



The COMMUNITY News

Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano

OUR VISION: We will become a dynamic and nurturing religious community that celebrates our human diversity, supports lifelong spiritual growth, and acts for compassion and justice in the larger community.

June 2012

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Fax: 972.424.1233
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Website:

**CommunityUU
Church.org**

Editor: Janell Broyles
editor@CommunityUUChurch.org

Typical Sunday

- **9:15 a.m.**
Inquirer's Class
(1st Sunday of each month)
- **10:30 - 11:45 a.m.**
Worship
Religious Education for Children and Youth;
Nursery Childcare
- **11:45 a.m.**
Coffee and Conversation

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As a Rule Adios! Au Revoir! Sayonara! Ciao, baby! Ian Rule

Don't get your hopes up. I'm not going anywhere. I'm just changing hats. I found Stewardship rewarding this year and welcome its challenges for the coming year. Yes, I am of sound mind. well, as sound as I get. Having been newsletter editor and webmaster for almost seven years, I decided to give some other folks a shot. Wendy Hanenburg will be the new webmaster (she's already doing most of the heavy lifting and is our Facebook queen) and Janell Broyles is the new newsletter editor. Janell is an experienced editor (which I am not, though I know how to edit). Lexie McGrane is the new Communications Czar with a seat on the Board. I'm excited to see what these folks will produce. I'm not saying that this is the last "As a Rule." I can come up with one on occasion at the editor's pleasure. In the meantime, I will keep working to make giving to the church a more joyous and fulfilling experience, provide enlightening and entertaining presenters for Adult Religious Education programming, and get to know as many visitors as I can each week. Not incidentally, I am also closing down my eighteen year consulting "business." Yes, I'm retiring, just what I said I would never do. But don't expect to see any less of me. I'm not going to be sitting and knitting. In fact, I may be even more of a buttinski into everyone's business (if that's even possible). Just make sure that you direct complaints, huzzahs and suggestions to the right operative:

Communications Board Member: Lexie McGrane

Web issues: Wendy Hanenburg

Newsletter/eblast issues should actually go to

newsletter@communityuuchurch.org or

uupdate@communityuuchurch.org

Stewardship questions, contributions or suggestions for ways to make money?

That would be me. Same with Adult RE. Want to teach a course? See me in church.

June Sunday Services

Sunday, June 3rd , 2012 - "All in the Family." - Rev. Patrick Price

Sunday, June 10th , 2012 - "Changing Your Life." - Rev. Patrick Price.

Sunday, June 17th , 2012 - "Perspectives on the Second Principle." - Ty Hall, Dawn Graham, and Betsy Friauf.

Sunday, June 24th, 2012 - "Having It Out with Melancholy." - Guest Speaker - Elena Westbrook.

Staff

Minister

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Board of Trustees

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CommunityUUChurch.org

Strategic Planning Committee

planning@
CommunityUUChurch.org

Patrick’s Ponderings..... “Attend UUA General Assembly On-line”

Dearly Beloved,

in June I am preparing to attend the Justice General Assembly of our Unitarian Universalist Association in Phoenix, AZ. I invite all of you to participate by following the GA online through blogs, articles and streaming video of major events. Below is an invitation from our UUA Moderator and information on events online.

If there is something you want to know please let me know before I leave June 15th to preach in Tucson and attend the UU Minister’s professional days. After GA I will be on vacation and attending our South Western UU Summer Institute in OK, then back in the office on August 1st. I look forward to hearing about your summer when I return. Remember to collect water from your activities to share in our Ingathering of Waters ceremony, August 26th. Until then, blessings, Patrick.

I’m Gini Courter, and I’m honored to serve our congregations as moderator. Two years ago in Minneapolis, delegates from all of our congregations voted to hold this year’s General Assembly, that they named Justice General Assembly, in Phoenix. Not so we could simply expand justice in Arizona, but so we could extend justice anywhere the Unitarian Universalists gather to light a chalice.

Since then, your staff, your board, the General Assembly Planning Committee, the Accountability Group, our partners in Arizona, the Arizona Immigration Ministry, all the folks those delegates charge to create a GA, have been hard at work to create a GA with unprecedented opportunities for worship around justice, for learning around justice, for work for justice. I’m very excited about this year’s Justice General Assembly. I will be in Phoenix, and I hope that you will join me there for the future of our faith.

