

January 2018

All Souls News

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 9449 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport, LA 71106 | (318) 868-3313 | www.allsoulsshreveport.org

Board of Directors

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Term ends June 2019

Vice President:

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Term ends June 2018

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Member at Large:

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Member at Large:

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Term ends June 2018

Member at Large:

Juan Villarreal
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Term ends June 2019

January Services

Worship Service starts at 11 a.m.

*Children and Youth are dismissed during the service for Religious Education.
Nursery care is available during Adult RE (9:15 a.m.) and till the service ends.*

January 7 - "The Moral of the Story" by Rev. Barbara Jarrell, beginning our focus on our Third Source, "The Wisdom of the World's Religions, which guides us in our ethical and spiritual life. " A newcomer information session will follow the service.

Board Persons of the Day: Phil Boswell and Bennett Upton

January 14 - "Thus Does Conscience Make Cowards of Us All" by retired Shreveport civil rights attorney and All Souls member **Henry Walker**, speaking in honor of the celebration of the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Board Persons of the Day: James Peck and John Allen

January 21 - "Inner Consciousness" by Dr. Manohar Manchandia, local pediatrician and one of the founders of the Sadhu Vaswani Hindu Temple and Cultural Center, will speak to us on this World Religion Day.

Board Persons of the Day: Cindy Mandarino and Alice Normand

January 28 - Rev. Barbara Jarrell is back in the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Nicki McLain and Eric First

Give to the Gwen Gow Music Fund



The Gwen Gow Music Fund was established at All Souls as a pass-through fund for the purpose of offering a stipend to the choir director. For years, Rev. Barbara has volunteered her talents in this capacity with her whole heart, not only directing but often accompanying the choir and writing original music for them to perform. Bob Jordan proposed and created the fund as a tribute to his late wife, Gwen Gow, for whom music was an integral and meaningful part of the worship experience. To contribute, you can write a check to All Souls for any amount and specify Gwen Gow Fund in the memo line .

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

OFFICE EMAIL office@allsoulsshreveport.org

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

is Tuesday, Jan 16

Early submissions are
always welcomed

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All Souls is a
Welcoming
Congregation.



FROM THE MINISTER

By Rev.

Barbara Jarrell



A Light in the Darkness

Any number of times during the 6 or 8 weeks of our Jewish and Christian Heritage study I have made reference to the passage “the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it” from the book of John chapter 1 verse 5 out of the Christian testament. In various translations of the text the second half of that passage is not only presented as “the darkness has not overcome it”, “can never extinguish it”, “has never put it out”, or “did not overtake it” (interesting that they don’t even agree on verb tense) but the phrase is also translated as “the darkness did not perceive it” “did not comprehend it”, and “the darkness has not mastered it”. So not only has the dark been unable to get rid of the light, but it cannot even grasp the meaning of it. I think on so very many levels all of that is true.

As we move from the Jewish and Christian Heritage focus into that of World Religions I offer this excerpt from the “Zen Moments” website <http://zenmoments.org>.

“The darker it gets, the more brightly the light shines. I once asked Ringu Tulku Rinpoche how to deal with the enormity of what we (society) may be facing. His simple answer impressed me deeply. ‘If you do your best and the situation is turned around then that is good and there will be good fruits of those actions. But,’ he said, ‘if you do your best and the situation is not turned around then that is still good and there will still be good fruits of those actions. We will never know if it is enough. Motivation and intention is everything. The outcome is out of our hands.’”

This side of the solstice as more light returns to the northern hemisphere I want to keep reminding us that our faith calls us to *be light* in this world of ours. No surprises here. I am asking us all to continue doing our best to grow in understanding, insight, and compassion. To reference liberal religion’s most notable 20th century theologian, James Luther Adams, good must be consciously given form and power within history. The resources both human and divine that are available for achieving meaningful change still justify an attitude of ultimate optimism. Always, more will be revealed with time. We have the moral obligation to set our efforts toward establishing just and loving community. We only embody those ideals when set our intentions on the high ground and resist getting swallowed up in sarcasm, cynicism, negativity, or hostility.

(continued on page 5)

REsources for the REsistance

“All too often, people hate what they fear, and fear what they don’t understand. To engage with other faiths is to commit to greater understanding.”



