



The Community News

April 2015

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.

EQUAL RIGHTS UPDATE submitted by Charlie Battista

REGISTER TO VOTE: The right to vote is one of our most cherished freedoms. All eligible voters are urged to learn about the candidates and their positions and to vote your conscience in the upcoming municipal election on Saturday, May 9th. It is recommended that you check your voter registration status prior to the April 9th voter registration deadline.

Four Plano City Council seats and three PISD School Board positions are up for election. Many city council candidates have taken a position against the passing of the Plano Equal Rights Ordinance and signed the recall petition.

Go to <http://www.plano.gov/312/Elections> and <http://www.pisd.edu/about.us/board.of.trustees/board.election.shtml> for more election information and links to Collin County voter registration information.

For those who do not live in Plano, please check with your local government to get more information about local elections.

EQUALITY TEXAS FREEDOM ADVOCACY DAY - Monday April 13, Austin, Texas

While working on our community response to the recall petition of the Plano Equal Rights Ordinance, Community UU Church had the opportunity to work closely with GALA North Texas (Gay and Lesbian Association of North Texas) as well as Equality Texas in Austin. Equality Texas is the only nonpartisan statewide political advocacy organization lobbying the Texas Legislature for the elimination of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.

Over 15 bills have been filed this year in the Texas Legislature directly impacting LGBT Discrimination and "Religious Freedom" On Monday, April 13th, Equality Texas is sponsoring a **Texas Freedom Advocacy Day** in Austin. Equality Texas invites YOU to participate in YOUR state government and to come to Austin to meet face-to-face with those who represent YOU and talk to them about how the freedoms we value as Texans are affected by discrimination based on bias against sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.

(Continued on page 3)

April, 2015

Sunday Services

Theme - Freedom

April 5 - Easter - "Liberation Is Costly"- Rev. Patrick Price

April 12- " The Four Freedoms Today " - Rev. Patrick Price

April 19 - Coming of Age Class - Credo Service

April 26 - " Fruitlands or Apple Slump" - Guest Speaker, Rev. Jennifer Innis

**12:15 p.m.: Inquirer's Class held the fourth Sunday of each month*

Typical Sunday

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.: Worship, Religious Education for Children and Youth, and Nursery Childcare

11:45 a.m.: Coffee and Conversation

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Patrick's Ponderings "Who You Gonna' Call... and When?"

Much of my time is spent talking and working with you and others about the things going on in your lives. But often I don't find out about significant goings on until sometime down the road. When asked why folks don't let me or the church know about needs or life transitions they sound like something my colleague the Rev. Peter Frederichs wrote about:

"The minister is so busy. I don't want to bother him/her."

"This isn't that serious. I don't need to call the Caring Team."

"There's nothing the church can do to help me, so I won't reach out."

"These are just a few of the reasons you might decide not to contact me or our Pastoral Care Team in a time of need. But the truth is that there's no good reason NOT to call me when you're going through a personal, professional or spiritual crisis or concern." "I would much prefer to hear from you directly than through social media, the church "grapevine," or only after the fact. I am never too busy, and your call or email to me is never a bother. I would much prefer that you "over-share" with me than to find out after the fact that you've recently survived some kind of scare."

Many years ago the celebrated Unitarian Universalist minister Peter Lee Scott wrote a column called "When to Call the Minister." In the intervening years, his column has been adapted and added to by others.

YOU SHOULD CALL THE MINISTER WHEN:

- ◆ You have problems you would like to discuss concerning your job, children, relationships, or anything else where a sympathetic ear might help.
- ◆ You are at or approaching a significant transition in your life, your job or your relationships.
- ◆ You are going to the hospital or know of someone else in the congregation who is, even if it's "only a minor procedure."
- ◆ Someone close to you has died or is critically ill, or you're dealing with a significant loss of some kind.
- ◆ You are planning to be married or divorced.
- ◆ You would like your child dedicated.
- ◆ You are pregnant and glad you are or wish you weren't; also, if you want to be pregnant but aren't.
- ◆ You want to learn about becoming a member of the congregation.
- ◆ You have concerns or suggestions.
- ◆ You have religious or spiritual questions.
- ◆ You are seeking to deepen your spiritual life.
- ◆ You are upset with me or you'd like to express appreciation.
- ◆ You have achieved something that's important to you and you want to celebrate and share your joy.
- ◆ You just don't know where else to turn.

