

OUR CHURCH LIFE



MARCH 2014 CHURCH CALENDAR

Mar. 2 Sunday 10:00am: Service Covenant - The UU Glue with the Rev. Mark Skrabacz. Six years ago I gave this as my first sermon at our Church. Today I'd like to revisit it. In it I describe what I think Unitarian Universalism is. Let's see what you think.

March 7 Friday 11:30 Men's Fellowship **Lunch** in the Annex

Mar. 9 Sunday 9-9:45am: in Annex. Discussion: 30 min DVD viewing and discussion of Historical U.U. Men and Women 10:00am Service: To Be Announced: Information not available at time of publication. Contact June Hartley, Service Chair 896-5131 10:00am: Service To Be Announced: Inforfor details

Mar. 12 Wednesday 6:30pm: Board Meeting in Annex

Mar. 16 Sunday 10:00am: Service Brave **New Faith** by Rev. Dr. Matt Tittle. What is the theological foundation for modern-day Unitarian Universalism? Based in part upon James Luther Adam's book Five Smooth Stones. Matt served UU congregations in the US and New Zealand. He recently moved to Austin, having retired from parish ministry. He currently works as Marketing/Promotions Director for UbarU, our retreat/conference center west of Kerrville. Rev. Tittle is also a retired naval officer and former university professor.

POTLUCK LUNCH

March 21 Friday 11:30 Men's Fellowship **Lunch** in the Annex

Friday night at the movies 7pm Annex

Mar. 23 Sunday 9-9:45am: in Annex. Discussion: U.U. Magazine Discussion. Topic to be announced in Weekly Reminder. Led by John Schlosser

10:00am: Service To Be Announced: Information not available at time of publication. Contact June Hartley, Service Chair 896-5131 for details.

March 29 Saturday 7pm Sing-Along with Meredith in the church.

Mar. 30 Sunday 9:00am Free Speech in Annex

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April 4 Friday 11:30 Men's Fellowship **Lunch** in the Annex

April 6 Sunday 10:00AM Service *Integrat*ing the Inner and Outer Self with the Rev. Mark Skrabacz. What motivates people in their religious and spiritual beliefs? Today's worship will look through the lens of psychology as a scientifically respectable means for viewing our own human sense of freedom and ethical responsibility. Our human condition calls us into the tension of an experience of accepting life as it is, and to the challenge of making a difference.

March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Service 10am Rev. Mark Skrabacz	3	4	5	6	7 JCHC Men's Fellowship 11:30am	8
9 9am Discussion in Annex Service 10am	10	11	12 6:30pm BOARD MEETING - ANNEX	13	14 уснс	15
16 Service 10am POTLUCK SUNDAY	17	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20	21 Men's Lunch 11:30a / Sing Along 7p / JCHC	22
23 9am Discussion in Annex Service 10am	24	25	26	27	28 јене	29 7pm Sing- Along Church
30 9am Free Speech in Annex Service 10am	31					

From Our Minister's Desk

By Rev. Mark Skrabacz

Humanism in our Religious Community

Unitarian Universalism is a religious community in which one is free to develop one's own theology. We are a community in which we remind ourselves that how we live is the most important matter, and how we relate to each other is our spiritual practice. Our living tradition draws from many sources including "humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against the idolatries of the mind and spirit."

That last phrase encourages us to be mindful of the extremes and certainties of the mind and spirit. We are called to integrate them into a rational inquiry that is tempered by our faculties of feeling, intuition and imagination. Ideally it's a balance of both.

We may differ widely in our personal religious beliefs, yet hopefully our sense of common purpose and direction involves a clear and present interrelating of our minds and spirits. Like most UUs, I respect those whose minds and spiritualities differ from my own, yet I am more convinced that what we have in common is more important than what may divide us. Yet conflicts and divisions must not be

avoided. In fact, it is how we engage conflicts and endeavor to resolve them that is vital to our community's spiritual practice.

A realistic integration of mind and spirit means that neither alone provides the answer to our questions. Without the spirit, that I would partially define as a larger sense of purpose and relatedness, our minds can lead us into personal, political, technological and ecological crises. Yet without the mind and its reasoned perspective, the human spirit can easily produce religious opinions and sects that create divisions and strife.

