Our Memory Garden, Past and Present

If you’re a fan of the garden view outside the Sanctuary, you can thank several members for their hard work and determination that made our Memory Garden a reality. Even today, it requires tender loving care from many to stay a green and welcoming showpiece for our church.

The garden began with an idea and a generous donation, both from Betty Moore. A garden along our western wall would serve two purposes: provide a pretty view from the Sanctuary, and serve as a screen to keep parked cars out of sight. Many were involved in its planning, design, and installation, among them Bill Daffinee for intensive ground work (quite literally!) and Rob Hight for the garden layout and design. Linda Frank coordinated the purchase and installation of plants, along with benches and bricks for the walk. Through the efforts of Nabil Morgan, the plaques for the garden were engraved and donated by the Dallas Arboretum. The fountain in the center of the garden was donated by Nancy Murphey. Several others served on the project committee and contributed in various ways.

Since Betty Moore was instrumental in its creation, the committee wanted to name it in her honor, but she insisted it be called the Memory Garden. In that spirit, many fixtures bear the names of loved ones both past and present, as well as names of members and friends whose generosity helped Betty’s idea come to fruition. On the east side of the garden, the path includes bricks engraved with the names of each of the church’s founding members who signed the membership book in 1975.

Today, the garden is one of our most noteworthy features, enjoyed by humans and critters alike. Visitors sit a spell when the weather is pleasant, sparrows enjoy a bath in the fountain, and the bees have a ball when the Texas sage is in bloom. But all that natural glory isn’t self-sustaining, far from it! A great deal of time and effort goes into keeping it looking lean and green. Recently, a crew of volunteers has done tremendous work in trimming, weeding, mulching, and more to improve the garden’s appearance. And yet there’s still work to be done! If you enjoy helping out in a hands-on way, and don’t mind a little sweat or getting a little dirty, the garden could use your help. To see what’s needed currently, contact either Mike Robinson or Mary Ellen Blohowiak, who’ve been heading up these efforts. If you’re interested in making a donation or assisting with a grant proposal to sustain the garden long term, contact Linda Frank to learn more. Help us keep the Memory Garden live and growing into the future! Alyssa Church
From front page Sunday Services.

“Annual Flower Communion and Mother's Day Service For All Ages”, May 12. Please join us in the important UU celebration of community and of those who "mother" us all. Remember to bring fresh flowers to share as an integral part of this service of remembrance and community.

May Share the Plate

This month we will share the plate offering on the last Sunday of the month, May 26, with UBarU Camp and Retreat Center on 142 acres of Texas ranch land in Texas Hill Country west of Fredericksburg. A number of our youth have been to summer camps and a few of the members have been down for weekend star parties. Accommodations include a multi suite dormitory facility as well as private cabins. Among the activities are;

- Observatory
- Ham Radio shack
- Women’s retreats weekends (fall & spring)
- Men’s retreats weekends (fall & spring)
- Young adult retreats
- Summer camps for children from those entering third grade to high school graduates (3 different weeks in June)
- Star party weekends at our Certified International Dark Sky area. You’d be amazed by the number of stars in the sky
- Multi generational family camp weekends
- 50,000 gallon stock tank swimming pool
- Hiking trails

We are in the middle of a capital campaign to improve infrastructure so donations to support operations are down. Please be as generous as you can.

Thank you
Bill Daffinee, Assistant treasurer

April Board of Trustee Highlights

The board discussed the progress of the current stewardship campaign.

The board approved the RE board chair to hire a Consulting DRE.

The board discussed continuing talks with the candidate for the minister’s position.

The board discussed the status of the new Sai Baba contract. It has been signed by Sai Baba and is waiting for the president’s signature.

The board continued to discuss the possibility of renting space to a new school for the coming school year.

The board approved allowing a yoga class on a trial basis.

The board discussed memorial garden maintenance.
President’s Column

This is my last column as President. It has been such a pleasure to serve in this office for the last two years. Starting in June, I will be Past President for the next year. The very capable Kimberly Schramm will be President for the next two years.

This has been a time of change for our congregation. We have been almost a year without a minister or DRE. A DRE will be starting soon and the Board is in conversation with a candidate for consulting minister.

