

May 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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Bennett Upton
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Term ends June 2019

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Term ends June 2018

Secretary:

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Term ends June 2018

Treasurer:

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Term ends June 2019

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Member at Large:

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Term ends June 2019

Member at Large:

Alice Normand
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Member at Large:

Juan Villarreal
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Term ends June 2019

May 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.*

May 6 Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Jeff Gauger and Cindy Mandarino

May 13 Celebrating Mother's Day with Amanda Macy, Pam Carlisle,, and a third speaker TBA. **Board Persons of the Day: Bennett Upton and Nicki McLain**

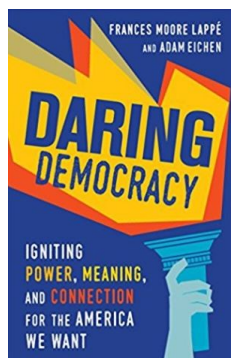
May 20 - Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit this morning. This will be her last Sunday before she begins the first part of her summer vacation and study leave.

Board Persons of the Day: John Allen and James Peck

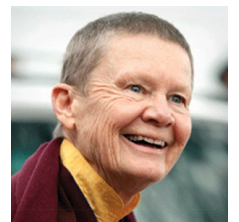
May 27—On this Memorial Day weekend, John Allen will bring together some of our members who've served to help us pay tribute to those we have lost.

Board Persons of the Day: Phil Boswell and Jeff Gauger

Adult Religious Education



Throughout the month of May, we continue our discussion of the book *Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want* by Frances Moore Lappe and Adam Eichen, paired with an audio series by Buddhist nun Pema Chödrön on "Dealing with Difficult Emotions." We feel that the pairing fits both the Peace and Justice pillar we just finished, and our current unit on Personal Spiritual Growth and Development.



After all, social justice without spiritual sustenance is the path to burnout, and spirituality that doesn't walk out into the world is mere navel-gazing. We need the balance! - *Susan Caldwell, DRE*

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

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

is Tuesday, May 22

Early submissions are
always welcomed

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From the Minister

By Rev. Barbara Jarrell

Not sure how many of you might have access to such things, but there is a new Netflix movie out about the formerly Pentecostal minister who initially joined forces and facilities with All Souls Unitarian Church, Tulsa before ultimately finding his new home in the United Church of Christ (our “Christian cousins” who share our American roots in the Congregationalist Church). His name is Rev. Dr. Carlton Pearson and the movie is “Come Sunday”. They don’t really mention Unitarians or All Souls Tulsa in the film, but the journey of a man who clearly experiences God as a living, dynamic, personal relationship to becoming part of a movement that incorporates others like himself, but also liberal Christians, Atheists, Agnostics, people who resonate more with Eastern religious and philosophical traditions, Pagans, and seekers of all sorts is one we do well to understand if we truly want our church to be a bridge and a refuge.

In the current edition of “Quest”, which is the newsletter sent out from Church of the Larger Fellowship (our UU organization created to serve those who do not have access to a Unitarian Universalist church in their area and whoever else wishes to participate), there is an article by the lead minister, Meg Riley, that talks about “frith”. Frith is an Old English word whose meaning incorporates freedom, friendship, accountability, and responsibility--a combination of loyalty, honor, hospitality, and support. It seems to be a great word that has gone out of circulation. Anyway, one of her points in the article is that we need to take responsibility in our freedom to be accountable for the hurt or impact our freedom has on any other, that freedom is not to be understood in an isolated fashion. We cannot evaluate our impact or effect on others without a great deal of understanding for the feelings, experiences, perspectives and history of that/those other/s. It is the work of a lifetime.

The spiritual work of a lifetime is to grow more fully into being someone who embraces as self all the other beings with which we share this life and planet. As we grow we have many awakenings into deeper and deeper compassion and union with all that is. The interdependent web of existence in our Seventh Principle is not simply a metaphor but is reference to the literal connection (if not necessarily physical) that exists between and among us all that we perpetually grow to more fully understand and experience. At our best, we share the resources and support that help each one of us continue this journey with all the challenges it brings and all the heart, courage, and tenacity it asks. In that support and in those challenges await the joy of meaning, and the sense of belonging to One Amazing Beloved Community.