*By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education*

We’ve come to that time in the year when we celebrate our 3rd Source, “Wisdom of the world’s religions that guides us in our ethical and spiritual life.” Often, people just learning about our faith tend to misunderstand this source, sometimes to the point of calling us “that church with all the religions.” I admit I’ve written a few newsletter columns and preached a few mini-sermons on the topic, but if you have children in the Religious Education program at All Souls, or for that matter, if you are an adult currently taking our World Religions class, I want you to know that our purpose here is to grow Unitarian Universalists.

We try to broaden and deepen your knowledge of other faith traditions, to share their stories and teachings in the hope that you find the treasure within that is meant for you. When a parent says, “I wanted to bring my child here because she can learn about all the religions, and then make her choice when she grows up,” I say, “She will learn about other religions, *and* she will learn how they enrich her path as a Unitarian Universalist.” There is no question that when our children grow up, they do have a choice: to continue growing as a Unitarian Universalist throughout the lifespan, to choose another faith path, or to choose no faith at all. I know of no UU parents who would try to force their young adult children to remain in the faith, nor do I know any of our young adults who would stand for it. What I want, instead, is for our children and youth to grow into young adults who make a free choice...*to be Unitarian Universalists.*

As a part of the learning experience at this time of year, I hope that all of you will consider enriching your own knowledge of the many faith traditions right here in the Shreveport-Bossier area by attending the 19th annual celebration of World Religion Day, Sunday, January 21, from 1-5 p.m. at the Highland Center, 520 Olive St. in Shreveport. All too often, people hate what they fear, and fear what they don’t understand. To engage with other faiths is to commit to greater understanding.

The beauty of World Religion Day is not just the one day event, but the relationships that have formed over years of working on this event together, and the knowledge of each other and our various traditions that we have gained just from the time we’ve spent together. Does that mean that we’ve all come to agree with each other on every issue? Far from it! But we’ve spent enough time together that we know a lot of each other’s stories, we’ve formed friendships, and we are able to celebrate our common ground even as we openly and respectfully explore our differences.

It is fitting, too, that the celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday comes at this time of year. Dr. King truly embodied the spirit of enriching one’s own faith through knowledge and exploration of another. His Christian walk was inspired by Gandhi, a Hindu, who was in turn inspired by Jesus, and all three of them changed the world.

How will we change the world this year?

World Religion Day January 21, 2018 Diversity and Unity Create Community Ár nDraíocht Féi (Druidism) Roman Catholicism Refuge Meditation (Buddhism) Islam Judaism (Conservative) Egyptian Paganism/Kemetism Church for the Highlands (Cooperative Baptist) Eckankar-Religion of the Light and Sound of God Wicca Unity Southern Arkansas University World Religions Club Hinduism Judaism (Reform and Jewish Federation) Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Ark-La-Tex Freethinkers, Agnostics, and Atheists Soka Gakai International (SGI) Buddhism Followers of Jesus of Nazareth Baha'i Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) United Methodist Church Understanding

World Religion Day January 21 (Druidism) Roman Catholicism Egyptian Paganism/Kemetism Religion of the Light and Sound of God Wicca Unity Southern Arkansas University World Religions Club Hinduism Judaism (Reform and Jewish Federation) Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Ark-La-Tex Freethinkers, Agnostics, and Atheists Soka Gakai International (SGI) Buddhism Followers of Jesus of Nazareth Baha'i Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) United Methodist Church Underst

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World Religion Day January 21, 2018 Diversity and Unity Create Community



19th Annual Shreveport-Bossier

WORLD RELIGION DAY

Diversity and Unity Create Community

The Highland Center - 520 Olive St. - Shreveport, LA

January 21, 2018 – 1 PM to 5 PM

**Keynote: Bishop Michael Duca of the Roman Catholic Diocese
of Shreveport**

Featuring Table Displays, Music, Food, Panel Discussions

FREE...All are welcome!

Membership Matters

Newcomers Welcomed to Information Session

The Membership Committee will be facilitating an Information Session following the church service on January 7th. These sessions are held monthly to provide visitors and guests with a better understanding of our Unitarian Universalist faith. We will watch a short DVD from our Boston Headquarters providing some history of our movement with a focus on our Principles and Purposes that we Covenant as a Denomination. Questions are encouraged and a sharing of spiritual growth journeys is welcomed as we get to

know each other in a safe and supportive environment. Should you have any questions regarding Membership please see me in the church foyer or give me a call.

