

March 2019

All Souls News

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

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Term ends June 2019

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Term ends June 2020

Secretary:

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Term ends June 2020

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Member at Large:

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Member at Large:

Bob Jordan
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Term ends June 2020

Member at Large:

Ernie Cowger
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Terms 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 3 “Just (U)Us” What is ours to do as Unitarian Universalists working for justice? Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit this morning as we continue our new pillar on Peace, Social Justice, and the Interdependent Web
Board Persons of the Day: Earlene Venable and Cindy Mandarino

March 10 Continuing our focus on Peace, Social Justice, and the Interdependent Web, with Rev. Barbara Jarrell. We will have a **New Member Signing** this morning, so please come to welcome those who have chosen to join us. A Lunch and Learn Potluck to discuss the first 6 chapters of *Moving on From Church Folly Lane* will take place after the service.

Board Persons of the Day: Ernie Cowger and John Allen

March 17 Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit this morning. A Lunch and Learn Potluck to discuss the remaining chapters of *Moving on from Church Folly Lane* will take place after the service.

Board Persons of the Day:

March 24 Our **Celebration of Women Service**, featuring our own **Melissa Gibson**, local activist and All Souls member. A newcomer information session will follow the service.

Board Persons of the Day: Bennett Upton and Cindy Mandarino

March 31 We welcome back to our pulpit **Lee Jeter** of the Fuller Center for Housing of Northwest Louisiana. Today's Give Away the Plate will benefit the Fuller Center.

Board Persons of the Day: Rebecca Tuggle and Bob Jordan

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

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OFFICE PHONE (318) 868-3313

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

is Tuesday, Mar 21

Early submissions are

always welcomed

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From the Other Office

Our Neighbors and Ourselves

Spring has come early to All Souls this year. It is exciting and beautiful to see. The buzzing and energy are palpable as more individuals are stepping into that sense of confident participation. We are actively dream together in respectful dialogue and work systematically to create a more stable and robust institution. So many of you with whom I have not had the privilege of working much before are engaging with other congregational leaders. You are generously sharing your skills and acumen. When added to the impressive pool of talent we have already come to recognize within the membership, this makes for a truly positive future. All of this has grown out of having to look hard choices in the face. Thank you all so very much. I am honored to be part of this and have the opportunity to witness this shift in momentum.

We will, of course, have to continue this work. As part of the work we are as a congregation reading the book *Moving on from Church Folly Lane*. The book gives us common language for discussing our plans for the future and helps us understand some of the dynamics that have been in play over the decades in our system. Since our organizational model was constructed when All Souls had twice as many members (more than years ago) and some of the more challenging aspects typically symptomatic of larger systems have been carried backward into our smaller community, the work we still have before us to do together will require much creativity and very patient cooperation.

Our Board President, Bennett Upton, in partnership with our other respectfully positive leaders, is doing a masterful job of navigating the waters in which our passionate views sometimes crash like waves that aren't flowing the same direction. He is listening deeply and working along with all of you who are placing discernment of the congregation's wishes over your own agendas to bring those crashing waves into a more unified and powerful current. I wish to extend each of you my deep appreciation for your unselfish service.

(Continued on Page 5)



REsources for the REsistance

Shreveport-Bossier OWL: A Social Justice Ministry

All Souls is proud to be partnering with the local chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) in the newly formed non-profit, Shreveport-Bossier OWL (Our Whole Lives), for the purpose of providing quality comprehensive sexuality education for the youth of Shreveport-Bossier. Our first class, currently running and serving youth within and outside the church, is for 10th-12th graders, but there are levels of OWL at every stage of the lifespan, providing accurate and age-appropriate information for K-1, 4th-6th Grade, 7th-9th Grade, 10th-12th Grade, Young Adult, Adult, and soon, Older Adult. Next year, we plan to offer the 7th-9th grade level, and to continue to increase our offerings as we train more facilitators at every level. We are grateful to the six NOW members who have been trained and currently serve as facilitators, along with our own Steve Caldwell.: Kris Holland, Melissa Wilkerson, Katherine Harper, Elizabeth Hadwin, Khristina Hall, and Debbie Hollis, who also serves as administrator of the non-profit and whose energy and commitment made this dream possible in the first place.

Our Whole Lives is a comprehensive sexuality education curriculum developed jointly by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ. It can be taught in a religious setting of either of those faith traditions, but it is also designed to be taught in a secular setting, and is even used in some more progressive public school systems throughout the nation. Sadly, that is NOT true in Louisiana, where "abstinence only" sex ed is all that is allowed, as our state continues to lead or come close to leading the nation in teen pregnancy, poor maternal health outcomes, and STDs. These are just three of many reasons why OWL is so essential to our community. Another reason is to teach our young people about their own inherent worth and dignity, particularly as it relates to bodily autonomy and the issue of consent. In this season of our church year where we focus on Peace, Social Justice, and the Interdependent Web, OWL is well worth lifting up as a social justice ministry.