*Alive with the transforming power of Love
We cultivate peace through increasing understanding,
inspiring one another to become our best selves,
nurturing courageous hearts, open minds, healthy spirits
and empowering bold action in the service of justice.*

*In reverence for a world we did not create, a universe
we cannot control, and Mystery beyond our
comprehension,
We welcome All Souls—*

I love you folks.

In ever-evolving faith,
Barbara



REsources for the REsistance

“Social Justice or Spiritual Growth? The Answer is YES!”

14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. – James 2:14-17

As the religious education year moves from our focus on Peace, Social Justice, and the Interdependent Web to Personal Spiritual Growth and Development, this segue from one to the other seems the perfect time to talk about how we balance two of the primary purposes of our presence in faith community. When people ask, “What is more important to you, spiritual growth or social justice?” my answer is always, “Yes!” This passage from the book of James in the Christian Testament is an expression of my own faith journey, from the Catholicism of my youth to the Unitarian Universalism I have embraced as an adult.

Learning and teaching the history of our faith over the years, I am continually inspired and challenged by the presence of our Unitarian and Universalist forebears at the forefront of just about every social justice movement. Rev. Theodore Parker was an abolitionist who sheltered runaway slaves in his congregation and kept a pistol in his pulpit to deter slave hunters. Though she did not live to see it, Susan B. Anthony fought for the right of women to vote, and was even arrested in the attempt to exercise that presumed right. Dorothea Dix fought for the reform of 19th century mental institutions, which prior to her efforts had been little more than cages barely fit for animals. Olympia Brown and Celia Burleigh were the first women ordained in the Universalist and Unitarian faiths, respectively, and Brown was the first woman whose ordination was recognized by a denomination.

In 1939, the Rev. Waitstill Sharp and his wife, Martha left their quiet Massachusetts parish to travel to Europe and rescue hundreds of children and adults from Third Reich countries. Later, in 1965, at the call of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Unitarian Universalist clergy traveled to Selma in larger proportions to their numbers

than clergy of any other faith tradition. Rev. James Reeb lost his life there when he was beaten to death by white racists. A Detroit housewife named Viola Liuzzo was also murdered outside of Selma along with the black civil rights workers she was driving from Selma to the airport in Montgomery.

Years before marriage equality was a reality, Unitarian Universalists were performing weddings, or services of union, for gay and lesbian couples seeking to make a formal spiritual commitment even if no legal one was possible. Our denomination’s first openly gay minister was ordained in 1979, and our first openly transgender minister was ordained in 1988.

All of these people had a spiritual calling to see the divine spark in all people...what we call “the inherent worth and dignity of every person,” and to work to build beloved community. Although I was not around to quiz them, I feel pretty confident that none of them ever asked the question, “Social justice or spiritual growth?” To walk in the spirit was to walk in the service of others and the quest for a better world. We see it not only in the leaders of our own faith but in all the great spiritual leaders of history and the present day: Jesus, Gandhi, King, Mandela, Tutu.

As we move forward, continually striving to live more truly into that ideal, we have also come to a place of acknowledging our own shortcomings as a movement, particularly with regard to race. Last year, a questionable regional hiring decision led to months of self-examination, exploring our own role in sustaining the dominance of white supremacy culture, not with hoods or burning crosses, but with the underlying presumption that white was the default, the norm, the “supreme” standard in all things. We are called to recognize white supremacy as “the water in which we swim,” and to continually open our eyes, and open them again, to that reality. That is deep spiritual work, leading us to a kind of knowing that cannot come simply from learning the facts of history, or knowing where to show up or when to call our representatives. All of that is vital — “faith without works is dead,” — but also, the path of continued works without a renewable source of deep spiritual sustenance, by whatever name you call it, is the path to burnout, exhaustion, and emptiness. We are here in community to help each other find the balance.



***By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education***

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

From: James Peck, Board Secretary

To: All Members, Inactive Members, and Friends

In accordance with the Bylaws of our church, and as Secretary of the Board, I hereby announce that All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church will hold a Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary.

DATE & TIME: Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 12:15 p.m.

ON THE AGENDA

Elect four members of the board (Vice President, Secretary, and 2 members at large).

Elect two members to the Committee on Ministry.

Vote on proposed changes to Church Bylaws.

