

*We must understand what we can and learn to dwell
richly in the mystery of what we cannot.*
~ Philip Simmons

GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- ◆ Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- ◆ Call to Community
Gathering in Our Own Spaces
by Jeff May
- ◆ Prelude/Candles of Community
Voices in my Head
by Kevin Keith
- ◆ Chalice Lighting
Chalice Lighting
by V. Elaine Strawn **
- ◆ 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
The Great Turning
adapted by Christine Fry
- ◆ Song - 119
Once to Every Soul and Nation
performed by 1st Unitarian Church of Baltimore, MD*

EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS

- ◆ Practices - *with words, stillness, music*
Words: *Spirit of All Blessing*
by Maureen Killoran **
Stillness: Quiet Sitting for a Moment
Musical response: *Sound of Silence*
by Paul Simon & Art Garfunkel, performed by Cascade
- ◆ Reading
from *Choosing to Connect*
by Priscilla Shumway
- ◆ Song - 123
Spirit of Life Carolyn McDade,
by Carolyn McDade, performed by Jen Nicolosi

DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES

- ◆ Discourse
Wise Choices
by the Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn**

CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

- ◆ Giving
Those who wish may bring your gifts to the bowl
Offertory: *Unchained Melody*
by Righteous Brothers, performed by Cascade
- ◆ Song - 1051
We Are
by Ysaye M. Barnwell, Performed by General Assembly 2020 Virtual Choir
- ◆ Closing Thought
And the People Looked Up
by Elaine Strawn**
- ◆ 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
A Short Beautiful Piano Peace Improv by Jervy Hou

*a Unitarian Universalist

** a Unitarian Universalist minister

PROGRAM NOTES

RedRiverUU Rainbow Team holds their regular monthly meeting today following Conversations & Calories. 1 – 2 pm

Board Games On the second Sunday every month, after Rainbow Team's meeting, we play board games. We have several to choose from, and often additional offerings people bring with them. Nerds and noobs are all welcome!

WHO'S DOING WHAT THIS MORNING

- ◆ February board representative: *Carole Harner*
- ◆ Greeting us at the door: *Sherilyn Bolerjack*
- ◆ Guest minister: *Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn*
- ◆ AV crew: *Carole Harner, Jim Holmes, Liz Rapp*
- ◆ RE leader: *Jack Bolerjack*
- ◆ Caring Circle: *Susie Norris, Paula Jennings, David Dyer*

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 engaged in making the world a better place. People focus 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 various aspects of our church life. Unitarian Universalism has a proud tradition of lay-led churches. We have different beliefs, but shared values.

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 a distinct 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 below.) This is who we are. We are glad you joined us today because all of who you are is welcome here.

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

10 am - Adult Forum

Skeptics and Believers

now to March 10th

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

Reflections on our Shared Values: Equity

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

Equity – We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

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QR to our mobile app

THE MORNING PROGRAM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

“I am who I am
today because
of the choices
I made yesterday.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

WE ARE . . .



**SPIRITUALLY ALIVE
JOYFULLY INCLUSIVE
JUSTICE CENTERED**