



The COMMUNITY News

Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano

OUR VISION: We will become a dynamic and nurturing religious community that celebrates our human diversity, supports lifelong spiritual growth, and acts for compassion and justice in the larger community.

November 2011

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**CommunityUU
Church.org**

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Typical Sunday

- **9:15 a.m.**
Inquirer's Class
(1st Sunday of each month)
- **10:30 - 11:45 a.m.**
Worship
Religious Education for
Children and Youth;
Nursery Childcare
- **11:45 a.m.**
Coffee and Conversation

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TURN CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR SAT., NOV. 5TH. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS SUN., NOV. 6TH.

Key Change in Community UU Music

A change is in the air — in our weather and in our music program. Our delightful and beloved music director, **Kelley Poche Rodriguez, will spend her last Sunday leading our choir on November 6 — Music Sunday** (how appropriate). We wish Kelley continued success with her school choirs and increasingly demanding graduate work, and her husband Mario will enjoy more of her company at home! She has blessed us with her sunny disposition, wonderful musicianship, and meaningful contributions to our Sunday worship services and Summer Pops with her beautiful voice, topnotch piano skills and puckish sense of humor ("Baby, It's Cold Outside" after that January fire drill comes to mind...). We will miss her and wish her all the best.

Immediately afterward, we will welcome **Christopher Wolff as our new Director of Music**. Chris is also Head Choir Director at Wilson Middle School in Plano, where he just completed a Fall Concert with 228 choral students, including a Pops Choir. (How much patience and humor and good will does that take?) He and his partner, J.D. Burnett, own a home in Carrollton, midway between his work and J.D.'s graduate music program at the University of North Texas in Denton. Chris is originally from New Jersey, where his parents and three younger brothers still live.

Trained as a pianist and singer at The College of New Jersey, Chris has served as Music Director and pianist in churches since his high school days. His musical skills are impressive and he has obviously "worked well with others" in the past, because he comes to us with high recommendations and glowing references. Chris will be with us starting Wednesday, November 9th (incidentally, also his birthday); we are looking forward to his inspiration, energy and leadership as we move into our first holiday season together.

November Sunday Services

November 6: Music Sunday, "To Walk in Beauty", Rev. Patrick Price.

November 13: Service in the Park with Brother Chi Sing
www.AwakeningHeart.org. See insert.

November 20: Association Sunday, "Wake Now Our Vision", Rev. Patrick Price. See page 10. Fall Congregational Meeting will follow the worship service.

November 27: "Living in Gratitude", guest speakers, Simple Living Chalice Circle.

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Strategic Planning Committee
planning@CommunityUUChurch.org

Patrick's Ponderings... Covenant Group Sign Ups in November, Groups Start Meeting in January 2012

Dear members, friends and visitors,

Due to unforeseen delays, this year's round of Covenant Groups is late starting. We now have enough facilitators and will **begin sign ups for groups on Sundays in November**. It is planned that **groups will meet January through June 2012**. In placing people in groups, the primary consideration is the day and time the participant is available. As new people sign up, they are welcomed into a group that has openings.

As many of you, especially our newer members and visitors, may not be acquainted with this very important way we get to know each other and minister with each other. So, here is some of our *Participant's Guide to Covenant Groups* for you to get a deeper understanding of what we are doing in this important ministry. See you in church. Blessings, Patrick

PURPOSE: The *Covenant Group* program is part of the *Church's* ministry—it provides a structure within which the members minister to each other. *Covenant Groups* encourage people in their spiritual growth and help them develop relationships of substance and depth. The subject matter of *Covenant Groups* is the members' lives. *Covenant Groups* are a spiritual practice and a sacrament of right relationship among the members and between the group and our *Church*.

Description - *Covenant Groups* have 6 -10 members and are led by trained lay people. Groups meet twice a month in group members' homes or at church. Meetings last 1.5-2 hours.

Covenant Groups (CGs) serve to enrich our community with the sort of conversation and attentiveness that can be difficult in the busy life of a congregation. Group members listen to each other, but don't attempt to solve each other's problems. They are not therapy or encounter groups. Each group makes and abides by a covenant that defines the group's relationship to the church and to each other. The covenant includes listening without interrupting, starting and ending on time, regular attendance, and confidentiality.