Please make every effort to attend. All active members should attend this meeting or give their proxies to those who can. Inactive members and friends of the church are invited and encouraged to participate, but bylaws stipulate that only those members who have been active 30 days or longer may vote. **We must have a quorum. Childcare provided.**

Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

The national revival of the Poor People's Campaign will kick off here in Shreveport with an action on **Mother's Day, May 13, at 5:00 p.m. at the Caddo Parish Courthouse.** In the spirit of the original campaign led by Dr. King right before his death 50 years ago, the national Poor People's Campaign is "committed to lifting and deepening the leadership of those most affected by systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, and ecological devastation, and to building unity across lines of division." As a moral revival, the campaign seeks to shift the moral narrative away from personal issues like abortion, gun rights, personal sexuality, and property rights to the larger, more inclusive moral imperatives of correcting the systemic injustices that weigh most heavily on "the least of these," ..women, children, immigrants, all black and brown people, workers, the poor, and the sick.

National conveners of the campaign are Rev. Dr. William Barber II and Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis. The local chairs are Ms. Frances Kelley and Mr. Curtis Davis.

DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS March 2018 & Beyond

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>

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Submitted by Steve Caldwell, Denominational Affairs

UU Summer Camp Opportunities for 2018 ...

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.

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.

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.

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 summer camp for children, youth, young adults, and older adults. Age-separated and family activities all week long. 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.



All Souls Annual Gala and Silent Auction 2018



Laurie Lyons, Melissa Gibson, and Henry Walker displaying the model t-shirt quilts as auctioneer Amanda Lawrence talks them up. Francine Heller was the lucky winner of her own, to be created by Sarah Boswell!



Although she tried to disqualify herself, Rev. Barbara was the unanimous choice of the judges for winner of the Costume Contest
Photo by Susan Caldwell



Amanda and John Macy —
Winners of the Couples Costume Contest
Photo by Susan Caldwell

All the Souls had a wonderful time at this year's Annual Gala and Silent Auction, thanks to the Power Team of coordinators led by **Laurie Lyons**. Many thanks to **Francine Heller, Tena Hines, Holly Brasher, Diana Teeters, and Melissa Gibson**. Also thanks to ALL who volunteered for the event in any capacity, to all who donated or solicited donations, to our live auctioneer, **Amanda Lawrence** (and her unofficial upselling assistant, **Leigh Anne Chambers**) our musicians, **Sandra Odom**, and **Jim Huckabay** (with special guests **Barbara Jarrell** and **Cookie Garner**), and of course to **EVERYONE** who came, ate, drank, shopped, and had fun! Early numbers seem to indicate that we surpassed our \$7000 goal!



50s Housewives: The real version and the TV version...



*Live auctioneer **Amanda Lawrence** driving up the bids... as **Leigh Anne Chambers** assists with the upsell and **James Peck** gets ready for the next raffle drawing.
Photos by Melissa Gibson*



*MORE
All Souls Annual Gala
and Silent Auction 2018*



*Live auctioneer **Amanda Lawrence**, assisted by **Laurie Lyons***



***Melissa Gibson** displays one of our most sought-after items, the signed poster from Moonbot Studios.*



*Bonus
performance from
Lip Service Trio!*

Membership Matters

Newcomers Welcomed to Information Session

The Membership Committee will be facilitating an Information Session following the church service on May 6th. There will also be a potluck.

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 Bos-

ton 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 re-

garding Membership please see me in the church foyer or give me a call. Thanks,

Ron Thurston
Membership
Chairman
318-300-9509



May Volunteer of the Month Claudia Harris

At its April meeting, the Board unanimously chose a volunteer who could easily make Volunteer of the Decade. For that very reason, she can sometimes be overlooked, doing all that she does so quietly and behind the scenes. Claudia Harris is a great help to the Board Persons of the Day, as so often when they arrive on Sunday morning, she has already opened the doors, turned on the lights, and made coffee that is prized as the best by many of our members!

She also frequently sets up the social hall for Adult RE if it has not been done already. If you don't remember seeing her in the sanctuary on Sunday morning, maybe you didn't look up, because she is usually in the balcony running sound. In her years as a member here, she has served on the Board (including two terms as President), taught Religious Education, worked in the nursery, and is a regular at Building and Grounds Day and on the phone bank at Red River Radio. She has also given Sunday sermons many times over the years, and is a favorite among our lay speakers. Finally, she lends a quiet wisdom and a subtly wicked sense of humor to every gathering, and we are thankful she is a part of our community!

