



In this issue:

The UU
World
Magazine
online with
over 25
articles.



Report from
the 2025-2026
Stewardship
Campaign



I Am
a poem by Don
Mathis



Report from
the 2025 Earth
Day Festival



Two Poems to
Enjoy

(Very few articles
this month.)

May 4, 2025 - 11:15 am

What Do We Do Now?

The Rev. Dr. Don Fielding, *leading*

We welcome again to our Free Pulpit the Rev. Dr. Don Fielding who for many years serves both the Denton Unitarian Fellowship and the Oak Cliff Unitarian Church.

He sends this “teaser” about his discourse:

Why religion might be declining, and what we should do about it if it is.

May 11, 2025 - 11:15 am

Swim Down Together:

Breaking the Net of American Fascism

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

Reflections on wisdom from *Finding Nemo* on the importance of collaboration as we swim together to break the net of fascism and make our way to the open waters of freedom and beloved community.

May 18, 2025 - 11:15 am

Reflections on Freedom

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

True freedom includes not only the freedom *from* being harmed by others, but also the freedom *for* doing actual good within the community of all life.

May 25, 2025 - 11:15 am

For Such a Time as This

The Rev. Dr. Debra W. Haffner, *guest minister (video message)*

Last March six from our congregation participated in a special gathering of all the North Texas UU congregations to collectively celebrate “*A Century of Anniversaries*” for the 13 UU congregations in North Texas. The guest preacher for that gathering offered an extremely moving discourse and on Sunday we will watch her remarks and have glimpses of that Sunday celebration of Unitarian Universalism. This is a Sunday when we can be-
lately share in what was an excellent experience, well worth bring home for all to enjoy. You may read Dr. Haffner’s bio elsewhere in this issue.

We are:

**Spiritually Alive ~ Joyfully Inclusive ~ Justice Centered
Unitarian Universalists.**

Stewardship Campaign Update

Campaign Goal	\$48,000
Member Pledge \$	\$34,810
Number of members pledging	22
Number of non-members pledging	6
Pledge members lost from last year	
Non-member pledge \$	\$4,680
Campaign Totals-to-date	\$39,490
Remaining to make Goal	\$8,510
% Completion to Pledge \$ goal	82%

We fell \$9,110 short of our goal of \$48,000. This resulted in some serious cutting to the proposed budget that the Finance Team and Board presents lit the spring packet that goes out May 4th.

