

July 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

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Term ends June 2020

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Member at Large:

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Member at Large:

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Term ends June 2020

July 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.*

July 1, 2018 "Something About Independence" Our Board President, Bennett Upton, is in the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Cindy Mandarin and Jeff Gauger

July 8, 2018 "The Day Will Come When the Church Will Break Your Heart. (A Joyful Message)." Susan Caldwell, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, is in the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Nicki McLain and Leigh Anne Chambers

July 15, 2018 Claudia Harris returns to our pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Bennett Upton and Rebekah Dickson

July 22, 2018 Shreveport poet and author Loretta Casteen is in the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Rebekah Dickson and Jeff Gauger

July 29, 2018 Amanda Lawrence returns to the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Bennett Upton and John Allen

July in the RE Wing

July 1— Origami with Noah Wagstaff and Zoe Williams

July 8— Crafts and Games with Kayla and Cameron

July 15—Crafts and Games with Kayla and Jax

July 22—Cool, science-y stuff with Amanda Lawrence

July 29 — Water Balloon Art with Leigh Anne and Joshua Chambers

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

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

is Tuesday, August 28

Early submissions are
always welcomed

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All Souls is a
Welcoming
Congregation.



REsources for the REsistance

The Day Will Come When the Church Will Break Your Heart

This column is unabashedly a teaser for a sermon I am preaching on July 8, so if you want to know how it ends, I'll see you in church!

Every week in our church services and our religious education classes, we talk about covenant. Covenant, after all, is what unites us... as a class, a board or committee, as a congregation, as an association of congregations. This tradition of covenant comes down to us from our early American Congregationalist forebears, who, far from home and establishing a church among strangers who didn't know each other, met together for months to talk with each other, and cared more for determining their community structure and their relationship to each other than for the finer points of theology. Their covenant was ultimately written down in what we know today as *The Cambridge Platform*.

We define covenant as something more than rules, something greater than a mere agreement, reaching back to its Biblical connotations as a sacred agreement, often invoking the Spirit of Life as we understand it to be present in our connections. We teach our children the word "promises" in this context. Our covenant consists of the sacred promises we make to each other concerning how we will be together in community.

A covenant is not mushy or pie-in-the-sky. A covenant is not just about holding hands and singing "Kum Ba Yah," and by the way, I truly detest that expression and all that it has come to mean. First, white people co-opt a beautiful song of African-American origins, a lament most likely sung first in the Gullah creole language of the South Carolina low country, asking the Source and Spirit of life to "come by here" in times of great need and sorrow. We loved it so much that we taught it to our sweet little privileged white church kids and our Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts...to the point, of course, that we made it a cliché so that we could then re-brutalize it with our oh-so-clever white liberal snark and turn it

into a synonym for getting together to do nothing of consequence. In the words of the formidable Emma Gonzales, "I call BS!" But I do digress. I believe that is another whole sermon.

Our covenant is not just about right relations and good behavior, although it is certainly about that. It is also the framework within which we work out our own individual faith journeys. We need the mirrors of community, to challenge us, to show ourselves to ourselves, to reflect back, and to help us hone and strengthen what is ours. My friend and colleague Joy Berry calls this "wrought faith," the stage that theologian James Fowler left out of his developmental Stages of Faith...the ongoing stage that spans all the others, whereby we mold and shape our faith on the anvil of community and in the fire of love.

But yes, I said that someday, the day will come when the church will break your heart. Perhaps your heart will break because ours is a living tradition, change is inevitable, and sometimes we are not ready for that change. Perhaps the church was too reticent in taking a public stand on an issue that was important to you. Perhaps the church took too strong a stand on an issue with which you disagreed. Sometimes your heart will break because humans have behaved badly. It happens. Covenants are made by human beings, in all their flawed and beautiful brokenness, and covenants, too, are broken, sometimes in the most painful ways. Whether you are new to the church or a member of long standing, if your heart is broken, the heart-break is unquestionably real and most painful because of all you expected when you became a part of the church. You were home. You were with people who "got you," so how could this happen? Remember, though, that we include a period of discernment in the process of becoming a member. (Continued on page 4)



By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious
Education

UU Summer Camp Opportunities

1-7 July 2018 Seeger Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Kerrville TX). Summer camp for children in rising grades 8 and 9. For more information, go online to www.ubaru.org.

8-14 July 2018 Reeb Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Kerrville TX). Summer camp for children in rising grade 10 through 2018 high school graduates. For more information, go online to www.ubaru.org.