General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona: June 20-24, 2012

General Assembly (GA) 2012 will be a gathering with multiple ways of engaging in justice work for people of all ages. Joining with the people of Arizona, we will worship, witness, learn and work together. We will leave General Assembly grounded in our faith, energized for justice and with resources to bring this work home to our congregations.

Coverage of General Assembly

(continued on page 8)

President's Column

Tom Reid

Whew! That was a close one, wasn't it? We have a balanced budget for another year. It wasn't easy and you are all to be commended for your generosity!

We made cuts to many of our programs and suspended all of our wish list items including implementing our NTAUUS Grant to hire a Membership Coordinator since we could not produce the needed matching money. There will be fewer supplies, less janitorial services, little leadership training money and no raises again for our wonderful staff, but we still have all of our staff and that, my friends is a coup. I wish I could say that it is enough but it clearly is not.

One of our fellow congregants said to me in passing that it is better to try to weather the tough times even when we have to make cuts because otherwise our message dies. If we are not here to deliver that message, then who will? Our Seven Principles are as close to sacred as most UU's get and we need to do whatever it takes to make sure the message is not lost.

Nevertheless, there are some exciting aspects to next year's budget plan. First we plan to refinance our mortgage which should save considerable money in this lending environment. Further, we plan to finance a Capital Expenditure of \$40,000 for energy saving renovations to our building which should save us up to \$15,000 in line item expenses. We still hope to find some financial windfall monies to help us restore the necessary cuts we have had to make for next year, hopefully through more fundraising, expanded membership or other sources.

Sometimes, I wish I had been Congregational President during affluent times. And yet, those who know me well would say, "baloney, he likes a challenge" or "he has great friends and mentors who will help find the way." Both are true, thankfully and the new members of the Community Church Board of Trustees, Elena Westbrook, Ty Hall and Lexie McGrane will add to that complement of resourceful people.

You, too, will need to do your part. The generosity you have shown has made our average pledge unit donation the highest in recent memory. Like every church and religious organization, we will need it next year, every year! And like our new Board Members, we will need you to give of your time, ideas and energy to keep the mission alive.

The **June Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be Saturday, the 16th, 8:30 AM at Poor Richards Cafe, 2442 K Avenue Plano, TX 75074.** If you plan to attend please let Bryan Bristol know by 6:00 PM on Friday, June 15th.

Elected Officers

President

Tom Reid (13)

president@

CommunityUUChurch.org

President Elect

Elena Westbrook (13)

Vice President

Programs

Cyn Blanco (14)

Treasurer

Ty Hall (13)

Secretary

Gail Battista (14)

Facilities

Dick Hildenbrand (13)

facilities@

CommunityUUChurch.org

Communications

Lexie McGrane (14)

Personnel

Sandy Farlow (14)

E-mail entire Board

board@

CommunityUUChurch.org

Trustees meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Founders Hall. Members, friends and visitors are always welcome.

Worship Programs*worship@**CommunityUUChurch.org*

Joan Mortensen (13)

Sunday Services

Elena Westbrook

Ushers Coordinator

Anita Van Ouwkerker

Interior Arts

Lexie McGrane

Caring Committee*Caring @**CommunityUUChurch.org*

Cyn Blanco

**North Texas Association
of Unitarian Universalist
Societies (NTAUUS)****CUUC Representatives***NTAUUS@CommunityUU**Church.org,*

Celeste Kennedy

Grace Morrison

UUSC Update

- UUSC events at General Assembly - Phoenix, Arizona, June 20 - 24
UUSC Gala June 23 3:30pm Hyatt Regency Ballroom AB

- Featuring Anita Hill; open to all

Values in Action workshops

- Organizing Workers, Field to Fork

- UUs Reclaiming Democracy

- Mobilizing Communities Against Police Profiling

- Water Justice and the Blue Revolution

- UU College of Social Justice: Transforming Service Learning

- Storytelling, Mobilization, and Social Media

Two Degrees taste test

- Two Degrees Food is dedicated to fighting global childhood hunger: for each all-natural snack bar sold, Two Degrees provides one meal to a hungry child. Taste tests will be offered at General Assembly.

- Upcoming JustWorks trips

A Civil Rights Journey 7/22/12 – 7/29/12 Application deadline is June 3.

An inspiring trip for ages 15-20, visiting sites and people of significance in the U.S. civil-rights movement.

