

JUNE 2016



All Souls News

A newsletter for the members and friends of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Shreveport, Louisiana

9449 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106 ♦ (318) 868-3313 ♦ www.allsoulsuushreveport.org

JUNE 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.*

June 5th — Please join us in welcoming **Rev. Susan Smith** back to our pulpit with “Crowd Control on the Road Less Traveled.” Susan says, “We get our first UU Source, direct experience of mystery and wonder, from our Transcendentalist ancestors who put great store in connecting with The Holy through their senses, the natural world, quiet time to think and very long walks. In their time, they were considered heretics but now they would fit in beautifully with the large group of us who identify ourselves as ‘spiritual but not religious.’ Even though it seems that everyone is going their own way and doing their own thing, it is possible to live a life both authentic and unique.” *Board Persons of the Day are Melissa Gibson and Jax Schmidt.*

June 12th — This morning, we welcome guest speaker, orthopedic surgeon **Dr. Deborah Fabian** speaking on her own journey as a transgender woman. Her working title is “Coming Home to Myself.” *Board Persons of the Day are Diane Bundy and John Allen.*

June 19th — In honor of Father’s Day, the Men’s Group is presenting this morning’s service. **Phil Boswell** is serving as the Worship Associate and **Abbas Moussaoui** will deliver the message. *Board Persons of the Day are Amanda Lawrence and Nicki McLain.*

June 26 — **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** is in the pulpit. *Board Persons of the Day are Eric First and Jocelyn Lanham.*

STATE OF EMERGENCE
FAITH FILLED PEOPLE RALLY FOR RACIAL JUSTICE LOVE



Gather with Unitarian Universalists, in collaboration with the Ohio Student Association, the People’s Justice Project, UU Justice Ohio and our multi-faith partners, for an interfaith event focusing on truth telling, fortification, and commitment to boldly work for black liberation.

Join Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II, Alicia Garza, President Rev. Peter Morales, and other Movement for Black Lives and multi-faith leaders for this year’s Public Witness.

A mass movement for black liberation continues to grow across the United States. The movement calls us- as people of faith and conscience- to center the lives and experiences of black people as we build an intersectional, anti-racist movement that transforms ourselves, our communities and our collective power. State of Emergence will complement programming about organizing for racial justice at GA 2016 including the Black Lives of UU and Building a Transformative Movement for Racial Justice workshop tracks, coupled with programming in general session, worship and healing/ritual space.

More information available at <https://www.uua.org/ga/justice/witness>.

OFFICE HOURS
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Office hours vary; call first to confirm
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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Tuesday, June 28 by 8 p.m.



Membership Matters

Visitors Invited to Info Session

By Ron Thurston,
Membership Committee



Do you want to know more about Unitarian Universalism and All Souls? Each month, the Membership Committee hosts a Newcomer Information Session for visitors and guests. Our next meeting is June 5, after the Sunday service.

Grab a cup of coffee and a snack in the social hall and then join us in the middle/high school classroom—the one with the couches.

The meeting is open to anyone interested in exploring more about Unitarian

Universalism and membership at All Souls.

We will watch a short DVD from the Unitarian Universalist Association headquarters, which spotlights our principles, our history, and our ongoing mission in the world.

We will also share ongoing activities at All Souls, ways to get involved, and our membership process.

Staff and members will be present to answer questions, and we will share spiritual journeys, as you are comfortable.

If you have any questions regarding membership, please see me before or after church or contact me at (318) 300-9509.

Rovena Windsor Selected for VOM

For the month of June, we honor one of our quieter, more behind-the-scenes volunteers, but one who is almost always serving the church in some capacity.

Rovena Windsor teaches at least one pillar of Religious Education each year. She and her husband **Boogie** (a.k.a. Mad Eye Moody) have also led cooking activities with the kids and both served as professors for our Hogwarts summer program several years ago.

A follower of the Druid path, Rovena is the facilitator of the local grove of Ár nDraíocht Féin (ADF), which meets every Saturday afternoon at the church at 3 p.m.

Always generous with her time and knowledge of her spiritual path, she has led worship services and spoken on Druidism for adult classes. She is a trained Worship Associate, has served on the Board, and lends a calm and reasoned presence to every group that is lucky to have her as a participant.

All men can take on the best characteristics of fatherhood: we can treat all persons as ends in and of themselves, rather than as means to meet our own ends; we can act as if all persons are of infinite value in and of themselves.

— Rev. Daniel Harper, Unitarian Universalist



Most recently, she has become our Tuesday office volunteer, and is not only answering the phones and emails and doing all the regular office tasks, but also taking time to clean up and reorganize our database, for which we are all immensely grateful!

For all of this and more, we are delighted to confer upon Rovena the Parking Spot of Honor!

Submitted by Susan Caldwell,
DLRE

CORNER OFFICE WITH A VIEW

The Work I Love and Those Who Work Beside Me



By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Yes, it's June, and yes, I'm still here!

