The Community News

January 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.

Coming up at CUUC: The Next Steps Weekend, January 25-27, 2019

We are looking forward to a special weekend on January 25-27 with Stewardship for Us (SforUs) a UU-affiliated consulting team. At the request of CUUC’s Board of Trustees, SforUs consultant Liz Coit will be joining us to explore ways to advance our goals and aspirations toward strong and sustainable stewardship.

Stewardship for Us created the Next Steps Weekend to provide UU churches and fellowships with a constructive foundation of reflection, information, and strategies as they plan and forge ahead with stewardship programs and other means of growing their resources.

Many of us will be involved! Liz is learning about us through documents; and will also be speaking with Board members, our committees, and individual members. Some of her time will also be devoted to working directly with the board and others to prepare for the next Annual Budget Drive. She will share her findings, recommendations, ideas, as well as perspectives on other congregations’ challenges and efforts on Sunday, January 27. She will submit a written report for the Board to share with the congregation after the Next Steps Weekend.

If you are on the Membership, Worship and Ministry, Social Action, Buildings and Grounds, Music, adult and youth religious education, and Leadership Development Committees, please plan on participating in 45-50-minute meetings at different times during Friday afternoon January 25 and the morning of Saturday, January 26. There will also be an appreciation luncheon on Saturday to which the congregation is invited. We will celebrate longtime members and recognize the work everyone has been doing this year. Please RSVP to President@communityuuchurch.org, so we know how much food we need.

Thank you all for sharing your insights, perspectives, and ideas! Sarah Reiling

January, 2019

Sunday Services
Theme - Justice

January 6 - Guest Speaker - Asad Shalami.
January 13 - Guest Speaker - Edwin Robinson.
January 20 - TBA
January 27 - Guest Speaker - Liz Coit

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

In This Issue

Guest A Your Table  2
TXUUJM  3
Advocacy Day
A Path to Membership  5
Women’s Alliance annual retreat  6
Building Concerns

As some of you might have noticed, despite our major roof repairs a few years ago, this year's record rains have resulted in the re-emergence of some leaks. These remaining leaks appear to be minor, but I thought I should update the congregation on their status. 1) Most visible is the leak below the windows in the nursery, where floorboards are damaged without any visible water entry. Our contractor has established that the leak is not coming from the roof, and the outer wall appears to be thoroughly sealed. We have re-caulked the windows twice, with minimal effect. To reassure parents, we will test for mold in that area, but no obvious spores or growth are detectable by touch. We plan to establish temporary access through the interior wall below the windows, and track down the source of the leak. 2) The greatest potential for damage appears to be the slow leak above the sound board in the Sanctuary. An exhaustive and expensive solution would be to lift the roof air conditioner unit in that area and seal beneath it. Attempts to redirect roof drainage around the unit may solve the problem, but so far have been unsuccessful in stopping the leak. 3) Leaks above the DRE-Bookeeper offices and southwest corner of the sanctuary appear to have been stopped by temporary re-direction of drainage on the roof. Efforts are underway to install more permanent re-direction. 4) a very intermittent leak persists in the kitchen. This has yet to be addressed. Additional details are available in monthly Facilities reports to the Board.

Tom Brikowski - Facilities Coordinator

Share the Plate - 2019 begins Community Harvest Garden's 13th year and we’re aiming to make it a lucky one! Over the past 12 years we have donated 15,000 pounds of fresh, organic produce to local food pantries, and we’ve learned a lot along the way. Plants aren’t the only thing that grows in a garden – so do communities of beneficial soil microbes, a sense of community between the gardeners and non-profit partners, and gardening knowledge. We are grateful for your support through the January 27 Share the Plate Offering which will allow us to provide fellowships to gardeners in need and maintain the supplies that keep our plots producing. Thank you!

