

*May the gift of water remind us of the gifts which each of us brings
to the world and to our community.*

~ unknown author

What Will You Bring To The Feast?

A Special Water Communion Morning Assembly

- ◆ Greetings One Another
- ◆ Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- ◆ Call to Community
 - Watershed*
 - by Martina Thompson
- ◆ Prelude & Candles of Community
 - Those who wish are invited to light a candle*
 - Song - 1
 - May Nothing Evil Cross This Door*
 - Singing: Michael Tacy*
- ◆ Opening Thought
- ◆ Storyteller
 - introduces us to the various characters who tell us about trickery at a royal feast.
- ◆ Chalice Lighting ...
 - Spirit of Water*
 - by Katie Sivani Gelfand*
- ◆ 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.*
- ◆ Song - 131
 - Love will Guide Us*
 - singing: First Unitarian Church of Baltimore choir
- ◆ Storyteller

- ◆ Village Elder
 - Let Us Give Thanks*
- ◆ Leader
 - Gathering our donations to the Texoma Family Shelter*
- ◆ Song - 402
 - From You I Receive*
- ◆ Storyteller
 - Continues with our tale as the plot thickens*
- ◆ Village Elder
 - Let Us Give Thanks*
- ◆ Song - 1010
 - We Give Thanks*
- ◆ Storyteller
 - Our tale comes to its conclusion*
- ◆ Song
 - How Does Our Garden Grow*
 - music: Gustav Theodore Holst
- ◆ Leader
 - Gathering our Waters*
 - Blessing our Mingled Water*
- ◆ Song – 1064
 - Blue Boat Home*
- ◆ The Morning Offering
- ◆ Song – 368
 - Now Let Us Sing*
- ◆ 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
 - A Song of Peace*

*Lifting up contributions from Unitarian Universalists

PROGRAM NOTES

Our special Water Communion Sunday was created by the Worship Team. It is based on a folk tale from Africa and China and was adapted for UU congregations by Erika Hewitt, the minister of Worship Arts at the UUA headquarters in Boston.

Today is the last day you offer feedback to the Worship team via the Worship Survey, available online on the homepage of the church app. It is not an arduous task and the more people who participate the more profound the results can be. Thanks.

The Chair Yoga class meets Tuesday @ 10 in the chapel and the Spiritual Self-help/Book Club meets on Tuesday evening @6:30, also in the chapel. Both groups are open to all who wish to drop in.

The 42nd annual Sherman Artsfest is next Saturday and we're having a booth. If you'd like to volunteer to staff the table, please speak with Amy. Help is also needed to set up and break down the booth.

The Board of Trustees meets next Sunday following the morning assembly. All committee/teams/interest groups are reminded that **Annual Reports are due**. If you don't know who is writing the report for your group, please find out. This year a new part to the report is being requested (check Marilyn's Musings in the September newsletter for details.)

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 App Store.

This is who we are. We are glad you joined us today.



WHO'S DOING WHAT TODAY

- ◆ Board Rep: *Carole Harner*
- ◆ Leading today: *Marla Loturco*
- ◆ The Players: *Jack Bolerjack, Sherilyn Bolerjack, Marion & Elbert Hill, Bill Holloway, Jim Holmes, Hannah Peterson, Cristin MacKey*
- ◆ AV Crew: *Carole Harner, Don Rogers, Jim Holmes*
- ◆ Sunday School Leader: *David Dyer*
- ◆ Providing refreshments: *Good Times Team 2*

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

10 am - Adult Forum

Emerson, Thoreau and the Transcendentalist Movement

A Great Courses Video Series now thru Oct. 9

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

Education Under Siege

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

Teachers, professors, and the value of academic freedom are currently under attack in a number of locations throughout the United States, including Oklahoma and Texas. Such attacks on education represent a bright red flag that Christian Nationalism is waxing within our society. How can we support education and educators during these perilous times?

12:15 pm - Calories & Conversations
Good Times Team 3



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Joyously Inclusive
Justice Centered