



# All Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist Courier

*We are a liberal religious community of diverse individuals. We nurture spiritual growth, encourage lifelong education, work for social justice, serve the larger community, and celebrate life's gifts together through meaningful worship. We welcome and support others in their expression of religious freedom.*

January 1, 2023

Fort Worth, TX

Number 438

## Worship With Us This Month!

**Join us Sundays at 11am in the Sanctuary  
or on Facebook or YouTube**

Worship Arts announces the schedule of Sunday Services for November. Because we are still in an interim period between ministers without the guidance and inspiration of professional clergy, we rely on the congregation to develop and create meaningful worship each week. Thank you to all who care and remain dedicated to this goal. We're grateful for all who participate and we rely on you to come out and join us during this important hour of church life. We look forward to seeing you.

### January 1

**New Years Day Intergenerational Circle Worship  
Member Led Service**

Circle Worship is a relaxed, informal mode of worship commonly used by youth and young adults. Instead of a sermon, participants engage in an interactive activity. THIS Sunday, ring in the New Year with an intergenerational circle worship. We'll set aside what no longer serves us and explore what we intend to bring into our community in the new year! Today is also Potluck Sunday - our first of the new year. Please bring a dish to share, especially your favorite traditional new year's day foods. Everyone is welcome!

### January 8

**Going Home by Another Way  
Kendra Weddle, PhD.**

On our life's journey, we too often put down roots smack in the middle of complacency. This plodding, putting one foot in front of the other, looking neither left or right, can cause us to miss opportunities for epiphany. The good news is that we can begin again. And, we can put into practice some simple steps, enabling us to go home another way.

### January 15

**Lori King-Nelson, M.Div. and  
All Peoples Church Choir**

### January 22

**Lori King-Nelson, M.Div.**

### January 29

**Kendra Weddle, PhD. and  
All Peoples Church Choir**

### February 5

**Jesus Is Just Alright With Me  
Paul Schattman, PhD. and  
All Peoples Church Choir**

A reflection on blending the historical Jesus with the biblical Jesus. Using the work of noted Jesus Seminar scholar Dom Crossan, and other theologians, a meaningful and approachable Jesus begins to emerge.



**Faith Forward Inquirers Series:  
Seven Drop-In Sessions  
Exploring Unitarian Universalism  
and All People's Church**

*See page 3 for details.*

# Religious Education News

## We are lifelong learners

*Our Adult RE program is designed to allow for engagement with both structured curriculum (1st and 3rd Sundays) as well as other formats: Small Group Ministry (4th Sundays) and social justice engagement (2nd and 5th Sundays). Our curricula speak to the head (What We Choose on 1st Sundays) as well the heart (Spirit of Life on 3rd Sundays). Together, these offerings provide varied themes and modalities for participants to deepen engagement with UU values and relationship with each other. I hope you will drop in on a session that is new to you during the new year. Also, please thank our Adult RE Coordinator, **Julia Sexton**, as well as those who are anchoring the program, **Tina Harmuth, Jane Collins, Ashley Newlin, and Laurie Mikitka**.*

## Children's and Youth Programming

**Elementary age Children and High School youth** continue to engage the multi-age curriculum *Circle of Trees*.

*"Circle of Trees is a multigenerational program of workshops that nurture deep connection with trees, nature, and all of earth's living creatures. The program uses trees as an entry point to understand and connect with life on earth."*

**Nursery:** Our nursery is open during worship for children under 8 and during the RE hour for children not participating in scheduled curriculum. We have hired two new childcare providers, **Zarah** and **Thalia!** Please give them a hearty welcome when you see them.

**Middle School Youth** are exploring their UU faith and heritage as part of the *Coming of Age* program.

It's easy to join our cohorts! To enroll children and youth, please complete the registration form: [https://firstjefferson.org/redocs/RERegistrationForm\\_2022\\_2023.pdf](https://firstjefferson.org/redocs/RERegistrationForm_2022_2023.pdf).

## Adults

*We offer different opportunities every Sunday*

**January 8TH—Social Justice Sunday.** This Sunday, we will dig a little deeper into UU denominational affairs. Young adults associated with the UU Ministry for the Earth and a Young Adult Divestment Caucus are working on a Business Resolution that would require the UUA to divest from the fossil fuel industry and to redistribute the funds associated with these investments in the form of reparations to Indigenous, Black, and Brown Communities. Join our own Joan Collins as we learn more about this Business Resolution and how we can get involved.

**January 15TH—Spirit of Life.** Ashley Newlin continues to facilitate Spirit of Life, which offers participants space, time, and community to explore their Unitarian Universalist spirituality. This Month's session is: *Move In The Hand: Living Our Spirituality In Our Day-To-Day Lives*.

**January 22ND—Journeys.** We will take time to engage our individual spiritual life, hear each others' stories and build deeper connections with one another.

**January 29TH—Action Hour!** **Your** Texas Justice Ministry holds a weekly virtual action hour wherein participants take action to support important justice priorities. For this, the fifth Sunday of January, we take action in community using the TXUUJM materials.