Thanks to everyone who has worked hard to make our church successful. Thanks to the Worship Team for pulling together and making this year an inspiring and productive one. Thanks to the RE Board, all the teachers and advisors for their hard work to continue our excellent program for children and youth. Thanks to the Board of Trustees for their dedication to duty and excellence. Thanks also to Connie Meints, our Church Secretary, who has kept me on track and informed.

A very special thanks to all of you, the members and friends of this church. I want to remind you that the church is not the Minister, or the DRE, or the Board of Trustees. The church is the people. You are the church. You are the community in Community UU Church.

My vision for Community UU’s future is one of growing abundance for our church. I envision an outreach program that will make us the center of liberal religion and social justice in Collin county. I envision a church home that welcomes all people where they are and offers them spiritual nourishment, intellectual stimulation and a place to belong. I envision a new generation, mindful of the past, but willing to make the changes necessary to attract vibrant and energetic members. The Unitarian Universalist movement and Community UU Church should be a part of the future of North Texas. Let’s make it so!

Blessings, Sarah

First Friday Folksingers: Good news and bad news

First Friday Folksingers has been an institution at Community UU for nearly 30 years. Started by then-Settled Minister Walt Wieder and carried forward by Charlie Battista, this folksinging song circle has met nearly every first Friday since its inception. The ad-hoc group has also performed for Sunday services, Pops concerts and picnics with outreach performances in local nursing homes during the holidays. In recent years, however, participation has been waning and the energy has dissipated. Charlie and Dick Hildenbrand (summer coordinator while Charlie is in Massachusetts) have discussed options over the last year and have decided to sunset this activity this spring. That’s the bad news.

The good news is that we hope to go out with a bang. Friday, May 3rd is (obviously) the first Friday in May, but it also happens to be the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pete Seeger, Unitarian, and one of the most influential songwriters and folksingers of the 20th century. This will be our last gathering and will be a tribute to Pete. There are enough songs that Pete either wrote, co-wrote or performed in our songbook to fill the entire evening.

Everyone is welcome to join us on May 3rd at 7:30pm in Founders Hall to honor Pete Seeger's birthday with song and even a birthday cake!
Simple Living Chalice Circle
The next meeting will be Saturday morning, May 11 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, May 18 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.

Connie Meints, Church secretary will be out of the office May 7, May 14, May 23 thru Friday May 31.

Friday Flix
May 10 - TBA
May 24 - TBA
Snack, beverages and conversation at 6:30pm with the movie starting at 7pm in Founders Hall.

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: May 21
Location: Valerie Gomes’ home. Please contact Val by Friday, May 17 if you plan to attend.

Selection: May 21 Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover
Educated is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty, and of the grief that comes from severing one’s closest ties. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one’s life through new eyes, and the will to change it. Amazon

Hola Amigos! Please join us at the Women’s Alliance sponsored pot luck dinner on Saturday June 22 at 6:30pm. The theme is Mexican/American food so bring your favorite dish to share. Spouses, partners, guests welcome but adults only please.
Hope to see you there!

Deadline for the June newsletter is Friday, May 10.
Email articles to newsletter@communityuuchurch.org.
Social Action News

What’s New in the Community Garden? If you stop in at the garden, you'll see lettuce, spinach, kale, onions, and potatoes thriving with our Saturday rains. The fern-like plant in several plots is hairy vetch, a green manure crop planted to fix nitrogen in the soil over the winter. When the space is needed for planting, we will cut it at ground level and use the leafy portion for mulch. An intentional sunflower wall is now located on the north slope of the garden. This will eliminate the hazardous angle for our mowers and keep our pathways accessible for wheelbarrows and gardeners. Our most recent visitors are pair of geese who have taken up residency on the vacated beaver lodge in the pond. We’ve seen them strolling leisurely through the garden. If you would like to learn to grown vegetables in North Texas, contact Deb Bliss to get on a wait list for the next plot that becomes available. harvest@communityuuchurch.org

Barron Elementary School. Our Church volunteers serving at Barron Elementary School have been invited to help serve a catered meal to the Barron staff and teachers on Tuesday May 7. If you are not currently a volunteer at the school but would like to help out in some way, please consider donating $$ or a dessert or drinks for this event. Anne Smith can pick up your donations after church on Sunday May 5th before we close out our year of service to this school and its families! Thanks!

