



# 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.*

April 1, 2024

Fort Worth, TX

Number 453

## President's Message

East Fort Worth needs a community like ours offering seekers a place to join us to explore ideas and spirituality together. All Peoples is a place we are able to develop and affirm our UU values and let all people know that they have worth and dignity.

During our Stewardship Campaign I ask you to think about what All Peoples means to you. To me this church is my extended family. We have attended here for 30 years. Two of my kids were married in this church. I am proud that we have worked together to keep this progressive church going all these years. It is a warm and caring community that offers a respite from an often harsh world.

Speaking of old timers, **Happy 25th Anniversary to Charlotte and Joel Bailey.** They met at this church, married in this church and raised their son Glenn here. In honor of this they have made a donation to get a new oven. This really helps us get the kitchen going. **Thank you Charlotte and Joel!**

~Dan Sexton, Board President

## Worship News

The Soul Matters monthly theme for April is Interdependence. Our opening hymn will be *Morning Has Broken*. Please come and sing with us! On April 21, we will celebrate UUSC Justice Sunday during our worship service, which provides an opportunity for Unitarian Universalist congregations to come together and collectively act for human rights. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Worship With Us This Month!

### March 31

#### ***De Profundis***

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

Oscar Wilde wrote, "Suffering is one very long moment. We cannot divide it by seasons. We can only record its moods, and chronicle their return."

How to remain hopeful when we find ourselves overwhelmed by the weight of suffering in the world.

### April 7

#### **Kendra Weddle, PhD**

### April 14

#### ***The importance of Thinking for Ourselves***

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

There is no question that higher education promotes critical thinking but equally important is what we gain from exploration of the world around us. On the anniversary of Sophia Lyon Fahs' death we contemplate her gift of teaching and writing focused on a method of experiential learning that she hoped would enable children to develop their own ideas about religion and spirituality

### April 21

#### ***UUSC Justice Sunday: Belonging to One Another***

UUSC Justice Sunday is a day of learning, commitment, and support for human rights. This year's service focuses on what it means to be in solidarity with human rights activists and front-line communities around the world.

### April 28

#### ***The Butterfly Effect***

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

Exploring how limiting the term "Pro-Life" to describe only human life is having devastating consequences to all life on our planet.

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

## Religious Education News

### We are lifelong learners

*"We honor the interdependent web of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility, we acknowledge our place in it.*

*We covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation. We will create and nurture sustainable relationships of care and respect, mutuality and justice. We will work to repair harm and damaged relationships."*

~UUA Proposed Article II

Our Soul Matters theme for April is Interdependence. We'll be exploring the theme through Worship, our Family RE programming, and you can explore it on your own with spiritual practices, words of wisdom, songs, and videos suggested in the April Soul Matters packet. [Email me](mailto:) to receive the packet in email, and we will also have a few hard copy packets available. Or, join the new Soul Matters private facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1112530629923934/>

*This group will:*

- ☑ Have the current and past month's Soul Matters packets available for download,
- ☑ Share quotes & content related to the theme of Transformation, and hold space for folks to share their thoughts and experiences about Justice & Equity throughout the month,
- ☑ hold space for folks to share their thoughts and experiences about their transformative journeys throughout the month.

### **Curious about Religious Exploration at All Peoples? Join the Second Sunday Table Talk.**

On Sunday, April 14th, 12PM (after worship) to 1PM, I will hold drop-in space in Jagers Parlor to discuss Religious Exploration at All Peoples. Topics include Religious Exploration philosophy, pedagogy, and the future of Religious Exploration at All Peoples. Anyone who's curious about creating and maintaining excellence in Religious Exploration—for adults, families, children, and/or youth—is welcome. We'll share a light meal while we chat. Child care available, please let me know by April 7 who will be staying for child care!

*Religious Education programming begins at 9:45 am*

### **Family-Style Religious Education Programming**

We will have a rotating format by week for Elementary, Middle School, and High School during the Religious Education hour. Adults may join their children or youth, or participate in another aspect of our morning programming.

**March 31<sup>ST</sup>**—On Easter Sunday, March 31, we will have an Easter hunt for our children and youth to benefit one of our longstanding community service partners - Eastside Ministries. Following the food hunt, we will also have an egg hunt for the children & youth. Families: the **start time on March 31 will be at 10:00 AM** to give the Easter Bunny a chance to set up.

**April 7<sup>TH</sup>—Gather the Spirit** We'll explore myriad ways of expressing spirituality. *This week:* Special Guest Andrew Dax Fields will share about the spiritual practice of maintaining butterfly habitat.

**April 14<sup>TH</sup>—Song Sung Sunday** We'll sing and listen to songs, including the story behind the music. This month: *Soul Matters* theme—**Interdependence!**

**April 21<sup>ST</sup>—Explorations into UU identity or science and the natural world** This Sunday: Ms. Rain will lead an exploration into the world of plants, including a lively game of **Plant Jeopardy!**

**April 28<sup>TH</sup>—And Now, for Something Completely Different** We'll nurture a sense of play and joy; important aspects of resilience and spiritual development.

**Nursery** Our nursery is open during worship for children under 8 and during the RE hour for children not participating in scheduled curriculum.

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

## Adults Religious Education Programming

*We offer different opportunities every Sunday*

**April 7<sup>TH</sup>—Unitarian Universalist Ethics** We'll discuss ethical frameworks in the What We Choose curriculum and apply our learnings to case studies. *This month: **Understanding Ethics from the Margins.*** This ethical system draws on Christian liberation theology and the idea that all ethics are grounded in the lived experience of the poor, the marginalized, and the disenfranchised.

