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.

May 1, 2024 | Fort Worth, TX | Number 454

President's Message

We have been given a grant from NTUUC for $10,000 to support a new minster. This is great. We need $40,000 to hire a minister. Pledges are up $22,000 so far. Plus $10,000 grant still gives us $32,000. That is $8,000 short of the $40,000 needed. We are working to complete the pledge drive. If you have already pledged, I ask you to consider doing more. We are so close.

The Spring Congregational Meeting is Sunday, May 19th at 1p. Right after the service will be a farewell reception for Sarah Berel-Harrop with food and cake. Let's all wish Sarah success in her future endeavors. Come to congregational meeting to hear plans for the church and a report on hiring a minster.

Building notes: the air-conditioning in the kitchen and the nursery has been repaired; we are having repairs done to the doors for Sudbury School; we have a donation to replace the convection oven in the kitchen; and plan to get the dishwasher repaired or replaced. The goal is to have kitchen in good shape for the Fall. With the heavy rain we have had water getting in a number of places. We are addressing that. Bill Maginnis has done some work to improve drainage. This is making our cash flow tight. Please keep up with your pledge and pay your new pledge amount now.

~Dan Sexton, Board President

Worship With Us This Month!

May 5

CUUPs Anniversary

Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans

Join CUUPS in a maypole dance as we celebrate Beltane and May Day for our 30th anniversary here at All Peoples UU Church.

May 12

The Dawn of Post-Pride Parenthood

Lori King-Nelson, M. Div.

The term Happy Mother's Day has been changing for decades and, Post-Pride, we are seeing a rapid shift from traditional definitions of motherhood and toward a broader, more inclusive understanding of what it means to be a parent.

May 19

Music To Live by

Guy Thornton

This service will celebrate pop & rock music in which we might find inspiration and spiritual guidance using chart toppers of various genres. The music selections include choices from members of the congregation.

May 26

Seeking the Divine(s)

Lori King-Nelson, M.Div

Lindsay Boyer says, "We live in a culture in which many of us are increasingly exposed to faith traditions other than the ones with which we grew up. Once we become knowledgeable about other faiths, we are unlikely to have the same prejudices we may have learned as children. We see that people of other faiths are struggling with moral issues similar to our own and we begin to believe that there may be more than one path to the Divine and that our own religion may not be the sole and exclusive source of truth."

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

Religious Education News

We are lifelong learners

"We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.

We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning, we embrace our differences and commonalities with love, curiosity, and respect."

~UUA Proposed Article II

Our Soul Matters theme for May is Pluralism. 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 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, May 12TH, 12PM (after worship) to 1PM, I will hold drop-in space in Jaggers 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 May 5 who will be staying for child care!

Religious Education programming begins at 9:45AM

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.

May 5TH—*Gather the Spirit* We'll explore myriad ways of expressing spirituality. *This week:* "Faith comes in many shapes", our RE Coordinator, Rain Brady will be discussing the major world religions, and how they all connect within humanity.

May 12TH—*Song Sung Sunday* We'll sing and listen to songs, including the story behind the music. This month: *Soul Matters* theme—***Pluralism***!

May 19TH—*Explorations into UU identity or science and the natural world* This Sunday: **Claire Morgan** will be sharing her experience with Unitarianism in Transylvania.

May 26TH—*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.

Rain Brady, RE Coordinator, allpeoplesre@gmail.com

Adult Faith Formation

We offer different opportunities every Sunday

May 5TH—*Unitarian Universalist Ethics* We'll discuss ethical frameworks in the What We Choose curriculum and apply our learnings to case studies. *This month:* ***An Ethic of Risk.*** Explore UU theologian Sharon Welch's ethic of risk, which includes exploration of what responsible action means and how grounding in community and taking strategic risk can ground moral action.

May 12TH—*Social Justice Sunday* Mothers Day: Honoring motherhood includes honoring a pregnant person's decisions about whether and when to become a mother. About 60% of those who have abortions have already given birth to at least one child prior to their abortion. Abortion care is an essential part of comprehensive health care. We are thrilled to invite special guests Bans Off Our Bodies to speak to us about how we can support the whole range of reproductive justice priorities. They will also share information about TEA Fund, a local abortion fund.

May 19TH—*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 integrate our spirituality and our justice work.

May 26TH—*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 pluralism.

~Julia Sexton, Adult RE Coordinator, 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.*

This Month's Estimated Preview

Part Four: The Islamic Way of Life

XI. Daily Life

1. Work and Striving
2. Knowledge
3. Money and Possessions
4. Food and Eating
5. Dress

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, May 30 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—
Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning by by Liz Cheney [nonfiction]

Thursday, June 27 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—
The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar [fiction]

Thursday, July 25 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—
How to Say Babylon: A Memoir by Safiya Sinclair [nonfiction]

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 2ND and/or 4TH Saturday of any month and join our social crafting group. Newcomers are always welcome. We meet on the 2ND and 4TH Saturday of the month in Jaggers 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 Jaggers 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.

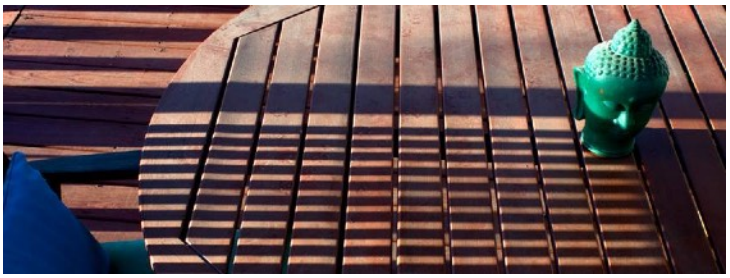
Don't Forget to Feed Me

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, Jaggers 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.



We Have Music!

All Peoples remains the best kept secret on the local classical music scene. Help us change that—**spread the word!**

Save The Date

Our pianist Misha Berestnev is performing a concert at church on Friday June 7 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will benefit our Sharon Redman Memorial Fund for music, choir, and musicians at All Peoples Church. Please save the date and make plans now to attend. More details about the event and program to follow!

Jon Lee in Recital

A solo recital featuring Jon Lee, 1st Prize Winner of the 2022 Cliburn International Amateur Piano Competition and friend of Spectrum Chamber Music, on Friday May 17 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Jon is traveling from his home in California to be part of the ensemble for Spectrum Chamber Music's May 20 fundraising event, American Portraits, featuring music of celebrated American composers (find out more here). Since he'll be here already, he has enthusiastically agreed to give an extra solo performance to help benefit Spectrum Chamber Music Society.

The recital will be presented with Jon at the piano in the middle of the sanctuary with the audience sitting in a large circle around him. The result will be a different kind of experience than the usual Spectrum concert, one that creates a strong feeling of community, which is something All Peoples Church strives to do on a regular basis.

In other words, this concert will be the perfect combination of performer, host, venue and atmosphere. Join us!

This also just happens to be a house concert won in the raffle at last year's Spectrum fundraising event by All Peoples Church member and Spectrum Uber-fan, David Binde. Rather than present the house concert in his actual house, he has chosen to host it at his home away from home, All Peoples Church, and use it as an additional fundraiser for Spectrum. ***THANK YOU, DAVID!***

Courier #454 May 2024

All Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist
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Next Courier, Issue #455

Submission Date
Tuesday, May 28, 2024 10am
Send articles to
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