

OUR CHURCH LIFE

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country Newsletter

July 2022

UGRA
UPPER GUADALUPE
RIVER AUTHORITY

**“Donate the Plate” Recipient of 5th Sunday
“Donate the Plate” is
UGRA (Upper Guadalupe River Authority)**

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) and, specifically its 2022 River Clean Up, will be the recipient UUCHC’s July 31 5th Sunday Donate-the-Plate service.

The UGRA River Clean Up is one of our favorite community events and the church always sponsors a team. This year is no exception.

BUT the Clean Up is on July 23, just one day this year. Many of our best “cleaner uppers” are gone and the rest of us can’t work in the sweltering heat. However, we CAN monetarily sponsor a team now with our donation, get recognition as a community partner, have our logo on the T shirts and all publicity and then do the actual WORK in September/October.

We have already provided UGRA a check for the church’s portion of the 5th Sunday donation. The rest will come from YOU. Please be generous as we care for the treasured heart of our community: the river that runs through it.



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



VA volunteer Chuck Smith and Community Outreach chair Carolyn Dreyer, both members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country presented a \$418 check to Michael Tafoya of the Veteran Affairs Center for Development and Civic Engagement (formerly Voluntary Service). The donation, collected during the UUCHC’s May 29, 5th Sunday “Donate the Plate” service honoring all who’ve served in the military, will be used to provide supplies, transportation and myriad services for the veterans at the VA Hospital.

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Check out our Facebook page**



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PASTORAL REFLECTIONS...

Varieties of Support

The Committee on Ministry spent several months creating a plan for Pastoral Care and Congregational Support teams. Donna Schloss came up with the term "congregational support" to refer to the many things that members and friends do for each other. At various times, members have supported each other by sending cards or flowers, bringing meals, giving rides, and providing social companionship. In times of crisis or loss, any of these expressions of care can be so important!

We used the term Pastoral Care to refer to the calls, visits, guidance or tending done by the minister. The designation is somewhat arbitrary.

Maybe two terms help me avoid being seen or expected to provide coordination of cards, meals and such. Certainly, the heart of pastoral care is something that we all do. It's tending to souls, spirit and hearts of parishioners.

One of the ways we do this is what I call "the valuable work of doing nothing." Although I'm trying to be humorous, I'm also serious.

Sometimes what's really helpful is having someone refrain from doing anything in order to sit tenderly gently listening and receiving the feelings and energy we would really like to express. That is what our "Deep Listening" classes and groups are all about. It's listening, hearing and sometimes acknowledging the feeling, the values, the longing or celebration expressed by another person.

Fortunately, empathy and action aren't mutually exclusive. Sometimes it is material things like a meal that is exactly what is needed. In addition to physical sustenance, the care beneath acts of generosity can lift our spirits and restore our sense of connection.

Whether we send a card, prepare a meal or visit with and listen to a friend, we are ministering. We are moving in the creation of beloved community.

Alive in the Ministry of this faith,
 Reverend Phillip Schulman
 UU Church of the Hill Country

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

3 Service: "bring your own picnic" (in honor of July 4th), with a trivia game emceed by Sarah Johanson. Judy usually organizes parties, but this time she's taking a break.



10 UUCHC Reverend Phillip Schulman (Helen Sherwood, Service Associate; Chalice Table Judy Ashcraft) - Sermon: "What Kind of Man Are You?" - Threatened masculinity and defense of privilege are behind the rise anti-democratic forces, the Russian invasion of Ukraine and more. I'll give personal reflections, liberation theologies and questions to encourage consciousness, foster love and promote healing. Also contrast of evangelical and religious liberal trends in imagining men, gender benders, queer, questioning, responsibility and order.


17 Speaker: Karen Mattox (Mike Burkett, Service Associate; Chalice Table, Carolyn Dreyer) - Talk: "Doyle School Community Projects" - Find out what the Doyle School is doing in our community.

Karen Mattox is the daughter of J. C. and Ira Bell Mattox (deceased) and a Kerrville native. Karen is a graduate of Tivy High School and received her B. A. in English from the University of Texas at Austin. She has a Master's in Professional Counseling from Amberton University in Garland, TX. Karen is the Community Navigator at Doyle Community Center and is part of the staff that received the City of Kerrville Kindness Award. Karen is a member of the Glory Community Garden Steering Committee, City of Kerrville Senior Services Advisory Board and an active member of Barnett Chapel United Methodist Church.

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July 2022 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 style="text-align: center;">HAPPY 4TH OF JULY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CS: Church Sanctuary PA: Wilma Palmer Annex</p>					<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>Men's Fellowship Lunch: 11:30am - PA①</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>"Bring Your Own Picnic" with game led by Sarah Johanson - see page 2 Happy July Birthday Sunday!</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>Board Meeting: 6:30pm - PA</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>Rev. Phillip Schulman (Helen Sherwood, Service Associate; Judy Ashcraft, Chalice Table) - Sermon: "What Kind of Man Are You?" - see page 2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>Men's Fellowship Lunch: 11:30am - PA①</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>Speaker: Karen Mattox (Mike Burkett, Service Associate; Carolyn Dreyer, Chalice Table) - Talk: "Doyle Community School Projects" - see pages 2 & 4 Pot Luck after Service- PA</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>Last day to submit articles for August's newsletter: communication@uuchc.org</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>Pizza & Game Night! 5:30pm - PA - see page 4</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>Rev. Phillip Schulman (Janet Belden, Service Associate & Chalice Table) - Sermon: "Bhakti in our Intellectual World" - see page 4</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>5th Sunday "Donate the Plate" program benefitting UGRA (Bryan Bristol, Service Associate; Pat Kobe, Chalice Table) - see page 1</p>	<p>① There will be news, views, and thought provoking discussion. Guys bring your sandwich or gourmet repast as you wish. Contact: Bryan Bristol 214.392-4823/ bryan.bristol@yahoo.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All Sunday church services are held at 10am in the Church Sanctuary unless otherwise noted. All listed meetings are open and all are welcomed. Church Friends may serve on committees.</p>					