**April 14<sup>TH</sup>—Social Justice Sunday** We are excited to welcome Tiara Cooper from the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

**April 21<sup>ST</sup>—Spirit in Practice** Spirit In Practice offers an introduction to eight spheres of holistic & wholehearted spiritual practice. We approach spiritual practices from a pluralistic and interfaith perspective. We approach each person's spirituality with curiosity, wonder and mutual respect. *This month:*

**LifePractices.** This workshop encourages us to see every moment of our regular, daily lives as an opportunity to deepen our spiritual awareness and connections.

**April 28<sup>TH</sup>—Soul Matters** We will take time to engage our individual spiritual life, hear each others' stories and build deeper connections with one another, using as a focus the Soul Matters theme of Justice and Equity.



## **Trans Inclusion in Congregations course continues Sunday, April 7!**

This course, developed by the Transforming Hearts Collective, is generously funded by the Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry. In six sessions, it explores creating fully inclusive and affirming congregations. We'll explore beloved community, trans identity and spirituality, and congregational culture and tools for transforming culture. We meet on the first and second Sundays of each month from 1–2:30PM. You may still join! Register using this link: <https://forms.gle/fdNBowX4xifPZ7be9>

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

## **Adventures in Religion**

August 6, 2023, through July 21, 2024

Sundays at 9:45AM on Facebook Messenger and by phone. We explore world religions. We are discussing *What Everyone Should Know about Islam and Muslims*, by Suzanne Haneef. 1996, 14th edition, Library of Islam. Paperback: ISBN: 0-935782-00-1. We read out loud together. No need to read in advance.

*“Written by an American Muslim, this work presents a brief yet comprehensive survey of the basic teachings on Islam.”* [Amazon, excerpt]

Feel free to join by phone or online at home or at church in the Sophia Lyon Fahs Room before the service. For access contact: Marian Wendel, [mwendel@netzero.net](mailto:mwendel@netzero.net).

### **This Month's Estimated Preview**

Part Three: The Collective Aspect

V. Islam in Society

VI. Islam and the Moral World

Part Four: The Islamic Way of Life

VII. The Performance of the Acts of Worship

1. Prayer (Salah)

2. Fasting (Sawm)

3. Poor-Due

VIII. Islamic Festivals and Observances

1. The Festival Ending the Fast

2. The Festival of Sacrifice

IX. Family Life

1. Marriage and the Roles of Husband and Wife

## **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 Titles:**

**Thursday, March 28 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—A**

*Full Life: Reflections at Ninety* by Jimmy Carter

**Thursday, May 2 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—The**

*Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride [fiction]

**Thursday, May 30 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—Oath**

*and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning* by Liz Cheney [nonfiction]

**April 2024**

## **CUUPs News**

**Picnic with the Pagans** Join after the Crafter's Meeting on the second Saturday of each month for a potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share and enjoy food and fellowship.

## **Crafters Group Welcomes All**

Do you draw? Knit? Crochet? Paint? Jewelcraft? Write? Or any other craft that can be carried with you and done anywhere? Then bring your supply bring your supplies to All Peoples on the 2<sup>ND</sup> and/or 4<sup>TH</sup> Saturday of any month and join our social crafting group. Newcomers are always welcome. We meet on the 2<sup>ND</sup> and 4<sup>TH</sup> Saturday of the month in Jagggers Parlor from 12:30pm until 2:30PM.

## **Caring & Sharing Cart**

Caring and Sharing is sponsoring a give-and-take cart, Sundays after church, at the corner of the foyer and the hallway that leads to Jagggers Parlor. Take a look! It is not the orange grocery cart, which is only for donations to Eastside Ministries.

It is a utility cart stocked with essential non-food household items, such as paper goods, personal hygiene products, disposable dishes, cleaning supplies, and soap/detergent. Anyone who needs an item on the cart may take it. Church members and friends are invited to donate items as they are willing and able. There is also a cash donation jar on the cart for those who want to donate that way. The cart is available for give-and-take during the time after church each Sunday, and is kept locked up at all other times.

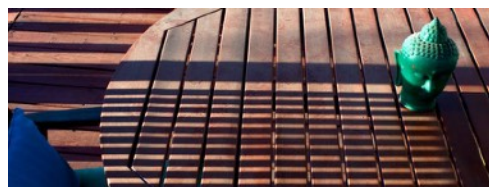
## **Don't Forget to Feed Me**

**Thank you for your generous ongoing support of this program!**

Your donations make a significant impact by enabling us to purchase pet food and provide support. Together, we can ensure that no pet goes hungry. See Jo Burnham or Karl Thibodeaux for more information on how to help.

## **Dharma Friends at All Peoples**

*Meets Sunday, 6:45pm, Jagggers Parlor* The first 15 minutes will be time for everyone to get settled in, have some tea and if there are any questions about meditation. Sessions are offered by Radiant Heart Ministry whose goals are to cultivate spiritual friendship as a sangha and also with our communities. Deepening our own practices, but also by engaging with those in the communities that could use a friend. This group is open to everyone. You don't have to be or become a Buddhist to join. Cultivating a loving heart and mind is the intention.



## Courier #453 April 2024

All Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist  
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### Next Courier, Issue #454

Submission Date  
Tuesday, April 30, 2024 10am  
Send articles to  
[administrator@allpeopleschurchuu.org](mailto:administrator@allpeopleschurchuu.org)