Covenant Group members are supportive of each other, but CGs are not support groups. When a member is in need, the other group members may provide assistance as a way of connecting with each other. The *Caring Committee* or minister can fill in as needed. *Covenant Groups* are part of a religious community—the *Church*. Groups are expected to take on two service projects each year for the church and/or the larger community.

Session plans are provided for each meeting. Some topics are spiritual in nature (joy, trust, faith, prayer); others reflect universally human themes (mentors, loss, forgiveness, humor). Members respond to the topic questions by sharing personal experiences. *Covenant Groups* are not study groups or debate teams. The focus is on respectful listening, reflection, and creative interchange among group members.

The President’s Corner “We are Not Alone!” Tom Reid

Did you know that Community Church is a member of National, Regional and North Texas Associations from which we draw support, ideas and even grants to further our goals as a congregation? First, we are members of the larger Unitarian Universalist Association headquartered in Boston, MA. But because the UUA is so large, relative to our congregations, there are subsidiary networks of congregations located across the United States. It is easy and pretty interesting to take a little web surfing time to go to uua.org and look at the goals and activities of our national organization.

The next smaller organizational subgroups are geographically designated; e.g., the Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference (swuuc.org), the one to which we belong. The history of the Southwest District reflects the size and diversity of the area it covers. The first band of Unitarians in the region began in New Orleans in 1833. By 1899, there were six, widely spaced congregations struggling to spread the word of liberal religion in an area broader than the distance between Boston and Washington, DC. New Orleans and Memphis had been joined by Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Dallas, and Houston on the rolls. The first meeting of the group did not take place until 1939 in Dallas where a set of by-laws were adopted and a name chosen. The first cut at a name was the Southwest Regional Conference of Unitarian Churches which was changed in 1962 to the Southwestern Unitarian Universalist Conference. Today we have 74 congregations in the Conference from Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and even Mexico! Wow, pretty cool, eh?

However, I’m not done yet. Beyond SWUUC there is the local “cluster” of 13 congregations to which we belong called the North Texas Association of Unitarian Universalist Societies (ntaus.org) formed to “promote and proclaim our UU covenant of liberal religion by supporting and serving its member congregations.” Here are some of the important things that NTAUUS does: provides grants to promote and grow UU congregations, assists with mortgage funds for member congregations, emergency funding for external crises, scholarships to promote leadership, supports Religious Education (RE) training programs, and helps fund social justice programs like those discussed in this column last month. Besides funding they also provide technical training for congregations in areas such as worship programming, finance and accounting, RE, computer skills and A/V production.

Okay, so why am I going on and on about this stuff that is not part of our weekly congregational life? Because, “we are not alone!” There are upcoming opportunities to collaborate with NTAUUS Congregations on important social action/justice programs, allowing us to make a bigger footprint with a wider field of influence than when we do it by ourselves. There is a huge training opportunity hosted by SWUUC at Glen Rose here in Texas on November 11-13, 2011, with workshop topics we find exciting:

1. Unitarian Universalist Identity
2. The Future of Unitarian Universalism
3. Building Multicultural Coalitions
4. Examining Your Mission
5. Shaping Stewardship
6. Worship: From Theory to Practice

(Continued on page 4)

Elected Officers

President

Tom Reid (13)

president@

communityuuchurch.org

Past- President

Sarah Reiling (12)

Vice President

Programs

Cyn Blanco (12)

Treasurer

Janice Hildenbrand (13)

Secretary

Gail Battista (12)

Facilities

Dick Hildenbrand (13)

facilities

@communityuuchurch.org

Communications

Ian Rule (12)

Personnel

Sandy Farlow (12)

E-mail entire Board

board@

CommunityUUChurch.org

Trustees meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Founders Hall. Members, friends and visitors are always welcome.

Worship Programs*worship@**communityuuchurch.org*

Joan Mortensen (13)

Sunday Services

Elena Westbrook

Ushers Coordinator

Anita Van Ouwkerker

Interior Arts

Lexie McGrane

Caring Committee*Caring**@communityuuchurch.org*

Cyn Blanco

**North Texas Association
of Unitarian Universalist
Societies (NTAUUS)****CUUC Representatives***NTAUUS@communityuuchurch.org,*

Celeste Kennedy

(Continued from page 3) The President's Corner

Almost all of our Board of Trustees and Ministerial Leadership are going. We expect to spread ourselves around to form more coalitions and to put our heads together to develop new visions. We expect to meet people from other congregations from whom we can learn. We expect to have a good time together, too. We'd love to have a broader attendance from our congregation just as we did in the spring -- do you have some weekend time available to join us??