2012 National Youth Justice Summit 7/7/12 – 7/14/12 Application deadline is June 3.

An inspiring trip for ages 15-20, visiting sites and people of significance in the U.S. civil-rights movement.

See www.uusc.org/justworks for more information and to apply.

- UUSC partner Restaurant Opportunities Centers United has released ROC National Diners' Guide 2012: A Consumer Guide on the Working Conditions of American Restaurants. Download it at http://actnow.uusc.org/site/PageNavigator/Diners_Guide.html and support responsible restaurants.

Women's Alliance Fiesta Potluck

Hola! Grab your serapes and put on your sombreros!!! Mark your calendars for the **Women's Alliance Fiesta Potluck for Adults on Saturday, June 9th in Founders Hall.**

Open to all women and their spouses or significant others. Join us from 6 PM to 9ish for good food, good friends, and good conversation. There will be no child care available. **Let Valerie Gomes know if you are coming and what type of Mexican style dish you are bringing to share.**

If you are planning on attending the Standing on the Side of Leadership (SOTSOL) 2012, save yourself the trouble of cooking dinner that night and come join us at our Fiesta.

Are you interested in advocacy?

Collin County Interfaith (a cluster of Dallas Area Interfaith) is a group from several Collin County churches who do advocacy work for social justice issues such as healthcare, homelessness, and skills education. Regular meetings are held with Collin County commissioners and Plano city council members to discuss these issues. If you are interested in advocacy for social justice and would like to participate in this effort, Community UU needs you to represent us with Collin County Interfaith. **Contact Nelah McComsey for more information.**

Community Harvest Garden Hosts a Teach-In

Come to the gardens 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 30 to learn how you can grow vegetables in your own yard or on your patio. You'll learn how to create a bucket garden and take a kit home. (Supplies limited.) You'll see examples of raised bed gardens, a square foot garden, a keyhole garden, compost piles, bio-digesters and our orchards. Jo Howser's jelly made from Chuck Laenger's blackberries, blackberry plants, and herb bundles will be available for a donation to the church operating budget. We are extending this invitation to our customers through local food pantries. Bring your friends, neighbors and family and join in the fun!

Literary Ladies Book Club

Join us **Tuesday, June 12 to share and discuss The Paris Wife** by *Paula McLain*: *A deeply evocative story of ambition and betrayal which captures a remarkable period of time—Paris in the twenties—and an extraordinary love affair between two unforgettable people: Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley.* Amazon **We will meet at Valerie Gomes' home. Contact Valerie by Friday, June 8 if you plan to attend.**

This group meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7 – 9 p.m. and welcomes women members and friends of Community UU Church. The selection for July 10 is A Passage to India by E. M. Forster. *The novel is set against the backdrop of the British Raj and the Indian independence movement in the 1920s. It was selected as one of the 100 great works of English literature by the Modern Library and won the 1924 James Tait Black Memorial Prize for fiction. Time magazine included the novel in its "TIME 100 Best English-language Novels from 1923 to 2005" The novel is based on Forster's experiences in India. The story revolves around four characters: Dr. Aziz, his British friend Mr. Cyril Fielding, Mrs. Moore, and Ms. Adela Quested. During a trip to the Marabar Caves. ¹Adela accuses Aziz of attempting to assault her. Aziz's trial, and its run-up and aftermath, bring out all the racial tensions and prejudices between indigenous Indians and the British colonists who rule India.* Wikipedia

Social Action Programs

UUSInAction@CommunityUUChurch.org

- Community Harvest Garden
- Samaritan Inn (Monthly dinner)
- Plano Make a Difference Day
- Plano Food Pantries
- Love Where You Live
- MLK Celebration
- Dallas Area Interfaith
- CityHouse
- New Orleans Rebirth Program

Chalice Circle

Simple Living
simpleliving@CommunityUUChurch.org
 Ona Tannehill

Religious Education**Director of
Religious Education**Kathy Smith
dre@

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**Religious Education
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reboard@

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Chairperson

Amanda Peters

Greg Hoare

Dawn Graham

Laura Eckert

**Young Religious
Unitarian Universalists**

yruu@

CommunityUUChurch.org

Coordinator

Robin Coulange

**REactions!!
Updates - Announcements - News
What's Going On For Children & Youth****Why you should bring your children to church in the summer**

While it's tempting to say, "Because The Magic School bUUs is FUN" – and it is! – that is not the only reason our children should to come to church every week in the summer.

