To pretend you knew better when others didn't, to pretend this was not your fault, to pretend you were a holy messenger and everyone else was a fool was [Barry Lopez's] very good definition of a sin. We have painted ourselves into a corner. Everybody, Barry rightly insisted, held a brush.

~ Bob Sacochis

#### GREETING ONE ANOTHER

- With hellos & "air" hugs
- Ringing the Tibetan Bowl

#### GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- Call to Community by G. Peter Fleck\*
- Candles of Community
- Prelude

Dark of Winter
By Shelly Jackson Denham Singers: UU Choir Charlottesville, VA

- Lighting the Chalice by Debra Faulk\*
- Spoken Affirmation

Love is the spirit of this church ... and service is its law. This is our great covenant ... to dwell together in peace, To seek the truth in freedom ... and to help one another.

## EXPANDING OUR UNDERSTANDINGS

Opening Thought

Invitation
by Mary Oliver\*\*

Song

For All That Is Our Life

Words: Bruce Findlow Music: Patrick L. Rickey Vocals: Christopher Lamb\* & Alena Hemmingway\*

## **EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS**

Reading

A Candle (Unsented) or Concern by Erika Hewitt\*

Practices

Meditation

A Survival Meditation
by Nathan C. Walker\* \*\*
Silent Prayers of the People
Musial Response
Meditation on Breathing
by Sara Dan Jones\*

#### **DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES**

Discourse

One True Thing
by Elena Westbrook\*

#### **CONFIRMING OUR FAITH**

Giving

Those who wish may bring their gifts to the table Music for giving:

Song

Holy Now
by Peter Mayer\*

Parting Thought

from *The Left Hand of Darkness* by Ursula Le Gurn

Benediction

Deep Peace
Gaelic traditional

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth, The warmth of community or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

• Postlude

\*Lifting up contributions from Unitarian Universalists

# \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

We welcome back among us at today's morning assembly Elena Westbrook. She was formerly the worship chair for Community UU Church of Plano, where she has been a regular guest speaker. Now semi-retired, she has also been a marketing writer, a proposal manager, a medical copyeditor, an environmental consultant, and a radio DJ. She lives in Fairview with her husband, Paul. You can find Elena's meditations and prayers on the UU Worship Web.

The deadline for the February newsletter was last night. Did you forget? Please send your stuff to <a href="mailto:news@redriveruu.org">news@redriveruu.org</a>. today!

Today is the TX UU Get Out The Vote Phone Bank Register NOW You'll get an easy script to use. Voter suppression laws and partisan redistricting, abortion restrictions, and climate crises threaten the lives and safety of all Texans, and particularly BIPOC and other marginalized communities. We will work together to make sure those voices are heard in the 2022 Texas primary. Interested? Stop by the AV desk after the morning assembly and Marla will get you registered.

Next Sunday the Adult Forum is starting The Great Courses presentation of *Science and Religion*. You can find the course overview, specific topics and a introduction of the professor giving the lectures on the church calendar and our church app. The program will run through the end of April. Participants will meet in the Alexander Room @ 10 each week.

NEWS FLASH: Lanan Shelton is finally moving to Austin. Shayne, her son, has arranged for her to live in a nursing home there. She is sooo excited about this. Just as soon as we have her address, we've send it out.

Continued on back panel

<sup>\*\*</sup>Lifting up contributions from the LGBTQ+ authors

## WELCOME GUESTS

We are Unitarian Universalists. We are brave, curious, and compassionate thinkers and doers. We are people from many backgrounds who have different beliefs, but shared values.

Grounded in more than two hundred years of thoughtful, spiritual communities, we are people of many generations, ethnicities, genders and sexualities, and spiritual backgrounds. People engaged in making the world a better place. People focusing on what really matters — love, justice, integrity, and hope.

We are a lay-led congregation. Lay-led congregations have no minister which means members of the congregation manage the various aspects of our church life. Unitarian Universalism has a proud tradition of lay-led churches.

We Unitarian Universalists have different beliefs, but shared values. We are Unitarian Universalists, and at the same time we may also be agnostic, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, humanist, Jewish, Muslim, pagan, atheist, believers in God, and those who just let the great mystery be. The diversity of beliefs you'll find in our church community is one of our strengths — we're always learning how to see the world from a different perspective.

Learn more about us at your leisure by downloading our app 'Red River UU' from Google Play or the Apps Store.

This is who we are. We are glad you joined us to-day.



## MAKING THINGS HAPPEN TODAY

- Board Rep: Amy Hoffman-Shehan
- Greeting us at the door: Linda Tracy
- Host: Marion Hill
- Leading today: Elena Westbrook
- AV Crew: Carole Harner, Don Rogers, Jim Holmes, Marla Loturco
- Sunday School Leader: Ellie Dyer

# NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

10 am - Adult Forum

## "Science and Religion"

Now through April the Forum is exploring the Great Courses Series *Science* and *Religion*. Details of each week's lecture/discussion is available on the church calendar and mobile app.

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

#### **TBA**

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

We share a faith that claims to value questions over answers. Nevertheless, UUs are as vulnerable as everyone else to all the ways humans leap to judgment and even dogmatism. In a complicated, angry country lining up to take rigid sides, is there a way to discover what is true ... and truly important?

## **Red River Unitarian Universalists**



515 North Burnett Ave mail: PO BOX 1806 Denison, TX 75020 903.231.3232 ◆ www.redriveruu.org

TO OUR VIRTUAL FRIENDS: We live stream our Sunday Activities on our Zoom Account: Meeting ID: **989 0789 787** 

Our App: 'Red River UU' free from Google Play, and the Apps Store or scan the QR code >>>>



# The Morning Program

Sunday, January 30, 2022



"To seek the truth in freedom..."