

March 2018

# All Souls News

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

## Board of Directors

### **President:**

Bennett Upton  
trollgr@gmail.com  
Term ends June 2019

### **Vice President:**

John Allen  
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Term ends June 2018

### **Secretary:**

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Term ends June 2018

### **Treasurer:**

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### **Member at Large:**

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### **Member at Large:**

Cindy Mandarino  
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### **Member at Large:**

Alice Normand  
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Term ends June 2018

### **Member at Large:**

Juan Villarreal  
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Term ends June 2019

## March 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.*

**March 4, 2018 The Universal Translator** A service in celebration of our focus on our Third Source, "Wisdom of the world's religions, which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life." Although we may not quite have Star Trek technology to aid us in understanding multiple languages, we can employ our own "universal translators" when listening to religious language and practices that are not our own, to glean the wisdom within that is there for us.

**Board Persons of the Day: John Allen and James Peck**

**March 11, 2018 Celebration of Women Service** Our guest in the pulpit this morning is **Ms. Omari Ho-Sang**, organizer of ASAP Shreveport (All Streets, All People), who will speak on her work to improve education for all the children of Caddo Parish. This service is a part of the YWCA's Celebration of Women Month, and the beginning of our season of focus on Peace, Social Justice, and the Interdependent Web.

**Board Persons of the Day: Phil Boswell and Bennett Upton**

**March 18, 2018 "Moving Mountains in Shreveport"** We welcome Rev. Mack McCarter, founder and coordinator of Community Renewal International, back to our pulpit this morning. CRI works to build safe and caring communities here in Shreveport and across the nation through building relationships. Mack says, "We are fulfilled only as we serve others. We are complete only as we give ourselves to others. And we are perfected only as we seek to love others. This is our task: to become other-centered rather than self-centered."

**Board Persons of the Day: Cindy Mandarino and Jeff Gauger**

**March 25, 2018 "This I Believe"** A follow-on to our "Companions for the Journey" series in which three of our members and friends will speak on where they are now in their journeys, and how their faith informs their walk in the world. Our speakers this morning are **Leigh Anne Chambers, Megan Bennett, and James Peck**. Our **Slightly-Less-Than-Annual Chili Cookoff** will follow the service. See page 7 for more details.

**Board Persons of the Day: Alice Normand and Nicki McLain**



## Save the Date!

**All Souls Annual Gala and Silent Auction**

**April 28, 2018**

*Watch this newsletter and your weekly emails for more info!*

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

**OFFICE EMAIL** [office@allsoulsshreveport.org](mailto:office@allsoulsshreveport.org)

**OFFICE PHONE** (318) 868-3313

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

is Tuesday, March 26

Early submissions are  
always welcomed

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## Help Me Slay MS

Hello, my name is Diana Teeters. I have been attending All Souls since March of 2017, and I became a member this past summer. I'm grateful to be a part of this community. Thank you for your warm welcome.

I'm reaching out to you to help me raise money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. This year I'll be participating in my first Walk MS in Shreveport/ Bossier City on [April 7](#).

Just last year, I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. My sister, Deana started our team and named us "Diana's Dragon Slayers", knowing that I refer to my MS as a dragon. We are excited to participate in an event that brings together a community of passionate people to connect and raise funds to change the world for everyone affected by multiple sclerosis. I'd welcome your generous support as I prepare for my walk. I'm training now to walk the three-mile route.

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body. MS is different for everyone, and that makes it all the more challenging to solve. The first Walk MS event was in 1988, and since then more than \$1 billion has been raised for research and programs to improve the lives of people living with MS. [Today](#), there are treatments where there weren't any before, and the dream of ending MS is becoming a reality. But there is still so much to do.

You might be wondering why I refer to my MS as a dragon? MS and dragons are herculean and formidable. Both are complicated and unfathomable. They invoke fear. The dragon hides out in my body and can breathe fire anywhere along my central nervous system causing numbness, pain, and disability. This fiery breath is referred to as a flare up, or relapse. I attempt to lull my dragon asleep by living a healthy lifestyle that includes a nutrition dense Paleo diet, vitamins, and supplements, walks, weight training, yoga, and meditation. Meditation and prayer keep my fear of the dragon at bay. My journey with a dragon has just begun, and already I know firsthand the pain it can inflict. I am hopeful that one day this dragon will be slain.

