grayson Family Shelter twice and has another event planned for October 10.

We prepared a meal for New Year's Eve and catered a pizza party in June with a salad and desserts. We are preparing lasagna and all the fixings for October 10.

We need more volunteers! All you have to do is sign up to prepare a dish and then deliver it to the Shelter on the day of the meal. Contact me if you would like to join our team.

Submitted by Paula Jennings

1.7. 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 – First Sunday: Amy Hoffman-Shehan, George & Eva Novak, Lady Hulsey, & Jack Bolerjack

Team 2 – Second Sunday: Carole Harner, Jim Holmes, Mira Mory

Team 3 – Third Sunday: Elbert & Marion Hill, Liz Rapp & Cindy Buffington, & Christina Wyatt

Team 4 – Forth Sunday: Marilyn Alexander, Bill Holloway, Vicki and Brand Kosloski

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.8. Earth Day

Earth Day Festival Planning Committee:

Members: Amy Hoffman-Shehan, Marla Loturco, Jan Fletcher, Jim Holmes, Alexis Taylor, Emma Jordan, Tracy Horst, Michelle Haynes, Shelly DeLozier, Jeannine Hatt, Curtis and Sue Severns.

The committee planned and executed the 2026 Texoma Earth Day Festival, which was held on April 18, 2026. This was the 18th annual event. We worked with other area organizations to coordinate children's activities, workshops, vendors, musical entertainment, demonstrations, a trash fashion show, a blood drive, and a wide assortment of recycling opportunities. The City of Sherman has started geocache counting of cell phones for local events, and they confirmed an attendance of 5000 people inside the Municipal Ballroom and the boundaries of Lucy Kidd-Key Park. The phones counted had to stay in the area for a minimum of 6 minutes. Because of legal constraints, the city was not able to count the number of people who drove through the recycling area or visited the food trucks, animal shelter trailer or blood mobile.

We have already started planning the 2027 festival, which will be the 19th annual event. The focus of the festival will be nature tourism.

1.9. Emergency Preparedness

Members: Jack Bolerjack, Brand Kosloski, Amy Hoffman-Shehan

The Emergency Preparedness Team has hosted a CPR class and first aid class at the church. We created a wish list of supplies for first aid bags to place around the building in case of emergency. We received donations that covered part of the items in the list and have made the first purchase. We have not been able to raise enough money to cover some badly needed supplies like replacement pads for the AED machine, blood clot gauze, Narcan, and signage to identify safe spaces for sheltering from severe storms. The instructor for the CPR and first

aid class suggested that we keep some medications on hand, so we have created a wish list for those as well.

The committee replaced the door handles to the chapel to prevent them from being tied or chained together to trap occupants. We also supplied replacement locks for the bathrooms so it would be easier to lock them and to tell when they are occupied. We have started a diagram of the building and have plans to create evacuation maps. We have also discussed conducting emergency fire drills once the maps are completed.

This committee and the emergency preparedness effort are not funded through the annual budget, so we rely solely on donations.

1.10. 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. We are still having trouble with someone turning off the watering system faucets and that has caused us to lose many of the shrubs and roses in the Memorial Garden.

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.

Minnie's nephew Nick Duran 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 which decreases costs.

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.11. Facilities - Building

This year we replaced the back door. The old one was starting to rot out. Big thanks to Edwin and Curtis for the help as Jim watched!

All the fire extinguishers had to be renewed. We have 6 extinguishers: one by each door(4 doors), one in the kitchen, and one on the second floor.

The AC to the chapel has been having cooling issues with multiple visits by repair people. Hopefully it is now fixed (for a while).

With the help of Kacci (Lady) we replaced two bad security cameras. The new cameras required an update to the security server, and we had to also replace our old server with a newer model so it would accept the new updates.

1.12. Membership Team

The Membership Team continues to work on attracting new members to our congregation and keeping them once they have joined. We are currently working on two new programs, New to UU and the Volunteer Brigade.

New to UU will take advantage of our Red River UU homepage and add a new heading “New to UU” with a drop-down menu with links to various UU information, activities, and snippets. This method would be used to provide information to our new comers using self-guided exploration on an individual basis rather than actual classes one of us would teach

The second part is an in-person gathering at the church in a reception type format that would include refreshments. This will be used to get to talk to the new comers one on one and allow them to ask any questions they may have about us or anything we do.

The Volunteer Brigade is meant to allow new members to select ways to get involved with the church at their own pace, whether that is once a month or once a year.