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

- 17 Karen formerly worked protecting children for 16 years. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling and reading.
- 24 **UUHC Reverend Phillip Schulman** (Janet Belden, Service Associate & Chalice Table) - **Sermon: "Bhakti in our Intellectual World"** - UU tradition is steeped in the reason of the Enlightenment. As a Bhakti, one who resonates most with the salvation/enlightenment path of devotion, I will offer some suggestions, requests, and challenges regarding the possibility of including devotion in our multicultural religion.
- 31 **“Donate the Plate” 5th Sunday Program** benefitting UGRA (Upper Guadalupe River Authority) (Bryan Bristol, Service Associate; Chalice Table Pat Kobe) - see page 1 for more info



Get Trained to Teach OWL!

In light of last week's Supreme Court ruling against Roe v. Wade, the Texas UU Justice Ministry especially wants to encourage congregations to host more OWL classes. TXUUJM and First UU Church of Austin are hosting an OWL facilitator training Sept. 16-18 in Austin (levels 7-9/10-12). Please see registration link here. Scholarships available. Our friends at NTUUC are also hosting all-levels training in Dallas in August.

More about OWL from TXUUJM and First UU Austin: "We view this training as part of our larger work for LGBTQIA+ rights, gender justice, and collective liberation, especially at a time when some Texas politicians prey on trans-inclusive families for political gain and when books and programs for human sexuality are censored. While we take to the streets and the halls of democracy in action, we also want to educate and support the next generation of UUs and Texans (and beyond!) in their understanding of sexuality, bodily autonomy, and the inherent worth and dignity of every person." **REGISTER**
→<https://firstuuaustin.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1312733>

Join Us for Pizza & Games ★ 5:30pm
Wilma Palmer Annex (964 Barnett)
Saturday, July 23

Bring your favorite game (board, card, domino, word) or come learn a new one. Free pizza will be provided. Choose your pizza on the sign-up sheet provided at the rear of the sanctuary. Bring your favorite beverage and any snacks you want to share. Please take leftovers home. Questions? Contact Judy Ashcraft 830.896-8319/ whodit@hotmail.com



Upcoming
UbarU Events
For July &
August

July 8-10: GenderUUU retreat for trans-, non-binary folks to gather for fun and support.

July 24-29: The Point- a family camp for UU's!

August 25-28: Star Party- a three night opportunity to learn about and enjoy the Dark Sky at UBarU!

<https://www.ubaru.org> for details and to register. Email director@ubaru.org as well.



Chalice Table decor from Judy Ashcraft (above) on June 12 and David Sherwood (below) on June 19





Thanks to all who participate in the important duties that keep our church running smoothly. Interested in helping out? Please reach out to the Board Members listed to the right or those folks mentioned below.

In the past the list of Service Associates and Chalice Table Participants for Sunday Services were listed in a table found in this area of the newsletter. You may now find them listed next to the specific Sunday they are handling under “More Material on Sunday Services” listed on pages 2 and 4 of this newsletter.

Service Associates are handled by the Sunday Services Chair, Janet Belden and Chalice Table Decoration is handled by Pat Kobe 830.955-1139/ kobepat313@gmail.com.

A special **THANK YOU** goes to Jim McMahon who is providing Sunday coffee to the congregation once again!



UUs Carolyn Dreyer, Marie Brown and Karen Burkett joined the large, orange-wearing crowd of anti-gun-violence protestors at the Kerrville courthouse on Saturday, June 4. It was the third successful rally organized by word of mouth only to avoid violent counter-protestors. They were greeted by three people, one of whom kept screaming “Remember the Alamo!”



Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country Board Members for 2022

President ~ Vicki Luther
Vice President ~ Janet Belden
Secretary - Sarah Johanson
Treasurer ~ Judy Bunch
Member at Large - Don Pyle

Sunday Services Chair: Janet Belden
 Wayside Pulpit, Coffee Set-Up, Music/Choir, Greeters,
 Order of Service, Chalice Table, Service Schedule/Associates

Ex Officio Board Member (Past President):
Jerry Best

Committee on Ministry (CoM) Chair: Linda Smith

Spiritual Development Chair: Janet Belden
 Life Span Development (Adult and Children’s Religious
 Education), Free Speech Café, Forums

Membership Co-Chairs:
Bryan Bristol & Gary Payne
 Congregational Care, Visitor Follow-Up, Exit Interviews,
 New Member Orientation, Members/Friends List

Outreach/Social Justice Committee Co-Chairs:
Carolyn Dreyer & David Gross
 TXUUJM, Donate the Plate

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

Facilities Chair: Zeke
 Building/Grounds

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

Communications Chair: Jill Wiggins
communication@uuchc.org
 Webmaster: (Contractor) Audra Arr
 Facebook: Linda Smith
 Newsletter/Weekly Calendar Update: Susan Lipp