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

Proposed Revisions to the Bylaws

*** All additions are **in red** and deletions are ~~in strikethrough~~. This is only the pertinent text of the document. Further formatting revisions will be made before publishing. ***

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the religious organization shall be ALL SOULS UNITARIAN CHURCH, INCORPORATED, OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

ALL SOULS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED, OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA is a fellowship of seekers of truth, bound by no dogma and restricted by no creed. The purpose of the fellowship is to bring religious liberals into closer acquaintance and cooperation. Relying upon reason as our guide and upon freedom of thought, we seek to grow in understanding of ourselves and of our world and to serve our fellow persons.

ARTICLE III. NON-DISCRIMINATION

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church affirms and promotes the full participation of persons in all our activities, including membership, programming, hiring practices and the calling of religious professionals, without regard to race, color, gender, gender expression, physical ability, affectional or sexual orientation, age or national origin.

ARTICLE IV. DENOMINATION AFFILIATION

This church shall be a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, of the Southern Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and of the Southwest Unitarian Universalist Conference.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

A. ACTIVE

1a. Any person eighteen years of age or over may become a member of this church if he/she is in sympathy with its program and purpose.

1b. Any person fifteen to eighteen years of age may become a member of this church if he/she attends an orientation and a private conference with the Minister or Committee on Ministry and is in sympathy with its program.

2a. Each member is obligated to contribute to the church in time and money within the limits of his or her ability. Each member is obligated to contribute no less than the annual basic cost to carry a member on the rolls. The amount of the minimum financial contribution will be determined by the Board of Directors each year prior to the annual pledge canvass.

2b. Any person who is unable to make the minimum financial contribution can maintain his or her membership with the approval of the Minister or the Board of Directors, by seeking a waiver of the contribution.

3a. Membership shall be formalized in a two-stage process. Prospective members will first sign the Stepping Stones Book, indicating an interest in pursuing membership. During the four weeks following that time, they will talk with the Minister or Chaplain, representatives of the Membership and Pledge committees and others, to learn more about the workings of the church and the role they will play as members.

3b. 4 weeks after signing the Stepping Stones book, having learned the rights and responsibilities of membership and having pledged a contribution of time, energy and money appropriate to his or her situation (or when necessary, requested a waiver thereof), the prospective member may now sign the Membership Book. Voting membership shall become effective after 30 days.

4a. The right to vote at a congregational meeting of the church shall be limited to active members.

4b. Voting by proxy shall be allowed only as herein described. A voting member may designate only another voting member as his/her proxy. Such designation must be in writing, the date of the proxy vote must be included, the proxy vote must be signed by the member who is authorizing the proxy, and it must be submitted to the Secretary of the Board before the beginning of the respective business meeting.

5. An accurate record of members who are qualified to vote shall be available at all congregational meetings. The keeping of this record shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of the Board.

6. Members who wish to resign their membership in the Church may do so by submitting their written resignation to the Secretary of the Board or the Minister. Such resignations become effective immediately.

B. INACTIVE

1. Any active member who desires to become inactive may do so voluntarily by notifying the Secretary of the Board or the Minister and by paying a minimum amount to be determined by the Board annually, to receive mailings from the church.

2. Members who have moved shall be kept on the active membership rolls for a period of two months. After this time, they may be moved to inactive membership by the Minister or the Secretary of the Board of Directors unless they have indicated a desire to remain active members. Such notice may be given verbally or in writing to the Minister or an officer of the Church. In order to remain active members, they must continue to make the minimum annual financial contribution required of active members. Failure to do so will result in their removal from active membership as provided in Article V, Section E of these bylaws.

3. Inactive members who have not paid the minimum amount required each year to receive mailings from the church will be dropped from membership.

4. Inactive members shall not be counted for a quorum purpose, nor will they have the right to vote at congregational meetings.

5. An inactive member may become an active member by notifying the Secretary of the Board or the Minister in writing and by agreeing to make the minimum financial contribution required of active members under Article V Section A of these bylaws. Active membership shall become effective after 30 days.

C. FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH

1. Any individual who does not wish to become a member or inactive member of the Church but who is in sympathy with its purpose may become a "Friend of the Church" by notifying the Minister or Secretary of the Board.

2. Friends of the Church shall not be counted for a quorum purpose, nor will they have the right to vote at congregational meetings.

D. HONORARY

1. Any person who has rendered valuable contributions to this Church may be an honorary member.

2. The Board of Directors shall present the name to the congregation at a congregational meeting and a majority of those present shall determine the election of the honorary member.

3. Honorary members will maintain the privileges of active membership. The minimum financial contribution required of active members shall not be required of honorary members.

E. MEMBERSHIP PROVISIONS 1. When the word "member" is used without an adjective to indicate kind, it is understood to mean "active member".

2. Review of Membership – membership classification shall be reviewed annually by the following procedures:

2a. At the beginning of each year, the Secretary of the Board will give the current membership list to the Treasurer and to the other members of the Board of Directors and to the members of the Committee on Ministry.

2b. From this list, the Treasurer will compile a list of members who have not made the minimum financial contribution for the previous year, or who have not made a pledge of the minimum financial contribution for the current year, unless they have made provisions with the Minister or the Board under Article V Section A of these by-laws.

2c. A letter will be mailed (or e-mailed) to the last known address of each person on the compiled list, asking them to state why they should remain members. Based on their response, the Board of Directors will determine the appropriate membership classification. Anyone who fails to respond within 30 days will be dropped from membership.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

A. Congregational meetings shall be called by the Secretary, who shall publicly post a notice at the Church, have announcements made from the pulpit, and publish a notice in the newsletter two weeks before the meeting. If it is not practical to publish such a notice in the newsletter, a ten-day notice by mail or e-mail shall be given to all members.

B. The business to be transacted at the meeting shall be specified in the notice. New business may not be brought to the floor.

C. A quorum shall be constituted by twenty percent of the active membership, as determined the previous April 15th. If there are significant fluctuations in the membership, the Board may revise the quorum number to reflect the current membership. A lesser number may adjourn the meeting. A majority of voters present may decide any question, unless specified differently in the bylaws.

D. Friends of the Church, Honorary Members, Inactive Members, and Visitors shall be welcome at all meetings and shall be given courtesy of the floor.

E. ~~The annual meeting shall be held as early as possible in the spring of each year.~~ Two congregational meetings shall be held annually. One meeting is to approve the budget, based on the pledges the congregation has submitted prior to the start of the new fiscal year, and to elect the Nominating Committee. The other is to elect new members of the board and a parliamentarian, held prior to the start of the term of service, June 1st.

F. A list of qualified members shall be made available by the Treasurer and Secretary thirty days before any scheduled congregational meeting.

G. ~~The agenda for the Annual Meeting must include the election of the Board of Directors, members of the Committee on Ministry, and a Parliamentarian, and the election of three representatives for a Nominating Committee.~~

H. Special Meetings

1. Upon request of a majority of the Board of Directors, the President shall call a special meeting. 2. Upon written petition, signed by one-fifth of the members and stating the purpose of the meeting and the agenda, the President shall call a special meeting within 30 days.

3. After the petition has been presented to the President and if the President fails to call a special meeting, any member may call a special meeting of the membership. Upon securing one-fourth of the members' signatures and giving written notice of the business to be transacted to the Secretary, the Secretary shall verify the active standing of the petitioners and then proceed with the proper call of the special meeting.

ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

A. There shall be a Board of Directors composed of the President, the Vice- President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and four Members at large, the most recent past Board President who is an active member of the Church, and the Minister, or Lead Minister if there are two or more ministers, and Director of Religious Education, the latter three serving as ex officio but non-voting members, with the responsibility of providing institutional continuity.

B. A Board member may resign at any time, and the other Board members may appoint another to finish the term. A Board member may be removed from the Board if two-thirds of the remaining Board members determine that he or she is remiss in his/her Board responsibilities or continuance in office is not in the best interest of the Church. If the Board member wishes to appeal his/her removal, a formal appeal must be filed in writing with the Secretary of the Board within fifteen days of personal notification of Board action. Upon receipt of the formal appeal, the President shall call a congregational meeting. A simple congregational majority vote is required to reverse the removal of the Board member.

C. The Board of Directors shall hold one regular meeting each calendar month ~~and shall from time to time~~ may hold special meetings, at the discretion of the President, ~~when the need arises.~~

D. Two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors, not including ex officio members, shall constitute a quorum.