If you are able, help slay the dragon. Please make a donation. Make your check payable to National MS Society. Mail to Diana Teeters, 3135 Green Terrace Rd, Shreveport, La, 71118.

Or make an online donation on my personal Walk MS web page, enter this URL (case sensitive) in the address box of your web browser: [goo.gl/Na7UeC](http://goo.gl/Na7UeC)

If you would like to walk with me and my team, you can sign up online using the above URL, or let me know when you see me at church :)  
Thank you!

Thanks, Diana



## FROM THE MINISTER

Barbara is taking a portion of her sabbatical for the month of March, and has graciously offered her space for other use. We will try to do her proud.

# REsources for the REsistance

## *“Youth Lead from Experience: We Must Listen.”*

Since last month, we have once again experienced yet another school shooting. I considered for a moment an adjective to add: Another "tragic" school shooting. Another "senseless" school shooting. As if a school shooting could be anything other than tragic or senseless, or any other word that could ever begin to describe the horror we all feel. The greatest horror turns out to be that we can simply say, "Yet another school shooting."

But as we've seen in recent days, something is different about this one. This time, the students who were there are rising up. They are calling for action on sensible gun laws in a way that no one who has experienced this firsthand has done before. They are angry, they've had enough, and other youth across the nation are rising up to echo their sentiments. Even those who haven't had the experience are fed up with going to school in fear while adults throw up their hands and say there is nothing they can do, or worse, that the answer is more guns.

And maybe this once, for the first time ever, the gun lobby appears to be running scared. It is evident in the way that these kids are being smeared by so-called adults. Right wing conspiracy theorists are flooding the airwaves and social media with accusations that these youths are "crisis actors" and that they've been "coached," because of course teenagers could never express themselves so eloquently on their own.

To which I loudly and forcefully quote Emma Gonzales, "I call BS!" If these fearmongering architects of the smear campaign honestly believe that high school youth could never express themselves so well, they are either lying or they don't know any high school youth. My years of working with UU youth have shown me over and over that they are deep, critical thinkers; that their hypocrisy radar is often dead-on, and that they resolutely "call BS" on racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, economic injustice, and so many more of the small-minded bigotries that have characterized our society past and present. And just last month, I wrote about the youth panel at World Religion Day, where five youth from different faiths spoke their own truth

eloquently and with great integrity. (Also, I might add, with more respect for their time limits than I see from many adults.)

Are these youths calling for gun safety getting help from adult organizers? I would certainly hope so, because even adults who want change need that. Are they "coached" in how to say what is most effective in a time limit between 30 seconds and 3 minutes, depending on the circumstances? Again, I sincerely hope they are getting the kinds of help and support they need. But if politicians doubt for a moment the sincere passion of these young people, or that the words they speak are their own, with assistance only in the shaping, honing, and target audience, then as the youth themselves have said, "You do so at your own [political] peril."

Although my cynical side has said out loud, "Our lawmakers won't do anything because dead kids don't vote," I realize that these youths are not only very much alive, they are making their voices heard *now*. Closer to voting age than those taking NRA money might like, and they are talking sense. They aren't saying, "Repeal the 2nd amendment." (I've never heard anyone seriously say that except the gun lobby, as a scare tactic to purposely misrepresent the other side. Oh, and the President. He said it, too.) They are saying, impose some very reasonable restrictions that might preserve the rights of law-abiding gun owners without unleashing an arsenal of military-style weapons on the civilian population. My prayer for our country is that we can set aside our "us" and "them" mentality and have some serious conversations about how we, as one "us," can solve this problem. Right now, I believe our youth are leading the way.



*By Susan Caldwell,  
Director of Lifespan Religious Education*



Funny songs about  
Peace and Justice

# Rezist

**All Souls UU Church**

9449 Ellerbe Rd - Shreveport

**Sunday, March 25**

**7 pm**

\$20 or pay what you can

roy  
**Zimmerman**

"With music this good  
and humor this insightful,  
there is good reason  
to be optimistic."

