

InSpirit  
Unitarian Universalist  
Church of  
Hot Springs  
100 Norwalk  
Norwalk and Spring St



Located at the corner of Norwalk and Spring St Hot Springs, AR 71914-3095  
501-625-3095 WWW.uuchurchhotsprings.org

The UU church of Hot Springs is a certified *Welcoming Congregation*. We welcome you, whoever you are, or whatever the birthplace of your ancestors. We welcome you whether you are young or old, man or woman. We welcome you no matter what your spiritual beliefs or physical needs. We welcome you, whomever you love. May you find the warmth and connection you seek.

AUGUST 2015  
THEME IS

The Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person

- 2 Anna Wilson with Ann Hair as the lay leader
- 9 Karen Holcom with Dee Marion
- 16 Rick Harder-Ward with TBA lay leader
- 23 Barbara Thexton with Peter Thexton as the lay leader
- 30 Congregational Meeting and Baked Potato Bar Pot Luck (ask Carol).



Here are a couple future dates for your calendar:

First Ever UUCHS Retreat, for all members and friends, November 6-7, Mountain Harbor Resort on Lake Ouachita (tentatively).

50 Years of our UU Presence in the Hot Springs Area Celebration! will be held at the UU Church of HS Village, Oct .10 and 11 (details later).

# Presidents Letter

1. I attended the workshop for UU presidents in the Southern Region in Dallas July 10-12. Eighteen presidents were in attendance, so I met many new people and came home with lots of new ideas.

2. Another highlight of July was our week at SWUUSI, the UU Multi-generational Camp at Sequoyah State Park in Oklahoma. My 6 and 15 year old granddaughters accompanied me. This was my second time to attend, and I recommend it to everyone of any age, single or with family or friends. There is just something magical about being away from home with other UU's at a camp. If you are inclined to attend camp sometime, you can stay in nice lodge rooms and eat in the restaurant or stay in little cabins and cook. We had a nice cabin with kitchen and bedroom. I'll be announcing more about SWUUSI, when you can



begin registering in January. It will be the last week of July, 2016. Note: SWUUSI is South West Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute as we're in the southwest part of the Southern Region

3. In the fall, we are planning a UUCHS Retreat! This will be our first ever, so be sure to attend and invite friends and



family. More details will be available soon, but it's time to start thinking about it and getting enthusiastic. We hope it will be loads of fun for all.

4. Many thanks to the members who have worked on the new roof for our church. Oliver, Jesse, and team will coordinate construction.

5. Each person attending our church is so important. There is a place for everyone. Some come just for fellowship. Some come for fellowship and for getting involved. During the next month, I will be asking everyone where you "fit". Do you have a favorite area where you like to volunteer? We'll be updating the list of our "Go To People".

Picture captions:

Barbeque, served by the youth. My granddaughter, Jet is in the tie dye shirt (which she made) serving in 100 degree sunshine!

Kids playing, my granddaughter Savvy made lots of "best friends"

Stay cool and enjoy August in the South!

Carol Stanfill, president

# PROGRAMS

Dearest Congregation,

It is with sincere pleasure to tell you a little about the services lined up for August.

Our theme for the month is our principal, "The Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person."

August 2nd we will hear Rev. Anna Wilson. She has been coming to our church over the last few months. Rev. Wilson is a minister with the Disciples of Christ denomination. She and her husband, Bob, adopted four children who now range in ages from 13-22. Over the years, Ana served in youth ministry, chaplaincy, and congregational leadership as Senior Minister. Her favorite type of ministry is pastoral care where she cares for the "least of these." She is currently serving as a PRN Chaplain for Arkansas Hospice while she looks for a church to call her as their minister. The title of her sermon is "Redeeming 24601: Moving Beyond Prison". How many prison, boxes, or labels do we live in? How many prisons do others place us in? More importantly, what prisons do we place others in with no hope of redemption? Do our prejudices hold us and others captive? We will discover the dignity of all human life by moving beyond the prisons, boxes and labels.



August 9th The Many and Varied Benefits of Eating Locally, AND Locavore Potluck. Our guest speaker will be Karen Holcolmb, Manager of Spa City Co-op. Our program on ethical eating will be followed by a Locavore Potluck. LOCAVORE POTLUCK? A locavore is a person who eats foods grown locally whenever possible, so bring a dish to share using one or more ingredient that was grown locally.

Karen Holcomb came to Hot Springs in 2003 from Austin, TX, where there was a thriving culture of local sourced food production. Spoiled to having fresh grass-fed meats, eggs, cheeses, organic produce and artisan produced goods, she and other friends conspired to bring such goodies to Hot Springs, and formed Spa City Co-op, an on-line farmer's market, in 2008. Karen has served as President, treasurer, and market manager for that organization ever since.

The granddaughter of "East Texas dirt farmers", Karen has made it her mission to advance the cause of farmers and small producers. She was a panel speaker at the 2012 Southern Alternative Agriculture Conference in Little Rock, and has served as a speaker to the Garvan Gardens Continuing Education program, The Hot Springs Women's Gardening Club, and several others. She plans a radio show on KUHS-LP in the fall of 2015 focusing on local live music, and community-based agriculture.