E. The Board of Directors, on behalf of the church, shall have the following responsibilities:

1. It shall have the charge of all the property of the church, of the conducting of all the business affairs of the church, and control of its administration.
2. It shall appoint all employees except the minister.
3. It shall authorize all expenditure of monies not otherwise covered by the budget, but no expenditure involving more than ten-percent of the annual budget shall be made committed without getting the vote of a majority of the ~~members of the church at a specially called meeting~~ congregation at a congregational meeting.
4. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, it shall determine what new organization may be established within the Church.
5. It shall pass upon requests for use of the Church property.
6. It shall approve or confirm the appointment of members of all standing committees as may be deemed necessary (excepting Congregational appointees to the Nominating Committee and nominees to the Committee on Ministry).
7. It shall appoint two active members to the Nominating Committee.

F. The term of the members of the Board of Directors shall be staggered or rotating terms of two years such that the President, Treasurer, and two Members at large rotate from office in alternative years from the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the remaining members at large. Terms of office will officially begin on June 1 of the year of election and end two years later on May 31. The term of the immediate past Board President will begin on June 1, following the election of a new President, and end when there is a new immediate past Board President.

G. Members at large

1. Members at large shall provide additional representation for congregational members, assuring that the Board is accurately informed of congregational sentiments on issues.
2. Members at large shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board.
3. Only active members of the Church may serve as Members at large.

H. There shall be a Committee on Ministry (sometimes referred to simply as ‘the Committee’ if unambiguous in context) which, on behalf of the congregation, shall continuously assess every facet of the congregation’s ministry in the light of its mission-covenant statement including the performance of its Minister and other paid or volunteer agents who carry out the ministry. On the basis of its assessment the Committee is authorized to report to the congregation and to the Board of Directors, to promote the congregation’s awareness of and commitment to the mission-covenant, to consult with the Minister and other agents of the ministry, and to make non-binding recommendations to those agents and the Board of Directors or to the congregation. The Committee is authorized to respond with immediacy to manage any conflicts, expressed attitudes, or real activities that might threaten or have an adverse effect on the ministry. And the Committee is authorized to develop policies for its own members to govern how it handles issues, conflicts, complaints or suggestions which are presented to it.

I. The Committee on Ministry is composed of six active members of the congregation, each member to serve for three (3) years, ~~except that for the first Committee two members shall be elected to serve one year and two members shall be elected to serve two years.~~ A year must pass before someone who has served on the Committee can serve on it again. A member of the Committee may not serve as a member of the Board of Directors or as a paid employee of the Church during his or her term on the Committee. The Minister will be an advisory and non-voting member of the Committee.

J. Members of the Committee on Ministry should be chosen from active members of the congregation who have a primary commitment to the congregation’s mission and ministry; an ability to see past the parts of the ministry to account for the whole; personal integrity; the ability to be caring while honest and straightforward; the capacity to keep confidences; the ability to listen; an ability to make tough decisions, and a minimum of two years of evidenced committed membership as a Unitarian Universalist.

K. The Committee on Ministry is elected by the congregation from a list of names created according to the following process: The Committee shall propose a list of names of active members to the Nominating Committee which shall then nominate from that list the number needed to bring the Committee up to six, except that for the first Committee election the first list shall be proposed by the Interim Committee on Ministry. There are to be no nominations from the floor.

L. The Committee on Ministry shall meet when it determines that a meeting is needed, but at least monthly. Two-thirds of the Committee shall constitute a quorum and the Committee’s chairperson or two-thirds of its membership can call a meeting. The meetings shall be strictly confidential and at a location other than at a building owned by the church. Only the date of the meeting and a contact person for communication of suggestions or concerns shall be publicized. Attendance by non-members is by invitation only.

M. A member of the Committee on Ministry may resign at any time, and the remaining Committee members may appoint a qualified, active member of the Church to finish the term. A member of the committee may be removed if two thirds of the members of the Committee determine that he or she is remiss in his or her responsibilities as a member or that her or his continuance on it is not in the best interest of the Church. If he or she wants to appeal his or her removal, a written appeal must be filed with the Secretary of the Board within fifteen days of notification in writing of removal. Upon receipt of the written appeal by the Secretary, the President shall call a congregational meeting. A simple majority vote is required to reverse the removal. If the removal is not reversed, the Board of Directors may appoint a qualified, active member of the Church to finish the term.

ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS

A. The Officers of the Board shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer who shall be elected in accordance with Article VII, Section F of these bylaws. Only active members of the Church are qualified to be elected to the above-named offices.

