



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.

August 1, 2024

Fort Worth, TX

Number 457

Minister's Message

August 1st marks a new chapter in my life. Since 2016, I have been more of an itinerant preacher, serving a different church each Sunday, and feeling fortunate to serve two or three Sundays in a row if the minister was on vacation. One morning, nearly two years ago, I arrived at All Peoples Church, never imagining I would find kindred hearts and a deeply spiritual church family—that first day I told a colleague, "I think I found my home." Who knew that this would be a new beginning for me? And now, two years later, it is a new beginning for all of us.

I want to hear your goals for the church (*and your goals for me too!*) but mostly, I want us to dream together, grow together, and love together.

See you Sunday and bring a friend!

*Grace and Peace,
Lori*

Worship With Us This Month!

August 4

At the Level of the Gods

Joel Bailey

A spiritual response to current events from a religious minority perspective, and a prayer for summer rain.

August 11

New Beginnings

Lori King-Nelson, M.Div

Opportunities for change present themselves to us every day—sometimes we let them pass us by and sometimes we embrace the moment in a leap of faith. As a congregation, we are moving into an exciting new chapter in the life of All Peoples Church. Are you ready?

August 18

Opportunities in Religious Exploration for Adults

Facing Death With Life: If you would indeed behold the spirit of death, open your heart wide unto the body of life **presented by Julia Sexton**

Social Justice coordinator Jane Collins will share information on our social justice book discussion group at All Peoples Church and our joint work with other people of faith in Tarrant county. We will also look for opportunities to support the work of the Texas UU Justice Ministry.

Less Me, More We: Can we as a church family improve our relationships with each other, to strengthen ourselves as individuals and to become together a stronger force for good in the world?

Colleen Brewer

Journeys is a small-group ministry in which we discuss a topic from our own experience. It is a time to explore our individual spiritual lives, hear each others' stories and build deeper connections with one another. **Laurie Mikitka**

August 25

Young and Old Can Dream Together

Lori King-Nelson, M.Div

It is said that the age of a pastor is usually a reflection of the median age of a church's members. That may be true but a healthy, inclusive church needs the dreams of all ages. How can we dream together in a way that serves the needs of our congregation and our community?

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

Judy Gutierrez

Beloved long time member Judy Ann Gutierrez died Tuesday, 07/31/2024 at 1:44pm. She died in her own bed with her husband of 62 years, Patrick, discovering that Judy had stopped breathing. Judy had been in home hospice for dementia cared for by Patrick and Laura, her husband and daughter. A memorial service for Judy will be held at All Peoples Church later in the month.

President's Message

Board Vice President Ros Hunter and I went to an NTUUC meeting of area church presidents and vice-presidents. There are 12 congregations in the region. Dennis Strouble, board president of NTUUC said the greater DFW area is the fastest growing part of the country and that UU congregations should all see growth from this.

The big question is how to let people know who we are. People are looking for community. Many folks are looking for spiritual exploration in a place with open thought and free discussion. How do we best market ourselves? I think we have a great website. Most visitors have checked out our website before they come.

Is social media a marketing area to explore? How do we produce short, clear video and audio content that explains what we are about? Ros is producing audio interviews with members that will be posted on the website as podcasts. This is a great start. Where do we go next?

~Dan Sexton, Board President

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 year has come to a close. You can also explore it on your own with spiritual practices, words of wisdom, songs, and videos suggested in the Soul Matters packet. Email me to receive the virtual or hard copy packet, 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.

*All Religious Education Programming is over for the summer, we will be resuming on **September 1st** from 9:45am-10:45am for adults, and from 11:15am-12:30pm for children and youth RE.*

Children & Youth Religious Education cannot be possible without the help of volunteers, we ask that volunteers give just one Sunday to help our children and youth build essential faith foundations. To find out more about volunteering, please contact Rain Brady at AllPeoplesRE@Gmail.com.

Nursery

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

Other news

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.

If you are interested in volunteering to help Family Style RE, please fill out this form here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17Rw17-svPbXa71oe_y_1pht8ulP_SoJdrn4In9vZF1o/viewform?edit_requested=true

Rain Brady, RE Coordinator, allpeoplesre@gmail.com

Adult Faith Formation

Programming returns in September!

Upcoming Changes to Adult Faith Formation

There are a few changes to our schedule for the year ahead, that include some after-church programming. month's Courier.

1ST Sunday Morning—Principled Commitment, facilitated by Colleen Brewer. How can we apply our UU Principles to our human interactions and commitments?

2ND Sunday Morning—Connections/Social Time AFTERNOON—Social Justice Book Study, facilitated by Jane Collins and Joel Bailey

3RD Sunday Morning—UU Spirituality Curricula facilitated by Julia Sexton

4TH Sunday Morning—Journeys/Soul Matters with Laurie Mikitka

5TH Sunday Morning—"Make-Up" days

*In combination with the Membership Committee's Inquirers' series (1ST & 3RD Sunday afternoons), the church will be offering Adult Enrichment on **three Sunday mornings**, and **three Sunday afternoons** each month! We look forward to seeing new and returning faces when we resume.*

~Julia Sexton, Adult RE Coordinator



Be sure to check out our new Instagram page: [allpeoplesuu](https://www.instagram.com/allpeoplesuu)

Adventures in Religion

August 6, 2023, through August 25, 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

XII. Human Relationships

2. Relations with Christians (continued)

Part Five: Conclusion

We will also begin discussing the chapter on Islam, including Islamic religious art, pp. 174 – 195, in *World Religions: The Great Faiths Explored & Explained* by John Bowker, D.K. Publishing, Inc. Paperback. ISBN 13: 978-0-7566-1772-1.

Introduction

No God but Allah

The Prophet Mohammed

The Qur'an

Jihad and Shari'a

The Five Pillars of Islam

The Islamic State

Sufi Orders and Beliefs

Islam and Science

The Mosque

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, August 22 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—
The Western Wind by Samantha Harvey [fiction]

Thursday, September 26 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom
—*Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World—and Why Things Are Better Than You Think* by Hans Rosling [nonfiction]

Thursday, October 24 at 7:00PM (CST) via Zoom—
The Women by Kristin Hannah [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.

August 2024

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 Jagers 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 Jagers 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.



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

2024 Board Of Trustees

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www.facebook.com/FirstJefferson

Next Courier, Issue #458

Submission Date
Tuesday, August 27, 2024 10am
Send articles to
administrator@allpeopleschurchuu.org