- No Depression Magazine



# Membership Matters

## Newcomers Welcomed to Information Session

The Membership Committee will be facilitating an Information Session following the church service on March 18. These sessions are held monthly to provide visitors and guests with a better understanding of our Unitarian Universalist faith. We will watch a short video 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. Thanks,

Ron Thurston  
Membership Chairman  
318-300-9509



### DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS March 2018 & Beyond

**14-17 March 2018 Finding Our Way Home (Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, Albuquerque NM).** The keynote speaker will be Melvin Bray, Emmy Award-winning storyteller, author, and social entrepreneur. More information can be found online here: <https://www.uua.org/southern/calendar/region/finding-our-way-home?month=2018-03>

**15-17 March 2018 Courage to Live an Undivided Life (Live Oak UU Church, Cedar Park TX – Near Austin TX).** Here is a description from the from event's web page:

*Would you like a safe space to explore how to live fully who you are? Would you like to spend time with others who are on a similar journey? Would you like to learn skills that enable you to speak your truth and listen to the truth of others in a way that is mutually respectful? You are invited to join others in three days of reflection and conversation as we remember who we are, the ground on which we stand, and how to live truthfully and fully in a world that wants us to be something less than our authentic selves. In these times it takes courage to live authentically. And it takes a community of support.*

For more information, go online here: [http://www.couragerenewal.org/events/courage-to-live-an-undivided-life\\_18\\_tx/](http://www.couragerenewal.org/events/courage-to-live-an-undivided-life_18_tx/)

**23-25 March 2018 North Texas YRUU Youth Rally Community UU Church (Plano TX).** The event theme is "Six SoUurces" and the event is for youth ages 14 to 18. For more information, contact the church office on go online using <http://www.communityuuyouth.com/ntx.html>

**6-8 April 2018 Men's Retreat U-Bar-U Camp (near Kerrville TX).** Come and enjoy fellowship in the Texas Hill Country. Rest, relax, enjoy delicious meals and use the time as a break from your normal routines and schedules. The retreat will be facilitated by Rev. Josh Snyder (First UU Church of San Antonio) who brings his unique set of experiences to the retreat to facilitate spiritual growth and community building. For more information, go online to [www.ubaru.org](http://www.ubaru.org).

**13-15 April 2018 Women's Retreat U-Bar-U Camp (near Kerrville TX).** This will be a weekend with no responsibilities other than to be your own true beautiful authentic self. This is a weekend where you can deepen your relationship with old friends and also build new friendships. This is a weekend to sing, meditate, dance, take a walk in the hill country, visit the labyrinth or do whatever else your spirit needs. Rev. Erin Walters will facilitate this retreat. For more information, go online to [www.ubaru.org](http://www.ubaru.org).

**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.

**20-24 June 2018 UUA General Assembly (Kansas City MO).** For more information, go online to <http://www.uua.org/ga>

**22-27 July The Point (Lake Murray State Park, Oklahoma)** Join us at this customizable family retreat, now back in its original home, the newly refurbished Lake Murray State Park. Programming for adults, children, and youth as well as family activities in the evenings, and many choices for free time pursuits. Learn more and register at [thepointuu.org](http://thepointuu.org)

# UU Summer Camp Opportunities

**25-28 May 2018 Family Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Kerrville TX).** Spend time with your family in the beautiful Texas Hill Country! This long weekend of camp will offer opportunities to learn, grow, and share as a family, as well as opportunities for parents to enjoy some free time and activities designed just for them. Activities will include cookouts, campfires, sing-alongs, worship, swimming, nature education, and star party (pending conditions). For more information, go online to [www.ubaru.org](http://www.ubaru.org).

**16-23 June 2018 Sojourner Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Kerrville TX).** Summer camp for children in rising grades 3 through 5. For more information, go online to [www.ubaru.org](http://www.ubaru.org).

**24-30 June 2018 Olympia Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Kerrville TX).** Summer camp for children in rising grades 6 and 7. For more information, go online to [www.ubaru.org](http://www.ubaru.org).

**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](http://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](http://www.ubaru.org).

**22-27 July 2018 The Point (Lake Murray Lodge – near Ardmore OK).** All-ages summer camp 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](http://www.ubaru.org).