Along those lines, I am often in search of additional resources for our parents and youth to reinforce concepts taught in OWL, and this week I discovered an excellent one: a special episode of my favorite radio show, "Snap Judgment," that is also an episode of the podcast, "Reckonings." The podcast is the story of two people who come to grips with a sexual assault and move past it in a way that could help -- that already has helped --- many others, and could potentially help many more. The two people are the perpetrator and the victim, and it happened while they were freshmen in college. They each tell their side of the story, and it's a compelling look at a young man who didn't understand at the time what explicit consent really means, and suffered from a bad case of male entitlement; and a young woman who really didn't understand that she had a right to either an enthusiastic "yes" or a firm "no," and no obligation to do anything if she wasn't sure. It was the kind of murky, disturbing encounter that in a pre "me-too" world many would have shrugged off as a "bad date," but both parties come to realize it really was a sexual assault. How they both go forward from there is the most amazing part of the story, and though it is disturbing and explicit, it is a story that everyone of high school age and older should hear. I encourage parents of high school youth to listen first, and then to listen with your youth.

The young man's initial take on the incident goes a long way toward explaining the whole debacle surrounding the Kavanaugh hearings, and the young woman's initial conflicted feelings may clarify your thinking if, after all the recent news, you are still one of those people who asks, "If it really happened, why didn't she report it right then?" You can find this podcast at

<https://soundcloud.com/snapjudgment/snap-spotlight-reckonings> or by

Googling "Snap Judgment Spotlight: Reckonings."



*By Susan Caldwell
Director of Lifespan Religious Education*



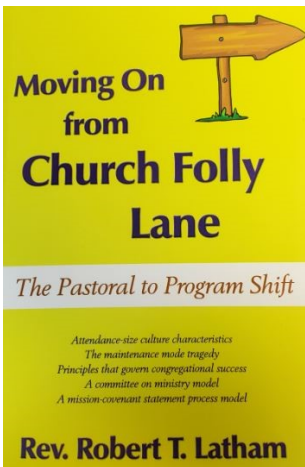
**Saturday, March 23,
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
and
Sunday, March 24,
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
9449 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport**

Sale features a wide selection of native plants, herbs, perennials, vegetable seedlings, and more. Also, selling yard art and raffle tickets!

All proceeds from the plant sale benefit All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church.

*If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions,
please contact Cindy Mandarino at (504) 376-4765 or greenpixies@gmail.com*



“Lunch and Learn” Potlucks

with the Committee on Ministry
will continue after church on March 10th and 17th.
For more information, contact Amanda Lawrence
at 318-402-3314 or missdudfour@hotmail.com

Childcare will be provided for the discussion portion of the event.

From the Other Office *Continued from page 2*

Please lovingly hold our neighbors at Grace Community Church in your thoughts and prayers. Our hearts ache for all of our progressive Methodist friends not only across the street but around the country and around the world who have worked consistently to open the way for greater inclusion within their tradition. Their struggle is not over nor have they given up. Guided by the over-arching principle of Love they find in their Christian faith and that we share from ours, I know they will do their grieving and rise to continue their journey in courage, compassion and inclusion. We offer them our condolences in this particularly dark moment in Methodist history and our hand of friendship and support in the difficult work that lies ahead of them as undaunted they move to be welcoming of ALL people. I have no doubt their faith will carry them forward in this effort.

Our work is far from finished, as well. Let us continue to cultivate in this fertile time. Show up. Get informed. Join in. This work belongs to each and every one of us. Bring your constructive ideas and willingness to share the labor side by side.

Yours in ever-evolving faith,
Barbara

By Rev. Barbara Jarrell



KDAQ Shreveport
KLSA Alexandria
KBSA El Dorado
KLDN Lufkin

It's Red River Radio Pledge Drive Time Again!

As the newsletter went to print, we were still looking for volunteers to work the phone bank Saturday, March 16 from 9 a.m. — 12 Noon. If you'd like to help, call or text **Susan Caldwell at 318-465-3427.**

Newcomers Information Session

The Membership Committee will be facilitating an Information Session following the church service on **March 24.**

These sessions are held monthly to provide visitors and guests with a better understanding of our Unitarian Universalist faith. Attendees 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 direct them to Ken Peterson at 318-393-5982. Thanks.



Upcoming Denominational Events for March 2019 and Beyond ...

8-10 March 2019 Ships Ahoy! Youth Leadership Experience (U-Bar-U Camp, near Kerrville TX). Youth, ages 15-18, are invited to cruise on this amazing journey into Unitarian Universalism which will prepare them for membership and leadership in congregations and the Association at large. Learn more and register on EventBrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ships-ahoy-registration-36888626876>

29-31 March 2019 "Viewers Like UU" – 2019 North Texas YRUU Youth Rally (First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, Ft. Worth TX). From the event registration web page: *"This is a time for high schoolers from around the region to gather, talk, laugh, eat, lead worship, run and attend workshops, play games that only get played at rallies, work together on social action projects, and build friendships that stand the test of time and distance."*

For more information, go online here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vSIdjmvFm-70e0EcpubJOtWaac4ArrpS5UdNh1PQiautYkTknIHhhfXTddCQBxp_KPPxeKSlqSDmVDP/pub

This event is for high school age youth ages 14 to 18.

