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Sunday, March 1, 2026

### **The Name of Love**

Worship Team & Rev. T. J. FitzGerald, *video message*

In his sermon "The Name of Love," Rev. T. J. FitzGerald from First Unitarian Church in Dallas reflects on Martin Luther King Jr.'s message for us in troubled times. Drawing from Dr. King's teachings on agape love, nonviolence, and moral courage, this UU sermon explores what it means to live with purpose when fear, injustice, and division feel overwhelming. It looks honestly at the tension between love and resistance and why Dr. King believed real love always carries a cost.

Sunday, March 8, 2026

### **Cosmic Humility**

The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies, *leading*

What would be the implications for community if we committed ourselves to bringing more value into the world than we take from it? In this discourse, I will reflect on how we might live in such a way as to increase the value of all life for the long run and on what kinds of systemic transformation would be needed for us all to live value adding lives.

Sunday, March 15, 2026

### **Reading from Robert L. Arnold's *Defiance til death***

George Novak, *leading*

Robert Arnold is a man for the moment. He provides eloquent, insightful, hopeful, and sometimes angry analyses of the current state of our society. He is 'a lot'. Apart from his on-line presence, Arnold published a book of his essays and poetry in 2025. You'll find his writing evocative, provocative, and aligned with UU principles.

Sunday, March 22, 2026

### **Ways to Remember the Holocaust**

The Worship Team & Walter Norris, *leading*

This morning's service is in our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday format, even though it isn't 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. This format features a speaker, Walter Norris, who is a docent at the Dallas Holocaust Museum and will talk to us about visiting the museum, followed by an activity - painting stones with names of children who died in the Holocaust for the Upstander Stone Project which will be returned to the project and included in the Holocaust Garden of Hope in Kingwood Texas. Stones have long been and continue to be used as historical grave markers; Jewish people bring small stones to leave on their loved ones' gravesites, as stones are permanent (as opposed to flowers) and serve as a reminder that memories of our loved ones last forever.

Sunday, March 29, 2026

### **T.B.A.**

The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies, *leading*

Mark returns and will send details of his discourse later. Fortunately, his father's health concerns have improved.

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## From the President

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*The Board of Trustees meets at 1:00 on the third Sunday of each month. Every member of the church is invited to attend and speak. We keep the minutes of board meetings in the Board Book in the Carolyn Cameron room. They are always available for inspection.*

This month:

Carole created a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>), which the Board approved. We continue to work on the Stewardship Campaign, which begins March 1<sup>st</sup>.

We are finishing up the 501(c)(3) application.

We created a Community Outreach Team led by Christina Wyatt. Our goal is to participate meaningfully and on theme in at least two local festivals this year and at least three next year. We are creating more events open to the public to be held at the church in addition to monthly Movie Nights and the Banned Book Club. We hope to begin hosting regular art shows, with the first this summer. The Rainbow Team already hosts Nerdy New Year's Eve, the annual Fae and Fairy Tea Party, clothing swaps, and a Christmas-season party. We must become more visible to the community at large.

We are replacing our weather-damaged sign out front and have set a work day on April 11<sup>th</sup> to get our building spiffed up. There will be at least one work day in March for the flower beds. Please come help!

We planned, with assistance from Marla and Doug, the annual Appreciation Luncheon, which will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup>. I know spring is heavy on Saturday events, but please come to this one, too. Doug has emailed invitations.

We worked on adding announcements of coming events at each service.

We had a tour of the amazing Texoma Family Shelter and learned about the exemplary work they are doing. They have long been one of the two recipients of undesignated Sunday morning cash offerings. The other recipient is the Texoma Earth Day Festival.

We created protocols to be added to the Policies & Procedures Manual for canceling a service and for closing the church building.

If you have not signed up to attend the NTUUC Celebration on March 28, please do so. It's a great annual event where we can meet other UUs, learn how to be a more effective church, and have a fun time. If enough people sign up, NTUUC (North Texas UU Churches) will rent a van for us.

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## From the Rainbow Team

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Rather than type a long wordy narrative about our recent activities, I am going to start updating y'all with bits & bobs & including a little LGBTQ+ history/info in our newsletter offerings. I feel like this is the best way to disseminate the info, especially in a world where so much is thrown at us so fast. Here we go!

