

# ALL SOULS NEWS

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

## OCTOBER 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.*

**October 2 — Blessing of the Animals** One of our best-loved services of the year, celebrating the furry, finned, scaly, and slithery companions who share our home in the interdependent web, presented by **Betty Parent, Susan Bettinger**, and friends. Bring your pets into the sanctuary with us for this very special celebration. Pets must be on a leash on in a carrier, as even the most docile animals can behave unpredictably in strange conditions. *Board Persons of the Day are John Allen and Diane Bundy.*

**October 9 — Rev. Barbara Jarrell** is in the pulpit. *Board Persons of the Day are Jocelyn Lanham and Alice Normand.*

**October 16 — Rev. Barbara Jarrell** is in the pulpit. *Board Persons of the Day are Eric First and Nicki McLain.*

**October 23 — “Love is the Doctrine of This Church”** Celebrating our Religious Education pillar on Unitarian Universalist Identity, the children, youth, and adults of the congregation will use the words of our Unison Affirmation as the guideposts of a service that lifts up the history and legacy of our Living Tradition. *Board Persons of the Day are Jocelyn Lanham and James Peck.*

**October 30 — “Companions for the Journey”** A member reflection featuring **John Allen, Jocelyn Lanham**, and **Tyrus Mulkey**, who tell us about the journeys that brought them to Unitarian Universalism and this congregations and the reasons they stay. *Board Persons of the Day are Eric First and Melissa Gibson.*

## All Souls Hosts Free Movie Screenings

Join All Souls on Saturdays, October 8 and 15 for a free screening of *Race: The Power of an Illusion*, an award-winning, three-part documentary.

The division of the world’s peoples into distinct groups—red, black, white, or yellow peoples—has become so deeply imbedded in our psyches, so widely accepted, many would promptly dismiss as crazy any suggestion of its falsity.

Yet, that’s exactly what this provocative, new three-hour series by California Newsreel claims. *Race* questions the very idea of race as biology, suggesting that a belief in race is no more sound than believing that the sun revolves around the earth.

Yet race still matters. Just because race doesn’t exist in biology doesn’t mean it isn’t very real, helping shape life chances and opportunities.

Join us for Parts 1 and 2 on October 8 and Part 3 and an extended discussion on October 15. Download the discussion guide here, [http://www.pbs.org/race/000\\_General/000\\_00-Home.htm](http://www.pbs.org/race/000_General/000_00-Home.htm). Child care and concessions will be available.

On Friday, October 21 at 7 p.m., we will be viewing *Equal Means Equal*, which NOW chapters across Louisiana are screening in the month of October. T

The film examines real-life stories and precedent-setting legal cases, uncovering how outdated and discriminatory attitudes inform and influence seemingly disparate issues, from workplace harassment to domestic violence, rape and sexual assault in the foster care system, and the healthcare conglomerate to the judicial system.

*Equal* reveals how inadequate laws, which are supposedly protecting women, present a compelling and persuasive argument to ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment.

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

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

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
Tuesday, October 25 by 8 p.m.

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All Souls is a  
Welcoming  
Congregation.



# FROM THE MINISTER

## All Souls as an Agent of Peace, Justice

By Rev.

Barbara Jarrell



I am quite grateful that so many of you were able to attend our workshop with Rev. Carlton Elliott Smith from the UUA Southern Region Congregational Life Staff. Again I will say I think we did some good work together. Carlton facilitated the discussions and shared some points for better understanding on how we might move forward. He clearly wanted to help us find our own true voice as a congregation while also encouraging us to be bold, energetic and inspiring.

When we let our collectively unified ideal of justice drift into conversations about our personal passions—that for which we as individuals have heart, energy, calling and are willing to invest and sacrifice if necessary—our unity becomes less apparent.

When we talk about living our faith boldly, it seems that among us that means many different things.

So, how do we boldly commit to action if we don't agree what that is? Not unpredictably, unless we make choices that would displace what has been somewhat of a tacit mandate for inclusivity and would no doubt decrease our numbers—narrowing or focusing our vision becomes tremendously difficult.

Our Unison Affirmation as well as our overarching principles and sources are a fine place to start, but there is little there to help us funnel our energies in a more efficient manner—except, perhaps, the quality of Love that I think undergirds them all.

The team that has been charged with generating a concise, bold, inspiring, energetic statement specifically including the words Inspire, Nurture, and Empower has a doozy of a task before them. So, I would like to thank **John Allen, Claudia Harris, Jocelyn Lanham, Jennifer Russell, and Deborah Warren** ahead of time for climbing onto that horse.

