

OUR CHURCH LIFE

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country
Newsletter

November 2019

Below enjoying their dogs at the Animal Blessing are (from left to right) Jill Wiggins, Gary Payne with "Junior", Judy Bunch, Donnie Bunch with "Snickers", and grandson Quentin Vega.

Animal Blessing Service brings Congregation Outdoors



Above is Frances Osborne leading the Animal Blessing on Sunday, October 13



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“Our Church Life” - More Material on Sunday Services in Chronological Date Order...

- 3 Speaker: Linda Smith, church member - Topic: “Humor”.** Laughter is an affirmation of our humanness, a face-saving way to express our anxieties, fears, and other hidden emotions. It breaks the ice, builds trust, and draws us together into a common state of well-being. It can reduce tension, diffuse a crisis, and be downright fun. Let’s have a fun service that not only includes UU jokes, but examines how we can have compassionate humor while having that fun. Smith has been a UU since 1974 and member of our church since 2005. She now serves as a Past President, having previously served as President of our Board for three terms totaling 4 1/2 years. Her experience “herding cats” comes from herding her five children and 13 grandchildren, and maybe her husband Chuck on occasion.
- 10 Speaker: Rev. Bill Blackburn, Mayor of Kerrville - Talk: Kerrville Veterans and Veteran Service to the Community.** Blackburn is a graduate of Baylor University, seminaries in Ft Worth and Louisville, and did postdoctoral study at Oxford University, England. After many years serving as a Baptist minister, he founded Partners in Ministry, a collaboration to address needs of children, youth, and those in poverty in Kerr County.
- 17 Speaker: Rev. Peter Bauer - Topic: “Living into the New Story - How do we live with the changes in our climate which are causing consequences for people, agriculture, and animals? How can we be advocates for a healthy planet?”** Bauer is a United Church of Christ minister, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist. He currently works at the Frank Tejada Outpatient Clinic, South Texas Veterans' Health Care System in San Antonio. Peter is a long-time friend of UUCHC, having served as a part-time pastor in the church's early years.
- 24 Speaker: Mike Burkett, church member - Topic: TBA** Burkett is a retired lawyer, a long time UU, and has served as a UUCHC Board Officer, former Sunday Service Chair, and frequent coffee maker. He is the co-founder and current Board member of KerrKonnnect.



Hill Country Rainbow: LGBTQ Community of Friends

As of September 2019, the term “PFLAG” ceased to be used to describe the church’s LGBTQ activities due to legal and financial obligations. **The new name is “Hill Country Rainbow: LGBTQ Community of Friends”.**

Meetings will still be on the second Monday of each month in the Wilma Palmer Annex located at 960 Barnett Street from 7 - 8:30pm.

Contact Curtis Overstreet for more information at 210.262-8859/ deadeye1964@gmail.com



**Making Lunch for the Crew
Thursday, Nov 21 ★ 11:30am ★ Palmer Annex**

The house building is continuing and the church will be providing a meal hot lunch for between 6-15 hardworking volunteer contractors and the families who are buying these homes. There is still time to “adopt” a month and organize the meal since this monthly program will continue through May 2020.

Assistance is needed in preparing or buying a part of the meal (entrée, salad or vegetable, dessert) and making sure it is delivered to the Habitat for Humanity office at 121 McGinnis Court.

Contact Judy Ashcraft (830) 896-8319/ whodit@hotmail.com with your choice or sign up on the list located on back table at the rear of the church sanctuary.







November 2019 Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country Calendar



Updates & Revisions to this calendar may be found in the Weekly Calendar Update which is emailed on most Thursdays.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Church Friends may serve on committees. All listed meetings are open and all are welcome to attend. All Sunday Services are held at 10am in the Church Sanctuary.</p> <p>CS: Church Sanctuary PA: Wilma Palmer Annex</p>					<p>1</p>  <p>Men's Fellowship Lunch: 11:30am - PA①</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Speaker: Linda Smith - Topic: "Humor" - see page 2</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Ends (set clocks back one hour)</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>VOTE!</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>Committee Chair Council meeting: 5:30pm - PA Contact: Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/ pmeredith@yahoo.com</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Social Justice Committee meeting: 10-11:30am - PA Contact: Frances Osborne 512.468-9542/ osborne35@hotmail.com</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Speaker: Rev. Bill Blackburn Topic: "Kerrville Veterans & Veteran Service to the Community" - see page 2</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Veterans Day</p>   <p>Hill Country Rainbow (LGBTQ Community of Friends) meeting: 7pm-8:30pm - PA - see page 2</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Adult Religious Education (ARE) Committee Meeting: 1:30pm - PA Contact: Mary Jones 830.896-9182/ austinbound216@yahoo.com</p> <p>Women's Connection lunch: 11:30am - Thai Bistro (1201 Broadway, Kerrville)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Board meeting: 6:30pm - PA - all welcomed. October meeting minutes - see page 4</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Activities & Events Committee meeting: 1pm - C&R Design (1204 Sidney Baker South-Kerrville) Contact: Judy Ashcraft 210.326-0084/ whodit@hotmail.com</p> <p><u>ARE Justice on Earth</u> book discussion: 6:30pm - PA - see page 5</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Men's Fellowship Lunch: 11:30am - PA①</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Hill Country Crisis Council②</p> <p>Speaker: Rev. Peter Bauer - Topic: "Living into the New Story" - see page 2</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>Habitat for Humanity lunch - 11:30pm - PA - see page 2</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Kerrville Holiday Lighted Parade: 6pm - see page 4</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Speaker: Mike Burkett - Topic: TBA - see page 2</p> <p>Pot Luck Dinner after Service- PA</p>	<p>25</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> 	<p>29</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>Comfort Holiday Lighted Parade: 7pm - see page 4</p>