Our humanism is a practical religious expression. It means supporting one another in our ethical and spiritual living, so that we may lift up our highest values in our everyday lives. The way we live will have an influence on our wider communities. Although we may feel vulnerable by our living tradition's lack of readily available statements of faith or creeds, most of us find in the openness of our faith a quiet humility that encourages our own personal examination and clarification of the inner life. And that is good enough for most of us as we live into the promise of a healthy integration of our mind and spirit.

DWIGHT BROWN'S SERMONS

Rev. Dr. Dwight's sermons and some additional writings are being posted at *UbarU.org*, go to last item on the *About* UbarU tab. There is also a short biography of him there. These are being uploaded as they are reformatted, so this will take a while as they total 300+, but over 30 are already there including one available as an audio recording. Dwight had a long career as a UU minister and UU district executive. Dwight and his wife Marie moved here to Kerrville in 2004 and became important members of our Kerrville UU community. Dwight died here in Kerrville November 3rd 2012.

UBarU is pleased to announce three new hires for the UBarU Staff:

Rev. Matt Tittle has joined our team as Director - Marketing. Rev. Matt will be in charge of all marketing efforts for UBarU. He will be helping to create new programs and working with the congregations and others to generate usage of our facilities. If you want to make a reservation to stay at UBarU, you can reach Rev. Matt at market-

ing@ubaru.org.

David Baker has joined the team as Director - Operations. David is in charge of caring for our buildings and the land. He will also be the on-site host for most of our events. We know you will love the great meals that he prepares. If you need to reach David, he can be emailed at operations@ubaru.org.

Jennifer Nichols has joined as Director - Summer Camps. We are so thrilled to have Jennifer join us as she conceived of and created our summer camp program when she was working with the Southwest UU Conference. if you want to reach Jennifer, email her at campdirector@ubaru.org.

Please join us in welcoming Matt, David and Jennifer!

CHURCH CONTACTS

Board of Directors 2013-2014

Pres. Diane McMahon 896-3195 dianelm@windstream.net

VP June Hartley 896-5191 juneh@ktc.com

Sec. Jan Lentner 719-371-6825 macawma2001@yahoo.com

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Past Pres. Steve Galland 634-7668 sgalland@afgimail.com

Minister

The Rev. Mark Skrabacz

890-5784, markskrabacz@hotmail.com

Other Key Contacts

Service Committee—June Hartley (see above

Newsletter- Joyce Randle-257-2346, rjpa47@stx.rr.com

Book Club - Kevin Hartley kevinh@ktc.com 896-5191

Music Director - Meredith Hensley 830-522-0802

Director of Children's Religious Education-Joyce Randle

Lifespan Faith Development Marie Brown 895-5138

Care-Shari Gore 367-3142, Marie Brown 895-5138,

Chalice Lighter-Judy Ashcraft (above)

Chalice Table Coordinator – Shari Gore (above)

Librarian – Shari Gore (above)

Maintenance- Jerry Best 210-633-7553 bestjer-

ry@hotmail.com

Publicity-Judy Ashcraft (above)

Chat & Chew-Joyce Randle (above)

Community Outreach - Laurie Pesez

Membership - Joyce Randle (above)

Men's Fellowship Lunch - Steve Galland 634-7668

Ministerial Relations Committee - Donna Schloss 830-792-

dschloss@ktc.com

Address: 960 Barnett St, Kerrville TX 78028 Church phone: 830-792-3626 Webpage uuchc.org

A NOTE FROM THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

It looks as if March will be a month of wonderful speakers all talking about different aspects of our faith and being a UU. What a great chance to invite some people who might wonder about who we are and what makes us tick. Many of us came to this denomination because someone invited us...let's return the favor.

Chalice Table/Greeter

Following is the roster for decorating the chalice table and greeting members and guests. If you cannot participate on the Sunday listed, please contact Shari Gore, 367-3142

Mar. 2 Kobe Family Mar. 9 Lentner Family
Mar. 16 Luther Family Mar. 23 McMahon Family

Mar. 30 Osborn Family

ADULT EDUCATION

Time to plan Adult Education programs for the up coming months. If you are a member of this committee, or have an interest, lets meet on March 10th at 7.00pm in the Annex.

A wonderful community of people met at the church on Sat Feb 15th to clean up our front garden. In less than 3 hours 8 people did a fabulous job. Thanks go to Sandi and John Schlosser, Karen and Mike Burkett, Patricia Eldridge, Kay White, Dave Kobe and Marie Brown. A good conversation and pizza where enjoyed after our efforts.

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