I would like to share what I've had on my mind. What I see most missing in our broader community is the physical presence of a place willing to and capable of respectfully holding the tension between opposing sides on all sorts of issues.

I know that your pet topics run deep in your hearts and that in order to have integrity with yourselves you need to remain committed to them. I get that and would have you be none other than who you are. Still, unless we are stagnant, we are all still in process, growing in understanding and perspective.

We are still moving toward becoming the best we can be. As we do that I wonder if we could choose

to evolve in more Loving service?

I would like to ask you to consider letting All Souls intentionally train us up in a rich variety of ways to de-escalate and resolve conflict, learn not only to lead more effectively but to allow and facilitate leadership by others, better understand root causes at multiple levels, and ultimately act from a less anxious, more compassionate, and genuinely healing generosity of spirit. Of course, one piece could be Alternatives to Violence Project workshops for which a number of our members are already facilitators, but there are many others that go much deeper in some specialized directions addressing the particular kinds of divisions we face in our area. I'm sure none of us believe the solutions will be immediate or easily manifested.

I'd like to see us try new tools, new directions, and new roles.

Even the complex task of committing to calling ourselves on our own interactive challenges, blind spots and biases could only make us more successful agents of the peace, justice and empowerment we seek to nurture.

There are major puzzle pieces that could be placed with a team skilled like that.

Yours in every evolving faith,

*Barbara*



# Corner Office with a View

## Living into Our Christian and Jewish Heritage



By Susan Caldwell,  
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Entering the month of October, with just the barest hint of fall in the air, we approach the time in our religious education year when we will wind up our pillar on Unitarian Universalist Identity and History, and enter our pillar on Jewish and Christian Heritage.

The two are closely related, since the two streams of our tradition, Unitarianism and Universalism, are both planted deep in Christian soil. I hear some people say we have “grown beyond” or even “left behind” our Christian origins in our quest for a wider, more inclusive circle. In respectful disagreement, I say that we have not “grown beyond” our Christian roots so much as we are living into them.

While some would say, “We came out of Christianity but we aren’t Christian any more,” I would say that we came out of Christianity, AND, we are steadily growing into the full potential of the two bedrock theologies that formed the foundation of our faith. If we come from a tradition that pointed to one unified God or Ultimate Reality, then the natural evolution of our faith would be to continually enlarge that umbrella to include all people and all concepts of God, including “not God.” (I am reminded of a great line in the wonderful song by Billy Jonas, “God is in the atheist, saying, ‘Yes, I don’t exist!’”)

This would encompass our embrace of various world religions as well as our respect for science, humanist teachings and our place in relationship to our earth.

If we come from another tradition that declared that all would be “saved”—that no one could be separated from the Love of God, or, if you will, from Love itself, then the natural evolution of that tradition would have to be the acceptance of all people across a broad spectrum of theologies who are willing to join with us in covenantal relationship.

Next month, as we approach the holidays, many of us, especially those new to Unitarian Universalism, may be struggling with ways to have deep, significant conversations about faith that will still maintain relationships with our more traditional friends and relatives.

There is a loving and respectful way to do this, employing language that builds bridges while remaining true to the integrity of your own journey.

As the late-18th- and early-19th-century Universalist minister and theologian Hosea Ballou said, “If we agree in love, no disagreement can do us any harm. If we disagree in love, no other agreement can do us any good.”

In the Sunday morning adult classes, and in next month’s newsletter column, I’ll be talking more about that, and I look forward to hearing from any of you, either online, or in person, who might have specific questions along those lines.

***‘If we agree in love, no disagreement can do us any harm.’***  
**-Hosea Ballou**

### Building & Grounds Work Day



Saturday,  
October 8

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.