Have you been "feeding" your Guest At Your Table Box in the past months? We recommend that you engage your family in counting out the cash donations and then writing a check for this amount made out to UU Service Committee. Your donation can be given to either Chet or Anne Smith in January 2019, so we can mail our gifts to the UUSC by the middle of January. Thanks to all who have already given us their donations and we look forward to hearing from everyone who has been "feeding" a GAYT box. Anne and Chet Smith
Preparing us for TXUUJM Advocacy Day, March 20. We'll have a bus or two going to Austin from the DFW area – invite your friends!

**SCHEDULE**

10:00 Welcome — What is TXUUJM and how are we involved?
10:15 Introductions — TXUUJM Issues: Top three plus two
  Immigration Justice do
  Reproductive/Gender Justice
  Economic Justice
  Monitor/engage on Environmental Justice and Public Education
11:00 A Look at the 2019 Legislative Session and our Issues  Representatives from partner and ally organizations
12:30 Lunch – in geographic/district groups
1:00 More on the 2019 Legislative Session and our Issues
2:00 Tactics
Creating plans for contacting legislators
Developing strategies on TXUUJM issues
Role Play – in smaller groups, one for each TXUUJM issue so we can develop common talking points. We'll practice with supportive, receptive non-supportive, and hostile audiences.

3:30 Confirming Plans

4:00 Going Home

Facilitator - The Rev. Chuck Freeman, Executive Director of TXUUJM
Along with NTUUC members who attended the October TXUUJM training in Austin.

Please register at NTUUC.org/Advocacy, no later than February 4

Send questions to Advocacy@NTUUC.org

No charge - we really want you to participate! Lunch provided, love offerings accepted. Childcare available upon request; please let us know names and ages before February 1.
January, 2019

Simple Living Chalice Circle
The next meeting will be Saturday morning January 5 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, January 19 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 Genealogy Group next meeting is Thursday, January 17, 2pm in Founders Hall.

The Men's Fellowship Breakfast is Saturday, January 19, 8:30am at Poor Richards Cafe, 2442 K Avenue, Plano, TX 75074. If you plan to attend, please let Tom Bieg know by 6pm Friday, January 19.

Friday Flix. Snack, beverages and conversation at 6:30pm with the movie starting at 7pm in Founders Hall.
January 11 - TBA

The Sunday Usher team can use some additional ushers to help on a regular basis or as substitutes. It is great way to give some volunteer time to help Community UU Church. Please contact Jodie Zoeller if you are interested in joining the usher team or have any questions.

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.
Date: January 15
Location: Deb Bliss’ home. Please contact Deb by Friday, January 11 if you plan to attend.
Selection: Visionary Women: How Rachel Carson, Jane Jacobs, Jane Goodall, and Alice Waters Changed Our World by Andrea Barnet
This is the story of four visionaries who profoundly shaped the world we live in today. Together, these women—linked not by friendship or field, but by their choice to break with convention—showed what one person speaking truth to power can do. Jane Jacobs fought for livable cities and strong communities; Rachel Carson warned us about poisoning the environment; Jane Goodall demonstrated the indelible kinship between humans and animals; and Alice Waters urged us to reconsider what and how we eat.

Deadline for the February newsletter is Friday, January 18. Email articles to newsletter@communityuu

Amazon
Children and Youth Religious Education Ministry

With the New Year, some of us make resolutions. Why are they so hard to keep? How do we talk with children about them?

First a quick look at the history of New Year’s resolutions. It is likely the Babylonians were the first to have a New Year’s celebration complete with promises to pay for any debts they may have accumulated in the last year. The Romans changed this a little to focus more on personal behavior rather than debts. Fast forward to today’s version, when we make resolutions or promises, mostly about self-improvement.

These resolutions become hard to complete, in part because they are often about self-improvement. They are often something we would like to accomplish for ourselves, but don’t have a plan for how to make it happen. In the long run, we get busy. We forget to make time to do it. Research show less than 10% of New Year’s resolutions are accomplished.

