

A human being should never become a means to an end.

~ Viktor E. Frankl

GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- ◆ Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- ◆ Call to Community
 - Wholeness*
 - by Sharon Wylie*
- ◆ Prelude/ Candles of Community
- ◆ Chalice Lighting
 - First Principle Chalice Lighting*
 - by Florence Caplow*
- ◆ 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
 - from *My Own Words*
 - by Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- ◆ Song - 113
 - Where Is Our Holy Church*

EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS

- ◆ Reading
 - from *Walking the Path of Compassion*
 - by Brian Kiely
- ◆ Practices
 - Meditation
 - When Great Trees Fall*
 - by Maya Angelou
 - Quiet Sitting for a Moment
 - Musical Response

◆ Reading

Twenty-first Century Dynamics of Multiculturalism: Beyond Post-racial America

by Martin Guevara Urbina

◆ Song - 108

My Life Flows On In Endless Song

DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES

◆ Discourse

Reflections on the Eight Principles: 1st Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person

by Mark Y.A. Davies

CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

◆ Giving

Those who wish may bring their gifts to the table.

◆ Song - 301

Touch the Sky, Reach the Earth

◆ Parting Thought

from *"We're All Someone's Freak"*

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

◆ 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 contributions from Unitarian Universalists

PROGRAM NOTES

Joining us this morning is the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies. You can read his bio on the "This Sunday" listing on our church website and mobile app. Also, back with us today is our own Dan Althoff – live and in person!

Cold Weather and Jackets – Remember our Cloak-room which is in the back hall. Easier than trying to hang on the back of your chair in the chapel.

Hanging of the Greens is TODAY! There are lots of lovely places to decorate and with our extensive collection of Santas and ornaments, along with a huge tree, join in bringing the spirit of the season into our church home.

A reminder that next Sunday following our morning assembly everyone is warmly invited to join in an open conversation with one topic: What do we want our new vision statement to be? Bring your plate of goodies from Conversations & Calories and return to the chapel for an open-ended conversation. What words do you think will best explain to people, who've never heard of Unitarian Universalism, what our vision is. What do you think our vision should be?

The December Issue of Red River Ramblings arrived in your inbox yesterday afternoon. The issue is also on the church website (use the link under 'calendar') and on the church app (tap the 'December Newsletter' tab on the home screen.

Continued on back panel

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 mobile app 'Red River UU' from Google Play or the Apps Store (or use the QR code on the back panel.)

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



MAKING THINGS HAPPEN TODAY

- ◆ Board rep: *Don Rogers*
- ◆ Greeting us at the door: *Carolyn Cameron*
- ◆ Leading today: *the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies*
- ◆ Keyboardist: *Dan Althoff*
- ◆ AV crew: *Carole Harner, Don Rogers, Jim Holmes, Marla Loturco*
- ◆ Sunday school leader: *David Dyer*
- ◆ Providing refreshments: *Good Times Team #1*
- ◆ With us last Sunday:

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

10 am - Adult Forum

A Virtual Look at the Universe

Now thru March 3

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

Ghosts of Christmas Past

Elena Westbrook, *leading*

Are you overwhelmed by tinsel, lights, gift obligations and Jingle Bells on endless repeat? Join us on December 10th to search for the deeper meaning of the season and sources of healing in midwinter. Read Elena's bio on the church mobile app and on the homepage of the church website.

12:15 pm – Conversations & Calories

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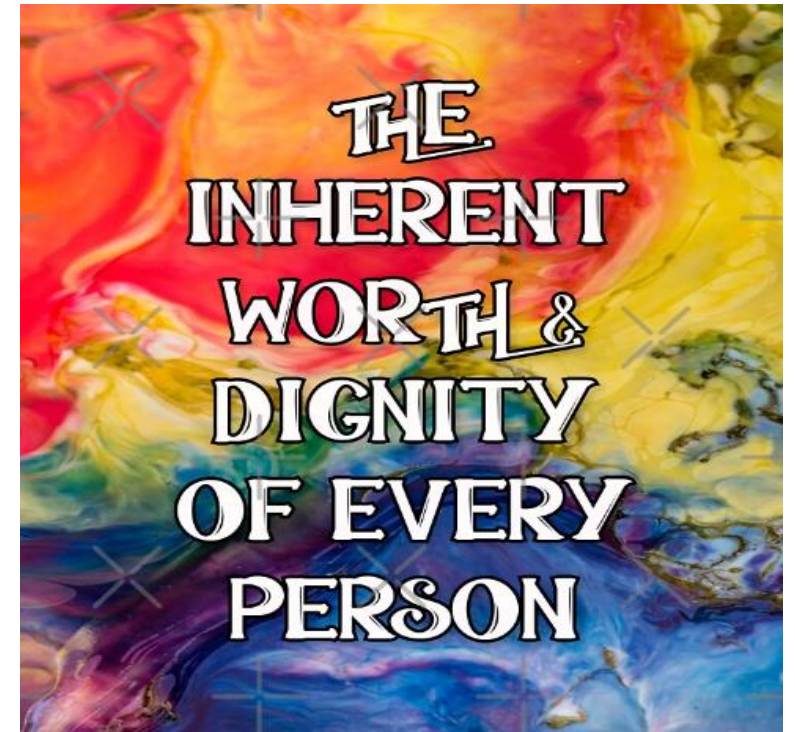
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THE MORNING PROGRAM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023



Spiritually Alive
Radically Inclusive
Justice Centered