

All Souls News

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

NOVEMBER 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.

November 6 — Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit. After the service, visitors are invited to join us for a Newcomer Information Session (more information on Page 2). *Board Persons of the Day are Jocelyn Lanham and Nicki McLain.*

November 13 — Veteran's Day Service celebrating those who have served and are serving, featuring **John Allen** and friends. *Board Persons of the Day are John Allen and Diane Bundy.*

November 20 — Our annual Thanksgiving Service featuring a short service in the sanctuary followed by a Thanksgiving Communion ritual in the social hall and a Thanksgiving Feast. *Board Persons of the Day are Alice Normand and James Peck.*

November 27 — Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit. *Board Persons of the Day are Eric First and Melissa Gibson.*

Our world, so worn and weary
Needs music, pure and strong,
To hush the jangle and discord
Of sorrow, pain, and wrong

-Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, Unitarian

Join Us for 'A Taste of Interfaith' on Nov. 6

All are invited to A Taste of Interfaith on Sunday, November 6 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Stonewall Baptist Church, 807 Eatman St., Bossier City.

A Taste of Interfaith is the major annual fundraiser for Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith, our region's affiliate of the statewide organization Together Louisiana, and the nationwide Industrial Areas Foundation, the oldest and largest community organizing institute in the country.

The \$25 admission includes a sumptuous buffet of foods representing the various cultures and congregations represented within Interfaith, as well as a silent auction featuring a wide variety of items and gift certificates donated by local businesses and individuals. This could be the perfect event to start your holiday shopping!

The afternoon will also feature choirs, soloists, and spoken word presentations from our congregations.

For tickets, see Susan Caldwell or Susan Bettinger. You may buy a ticket for \$25, a table for 8 for \$200, or any number of tickets or tables you require.

If you would like to attend the event but money is an obstacle, speak with either Susan, as donated tickets may be available.

'A Taste of Interfaith is the major annual fundraiser for Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith ...'

*A Taste of
Interfaith*

NORTHERN
and CENTRAL
LOUISIANA Interfaith



Unitarian Universalism
NURTURE Your Spirit. Help HEAL Our World.

OFFICE HOURS Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Tuesday, November 29 by 8 p.m.

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All Souls is a
Welcoming
Congregation.



Membership Matters

Visitors Invited to Info Session

By Ron Thurston,
Membership Committee



Join us for this month's Newcomer Information Session on Sunday, November 6 at about 12:15 p.m.

Grab a cup of coffee after the service and 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 our Unitarian Universalist Association head-

quarters, spotlighting 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.

Also, please join me in welcoming and congratulating our newest member, **Sylvania Mercer**.

If you have questions regarding membership or would like to join the Membership Committee, please see me before or after church or contact me at (318) 300-9509.

Sam Normand Named Volunteer of the Month



The Board and Council of All Souls wishes to recognize **Sam Normand** as November's Volunteer of the Month. Sam grew up in the church, her parents **Alice and Neil** toting her here week after week, and we are so pleased to have her back as a adult. She has been very active in teaching Religious Education, both during the liturgical year and the summer.

We look forward to Sam's continued work at All Souls, our local community, and our world. Thank you, Sam!

Join Us for Thanksgiving Potluck

Every Thanksgiving, All Souls celebrates with a Thanksgiving Service, which includes a communion ritual and potluck meal. Please bring a dish (or two or three) to share—main dishes (turkeys, hams, etc.), side dishes, breads, appetizers, desserts, etc. If possible, please mark food as gluten-free and/or vegetarian/vegan.

Please note that on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, **Ron Thurston** will host a Thanksgiving meal at the church at 2 p.m.

Please speak to Ron for more information.



Building & Grounds Work Day



Saturday,
November 19
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): Nov. 3, Dec. 1 & 29



Corner Office with a View

An Effective RE Program Needs Everyone



By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

The REwards of REtirement

When I first came to All Souls as a new member, our family joined the church on New Year's Eve of 1995, and I taught my first religious education class in the fall of 1996. As a parent of a child in the program, I felt called to express my sense of ownership in that way, and also, I already knew from my experience in our South Dakota congregation that I loved it, and that I learned so much about my Unitarian Universalist faith when I taught it.

My very first teaching partner was John Rosser, who was already well into his 70s, if not 80s, and was retired and looking for ways to contribute to his church.

During that same era, in the early 2000s, the late Margaret Hurley not only taught RE classes regularly, but also trained for and taught the Our Whole Lives Comprehensive Sexuality Education class for two sessions. She, too, was in her 70s at the time.

As a parent of young, growing children, I was so grateful to Margaret, John, and others who used that time in their lives to give to the children and youth of All Souls, even as they were still involved with many other projects in the community. (Margaret continued working for the MLK Health Clinic for years, and John participated in the Senior Olympics and had his house designated as a Haven House through Community Renewal).

I remember not only the gift of wise teaching partners, but also the gift, as a young parent, of the break that I got when they were teaching classes and I wasn't. Don't get me wrong, I LOVED teaching, as I know many of our young parents today do as well, but I also loved the chance to be in the service and to be fed spiritually when the Wise Ones were willing to impart their love and wisdom to the children and youth.