*Submitted by Steve Caldwell, Denominational Affairs*

## *Volunteer of the Month – Deborah Warren*

The Board overwhelmingly voted to select Deborah Warren as the Volunteer of the Month for March. Deborah chaired the Media Sale the last weekend in January, which made over \$600. With promotional help from Melissa Gibson, Deborah did much of the work of recruiting volunteers to set up and run the sale, and spent many hours either at the church arranging books, CDs, etc. or out in the community picking them up from various donors. This sale also stands out for the fastest clearout ever! Deborah has volunteered at the Highland Blessing Dinner and is a regular attendee at Interfaith meetings and actions. Although she is also currently doing the paid cleaning for the church, she goes above and beyond in that job, too, to be sure the church looks nice for Sunday services and special events. For all of these reasons and more, we are happy to award the Parking Spot of Honor to Deborah Warren.

## Roy Zimmerman Returns to All Souls!

Sunday, March 25, 2018  
7 p.m.

*\$20 or pay what you can*



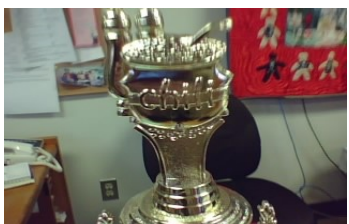
We are delighted to bring Roy back to All Souls, and we hope you will be delighted too, and bring your friends!

*ReZist* is 90 minutes of Roy's original songs, a funny and forceful affirmation of peace and justice. "Sometimes I think satire is the most hopeful and heartfelt form of expression," says Roy, "because in calling out the world's absurdities and laughing in their face, I'm affirming the possibility for real change."

Roy tours the country constantly with his wife and co-writer Melanie Harby, and has shared the stage with Bill Maher, Ellen DeGeneres, Holly Near, Arlo Guthrie, John Oliver, and George Carlin, among others.

Please feel free to tear out or print out Page 4 and post it where you think it might be appreciated.

## BEHOLD.



### The Coveted Chili Chalice

Could YOU be the one to take it home?

Your chance is coming....

**All Souls Slightly Less-Than-Annual**

## Chili Cookoff

**Potluck and Fundraiser**

**Sunday, Sunday, Sunday!**

**March 25, after the worship service!**

**Bring your A-Game Chili! Meaty or vegan; beans or no beans; mild, medium, or spicy, BRING IT!**

*All Souls members and friends will taste and judge in true Louisiana fashion — by voting with their cash, of course!*

Attendees will get to taste all the chilis and vote with their dollars & cents for their favorites. The chili with the most \$\$\$\$ at the end of the tasting will be the winner, and the Champion Chili Cook will be awarded the Coveted Chili Chalice! For NOW.

**Do YOU have what it takes? See you March 25!**

## 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): Mar 1 and Apr 5**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 5PM Support Group 5PM Highland Blessing Dinner 5:45PM Yoga	<b>2</b> 7PM Game Night 	<b>3</b> 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
<b>4</b> <b>9:15AM Adult RE</b> <b>11AM Worship/RE</b>  1:30PM LTA  5PM Course in Miracles	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6PM Together Tuesday Under the Texas St. Bridge  7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	<b>7</b> 5:30PM Choir	<b>8</b> 5PM Support Group  5:45PM Yoga	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>9AM to 1PM Building &amp; Grounds Work Day</b> 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF 7 PM St Patrick Concert  
<b>11 Daylight Savings</b>  <b>9:15AM Adult RE</b> <b>11AM Worship/RE</b>  5PM Course in Miracles	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	<b>14</b> 5:30PM Choir	<b>15</b> 5PM Support Group  5:45PM Yoga	<b>16</b> 7PM Game Night  	<b>17</b> 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF ritual
<b>18</b> <b>9:15AM Adult RE</b> <b>11AM Worship / RE</b> <b>12PM Newcomer Info Session (Page 5)</b>  5PM Course in Miracles	<b>19</b> 6:00 PM—Board Meeting	<b>20</b> 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	<b>21</b> 5:30PM Choir	<b>22</b> 5PM Support Group  5:45PM Yoga	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF
<b>25</b> <b>9:15AM Adult RE</b> <b>11AM Worship / RE</b> <b>12PM Chili Cookoff</b>  5PM Course in Miracles	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	<b>28</b> 5:30 PM Choir	<b>29</b> 5PM Support Group  5:45PM Yoga	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF
						



## 2018 Pledge Drive

### *Are You IN?*

*INcluded, INvested, INVolved*