If for these or any other reasons you need or want to talk with me, then contact me by e-mail (revpprice@communityuuchurch.org), or text/mobile phone (972-630-7901), each relatively more likely to reach me directly. Since social media are generally NOT a good way to contact me directly, please do not expect me to be aware or reply to posted messages or items in the same way as e-mail, texts or phone calls.

If you are looking for support and/or services from the Caring Team, Mina Daffinee is our Coordinator and principal point of contact OR either of us via the church office 972-424-8989 or cuuc-office@communityuuchurch.org.

Deadline for the May newsletter is Friday, April 17. Email your articles to newsletter@communityuuchurch.org.

President's Column

Dreaming the Next Forty Years

All month, I've been watching dreams cover our altar—symbols of abundance, growth, fair pay, equal rights for all, building improvements, and more. As a church, we're entering institutional adulthood. We passed through childhood, with its inexperience, when all is bright shining potential. We passed through the struggles of adolescence, trying to figure out who we really are and what we want. And no matter how old and well-established the church gets, we will always be in the process of defining who Community UU Church is and what role we want to play in the world... starting right here in our east Plano neighborhood.

Because, really, that's what a church is: the power of our collective dreams and longings. What are yours?

What would you like to see us achieve—or be—together as a community?

What are you willing to do to make those dreams reality?

Just as in our individual lives, it does no good to say, "I wish _____ were different" if we don't actually do something to make it different.

So what are your dreams?

What are you willing to do to make them come true?

Community UU Church is what we, collectively, dream it to be. Our achievements and our shortcomings both are the results of choices we have made. If our staff isn't paid fair compensation, that's a choice we made, in both our giving and our budgeting. If the building needs improvements, it is because of choices we made along the way to fix or improve one item and put another off.

When our garden flourishes, attracts guest gardeners and grows (literally) a ton of organic produce for the food pantry, that's because of choices we made. Not just the gardeners' choices, but all the little decisions along the way that made the garden possible and then kept it growing.

When we become known as a defender of equal rights for all in the City of Plano, that's because of who we have chosen to be, and where we have chosen to spend our energy and time.

We have accomplished many things over the 40 years since this church was founded. We've heard from the Barlows that we achieved some of those original dreams. Others remain as goals.

So, the question remains, both simple and difficult: What do you dream of Community UU Church doing, and being, now?

And what are you willing to do to make those dreams happen?

Blessings and love to you all,
Elena

(Continued from Front Page) This is an opportunity for YOU to ask state leaders to pass inclusive policies that protect all Texans. **Advanced registration is required** in order to prepare constituent-matched materials and make strategic lobbying team assignments. Equality Texas will provide lunch. Please contact EqualityTexas.org for more information or to register. A \$5 dollar donation is suggested to cover cost of lunch and material preparation.

GALA North Texas is sponsoring a charter bus from Plano to Austin. The bus will leave Plano at 7am. Contact GalaNorthTexas.org for more information and registration. The cost of the bus is \$15 and includes lunch and Equality Texas registration.

April, 2015

Simple Living Chalice Circle Meeting time and place – The next meeting will be **Saturday morning April 11, at 11am.**

Theme/topic – Learning together to live deliberately.

Facilitator – Contact Ona Tannehill at Email simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org for location.

What is the Committee on Ministry?

The committee is three caring, open-minded people, appointed for three-year terms, who will give honest and pertinent feedback and advice relative to the effectiveness of the ministry of the minister within the context of the congregation's total ministry, which is considered to be everything the congregation does to fulfill its mission.

The committee meets on a monthly basis with the minister and will discuss topics brought up by either the minister or a committee member. The committee's role is to keep a pulse on what is going well at church as well as what needs attention in the ministry of the church. The committee consults with the minister about effective leadership and relationships. We act as a conflict management group and have a covenant of confidentiality and mutual honesty in respect to all deliberations.