Since our update from last spring, 4 new members have joined: Kristy Kemp, Aubrey Brown, Vael Welch, and Michael Lagocki.

1.13. Minister Search Team

Over the past year, we have received only one application for our minister position. After an initial discussion with the applicant, they chose to withdraw their application.

Here is a summary of where we stand:

- There is currently a shortage of ministers, with many UU churches actively seeking to fill vacancies. According to the UUA Minister Portal:
 - 44 churches are looking for contract ministers
 - 10 UU churches in the Southern region are seeking contract ministers
- Since we began our minister search 3 years ago the compensation package for a full time minister has increased from \$92,000 per year to around \$110,000 per year due to inflation and increases in healthcare expenses.
 - These costs reflect the cost of living in our area, and the compensation package is more in higher cost of living areas.
 - The salary component of the compensation package is around \$70,000; the reminder covers healthcare and other benefits.
- The compensation package for a ½ time minister has increased from our initial estimate of \$45,000 per year to now around \$65,000. The big increase comes from the need to include full coverage for benefits.
- NTUUC has notified us that our grant to help fund a minister has expired.

- NTUUC has explored the possibility of sharing a minister and a possible fit would be between Red River UU and Denton UU. However, now NTUUC expects that Red River UU and Denton UU need to come up with a plan for sharing and present it to NTUUC. If they approve, they will issue a grant to help fund the minister.
- Currently Denton does not have a minister search team in place.
- NTUUC has also come up with an additional requirement that after the minister compensation grant has expired, the churches should be able to continue funding a minister on their own.
- Both Marla and Walter are no longer on the team, and Jim has resigned from the team effective September 30th.

It is coming up on the time we would submit our application request for a minister to the UUA Minister Portal – It's due by December 1, 2026. The team met on September 17th and have come up with the following conclusions:

- We felt that we cannot submit our application for a minister without full funding in place.
- With the increase in compensation for both full time and ½ time ministers we can no longer afford even a ½ time minister beyond the 2 year contract.

We recommend that the Minister Search Team be disbanded.

Submitted By Marilyn Alexander, Jim Holmes, Liz Rapp

1.14. Moveable Feast

Movable Feast continues to be a popular event. We have been to some really good restaurants and typically have good attendance from both friends and members. It continues to be a good way for us to get to know each other better away from church.

Submitted by Jana Norris

1.15. North Texas UU Congregations

North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC) consists of the thirteen 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.

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.

It now is supporting helping churches hire interns, although it may not be feasible for our size congregation.

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.16. Red River Rainbow Team

In the last year the RT has hosted or assisted with nine (9) different events for the team and the church. We continue to have and promote a working relationship with Grayson Pride and its work to support the LGBTQ+ community in our area.

The events we either host or participate in are:

- Family Holiday Celebration
- Nerdy New Year's Party
- Kid's Clothing Swaps x 3 annually
- The Fae & Fairy Tea Party
- Earth Day
- Grayson PRIDE Festival
- Grayson Pride Drag Shows
- Sherman ART Festival

We have provided four (4) worship services and have participated in several others. While congregational support and attendance has been better this year, we still need members and volunteers. Currently the Team has only 3 regularly attending members, so there is a dearth of voices to be heard.

Our goals in the next year are:

- To improve our online presence with TikTok and FB

- Participate in more local events either with the church or as The Rainbow Team
- Increase our participation in the Social Justice Team's activities
- To increase attendance & volunteer presence at all events
- To increase member participation
- To forge relationships with other area affirming churches
- Continue to participate in Worship Services & Adult Forum

Peace! & Thank you,
The Red River UU Rainbow Team

1.17. 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

1.18. Safe Congregation Panel

The purpose of this team is to ensure that children and members are being taught by people who have been vetted.

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

1.19. Social Justice

No report submitted.

1.20. Strategic Plan (Long Range Planning)

The Plan was revised to cover 2023-2028.

- 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.
- New people are needed to fill 2 vacancies.

Submitted by Jim Holmes, Marilyn Alexander

1.21. Website

This year we redid the website to make it more modern and friendly. With the help of a consultant, we completely reworked the home page and simplified the navigation. We decided that our initial target audience should be visitors and that the site should make it easy for them to find out about us and UU. Some of the church related pages that were not visitor specific were moved under the Information sub menu (upper left).

Recently we added a members login area and put members only specific information under the login area.

Be sure to tell us when you have events coming up so we can update the calendar. Please provide a title, date and time, contact if needed and a description of the event and a photo or artwork if needed.