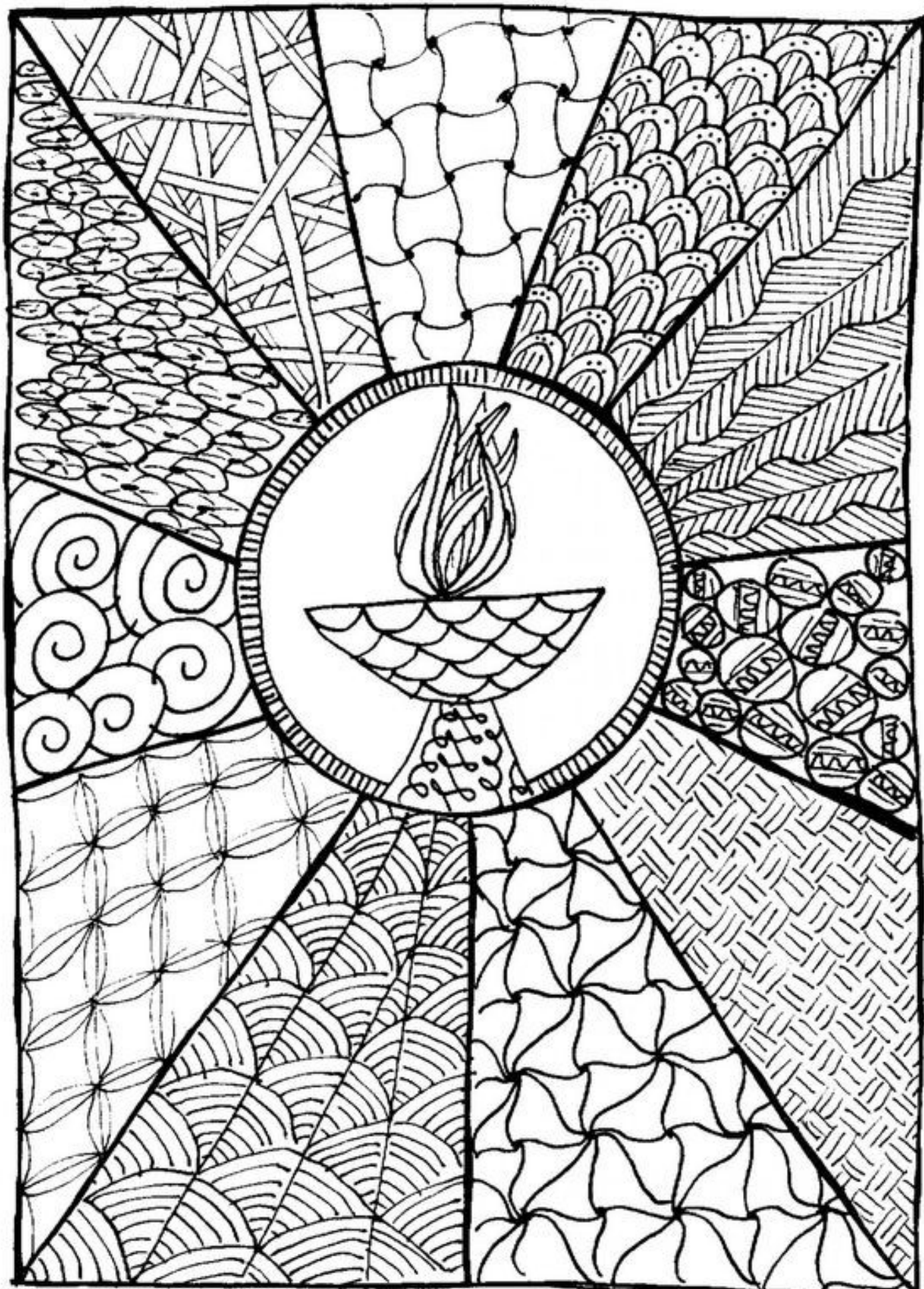


The intent of the meals is to serve individuals and families who may “fall through the cracks” of social services. Currently, more than 120 meals are being served each Thursday.

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):**      **October 6**



ell 2015



# Membership Matters

## Visitors invited to October 9 Info Session

By Ron Thurston,  
Membership Committee



Join us for October's Newcomer Information Session on Sunday, October 9 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 member-

ship at All Souls.

We will watch a short DVD from our Unitarian Universalist Association headquarters, 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 welcom-

ing and congratulating our newest members, who were ingathered at the August 28 service: **Michael Matthews and Cindy Mandarino, Deborah Warren, Renee Burkhalter and Zoe Williams, Jim and Jodell Adkins, Janet Sherwin, and Jonathan Barson and Holly Brasher.** Welcome home, everyone!

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.

## Board Names Jason Lanham October's Volunteer of the Month



All Souls wishes to recognize **Jason Lanham** for his work as co-chair of the Building & Grounds Committee. He recently cleaned and sealed the floors in the social hall, which is a huge and time-consuming task.

Jason has also assisted in securing paint for our many painting parties and plans to remark the parking lot in the near future.

Jason, along with his wife **Jocelyn** and son **Bayla**, have also assisted in many other parts of maintaining and improving our building and grounds.