B. President

1. President shall be chairperson of the Board of Directors and shall preside over all business meetings of the Church.

2. The President shall be an ex officio but non-voting member of all committees except the Nominating Committee and the Committee on Ministry.

3. The President shall represent the Church on all appropriate occasions and make appointments so that the Church will be represented on other desirable occasions.

C. Vice President

1. The Vice President shall serve as liaison and coordinator between the Board and Board-designated committees.

2. The Vice President shall act in the place of the President during his/her absence and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

D. Secretary

1. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Congregation.

2. The Secretary shall handle all correspondence in the name of the Church.

3. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

4. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping all records and correspondence files as the property of the Church.

E. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall receive and keep safe the monies and other property of the Church entrusted to him/her.

2. The Treasurer shall disburse monies by check, within the budget of each committee and under the direction of the Board of Directors.

3. The Treasurer shall keep a complete account of the finances of the Church in books which shall be open for inspection on a ten-day notice to members of the Board of Directors or Committee on Ministry.

4. The Treasurer shall render a current statement at each regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

5. The Treasurer's annual statement shall be by a person designated by the Board of Directors.

6. With the consent of the Board of Directors, he/she may appoint an Assistant Treasurer or a financial assistant, but said appointee shall not be a member of the Board of Directors.

7. The Treasurer shall furnish statements of contributors' pledges and payments to the Board of Directors and to the Committee on Ministry upon request.

8. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, bond may be required. If bond is required, it shall be paid by the Church.

ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARIAN

A. An Active Member of the Church shall be elected as Parliamentarian at the Annual Meeting at which members of the Board of Directors and Committee on Ministry are elected. The term of office shall be for one year, beginning June first and ending May 31.

B. The Parliamentarian shall be required to attend ~~the Annual Meeting and special meetings in November and any other~~ congregational meetings ~~legally called~~.

C. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for ruling, on request by the Board, in matters pertaining ~~et~~ to “Robert’s Rules of Order.”

~~D. The Parliamentarian shall, within sixty days of election, submit a second for Board appointment to serve in absence of the Parliamentarian.~~

ARTICLE X. MINISTER

A. A Minister shall be elected by two-thirds of the qualified members at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose.

B. The Minister shall be an ex officio but non-voting member of all Church committees.

C. The Minister may be dismissed at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose by two-thirds of the qualified voters. However, the Minister shall receive six months’ notice of termination and salary unless a shorter period is mutually agreed to.

ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES

A. The Board of Directors shall establish committees and specify the responsibilities and duties to be performed by each committee. Committees shall be classified as either “standing” or “ad hoc”, depending on the nature of their function.

B. The Secretary shall maintain a current list of committees for information to members and display the list and all changes on the Official Bulletin Board.

C. Chairpersons of all committees shall be active members.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDING BYLAWS

A. These Bylaws may be amended by a vote of the membership, at any duly constituted regular or special congregational meeting, as provided for in Article VI, provided that the following has occurred:

1. A draft proposal of said bylaw amendment, showing the exact language to be deleted or added, has been submitted to the Board of Directors for review.

2. The proposed exact language change(s) to the bylaws has been provided in the notice of meeting sent to all church members, as described in Article VI of these bylaws.

B. The proposed bylaw amendment may be adopted by a vote of the majority of members present at a duly constituted regular or special congregational meeting.



Interfaith Monthly Leaders’ Meeting
Thursday, May 17, 2018





6:30—8:00 p.m.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

On the Agenda :

- Updates on Interfaith’s efforts to preserve and strengthen the reforms instituted by the Governor’s executive order concerning the Industrial Tax Exemption Program. (ITEP)
- Updates on our Get Out the Vote campaign, and our research actions concerning interests and influences on our local officials.
- Additional updates on the legislative session

Please join us as we welcome Interfaith leaders to our house!

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



2018 Pledge Drive Are You IN?

INcluded, INvested, INVolved

This congregation is sustained by the gifts of time, talent, and treasure of its members and friends.

Join us for a Potluck on May 6

After the service on Sunday, May 6, please bring a dish to pass and join us for a potluck lunch. Your dish can be homemade from scratch or picked up at Kroger across the street, and if you don't have a chance to bring anything, come anyway. We don't worry about planning who brings what — somehow the universe provides! However, if you can come early to help with set-up or stay late for clean-up, *that* will be much appreciated!