We are the current committee members: **Chair Nancy Barlow, Anne Smith and John Hart.** Please feel comfortable coming to any of us with your concerns, thoughts and joys.

Friday Night Flicks - Founders Hall 7pm

April 10 - The Imitation Game

Based on the real life story of legendary cryptanalyst Alan Turing, the film portrays the nail biting race against time by Turing and his brilliant team of code breakers at Britain's top secret Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, during the dark days of World War II. Nominated for Best Picture, Actor, BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH and Support Actress, KEIRA KNIGHTLY.

April 17 - The Theory of Everything

This is the story of Stephen Hawking, the most brilliant and celebrated physicist of our time, and his wife Jane Wilde. Just given two years to live he went on to be called the successor of Einstein. Nominated for Best Picture, Best Actress, FELICITY JONES and winner of Best Actor for EDDIE REDMAYNE.

Spring Festival

Spring Festival! – Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m.-noon. A celebration of the season for families of all ages. Join us for a relaxed party with opportunities for renewing connections and replenishing energy. Face-painting, cookie decorating, crafts. An ongoing game of Uno or Apples to Apples. Time to talk with other parents, and time to play as a family. We'll end the morning with a simple yet seasonal brunch. You'll want to be there! If you have questions or would like to help, contact the DRE, Kathy Smith, at dre@communityuuchurch.org.

Newcomer Orientation Class

The next class is **Sunday, April 12, noon to 1:30.** Click on our website www.communityuuchurch.org for more information.

Literary Ladies Book Club

Upcoming Meetings

Women members and friends of Community UU Church are welcome to join us on **the third Tuesday of the month from 7 – 9 pm.**

Date: April 21

Location: Nancy Barlow's home. Contact Nancy by April 17 if you plan to attend.

Selection: The Remarkable Creatures: A Novel by Tracy Chevalier *A voyage of discovery, two remarkable women, and an extraordinary time and place enrich this New York Times bestselling novel by Tracy Chevalier, author of Girl With a Pearl Earring and The Last Runaway. Remarkable Creatures is a stunning historical novel that follows the story of two extraordinary 19th century fossil hunters who changed the scientific world forever.* Amazon

Date: May 19

Location: June Bruns home.

Selection: Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail by Cheryl Strayed. *The year is 1995. Cheryl, the narrator and author of the story, explains that she was 26 years old when at the lowest point of her life she began her solo trek on the Pacific Crest Trail. She describes the trail as being 2,663 miles long and two feet wide, stretching from Mexico to Canada and including nine mountain ranges. She has embarked on her journey just 38 days before in an effort to find herself.*- Amazon

The **Metaphysical Meanderings** group will be reading Ghosts Among Us, by James Van Praagh, to discuss on Monday, April 27t at 7 pm at the home of Victoria and Mark Rachel. If you have questions or would like further information, please call Grace Morrison.

Religious Education

“...the free and responsible search for truth and meaning...”

Unitarian Universalist Association Covenant of Congregations, Fourth Principle

Freedom to Go Deep

By Kathy E. Smith, Director of Religious Education

I recently read a blog about parenting, in which the writer pointed out that the popular notion about having children is that “once you have children, your freedom is gone”. He went on to say that this idea relies on an illusion about freedom – that freedom is lateral, related to the freedom to move around the surface of the planet at will. He held that true freedom was freedom of the spirit – the freedom to go deep.

I think there are parallels here to our Unitarian Universalist faith community. My colleagues often bemoan one of the most persistent and pernicious myths about Unitarian Universalism: “this is the church where you can believe whatever you want”. Not only is that not a true statement (and if you’d like me to explain why not, please come and ask – it’s a whole ‘nother newsletter article), but it is a very limited belief statement. It allows us to get away with superficial thinking, without encouraging the sort of deep reflection and growth that allows us to be spiritually mature people.

So from a parenting perspective, how do we offer our Unitarian Universalist children the freedom to seek their own truth and meaning without simultaneously telling them to believe whatever they’d like?