The Membership Committee is looking for additional members to better handle our duties of greeting & ushering, Information Sessions, Ingatherings, as well as building visitor packets. The work involved is important as we guide our visitors along the path toward membership. There is an excellent opportunity for our newer members and can help them

become better acquainted with our congregation and our denomination. If you are interested in finding out more about how you can become involved in the Membership committee, please see me at church or call me anytime.

Thanks,

Ron Thurston
Membership Chairman
318-300-9509



DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS January 2018 & Beyond

12-14 January 2018 "Under the Surface: 2018 Houston Youth Rally" (Emerson UU Church, Houston TX).

For youth ages 14 to 18. For more information, contact the church office or go online here:

<http://emersonhouston.org/religiouseducation-overview-2/children-youth/2018rally/>

23-25 February 2018 SWUU Women's Conference (Austin TX). For this year's conference, the keynote speaker is Texas State Representative Donna Howard, the featured musician is Kiya Heartwood, and the featured minister is Rev. Meg Barnhouse. For more information, go online here:

<http://swuuw.org/conferences/2018>

23-25 March 2018 North Texas YRUU Youth Rally (Location TBD). For youth ages 14 to 18. For more information, contact the church office.

25-27 May 2018 Louisiana YRUU Youth Rally (Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge LA). This date is tentative. For youth ages 14 to 18. For more information, contact the church office.

Submitted by Steve Caldwell, Denominational Affairs

From the Minister, continued from page 2)

As this month also includes Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, I will leave you with a quote from Dr. King--one that I know you have heard many times:

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

It is international and interfaith wisdom. May we have the heart and courage to live it.



Shreveport-Bossier Women's March 2018

Saturday, January 20 ~ 11:00 a.m.

On January 20, 2018, Women's March Shreveport-Bossier will unite in Downtown Shreveport to reaffirm our commitment to building a positive and just future for all, and to commemorate the anniversary of the first Women's March in 2017. This rally is designed to engage and empower all people to support women's rights, human rights, social and environmental justice, and to encourage participation in 2018 midterm elections.

HEAR OUR VOTE!

The mission of the Women's March is to harness the political power of women and their communities to create transformative social change. Women's March is a female led movement providing intersectional education on a range of issues and creating entry points for new grassroots activists and organizers to engage with their local communities through trainings, outreach, programs, and events.

The events of 2017 have led to a focus on voter education, voter outreach, and voter empowerment, all encompassed in the message for this year: "Hear Our Vote." Women's March Shreveport-Bossier is part of a national movement to unify and empower those who stand for women's rights, human rights, civil liberties, and social justice for all.

The Shreveport-Bossier march will be one of many worldwide events honoring the movement that brought out over 3 million marchers on January 21, 2017, in what is considered the largest single-day demonstration in U.S. history.

Following the march and rally on January 20, Women's March Shreveport-Bossier will also be engaging in community outreach events organized by partners whose advocacy is aligned with our Unity Principles - ending violence, reproductive rights, LGBTQIA rights, workers' rights, civil rights, disability rights, immigrant rights, Indigenous people's rights, and environmental justice. More information to come on these actions as we get closer to the event.

From **Women's March Shreveport-Bossier**, <https://www.facebook.com/events/544473482551747/>

Our Volunteer of the Month for January is
Phil Boswell

Phil has joined Kathy Osuch and Rovenia Windsor as an office volunteer, working Wednesdays and Fridays, doing a job that includes checking mail and email, answering the phone, showing the church for prospective wedding parties, and a line in the job description that actually says, "Deal with whatever happens or find somebody who can." Additionally, Phil is a regular at Building and Grounds Days, he sings bass in the choir, and has taken on the responsibility of Choir Librarian, resulting in music files more organized than we've ever seen them!

As if all of this weren't enough, he also serves on the Board, and along with Amanda Lawrence, took on the responsibility of planning and executing a terrific Christmas party that emerged from first idea to fruition in a matter of five days!

For all of this great service to the church, and the attitude with which he performs it, we are delighted to offer the Parking Spot of Honor to Phil Boswell

Try Yoga at All Souls

All are invited to join Valarie Lorigans for yoga on Thursdays at 5:45 p.m. at All Souls. There will be no class on Thanksgiving Day.

Bring a mat, if you have one, otherwise Valarie has a few loaners. Class fee is "by donation."

