



## A month of Sundays:

### July 5 - A Revolution of Mind and Spirit

written by Curtis Severns | delivered by Marilyn Alexander

Two hundred and fifty years ago, a bold idea was set loose in the world. Not just that a group of colonies could become a nation—but that ordinary people could govern themselves.

That power did not come from kings. That authority did not come from divine rights. But that legitimacy flowed from the people themselves.

And yet—this was not just a political revolution. It was also a spiritual one. Because long before muskets were fired...ideas were already changing—in pulpits, in pamphlets, in quiet conversations about who we are and what we are capable of becoming.

And in those conversations, we find the early roots of what would become Unitarian Universalism.

### July 12 - Systemic Corruption

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

One of the greatest dangers facing humanity today is the existence of systemic corruption and the breakdown it creates within the human community. Vast networks and global systems of corruption pose an existential threat to a sustainable path forward that enhances the well-being of all persons.

### July 19 - Texas UU Justice Ministry: Songs in the Key of Resistance

the Rev. Erin Walker, *guest minister (video message)*

From the streets of Minneapolis to the ICE detention centers in Texas, music is playing a powerful role in resistance to authoritarianism. This Sunday, join UU Rev. Erin Walter -- minister and executive director of the Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry (TXUUJM) and singer/bassist for the activist rock band Parker Woodland -- for a special service centered in music, justice, and hope. This is a great chance to learn about TXUUJM's work, of which our congregation is a part, including Get Out the Vote efforts this year.

### July 26 - AI and Environmental justice

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

Among the many ethical concerns related to AI is the detrimental environmental impact owing to the water and energy use of new AI Data centers, and much of this environmental impact will be felt most acutely by the most vulnerable among us.

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## Update From the Board

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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. The minutes of board meetings are available in the Members section of our website.*

This month:

June was a slower month for the Board after the busy, busy months of April and May.

We have accepted an estimate for our new sign, and the artwork is being finalized.

Vicki Koslowski has accepted the position of treasurer-in-training and is working with Carole to learn the ropes. She has already proven to be an asset to the board.

We continue to slog through the Bylaws and the Policies & Procedures Manual to propose updates and corrections. I have been having monthly eye surgeries, with a special two-fer in July, that will keep my ability to read limited until probably late August. This has slowed us down. We will happily accept help with this.

The most important thing we've had to consider is our culture as an organization. I'm hearing complaints, and they alarm me. We are sometimes slipping and not living up to who we want to be. It's all trivial things, but they add up. We are not always addressing one another respectfully, especially in emails. We are sometimes forgetting to make newcomers feel welcome at Conversation & Calories. Most of all, we sometimes forget that this place is where we come together to honor the best we can be and to grow into that ideal. We forget that we have chosen to be a Beloved Community and that it takes work to sustain that.

As we say every Sunday: Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law. Let's live up to it. I love you.

**Jana Norris, president**

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## Social Justice Update

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**WE PUT THE "SOCIAL" IN SOCIAL JUSTICE!**  
*There is more than usual going on with the Social Justice Team these days.*

First is a great big THANK YOU to the members who showed up for the Denison Juneteenth Festival on June 20. Amy Hoffman-Shehan, Brand & Vicki Kosloski, Jim Holmes, Jack & Sherlyn Bolerjack, Cindy Buffington, Marla Loturco, Jana Norris, Curtis Severns, and Doug Strong. The day was hot and humid, but we smiled and talked to everyone walking by. We're looking forward to next year.

In the same month we took reservations for the annual NAACP Scholarship banquet which we attend each year. Edwin & Marty Ellison, Susie & Walter Norris, Curtis & Sue Severns, Amy Hoffman-Shehan and Cristin Mackey will represent Red River UU at our donated Table of Eight. The event sells out quickly each year and I'm sorry we ran out of our allotted tickets.

July 19, Rev. Erin Walter of Texas UU Justice Ministry provides the Sunday discourse at our morning assembly. Via video, she will offer information about TXUUJM and the work they do throughout the state.

The Social Justice Team will meet our regular 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday to prepare our service for August 30. That will be one of many opportunities to be part of the annual UU the Vote program. I can't wait for Red River UU to be part of this program to help increase the poor voter turnout in Texas. Yes, it is an exciting time to work for Social Justice. Thank you for the interest and I'm excited about future Social Justice work at Red River UU in the future. For questions about our events, just phone me.

**Jan Fletcher, chair.**

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## Worship History Statistics

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At the end of each June and before we start the next budget year, we review – in numbers -our worship statistics. Here is our *Attendance in person and on zoom and on YouTube for 2025-2026 fiscal year*

There is one date in March that did not get attendance numbers. I just went through the entire year and added the updated numbers from YouTube. You can review the numbers here. Congratulations Brand for the high attendance in yours for such a short time on YouTube.