Earlier this year, Bayla completed his Eagle Scout rank by completing a bridge along the Nature Trail.

Jocelyn is also an enthusiastic and dedicated Religious Education teacher, providing a steady influence in the 2nd-5th classroom.

All Souls appreciates all the work the Lanhams put into our church home. Be sure to tell them thanks the next time your run into any one of them (or all of them). Enjoy the parking space for October!

## UUA 'Common Read' Announced

Unitarian Universalists were electrified at General Assembly 2016 by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II's call for building and sustaining a movement for justice for all people. The UUA Common Read selection committee believes that this is a moment for Unitarian Universalists to answer that call.

*The Third Reconstruction* offers helpful, practical guidance for engaging with justice movements born in response to local experiences of larger injustices. Drawing on the prophetic traditions of the Jewish and Christian scriptures, while making room for other sources of truth, the book challenges us to ground our justice work in moral dissent, even when there is no reasonable expectation of political success, and to do the hard work of coalition building in a society that is fractured and polarized.

Rev. Barber said recently during his speech at the Democratic National Convention, "Some issues are not left versus right, or liberal versus conservative, they are right versus wrong." Check out Rev. Barber's full speech from the DNC on YouTube.

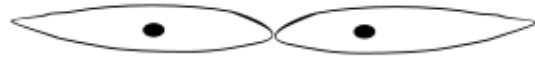
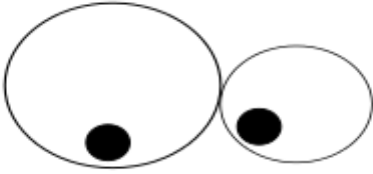
## DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS October 2016 & Beyond

**21-23 October 2016 Heart of Texas YRUU Youth Rally (Live Oak UU Church, Cedar Park TX – near Austin TX).** For youth ages 14-19 in high school. For more details, contact the church office.

**11-13 November 2016 Southwest Fall Conference (Glen Rose TX).** For more details, contact the church office.

*Submitted by Steve Caldwell,  
Denominational Affairs Committee*

# Draw some curious faces around these eyes



# All Souls Joins HCM for Halloween Carnival

Once again, All Souls will join with Highland Center Ministries for their Halloween Carnival on Thursday, October 27 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at The Highland Center Gym at 520 Olive Street.

In place of the Highland Blessing Dinner, the office of Dr. Benjamin M. Kacos, D.M.D, will grill hamburgers with all the fixings and provide fruit cups. Highland Center Ministries will provide chips, water and lemonade.

Churches will each host a table with a game, trick, or event for our guests, with candy or prizes on hand. Churches may decide on the theme and entertainment for their table.

Volunteers are encouraged to come in costume, and churches can have more than one table if they want. (For example, families may want to get together and host two or three tables as a group.)

There will be a costume contest and musical chairs with a prize. Setup begins at 4 p.m. and all

tables should be ready for guests by 5:15.

All Souls needs volunteers to host and coordinate the All Souls table (or tables!).

DLRE Susan Caldwell is out of town that week but wants to make sure our church participates in this fun and community-building event.

If you've been wanting to volunteer for a church event, this is the perfect opportunity to jump in! You don't have to plan, as Susan will help with a lot of the preliminaries.

Interested? Want to know more? Call or text Susan at (318) 465-3427 or email her at [dre@allsoulsshreveport.org](mailto:dre@allsoulsshreveport.org).



## Thinking in Threes

One of the major shifts in human understanding has been a move away from seeing ourselves as solitary, independent agents in charge of our destiny toward a more complex awareness that who we are is a direct function of who we are with. We are relational creatures. Everything about us is shaped by our connections (or disconnections) with those around us.

This begins, of course, when we are born. Indeed, it is the first question of faith: Will the world accept, honor, and care for me? Over time, depending on how others treat us, we learn whether we are OK or not-OK, whether we fit in, or can count on others. Every time we meet someone new or enter a new situation, we replay this big question: Is it ok for me to be, to stay here?

Our long childhood means we are especially affected by parents. Indeed whole generations of family "stuff," for good or ill fills our emotional backpack. It is perhaps better to think of ourselves as "embedduals" rather than "individuals."

Continue to read "Thinking in Threes" by Rev. Kenneth Gordon Hurto, Lead Executive, UUA Southern Region Congregational Life Staff at the UUA Southern Region Blog at [uua-south.blogspot.com](http://uua-south.blogspot.com).