1. We are creatures of habit (all of us, no matter how old). If we want to encourage a habit – in this case, the habit of regular church attendance – we would be wise not to break the habit three months out of every twelve. Imagine if we did the same with other habits. "We take a vacation from vegetables when there are more fun things to eat." "It's too hot to get out of bed on Sundays to do the laundry." "Oh, we don't bother exercising during the summer. We'll pick it up again in September." As any couch potato can tell you, it's a lot easier to maintain a routine than it is to stop and start it again every few months!
2. The corollary to the above: coming to church regularly over the summer will relieve a lot of tension on Sunday mornings in September.
3. Summer afternoons give us the time to linger at church. During the school year we are so busy that we leave immediately after coffee hour, if not right after the service ends. In the summer, we have a little more time to relax and get to know the members of our community. Take advantage of that and allow your child to play with their friends, and maybe make a new friend or two as well.
4. Why do you bring your child to church in the fall, winter and spring? Those reasons don't go away when the calendar pages turn to June, July and August. UU identity, character development, participation in community – those needs are there all summer long, too.
5. Come because your community needs you. A faith community without participants ... isn't.
6. Bring your children because you've volunteered to teach. We still have openings for both Magic School bUUs and Hunger Games. And bring them because **other** people have volunteered to teach, and need to have students!
7. Let's face it – summer programming **IS** fun. We have the chance to do fun activities, with a different group of friends, in a UU setting where we have to practice our values. Just a few of the activities planned for different days this summer: outside water play (with ooky goopy swamp), cooking, science experiments, gardening. The chance to "shake things up" and do something different in RE is a golden opportunity.

See you in church this summer!

In faith, Kathy

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REactions! (continued from page 6)

Family Events at CUUC in June

Sunday, June 3 - 10:30 Worship/RE Special Cooking Day
 Saturday, June 9 – Older Elementary Social Group goes to Hawaiian Falls (contact: Amanda Peters)
 Sunday, June 10 –10:30 Worship/RE First Day of Magic School bUUs and Hunger Games
 Sunday, June 17 – 10:30 Worship/RE
 Sunday, June 24 – 10:30 Worship/RE
 Sunday, June 24 – 1:00 p.m. Older Elementary Social Group goes skating (contact: Laura Eckert)

Need Ms. Frizzles, Leaders and Assistants! We still have lots of opportunities to volunteer to teach or assist this summer. You can be a Visiting Frizzle (we hand you the lesson plan to teach while someone else keeps the group orderly and focused) or a Pod Leader or Pod Assistant (you don't have to teach the lesson, because your job is orderliness and focus). You can choose your age range (preschool, elementary or older children) and the days you teach. If you'd rather work with youth, we have openings for facilitators for our brand-new social justice program based on the popular book/movie The Hunger Games. To volunteer, please contact Kathy Smith at dre@communityUUchurch.org as soon as possible!

Social Justice Opportunity to do WITH your kids! CUUC has volunteered to serve lunches to at a local elementary school and YOU are invited to help! You can sign up to serve (one day, one week, or all three weeks) and your children are welcome to help with you. OR you can bring in used childrens' books to send home with the children in the program! A donation box is sitting in the front entry. For more information, contact Nelah McComsey or Linda Frank.

Kids! Go swimming and skating this month! This month the Older Elementary Social Group will be holding two activities. On Saturday, June 9, the group will meet at Hawaiian Falls with a cabana sponsored by Amanda Peters. For more information, contact Amanda at amanda.txpeters@gmail.com. On Sunday, June 24, the group will do "Thunderbird Roller Skating" after church. For more information, contact Laura Eckert at wind-born1@yahoo.com. If you'd like to be sure you're on the mailing list for future events, contact Kathy Smith, DRE at dre@communityUUchurch.org.

Don't Forget to Check Out Summer UU Opportunities!