I’d suggest that we do so by offering a firm foundation of ethical teachings. No, we don’t take what isn’t ours. Yes, we do include everyone in our games. No, we don’t tear up flowers just for the fun of destroying them. Yes, we do answer honestly even if the consequences aren’t pleasant. Our seven principles offer a pretty demanding set of ethical guidelines for life: Respect the worth and dignity of each person. Offer kindness, fairness and compassion. Accept other people and encourage them to grow too. Always look for the truth and reach for the deeper meaning. Make sure that everyone gets a say in things that matter to them. Work for a fair and peaceful world. Take care of the interdependent web of life – not just the natural world but our human relationships, too, because we all rely on each other.

We buttress those principles with stories and teachings from our Unitarian Universalist history as well as all six of our sources. We offer our children good role models. We tell them wisdom stories from all the world’s religious traditions. We teach them about religious leaders – Gandhi, Buddha, Jesus, Moses – who changed the world they lived in. We teach them about spiritual practices that encourage focus and reflection: worship services, singing, journaling, meditation, prayer, yoga, rituals, blessings, Zentangles, mandalas. We expect them to be moral people and to make good decisions, and we hold them accountable when they fall short.

In short, we teach them the framework of our faith. And **then** we can ask them how it applies to their lives, which practices they find meaningful, which principles are hardest to apply, which stories they remember, who they want to be like. The free and responsible search for truth and meaning gives us the opportunity to stretch ourselves, to grow and change and always to reach for one more thing we don’t understand or don’t think we can do. It doesn’t give us permission to give the rote answers or take the easy way out. Instead we have a mandate to go deep and engage in the moral struggle of really thinking through every decision we make. Is this action honest? Kind? Necessary? Right?

One small way you can encourage your child’s deepening in this way is to look at the questions that are printed in the Order of Worship each week. The “Ask Your Child” questions are keyed to the religious education lessons from the current week. They are intended to give you something to talk about on the way home (beyond “did you have fun in class today?”). But they are also intended to help your children think about their values, their spirituality, and their Unitarian Universalist faith in ways that are geared for their age level.

If you have a preschooler, we have also started sending home a handout called (appropriately enough) “Taking It Home”. It is full of suggestions about books to read, rituals to create, and activities to further develop the topic of the week’s lesson. Let me know if you find those ideas and activities helpful. And if you are a parent of an older child, let me know if you’d be interested in having something similar from your child’s classes as well.

See you in church! In faith, Kathy

Community News

Family Events at CUUC in April

Sat. 4/4 – Spring Festival, 10am-noon

Sun. 4/5 – Worship, 10:30am (Easter Sunday Worship for All Ages)

Sun. 4/12 – Worship and RE, 10:30am.

Sun. 4/19 – Worship and RE, 10:30am.

Fri. 4/24-Sun. 4/26 – Spring Campout

Sun. 4/26 – Worship and RE, 10:30am.

A Life Enrichment Program – Workshop

“How to Plan for Your Memorial Service” led the Rev. Patrick Price, Minister, Community UU Church

10am – 12 Noon, Saturday, May 2, 2015, Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano in Founders Hall

Planning a memorial service/funeral is often complicated by simply not knowing what someone would want, or what would be truly representative of their life. This workshop addresses many of the basic issues that come up regarding memorials and funerals, and how we can better prepare for our own and/or for some one else’s. The workshop is open to anyone wanting to know how to be better prepared for this important and inevitable rite of remembrance and celebration.

Participation is free and open to all. . Registration is encouraged to allow for planning. Child care is available upon request. To register, and/or to request child care please contact the church office at cuuc-office@communityuuchurch.org or 972-424-8989.

What’s New in the Community Garden?

We are happy to report that we are 30 pounds ahead of last year in total pounds harvested – already! Now that warm weather has arrived and all plots are beginning to green up nicely, we expect that we will be harvesting all sorts of new spring vegetables – carrots, radishes, greens, tiny beets and bunches of fresh green herbs. At our social in March, we swapped lots of ideas about what to plant and when, how to enrich the soil organically, and what sorts of plants encourage helpful critters (such as butterflies and red geckos).

Our monthly socials are always open for visitors. Come visit us sometime – second Saturday of the month from 10-12 noon. Contact Deb Bliss for location and more information! There might be some ideas you could put to use in your home garden. Speaking of which, we gladly accept offerings of your organically grown produce from your home plots to add to our donations to God’s Food Pantry and Minnie’s Pantry on Saturday mornings.

