The Community News
December 2019

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.

December 2019 Services
Theme - Peace

Sunday, December 1 – 10:30am - “Gratitude: The Doorway to Happiness” Guest Speaker – Danny Mack.

Sunday, December 8- 10:30am – “A Funeral for Shame” - Guest Speaker – Matt Pargeter-Vilarreal and Community Church Choir.

Sunday, December 15 - 10:30am – Guest Speaker - Kiya Heartwood.

Sunday, December 22 - 10:30am- Hannukah/Yule/Xmas - Guest Speaker Elena Westbrook and Community Church Choir.

Tuesday, December 24 - 3pm - “Christmas Eve Service for Families”. This is a lively, participatory service of familiar carols and rounds, beautiful descants and bells, readings and stories of the season. Adults, youth, families, children of all ages – all are welcome. Led by the RE Board.

Tuesday, December 24 - 6:30pm - Lessons and Carol Service led by Rev. Aija Duelm.

Sunday, December 29 – 10:30am—“Turnings” - Guest Speaker Sarah Reiling.

January, 2020
Sunday Services
Theme - Grace

January 5 - TBA
January 12 - Guest Speaker - Kris Cervantes.
January 19 - Guest Speaker - Kris Cervantes.
January 26 - TBA

Typical Sunday
10:30 - 11:45 a.m.: Worship, Religious Education for Children and Youth, and Nursery Childcare
11:45 a.m.: Coffee and Conversation

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Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano
2875 East Parker Road, Plano, Texas 75074 • (972) 424-8989
www.communityuuchurch.org
e-mail: cuuc-office@communityuuchurch.org
December, 2019 services (from front page)

**December 8** - "One of the biggest obstacles for us to find inner peace within ourselves is the shame that we carry--most often perceived from others telling us that we are not 'worthy' in some way. Matt Pargeter-Villarreal takes us on a journey and a discussion of shame, and how we can finally work to say goodbye to it in our lives once and for all to become the beautiful and creative beings that we are destined to be."

Speaker Bio: Matt Pargeter-Villarreal is a recent M.Div graduate of Brite Divinity School, an Aspirant for Ministry with the UUA and the current co-facilitator of the Young Adults at Westside UU in Fort Worth, TX. Matt is also currently serving as a Chaplain at Baylor All Saints Hospital in Fort Worth. He and his husband, Fernando are originally from San Antonio, TX and currently lives in Arlington.

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**Holiday Decorating Fun!** The best part of the winter holidays is putting up all the beautiful evergreens and sparkly lights. Get yourself in the holiday spirit by helping the worship committee and the Girl Scouts to decorate the church. We'll have music to get you in the mood while we put up trees, hang ornaments, and string up the garlands. **Come join us Saturday, December 7, 11am to 1pm.** Questions? Contact Elena Westbrook.

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**The Church office will be closed Wednesday, December 25 thru Wednesday, January 1.**

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Our Share The Plate offering for December is the Minister’s Discretionary Fund. This fund helps many members of our congregation and the community at large. **Half of the collection on Sunday, December 29 will go to Minister's Discretionary Fund.** You can also donate to this cause all month long via the CUUC web page by selecting the Share the Plate option.
President’s Column

As the holiday season kicks off, and the year winds down, we look forward to 2020 and we have much to celebrate.

On November 3, we had Kristen Cervantes as our guest speaker. The Board is currently working with her to return as a contract minister for several Sundays per month, January – August. We will have Kiya Heartwood returning to our pulpit for one service per month in December, January, February and March. The first half of 2020 is shaping up to be a great one for our Sunday services!

We have also wrapped up a wonderful Service Auction. We had many popular events and services from years past, along with new opportunities for fun and fellowship. While the tally of financial results is not yet complete, we do know that Sarah Reiling did an extraordinary job of organizing the event.

Thanks to Sarah and all those who volunteered, donated items, hosted a table, bought a ticket and shopped the Auction!

I hope to see you all at our December Church services!