AS A RULE We'll always remember Nancy Ian Rule

Beloved member and founder, Nancy Murphey died on October 21st. I have never met a warmer or more positive and gracious person, and I am grieving our loss. Nancy's late husband Hank was one of the catalysts for the founding of our church and was our first church President. Though she was a faithful attendee and worked with the newsletter and tended the plants for thirty years, her interview for The Originals, our oral history project, found her minimizing her contributions. I beg to differ. When I was President of NTAUUS (the North Texas Association of Unitarian Universalist Societies) in the early 1990s, Nancy was my Treasurer and strongest ally in my attempts to give a sluggish organization some mojo. When I walked in the door of Community Church seven years ago, I was delighted to find Nancy there to greet me. She was a bright, curious person who continued her quest for truth throughout her life. We will remember Nancy each time we wonder at the beauty of the fountain she donated as the centerpiece of our Memory Garden. She also donated the oak tree that is growing at the front of our church near the children's playground. It will provide shade for future generations of UUs. But mostly we will remember her for the warmth and radiance she shared with us each Sunday. She will be missed.

A memorial service will be held at 11 AM, Saturday, December 3rd, 2011 at Community Unitarian Universalist Church.. More details will be forth coming as they are available.

New UU Friends/Members Classes.

Do you want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism or Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano? Maybe you would like to meet some of our leaders, or to hear about our programs and activities. Maybe you're thinking about becoming a member.

Where? Community Unitarian Universalist Church. **When? Saturday, November 19th from 9:00am-1:30pm in Founders Hall** It's free, including child care (and lunch during the Saturday session) but please sign up in advance. Register by calling or emailing Jay Hall or Samantha Hall, sign up on one of the sheets in the church foyer, or talk to a Greeter in the foyer on Sunday. We will need to know if you need child care and the names and ages of the children.

Women’s Alliance

HOLD THE DATE – Saturday, November 12, "Movie & Dining"

Come Join the Women’s Alliance for a movie at the Angelika Movie Theater in Plano. Address is The Shops at Legacy, 7205 Bishop Rd, Ste E6 Plano, 75024. Saturday afternoon, November 12. We will be going to lunch or dinner at a place TBD depending on the time of the movie.

The Holiday Lights will be up. Enjoy the excitement of the coming holiday season and some window-browsing. Spouses/significant others welcome.

We will determine the flick and the times as we get closer to the date. Mark your calendars now!

Wednesday Evening Vesper Services begin for the year at 6:40 to 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. Come take a break with us in the middle of your week.

Simple Living Chalice Circle
Meeting time and place – The next meeting will be Saturday morning November 12, at 11:00, at Ona Tannehill’s home.
Theme/topic – Learning together to live deliberately. We are currently reading Voices of Insight, edited by Sharon Salzberg.
Facilitator – Ona Tannehill. Email simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org.

Friday Night Flicks start at 7:00 PM in founders hall.

Nov. 11 - THE COWBOYS - 1972

John Wayne in one of his juiciest roles as a leather-tough rancher who, deserted by his regular help, hires 11 greenhorn schoolboys for a cattle drive across 400 treacherous miles.

Nov. 25 - ITS A SURPRISE

It's the day after Thanksgiving and we are all full of turkey and all the fixings, but what to do with the left overs? How about a movie and pot luck with the leftovers? Let Alice know what film you suggest for the day after Turkey Day.

We recently received a check from the Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Program for \$59.25 for the quarter as of September 30, 2011. Thanks to all who participate.

Social Action Programs

UUsInAction@communityUChurch.org

Community Harvest Garden

Samaritan Inn (Monthly dinner)

Plano Make a Difference Day

Plano Food Pantries

Love Where You Live

MLK Celebration

Dallas Area Interfaith

CityHouse

New Orleans Rebirth Program

Chalice Circle

Simple Living

simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org
Ona Tannehill

Religious Education

Director of Religious Education

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Religious Education Board

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Chairperson

Amanda Miller (13)