We also always welcome helping hands at our harvests on Saturday morning. For more information about what’s coming up this year, check out our web site and blog at <http://www.communityharvestgarden.org/> If you are interested in learning more, contact Deb Bliss.

Until next month – your Community Garden Correspondent.

Community News

A Faith Enrichment Program – Workshop

“UU Worship In Theory and Practice: What’s It All About and Why?”. Saturday, April 18th, 2015 - 9:00am to 1:30 PM, Founders Hall and Sanctuary, Light Lunch Provided.

Whether you are new to Unitarian Universalism or have grown up as one, this one day workshop will deepen your understanding and experience of worship. This is also **REQUIRED** for those who wish to apply to be a Worship Associate.

Subjects covered will include:

Basic concepts and terms

Theological /psychological models of UU worship

Organizing principles of worship

Readings and music, including an over view of the history and use of the hymnal

How to write a short prayer, and much more.

Advance registration is not required but helpful for preparation. Child care is available, especially with advance request. Please contact the church office to register, Cuuc-office@communityuuchurch.org, or for more information, Rev. Price. Revpprice@CommunityUUChurch.org, text/mobile 972-639-7901.

HOLD THE DATE; June 13, 2015

One Day Conference: Standing on the Side of Leadership: Breaking Down Walls, Building Bridges.

Location: First Unitarian Church of Dallas. Cost: \$30. Sponsored by North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC)

The conference looks at Cultural Competency and Community Engagement. **Keynote Speaker: Rev. Tamara Lebak**, Adjunct Minister, All Souls, Tulsa; Celebrating Difference Consulting.

Topic: Cultural Competency

Luncheon Keynote: Ginny Goldman

Executive Director Texas Organizing Project (TOP)

Topic: Community Engagement

Women’s Alliance Annual Retreat, "Discover YOUR self". This year our retreat will be held on **April 17, 18 and 19, 2015**. We will be going to **Glen Lake Retreat Center in Glen Rose, TX**.

We have two price options:

Option 1 is a deluxe cabin, which will accommodate 9 persons on the bottom bunks. The cabin has a large lighted vanity area and a bathroom with showers. The mattresses are wide and firm. You will need to provide your bedding and towels. This price is \$100 for the weekend which includes 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.

Option 2 is an hotel style room available for \$150. These rooms are semi-private with 2 twin beds and a private bath in each and you do not need to bring bedding or towels. This price also includes your meals. There is a limited number of these rooms so it is first come, first serve. You must submit payment for a room to be held in your name.

Come join us for our annual gathering. It is a fun weekend filled with sharing, singing, activities and more. A chance to make new friends and visit with old friends. This is your chance to get away from it all!! We hope to see you there!

If you plan on joining us, contact Barb Salvo for more details or questions.

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 class begins at either 6:30 or 7 pm and ends no later than 9 pm. Sunday class begins at 12:05 pm and ends at 1:30 pm. Our programs include our continuing meditation group and a variety of topical classes.

CHILDCARE is available for all classes, upon request. **To reserve childcare call the Church office (972-424-8989) at least 48 hours in advance.**

Sunday Mornings

A Study and Discussion Group occurs on Sunday mornings 9 to 10am in Room F. Join us for UU Discussion and Study (GUUDS), principally led by the **Rev. Patrick Price**. Child care is provided. This open ended, ongoing study and discussion group is for first time visitors as well as long time practitioners of Unitarian Universalism. Using books by UU authors, we will examine the wide and deep intersection of human longing and experience with that which is greater than our individual selves, and calls us to heed the "better angels of our nature." We are starting GUUDS with ***A House for Hope: The Promise of Progressive Religion for the Twenty-first Century***, by John Buehrens and Rebecca Parker.

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."

Tuesday Evenings -

Make Friends with your Mind - Discover **Tibetan Buddhism – Sanctuary – 7pm.**

Music 101 Class – Founders Hall - 7pm - Ed Qualls

Wednesday Evenings

"Guns, Germs and Steel." - date to be decided.

