

ALL SOULS NEWS

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

SEPTEMBER 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.

September 4 — **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** is in the pulpit with “Like-Minded People? Really?” Some thoughts on reconsidering the wisdom of making this a priority in the quest for religious community. Please join us after the service for a farewell celebration for Jax Schmidt. *Board Persons of the Day are John Allen and Jax Schmidt.*

September 11 — On the 15th anniversary of an event that transformed our century, we pause to remember and recommit ourselves to move forward in love. **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** is in the pulpit. *Board Persons of the Day are Diane Bundy and Eric First.*

September 18 — **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** is in the pulpit. *Board Persons of the Day are Melissa Gibson and Nicki McLain.*

September 25 — “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (*John 15:13*). What are we willing to sacrifice for the well-being of our loved ones? What about for people we don’t even know, but for whom we feel deep empathy? Today, we explore the nature of risk and human caring as we remember those in our faith who defied evil though their lives were in danger. **Rev. Carlton Elliott Smith** is in the pulpit. Rev. Smith is the congregational life staff for the Southern Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association and is the primary contact for UU congregations in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, and Pensacola, Florida. He lives in the greater Memphis area and has been an ordained UU minister for 21 years. Before returning to the South, Rev. Smith served congregations in the Northeast Corridor and in the San Francisco area. This is Give-Away-the-Plate Sunday, and our recipient this month is the YWCA’s Dialogues on Race program. *Board Persons of the Day are Jocelyn Lanham and James Peck.*

All Souls Hosts ‘Louisiana: The State of Women and Families’ on September 18

The public is invited to attend “Louisiana: The State of Women and Families.” The event takes place at All Souls on Sunday, September 18 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. and is sponsored by All Souls, Louisiana Progress, Lift Louisiana, and National Organization for Women Shreveport-Bossier.

Community members and leaders will be on hand to discuss and learn about issues that matters to women in families in North Louisiana.


Hear from experts and public officials and share your ideas on key issues:

- Improving access to health care
- Supporting parenting and pregnant people
- Improving the financial health of families
- Promoting health, education, and safety of children and adolescents

Presenters from the Louisiana Public Health Institute, American Association of University Women, and others will be hand at the event.

This event is free and childcare is provided.

Attendees are encouraged to RSVP at <http://womenandfamiliesinlouisiana.eventbrite.com> or via email at info@liftlouisiana.org or at (504) 484-9638.



SEPT 18

RSVP

info@liftlouisiana.org

or (504) 484-9638

Louisiana: The State of Women and Families

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

9449 Ellerbe Rd, Shreveport, LA 71106

1:30 - 4:00 pm

You are invited to join community members and leaders to learn about and discuss the issues that matter to women and families in North Louisiana.

Hear from experts and public officials and share your ideas on key issues related to improving the lives of women including:

- * Improving access to health care
- * Supporting parenting and pregnant people
- * Improving the financial health of families
- * Promoting health, education, and safety of children and adolescents

Sponsored by:

- All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
- Louisiana Progress
- Lift Louisiana
- National Organization for Women Shreveport-Bossier

OFFICE HOURS Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
OFFICE EMAIL office@allsoulsuushreveport.org
OFFICE PHONE (318) 868-3313



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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Tuesday, September 27 by 8 p.m.

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All Souls is a
Welcoming
Congregation.



FROM THE MINISTER

Most Important Event of the Year

By Rev.

Barbara Jarrell



Among the numerous other engaging and inspiring TED talks is one by author, speaker, consultant, and leadership expert Simon O. Sinek.

In it, Sinek asserts that Apple, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Wright brothers were all successful for the same reason. Of course, there is more to it all than I will be able to go into here, but the bottom line is that they were working from the inside out, rather than the other way around.

Sinek says, "... people don't buy what you do; they buy why you do it."

Discerning what that "why" is for All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church in Shreveport, is what we will be doing on Saturday, September, 24 here at the church.

I find this particularly fascinating work—

exciting, and challenging!

In the process we have a chance to learn more about one another. Yes. But we also get to discover more about ourselves and this beloved community in which we have chosen to be invested with our time, talents, and treasures.

In the course of only six hours we will be collectively uncovering anew the deepest "why" of our congregation's existence—a why that is different from what may

have been true before.

Then we will create the framework of ideas that will serve as the standard to direct our path for the next multi-year leg of our shared journey.

We will move from the "why" to the "what" it calls us to be in the world—most particularly the parts in which we find ourselves, Shreveport, Caddo, Louisiana, the United States, Earth.

From there we can be so much more clear about

the "how."

This vision will only be as representative and meaningful as the number of our members who participate in the process.

For all of these reasons, you need to stop right now and mark this event on your calendar for Saturday, September 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at All Souls. Childcare and lunch will be provided.

Our future will be built in large measure on what the participants discern.

You are the only one who can bring your voice to the discussion.

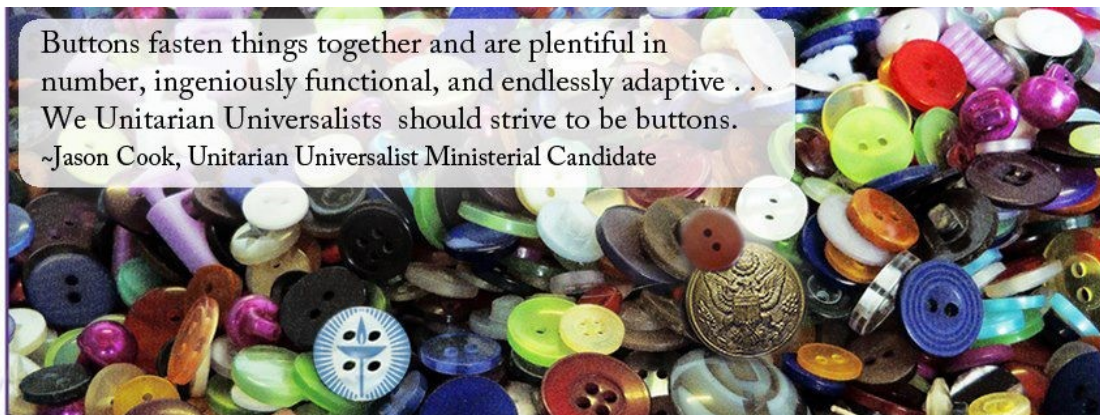
The Rev. Carlton Elliott Smith, congregational life staff for the Southern Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association, will be with us to facilitate our move through this most helpful and productive odyssey. It's up to you.

Please! Come join us! Let's discover where we're going ... together!

Yours in every evolving faith,

Barbara

Buttons fasten things together and are plentiful in number, ingeniously functional, and endlessly adaptive ... We Unitarian Universalists should strive to be buttons.
~Jason Cook, Unitarian Universalist Ministerial Candidate



Corner Office with a View

New PBS Documentary Features Famous UUs



By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

I don't write too many columns encouraging you to watch television. Much as I might love *The Walking Dead* or *Game of Thrones*, when I think of you and your families, I usually like to provide you with ideas and resources that either take you and your children away from screens or at least engage you in some interactive way.

On September 20, however, I want to make an exception, and encourage you to watch the new documentary by Ken Burns, *Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War*, which debuts on PBS.

The filmmaker, already so well known for documentaries from *The Civil War* to *The Central Park Five*, and many more, has turned his attention to a story well known to many Unitarian Universalists, and one that has been dear to my own heart for many years.

You may have heard me preach on their story on Holocaust Memorial Sunday last May. Rev. Waitstill Sharp and his wife Martha remain two of only five Americans named as Righteous Among the Nations on the wall at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial museum and educational center in Jerusalem. The Righteous were non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews with no material benefit to themselves in return.

Waitstill Sharp was a Unitarian parish minister in Wellesley, Massachusetts, where he and his wife Martha were raising their two children when they were first asked to serve the Unitarian Service Committee in Prague,

Czechoslovakia.

Although Rev. Sharp had spoken from his pulpit in favor of U.S. intervention in the rapidly growing European refugee crisis, an unpopular position in the still very isolationist United States of 1939, he and Martha had never had the kind of experience they would come to need as they rescued more than 2,000 adults and children from all over Europe, first from Prague, and later from their USC office in Lisbon, Portugal. The couple made it up as they went along.

The Sharps' is a story that plays out like a novel of international espionage, and yet the danger to them was all too real, and constant for the duration of their time in Europe.

(Continued on Page 5:
DEFYING THE NAZIS)

"What is it in a human being that gives up what is comfortable, safe, and familiar for that which is not only uncomfortable, but dangerous and life-threatening? 'Who are we,' is the animating question in the work I try to do, and this is a story that woke me up. I think what is so wonderful is that it touches on religious faith in the United States, on the evil of the Holocaust and the monstrous Nazi regime. This intersects with that, and with the role of government, and [the question of] what is the responsibility of individual citizens? How individuals can stand up against regimes as brutal as the Nazis? A minister and his wife, they figured out how to write in code, they figured out smuggling human lives, they figured out how to get past Nazi guards. This is not something they teach you in Divinity School."

—Director Ken Burns, on *Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War*

Building & Grounds Work Day



Saturday,
September 10

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): September 1

Join Us for Interfaith's Delegates' Assembly

All Souls members and friends are encouraged to attend the Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith's Delegates' Assembly on Thursday, September 29 at 7 p.m.

Join us at Paradise Baptist Church, 1706 Hollywood Ave. in Shreveport.

Invited guests include Governor John Bel Edwards*, Shreveport Mayor Ollie Tyler, Caddo commissioners, and other elected officials. The meeting will discuss the following issues:

Workforce Development— According to a United Way Study, 40 percent of Bossier City working families do not make enough money to buy basic necessities. The number is 47 percent in Shreveport. However, Louisiana Technical College states there are 17,600 living-wage jobs going unfilled.

Interfaith has a program model that addresses employers' needs and upgrades the skills of the working poor. In other areas where this program exists, the areas have an 81-

percent completion rate of moving low-wage workers into these jobs.

Public Safety—Interfaith leaders are taking a proactive stance to address crime and violence in our communities. We stand with our sister organizations in Baton Rouge and Dallas in their time of grief.

We would also like to see community-oriented policing expand in Shreveport and develop in Bossier City.

Industrial Tax Exemption— Governor Edwards signed an executive order reforming the way companies are granted exemptions for paying local property taxes.

More information is available at (318) 880-7373 or via email at ladymae51@gmail.com.

**Gov. Edwards is trying to add this event to his schedule, but the flooding in South Louisiana understandably remains his top priority.*



DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS: September 2016 & Beyond



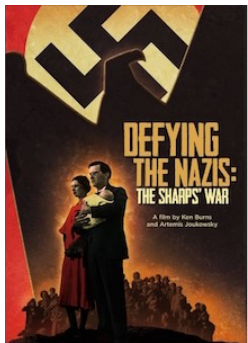
2-5 September 2016 U-Bar-U Star Party (U-Bar-U Ranch – near Austin TX). For more details, go online here: <http://ubaru.org/home/starParty>

21-23 October 2016 Heart of Texas YR UU 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*



DEFYING THE NAZIS: *Defying the Nazis* will feature a cinematic telling of the Sharps' story through photos and news stories, as well as their own

letters and journals, and will feature Tom Hanks as the voice of Rev. Sharp.

Naturally, I'm thrilled that the documentary arrives perfectly timed with our pillar on Unitarian Universalist Identity, yet also saddened that its timing is equally perfect as we consider the horrific refugee crisis unfolding

in Syria today, and the equally terrifying rhetoric coming from some of our own politicians in the face of it.

This film makes its debut not a moment too soon. Please take the time to see it, and talk about it with your family. Blessings,

Susan Caldwell, DRE



Membership Matters

Newcomer Info Session on September 11

By Ron Thurston,
Membership Committee



Join us for September's Newcomer Information Session on Sunday, September 11 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 headquarters, spotlighting our princi-

ples, 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 members, who were ingathered at the August 28 service. 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.



"What matters is that we welcome each body into the sanctuary: so that God might come in as well."

- Myke Johnson, Unitarian Universalist Minister

We embrace diversity of religious background and belief.

Here you are affirmed for who you are. And challenged to become your best self. Here you can grow and change within a community of faith that grows and changes with you, that asks tough questions and offers real service, that helps you to live a more meaningful life.

In Unitarian Universalism, you can bring your whole self: your full identity, your questioning mind, and your expansive heart.

August Volunteer of the Month: Cindy Mandarin

Cindy Mandarin was selected as August's Volunteer of the Month.

Cindy has been attending All Souls for less than a year but wasted no time jumping right in.

Cindy has been a dedicated participant in our potlucks, directed several children and youth activities over the summer, helped coordinate the moving efforts for **Carol Graywing**, and is overseeing the bon voyage party for **Jax Schmidt**.

Cindy, her husband **Michael Matthews** and daughter **Zoey**, commute from Natchitoches to attend All Souls. The 90-minute roundtrip drive alone earns Cindy and her family recognition.



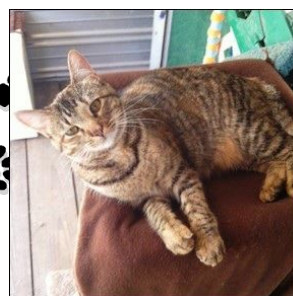
September Volunteer of the Month: Susan Bettinger

Susan Bettinger is a longtime member of All Souls. She currently serves on the Committee on Ministry and is active in Interfaith, League of Women Voters, and many other community organizations. Susan also dedicates much of her time and parts of her home to rescuing kittens, working independently and with Pet Savers of Shreveport and Laughing Dog Ranch.

Throughout the years, Susan has taught Religious Education classes to children and youth, taught the Our Whole Lives comprehensive sexual education program, lead worship services, served as a worship associate, and served on the All Souls Board under many titles, including board president. She even shows up for Building & Grounds Workdays.

Susan is a strong supporter of many events for All Souls, helping to setup, promote, donate, cleanup, etc.

Susan's photo is quite elusive, so instead here are pictures of several available cats currently at Pet Savers. For more information, visit www.petsaversshreveport.org.



Volunteers for Youth Justice Promote CASA for LGBTQ Youth

A Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a volunteer specially trained and supervised and appointed by a judge to speak up for a child or youth in foster care.

CASA volunteers help to secure safe and permanent homes for abused and neglected children by assisting with the investigation and monitoring of cases involving those youth.

The advantage to the child of having a CASA volunteer is that the volunteer is a consistent presence throughout their experience in foster care, while the court principals may change in various stages of the process.

After the church service on September 11, All Souls will host a presentation by CASA Program Director Stacy Eppers from Volunteers for Youth Justice. She will speak to us about the current very pressing need for CASA volunteers willing to work with LGBTQ youth, as they often have trouble finding people in this area who have the best interests of these particular children and youth at heart.

If the scheduling seems last-minute, we realize that it is, but the CASA training is coming up very soon, so we are hoping that some of you will be interested, willing, and able to volunteer. Do come and learn more about it, at any rate!

Lunch and child care will be provided.



CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

WANTED

All Souls Annual Gala & Silent Auction Committee Chair

**Want to try your hand at
event planning and raising
funds for the church?**

**We are looking for someone to
head up the Annual Gala &
Silent Auction.**

**We have several volunteers to
help with the details just
waiting on your direction!**

***Please contact Melissa Gibson at
melissainkdesigns@gmail.com or
(318) 550-1296 for more info.***

UCBR Assists with Flood Relief Efforts

The Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge set up a fund to assist members and friends impacted by the record-breaking flooding, especially those without flood insurance. Contributions can be sent to Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge, 8470 Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

UCBR also recommends the following ways to help:

- Send contact information if you are available to make a trip to this region and assist in the actual cleanup of homes. Local persons can send contact information if you have space to host a volunteer.
- Financial contributions to the Together Baton Rouge fund at <https://togetherbr.nationbuilder.com/donate> will help anyone who has been affected by floodwaters and who completes the survey at LAfloor-survery.com.

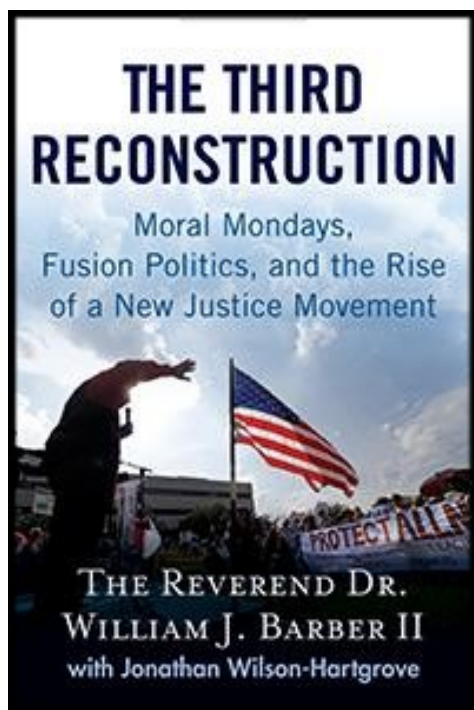
UCBR continues to provide support, such as free child care and meals, to those assisting with the rebuilding efforts.

New 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.



Up Your UU Game by Teaching RE for Children and Youth

What's wrong with this picture?

As you are probably aware, the regular Religious Education year began on August 21. I'm grateful that for now, with subs and backups, I have the full contingent of teachers. However, as I write this, we are coming up on **Jax Schmidt's** last Sunday as a sub in the Pre-K-1st class, so we will need someone to step in there with **Diane Bundy**.