19-23 June 2019 UUA General Assembly (Spokane Convention Center, Spokane WA). The annual business meeting for the Unitarian Universalist Association and its member congregations. For more details, go online here: <https://www.uua.org/ga>

(Submitted by Steve Caldwell – All Souls Denominational Affairs Committee)



2019 UU Summer Camp Fun

9-15 June 2019 Primary Summer Camp (U-Bar-U Camp, near Kerrville TX). For children ages 10-12 or rising grades 4 through 6. For more information, contact the church office.

16-22 June 2019 Intermediate Summer Camp (U-Bar-U Camp, near Kerrville TX). For children ages 13-15 or rising grades 7 through 9. For more information, contact the church office.

23-29 June 2019 Senior Summer Camp (U-Bar-U Camp, near Kerrville TX). For children ages 16+ or rising grades 10 through 12 including high school graduates. For more information, contact the church office.

21-26 July 2019 The Point All-Ages Family Summer Camp (Lake Murray State Park, near Ardmore OK). The Point is our customizable Unitarian Universalist retreat for all ages. Registration will open in December 2019. Learn more and register here: <http://www.thepointuu.org/>

(Submitted by Steve Caldwell – All Souls Denominational Affairs Committee)



Volunteer of the Month— Bennett Upton

For the month of March, overruling his objections, the Board has unanimously chosen President of the Board Bennett Upton as Volunteer of the Month. In addition to working with the Committee on Ministry to set up the recent listening meetings for the mission and vision of the church, Bennett has been working hard to involve more members in more of the work of the church. He has also gone further above and beyond in recent days in dealing with a pesky banking issue that could have been a much bigger problem if not for his vigilance and quick attention to the necessary corrections. For this conscientious service in so many aspects of church life, we are delighted to overrule his protests and award Bennett Upton this month's Parking Spot of Honor.

Lift Louisiana Crawfish Boil

Friday, March 29, 2019

5:30 — 7:30 p.m.

At All Souls



Lift Louisiana is a statewide organization dedicated to protecting reproductive rights for Louisiana's women. Although defending abortion rights is certainly a part of that effort, the Lift Louisiana also advocates for better access to health care, including prenatal care, and works for better outcomes in all aspects of life for the women and children of Louisiana.

Their upcoming Shreveport meeting will be a crawfish boil Friday, March 29, at All Souls. In addition to enjoying the food and festivity, we will learn about the issues affecting women that are coming up in this spring's legislative session, and some strategies for, to quote Lift's mission, "advocating for all people to have the resources, information, rights, and ability to make their own decisions about their sexual healthcare needs and to access healthcare services."

St. Patrick's Day Party

Friday, March 15, 7 to 10 p.m.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
9449 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport

**\$15 at the door, includes live
music and heavy appetizers.**

Suggested Donation

Family-friendly event.


Guinness, Baileys Irish Cream,
Baileys Ice Cream, and more
available at the bar.

All profits benefit All Souls.

Live Music from

**Bob Jordan
Bethany Sorkey**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7PM Game Night 	2 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
3 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship 1:30 PM LTA	4	5 6PM Together Tuesday Under the Texas St. Bridge 7PM Tuesday Discussion Group	6 5:30PM Choir	7 5PM Highland Blessing Dinner 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	8	9 9AM to 1PM Building & Grounds Work Day  WORK DAY at the CHURCH 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship 12 PM Lunch & Learn Potluck 3 PM OWL class 5PM Course in	11	12 7PM Tuesday Discussion Group	13 5:30PM Choir 5:45 PM NOW meeting	14 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	15 7PM St Patrick's Day Party featuring Bob Jordan and Bethany Sorkey.	16 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
17 St Patrick Day 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship 12 PM Lunch & Learn Potluck 3 PM OWL class 5PM Course in	18	19 7PM Tuesday Discussion Group	20 5:30PM Choir 7:00 PM—Board Meeting	21 Spring Equinox 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga Newsletter articles submission deadline	22	23 9—2 Plant Sale 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF ritual
24 9:15AM Adult RE 10—2 Plant Sale 11AM Worship 12:00 Newcomers Info Session (pg 6) 3 PM OWL class 5PM Course in Miracles	25	26 7PM Tuesday Discussion Group	27 5:30PM Choir	28 5PM Support Group 5:45PM Yoga	29 5:30 PM LIFT	30 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF ritual 
31 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship 3 PM OWL class 5PM Course in Miracles						