General Assembly, Phoenix AZ, June 20-24 <http://www.uua.org/ga/2012/index.shtml>
SWUUSI, family camp, July 22-27 <http://swuuc.org/pages/services/camps/swuusi.php>
U-Bar-U – Elementary camp (3rd-6th gr.) July 1-7, Junior Camp (7th-9th grade) July 8-14, Senior Camp (9th-12th grade) July 15-22. <http://swuuc.org/pages/services/camps.php>
Camp Murray (9th-12th grade), June 10-15. <http://campmurray.org>

Where in the UU World is our DRE? I can be reached by email or cell phone (443-668-1336) from Wednesday to Sunday. I take my Sabbath time from Sunday afternoon to Tuesday afternoon. Non-emergency messages received during that time will be answered Wednesday morning. I am in the office on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, or by appointment during other times. From June 2-9 I will be on vacation. Questions that arise during that time can be directed to RE Board Chair Amanda Peters; issues requiring pastoral care should go to Rev. Patrick Price. From June 19-25, I will be attending General Assembly in Phoenix; I will answer voicemail and email during that time, although my response time will be longer than usual.

Fellowship Group

Bridge Group

bridge@communityUUChurch.org
 Clint Burleson

Circle Suppers

circlesuppers@communityUUChurch.org
 Diana Behannese

Friday Flicks

flicks@communityUUChurch.org
 Alice Mayo

First Friday Folksingers

folksingers@communityUUChurch.org
 Charlie Battista

Outdoor Adventure

outdooradventure@communityUUChurch.org
 Dick Hildenbrand

Hospitality Committee

Cheri Remily

Women's Alliance

women@communityUUChurch.org
 Barb Salvo
 Celeste Kennedy

Program Board*programs@**CommunityUU-
Church.org***Vice President–
Programs**

Cyn Blanco (12)

Religious Education

Amanda Peters (13)

Membership

Jay Hall

(13)

Worship

Joan Mortensen (13)

Social Action

Nelah McComsey (14)

Fellowship

Rob Hight (14)

Adult Enrichment

Celeste Kennedy (14)

Adult Enrichment**Adult Education***adultre@**CommunityUU-
Church.org*

Celeste Kennedy

EarthSpirit*earthspirit@**CommunityUU-
Church.org*

Janie McDermott

Men's Fellowship*men@**CommunityUU-
Church.org*

John Elder

“Attend UUA General Assembly On-line” (continued from page 2)

Events at General Assembly will be covered extensively on UUA.org and by the UU World. The *UU World* will provide timely reports and articles on their [GA Blog](#), illustrated by some striking selections from their [Photostream on Flickr](#).

The following events should be available via live-streaming on UUA.org. All times are local, **Mountain Standard Time** (not Mountain Daylight Time), which is the same as Pacific Daylight Time.

- Wednesday, June 20, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. **Opening Celebration/Plenary I**
- Thursday, June 21, 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. **Plenary II**
- Thursday, June 21, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. **Worship: May All Beings Be At Ease: On Co-creation**
- Thursday, June 21, 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. **"Synergy Worship: The Call Across All Ages"**
- Friday, June 22, 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. **Worshipping Together, Working Together for Social Justice**
- Friday, June 22, 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. **Plenary III**
- Friday, June 22, 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **Candidates Forum**

Friday, June 22, 5:00 to 6:15 p.m. **Service of the Living Tradition**

- Saturday, June 23, 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. **Worship: 50 Ways to Cross a Border**
- Saturday, June 23, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. **Plenary IV**
- Saturday, June 23, 4:45 to 5:15 p.m. **Sing for Justice!**
- Saturday, June 23, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. **Ware Lecture**
- Saturday, June 23, 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. **Saturday Evening Worship**
- Sunday, June 24, 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. **Sunday Morning Worship**
- Sunday, June 24, 2:15 to 6:00 p.m. **Plenary V**
- Sunday, June 24, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. **Closing Celebration**

Please review the **General Assembly Video Technical Notes** for more information about live-streaming events, on-demand video, and using GA video as part of a worship service or other event.

For more information contact **generalassembly@uua.org**.

Member Photos

Are you missing from our membership gallery in Founder’s Hall? Is your picture there, but out of date? Bring a current photo (it will be returned to you), email a digital image, or drop by one of the photo shoot sessions. Review the results in the foyer and choose your favorite.

Date	Photo shoot	Pick your shot
June 3	9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m. - 10:20 a. m.
July 1	9:30 a. m. - 10:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m. - 10:20 a. m.
August 5	9:30 a. m. - 10:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m. - 10:20 a. m.

Look for Janet Belden in the front foyer or near the gate to the community garden. **Email Janet if you have any questions.**

Simple Living Chalice Circle .