22-27 July 2018 The Point (Lake Murray Lodge – near Ardmore OK). All-ages customizable retreat for children, youth, young adults, and older adults. For more information, go online using <http://www.thepointuu.org/>

2-5 August 2018 Youth Astronomy Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Kerrville TX). For more information, go online using <http://ubaru.org/home/YouthAstronomyCamp>

31 August – 3 September 2018 Labor Day Weekend Star Party (U-Bar-U Camp – near Kerrville TX). This event is intended for both serious amateur astronomers and casual observers who want to appreciate the wonders of the night sky. The weekend will include lectures and workshops conducted by professional and / or distinguished astronomers, a variety of recreational activities, and a Texas BBQ with door prizes. For more information, go online to www.ubaru.org.

Submitted by Steve Caldwell, Denominational Affairs

Breathe, said the wind.

*How can I breathe at a time like this,
when the air is full of the smoke
of burning tires, burning lives?*

Just breathe, the wind insisted.

*Easy for you to say, if the weight of
injustice is not wrapped around your
throat, cutting off all air.*

I need you to breathe.

I need you to breathe.

*Don't tell me to be calm
when there are so many reasons
to be angry, so much cause for despair!*

I didn't say to be calm, said the wind,

I said to breathe.

*We're going to need a lot of air
to make this hurricane together.*

~Lynn Ungar

Security Camera Installation

Saturday, July 28, 2018

8:30 a.m. – until it's done

Rebecca Norris, known to many of us as the President of the Shreveport chapter of Louisiana Trans Advocates, also installs security camera systems for a living. She is donating her expertise and several cameras, and charging the church only for the DVR and the cameras that will need to be purchased.

Rebecca will need a crew of 8 healthy and agile people capable of crawling around in the ceiling to install the wiring. It will be hot, strenuous work. Several people from LTA have volunteered, and at least two from the church.

We will also need people to provide water, snacks and lunch to keep the crew going. With this new system that members will be able to monitor visually from home, we hope to save the monthly cost of our security company. If you can help with this installation, please call or text Bennett Upton at 318-533-7321.

Interfaith Neighborhood Meeting
Thursday, July 19, 2018 6:00 p.m.
Paradise Baptist Church
1706 Hollywood Ave., Shreveport

NORTHERN
and CENTRAL
LOUISIANA Interfaith

On the Agenda:

- **Universal Pre-K**— Interfaith is campaigning to make Pre-K available to all of our children, regardless of economics or geography.
- **Property Standards** — Leaders are asked to bring addresses and , if possible, photographs of blighted properties, streets in need of repair, etc.' that will be reported to the city.
- **Animal Control** will have a representative there to discuss those issues.
- **Workforce Development** - Interfaith's employer-driven workforce intermediary model can provide living wage jobs with a career path and benefits to the under-employed of our area.

REsources for the REsistance (Continued from Page 2)

I recommend to you that it is equally, vitally important to include that discernment in any decision to walk away or stay and work on the relationship. Whether your heart was broken by the words or actions of a single member or by a particular service, program, or decision of the Board, we have people and processes in place to return us to right relation. Let the heart that led you here remind you of why you came and lead you back into a new and stronger relationship with this community, eyes open to the beauty of all our imperfections.

- Susan Caldwell, Director of Religious Education



2018 Pledge Drive Are You IN?

INcluded, INvested, INVolved

Try Yoga at All Souls

All are invited to join Valarie Loridans 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

numerous 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.

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.



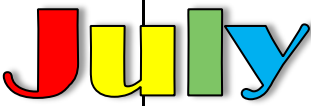

The intent of the meals is to serve individuals and families who may "fall through the cracks" of social services. Currently, more than 120 meals are being served each Thursday.

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): August 2

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE 1:30PM LTA 5PM Course in	2	3 6PM Together Tuesday Under the Texas St. Bridge 7PM TED Talks	4 Independence Day	5 NO Highland Blessing Dinner tonight 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	6 7PM Game Night 	7 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
8 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE 5PM Course in Miracles	9	10 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	11 5:30PM Choir	12 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	13	14 9AM to 1PM Building & Grounds Work Day 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF 
15 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE 12 PM Newcomer Info Session 5PM Course in Miracles	16	17 6:00 PM—Board Meeting 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	18	19 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	20 No Games Night	21 10:30AM Meditation 2:00 PM Private Party- Social Hall 3PM ADF
22 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE 5PM Course in Miracles	23	24 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group Newsletter articles submission deadline	25	26 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	27	28 8:30 AM Ssecurity Camera Installation All Day 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF
29 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE 5PM Course in Miracles	30	31 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group				

Volunteer of the Month— Tena Hines

In May, the Board voted unanimously to take the next few months to recognize the volunteers who formed the dynamic committee that coordinated April's super successful All Souls Annual Gala.

For July, we are happy to honor Tena Hines, who worked on every aspect of the event from the preliminary planning to the decorating and hosting. For the month of July, along with our gratitude, Tena will have the Parking Spot of Honor nearest the church.



Artist Sunday

is August 12, 2018!

One of our very favorite services of the year, this annual event

features some form of performing art for every element of the 11:00 service, and a **Visual Art Display and Sale** in the Religious Education