Birthdays in May

May 09 Eleanor Dyer

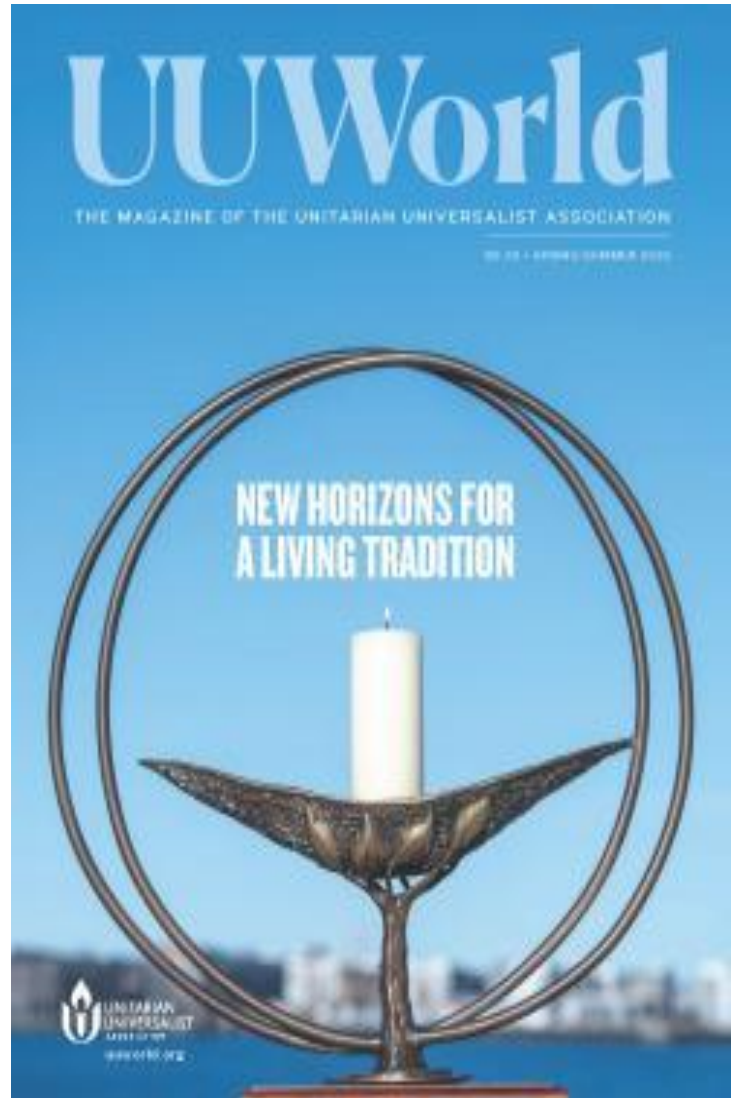
May 27 Don Mathis

If

If you can keep your cool, and coexist,
When others want to argue, fight, and shout;
If you can handle humanist and theist,
Balancing your own belief and doubt;
If you can listen both to blame and praise,
And treat those two impostors both the same;
And read church bylaws with a steady gaze;
And work for common good and not just fame;
If you don't break, but like the Tao you bend,
You'll be a UU lay leader, my friend!

By the Rev. Dan Harper
April 2010

New Horizons for a Living Tradition



The consolidation of the American Unitarian Association and the Universalist Church of America created the Unitarian Universalist Association.

This month is the 200th anniversary of the American Unitarian Association and the summer issue of the UU World focuses on an abundance of reflections, poems, and highlights William Ellery Channing's seminal "Baltimore Sermon of 1819, which defined the movement that in 1825 – 200 years ago this May – created the American Unitarian Association.

You can Read the Spring/Summer 2025 issue, "New Horizons" [here](#).

Members of RedRiverUU receive the magazine as a perk by being a member. Anyone who is curious to learn more about our history and what's on the UU horizon will enjoy exploring "New Horizons" by using the link above where you can read all 28 separate articles.

Money Matters

In the month of March, we had total operating receipts of \$12,137.56. Total operating expenses for the month were \$4,176.64, leaving us with a net profit for the month of \$7,960.92. The net profit for the month was due to the timing of pledge payments for the current year and the prepayment of some pledges for next year.

For the fiscal year-to-date we had an operating net profit of \$7,253.62. The year-to-date net profit was due to the timing of pledge payments for the current year and the prepayment of some pledges for next year, in addition to lower communication and worship expenses.

Marilyn Alexander's daughter, Merrilee Kick, donated \$60,361.00 this year to cover repairs and renovations. A total of \$57,035.07 has been spent. That leaves \$3,325.93 remaining in this fund as of March 31.

As of March 31, 2025, we had \$23,007.60 available in checking for general operations. There was also \$9,939.91 available in the bank savings account plus \$4,871.08 restricted for the Minister Fund and \$5,951.89 held in trust for Kat Walston. In addition, we invested a total of \$66,784.40 in the UUA Common Endowment Fund in 2020, which has increased in value. The congregation voted to use up to \$51,000.00 of the UUA Savings Fund for minister compensation.

Carole Harner, *treasurer*

Red River UU Earth Day

This year Mother Nature cooperated and there was no rain or high winds for the annual Earth Day festival at the Municipal Auditorium in Sherman on April 26.

We decided this year that we would take a different approach to how we use our church booth. In the past our booth was set up to advertise Red River UU. We had church posters, brochures, bracelets, notepads, etc. Unfortunately, we would only attract 4-5 visitors to our booth who were curious about UU.