Meeting time and place – The next meeting will be **Saturday morning June 9th, at 11:00, at Ona Tannehill’s home.**

Theme/topic – Learning together to live deliberately. We are currently reading Voices of Insight, edited by Sharon Salzberg.

Facilitator – Ona Tannehill. Email simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org.

Friday Night Flicks - Founders Hall - 7:00 PM

JUNE 8 - BEGINNERS - 2011

Christopher Plummer won the OSCAR for Best Supporting Actor for his part in this film. This is an uplifting comedy about how funny and transformative life can be. When graphic designer Oliver meets free-spirited Anna, shortly after his father has passed away, he realizes just how much of a beginner he is when it comes to long-lasting romantic love. Memories of his father, who, following the death of his wife of 45 years, came out of the closet at age 75 to live a full, energized, and wonderfully tumultuous gay life, encourages Oliver to open himself up to the potential of a true relationship.

JUNE 22 - MONEYBALL - 2011

Nominated for Best Picture, Best Actor (Pitt), Best Supporting Actor (Hill). This is a film for all baseball fans. Oakland A's general manager Bill Beane (Brad Pitt) challenges the system and defies conventional wisdom when he is forced to rebuild his small-market team, on a limited budget. Despite opposition from the old guard, the media, fans and their own field manager, Beane - with the help of a young, number-crunching, Yale-educated economist (Johah Hill) - develops a roster of misfits...and along the way, forever changes the way the game is played.

Committee on Ministry

Ona Tannehill, Chair
 Bev Fleming
 Gary Sharpsteen

Leadership

Development Committee

nomcom@CommunityUUChurch.org

- Seana Saxon (13)
- Stephanie James (13)
- Gary Sharpsteen (13)
- Alice Mayo (14)
- Mary Jennings (14)
- John Elder (15)
- Sarah Reiling (15)

Capital Improvement Committee

Bill Daffinee, Chair

UU Website Links

**Community Unitarian
Universalist Church**
CommunityUU-
Church.org

**UUA—Unitarian
Universalist
Association**
www.uua.org

**UUSC—Unitarian
Universalist Service
Committee**
www.uusc.org

**SWUUC—Southwest
District**
www.swuuc.org

NTAUUS

**Community Website
Links**

**Collin County
Interfaith**

www.setonparish.org/
Outreach/pai.htm

**Habitat for Humanity
South Collin County TX
(Habitat for Humanity
SCCTX)**

www.Habitat-scc.org

**Habitat ReStore of
SCCTX**

www.restore.habitat-

The ‘Appearing’ of the Bees—Samantha Hall

“Insects are not warm. You cannot pet them or develop the same relationship that you might have with a dog, a cow or a pigeon. However, when you let your mind explore the world of bees; right at that moment, you fall under the bees spell. We become beekeepers... because we fall in love.” Massimo Carpinteri, Beekeeper, Slow Food – Piedmont, Italy.

Four of every ten bites of food that a human being consumes, is made possible by the honeybee. If the bees disappear, what does that mean for us? In the coal mine of the planet earth, the honeybee is the canary, and her song is getting fainter. Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), is a honeybee epidemic, a worldwide plague which threatens our very species. Tens of thousands of commercially owned hives in the United States alone are simply, suddenly, empty. There are different schools of thought as to what is causing the bees to disappear at alarming rates, but beekeepers worldwide have come to a consensus that it is the use of powerful pesticides on commercial crops causing their bees to become disoriented. These foraging bees are poisoned, dizzy and unable to find their way back home to the hive.

According to Zac Browning, Vice President of the American Beekeeping Federation, “The bee losses are ranging from 30 to 60 percent on the West Coast, with some beekeepers on the East Coast and in Texas reporting losses of more than 70 percent.” (2007, New York Times.) This creates an urgent situation for the bees and ultimately for humans as well. That is why beekeepers, family farmers, organic gardeners and other informed stakeholders are calling for an emergency surge in backyard beekeeping; our church, under the umbrella of Social Action, is heeding their call.

Approximately 300+ yards east of the doors of our Community Church, past the organic garden which helps to feed our greater community, sit two thriving beehives. Jim Gary, Jay and Cooper Hall, our fully trained resident beekeepers, are serving our planet, our community garden, our species, and our church with this beautiful (and interesting!) ministry. See what these brave and talented beekeepers did when they discovered a rogue hive near the community garden in a birdhouse on the property – online @: <http://youtu.be/E6CK43zX9-U>.