Greg Hoare

Dawn Graham

Bill Branch

Laura Eckert

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists

yruu@

communityuuchurch.org

Coordinator

Robin Coulonge

**REactions!!
Updates - Announcements - News
What's Going On For Children & Youth**

Family Events at CUUC in November

Every Sunday – Worship/Religious Education classes, 10:30 a.m.
Every Friday morning – Young Children’s Playgroup, 9:30-12
Wed. 11/2 – Family Vespers at 6:45 followed by RE Props Night at 7 p.m.
Sun. 11/6 – Guest at Your Table begins
Sun. 11/13 – Sunday in the Park (no regular RE classes)
Sun. 11/20 – Congregational Meeting after church – children’s programming provided!
Sun. 11/27 – Social Action Sunday – no regular classes

Quotes to Live By:

*A mind that is stretched by a new experience
can never go back to its old dimensions.*

~Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. (Unitarian, U.S. Supreme Court Justice)~

Have you ever wondered just what it is your child did in class? This year we’ve added a new section to the announcements in the Order of Service – a short sentence describing the day’s lesson for each class, and a question or activity to do with your child in the car on the way home. Check it out – and let me know if it’s useful!

Our preschoolers (ages three and four) are using Celebrating Me and My World to learn about what they can do and where they fit into the church. Lessons in the early part of the year focus on the individual child and the marvelous things they are able to do – see, hear, feel, dance, move, sing, help, give. Later in the year they will move to learning more about the world they live in – fish, flowers, sun, rain – and they will end the year by learning more about the important people in their lives and at church.

We have three classrooms (kindergarten through third grade) using the story-based Spirit Play teaching method to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, particularly our promises (seven principles). Stories in the fall include our Flaming Chalice, our Promises and our Sources, Water Communion, All Souls’ Day, Dan West (who founded Heifer International), Our Church is like a Flaming Chalice, and the Birth of Jesus. In the spring we will move to children’s stories illustrating our seven principles.

Spirit of Adventure is the curriculum used by our active older elementary children in grades 4 and 5. This interactive curriculum explores how our UU faith fits into the larger world. So far they have looked at the relationship between sports/religion and medicine/religion. This curriculum also calls for inviting guests from the congregation once a month and we have been gifted with visits from Ryan Timmons (sports coach) and David Mathews (firefighter).

Our 6th- to 8th-grade middle-schoolers are tackling ethics. So far they have talked about definitions of sin/virtue and different beliefs about where sin and virtue originate. They have also played “Is it Right? Is it Wrong? What Will You Do?”, an ethics game where God, the Devil, Conscience, Friend and Parent urge the Star to make an ethical decision (or not) and the Jurors then decide how ethical it was. As we move through the year, they will also discuss how to make ethical decisions and what resources are available to them to help make good decisions.

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REactions! (continued from page 6)

Our high-schoolers are delving into the Deepening Ties coming-of-age program. Deepening Ties has two goals: to acknowledge the youths' growth and development as they leave childhood to become young adults, and to spend time in deep reflection in order to craft a faith statement (or credo) at the end of the year. They will consider such questions as "what are your personal rules for living a good life?", "why do bad things happen and what do you do when they do happen?" and "what do I believe about the big questions in life?" They will also be planning for their Heritage Trip to Boston next summer!

This is just a brief overview of the lessons used in our children and youth classes this year. If you'd like more information, please call or email me – I'll be happy to share!

In faith, Kathy

Where in the UU World is our DRE? I can be reached by email or cell phone (443-668-1336) from Wednesday to Sunday. I take my Sabbath time from Sunday afternoon to Tuesday afternoon. Non-emergency messages received during that time will be answered Wednesday morning. I am in the office on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, or by appointment during other times. This month I will be at the SWUUC Fall Conference from November 11-13. I will return phone and email messages during that time but responses may take longer than usual.

Welcoming a Guest at Your Table!

Each year at this time, our congregation participates in Guest at Your Table – a UU tradition for decades! Bring home a Guest at Your Table box and a *Stories of Hope* booklet to learn how the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee puts our shared values into action in the U.S. and around the world. Through a potent combination of advocacy, education, and partnerships with grassroots human-rights leaders, UUSC promotes economic rights, advances environmental justice, defends civil liberties, and preserves the rights of people during times of humanitarian crisis.

Put the Guest at Your table box in a prominent spot at the family dinner table. As you gather with family and friends to share your blessings, reflect on the contributions of the "guests" shown on the sides of the box – and share generously. As an added bonus, if you contribute \$100 or more, the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock will again double your donation!