Valarie began her yoga journey in 2007 and is eager to share its benefits with others. She has attended numer-

ous workshops on yoga and completed a 200-hour Yoga Alliance teacher training with Ally Ford. She considers yoga a remarkable tool for building a sense of sharing and support among friends and family, and loves to watch others grow, finding strength and balance through yoga.

Valarie also teaches at Aspire Yoga Studio.



2018 Pledge Drive ***Are You IN?***

INcluded, INvested, INVolved

Give Away the Plate

All Souls "gives away the plate" on the last Sunday of every month.

Give Away the Plate recipients are selected by the Board of Directions.

Do you have a suggestion? Contact your favorite board member with the name and mission of your selected charity.

Building & Grounds Work Day



Second Saturday of
Every Month

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All ages and abilities
encouraged to
participate!

Highland Blessing Dinner

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church co-hosts the Highland Blessing Dinner on the first Thursday of every month. On months with five Thursdays, all sponsoring churches are asked to send volunteers.




The intent of the meals is to serve individuals and families who may "fall through the cracks" of social services. Currently, more than 120 meals are being served each Thursday.

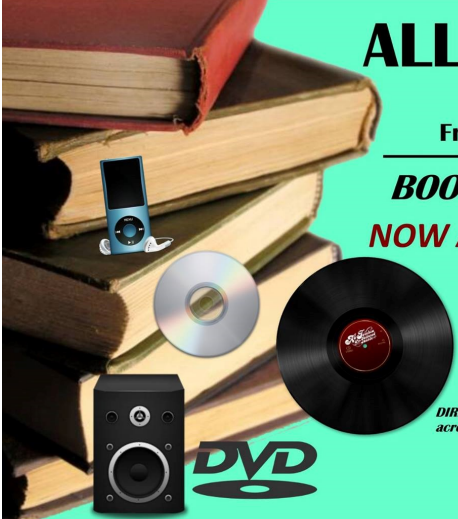
Volunteers are needed to host tables, serve, and help in several other capacities—but the cooking is already done.

Sign up with Susan Caldwell or just show up at the Highland Center, 520 Olive Street, at 5 p.m.

Upcoming Meal(s): Feb 1 and March 1



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2 6PM Together Louisiana Under the Texas St. Bridge 7PM TED Talks	3 5:30PM Choir	4 5PM Support Group 5PM Highland Blessing Dinner (Page 7) 5:45PM Yoga	5	6 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
7 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE 12PM Newcomer Info Session (Page 5) 1:30PM LTA 5PM Course in Miracles	8	9 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	10 5:30PM Choir	11 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga 6:00 PM Worship Committee	12	13 9AM to 1PM Building & Grounds Work Day 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF 
14 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE 5PM Course in Miracles	15 MLK Day 6:00 PM—Board Meeting	16 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	17 5:30PM Choir	18 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	19 7PM Game Night 	20 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
21 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 1 PM World Religion Day 5PM Course in	22	23 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	24 5:30PM Choir	25 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	26	27 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF
28 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 5PM Course in Miracles	29	30 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	31 5:30 PM Choir			
January						



ALL SOULS MEDIA SALE

JANUARY 26, 27, and 28
Fri, 4-7pm; Sat, 10am-2pm; Sun, 10am-1pm

BOOKS! DVDS! VINYL! CDS! & MORE!
NOW ACCEPTING YOUR UNWANTED MEDIA

Please drop off your donations at:
9449 Ellerbe Road
Shreveport, LA 71106
 **@allsoulsshreveport**

Please message us to make arrangements to pick up or drop off.

DIRECTIONS: Take Line Avenue/Ellerbe Road south past Bert Kouns. All Souls is on the left, across from Kroger and before you get to the CVS on Flournoy-Lucas.

Paperbacks 50 cents, Hardcover \$1 (unless otherwise marked)
Sunday: \$5 a bag (anything you can fit in a bag for \$5)

NOW COLLECTING YOUR UNWANTED BOOKS & MORE!

Cleaning out for the new year? All Souls wants your books, DVDs, vinyl, CDs, puzzles, and board games for our annual Media Sale! Office is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and, of course, we're here Sundays from about 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are also looking for at least two volunteers to work each shift. Can you help?

Please no cassettes, old TVs, items with missing pieces, non-working items, large speakers, stereo systems, or storage cabinets. Thank you.