

*A lot of folks say that Unitarians have no beliefs. That is not true. Unitarians have very strong beliefs. It is just that what those beliefs are depends upon what book they last read.*

~ Garrison Keillor

## GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- ♦ Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- ♦ Call to Community  
*All Growing, All Learning, All Loved.*  
by Rachael Hayes
- ♦ Prelude/Candles of Community  
*Air on the G String*  
by J.S. Bach | performed by Janes Pinder
- ♦ Chalice Lighting  
*Drawn Together*  
by Jennifer Gracen\*\*
- ♦ 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 truth in freedom and to help one another.*
- ♦ Lighting the Peace Candle

## EXPANDING OUR UNDERSTANDING

- ♦ Opening Thought  
from *It's Not What You Believe, But How*  
by Gary Kowalski\*\*
- ♦ Song - 40  
*The Morning Hangs a Signal*  
performed by Frank Toppa, UU Meeting House in Chatham MA
- ♦ Reading  
*The Deep Unity of the Human Family* excerpt  
from *Humanist Voices in Unitarian Universalism*  
by Kendyl L. R. Gibbons\*\* and William R. Murry\*\*

## EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS

- ♦ Practices - *with words, stillness, music*  
Words: *It Matters What We Believe*  
by Sophia Lyon Fahs  
Stillness: Quiet Sitting for a Moment  
Musical Interlude – 184  
*Be Ye Lamps unto Yourselves*  
Performed by Starr King UU Church, Hayward CA
- ♦ Reading  
from *What is your personal credo?*  
by Carol Wimmer

- ♦ Song – 1058  
*Be Ours a Religion*  
performed by 1<sup>st</sup> Unitarian church of Baltimore, MD

## DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES

- ♦ Discourse  
*Credos from Doug Strong, Jana Norris, Dan Althoff,  
Elbert Hill, and Marla Loturco*

## CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

- ♦ Giving  
*The Offering as Pastoral Ministry*  
by Victoria Weinstein\*\*  
Offertory: *Return Again* Performed by Alena Hemingway
- ♦ Song - 1057  
*Go Lifted Up*  
performed by 1<sup>st</sup> Unitarian church, Baltimore, MD
- ♦ Closing Thought  
*Cherish Your Doubts.*  
by Robert T Weston\*\*
- ♦ Benediction  
*We All Have Two Religions.*  
by William E. Gardner\*\*
- ♦ Extinguishing the Chalice  
*We extinguish these flames 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  
*Hornpipe, from the Old Bachelor*  
by Henry Purcell, Performed by Relic

\*a Unitarian Universalist

\*\* a Unitarian Universalist minister

## PROGRAM NOTES

**RedRiverUU Rainbow Team** meets today from 1 – 2 pm, followed by **Board Games**.

**Tis our turn** to provide supper for the Texoma Family Shelter next Saturday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>. We could use a few more volunteers to help. Speak to Paula Jennings for more info. Also, our neighbor has a list of needs for their facility and families. Feel free to see if there are needs you can meet. Details are on the foyer bulletin board.

**Family Holiday is next Saturday.** A gathering of friends and family to eat, drink and be merry! We'll be having a Holiday Sweater contest (of course!) with some great prizes! Read more on the church's website calendar.

*Program Notes continue back side*

**Spiritual Perspectives** returns on Jan 7 to explore the writing of Karen Armstrong. Read full details on the church website's events calendar.

## WHO'S DOING WHAT THIS MORNING

- ◆ December board representative: *David Dyer*
- ◆ Greeting us at the door: *Sherilyn Bolerjack*
- ◆ Worship Associate: *Megan Hutchinson*
- ◆ AV crew: *Carole Harner, Jim Holmes, Liz Rapp*
- ◆ RE leader: *Jack Bolerjack*
- ◆ Caring Circle: *David Dyer, Paula Jennings, Susie Norris*

## WELCOME VISITORS

*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 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.*

*We are Unitarian Universalists, and at the same time we may be 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 differing perspectives.*

*This is who we are. We are glad you joined us today because all of who you are is welcome here.*

## NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024

10 am - Adult Forum

### Religious!

Bill Maher interviews some of religion's oddest adherents.  
Now through the rest of December.

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

### Our Shared Values: "Pluralism".

The Rev Dr Mark Y.A. Davies, leading  
The second value Mark will focus on as he continues a series of discourses on our recently adopted Shared Values.

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QR to our mobile app

# THE MORNING PROGRAM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024



CREDO | VERB  
"I BELIEVE"

WE ARE . . .



SPIRITUALLY ALIVE  
JOYFULLY INCLUSIVE  
JUSTICE CENTERED