This year's program begins with the Message for All Ages on Sunday, November 6.

TURN CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR SAT., NOV. 5TH. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS SUN., NOV. 6TH.

Fellowship Group

Bridge Group

bridge@communityuuchurch.org
Clint Burleson

Circle Suppers

circlesuppers@communityuuchurch.org
Diana Behannese

Friday Flicks

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Alice Mayo

First Friday Folksingers

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Charlie Battista

Outdoor Adventure

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Dick Hildenbrand

Hospitality Committee

Denise Branch
Cheri Remily

Women's Alliance

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Barb Salvo
Celeste Kennedy

Program Board

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**Vice President–
Programs**

Cyn Blanco (12)

Religious Education

Amanda Miller (13)

Membership

Jay Hall

(13)

Worship

Joan Mortensen (13)

Social Action

Nelah McComsey (12)

Fellowship

Lexie McGrane (12)

Adult Enrichment

Clifton Rule (12)

Adult Enrichment**Adult Education**

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communityuuchurch.org

Celeste Kennedy

EarthSpirit

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communityuuchurch.org

Bill Branch

Janie McDermott

Men's Fellowship

men@

communityuuchurch.org

John Elder

Social Action News**November is Giving Month**

As we approach Thanksgiving, we encourage you to share with others in our community. We will be collecting nonperishable food items for *God's Food Pantry* on November 6 and November 13. The need is urgent since God's Pantry has a list of 400 families who need Thanksgiving boxes (providing Thanksgiving dinner as well as food for the rest of the week when their children are not in school). In addition, we ask you to bring personal items such as shower gel, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tissues, and laundry soap – these will be placed into "Care" packages for the homeless that will be delivered to *Family Promise*. Finally, remember that the *Guest at your Table* program also begins in November – remember to pick up your box and make regular contributions during November.

Social Action Forum

On Sunday, November 27, please join us following the Sunday morning service for a screening of the 30-minute film *Hawo's Dinner Party*. Based in Shelbyville, Tennessee, the film follows the story of Hawo, a Somali refugee and former nurse who now works at a local poultry-processing plant, and Mohamed, the local imam, as they interact with the wider Shelbyville community. Through its honest exploration of Shelbyville's tensions, challenges, and eventual growth, *Hawo's Dinner Party* captures the experience of a small town struggling to engage in meaningful dialogue, build mutual understanding, and truly welcome their new Muslim neighbors.

Many thanks...

To the 24 members who participated in the *Love Where You Live* program. Community UU adopted two homes in the Meadows neighborhood - we repaired and repainted houses, and cleaned and replanted yards. We also did yardwork for one of our members. All of the homeowners send their thanks to you.

If you missed this opportunity, be sure to sign up for the next phase of *Love Where You Live*, which will occur in March or April. Contact Nelah McComsey to sign up.

Congratulations!

To our gardeners! Our **Community Harvest Garden** was recognized by the City of Plano in September at the *Environmental Community Awards* – they won first place in the Non-Profit category!

Our New Church Logo

The new logo you see on this newsletter has been chosen by members of our church. We put out a call for designs and posted nine of them for consideration. 82 ballots were filled out and this one was the clear winner. The nine designs were submitted by Josie Hanish, Judy Mitzner, Samantha Hall, Mina Daffinee, Mary Jennings and Susan Reid. Susan, our website consultant, submitted the design of choice. Thanks to all the contributors for your excellent work!

Literary Ladies Book Club.

The Nov. 8 discussion is Sarah's Key by Tatiana De Rosnay. The author *offers us a brilliantly subtle, compelling portrait of France under occupation and reveals the taboos and silence that surround this painful episode.* --*Good Reads* Pam Reinke-Walter will host. **Contact Pam by Friday, Nov. 4 if you plan to attend.**

This group meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7 – 9 p.m. and welcomes women members and friends of Community UU Church. Michael Chabon's Gentleman of the Road is the December selection. *It is a "swashbuckling adventure" set in the kaganate of Khazaria (now southwest Russia) around AD 950. It follows two Jewish bandits who become embroiled in a rebellion and a plot to restore a displaced Khazar prince to the throne. Wikipedia*

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We offer a range of classes of interest to adults and youth on weekday evenings throughout the year. Each evening, classes begin at 7 p.m. and end no later than 9 p.m. CHILDCARE is available for all classes.