Thursday Evenings - The Origin of Civilization - Rev. Don Fielding - 6:30pm

Apr. 2 - The Egyptian Predynastic Period

Apr. 9 - ***BREAK***

Apr. 16 - The Unification of Upper & Lower Egypt

April 23 - Divinity & Display in Dynastic Egypt

April 30 - Why So Different? Mesopotamia & the Nile

May 7 - Borders & Territories of Ancient States

Humanists Group - The humanist group meets at 6:30pm at the Church annex.

Deadline for the May newsletter is Friday, April 17. Email your articles to newsletter@communityuuchurch.org

Community News

For our April 2015 calendar, go to our website at:
CommunityUUChurch.org

Events listed on the calendar are subject to change. For more information and confirmation of these events, please visit the church calendar at <http://www.communityuuchurch.org/pages/calendar>.

UU Church Contact Email Addresses

Rev. Patrick Price:

revpprice@CommunityUUChurch.org

President, Elena Westbrook:

president@CommunityUUChurch.org

Director of Religious Education, Kathy Smith:

dre@CommunityUUChurch.org

Director of Music, Christopher Wolff:

wolff08@gmail.com

Church Secretary, Connie Meints:

cuuc-office@CommunityUUChurch.org

Church Bookkeeper, John Elder:

bookkeeper@CommunityUUChurch.org

Facilities Coordinator, Duane Mortensen:

facilities@CommunityUUChurch.org

Membership Coordinator, Cindy Pilcher

mc@communityUUchurch.org

Board of Trustees: **board@CommunityUUChurch.org**

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

Worship Programs (Sunday Services, Ushers Coordinator, Interior Arts)

worshipteam@CommunityUUChurch.org

Caring Committee Coordinator, Mina Daffinee

Caring @CommunityUUChurch.org

Communications Director, Rob Saxton.

communications@communityuuchurch.org

Personnel Coordinator, Mike Owens

personnel-chair@communityuuchurch.org

Committee on Ministry, Nancy Barlow, Chair

Mincom@communityuuchurch.org

Social Action Programs

UUSInAction@CommunityUUChurch.org

Bridge Group Coordinator, Clint Burleson:

bridge@CommunityUUChurch.org

Circle Suppers Coordinators, John Snyder:

Circlesuppers@CommunityUUChurch.org

Friday Flicks Coordinator, Alice Mayo:

flicks@Community UUChurch.org

First Friday Folksingers Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand:

folksingers@CommunityUUChurch.org

Outdoor Adventure Coordinator, Dick Hildenbrand:

outdooradventure@CommunityUUChurch.org

Leadership Development Committee:

ldc@CommunityUUChurch.org

Capital Improvement Committee (Bill Daffinee, Chair):

wrdaffinee@aol.com

Strategic Planning Committee:

planning@CommunityUUChurch.org

Chalice Circle/Simple Living Coordinator Ona Tannehill:

simpleliving@CommunityUUChurch.org

Program Board: Chet Smith, Chair:

programs@CommunityUUChurch.org

Finance Committee: **finance@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Stewardship Committee (Tom Reid, Chair):

stewardship@CommunityUUChurch.org

Investment Committee: David Hollands, Chair, Carol Wise, Karen Bethel: **investment@CommunityUUChurch.org**

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (Kathy Smith, Coordinator):

yruu@CommunityUUChurch.org

Adult Enrichment/Adult Education (Celeste Kennedy, Director): **adultre@CommunityUUChurch.org**

EarthSpirit (Janie McDermott, Coordinator):

earthspirit@CommunityUUChurch.org

Men's Fellowship (John Elder, Coordinator):

men@CommunityUUChurch.org

Religious Education Board (Amy Dessert, Chairperson):

reboard@CommunityUUChurch.org

Hospitality Committee (Coordinator):

hospitality@CommunityUUChurch.org

Women's Alliance: **women@CommunityUUChurch.org**

UU Website Links

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA): www.uua.org

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC):

www.uusc.org

Southwest District (SWUUC): **www.swuuc.org**

North Texas Unitarian Universalist Congregations (NTUUC):

www.ntuuc.org

CUUC Representatives, Celeste Kennedy and Grace Morrison:

NTUUC@CommunityUUChurch.org

February Financial Report

Finance Committee, by Dick Hildenbrand, Treasurer

The February 2015 financial summary for our operating accounts is listed below. This month's tag is "beyond the decimal point". Year-to-date our income is at 99.96% of budget and our expenses would be 100.016% of budget had we not had to lay out \$1,200 earlier than expected for roof repairs; even with the roof repair, year-to-date expenses are at 100.53% of budget!