Blessings, Kimberly Schramm

Annual Holiday Singalong – new location

We invite you to the Annual Holiday Singalong on Friday, December 13 at 7pm at the home of Dick & Janice Hildenbrand, 147 McMillen Road, Lucas, 75002. Lest you think Dick & Janice live way out in the hinterlands, it’s only a 20-minute drive from the church. Find it here on Google Maps.

Bring a holiday snack to share and come sit around the fire and join in singing your favorite holiday carols and songs. Just listening is OK too! Come join your friends in the festivities! Bring your instruments and copies of any special music. A piano is available. Adult beverages will be provided. There is no childcare available.

Please RSVP to let us know you’ll be coming.
Simple Living Chalice Circle
The next meeting will be
Saturday morning December 14
at 11am. Theme/topic –
Learning together to live
deliberately. Facilitator Ona
Tannehill at Email
simpleliving@
communityuuchurch.org.

Women’s Fellowship Breakfast.
To all the women of the Church:
We’re having a fellowship
breakfast gathering of all the
women of the Church on
Saturday, December 21 at Poor
Richard’s Café, 2442 K Ave. in
Plano, starting at 8:30-9am and
ending around 9:30-10am.
Come join us for a morning of
good food and fellowship to meet
other women in the church. For
more information, questions
and to RSVP, contact Vicki
Verinder at membcom-
chair@communityuuchurch.
org

The Men’s Fellowship
Breakfast is Saturday,
December 21, 8:30am at Poor
Richard’s Cafe, 2442 K Avenue,
Plano, TX 75074. If you plan to
attend, please let Tom Bieg
know by 6pm Friday,
December 20.

Friday Flix. Snack, beverages
and conversation at 6:30pm with
the movie starting at 7pm in
Founders Hall. Theme for
December is Inspiration.

December 13 - “Collateral
Beauty” starring Dame Helen
Mirren and Will Smith.

When a successful New York
advertising executive (Will Smith)
suffers a great tragedy, he retreats
from life. While his concerned
friends try desperately to reconnect
with him, he seeks answers from
the universe by writing letters to
Love, Time and Death. When his
notes bring unexpected personal
responses, he begins to understand
how these constants interlock in a
life fully lived and how even the
deepest loss can reveal moments of
meaning and beauty.

December 20 - “Chariots of
Fire”

This classic: In Celebration of
the True Spirit of the Olympics

In the class-obsessed and
religiously divided United
Kingdom of the early 1920s, two
determined young runners train for
the 1924 Paris Olympics. Eric
Liddell (Ian Charleson), a devout
Christian born to Scottish
missionaries in China, sees running
as part of his worship of God's
safety and refuses to train or
compete on the Sabbath. Harold
Abrahams (Ben Cross) overcomes
anti-Semitism and class bias, but
neglects his beloved sweetheart
Sybil (Alice Krige) in his single-
mined quest.

Literary Ladies Book Club
Upcoming Meeting. Women
members and friends of Community
UU Church are welcome to join us on
the third Tuesday of the month
from 7 – 9pm.
Watch the blast for information.

Join us for the Women’s Alliance
Holiday party. Saturday December
14 at 2pm at the home of Valerie
Gomes, 1566 Poet's Way, Allen.
Please bring a dish to share and a gift
for the game. Hope to see you there!

The Church office will be closed
Wednesday, December 25 thru
Wednesday, January 1.

Deadline for the
January newsletter is Friday,
December 13. Email
articles to
newsletter@
communityuu
church.org.
Social Action

Coat Drive to Support Immigrants

The Human Resources Initiative sends many thanks for our generous donations of coats, winter apparel and two car seats to contribute to their Annual Winter Bazaar held for new immigrants. This allows their clients to shop for needed items at no charge. HRI supports their client's legal needs at no charge, but they also assist with relocation issues such as shelter, food and health concerns. Our donations of personal items have also been appreciated.

October Share the Plate

Last month Meals on Wheels had an urgent need for additional funding due to an unexpected cut in funding. Social Action Dedicated Funds matched the total donation from the plate and we are able to send Meals on Wheels a check for $650.00. Many thanks to all.

Christmas Toy Drive

Our annual toy drive will kick off the Sunday after Thanksgiving. As in prior years, boxes will be under the holiday tree for unwrapped presents for children 12 yrs old and younger.