The first year may not produce very much in the way of bee products, as our buzzing friends are just getting used to their new digs, but there is a chance that in just a few months we will be seeing jars of Organic hUUny being delivered to God’s Pantry, offered for sale in support of our church community, or being spooned into teacups in Founders Hall.

Our 7th Principal requires “A Respect for the Interdependent Web of All Existence, of Which We Are a Part”, and your support of this ministry is just proof that as a community, we are living out our faith.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to learn about becoming a beekeeper yourself, ask our resident beekeepers, The Bee Boys. J

“The keeping of bees is like the direction of sunbeams.” — Henry David Thoreau

“Honeybees Vanish, Leaving Keepers in Peril”. New York Times, 2007.

Profit and Loss Statement for May , 2012

Offering Income	Actual	Budgeted	variance
Pledged Offering	\$183,953.91	\$194,796.00	(\$10,842.09)
Loose Offering/Basket	\$17,287.73	\$13,750.00	\$3,537.73
New Pledges	\$3,230.00	\$4,285.00	(\$1,055.00)
Total Offering Income	\$204,471.64	\$212,831.00	(\$8,359.36)

The YTD income is under budget by \$15,608 due to pledges not received and building usage income budgeted but not realized. This will need to come from other sources. YTD expenses are under budget (\$4.1K) bringing the YTD net income in deficit by \$11,474. After some analysis of the actuals and what remains for the year, we expect a deficit balance of \$24K. We will use our line of credit of \$10K and apply the balance against \$16K we have in equity. This is in addition to postponing some expenses until later. At the Congregational meeting on May 20, 2012, the 2012-2013 budget was passed. This includes a plan to refinance our two mortgage loans and an additional \$40K to be used for some capital improvements that will reduce our utility costs starting in the 201-2013 year. The refinancing will also reduce our annual mortgage cost. An additional request for pledges enabled us to come up with a balanced budget without cutting staff hours. The Stewardship committee has worked hard to raise the pledges needed to balance the budget. The Board of Trustees and the financial committees are committed to use our money wisely and with the support of the church community, we will be successful. Please welcome and support Ty Hall as our new Treasurer as of June 1, 2012. **Janice Hildenbrand, Treasurer**

Income & Expense Report

	April 2012	% of yr: 91.67%		
		2011-2012		% Total
Income	Monthly	YTD	Annual Budget	Budget
Offering Income	\$16,804.62	\$204,471.64	\$229,022.00	89.28%
Fundraisers	\$450.00	\$24,464.66	\$24,900.00	98.25%
Building Usage	\$1,807.75	\$25,646.70	\$35,000.00	73.28%
Misc. Income	\$1.69	\$8,920.03	\$11,302.00	78.92%
Total Income	\$19,064.06	\$263,503.03	\$300,224.00	87.77%
		2011-2012		% Total
Expenses	Monthly	YTD	Annual Budget	Budget
Administration	\$3,163.39	\$39,568.42	\$40,993.00	96.52%
Program/Worship	\$1,742.59	\$25,538.61	\$28,745.00	88.85%
Religious Education	\$3,955.66	\$49,833.89	\$56,031.80	88.94%
Facilities	\$4,860.87	\$71,006.01	\$75,277.00	94.33%
Income Generating Exp	\$311.64	\$5,556.44	\$2,850.00	194.96%
Ministry	\$7,357.32	\$78,027.91	\$90,509.04	86.21%
Denomination	\$2,343.20	\$12,294.30	\$17,420.00	70.58%
Payroll Expense	\$6.29	\$125.84	\$0.00	0.00%
	\$23,740.96	\$281,951.42	\$311,825.84	90.42%
Net Income/(Loss)	(\$4,676.90)	(\$18,448.39)	(\$11,601.84)	159.01%

Finance

Finance Committee

finance@
CommunityUUChurch.org

Ty Hall - Chair

David Hollands

Clifton Rule

Gail Battista

Stewardship Committee

\$\$@
CommunityUUChurch.org

Ian Rule

Chair

Rebecca Timmons

Ty Hall

Judith Boyle

Janie McDermott

Investment Committee

investment@
CommunityUUChurch.org

Carol Wise ('10)

Grace Morrison ('11)

Nelah McComsey

Staff Office Hours

• **Minister - The Rev. Patrick Price**

Monday is the Minister's Sabbath (renewal time) available for emergencies only
Tuesday - Thursday 12:00 Noon - 4:00 p.m.
Friday is for reflection, study and writing. Other times by appointment. Please contact Rev. Price for appointments and scheduling information.