- Rainbow Team meetings are every 2nd Sunday at 1pm, after C&C (Calories & Conversation). All voices are always welcome!
- The call went out for volunteers for upcoming events; we asked for 2-hour commitments
- Flyers were created for the Fae & Fairy Tea Party 2026 & distributed with enormous success all over Denison & Sherman
- Saturday Feb 28th the Fae & Fairy Tea Party was hosted & was an unqualified success!! We had 25 in attendance, including two children, and everyone had a fabulous time! We look forward to next year's Tea Party.
- Next event: Kids Clothing Swap at the Earth Day Festival on April 18th, 2026

This month in LGBTQ+ history:

- March 26, 1973: The first meeting of "Parents and Friends of Gays" (later PFLAG) was held
- March 23, 2009: Vermont state Senate voted to legalize same-sex marriage.
- March 28, 2022: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed the Parental Rights in Education Act, known by critics as the "Don't Say Gay" law

Things to remember in March

- Bisexual Health Awareness Month
- March 1 Zero Discrimination Day
- March 20 National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- March 31 International Transgender Day of Visibility
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**Peace! & Thank you,  
The Red River UU Rainbow Team**

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## Earth Day Planners Update

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The Earth Day Festival Planning Committee will meet on March 12 and 26 at 5:30 pm in the chapel.

Plans for the festival are coming along. The theme for the 2026 Earth Day Festival is Planet vs Plastic. We are planning education about reducing plastic consumption for the environment and our health. We will also provide information on the most effective ways to filter chemicals from our drinking water.

We have four workshops lined up and hope to recruit a fifth one. Attendees can learn about fossils found in the area by the Bluestem Master Naturalists, bee keeping with Noah White of Be Happy Bees, composting with Conserve Earth Consulting, and what happens to plastic bags once they leave the store with Alexis Taylor of TCOG. Workshops will be offered in the kitchen inside the Municipal Ballroom.

Children's activities will include making fabric coasters with the Texoma Quilt Guild, learning to sort recycling with United Way of Grayson County, TiPi making with Marilyn Alexander (representing Red River UU), a Recycled art project with the Grayson College Department of Visual Arts and fossil digging with the Bluestem Master Naturalists. The Red River Rainbow Team will offer a free children's clothing swap on the ballroom stage. The ballroom will also be used to host a recycled art contest hosted by TCOG and the Sherman Parks & Rec Department, as well as recycled sculptures from the two SISD early childhood centers.

Vendors and entertainers will be on the Municipal Lawn (Lucy Kidd-Key Park). We will welcome a few exciting new vendors, including an ambulance that has been converted into a book mobile.

Recycling is on Elm street. Confirmed vendors include Sherman Police accepting unused medications, Keystone Enterprises accepting electronic waste, American Textile Recycling Services accepting clothing, shoes & accessories, Habitat for Humanities taking donations of furniture and household items, and paper shredding provided by First United Bank. The City of Sherman will provide containers for paper, plastics 1-2-5 (including shrink film and bubble wrap), Styrofoam (no soft foam), flattened cardboard, tin & aluminum food containers. The materials collected in city containers will all be transported to the Choctaw Nation Recycling Center. We will not accept paint,

tires, or other household hazardous waste, as we are not licensed to do so.

Volunteers are needed, especially for set up, break down and monitoring the recycling stations.

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## The Appreciation Celebration

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### Celebrating Our Volunteers! Join us for the Annual Appreciation Celebration

Volunteers are the lifeblood of **Red River UU**. From the very beginning, your hands and hearts have built this community. We're gathering to say "Thank You" and celebrate the spirit of service that keeps us going.

- **When:** Saturday, March 7th
- **Time:** 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- **Where:** Red River UU Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall
- **Who:** All are welcome! Members, friends, and family.
- **Special Request:** Please let us know how many will be attending and their preference of white or sweet baked potato.

#### Special Presentation:

We will be announcing this year's recipient of the **Bruce Cameron Distinguished Service Award**, honoring those who have made outstanding contributions to our church's progress.

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## Thursday Nite at the Movies

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The March movie promises to be intriguing. It is called **Green Book**. **Green Book** is a 2018 American film starring Viggo Mortensen and Mahershala Ali, the film is inspired by the true story of a 1962 tour of the Deep South by African-American pianist Don Shirley and Italian-American bouncer and later actor Frank "Tony Lip" Vallelonga, who served as Shirley's driver and bodyguard.

Watch the trailer [here](#). See the movie on Thurs Mar 19 @ 6 pm, in the chapel.

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## Money Matters

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For the fiscal year-to-date period of July 1 through January 31, we had an operating net profit of \$3,960.83. This was due to lower expenses in several categories partially offset by unbudgeted expenses for yardwork. As of January 31, 2026, we had \$19,863.85 available to be used for general operations in our bank checking account, \$9,962.77 available in our bank savings account, and approximately \$25,451.99 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; \$141.00 in our bank checking account for share the plate; \$16,845.70 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 \$3,628.30 year-to-date from restricted funds leaving \$17,562.63 restricted to cover continuing repairs and renovations to the building and to increase visibility in the community to grow membership.