I see you, active retirees, and I see YOU, tired parents. To run an effective RE program, we need you all.

While there may be a tendency, especially among those of you with children who grew up in the church, to think, "Been there, done that," I am asking you to think back and remember: When your children were going through RE, did some of the older members step up to teach your children? And wasn't that a wonderful feeling, to go to service knowing they were well cared for and learning? Wouldn't you love to give someone else the gift of that experience? And if that wasn't your experience, and you had to carry it all on your own, wouldn't you love for someone else NOT to have to go through that experience? I have plenty of openings in the schedule for the

rest of the year. Please talk to me about where you might fit in. And thanks.

Holiday Conversations

The holidays are coming, and at this time of year, new and not-so-new Unitarian Universalists are often facing visits with loved ones who may be much more conservative in their religious belief and practice. If you are facing such a situation, you may be wondering how to handle conversations with family members in a way that allows you to speak your truth without damaging family harmony.

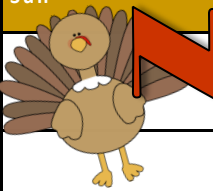





First, know that the amount of disclosure is completely up to you. I often tell Unitarian Universalist youth and adults that, faced with the question, "Are you saved?" we can absolutely truthfully answer with a simple, "Yes." That is the bedrock foundation of our Universalist stream, from the early Universalists who believed that if Jesus came to save anyone, he came to save everyone, to our present-day Universalist thinking that no one has to be separate from Love, period, and that any such separation is an illusion that either we have created for ourselves, or others have created in such a cruel way that at some point we came to believe it.

If, on the other hand, you feel this is a family member with whom you can go deeper and honestly discuss your differences, I would begin with the foundational principle of Unitarianism, that God is One, that the Source of All, by whatever name we call it, is one Source. The beautiful thing about this concept is that it can hold true whether you are a theist, an atheist, an agnostic, or anything along the beautiful spectrum in between.

Whatever our differences, we can find common ground in the idea that we come from One Source and that we come together in community to celebrate it.

To "worship" is to lift up and celebrate matters of worth, and though our matters of worth may be vastly different even within our own community, we find common ground in acknowledging that To Be Here is a miracle.

And now you are thinking, "That language is way too out there for my Aunt Susie." Remember the Universal Translator? How can you listen to Aunt Susie and hear language that is meaningful for you? How can you speak to her in language that she might find meaningful? And maybe the even more important question: When is Aunt Susie ready for an honest discussion of your differences and when is discretion the better part of valor? When would it be better to pivot to a discussion of her recipe for cornbread dressing or the identity of all those people in the old photo album. Aunt Susie, too, is a part of the interdependent web. You just may sometimes have to work a little harder to preserve that thread.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <h1>NOVEMBER</h1>						
		1 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	2 5:30PM Choir	3 5PM Support Group 5PM Highland Blessing Dinner (Page 2) 5:45 Yoga	4 7PM Game Night 	5 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
6 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 12:15PM Newcomer Info Session (Page 2) Taste of Interfaith	7	8 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group  Election Day	9 5:30PM Choir	10 5PM Support Group 5:45 Yoga	11  Veterans' Day	12 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF 10AM to 4PM Texas Ave. Makers Fair at Municipal Auditorium/Shreveport Commons
13 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	14	15 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	16 5:30 PM Choir	17 5PM Support Group 5:45 Yoga 7PM Interfaith Leaders' Meeting	18 7PM Game Night 	19 9AM to 1PM Building & Grounds Workday (Page 2) 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
20 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE Thanksgiving Service & Potluck (Page 2)	21	22 6PM Board & Council Meeting 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	23 5:30PM Choir	24 2PM Thanksgiving Potluck (Page 2) Thanksgiving	25	26 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
27 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	28	29 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	30 5:30PM Choir			

Texas Avenue Makers Fair Hits November 12

The Texas Avenue Makers Fair recreates the lively vibe that once was commonplace in this historic, downtown neighborhood.

Located in the heart of Shreveport Commons, in front of the Shreveport Municipal Auditorium, the Makers Fair offers a wide assortment of handmade and re-purposed items, ranging from clothing and ac-

cessories to toys and art. Food vendors, musicians, and other forms of entertainment are also on hand.

Admission is free and abundant free parking is available near the event.

It's a family event, so children and sociable dogs on short leashes are welcome.

Be sure to visit the Pink Monkey/MelissaInkDesigns booth and see All Souls' own **Melissa Gibson**.

Come stay all day. Visit, shop, buy. See what life we bring to the Core of the City!



DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS November 2016 & Beyond

11-13 November 2016 Southwest Fall Conference (Glen Rose TX)

The theme for this year's conference is "From Principles to Partnerships: Incarnating Unitarian Universalism Through Relationship" From the UUA Southern Region Online Newsletter: "We must do the work, but we don't have to do it alone. Come to Fall Conference to learn about working for justice and building the beloved community. You might discover that you have more partners than you ever dreamed." The Fall Conference Handbook contains information on how to register, speakers, workshop schedules, etc. and can be found online here: <https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/fallcon2016handbook.pdf>

"Memory is the servant of conscience."

Marion D. Shutter. Justice and Mercy (1894)