Karen is fond of saying that the only people who need to be concerned about the sources of their food are those who eat.

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August 16th Fr. Rick Ward-Harder will be speaking about living radically thru Social Justice within your Spiritual Journey. His message is entitled: "I have a Dream - Social Justice is Living your Spirituality"

August 23rd Intrigued by the ideals of Transcendentalism, Barbara Thexton chose this topic to explore with her fellow church members. Research has proved that this nineteenth century literary, philosophical movement is even more complex and intriguing than imagined. Transcendentalism greatly influenced early Unitarianism in America...more of the mystery will be revealed in her talk on Sunday, August 23. A Unitarian since 1960, when she shed her gloomy Baptist tenets in Austin, Texas, she later was courted by gentleman Peter Thexton in the Summit, New Jersey Unitarian Church where they were married in 1975. Ardent Unitarians, after the move to Arkansas seventeen years ago, registering to vote was first priority; then, they next sought the local Unitarian Church. At the age of 35, Barbara enrolled as a freshman undergraduate in New Jersey and earned her M.S. in corporate interior design at Pratt Institute. During her career in Washington, D.C., she coordinated with architects in designing space plans for corporations, legislators, attorneys, and even a project for the chilling interior of the National Rifle Association. A retiree, she is currently (again) chair of the Garland County Democratic Committee and is wondering how there was ever time to have a career.

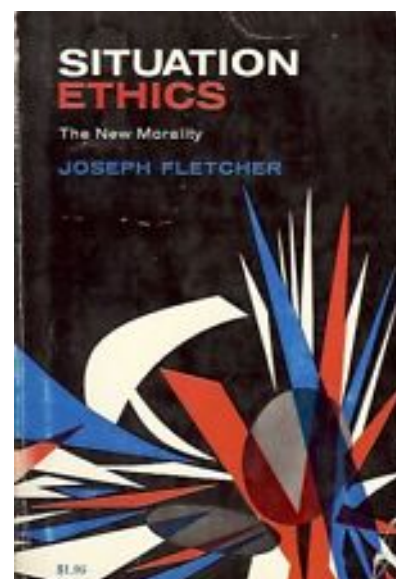
August 30th we'll have an executive meeting followed by a Potato Bar potluck.

## Library News:

Situation Ethics: A book the Religious Exploration Group studied has been added to our library.

The book deals with a very interesting and controversial view on ethics which makes it right up our UU alley.

If you have books that Wisdom Seekers or Religious Exploration Groups have read and you'd like to share, the Library would be a good way to do that. Just drop it off at the office with a note and our super-efficient librarian (Carol) will be happy to shelve it and enter it in our online catalog.



“The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.”  
– **Albert Einstein**

“My grandma always said that God made libraries so that people didn't have any excuse to be stupid.”  
– **Joan Bauer, *Rules of the Road***

# Annual Blueberry Pancake Sunday



Another wonderfully, successful Blue  
Berry Pancake - and boat ride – Sunday.  
Thanks Scott and Linell.



# Crafts Club

August 5 and 19

UUCHS Crafters meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 10:00 at the church.

## UUCHS Project for Homeless



Judy, Elsie, and Jane assisted with making the “parr”, which of course is plastic yarn, while Carol began crocheting the first mat. We hope you will join us for this fun and worthwhile project. Of course you may bring your own projects as usual to share. The Craft group meets every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 10:00am at the church.

On 5th Wednesdays, there will be a special event for the crafters' and women's groups

# Women's Club

August 12 and 26

UUCHS Women's group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10:00. We go to different homes each time and the topic of discussion varies. Conversations are always stimulating and informative. Watch your email for locations and topics each time. Light refreshments are served by the hostess.

- August 12 Pat Jobin
- August 26 Linda Puckett



# SOCIAL JUSTICE HEAD LINES

≈Pope Francis still on the offensive. Most UU-like Head of State since FDR

- **Pope Apologizes For Catholic Church's 'Offenses' Against Indigenous Peoples**

- "I humbly ask forgiveness...for crimes committed against the native peoples during the so-called conquest of America."

- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/pope-francis-apologizes-for-catholic-churchs-offenses-against-indigenous-peoples\\_559f02aae4b096729155dd59](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/pope-francis-apologizes-for-catholic-churchs-offenses-against-indigenous-peoples_559f02aae4b096729155dd59)



- **Pope Francis: 'Revolution' needed to combat climate change**

- <http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/18/world/pope-francis-climate-technology-encyclical/>



Dear Church Family,

Just a friendly reminder. When "regulars" who are present every Sunday and regularly attend church activities suddenly vanish, it is so important to make a call or send an e-mail just to say hello and "What's going on?" For instance, I missed the last three Sundays and two women's group activities, and I want to thank Judy Walters and Dorothy Clark for checking up on me, especially since I am a senior member of the family and may need a little more TLC.