Carole Harner, Treasurer

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## Banned Book Club

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Meets on Thursday, March 19 @ 2 pm for their continued conversation of Maya Angelou's book *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

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## March Birthdays

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- 12 Jan Fletcher
- 13 Lillie Pauline Peterson\*
- 14 Marilyn Alexander
- 19 Carole Harner
- 21 William Lloyd Fridley
- 22 Elbert Hill

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## From our Non-Resident Poet

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### A Ruminaton on Supplication

by Don Mathis

*My Ruminaton is all the more relevant because March 6<sup>th</sup> is the World Day of Prayer.*

<https://nationaltoday.com/world-day-of-prayer>

A prayer to God is a wish upon a star. And if wishes could come true, there would be no more war, no more hatred, no more suffering. The growth of a disease feeds upon its host; it is not swayed by pleas to an orb in the sky. That said, I do not intend to dissuade another from supplication to a higher power. If it brings you comfort, I encourage you to go for it! Focusing on your objective is a worthwhile step to attain it.

One may chant for health and material objects as easily as one may implore that evil befalls an enemy. Let me know how that works for you. Ineffectiveness is not a reason to discontinue prayer. An expression of gratitude for a blessing is just as important as an appeal for a favor.

I try not to question faith. It is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. If you don't believe in faith, that's because you don't have faith. An imagination can be just as powerful as a reality. That's why they call it faith. To me, the Biblical story of creation does not conflict with science. That is my faith. Even a work of fiction can entertain; it can educate or provide hope for one who seeks it.

I pray for understanding, I pray for an end to suffering, I pray for peace.



# NTUUC Celebration!

Saturday, March 28 • 2:30-6:30 pm Choir rehearsal 2 pm

## Slice to Meet You!

*Life is uncertain, so eat dessert first.*

Singing some FUN music

Connecting  
with your COUNTERPARTS from  
other congregations

Discussion of a  
Big Question

Entertainment & Dinner

MISS DEVON AND THE OUTLAW

RSVP to [NTUUC.org/Celebration](http://NTUUC.org/Celebration)

All Peoples Church  
Unitarian Universalist  
1959 Sandy Lane  
Fort Worth, TX



## What's on the Agenda?

We're kicking things off with a delightful **Pie Social!** But it's more than just dessert; it's a chance to mingle and swap brilliant ideas with friends from other congregations. You'll get to pick a topic table and dive into engaging discussions on diverse ways of handling specific, important aspects of church life.

The topics up for a cozy chat over pie include:

- ♦ **Adult & Children's RE:** *Sharing program and activity types.*
- ♦ **Social Justice:** *Discussing activities, social action, and political interfacing.*
- ♦ **Community Outreach:** *Creative ways to spread the word about your UU congregation.*
- ♦ **Worship:** *Exploring design, order of service, and service variations.*
- ♦ **Music:** *Best practices for selection, choirs, and oh-so-important copyright issues!*
- ♦ **A/V & Production:** *Tips for streaming, uploading, and YouTube channels.*
- ♦ **Food & Kitchen Activities:** *Sharing ideas for fellowship and food.*
- ♦ **Facilities Management:** *The ins and outs of care, maintenance, and renovations.*
- ♦ **Pastoral Care:** *Caring for the sick, reaching out to those who've been away, and hospital visits.*
- ♦ **Stewardship/Fundraising:** *Smart ways to support our beloved community.*

After our topic talks, we'll gather for a warm welcome, sing some funny songs, and tackle the "**BIG QUESTION**" in group discussions before summarizing our collective wisdom.

## Hey there, Amazing North Texas Unitarian Universalists!

Get ready to mark your calendars for a simply **fabulous** event coming your way! The North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC) are planning a grand Celebration, just for you and all our wonderful neighboring churches.

Join us for an afternoon of connection, learning, and pure fun on **Saturday, March 28th**, from **2:30 to 6:30 PM**

## The Grand Finale

We'll wrap up the day with a delicious **BBQ buffet dinner**, with **vegan options**, and a musical treat. Get ready for some musical comedy entertainment by Fort Worth's **Miss Devon and the Outlaw**, who have performed in Branson and other venues everywhere.

So, don't miss out! Plan to attend, maybe even dance a little, celebrate our shared community, and have an **absolute blast**. We can't wait to see you there!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**ALL PEOPLES CHURCH, UU**

**FORT WORTH, TX**