This year we decided to do a “**Save the Monarchs (and other pollinators) theme.**” This is how it looked. Big thanks to Doug for creating the artwork and posters.



We had handouts on Monarchs, plant list handouts, and seed packet giveaways. All our handouts had the church name and website at the bottom of the footer.

We also had some brochures on the church for those interested. We had 25-30 people stop by to talk to us about Monarchs and pollinators. We considered this a remarkable success considering that the turnout for Earth Day this year was less than other years due to weather uncertainty and other festival events in our area.

Based on how our booth looked (visually) we decided to order a better tent with the church name and logo printed on the tent canopy. We plan to have that ready for the Pride Festival in June.



The image is the kind of tent we are hoping we can get.

Jim Holmes

Greeters us this month

May 4 - Paula

May 11th - Amy

May 18th - Susie

May 25th - Sherilyn/Jack

Our Various Teams

The first name is the team leader

Adult Forum: Marilyn, Amy, Cristin, Jim, Marion

Aesthetics: Amy, Adrian Jana

Audio Visual: Jim, Carole, Liz, Marla

Caring Circle: Paula, David, Susie

Choir: Marilyn, Bill, Cindy, Doug

Children's R.E. Teacher: Shanna (Jack)

Children's Clothing Swap: Adrian, Amy, Cristin, Jim, Sherilyn

Committee on Ministry: Bruce, Elbert, Jim

Communications: Amy, Doug, Marion

Earth Day Planning: Amy, Bruce, Cristin, Jan, Jim, Marla, Martina, Megan, Michelle

Endowment: Doug

Facebook Admin: Amy

Finance: Carole, Jim, Marilyn

Good Times Team: Amy, Bill, Carole, Cindy, Elbert, Eva, George, Jim, Lisa, Liz, Marilyn, Marion, Pat, Paula, Samuel, Susie, Walter

Greeters: Amy, Paula, Shanna, Sherilyn, Susie, Walter

Grounds: Marilyn, Paula

Historian: Marla

IT Support: Jim

Long Range Planning: Bruce, Jim, Marilyn

Membership: Susie, Amy, Adrian, Doug, Marion, Marla, Paula

Minister Search: Jim, Liz, Marilyn, Marla, Walter

Monarch Way Station: Linn, Michelle, Paula, Sherilyn, Susie

Moveable Feast: Elbert & Marion, Amy, Bruce, Carole, Cindy, David, Doug, Jan, Jana, Joyce, Kelly, Liz, Marilyn, Marla, Michelle, Susie, Walter,

Music: Dan, Jan

NTUUC Rep: Marilyn

Publications: Doug

Rainbow Team: Jack, Adrian, Amy, Billie, Cristin, Jana, Jamie, Jana, John, Lisa, Lynda, Olivia, Sherilyn, Thomas

RE Support Team: David, ~~Marilyn~~

Safe Congregation Panel: Jana

Spiritual Perspectives Group: Jim, Liz, Melleissa

Social Justice: Jan

TUUUM Rep: Jan

Web Team: Jim, Hannah, Marla

Worship: Marla, Adrian, Dan

Worship Associates: Adrian, Cristin, Jana, Marilyn, Marla, Megan, Paula, Thomas

Our Elected or Appointed Leaders

Board of Trustees

Jana Norris, *President*

Amy Hoffman-Shehan, *Vice president*

Carole Harner, *Treasurer*

Jack, *Secretary*

David Dyer, *Trustee at large*

Committee on Ministry

Jim Holmes, Elbert Hill, Bruce Cameron

Nominating

Marilyn Alexander, Liz Rapp, Jack

From our non-resident poet

I Am from the Four Directions

By Don Mathis

I am from the sun
hot as wasabi
sweltering with no shade

I am from the south breeze
bringing relief
from the heat

I am from midnight
the moving clouds
that frame moonlight

I am from the earth
firm as stone
my land is my home

I am from the inner world
born of my thoughts
I think, therefore I am

I am