NOVEMBER CLASSES:

Monday Evenings

VIPASSANA MEDITATION - Clifton Rule. Clifton says, "Vipassana means insight into the nature of reality. It is a way of self-transformation through self-observation and introspection. Vipassana meditation is often referred to simply as "insight meditation." This is the backbone of our studies in Meditation on Monday nights. We invite you, as a beginner or as a practiced mediator, to join us on our exploration. We view Buddhism not as a religion but rather as learning the process of meditation to reduce the suffering in our lives and in the world around us. We explore through readings, dharma talks, questions and answers, group discussions and meditation. Join us and explore this process as we all grow together."

HARVEST THE POWER: LEADERSHIP TRAINING - Sarah Reiling and Sandy Farlow. This is a 12-week course developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association to help identify and prepare members of our congregation to assume positions of responsibility. This session is full. If you are interested in the course, please contact adultre@communityuuchurch.org. We plan to schedule it again in the near future.

Thursday Evenings

ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT SERIES led by Rev. Patrick Price and our Director of Religious Education Kathy Smith. A series for adult faith development which will bring Unitarian Universalist practice and belief into focus for newcomers and longtime UUs alike. Class will meet on Thursday evenings from 7-9 p.m. Take one class or all three in series. It consists of three classes, We are Unitarian Universalists, Owning Your Religious Past, and Spirit in Practice. Classes meet from 7-9pm, November classes meet on the 3rd and 10th. Participants can choose to take one class or all three in series.

(Continued on page 10)

Committee on Ministry

Ona Tannehill, Chair
Bev Fleming
Gary Sharpsteen

Leadership

Development Committee

nomcom@communityuuchurch.org

Seana Saxon (13)
Stephanie James (13)
Andra Garcia (14)
Alice Mayo (14)
Lolisa Laenger
John Elder
Gary Sharpsteen

Capitol Improvement Committee

Bill Daffinee, Chair

UU Website Links

**Community Unitarian
Universalist Church**
*CommunityUU-
Church.org*

**UUA—Unitarian
Universalist
Association**
www.uua.org

**UUSC—Unitarian
Universalist Service
Committee**
www.uusc.org

**SWUUC—Southwest
District**
www.swuuc.org

NTAUUS**Community Website
Links**

**Collin County
Interfaith**

*www.setonparish.org/
Outreach/pai.htm*

**Habitat for Humanity
South Collin County TX
(Habitat for Humanity
SCCTX)**

www.Habitat-scc.org

**Habitat ReStore of
SCCTX**

www.restore.habitat-

(Continued from page 9) ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ADVENTURES IN RELIGION – Rev. Don Fielding. Thursdays Community UU Church has initiated a new kind of Adult Religious Education (ARE) class. It is called Adventures in Religion, and it encompasses multiple courses. The first set of classes consists of Teaching Company courses: Skeptics and Believers, Comparative Religion, and Philosophy of Religion. One of the innovative portions of these ARE classes is the fact that they are divided into short sections, four to five weeks long, with breaks in between, which will allow participants to join and/or exit the classes depending on their interest. Of course, some may wish to participate in all of the classes. Each class will have one video to stimulate discussion, and will explore the thoughts and feelings the videos stimulate with the hopes for better understanding the adventure that is religion in general and each participant's understanding of religion in particular. The discussions are led by Rev. Don Fielding, a retired UU minister and friend of Community UU Church, who also has experience teaching at the college level. The classes will continue through 2011 and possibly 2012, so make Thursday Adult RE a part of your regular week's schedule. Not only will this be a lasting adventure in education, but a wonderful opportunity for socially connecting and engaging with the church's members and friends as well.

Beginning Sept. 29: Religion's Goals: The Human Predicament and How to Overcome it; The Problems of Sin & Forgetfulness; Breaking through the Illusion of Reality; the Goal of Religious Life.

Association Sunday 2011: Celebrating Excellence in Ministries!

In this, our fiftieth year as the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, we will join together as UU's form across the country to again celebrate the bonds that connect us through a special service and special collection on **November 20th, 2011**.

We know that excellence in ministries is the cornerstone of successful congregations and a vibrant, growing Unitarian Universalism. This year, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has partnered with the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association (UUMA), the Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network, the Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA), and other professional organizations to celebrate Association Sunday and to raise funds for the future of our ministries.