Marla Loturco

You can see (and even read) the two-page report Page 1 is on page 5 of the newsletter and page 2 is on page 7 of this issue.

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## Light is being lite.

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-  A gathering place for voices, stories, and songs yet to be heard.
-  Coming soon to Red River UU:  
The Lantern Room.



THE  
LANTERN ROOM  
WORDS CARRYING LIGHT

Thank you,  
S. Brand Kosloski

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## Money Matters Update

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For the fiscal year-to-date period of July 1 through May 31, we had an operating profit of \$7,698.00. This was primarily due to higher donations than budgeted and lower expenses on most line items, partially offset by unbudgeted expenses for yard work.

As of May 31, 2026, we had \$22,935.86 available to be used for general operations in our bank checking account, \$9,972.93 available in our bank savings account, and approximately \$26,875.81 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; \$796.00 in our bank checking account for share the plate; \$17,159.43 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 \$5,019.53 year-to-date from restricted funds leaving \$16,171.40 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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## The Rainbow Team

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### A Look Back:

June was America's National LGBTQ + Pride Month, as I am sure you are all aware. Many towns & cities have Pride celebrations that are joyful & exuberant statements of our continued presence & Pride in our existence, regardless of the prejudice of those who would rather that we didn't.

Our area is truly blessed to have a group, Grayson PRIDE, who is out & proud for us & with us & the festival they hosted for us this year was just one of many brilliant jewels, albeit the center one, of the crown they currently wear. Several members of the RRUU Rainbow Team showed up, a few staying all day, and represented our church well!

The Rainbow Team created two gift baskets to raffle off. Big thanks to everyone who donated stuff!! We made over \$200 for the team to use for necessary future expenses! We spoke with many vendors & visitors about who we are & received rave reviews of our baskets & the effort we are putting into our group.

Grayson PRIDE also hosted a wonderful drag show at the Sherman Elks Lodge and Jack volunteered at the door. It was the best show to date! The Elks Lodge, located on Hwy 1417, has been incredibly supportive & gracious to the organization, allowing several drag shows to be held there over the last 2 years. The queens & queens alike had a wonderful time! The next show will be scheduled in the fall so stay tuned!

### A Look Forward

In July we usually don't have anything because we are worn out from June. We are hosting our Back-to-School Kids Clothing Swap on August 15th. We will be open from 10 am - 2 pm in the sanctuary. Please let your friends & family know! Our next planned big event will be Family Holiday Celebration, where we eat traditional holiday food, hold a white elephant



gift exchange and sweater contests! This event is totally free to attend, so grab some friends! We'll provide the turkey & ham; you just bring your favorite side dish & a small gift or re-gift. Our limit is \$15. Remember to wear your favorite Holiday sweater!

When: Saturday, November 14th, 2026, from 4-6 pm

Where: Red River UU Church Chapel

We have some things bubbling in the background so watch for some RT surprises soon!!

Peace! & Thank you,

The Red River UU Rainbow Team

Submitted by Jack, *leader*



Church Totals				Visitors		OL	Worship			
Date	Total	Adults	Zoom	Child	Live	Zoom	You Tube	Grand	Leader	Topic
2025										
07/06	27	23	3	1			52	79	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Interdependence
07/13	20	17	3			3	81	101	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Science and Religion
07/20	24	20	4				19	43	George Ensle, in concert	Be A Better Me
07/27	20	15	4	1	1		17	37	The Rev. Dr. Nicole Kirk (video)	Revolution Began with a Dream
08/03	21	20	1				15	36	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Design Justice
08/10	21	19	2				27	48	Rev. Tim Kutzmark (video)	What is Unitarian Universalism
08/17	24	21	3				9	33	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	How Much is Enough?
08/24	22	21	1				21	43	Megan Hutchinson	A Different Kind of String Theory
08/31	16	14	2		1		5	21	The Worship Team	Exploring What Guides Us
09/07	29	27	2		1		23	52	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The Problem of Heresy
09/14	24	21	3		1		22	46	The Worship Team	Another Look at Water and Water Communion
09/21	23	18	5				23	46	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Living in Exile
09/28	23	23					37	60	Elena Westbrook	The Turtle Moves: Life Lessons from the Discworld
10/05	28	26	2				27	55	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on "Here Comes the Sun"
10/12	33	31	2				25	58	Jack	I Want the World to Know the Importance of Coming Out Day
10/19	22	20	2				15	37	The. Rev. David Pyle (video)	Reflections in Sea Glass (video)
10/26	26	20	6				30	56	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Finding Courage in Chaos
11/02	35	31	4				39	74	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Blessed Memories
11/09	35	33	1	1	1		63	98	George Novak	Religion Without Blinders
11/16	25	19	6		2	6	44	69	Thomas Garland	Transgender Day of Remembrance
11/23	28	26	1	1			15	43	The Worship Team	Gratitude and Wonder
11/30	33	30	3				38	71	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Finding Gratitude and Justice in Beloved Community
12/07	35	32	3		2		33	68	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Jane Goodall: A Life for Good
12/14	36	32	4			4	38	74	The Worship Team	Holidays of light and Hope
12/21	28	24	4		2		36	64	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The Light of Our Choice
12/28	31	26	4	1			12	43	The Congregation	Beginnings and/or Endings