What does making a resolution and not keeping it teach our children? It can depend a lot on the language we use. If you say a New Year’s resolution is a promise to do something and you cannot fulfill the promise, what does that say about promises? This could be a teachable moment about covenant and forgiveness. This is an opportunity to talk about what happens when someone fails to keep a promise. We can talk about how it can be disappointing and upsetting. This can be a chance to talk about not being perfect and how, no matter how hard we try, we all fail from time to time. This is a chance to talk about allowing others and ourselves to fail and to forgive others and ourselves, when we cannot live up to the promises we make. Part of supporting others is to forgive failures and allow our relationships to bend without breaking.

If instead, we choose some different language for explaining what a New Year's resolution is, we can talk about resolutions as a personal challenge. When we don’t accomplish the resolution, we would not be breaking a promise as much as it would be something we still need to work on.

Our children learn by example. Encourage them to set challenges for themselves, even if the challenge is not accomplished. Show them how to rethink a challenge when it is not met. Teach them to explore the challenge. Why was the challenge not met? Was it a realistic challenge? Could you adjust the challenge? Would you be able to complete the challenge with more time? Could you meet part of the challenge? Have you met part of the challenge? Celebrate all that has been accomplished, including setting out a challenge and evaluating why the challenge was not met. Celebrate your accomplishments and help others to celebrate their accomplishments. Brennan Hadden - RE Chairman

A Path to Membership

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism or Community UU Church, Plano? Considering membership with our congregation?

Come to the first two “A Path to Membership” classes being held at 9am on January 13 and 27 in the Library (Room D). Childcare provided.

For more information and to RSVP (not required), contact Vicki Verinder at membcom-chair@communityuuuchurch.org.

The Community News - January 2019 5
Social Action News

What’s New in the Community Garden?

The weather outside has been, if not frightening, at least discouraging for outdoor activities. However, our hearty gardeners have still harvested in December! As of December 1, our garden has produced 1,923 pounds of delicious organic produce for the food pantry and we may still have more to gather. We are collecting materials for some cold frames, so we can keep on growing during the cooler weather and have a place to plant early seedlings.

Speaking of gathering, we would love to share the joy and camaraderie of gardening together with you! We still have six plots left for adoption this next year. Our yearly fee is a mere $40, to help defray the expenses of watering and maintenance. We have monthly socials (not required but highly recommended for fun and great food) and once a month, we labor joyfully for the good of the garden, maintaining pathways, etc. Whether you are a novice gardener or a master, we welcome everyone.

For more information, contact Deb Bliss at harvest@communityuuchurch.org.

God’s Pantry

GODS PANTRY TOY DRIVE was a huge success thanks to many generous members. The Pantry send their thanks for much needed items to add to the family holiday baskets. Many children will have a happier Christmas this year because of Community Unitarian gifts. THANK YOU!

CIRCLE SUPPERS is in full swing for the Spring session. We meet the 2nd Saturday of each month for dinner and try to keep about 8 to 10 people in each dinner group. Each month we email all the people who signed up for CIRCLE SUPPERS to see who would like to attend this month and to see who might be available to host. The guests meet at the host’s home. The host provides the main dish and each guest brings an additional dish or drinks. If you are new to our Church this is a great way to meet some new folks. It is OK to sign up even if your situation doesn’t allow you to be a host. To sign up just send an email to Circlesuppers@communityUUchurch.org and give your name (or names) and email and a phone number.

Save the weekend!!

The Woman’s Alliance annual retreat this year will be held on the weekend of April 5, 6 and 7. We all have busy lives, so save this weekend for a time to relax, reflect and refresh your mind, heart and spirit. We invite all women 18 years and older to join us at Glen Lakes Retreat and Camp Center in Glenrose, TX. More details to follow.
UBarU

Our UBarU Youth Summer Camp ONLINE registration is open and early bird prices now apply (until 3/31/19) for Age-tiered week-long camps.

http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp

June 9-15 Beginner Camp  rising grades 4 thru 6th grades or 9-11 years old
June 24-30  Intermediate Camp  rising grades 7th-9th graders or 12-14 years old
June 23-29 Senior/Reeb Camp rising grade 10 through 2019 high-school graduates

All meals are included from Sunday dinner through Saturday breakfast. Campers are to arrive beginning 4 pm on the Sunday of the first day of camp and will be ready to leave by 10:30am the Saturday of the last day of camp. Parents and guardians are welcome to join us for our final worship gathering of the week on Saturday mornings at 9am.

Scholarship applications will be accepted thru Active from December 2018 when registration opened through January 31, 2019.

Email Robyn at director@ubaru.org with questions about camp, scholarship, being a Junior counselor or adult counselor, etc. Adults and youth who are selected will be offered a Coupon code to use for a camp registration.

Additional details, applications and job descriptions are available at

http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp

December Board Highlights

The Board approved the recommendation to put the Endowment payment for this year towards funding a new minister.

The Board discussed the concerns in the nursery. Facilities does not believe it to be mold and will conduct testing to confirm. They will look for solutions to eliminate the problem.

The Board is happy to report that once the final payments are received, the Service Auction netted just under $13,000.

The Board discussed the process for distributing funds from the Minister’s Discretionary Fund and will look to incorporating procedures in line with other churches and charities in the area.
Adult Religious Education Classes

The Mission of the Adult Religious Education Program is to nurture and stimulate the religious and personal growth of the adult church community. We offer a varied and cohesive program within the context of the living Unitarian Universalist tradition and principles. The church website has been updated with the latest classes and class descriptions - check it out at www.CommunityUUChurch.org, under Adult Religious Education. CHILDCARE is available for all classes, upon request. To reserve childcare call the church office (972-424-8989) at least 48 hours in advance.

Tuesday

Thursday
Humanist Group – New Direction meets at 6pm in Room G. The Humanist Group continues to meet prior to The Meaning of Life: Perspectives from the World’s Great Intellectual Tradition class led by Rev. Don Fielding. Each week different group members plan the discussion on a Humanist-oriented topic which helps us learn more about Humanism, its history, its relationship to UUism, and its applications to our lives and spiritual-personal development. January topics: TBD.

Exploring the Roots of Religion in Room G at 7pm. Facilitator Don Fielding. The Meaning of Life: Perspectives from the World’s Great Intellectual Tradition, Professor Garfield has put together an intellectually gripping course that is every bit the equal of the monumental subject it sets out to explore. November topics: January - TBA.

Board of Trustees
board@communityuuchurch.org

Sarah Reiling, President reilingsarah51@gmail.com c# 214-620-4515
Keary Liu, Secretary kearyliu@hotmail.com h # 469-403-5849
Kimberly Schramm, President Elect kschramm10@gmail.com c# 949-439-8048

Cindy Hadden, Treasurer treasurer@communityuuchurch.org
Tom Brikowski, Facilities Coordinator facilitites@communityuuchurch.org

Jodie Zoeller, Personnel jodiezoeller@gmail.com c#214-212-8309
Vacant, VP Programs programs@communityuuchurch.org
Alyssa Church, Communications communication@communityuuchurch.org

RE Board
reboard@communityuuchurch.org

President – Brennan Hadden Members: Steve Dodds, Jack Dorman, Angela Hathaway and Danni Williams
November Financial Report

Finance Report by Cindy Hadden Treasurer

The November financial summary for our operating accounts is listed below. The cumulative Net Income gap is $37.2K above budget. The money from the service auction is starting to come in, even a little faster then predicted ($3.4K above budget). But this will rectify itself in future months. Another thing to note is that the quarterly payment ($2.8K) for our insurance wasn’t due until December, but we budgeted for November.

Happy New Year: We have started reaching out to a few of our members who have fallen a little behind on their pledge. Just to make sure all is going as planned, and to see if there is anything we can do to help. Often we do not realize we are falling behind on these kind of obligations, so it is just meant as a little reminder. In the mean time, we are setting ourselves up to be in a good place to hire a new minister, and even be able to pay moving costs, and other required incidentals that come with hiring a new clergy member.