## FREE COMMUNITY SCREENING



**EQUAL  
MEANS  
EQUAL**

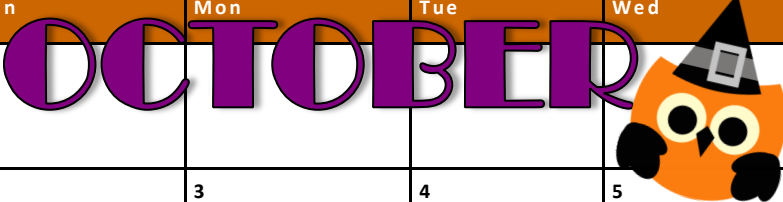

**Friday, October 21 at 7 p.m.**

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

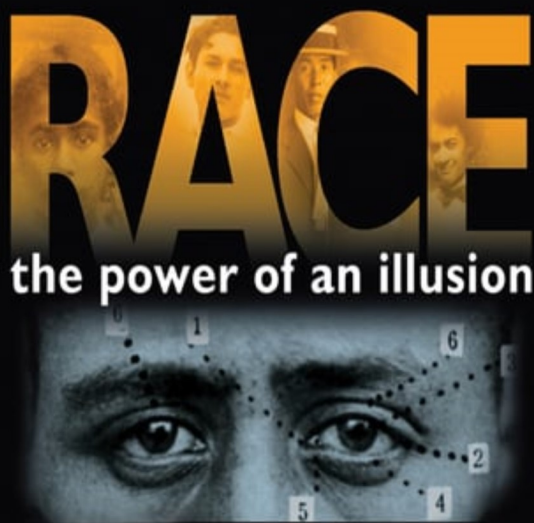
***EQUAL MEANS EQUAL*** offers an unflinching look at how women are treated in the United States today.

Examining both real-life stories and precedent-setting legal cases, director Kamala Lopez uncovers how outdated and discriminatory attitudes inform and influence seemingly disparate issues, from workplace harassment to domestic violence, rape and sexual assault to the foster care system, and the healthcare conglomerate to the judicial system.

Along the way, she reveals the inadequacy of present laws that claim to protect women, ultimately presenting a compelling and persuasive argument for the urgency of ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF 6PM Wedding
<b>2</b> 9:15 Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 1:30PM LTA  <i>Rosh Hashanah and Muhurran</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	<b>5</b> 5:30PM Choir	<b>6</b> 5PM Support Group 5PM Highland Blessing Dinner (Page 3) 5:45 Yoga	<b>7</b> 7PM Game Night  	<b>8</b> 7AM-12PM All Souls Volunteer Shift at Red River Radio <b>9AM to 1 PM Building &amp; Grounds Workday (Page 3)</b> 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF <b>5PM RACE Movie Screening (Page 1)</b>
<b>9</b> 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 12:15PM Newcomer Info Session (Page 5)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 630PM World Religion Day Speaker Series at Unity Church 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group <i>Yom Kippur and Ashura</i>	<b>12</b> 5:30PM Choir	<b>13</b> 5PM Support Group  5:45 Yoga  6:30PM New Thought Group	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10:30 AM Meditation  3PM ADF  <b>5PM RACE Movie Screening (Page 1)</b>
<b>16</b> 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6PM Board & Council Meeting 7PM TED Talks	<b>19</b> 5:30 PM Choir	<b>20</b> 12 Noon Interfaith Leaders' Lunch 5PM Support Group	<b>21</b> <b>7PM "Equal Means Equal" Movie Screening (Page 1)</b>	<b>22</b> 10:30AM Meditation  3PM ADF
<b>23</b> 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group 8PM Newsletter Deadline	<b>26</b> 5:30PM Choir	<b>27</b> 5PM Support Group 5:45 Yoga 6:30 New Thought Group 5:30-7:30 HCM Halloween Carnival (Page 7)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:30AM Meditation  3PM ADF
<b>30</b> 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	<b>31</b> <i>Halloween</i>					

What is this thing called race?



FREE COMMUNITY SCREENING

## RACE: The Power of an Illusion

*The award-winning PBS documentary examining race in society, science and history.*

Parts 1 & 2

Saturday, October 8 at 5 p.m.

Part 3 & Discussion

Saturday, October 15 at 5 p.m.

**All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church**  
**9449 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport, Louisiana 71115**

Event information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1649553038690867/>

Discussion Guide: [http://www.pbs.org/race/000\\_About/002\\_04-discussion.htm](http://www.pbs.org/race/000_About/002_04-discussion.htm)

*Concessions and child care available.*

Sponsored by All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church and NOW Shreveport-Bossier.