Hi Red River UU friends,  
We are just under one week away from our **Radical Reimagining Worship Service**, happening on **Sunday, July 5th, 2026**, at **8pm ET • 7pm CT • 6pm MT/AT • 5pm PT • 4pm AKT • 2pm HT on Zoom**. If you haven't registered yet, please click the button below to get started. You're invited to join Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth in the spirit of healing and liberation

as we recognize the 250th anniversary of the United States.

### [INFO + REGISTRATION](#)

In acknowledgment of the United States of America's 250th birthday, join UUMFE as we honor our country's past while addressing its harm — then and now — in an effort to transmute our future into the loving and liberatory place we know that it can be so that we may reclaim "The American Dream". When we heal ourselves, we heal seven generations backward and forward. Please join us as we transform ourselves to transform the world. Chelsea McCoy, UUMFE's Climate Justice Movement Chaplaincy Intern (January–June 2026), will be our special speaker for this service.

#### **Featured Speaker: Chelsea McCoy**



Chelsea is a first-lineage college student born and raised in St. Louis, MO. She completed her bachelor's degree in World Literature and Sociology at Truman State University in 2017. She is graduating from Naropa University in May 2026 with a Master's in Divinity with emphasis in Mindfulness Coaching. She is passionate about helping others reconnect (or more deeply connect) with spiritual ancestry in hopes of bridging their spiritual and activist values to create their own unique relationship with sacred activism.

*Chelsea served as UUMFE's Climate Justice Movement Chaplaincy Intern from January–June 2026.*

Holding you in care,  
UUMFE Team



Visit UU Ministry for Earth online at [uumfe.org](http://uumfe.org).

Please [support our work](#)

UUMFE Team

July 2025 - June 2026 Sunday Worship Attendance - Red River UU Church

Church Totals				Visitors			OL	Worship		
Date	Total	Adults	Zoom	Child	Live	Zoom	You Tube	Grand	Leader	Topic
2026										
01/04	27	24	3		2		18	45	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	What Time Is It?
01/11	34	29	5				29	63	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	A Value Adding Life
01/18	27	23	4				14	41	Marla Loturco & Rebecca Crystal	A Space for Release, Renewal, and Hope
01/25										No Church - ICE
02/01	17						20	37	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Striving for Justice
02/08	32	29	3		2		10	42	Rev. David Schwartz	What is UU?
02/15	35	31	4				37	72	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The History of Civil Disobedience
02/22	39	36	3		2		9	48	Rebecca Crystal & Rainbow Team	We Gather as F.O.C.
03/01	31	28	2	1	2		8	39	Rev. T.J. Fitzgerald (video)	The Name of Love
03/08	29	26	3		1		9	38	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Cosmic Humility
03/15	29	25	4				18	47	George Novak	Reading from Robert L. Arnold's "Defiance til death"
03/22	32	32					17	49	Rev. Walter Norris	Ways to Remember the Holocaust (5th Sunday format)
03/29							18	18	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The Dry Bones of Our Democracy
04/05	32	31	1		3		22	54	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Environmental Justice is Attainable
04/12	28	27	1		2		16	44	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Reflections on Ibram X. Kendi's "Chain of Ideas"
04/19	29	29					15	44	Rebecca Crystal	Would You Like Fresh or Plastic? (flower communion)
04/26	25	22	3		1		4	29	Emergency Preparedness Team	Emergency Preparedness: Necessary for Survival
05/03	35	34	1		1		9	44	My Journey	Karrisa Hodge (Missing & Indigenous Women)
05/10	29	25	3	1			115	144	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Income Inequality
05/17	30	25	5				18	48	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Post-Truth Society
05/24	28	24	4				13	41	Adrian Hinman	Everyone Can Do Something
05/31	31	28	1	2	4		14	45	Jack Bolerjack & Brand Kosloski	Music & the LGBTQIA+ Community
06/07	23	22	1		1		12	35	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	Bread and Circus
06/14	21	20	1				13	34	The Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies	The Problem of Omnipotence
06/21	19	17	1	1	1		8	27	Jana Norris	Celebrate the Summer Solstice
06/28	29	27	1	1	3		28	57	Brand Kosloski	Opening the Hand: The Freedom of Letting Go
Avg	27	25	3		1		25	52		
Max	39	36	17	2	4		115	154		
Min		14					4	4		
Totals	1380	1223	146	11	37	13	1260	2640		