Have you been "feeding" your Guest At Your Table box since our donations to UU Service Committee began in early November? If you do not have one of these boxes, you can still pick one up along with a folder in the sanctuary on the children's tables at the back of the sanctuary or in the Church foyer by the name tags. We will be asking folks to place coins/bills in their boxes from now into January 2020. When you bring your donations back to Church, please make them in a check to UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee) with a memo for Guest At Your Table. In January we will collect any donations given to me, Anne Smith, or my husband Chet Smith and we'll mail them to the UUSC office. Several folks in past years have combined their donations to reach $125 as the UUSC will match that amount with their funds. Thanks! Anne
UBARU News
Winter Family Camp
December 27-30, 2019
This camp will be featuring Rev. Skwarek as the chaplain. Details, registration and more can be found at https://ubaru.org/home/. For full information and to register visit https://ubaru.org/home or contact Bill Daffinee.

Our 4th Annual Fiber Arts weekend is coming- Valentine's Day to Monday, President’s Day to offer more time for sharing, working on your projects, relaxing and enjoying time with each other. (Although there is a 2 day option if that works better for you).

Information and registration also available at http://ubaru.org/home/FiberArts

You may stay 2 or 3 nights (your choice) which will include meals and lodging as well as the fun, friendship, learning and creating! Fiber artists of all levels, abilities and experiences are welcome! Cost is $180 until 1/14/20 for 3 days ($200 after the end of Early bird pricing). The 2 day option is $150 until 1/14 then $160.

Check-in on Friday February 14 from 4-5:30pm. Check-out on Monday February 17 at 10:30am.

HELP WANTED: Shutterbugs and A/V enthusiasts!

The Web Team is looking for a volunteer photographer to provide a steady stream of candid snaps from church events, Sunday services, and everyday CUUC goings-on. No need to show us your Pulitzer, it’s ok if you’re not a "pro!" If you're willing to reliably provide a variety of lively shots of church life on an ongoing basis, please email webguru@communityuuchurch.org.

Your Worship Team is looking for sound techs to support Sunday services and facility rentals. Experience is helpful, but not required- we'll train you! Reliability and flexibility are a must for nights and weekends. You could potentially earn some cash- compensation is available for some gigs. To learn more, contact Elena Westbrook at worship@communityuuchurch.org.

Dear friends of CUUC: I extend my deep thanks and appreciation for the compassion, cards, calls and support in the recent weeks. It is heartwarming to know what a tight knit community this is! Many thanks, Jody Reed
Call for Nominations for the 11th Annual NTUUC Recognition Awards

Deadline for nominations due by December 3, 2019, awards will be presented at the NTUUC Awards Luncheon on February 1, 2020.

- Awarded to recognize and honor those who contribute to Unitarian Universalism and our congregations in North Texas
- To identify role models across NTUUC
- To make visible the contributions of our congregations to the wider community.

The Marty Robinson Award for Volunteers: In honor of her years of dedication and wide-ranging service to the Southwestern UU Conference, the UUA, and in NTUUC congregations.

The Ruth Clark Award for Staff Members: In honor of her service as the first professional Director of Religious Education in the Southwestern UU Conference.

The Robert Raible Award for Ministers: In honor of his many years as minister of First Unitarian Church of Dallas, and his contribution to the growth of our churches in North Texas.

Nominations may be made by individuals or congregations, of Youth and Adults, at www.ntuuc.org/awards. Recipients are requested to attend the Luncheon, and will each receive a ticket; photos of recipients will be requested upon announcement of honorees.

EVALUATION CRITERIA
- Active membership in an NTUUC congregation.
- Contributions beyond the congregation. We look for people who have represented their congregations effectively in UUA circles, and/or locally in interfaith and partner organizations, in leadership roles such as organizer, recruiter, or spokesperson.
- Relevant and visible contributions to the congregation and especially to the growth of UUism in North Texas. These could be short or long-term projects, and especially ones that could be replicated by other congregations.
- Supporting material—please include specific examples:
  a) How this contribution reflects our ideals and the growth of UUism;
  b) How the contributor is a role model;
  c) How this person has been active in recruiting others, including their successor(s);
  d) How this person has taken the congregation's message out into the community, and the resulting impact, both internal and external.