Donations to Association Sunday 2011 will support scholarships, continuing education, and a comprehensive assessment of our ministries and their needs for the future. Grants from Association Sunday 2011 funds will help religious professionals get ongoing training to support thriving congregations. This historic partnership reminds us that "we are better together"!

The financial information below is from our Profit and Loss Statement for
September 2011.

Offering Income	Actual	Budgeted
Pledged Offering	\$16,745.32	\$14,409.00
Loose Offerings/Basket	\$2,599.25	\$1,250.00
New Pledges	\$0.00	\$260.00
Total Offering Income	\$19,344.57	\$15,919.00

Finance Committee. September showed a total income over budget of \$2,623 primarily due to pledges catching up with budgeted pledges. Expenses in total were over budget by \$2,590, resulting in a Net Income of \$34 over budget. This brings our net income for the first four months over budget by \$1,550. We are keeping close to our budget but we still would like to make up the \$11,602 deficit in our budget by year end. The committees formed to develop new income-producing opportunities are working diligently to tap into previously unutilized sources. We are looking at marketing our rental space at times that it is available, to other non-profit organization. Also looking at other fundraising opportunities to bring in income from outside sources. The coffeehouses have been successful and you are encouraged to assist, attend and bring in outside friends and neighbors. We have got to work together to make it happen.

Janice Hildenbrand, Treasurer

	Income	YTD	2011/2012 BUDGET	o/o Total BUDGET
Offering Income	\$19,344.57	\$74,024.05	\$229,022.00	32.32
Fund Raisers	3,156.50	5,965.97	24,900.00	23.96
Building Usage	2,124.75	9,892.22	35,000.00	28.26
Misc. Income	1,065.00	4,453.17	11,302.00	39.40
Total Income	\$25,690.82	\$94,335.41	\$300,224.00	31.42
Expense				
Administration	\$ 3,569.71	\$ 14,688.18	\$ 40,993.00	35.83
Program/Worship	2,296.37	9,688.11	28,745.00	33.70
Religious Education	5,734.20	19,810.43	56,031.80	35.36
Facilities	7,371.63	25,534.40	75,277.00	33.92
Income generating	367.05	1,182.60	2,850.00	41.49
Ministry	7,496.63	28,218.79	90,509.04	31.18
Denomination	0.00	0.00	17,420.00	0.00
Payroll Expenses	13.07	50.95	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	\$26,848.66	\$ 99,173.46	\$311,825.84	31.80
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ (1,157.84)	\$ (4,838.05)	\$ (11,601.84)	41.70

Finance

Finance Committee

finance@

communityuuchurch.org

Janice Hildenbrand - Chair

Janie McDermott

Clifton Rule

Gail Battista

Stewardship Committee

\$\$@

communityuuchurch.org

Ian Rule

Chair

Rebecca Timmons

Ty Hall

Judith Boyle

Janie McDermott

Investment Committee

investment@

communityuuchurch.org

Carol Wise ('10)

Grace Morrison ('11)

Nelah McComsey

Staff Office Hours

• **Minister - *The Rev. Patrick Price***

Monday is the Minister's Sabbath (renewal time) available for emergencies only
Tuesday - Thursday 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm
Friday is for reflection, study and writing. Other times by appointment. Please contact Rev. Price for appointments and scheduling information.

• **Director of Religious Education - Kathy Smith**

Wednesday and Thursday 1:00 - 5:00 PM, other times by appointment.

• **Music Director - Kelley Poché Rodriguez**

• **Church Secretary - *Connie Meints (Out of the office Tuesday, Nov. 15th)***

[Church office closed on Monday]
Tuesday 9am - 3pm
Wednesday 9am - 2:30pm
Thursday 9am - 2:30pm
Friday 9am - Noon

WEBSITE
CommunityUUChurch.org

**Deadline for the December newsletter submissions: November 18, 2011.
Submit to newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org.**

The Community News

The Community News is distributed to Members and Friends of this church. Visitors who complete a visitor card receive issues for three months. To continue receiving issues, sign the "Welcome Back" book on each visit. Others may subscribe for an annual donation of \$25.00.

The editor encourages and appreciates submissions and on-time submissions are especially delightful. The Community News is published once a month.

Email articles to
[newsletter@
CommunityUUChurch.org](mailto:newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org)

Please include your name on any news item submitted for The Community News.

Items may be edited for clarity and brevity.

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