2014-2015 pledge income is within \$74 on a year-to-date budget of \$170,704. We've experienced very few losses this year with people either leaving the church or having to cut their pledge; we've also seen several members have paid more toward their pledge than they originally committed. From follow up calls to those who are behind on their pledges, some just needed a reminder to pay and some have temporary financial constraints but plan to make good on their pledge. I'm fairly confident we will end the year better than budgeted for pledge income.

Did You Know?: How you pay your pledge does make a difference. About \$1,000 of the annual budget goes to the credit card companies for the convenience of paying on-line for pledges and other donations. If you pay by credit or debit card, either 2.75% (MC, Visa) or 3.5% (Amex, Discover) goes to Wall Street. Automated bank drafts

cost 25¢ per transaction. Not much, but it adds up. Our recommended method of paying your pledge is by BillPay through your financial institution. It costs the church nothing and it saves you the bother of having to write a check every month, quarter or year.

FREE MONEY!

Albertson's: Use Community Partners key chain tag or have them enter 49000109261.

Kroger: Update your Kroger Plus card to link to organization 83309 at www.kroger.com/communityrewards.

Tom Thumb: Link your Rewards card to charity 8089 at Customer Service.

Amazon.com: Use this link for purchases: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-1787256>

The church will get a portion of all purchase amounts!

INCOME & EXPENSE February 2015

	February 2015	Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	% Annual Budget (FY 75% comp)
INCOME						
Total Offering Income	\$19,135	\$17,411	\$185,788	\$183,724	\$234,300	79.3%
Total Fund Raiser Income	\$3,165	\$1,090	\$31,747	\$30,160	\$33,170	95.7%
Total Building Usage	\$2,049	\$2,193	\$18,001	\$19,764	\$26,863	67.0%
Misc. Income	\$98	\$837	\$10,503	\$12,095	\$16,006	65.6%
TOTAL INCOME	\$24,451	\$21,531	\$246,038	\$245,743	\$310,339	79.3%
EXPENSE						
Administration	\$4,331	\$4,542	\$44,505	\$44,670	\$57,867	76.9%
Programs	\$1,938	\$1,697	\$16,989	\$16,592	\$22,775	74.6%
Religious Education	\$3,827	\$3,987	\$42,981	\$42,876	\$54,685	78.6%
Facilities/Grounds	\$5,131	\$5,070	\$47,125	\$46,094	\$62,874	75.0%
Ministry	\$7,871	\$7,932	\$70,571	\$70,702	\$94,498	74.7%
Denomination	\$1,607	\$1,607	\$12,854	\$12,854	\$17,674	72.7%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$24,706	\$24,835	\$235,025	\$233,788	\$310,374	75.7%
NET INCOME	-\$255	-\$3,304	\$11,013	\$11,955	-\$35	-

Church Office Hours

Monday: church offices closed: **Tuesday:** 9 am to 3 pm
Wednesday: 9 am to 2:30 pm: **Thursday:** 9 am to 2:30 pm
Friday: 9 am to Noon : **Office Phone #:** 972-424-8989

Reverend Patrick Price

Monday: Available for emergencies only.
Tuesday through Thursday: Noon to 4 pm
Friday: Available for emergencies only.
Other times by appointment. Please contact Reverend Price for appointments and scheduling information.

Director of Religious Education Kathy Smith

Wednesday and Thursday: 1pm to 5 pm, other times by appointment.

Bookkeeper John Elder Tuesday and Wednesday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, other times by appointment.

Membership Coordinator Cindy Pilcher Thursday: 9:30 to 11:30am.

Church Secretary Connie Meints

Tuesday 9am to 3pm, **Wednesday & Thursday** 9am to 2:30pm, **Friday** 9am to noon.

Music Director Christopher Wolff available during church office hours.

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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Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano