



All Souls News

A newsletter for the members and friends of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Shreveport, Louisiana

9449 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106 ♦ (318) 868-3313 ♦ www.allsoulsuushreveport.org

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 1—“Righteous Among the Nations” This is the distinction bestowed posthumously by Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, upon Waitstill and Martha Sharp for their work with the Unitarian Service Committee. The Sharps arranged safe passage for Jewish refugees out of Third Reich countries. On this day of Shreveport’s own Holocaust Remembrance service, Religious Education Director Susan Caldwell will tell their story and look at what they have to teach us about our connection to all life in the interdependent web. *Board Persons of the Day are Bob Jordan and Ken Peterson.*

May 8—“Mothering in the Second Half of Life” For Mother’s Day, hospice social worker **Sarah Boswell** is in the pulpit, exploring four characteristics that are helpful when caring for loved ones near the end of life. *Board Persons of the Day are Jocelyn Lanham and Kathy Osuch.*

May 15—Our annual presentation of the **Ralph Waldo Emerson Award**, given annually to the individual or organization from the wider community that best embodies the values and Principles of liberal religion. This year, the award goes to **Rev. Lee Jeter** of the Fuller Center for Housing, who will also be our guest in the pulpit that morning. *Board Persons of the Day are Amanda Lawrence and Jocelyn Lanham.*

May 22—Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit. Join us after the service for a **Congregational Meeting**. We will be voting on new board members. *Board Persons of the Day are Melissa Gibson and Kathy Osuch.*

May 29—“Milestones” is a service for our whole church community, celebrating spiritual growth at every age and stage. *Board Persons of the Day are Diane Bundy and Eric First.*

Support Survivors of Sexual Exploitation

Sex trafficking happens in our community.

FREE: The Coalition to End Human Trafficking in Northwest Louisiana is partnering with local organizations and law enforcement to serve survivors of sexual exploitation and those who are at-risk.

Often, when these agencies come in contact with survivors, they are lacking in basic necessities, such as clothing and food. Packing a “go-bag” for advocates and law enforcement to bring to individuals who are rescued out of human trafficking or even arrested for prostitution-related charges is one way to help meet those needs. It is also an opportunity to foster a sense of dignity and respect during a difficult time in someone’s journey.

All Souls would like to send 20 bags to FREE Coalition.

FREE offers the following guidelines: Please send only new items (this sends a message to the survivor that they are valued). Purchase all items in the same size (small, medium, large, extra-large).

(Continued on Page 6: SURVIVORS)



OFFICE HOURS
OFFICE EMAIL
OFFICE PHONE

Office hours vary; call first to confirm
office@allsoulsuushreveport.org
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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Tuesday, May 31 by 8 p.m.

FROM THE MINISTER

'True Empowerment Seeks Only to Similarly Empower'

By Rev.

Barbara Jarrell



"True empowerment seeks only to similarly empower."

My friend shared this thought with me and it has been on my mind intermittently since then.

I look at what kind of power I think I have—this aging, white, female cancer veteran.

You may know the joke: Being a Unitarian (not necessarily Universalist) Minister is attempting to serve as an authority for a group of people with authority issues.

That may or may not be funny, but I do very much recognize that the power in our congregation rests with you, the members.

Even in getting older and having weathered a health challenge that left me looking a little odder on the other side—what power I have in my world is uncommon compared with the majority of people on the planet.

As I commented recently in a Sunday service, if people have the means to get to our building on a Sunday, they have more options than a whole lot of people around us.

I get it that I have the benefit of white privilege.

I get it that I have enjoyed middle class spoils.

I understand that the circumstances in which I grew up—my protected childhood, family environment, and the education afforded me—were all exceptional blessings. Trying to extend those things to others we do our social justice and action work with Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith, Highland Center Ministries, and the other organizations with which each of us affiliates, participates, and donates.

But as the minister of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church in Shreveport what I actually feel empowered to do is share my truth with you, share my faith journey as it is unfolding.

I have no illusions of being "the moon," but I do feel empowered to try to be a "finger pointing at the moon."

Many of you have more degrees and broader life experience than I. I am not the smartest, the most clever, the quickest, most entertaining, most nurturing, or most charismatic person in our congregation. All of those titles also rest among you, the members. I am simply the one you have elected to point more frequently.

What I endeavor to do with all my pointing is empower you any way I can to encounter every meaningful spiritual experience

I have had or that you might otherwise find.

I would love nothing more than for each of you to enjoy the comfort and assurance that rests deep within me as a matter of faith.

I find it to be dynamic and connected to something far greater than the boundaries of my personhood—something whose impact and sway are noticeable. Mine is faith that can see Theodore Parker's statement manifesting even in light of things that would seem contrary:

"I do not pretend to understand the moral universe; the arc is a long one, my eye reaches but little ways; I cannot calculate the curve and complete the figure by the experience of sight; I can divine it by conscience. And from what I see I am sure it bends towards justice."

I cannot determine who might receive what I extend or how it might be received. I shall continue, however, to the best of my ability to give it away.

And then I ask you what is your power? Are you trying to similarly empower others as your equal?

That just may be the identifiable mark of genuine empowerment.

Yours in ever evolving faith,

Barbara

All Souls is a
Welcoming
Congregation.



CORNER OFFICE WITH A VIEW

Teachers Needed for Weekly Summer Sessions



By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

In the RE Wing, the children and youth have begun their pillar on Personal Spiritual Growth and Development, as the adults are coming down to the last sessions of "Spirit in Practice."

Throughout the class, we've looked at opportunities to adopt or enrich our personal spiritual practices, and to learn to look at many aspects of our daily lives as spiritual practice.

It's been an honor and blessing for **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** and me to hear from those of you in the class about those facets of your lives that hold deep meaning and heart for you, and to hear how the class has changed your perspective on the spiritual life.

In our liturgical year, we have come to the Season of the Earthling, celebrating the home we share with all life in the interdependent web of all existence, and the ways that we grow spiritually from nurturing and strengthening that sense of connectedness.

As we come to the end of the regular Religious Education year, and the beginning of the summer session, we'll be looking for caring, enthusiastic adults who would like to share an art, craft, or drama activity, perhaps some cool hands-on science, or any other type of activity suitable for a mixed-age group of children and youth.

Whether it is something adaptable to all ages, or you'd prefer to work within a certain age range, contact me via email at dre@allsoulsuushreveport.org or via text/phone at (318) 465-3427. You can also contact me via Facebook (Susan Kelly Caldwell).

Even if you can't think of any grand ideas right this very minute, but you're willing to help someone else realize theirs, again, get in touch! Let's talk!



Used with permission. "A Mother's Love" by Art from a Vegan Heart.
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Art print available at https://www.etsy.com/listing/276736228/a-mothers-love-elephants-5x7-print?ref=shop_home_listings

Building & Grounds Work Day



Saturday,
May 21

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.

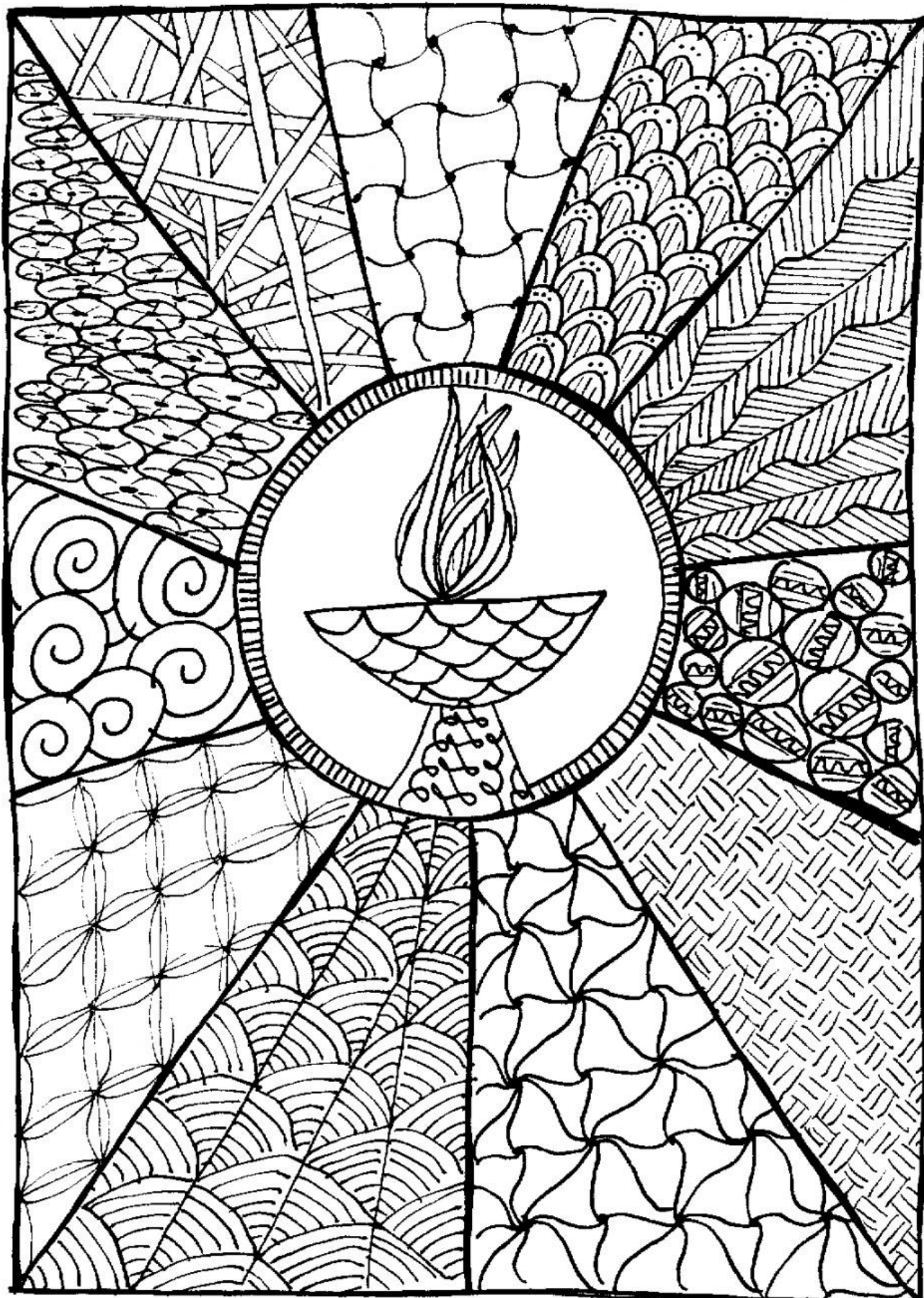
Volunteers are needed to host tables, serve, and help in several other capacities—but the cooking is already done.

Sign up with Susan Caldwell or just show up at the Highland Center, 520 Olive Street, at 5 p.m.

Upcoming Meal(s): May 5 and June 2



Coloring Page Meditation



CLL 2015

Membership Matters

Visitors Invited to Newcomer Info Session

By Ron Thurston,
Membership Committee



Do you want to know more about Unitarian Universalism and All Souls? Each month, the Membership Committee hosts a Newcomer Information Session for visitors and guests. Our next meeting is June 5, after the Sunday service.

Grab a cup of coffee and a snack in the social hall and then 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 the Unitarian Universalist Association headquarters, which spotlights 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.

If you have any questions regarding membership, 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.

Mike Roberts Named Volunteer of the Month

The All Souls Board of Directors is pleased to announce **Mike Roberts** as May's Volunteer of the Month.

Mike can often be found in the choir loft, managing the sound for the Sunday service. He also serves as a

church sexton, managing the building for renters.

Mike has also been helpful in many Annual Gala and Silent Auctions and other fundraisers. Each year, Mike and his wife, **Kathy Osuch**, generously donate a pool party and Mardi Gras party to the auction. Mike is also a regular for Building & Grounds Workday (May 21 this month, in case you're wondering).

For all of Mike's work and positive attitude be sure to thank him this month.

Submitted by Melissa Gibson, Newsletter Editor



The young dead soldiers do not speak.

Nevertheless, they are heard in the still houses:
who has not heard them?

They have a silence that speaks for them at night
and when the clock counts.

They say: We were young. We have died.
Remember us.

- "The Young Dead Soldiers Do Not Speak"
By Archibald MacLeish

TED Talk Group Meets Mondays

Each week, members join together at Hazel Martin's home to discuss a TED Talk.

Formerly known as the Great Questions group and as the Eastern Religions group before that, the meeting is open to all interested.

For more information, contact **Kathy Osuch** at kjosuch@aol.com or (318) 861-6729.



Yoga with Jen on Mondays

Every Monday, you are welcome to attend yoga with **Jen Rault**.

Jen offers a holistic approach to the eight limbs of the yoga philosophy, ground in the foundational text of yoga, Patanjali's *Yogasutras*.

Class includes physical postures, breath practices, meditation, chanting, and visualizations.

Yoga can be individualized to the needs and abilities of the practitioner and is appropriate for people of all ages and abilities.

If you can breath, you can do yoga!

Yoga for well-being, yoga for everyone.

She is a certified yoga teacher, teaching and practicing yoga in the style of Sri T. Krishnamacarya.

Bring a mat, if you have one. Jen will have some available for use. Wear loose, comfortable clothing.

Classes are at the church Mondays at 5:45 p.m. and fee is by donation.



buddhadoodles.com

SURVIVORS: Purchase basic colors to appeal to any taste. Have fun! Chose items that will make someone feel special!

Bags should include: two t-shirts, sweatpants, underwear, socks, sandals, small duffel bag, granola bar, travel comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, tweezers, body spray/lotion, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, and gift card for groceries/restaurant.

Optional items include a journal, pen, small blanket, stuffed animal, nail polish, note/card to survivor, and note/card to advocate or law enforcement.

Please place completed bag in Rev. Barbara Jarrell's office. Items will be transferred into an All Souls reusable bag for delivery. We will collect bags till Sunday, May 29 and deliver them to FREE the following week. Please direction questions to Melissa Gibson at melissainkdesigns@gmail.com or (318) 550-1296.



FREE

The Coalition to End Human Trafficking in Northwest Louisiana

Support Worthy Non-Profits on Give for Good Day

Give for Good is a 24-hour online giving challenge led by The Community Foundation of North Louisiana to raise unrestricted dollars for the non-profits in our community. Visit one website and support numerous Shreveport-Bossier non-profits with just a few clicks. This year, Give for Good is May 3.

Many organizations near and dear to members of All Souls are participating, including Volunteers for Youth Justice, Hope Connections, Shreveport Symphony, Shreveport Opera, Robinson's Rescue, etc. Additionally, All Souls as a congregation is a member institution to two participating non-profits, the Highland Center Ministries and Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith.

The Highland Center Ministries partnership of congregations began with its first project, the Highland Blessing Dinner. As many regular volunteers know, the Highland Bless-

ing Dinner is a weekly sit-down, family-style dinner served to anyone who comes to the door of the Highland Center every Thursday evening.

The partnership now supports clothing closets, free tax preparation service, summer swimming lessons for children, and a partnership with Pelican State Credit Union to provide low-cost loans and banking services to the unbanked and underbanked, keeping more of our citizens away from the doors of the payday lenders. Support the Highland Center Ministries here: <https://giveforgoodnla.org/npo/highland-center-ministries>. A real-life celebration will also take place at Blue Southern Comfort Food, at the corner of Pierremont and Fairfield, between 4 and 9 p.m. on May 3.

Northern and Central Louisiana



Interfaith brings together people of different faith traditions, ethnicities, party affiliations, genders, socio-economic backgrounds, and all the other divisions of our community, to break down barriers and build relationships of trust so that we may advocate for the common good of all residents. Interfaith also works on state-wide issues with partner organizations. Please note that Interfaith is listed as Northern Louisiana Area Interfaith Sponsoring Committee (its original name) under Give for Good: <https://giveforgoodnla.org/npo/northern-louisiana-area-interfaith-sponsoring-committee-inc>.

2016 Unitarian Universalist Summer Camps

10-13 June 2015 Family Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/familyCamp>

19-25 June 2015 Sojourner Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children entering grades 3 through 5 in Fall 2016. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

26 June – 2 July 2016 Olympia Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children entering grades 6 and 7 in Fall 2016. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

3-9 July 2016 Seeger Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children entering grades 8 and 9 in Fall 2016. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

10-16 July 2016 Reeb Camp (U-Bar-U Camp – near Austin TX). For children entering grades 10 in Fall 2016 through 2016 high school graduates. For more information, go online -- <http://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>

24-29 July 2016 “The Point” Family Summer Camp (formerly “Southwest UU Summer Institute – SWUUSI” – Western Hills Guest Ranch, Sequoyah State Park, Hulbert OK). For more information, see this month's “Corner Room with a View” by Susan Caldwell on Page 3.

Submitted by Steve Caldwell, Denominational Affairs Committee



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MAY						
1 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE 1:30PM LTA 5PM A Course in Miracles Study Group (ACIM)	2 5:45PM Yoga 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group Together Louisiana Statewide Meeting with Gov. John Bel Edwards 11AM—2PM	3 Give for Good (See Page 7)	4 5:30PM Choir	5 5PM Support Group 5 PM Highland Blessing Dinner 	6 NO GAME NIGHT 6 PM Cheadle Rehearsal	7 10:30AM Meditation 1 PM Cheadle Wedding 3PM ADF
8 MOTHER'S DAY 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE	9 NO YOGA TONIGHT 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	10	11 5:30PM Choir	12 5PM Support Group	13	14 10:30 AM Meditation 1:30 PM Birdsong Music School Recital 3PM ADF
15 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship Emerson Award Reception	16 NO YOGA TONIGHT 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	17 6PM Shreveport Montessori School Graduation	18 5:30 PM Choir	19 5PM Support Group 7PM Interfaith Leaders' Meeting	20 7PM Game Night 	21 9AM to 1 PM Building & Grounds Workday 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF
22 9:15AM Adult RE 11AM Worship / RE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	23 5:45PM Yoga 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group	24 6PM Board & Council Meeting	25 5:30PM Choir	26 5PM Support Group 7PM Interfaith Leaders Meeting	27	28 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF 4PM Awakening Vibrations (Page 1)
29 9:12AM Adult RE 11AM Worship/RE	30 MEMORIAL DAY 5:45PM Yoga 7PM TED Talks Discussion Group 	31 8PM Newsletter Deadline	JUNE 1 5:30PM Choir	2 5PM Support Group	3	4 10:30AM Meditation 3PM ADF

LGBTQA Young Adult Social Support Group

For High School to College Aged Individuals

Sponsored by

P=A=C=E=
People Acting for Change and Equality

The mission of the group is to provide a
safe and affirming environment for peer-to-peer
social interaction and support.

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month on a local campus

For additional information about meeting location and events,
please contact us at PACYoungAdult@gmail.com



DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS: May 2016 & Beyond



**27-29 May 2016 Louisiana Cluster
YRUU Youth Rally (TBD – UU Church
of Baton Rouge will probably host this
event).** For high school youth ages 14 to
19. For more information, contact the
church office.

**22-26 June 2016 UUA General Assem-
bly (Columbus OH).** For more infor-
mation, go online -- <http://www.uua.org/>
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*Submitted by Steve Caldwell,
Denominational Affairs
Committee*