① There will be news, views, and thought provoking discussion. Guys bring your sandwich or gourmet repast as you wish. Contact: Steve Galland 830.634-7668/sgalland143@gmail.com

② Hill Country Crisis Center Sundays are held on 3rd Sundays, monthly with a focus on paper products: toilet and facial tissue, paper towels, women's sanitary products, plus large bottles of baby shampoo. Contact Carolyn Dreyer 830.496-3094/ brightredmimi@gmail.com

Summary of Wednesday, October 9, 2019 Board Meeting

Present: Board President Jerry Best; Vice President Vicki Luther; Treasurer Judy Bunch; Secretary Jill Wiggins; Member-at-large Meredith Hensley; Judy Ashcraft, Activities and Events; Linda Smith, Spiritual Development; Mike Burkett, Finance Chair; Kevin Elliott, Hearts Desire Stained Glass

Kevin Elliott, stained glass artist from Hearts Desire, presented the finished stained glass window to be installed in memory of Andy Pesez. The board was unanimous and enthusiastic in its approval. Vicki will work with the Sunday Services committee to include dedication of the window into a service.

Board meeting minutes from the September 11, 2019, meeting were approved.

Judy Bunch presented the Finance report, which was also approved after questions and discussion.

CCC report: Meredith reported that there are no children in RE at this time. Sunday services are planned through December. The Christmas parade will be Saturday, November 23. Linda would like to have a decorating party for her car.

Membership: Steve Galland has established new procedures for greeters, who will be trained. He is running ads in Kerrville and Fredericksburg publications.

Activities and Events: Judy Ashcraft reported that the November potluck will be the last Sunday to be closer to Thanksgiving; December potluck will be December 15, with ham provided; Christmas cookie exchange will be either December 24, if there is a service, or December 22 if no Christmas Eve service; the holiday party will be January 4.

Member and friends lists in two formats were presented. Preferences for the Excel format vs. the list format differed, and both formats will be emailed as PDFs. Members and friends are listed separately.

Judy Ashcraft was appointed Nominating Committee chair.

Mike Burkett presented a draft 2020 budget, followed by questions and clarifications that will be resolved when the board approves a final budget in December.

Vicki reported completion of the new web page. The board agreed to continue paying Audra Arr for three months, and Audra will train a volunteer to take over.

After adjournment the board went into a brief executive session.

Check out full minutes on the bulletin board at the back of sanctuary or in the office in the book marked "Minutes."—Jill Wiggins, Secretary

UUCHC to Festively Celebrate Season in 2 Holiday Lighted Parades



Linda Smith's decorated car from the 2018 Holiday Lighted Parades in Comfort & Kerrville

Kerrville Parade - Saturday, November 23 beginning at 6pm. The "Decorate the Convertible" party will start at 1pm at the Wilma Palmer Annex with food provided.

Comfort Parade- Saturday, November 30 beginning at 7pm. The "Decorate the Convertible" party will begin at 1pm at the Wilma Palmer Annex with food provided.

For either/both parades items needed are Christmas lights, battery operated camping lanterns, garland, flashlights and any other shiny items/lights. A small generator that could fit in the trunk to power the lights would be optimal! For more information contact Judy Ashcraft (830) 896-8319/ whodit@hotmail.com





Getting To Know Us 🎵

Bridget & John B. Ellison
New members as of September 15

Bridget was born in Corpus Christi, Texas to a large family. She has seven sisters and seven brothers and her parents are now deceased.

As far as religion is concerned, Bridget attended Catholic and Episcopalian churches and first found out about the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country through friends in the area.

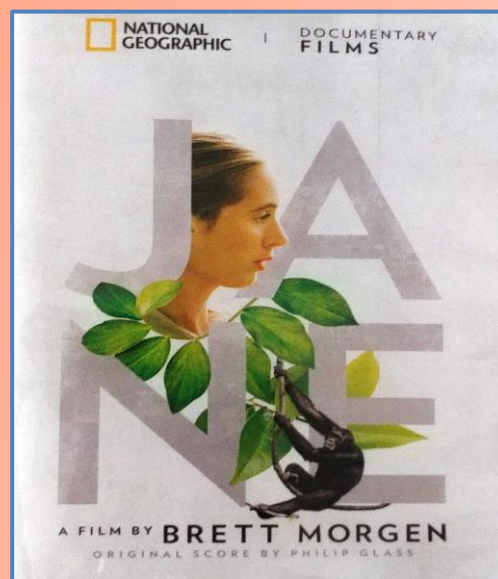
After finding the church to be friendly and welcoming she decided to become a member. Other than contributing monetarily to the church she wants to share her ideas. Additionally she hopes to continue cultivating good friendships and a feeling of belonging. She appreciates the new way of thinking that the religion provides her. She and John married in 1990.