Diane is very experienced with this age group, so if you haven't taught an RE class before, this is a great chance for you to step in and get that experience, partnering with someone who knows the routine and knows the kids!

Along those same lines, we have **Jocelyn Lanham** in the 2nd -5th class and **Noah Wagstaff** in the Middle School/High School class, both of whom have worked with their respective classes extensively and both of whom have signed up for the entire year! So in those two classes, also, there are excellent opportunities for learning in partnership.

With our Pre-K/K-1 class, we need a second teacher for this pillar and then will need teachers for the pillars that come after the New Year: World Religions (January 8 through February 19); Peace, Social Justice, and the Interdependent Web (February 26 – April 9), and Personal Spiritual Growth and Development (April 16 – May 28). For each pillar, the last date is an intergenerational service in which the class participates.

When you teach RE, you get a curriculum you can use either "Cookbook" style, following lessons to the letter, or as a guideline to add your own creativity to reinforce the points of the lessons.





From so many people who have taught over the years, I hear, "I learned so much about Unitarian Universalism!" As the saying goes, "We teach what we most need to learn."

Another advantage is that you get to know the children and youth and help build greater intergenerational cohesiveness in our congregation. So if you have been a member or actively attending friend of the church for six months or longer, please take this opportunity to help raise our children in the faith.

Want to know more? Text or call me at (318) 465-3427, email me at dre@allsoulsuushreveport.org, or talk to me on Facebook (Susan Kelly Caldwell).

| CLASSES AND PILLARS | PRE-K/K-1 | 2nd-5th | MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL |
|---|------------------------------|--|---|
| UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST TENETS August 21 - October 1st | Diane Bundy | Jocelyn Lanham | Noah |
| UNIT SERVICE October 23 Blessing of the Animals October 4th | Jax Schmidt (through 9/1st) | Eric First (will need a sub for the first day) Jocelyn Lanham | Clyde Knox Lyon Ely Am Hager (backup) |
| JEWISH & CHRISTIAN HERITAGE October 30 - Dec. 11 Translating Service November 2nd Winter Holiday Service December 10th | Cheryl Green Paula Leland | Jocelyn Lanham | Noah |
| WORLD RELIGIONS January 8th - Feb. 17th | | Jocelyn Lanham | Noah |
| PEACE, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB Feb. 26th - April 2nd Peace and Justice Intergenerational - April 20th (Latter is April 14th) | | Jocelyn Lanham | Noah |
| PERSONAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH April 16th - May 21st Affirmation Sunday - May 28th | | Jocelyn Lanham | Noah |

In order to teach Religious Education, you must have been a member and/or regular, active attendee for at least 6 months. If you do not yet meet that criterion, talk to Susan Caldwell about other ways you can help.

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| SEPTEMBER | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 5PM Support Group 5PM Highland Blessing Dinner (Page 3)  5:45 Yoga 6:30PM New Thought Group | 2 7PM Game Night  | 3 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF |
| 4 11AM Worship / RE 1:30PM LTA | 5 LABOR DAY  | 6 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group | 7 5:30PM Choir | 8 5PM Support Group 5:45 Yoga | 9 North Louisiana Gay & Lesbian Film Festival | 10 9AM to 1 PM Building & Grounds Workday (Page 3) 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF |
| 11 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 12:15PM Newcomer Info Session (Page 5) | 12 | 13 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group | 14 5:30PM Choir | 15 5PM Support Group 5:45 Yoga 6:30PM New Thought Group 7PM Interfaith Leaders Meeting | 16 5:30 Boswell Rehearsal | 17 10:30 AM Meditation 3PM ADF 6 PM Boswell Wedding |
| North Louisiana Gay & Lesbian Film Festival Continues ... | | | | | | |
| 18 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship 1:30 to 4PM "Louisiana: The State of Women and Families" (Page 1) | 19 | 20 6PM Board & Council Meeting 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group | 21 5:30 PM Choir | 22 5PM Support Group 5:45 Yoga 7PM Interfaith Leaders' Meeting | 23 7PM Game Night  | 24 9AM to 3PM Visioning Workshop with Carlton Smith (Page 2) 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF |
| 25 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE | 26 | 27 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group 8PM Newsletter Deadline | 28 5:30PM Choir | 29 5PM Support Group 5:45 Yoga 6:30 New Thought Group 7PM Interfaith Delegates' Assembly at Paradise Baptist Church (Page 4) | 30 | OCTOBER 1 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF |
| | | | | | | |