In the past few weeks, several of you have approached me to ask about the status of my employment at All Souls, and I appreciate the concern with which you asked. You remembered the congregational meeting last December when you heard that if the pledges did not come in as needed, my position was to be eliminated at the end of June. Talking it over with the Finance Committee and the Board, I had chosen to take that risk as opposed to cutting my hours and salary in half, because it gave me some extra time at my accustomed salary and hours to find other arrangements if that were to prove necessary, and time to prepare the RE Committee and teachers to take over Religious Education at All Souls.

The good news is that early in the year, as early as January or February, I believe, many of you stepped up and either increased your pledges or made pledges you hadn't made yet, and I knew early on that I would indeed have a job, at least for the rest of this year! At the time, I was touched and overwhelmed by the support, and I wrote a sincere and heartfelt thanks in the newsletter, but didn't realize until the May 22nd congregational meeting, and even the week after, that a number of you had not known. And once again, I've been touched by the expressions of

concern that I might be leaving, and gratitude that I get to stay.

So let me say again, thank you, all of you, for giving me the opportunity to keep doing this work I love, and even more so, for doing that work along with me.

Thanks to all the teachers from this past pillar: **Diane Bundy** and **Jax Schmidt** in PreK/K1, **Jocelyn Lanham** and **Pamela Carlisle** in 2nd-5th Grade, and **Noah Wagstaff** and **Steve Caldwell** in Middle School and High School.

Very special thanks to Jocelyn and Noah for teaching throughout the year, and to Steve for so often being the DRE Spouse Who Saves the Day. In that regard, he is part of a legendary and highly respected brother-and-sisterhood in the world of Unitarian Universalism.

Many thanks to all the parents who faithfully bring your children each week, and to the children and youth who often bring your parents. (Those are some of my favorite stories!) And of course, thanks to all of the adults who've been coming to the morning classes throughout the year. You've made it big fun.

Having our church community together on Sunday to celebrate our children's transitions and to hear **Grant Upton** give his senior sermon, I was reminded once again how blessed I am to serve this congregation, so one more time....THANK YOU.



Building & Grounds Work Day



Saturday,
June 11

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): June 2 and July 7

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
JUNE			1 5:30PM Choir	2 5PM Support Group 5PM Highland Blessing Dinner 630PM New Thought Group	3 7PM Game Night 	4 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
5 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 1:30PM LTA	6 5:45PM Yoga	7 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	8 5:30PM Choir	9 5PM Support Group	10	11 9AM to 1 PM Building & Grounds Workday 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
12 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	13 5:45PM Yoga	14 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	15 5:30PM Choir	16 5PM Support Group 6:30PM New Thought Group 7PM Interfaith Leaders Meeting	17 7PM Game Night 	18 10:30 AM Meditation 1:30 PM Birdsong Music School Recital 3PM ADF
19 FATHER'S DAY 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship	20 NO YOGA TONIGHT	21 6PM Board & Council Meeting 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	22 5:30 PM Choir	23 5PM Support Group 7PM Interfaith Leaders' Meeting	24 6PM Wedding Rehearsal	25 10:30AM Meditation 11AM Wedding 3PM ADF
26 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	27 5:45PM Yoga	28 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	29 5:30PM Choir	30 5PM Support Group 6:30 New Thought Group	JULY 1 7PM Game Night	2 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF

2016 Unitarian Universalist Summer Camps

10-13 June 2015 Family Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/familyCamp>

19-25 June 2015 Sojourner Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children entering grades 3 through 5 in Fall 2016. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

26 June – 2 July 2016 Olympia Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children entering grades 6 and 7 in Fall 2016. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

3-9 July 2016 Seeger Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children entering grades 8 and 9 in Fall 2016. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

10-16 July 2016 Reeb Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children

entering grades 10 in Fall 2016 through 2016 high school graduates. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

24-29 July 2016 “The Point” Family Summer Retreat (formerly “Southwest

UU Summer Institute – SWUUSI” -- Western Hills Guest Ranch, Sequoyah State Park, Hulbert OK). For more information, contact the church office.

*Submitted by Steve Caldwell,
Denominational Affairs Committee*



DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS: June 2016 & Beyond



22-26 June 2016 UUA General Assembly (Columbus OH). General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. The theme for this year is “Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect.” The faith world is increasingly multi-faith. People are crossing borders of religion and spiritual practice to create wholeness in their lives individually and collectively. The labels – Christian, Jew, Muslim, Bud-

dhist, Hindu, theist and non-theist – no longer define who or what we love or how spirit moves in our lives. Leaders and communities of many faiths will assemble to worship together, learn from one another, and create a new vision of faith that no longer divides us but connects us to an interdependent future that works for all. Additional information can be found at <http://www.uua.org/ga>.

*Submitted by Steve Caldwell,
Denominational Affairs Committee*