John was born in Houston, Texas as an only child and his parents are now deceased. As with Bridget his religious exposure was in Catholic and Episcopalian churches and first found out about the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country through friends in the area.

The “good, friendly and welcoming people” in the church prompted his decision to become a member. He looks forward contributing his time, finances and ideas with the church as well as helping with greeting on Sundays and involvement in the “Hill Country Rainbow: LGBTQ Community of Friends”.

John feels he has found a home in the church.

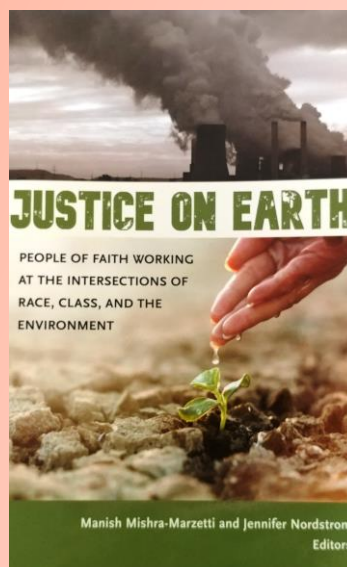
Note from the editor, Susan Lipp: *I hope now that everyone has a glimmer of insight into the lives of these two interesting new members that they will take a minute to get to know them even better.*



Adult Religious Education Early Notification of “JANE” with Dinner Thursday, December 5 🕒 PA 🕒 6pm

This National Geographic documentary 90 minute film about the life and work of Jane Goodall, will be shown after dinner. Please sign up at the table to the rear of the sanctuary.

Description: “Drawing from over 100 hours of never-before-seen footage that has been tucked away in the National Geographic archives for over 50 years, award winning director Brett Morgen tells the story of “JANE, a woman whose chimpanzee research challenged the scientific consensus of her time and revolutionized our understanding of the natural world.”



UUA Common Read Discussion Continues

**Thursday, November 14
6:30pm**

Wilma Palmer Annex

*Contact Mary Jones for more information
512.809-5671/
austinbound216@yahoo.com*



Thanks to the following people for participating in these important duties for the church. Interested? Please reach out to the contact leaders listed under the table below. You'll be glad you did!

Sunday	Service Associate	Chalice Table	Coffee Hour Treats	Greeters
3	Vicki Luther	Carolyn Dreyer	Judy Bunch	Mike Burkett
10	Donna Schloss	Kay White	James Boyles	Monte Hensley
17	Mike Burkett	Jill Wiggins	Karen & Mike Burkett	Marie Brown & Jill Wiggins
24	Pat Kobe	Judy Ashcraft & Jerry Best	Judy Ashcraft	Selma Gibson & Susan Lipp

- ⊕ To be a Service Associate, contact Linda Smith, Vickie Luther or Donna Schloss.
- ⊕ Chalice Table Decoration is handled by Pat Kobe 830.955-1139/ kobepat313@gmail.com
- ⊕ Sign up to provide coffee hour treats on the sheet located on the table to the rear of the sanctuary.
- ⊕ Greeters are coordinated by Steve Galland 830.634-7668/ sagalland143@gmail.com



Carolyn Dreyer decorated the Chalice Table for día de los muertos on October 27 & November 3



Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country Board Members for 2019

President ~ Jerry Best
210-633-7553/ bestjerry@hotmail.com
Vice President ~ Vicki Luther
830.496-3205/ vbluther@twc.com
Secretary - Jill Wiggins
512.965-9947/ jillyrosemary@gmail.com
Treasurer ~ Judy Bunch
830.459-8509/ dbunch@stx.rr.com
Member at Large - Meredith Hensley
830-522-0802/ pmeredithc@yahoo.com

**Sunday Services: Donna Schloss,
Vicki Luther & Linda Smith**
Wayside Pulpit, Coffee Set-Up, Music/Choir, Greeters,
Order of Service, Chalice Table, Service Schedule/Associates

Spiritual Development Chair: Vicki Luther
Life Span Development (Adult and Children's Religious
Education), Free Speech Café, Forums

Membership Chair: Steve Galland
Congregational Care, Visitor Follow-Up, Exit Interviews,
New Member Orientation, Emergency Phone Tree,
Members/Friends List

**Outreach/Social Justice Committee Chair:
Frances Osborne**
La Casa de Raices, TXUJ, PFLAG, Habitat for Humanity,
Hill Country Crisis Center, Texas IMPACT,
Transportation Planning Council

Finance Committee Chair: Mike Burkett
Stewardship, Budget, Building/Grounds
Financial Management & Reports

Activities/Events Chair: Judy Ashcraft
Special Social Events, Recurring Events, Building Usage

Communications Chair: Position Open
communication@uuchc.org
Electronic Media (Facebook & web site): Amanda Biemer
Newsletter/Weekly Calendar Update: Susan Lipp