For more information and forms, visit www.ntuuc.org/awards or contact us at awards@ntuuc.org with any questions.

NTUUC RECOGNITION AWARDS COMMITTEE'S ROLE:
- Receive the NTUUC 2020 Recognition Award nominations.
- Review nominations and contact references if needed.
- Determine one or more award recipients.
- Notify the award recipients in a timely manner, by the end of December 2019.
- Select the Awards Luncheon speaker.
- Awards Committee decisions will be approved by the NTUUC Board.
- NTUUC Board and Awards Committee members will not make nominations, nor be eligible for nomination.
Crafty UUs Fellowship Night

A group is meeting at the Church, **Crafty UUs Fellowship Night. We meet in Founders Hall the first and third Tuesday evenings of every month from 6 – 9.** This is an outreach activity, open to members and nonmembers alike. Friends are always welcome. Bring your current project, a snack to share and perhaps, a friend for unstructured and chatty fellowship. **For more information, please contact Katey Eubanks at katey.communityuu@gmail.com or join us on Facebook@craftyUUs.**
The somewhat preliminary October financial summary for our operating accounts is listed below. There were a couple of issues we need to follow up on. The check from Sai Baba seems to not have arrived, which probably means next month we will see 2 of them. The water bill was well over budget due to using the sprinkler system, and it has been suggested we need to look at seasonalizing our budget next year. Currently we are using a flat monthly charge. And the Fire and Liability insurance was paid this month and budgeted for next month.

**Holiday season:** The biggest holiday season of the year is upon us, and whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Chalica, Winter Solstice, or any other wonderful celebration, please also remember your church. **If you would like to make a donation and have it count towards your 2019 taxes, it needs to be made before December 31st.** Enjoy the holidays, enjoy your family and friends, and do something nice for someone else.

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**INCOME & EXPENSE October, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>October 2019</th>
<th>Month Budget</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>% Annual Budget</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Offering Income</td>
<td>$13,872</td>
<td>$14,269</td>
<td>$98,165</td>
<td>$101,764</td>
<td>$208,100</td>
<td>47.17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Fund Raiser</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4,483</td>
<td>5,650</td>
<td>22,615</td>
<td>19.82%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Usage</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td>2,409</td>
<td>7,234</td>
<td>10,350</td>
<td>27,786</td>
<td>26.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>$78</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>16,860</td>
<td>5.16%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,988</strong></td>
<td><strong>$17,008</strong></td>
<td><strong>$110,751</strong></td>
<td><strong>$118,914</strong></td>
<td><strong>$275,361</strong></td>
<td><strong>40.22%</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$3,487</td>
<td>4,598</td>
<td>17,735</td>
<td>23,531</td>
<td>58,227</td>
<td>30.46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>$3,034</td>
<td>2,798</td>
<td>11,865</td>
<td>12,847</td>
<td>33,462</td>
<td>35.46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Education</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4,937</td>
<td>7,541</td>
<td>29,134</td>
<td>64,326</td>
<td>11.72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities/Grounds</td>
<td>$4,877</td>
<td>4,189</td>
<td>24,172</td>
<td>22,416</td>
<td>57,004</td>
<td>42.40%</td>
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<td>Ministry</td>
<td>$2,807</td>
<td>2,807</td>
<td>13,228</td>
<td>14,035</td>
<td>44,242</td>
<td>29.90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denomination</td>
<td>$1,810</td>
<td>1,810</td>
<td>4,788</td>
<td>7,240</td>
<td>18,100</td>
<td>26.45%</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,015</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,139</strong></td>
<td><strong>$79,330</strong></td>
<td><strong>$109,203</strong></td>
<td><strong>$275,361</strong></td>
<td><strong>28.81%</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NET INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>-$2,026</strong></td>
<td><strong>-$4,131</strong></td>
<td><strong>$31,421</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,711</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0</strong></td>
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December