All recommendations on improving the website are welcome. Be prepared to provide us with the details.

Marla is no longer on the Web Team, only Jim remains.

Submitted by Jim Holmes

1.22. Worship Team

The worship team has been working to catch up and provide services since Marla Loturco's resignation. The team of Brand Kosloski, Curtis Severns, Eva Novak, Megan Hutchinson, and Marilyn Alexander has really stepped up to assist with programming, PowerPoint creation, video creation, creating programs, making lead-in and ending videos for YouTube, finding suitable music for each program, creating and printing programs, and providing blurbs for the monthly newsletter. This team works well together, offers suggestions for improvement, and volunteers to assist where needed. I think they are having fun being creative and providing interesting programs for our worship services.

Submitted by Marilyn Alexander

GREETERS

The Greeters have continued to be fabulous. You see Sherilyn, Doug, Amy, or Curtis every Sunday morning, and their warm welcome sets the tone for our morning together. The team could really use another member or two so that there's always someone for fifth Sundays and to cover absences.

Greeters arrive for their shift by 10:30. They welcome everyone and hand out programs. They make sure visitors are warmly welcomed and asked to fill out a visitor card. Then, the greeter connects them with a member who can introduce them to other people. It's a fun job and very satisfying.

Contact me if you would like to join our team.

Paula Jennings

5. Presidents report

Report by Jana Norris

6. Review and Revise Annual Goals

There will be a discussion and vote on revisions to the 2026 Annual Goals. These goals were:

1. Expand visibility
2. Hire a pianist
3. Engage interesting speakers
4. Hire a minister

7. Proposed Bylaw Changes

Open discussion and vote on proposed changes.

Proposed changes in **Yellow**:

----- Start of Bylaws

Approved by the Congregation on November 8, 2009,

Amended and Accepted by the Congregation on October 24, 2010,

Amended and Accepted by the Congregation on February 5, 2012,

Amended and Accepted by the Congregation on October 21, 2018,

Amended and Accepted by the Congregation on October 20, 2019,

Amended and Accepted by the Congregation on March 20, 2022,

Amended and Accepted by the Congregation on October 18, 2026

BYLAWS OF RED RIVER UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, INC.

ARTICLE I

NAME

This Church shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas, Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), as RED RIVER UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, INC., and pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Texas Business Organizations Code, including without limitation those provisions constituting the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Law. The Church shall be known as Red River Unitarian Universalist Church.

ARTICLE II

AFFILIATIONS

The Church shall be a member congregation of North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations, the Southern Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

ARTICLE III

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a diverse liberal religious community that seeks to uphold and promote the Principles and Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Our Congregation welcomes and accepts all people. We reach out beyond our Congregation to serve as a catalyst for social action.

ARTICLE IV

PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this Church, in the Unitarian Universalist tradition, to provide a place where freedom of worship, freedom of speech, freedom of thought, and freedom for the dissemination of ideas shall be welcomed, protected and fostered; to maintain a pulpit where these freedoms shall be exercised and made manifest to the members of this Church and to the community in which we carry out our activities; to foster the development of the intellectual, physical, moral and spiritual faculties of all willing persons **so willing** without any discrimination based on race, color, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity; and to provide a community in which members offer each other moral and spiritual support.

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Method of Joining

Membership in this Church is open to any person 13 years old or older who accepts the general purpose and programs of this Church. There shall be no creedal requirements for membership. No requirement as to belief, either political or theological, shall ever be made. One becomes a member by completing the path to membership as outlined in the Pathway to Membership Section of the Policies and Procedures Manual, signing the membership book, and making a contribution of record, financial or otherwise. The date of membership is the date in the membership book.

Section 2: Requirements for Voting Membership

Individuals who have been members of the Church for 30 days or more and who have (as an individual or part of a family unit) made a contribution of record during the last 12 months, which must have occurred at least 30 days prior to the meeting, shall have the right to vote at all official Church meetings.

Section 3: Friends

A Friend is a person who is interested in the Church but who has not completed the requirements for membership.

Section 4: Termination of Membership

Any member who chooses to resign from the Congregation may do so by notifying the Board of Trustees in writing. Recommendations of the Safe Congregation Panel as to the revocation of membership will be reviewed, amended and decided by a majority vote of the entire Board of Trustees on a case-by-case basis. **Members who have not attended a service or made a contribution to the church, whether monetary or in-kind, in three years shall be removed from membership.**

Section 5: Nondiscrimination

A person may not be denied membership on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

ARTICLE VI

AUTHORITY

The ultimate governing power of this Church resides in the voting membership of the Church, which may, after action taken at a congregational meeting held in accordance with these bylaws, instruct the Board of Trustees as to its will.