Religious Education Department

It is hard to believe, another school year is almost over. For our children, it is a time of expectation, a time to look forward. I hope by the time you are reading this, we will have a Director of Religious Education (DRE). So, for the RE program, we too are looking at a time of expectations. Our new Director will only be with us for the summer and then go away for an internship. We expect the DRE to return after the internship around May of next year. The director is not likely to be our settled DRE, but should help us down the path to a settled DRE.

As with any staffing change, it will take a little while to figure out how best to make things work. Some of the things we will ask this DRE is to focus on communication and teacher recruiting for summer and fall. Upon return, we will look again at what our needs are both short and long term, to figure out what the best path is to a settled DRE.

We are expecting the church and the RE program to be doing a bit of self inspection. How do we best support the mission of the church? What does this mean to a children’s RE program? Does this church want an adult RE program? What does it look like? Is it seminars? Is it a series of Speakers or TED talks? Is it a set of hour long classes meeting for a few weeks at a time? Does it meet on Sundays or some other day? Do multiple classes meet at the same time? Can we support children’s and adult RE meeting at the same time? What changes might be needed to support both adult and children’s RE at the same time?

If you have any opinions or ideas for children’s or adult RE, please let us know through DRE@communityUUchurch.org.—Brennan Hadden
The Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, May 19, 2019. Below is the slate of names for election at this meeting. The meeting will follow the worship service with the youth offering a meal.

### Board of Trustees Slate May 2019

**Treasurer**  Cindy Hadden (2 year term exp. 5/31/21)

**Facilities**  Tom Brikowski (2 year term exp. 5/31/21)

### Program Board Slate

**Denominational Affairs**  Dick Hildenbrand (1 year term exp. 5/31/20)

**RE Board Chair**  Brennan Hadden (1 year term exp. 5/31/20)

### Leadership Development Committee Slate

Place 1  Open (3 year term exp. 5/31/22)

Place 2  Tim Williams (3 year term exp. 5/31/22)

Place 3  Open (3 year term exp 5/31/22)

Place 6  June Bruns (2 year term exp. 5/31/21)

### UBarU Camping Season

Our UBarU Youth summer camp ONLINE registration is open for Age-tiered week-long camps. [http://ubaru.org/home/Summercamp](http://ubaru.org/home/Summercamp)

- **June 9 – 15**  Beginner Camp  rising grades 4 thru 6th grades or 9-11 years old
- **June 16 – 22**  Intermediate Camp  rising grades 7 – 9th graders or 12 -14 year old
- **June 23 – 29**  Senior/Reeb Camp  rising grade 10 thru 2019 high-school grads.

Also available

- Youth Astronomy Camp (ages 11 -14) July 28 to August 3
- Family Camp May 24 - 27

### NTUUC co-sponsored conference, Moving into Prison Ministry: An introduction to the prison industrial complex. This will be presented June 8, 2019 at Horizon UU Church, Carrollton, TX. For more information go to worthynow.org/classes-events OR facebook.com/urworthynow. Co-hosted by North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations.
Community Church Congregational Meeting Agenda
Sunday, May 19, 2019
12:30 to 1:30 pm

Opening Words       Sarah Reiling, President

Call to Order and Chalice Lighting       Sarah Reiling

Quorum Verification       Keary Liu, Secretary

Adoption of Process       Sarah Reiling
  No person may speak for more than 3 minutes on any one topic
  No person may speak more than once on any item as long as anyone else wishes to speak
  After initial presentation, debate time for each item shall be 15 minutes. After 15 minutes the
  question will be called unless a motion is made to extend debate another 10 minutes. A majority
  vote will determine if debate is to be extended.

Acceptance of minutes from Congregational Meeting, November 18, 2018.