## Our Whole Lives

### Children & Youth OWL

Interest form for this spring's High School OWL is available!! Youth and parents / caregivers can fill it out here: <https://tinyurl.com/AllPeoplesHSOWL>

~Sarah Berel-Harrop, DRE, [firstjeffre@gmail.com](mailto:firstjeffre@gmail.com)

## Around the Denomination



## January 2023 News from the Texas UU Justice Ministry

*A happy new year hooray!* TXUUJM welcomes its first-ever Congregational & Justice Organizer! [Click here to meet Michelle Venegas-Matula](#), who will be working with TXUUJM member congregations as we begin the session of the Texas Legislature, connect about Trans Inclusion curriculum, and much more. TXUUJM hopes to see you IN PERSON in Austin on Saturday, Jan. 21, for the organization's 10th Anniversary gathering. [Click here to register](#). Scholarships are encouraged for anyone who needs one. And last but not least, TXUUJM's Thursday night programs *We Cry Justice & Action Hour* return weekly starting Thursday, Jan. 12, 6-8pm CT. Please join us! [Zoom link and more here](#).

# Adventures in Religion

October 2, 2022, through March 26, 2023

Sundays at 9:45AM on Facebook Messenger and by phone. We will return to church, after COVID cases abate. Watch for announcement. We explore world religions. We are discussing *Islam: A Short History*, by Karen Armstrong. 2002 Modern Library Paperback Edition. The Modern Library, New York, 2002. Paperback: ISBN: 0-8129-6618-X. We read out loud together. No need to read in advance. *No religion in the modern world is as feared and misunderstood as Islam. This book demonstrates that the world's fastest growing faith is a much more complex phenomenon.* [Amazon, excerpt]

Contact: Marian Wendel, [mwendel@netzero.net](mailto:mwendel@netzero.net).

## This Month's Estimated Preview

### 2. Development

- The Abbasids: The High Caliphal Period (750 - 935)
- The Esoteric Movements

### 3. Culmination

- A New Order (935 – 1258)

## CUUPs News

### Full Moon Fridays

Your friendly UU Pagans do enjoy the Turning of the Seasons and the Cycles of the Moon. In addition to our 8 holidays on the Wheel of the Year, we meet on the Friday closest to the full moon each month to celebrate and honor a different goddess and god. *Doors open at 7:30PM with ritual starting at 8:00.* Bring a snack to share and your favorite divination tool. We hope to see you there!

### Picnic with the Pagans

January 14, 2:30PM, after Crafters meeting. Potluck snacks and socialization.

## Book Discussion Group

All Peoples book discussion group currently meets via Zoom. We read and discuss a variety of books. Suggestions for books are encouraged. For information, contact Ana Evans 817-939-2763

### Upcoming Title:

Thursday, January 26 at 7 pm via Zoom—*History of the World in 6 Glasses* by Tom Standage [nonfiction]

## Faith Forward Inquirers Series: Seven Drop-In Sessions Exploring Unitarian Universalism and All People's Church

Perfect for visitors, church members both new and long-standing, and inquirers of all kinds, this series will be offered at the beginning of 2023.

The Inquirers series is designed for you to drop in at any time! Later when Inquirers has another run you can pick up any classes you missed or repeat any that you found particularly informative and engaging.

We will meet on Sundays after service for about an hour—most discussions will take place in the John Adams room, but the location may vary so keep an eye out. Lunch will be provided. Please let us know of any dietary restrictions or accommodation that is needed.

The church will provide free child care on an as-needed basis. Please inform Tina one week in advance if you need child care for a Faith Forward session.

*Email Tina Harmuth or see the church directory for my number to text with questions or to RSVP (your RSVP will help us determine how many people to provide for, but you may certainly attend even if you haven't had a chance to RSVP). Join us!*

### Current Schedule of Sessions, January-February 2023

01/08 *Unitarian Universalist History, Principles, and Sources*

01/15 *Campus Tour & Orientation*

01/22 *Faith Development for Children and Adults*

01/29 *Worship & Liturgical Year*

02/05 *Social Action & Community Service*

02/12 no Faith Forward this Sunday!

02/19 *Pastoral Care and Small Groups*

02/26 *Membership 101 & Congregational Life*

★**Schedule is subject to change; updates will be posted!**★

IN THIS CONGREGATION, WE BELIEVE:

LOVE IS LOVE

BLACK LIVES MATTER

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL

ALL GENDERS ARE WHOLE, HOLY & GOOD

WOMEN HAVE AGENCY OVER THEIR BODIES

## **Courier #438 January 2023**

All Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist  
1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76112-5412

## **2023 Board Of Trustees**

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## **Contact Information**

Congregation President  
Dan Sexton  
[president@firstjefferson.org](mailto:president@firstjefferson.org)

Caring & Sharing  
[caringandsharing@firstjefferson.org](mailto:caringandsharing@firstjefferson.org)

Membership  
[membership@firstjefferson.org](mailto:membership@firstjefferson.org)

Minister Emerita  
Rev. Marjorie Montgomery

Director of Religious Education  
Sarah Berel-Harrop  
[re@firstjefferson.org](mailto:re@firstjefferson.org)

Church Office  
Karl Thibodeaux 817-451-1505  
[administrator@firstjefferson.org](mailto:administrator@firstjefferson.org)

Church Website  
[www.allpeopleschurchuu.org](http://www.allpeopleschurchuu.org)

Find Us On Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/FirstJefferson](http://www.facebook.com/FirstJefferson)

## **Next Courier, Issue #439**

Submission Date  
Tuesday, January 31, 2023 10am  
Send edited articles to  
[administrator@firstjefferson.org](mailto:administrator@firstjefferson.org)

# ALL PEOPLES CHURCH

Unitarian  Universalist