• **Director of Religious Education - Kathy Smith**

Wednesday and Thursday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., other times by appointment.

• **Music Director - Christopher Wolff**

• **Church Secretary - Connie Meints**

[Church office closed on Monday]
Tuesday 9a.m. - 3p.m.
Wednesday 9a.m. - 2:30p.m.
Thursday 9a.m. - 2:30p.m.
Friday 9a.m - Noon

Deadline for the July newsletter submissions: June 15th, 2012. Submit to newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org.

The Community News

The Community News is distributed to Members and Friends of this church. Visitors who complete a visitor card receive issues for three months. To continue receiving issues, sign the "Welcome Back" book on each visit. Others may subscribe for an annual donation of \$25.00.

The editor encourages and appreciates submissions and on-time submissions are especially delightful. The Community News is published once a month.

Email articles to newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org

Please include your name on any news item submitted for The Community News.

Items may be edited for clarity and brevity.

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ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Mission of the Adult Religious Education Program is to nurture and stimulate the religious and personal growth of the adult church community. We offer a varied and cohesive program within the context of the living Unitarian Universalist tradition and principles.

We offer a range of classes of interest to adults and youth on weekday evenings throughout the year. Each evening classes begin at 7 p.m. and end no later than 9 p.m. Our programs include our continuing meditation group and a variety of topical classes. CHILDCARE is available for all classes

Monday Evenings

Vipassana Meditation - Clifton Rule

Clifton says, "Vipassana means insight into the nature of reality. It is a way of self-transformation through self-observation and introspection. Vipassana meditation is often referred to simply as "insight meditation." This is the backbone of our studies in Meditation on Monday nights. We invite you, as a beginner or as a practiced meditator, to join us on our exploration. We view Buddhism not as a religion but rather as learning the process of meditation to reduce the suffering in our lives and in the world around us. We explore through readings, dharma talks, questions and answers, group discussions and meditation. Join us and explore this process as we all grow together."

Wednesday Evenings

Water Restrictions: how do we cope when there's not enough?

Topics will include storm-water runoff, water conservation techniques used in the maintenance of our yards, and the benefits of using rain water to irrigate your landscape, garden, and even your houseplants. This class is free and open to the public.

Dottie Woodson, Ed.D., Extension Program Specialist – Water Resources Texas AgriLife Extension Services, Texas A&M University System

June 6, 13 and 20

Thursday Evenings

Adventures in Religion - Rev. Don Fielding

The Rev. Don Fielding (a retired Unitarian Universalist minister and a friend of the church) offers this program, which is a series of video/discussion courses. The program is composed of videos of half hour lectures produced by some of the nation's top instructors. In the last three years we have worked our way through courses on Islam, Early Christianity, Skeptics and Believers, and Comparative Religion. We have just begun a new course entitled The Philosophy of Religion. Topics include: What is Philosophy?; What is Religion?; How is the word "God" Generally Used?; What is Knowledge?; What Kinds of Evidence Count?; Why Argue for the Existence of God?.

Consider attending on Thursday evenings. Join us in the Annex Building adjacent to the church, and begin a whole new kind of **Adventure in Religion**. At the same time, you will get to know some of our church members and friends and experience one of the ways we pursue our "quest for truth." The class begins at 7:00 pm

Jun. 7th – Why is Evil a Problem?

Jun. 14th – Taking Evil Seriously

Jun. 21st - * BREAK *****

Section F – Can Theodicies Answer the Argument from Evil?

(continued on back)

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued from other side)

(Theodicy usually refers to an attempt to resolve the evidential problem of evil by reconciling God's traditional characteristics of omnibenevolence, omnipotence and omniscience (all-loving, all-powerful, and all-knowing) with the occurrence of evil in the world.

Jun. 28th – Non-Justificatory Theodicies

Saturday Mornings

Yoga with Jamie Saltmarsh - Sessions begin at 9:30 am.

June , 2012 calendar, see website.