Presentation of the Slate of Officers for 2019-20 Jodie, Zoeller Bloom, Personnel Trustee

Financial Report       Cindy Hadden, Treasurer

Approval of 2019-2020 budget

Religious Education Report       Brennan Hadden

Membership Report       Vicki Verinder, Membership chair

Extinguishing the Chalice       Sarah Reiling

Odds & Ends

Our bi-monthly maintenance workday, "Odds n Ends" is  Saturday, May 4, 9am to 5pm.  Come
for all or just part of the day; pizza provided for lunch; child care available if requested (contact
facilities@communityuuchurch.org).  For those who haven't participated, Odds n Ends is the time
we take care of our building and grounds by doing mostly small jobs that do not require special
skills.  Training, tools and equipment are all supplied.  There are even tasks that the younger ones can
help with and develop an "ownership" of the Church.
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. May topics: TBD.


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
March Financial Report

Finance Report by Cindy Hadden Treasurer

The preliminary March financial summary for our operating accounts is listed below. The cumulative Net Income gap is $49.4K above budget. We are aware of a few minor changes that need to be made before we can finish the numbers for the month, but a little additional information is still needed. The Pops concert did pretty well, net income from it is about $1K. In the budget was expected in May, which means this month we have a little bonus, but in May we will get a small hit. Other then that, assuming everything goes as expected, we will end the year with a nice surplus.

Looking Forward: We are about to start the new fiscal year. We are in a great place, and as long as we can count on you to make and pay your pledges, we will have a great start to the new year. With the current year surplus as a small savings cushion, we are prepared for many exciting and happy things to happen next year. A new minister? A new DRE? Are you ready to walk this road with me?

INCOME & EXPENSE March , 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>March 2019</th>
<th>Month Budget</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>% Annual Budget (FY 83.33% comp)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Offering Income</td>
<td>$16,270</td>
<td>$16,843</td>
<td>$170,381</td>
<td>$168,698</td>
<td>$201,292</td>
<td>84.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fund Raiser Income</td>
<td>$ 1,610</td>
<td>$ 1,000</td>
<td>$ 15,637</td>
<td>$ 20,965</td>
<td>$ 22,615</td>
<td>69.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Building Usage</td>
<td>$ 2,185</td>
<td>$ 2,430</td>
<td>$ 21,739</td>
<td>$ 21,669</td>
<td>$ 27,098</td>
<td>80.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>$ 122</td>
<td>$ 30</td>
<td>$ 8,548</td>
<td>$ 16,800</td>
<td>$ 16,860</td>
<td>50.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
<td>$20,186</td>
<td>$20,303</td>
<td>$216,304</td>
<td>$228,132</td>
<td>$267,865</td>
<td>80.75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| EXPENSE              |            |              |            |            |               |                                  |
| Administration       | $ 4,001    | $ 4,193      | $37,465    | $49,721    | $58,731       | 63.79%                           |
| Programs             | $ 2,011    | $ 3,576      | $24,329    | $30,950    | $37,489       | 64.90%                           |
| Religious Education  | $ 0        | $ 4,772      | $11,186    | $54,567    | $64,461       | 17.35%                           |
| Facilities/Grounds   | $ 3,865    | $ 3,909      | $44,853    | $46,976    | $57,004       | 78.68%                           |
| Ministry             | $ 2,000    | $ 0          | $32,263    | $29,665    | $29,665       | 108.76%                          |
| Denomination         | $ 1,865    | $ 1,865      | $16,785    | $16,785    | $20,515       | 81.82%                           |
| TOTAL EXPENSE        | $13,742    | $18,315      | $166,882   | $228,665   | $267,865      | 62.30%                           |
| NET INCOME           | $ 6,444    | $ 1,988      | $49,423    | -$ 532     | $0            |                                  |

Upcoming Share the Plate Offerings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>UBarU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Human Rights Initiative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you forget your checkbook on a Share the Plate Sunday, remember you can always donate online.

March’s Share the Plate netted $289.50 for the Minister’s discretionary fund. 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!

The Community News - May 2019  9
May

For our May 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@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, Jodie Zoeller
personnel-chair@communityuuchurch.org

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

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

The Community News - May 2019  11
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.