INCOME & EXPENSE November, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>November 2018</th>
<th>Month Budget</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>% Annual Budget (FY 50% comp)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Offering</td>
<td>$16,121</td>
<td>$16,646</td>
<td>$98,720</td>
<td>$101,478</td>
<td>$201,292</td>
<td>49.04%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Fund Raiser</td>
<td>$ 8,606</td>
<td>$ 5,165</td>
<td>$ 9,003</td>
<td>$ 10,815</td>
<td>$ 22,615</td>
<td>39.81%</td>
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<td>Total Building</td>
<td>$ 2,730</td>
<td>$ 2,627</td>
<td>$12,216</td>
<td>$12,669</td>
<td>$ 27,098</td>
<td>45.08%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>$  41</td>
<td>$  30</td>
<td>$  923</td>
<td>$  1,180</td>
<td>$ 16,860</td>
<td>5.48%</td>
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<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
<td>$ 27,498</td>
<td>$ 24,468</td>
<td>$120,863</td>
<td>$126,169</td>
<td>$267,865</td>
<td>45.12%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$ 5,173</td>
<td>$ 6,756</td>
<td>$21,204</td>
<td>$30,235</td>
<td>$ 58,731</td>
<td>36.10%</td>
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<td>Programs</td>
<td>$ 2,529</td>
<td>$ 3,251</td>
<td>$14,122</td>
<td>$17,419</td>
<td>$ 37,489</td>
<td>37.67%</td>
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<td>Religious Education</td>
<td>$  0</td>
<td>$ 5,715</td>
<td>$10,781</td>
<td>$35,486</td>
<td>$ 64,461</td>
<td>16.73%</td>
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<td>Facilities/Grounds</td>
<td>$ 2,592</td>
<td>$ 5,758</td>
<td>$24,082</td>
<td>$28,175</td>
<td>$ 57,004</td>
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<td>Ministry</td>
<td>$ 1,188</td>
<td>$ 1,188</td>
<td>$24,263</td>
<td>$25,665</td>
<td>$ 29,665</td>
<td>81.79%</td>
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<td>Denomination</td>
<td>$ 1,865</td>
<td>$ 1,865</td>
<td>$ 9,325</td>
<td>$ 9,325</td>
<td>$ 20,515</td>
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<td>TOTAL EXPENSE</td>
<td>$13,348</td>
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<td>$103,776</td>
<td>$146,305</td>
<td>$267,865</td>
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<td>NET INCOME</td>
<td>$14,151</td>
<td>-$ 67</td>
<td>$ 17,086</td>
<td>-$20,137</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
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Upcoming Share the Plate Offerings

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 27, 2019</td>
<td>Community Harvest Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 24, 2019</td>
<td>TX UU Justice Ministry</td>
</tr>
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If you forget your checkbook on a Share the Plate Sunday, remember you can always donate on line.

November’s Share the Plate netted $231.38 for Plano Community Home. Thank you!

FREE MONEY!

Kroger: NOTE: It’s time to renew you Kroger Community Rewards - just follow this link: https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards

Amazon.com: Use this link for purchases: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-1787256

The church will get a portion of all purchase amounts!
January

For our January 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, Sarah Reiling: 
president@CommunityUUChurch.org

Director of Music, Christopher Wolff  
musicdir@communityyuuchurch.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@communityyuuchurch.org

Board of Trustees: board@CommunityUUChurch.org  
Trustee 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@communityyuuchurch.org

Membership Council 
membcom@communityyuuchurch.org

Personnel Coordinator, Jodie Zoeller  
personnel-chair@communityyuuchurch.org

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

Social Action Programs, Linda Frank  
UUSInAction@CommunityUUChurch.org

Bridge Group Coordinator, Clint Burleson: 
bridge@CommunityUUChurch.org

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

Friday Flix Coordinator, Celeste Kennedy  
flicks@CommunityUUChurch.org

First Friday Folksingers Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand: 
folksingers@CommunityUUChurch.org

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

Leadership Development Committee:  
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

EarthSpirit Janie McDermott, Coordinator  
earthspirit@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@communityyuuchurch.org

UU Website Links

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

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

Southwest District (SWUUC): www.swuuc.org

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.