For our December 2019 calendar, go to our website at:
CommunityUUChurch.org

Events listed on the calendar are subject to change. For more information and confirmation of these events, please visit the church calendar at http://www.communityuuchurch.org/pages/calendar.
UU Church Contact Email Addresses

President, Kimberly Schramm: 
president@CommunityUUChurch.org

Director of Music, Christopher Wolff
musicdir@communityuuchurch.org

Director of RE, vacant
reboard@communityuuchurch.org

Church Secretary, Connie Meints:
cuuc-office@CommunityUUChurch.org

Church Bookkeeper, John Elder:
bookkeeper@CommunityUUChurch.org

Facilities Coordinator, Tom Brikowski
facilities@CommunityUUChurch.org

Treasurer, Cindy Hadden
treasurer@communityuuchurch.org

Board of Trustees: board@CommunityUUChurch.org
Trustees meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 10am in the Annex. Members, friends and visitors are always welcome.

Worship Programs (Sunday Services, Ushers Coordinator, Interior Arts)
worshipteam@CommunityUUChurch.org

Caring Committee Coordinator, June Bruns
caring@CommunityUUChurch.org

Communications Director, Alyssa Church
communications@communityuuchurch.org

Membership Council
membcom@communityuuchurch.org

Personnel Coordinator, Vacant
personnel-chair@communityuuchurch.org

Committee on Ministry, Karen Bethel, Chair
Mincom@communityuuchurch.org

Social Action Programs, Linda Frank
UUSInAction@CommunityUUChurch.org

Bridge Group Coordinator, Diane Behannesey
bridge@CommunityUUChurch.org

Circle Suppers Coordinator, John Snyder:
Circlesuppers@CommunityUUChurch.org

Friday Flix Coordinator, Celeste Kennedy
flicks@CommunityUUChurch.org

Outdoor Adventure Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand:
outdooradventure@CommunityUUChurch.org

Leadership Development Committee: June Bruns
ldc@CommunityUUChurch.org

Capital Improvement

Strategic Planning Committee:
planning@CommunityUUChurch.org

Chalice Circle/Simple Living Coordinator Ona Tannehill
simpleliving@CommunityUUChurch.org

Program Board: Vacant Chair
programs@CommunityUUChurch.org

Finance Committee: finance@CommunityUUChurch.org

Stewardship Committee Gene Verinder, Chair
stewardship@CommunityUUChurch.org

Investment Committee: David Hollands, Chair, Carol Wise, Karen Bethel investment@CommunityUUChurch.org

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists vacant
yruu@CommunityUUChurch.org

Adult Enrichment/Adult Education Celeste Kennedy, Director
adultre@CommunityUUChurch.org

Men’s Fellowship Tom Bieg, Coordinator
men@CommunityUUChurch.org

Religious Education Board Brennan Hadden, Chairperson
reboard@CommunityUUChurch.org

Hospitality Committee Gene Verinder, Coordinator
hospitality@CommunityUUChurch.org

Women’s Alliance: women@CommunityUUChurch.org

Safe Congregations
Safecongregations@communityuuchurch.org

UU Website Links

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA): www.uua.org

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC):
www.uusc.org

UUA Southern Region: www.uua.org/southern

North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC):
www.ntuuc.org

CUUC Representatives, Celeste Kennedy and Grace Morrison
NTUUC@CommunityUUChurch.org

UBarU Camp and Retreat Center, Trustee, Bill Daffinee
Wrdaffinee@aol.com
Church Office Hours

Monday: church offices closed  
Tuesday: 9 am to 3 pm  
Wednesday: 9 am to 2:30 pm  
Thursday: 9 am to 2:30 pm  
Friday: 9 am to Noon  
Office Phone: # 972-424-8989

Bookkeeper John Elder Tuesday & Thursday: 10:30am - 2:30pm  
other times by appointment.

Church Secretary Connie Meints.  
Tuesday 9am to 3pm, Wednesday & Thursday 9am to 2:30pm.  
Friday 9am to noon.

Music Director Christopher Wolff

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

Please include your name on any news item submitted for The Community News. Items may be edited for clarity and brevity.