ARTICLE VII

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1: General Duties of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has the authority between congregational meetings to conduct the business of the Church. This includes, but is not restricted to, the conduct of its business affairs, the management of its property, the responsibility of an annual financial review, the control of its administration, the establishment of the covenant with its Minister, the review of the bylaws, and the coordination of its programs, except as otherwise restricted by these bylaws. Notwithstanding these described duties of the Board, as stated above in article VI, the ultimate governing power resides in the voting membership of the Church.

Section 2: Composition of the Board of Trustees

The Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and three Trustees-at-Large (one Trustee-at-Large while the congregation has sixty-four (64) or fewer voting members and two Trustees-at-Large when voting membership is between sixty-five (65) and eighty-four (84) who shall be elected directly by the membership as described in Article VI. The immediate Past President and the Minister shall serve as *ex-officio* (non-voting) members of the Board. **As an advisory, nonvoting member of the board, the Past President's membership on the Board of Trustees does not present a conflict of interest in serving on other committees.**

Section 3: Election of Board Members

Board members shall be elected to replace those whose terms are expiring at the May semi-annual congregational meeting each year. Candidates for the Board

must be voting members of the Church. Trustees shall be elected for terms of two years and shall serve until their successors are elected and take office. The term of a trustee begins on the July 1 immediately following the Trustee's election. No ~~spouses, cohabitators, or blood or adoptive relatives~~ **immediate family members or members of the same household** shall serve on the Board at the same time.

The President and Treasurer will be elected in even-numbered years. The Vice-President and Secretary will be elected in odd-numbered years.

The Trustee-at-Large elections will depend on the size of the congregation. While the voting membership is fewer than sixty-four (64), one Trustee-at-Large will be elected in odd-numbered years, none in even-numbered years. When the voting membership is between sixty-five (65) and eighty-four (84), one Trustee-At-Large will be elected in odd-numbered years, and one in even-numbered years. When the voting membership reaches a membership of eighty-five (85), one Trustee-at-Large will be elected in odd-numbered years and two in even-numbered years.

Section 4: Removal of Board Members

The Board may remove Board members who miss four or more meetings during their current elected or appointed tenure, or for cause. Cause shall be defined by the Board. A member of the Board of Trustees may ~~be~~ also be removed from office by a simple majority vote of the Church's voting members in person, via online streaming, by proxy, or online at a Special Church Meeting, called as set forth in Article X, Section 2.

Section 5: Vacancies

The Board shall fill a vacancy in consultation with the Nominating Committee (see Article X, Section 1). The new member(s) shall serve until the July 1st following the next May semi-annual meeting, when the position shall be filled by election of a candidate. **The candidate will be elected for a one-year term if that position on the board is not otherwise slated for election that year.** ~~A candidate may be elected to the Board for a one-year term if necessary to maintain the election of up to three (3) Board members in each odd-numbered year and up to four (4) Board members in each even-numbered year depending on the size of the congregation as described in Article VII, Section 3.~~

Section 6: Limit on Tenure

A Trustee may not serve more than two consecutive elected terms on the Board.

Section 7: Financial Affairs of the Church

The Board shall have the authority to oversee, manage, and conduct the financial affairs of the Church, including investing some or all funds held by the Church. Each Board member owes a fiduciary duty to the Church and its members when the Board conducts any and all financial affairs on behalf of the Church. Each Board member shall fully comply with all provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, the Internal Revenue Service's Tax Code and its rules and regulations, and the laws of the State of Texas.

Section 8: Annual Budget

The Board shall submit an annual budget for approval by the membership at the May semi-annual meeting. The proposed budget shall be made available in writing at least 14 days prior to the membership vote. On adoption of the budget, no expenditure exceeding the budget shall be made unless by official vote of two-thirds of the members attending a congregational meeting or by three-quarters vote of the Board of Trustees present at a regular or special board meeting. A vote by the Board of Trustees to expend or to encumber capital funds cannot exceed \$10,000 per annum.

Section 9: Annual Goals

The Board and the Minister (when one is in office) shall jointly develop annual goals subject to the approval of the Congregation at the May semi-annual meeting. The Committee on Ministry will annually conduct an evaluation of the ministry of the Church in reference to the Church's mission and goals of the previous year and will report on progress at the May congregational meeting.

Section 10: Meetings and Quorum

The Board shall meet at least monthly. A quorum shall consist of five voting Board members on a seven-member board, four voting Board members on a six-member Board, and three voting Board members on a five-member board. Action is taken by a majority vote of the Board members present. The Board of Trustees will regularly report major decisions to the Congregation by announcements in the newsletter. Board minutes will be available at the Church and/or in the Member's Section of the church website.

Section 11: Executive Session

The Board may hold Executive (closed) Sessions only for the purpose of considering personnel matters or possible litigation or when meeting with the Safe Congregation Panel or the Committee on Ministry.

Section 12: Limits on Board Authority

The Board shall not have the authority to incur a mortgage, purchase or sell real estate, without first calling a special meeting for that purpose as described in Article X. A decision to incur a mortgage, purchase or sell real estate must be approved by a two-thirds (66%) majority vote of the voting members who attend the special meeting and vote in person, via online streaming, by proxy, or online

ARTICLE VIII OFFICERS

Section 1: President

The President shall be the executive officer of the Church; exercise all the functions usually pertaining to the office of president of a non-profit corporation. Such functions may include the signing of deeds, mortgages, notes, bonds, contracts or other instruments authorized by the congregation to be executed, except as may otherwise be delegated by the Board to some other officer or agent of the Congregation; preside at meetings of the Congregation and the Board of Trustees; call special Board meetings when necessary at any time or upon the request of three other Board members; convene the Nominating Committee; be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee when it is sitting for the purpose of making nominations for elected positions. The President may appoint another Board Member as representative in ex-officio capacities.

Section 2: Vice-President

The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President and perform other duties assigned by these bylaws and the President or Board of Trustees.

Section 3: Secretary

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Board of Trustee meetings and congregational meetings of the Church and maintain the Policies and Procedures as adopted by the Board. The Secretary shall issue all notices and conduct the correspondence of the Board of Trustees, as directed by the President and these bylaws. The Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the maintenance of current addresses and phone numbers of members and friends of the Church, and

maintaining and preserving Church records, documents, and papers (other than financial records). The Board may appoint the position of Assistant Secretary to assist the Secretary with these duties as needed.

Section 4: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt and safekeeping of all money and other property of the Church entrusted to the Treasurer's care; disbursing the same under the direction and to the satisfaction of the Board of Trustees; keeping a complete account of the finances of the Church upon books and computer programs which shall remain the property of the Church and which shall be open for inspection by the Trustees and voting members at any time; rendering a current statement at each regular meeting of the Board of Trustees and at each congregational meeting; confirming the current list of voting members of the Church; and bringing necessary records to congregational meetings to resolve any questions concerning membership status. The execution of these duties may be delegated by the Board to some agent or staff of the Congregation. The Board may appoint the position of Assistant Treasurer to assist the Treasurer with these duties as needed. The Treasurer may be bonded at the expense of the Church.

Section 5: Trustee-at-Large

The Trustee-at-Large is the direct representative of the congregation to the board and assists with board projects.

ARTICLE IX NOMINATIONS

Section 1: Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee shall be elected by a majority vote of members at the May semi-annual meeting. Any voting member of the Church may be elected, except current staff, Board members, members of the Committee on Ministry, or any household member or immediate family member thereof. While the membership of the congregation is 84 or less, the restriction against relatives serving one on the Board and one on the Nominating Committee shall be waived. When the congregation reaches 85, current committee members will serve the rest of their term before the restrictions are enforced.

The Committee shall consist of three members who serve three-year terms, with one member elected each year. To obtain this at first election, one person will be

nominated for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. In the event of a vacancy, the President shall appoint a member to fill the unexpired term.

Section 2: ~~Nominating Petition~~ Election of Members

Any voting member may run for election to the Nominating Committee. ~~Members running for election to the Nominating Committee must submit a petition signed by at least five voting members to the Secretary at least ten days prior to the May semi-annual congregational meeting. Additional nominations may be taken from the floor during the May semi-annual meeting and accepted onto the ballot by agreement of the nominee and at least five affirmative votes from the Congregation. The Board shall appoint nominees as needed.~~

Section 3: Chairperson

The Nominating Committee shall elect its own chairperson.

Section 4: Slate of Nominees for the Board of Trustees

The Nominating Committee shall submit to the Secretary, not less than thirty days, nor more than sixty days, prior to the May semi-annual congregational meeting, a slate of nominees for the Board of Trustees to be elected at the May semi-annual congregational meeting.

ARTICLE X

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Section 1: Semi-Annual Meetings

Semi-annual congregational meetings shall be held on a day in May and October of each year at a time to be selected by the Board. The agenda of the May meeting shall include annual reports from the Board of Trustees, the Membership Committee, and the Committee on Ministry; presentation of the Treasurer's annual financial report(s); approval of the Board's budget for the next fiscal year and annual goals; and the election of members of the Board of Trustees, Nominating Committee, and Committee on Ministry.

The agenda for the October meeting shall be set by the Board of Trustees and shall include committees not represented in the May meeting and issues other than Board elections.

Section 2: Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called at any time by the Board or upon receipt by the Secretary of a petition signed by at least twenty percent of the Church's members. A petition for a meeting to consider dismissal of a Minister must be signed by at least thirty percent of the Church's members.

Section 3: Notice of Meetings

Notices and all appropriate documents related to the agenda of all congregational meetings shall be mailed or e-mailed to all members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.

Section 4: ~~Proxy~~ Methods of Voting

~~Nothing in these Bylaws is meant to prohibit voting by proxy. A voting member in attendance at a Congregational meeting will be allowed to vote by proxy on behalf of no more than two other voting members.~~ **Members who are eligible to vote per Article V, Section 2 may vote in person, via online streaming, or by proxy. Eligible voting members may also vote online as set forth in the information packet for the meeting.** Any voting member in attendance at a congregational meeting shall be allowed to ~~vote by proxy on behalf~~ **to hold the proxies** of no more than two other voting members.

Section 5: Quorum

Forty (40) percent of the ~~voting members who attend the meeting~~, as defined in Article V, Section 2, shall constitute a quorum. ~~However, the quorum for a meeting to call or dismiss a Minister shall be fifty (50) percent of the membership who attend the meeting in person or by proxy. [The 50% requirement conflicts with Article XIV. Making quorum a percentage of the people in attendance makes no sense.]~~

ARTICLE XI PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order Revised* shall govern the Church in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws or special rules of order of the Church. The Chairperson of any Congregational Meeting may appoint a Parliamentarian.

ARTICLE XII COMMITTEES

Section 1: Standing Committees

The Church has two elected standing committees: the Nominating Committee, as set forth in Article IX, and the Committee on Ministry, as set forth in Article XIII. ~~The Board has staffing responsibilities for the following standing committees from members and friends of the Congregation. Each standing committee shall elect a chairperson from its members. All chairpersons must be voting members of the church.~~ The **unelected** Standing Committees of the Church are: Finance/Endowment (**which includes Endowment**), Membership, and Worship.

The Finance, Membership, and Worship Committees shall be staffed by members and friends of the church. Each committee shall choose its own chair. All chairs must be voting members of the church.

Section 2: Policy and Procedure of Standing Committees

Each committee shall develop policy and procedures consistent with its function and the mission of this Church. The policy and procedures shall be presented to and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Section 3: ~~Special~~ **Other** Committees

~~The Board shall form, as needed, various special~~ **other** committees. ~~The Members and Chairperson of the Special Committee shall be appointed by the Board. Such committees shall exist for as long as they are needed and may be dissolved by the Board at any time. A contact person shall be appointed by the Board in the event there is an insufficient number of members to elect a chairperson.~~ **Each committee shall elect a chairperson.**

----- End of Bylaws

8. Open Discussion

9. Proxy Ballot and Voting Instructions

Options for Voting

1. Vote during the meeting in person or via Zoom.
2. Fill out the open proxy and give to your representative (must be a voting member) and return it no later than Sunday morning. Oct. 18, 2026, prior to the start of the meeting.
3. Vote using a directed proxy. Download, print, vote, and return it no later than Sunday morning. Oct. 18, 2026, prior to the start of the meeting.

10. Proxy Ballot - Fall Congregational Meeting, Oct 18, 2026

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

Open Proxy for: Red River UU Congregational Meeting Oct 18, 2026

I, _____, do hereby assign my open proxy for the Red River UU Church Congregational Meeting of Oct 18, 2026, 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 18, 2026, 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 18, 2026

Signature:

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

Congregational Minutes from May 18, 2026: ___ For as presented ___ For as amended in meeting

___ Against ___ Abstain

Halt searching for a Minister and dissolve the current Minister Search Team

___ For as presented ___ For as amended in meeting ___ Against ___ Abstain

Accept Bylaw changes: ___ For as presented ___ For as amended in meeting

___ Against ___ Abstain

Accept Revisions to Annual Goals: ___ For as presented ___ For as amended in meeting

___ Against ___ Abstain

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