Pat Jobin

## A Note from UUA's Rev. Peter Morales

Last summer, the news was filled with stories about the thousands of unaccompanied children coming across the US border, fleeing violence and poverty in Central America. Inspired to make a difference, more than twenty ministers joined us in Tucson for our first Clergy Border Witness that fall.

The publicity has faded since last summer, but the reality remains unchanged — and desperate. Children and families are still being deported, regardless of the deepening peril they face in their home countries. Our border has become a militarized zone, and violence has increased as our government pressures Mexico to turn back migrants no matter what their ages or circumstances.

This continuing crisis cries out for a response from people of faith. **Please join us this November 2-7, to bear witness to the continuing human rights abuses on the US Mexico Border.** UUA President Peter Morales, UUMA Executive Director Don Southworth, and Director of the UU College of Social Justice Kathleen McTigue will lead [this delegation](#).

Together, we will walk a migrant trail with volunteers with [No More Deaths](#), a ministry of the UU Church of Tucson. We will witness the militarization of the border itself, observe “Operation Streamline” hearings designed to criminalize immigrants, and travel into Mexico to visit with recent deportees and hear their stories. We will worship together, and will help each other discern how our ministries and our movement can respond to the need for immigration justice.

Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray, who participated in last year's Clergy Border Witness trip, describes her experience: “The impact of this trip was enhanced by being together as Unitarian Universalists. Our faith, our singing, our prayers became a sacred space to hold the heartbreak and the examples of resistance as one. In this way, what we learned and experienced impacted not just our individual perspectives, but our public voice and commitment as faiths leaders, as UUs.”

We invite all UU clergy and seminarians to join us.

In faith, Rev. Peter Morales



**Religious Exploration**  
**The Religious Exploration Classes / Discussion Group**  
**1<sup>st</sup> and 3rd Sundays at 9:00**

*This book views world history not from London, Paris and Rome but from Bagdad, Damascus and Cairo.*

*Destiny Disrupted, A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* takes, as its point of departure, the following question: “What are the key events of world history and the shape of the overall story if one assumes that the center of the world is not Europe but the Islamic heartland?” Following from this premise, it sets forth a provocative “alternative” history of the world that is as compellingly readable as any novel. *Destiny Disrupted* won the Northern California Book Award for Best General Nonfiction of 2009, and it has been translated into nine languages , including Russian, Dutch, Indonesian, Korean, and Italian.

*“It’s one of those “fascinating new fact every paragraph” books. Would you like to know how the Shiite-Sunni schism happened? It’s all here. Rumi the poet? He’s here. Empires, sultanates, wars, atrocities, cities of great beauty now lost forever, the whole deal. Even the chapters on theology are enjoyable, and I’m not big on the minutiae of belief systems.”*

–Jon Carroll, Columnist

We think this is an exciting and illuminating book that will not only educate but generate a lot of discussion. Come join us. You don’t even have to have read the book. The discussions themselves are worth the price of admission, and usually better than the book.

Wisdom Seekers Book Group  
Meet on the 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
From 9 to 10

## **Subliminal: How Your Unconscious Mind Rules Your Behavior**

**Winner of the 2013 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award**

Over the past two decades of neurological research, it has become increasingly clear that the way we experience the world--our perception, behavior, memory, and social judgment--is largely driven by the mind's subliminal processes and not by the conscious ones, as we have long believed. As in the bestselling *The Drunkard's Walk: How Randomness Rules Our Lives*, Leonard Mlodinow employs his signature concise, accessible explanations of the most obscure scientific subjects to unravel the complexities of the subliminal mind. In the process he shows the many ways it influences how we misperceive our relationships with family, friends, and business associates; how we misunderstand the reasons for our investment decisions; and how we misremember important events--along the way, changing our view of ourselves and the world around us.

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Notice: The Hot Springs Gay Pride Group meet at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Hot Springs on 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 5pm. All are welcome.

## A note from Michelle about Grief Group

I decided to invite the group to my home from now on. Currently there are four members who have been coming regularly. None of them are from UUCHS. I will continue to hold this group monthly at my house on the second Tuesday of each month from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Fee for group is \$10.00. If anyone from UUCHS wants to join or just come for "drop in sessions" they are welcome. The group continues to be a true support group rather than a therapy group. My house is located at 311 Ramble Street. Feel free to give my e-mail to anyone who is interested. Thanks. M (michelle.crandell@gmail.com)



## RETREAT REPORT: WHO DO WE WANT TO BE? WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

First Ever UUCHS Retreat, for all members and friends, November 6-7, Mountain Harbor Resort on Lake Ouachita (tentatively)

At our congregational meeting members approved having a retreat and budgeted \$2,500 for that purpose. Hazel Nino, Carol Stanfill, and Sheri Griffin formed a Retreat Planning Team with Dee Marion.

The Retreat Team met at Dee's and sketched out retreat objectives and plans. The retreat is planned for a weekend (Friday night - Sunday morning) sometime between late September and early November. It was decided that each person will receive a subsidy from the church to enable everyone to attend. The overriding benefit of the retreat will be bonding and learning. The specific purpose of the retreat is to define a common purpose and direction for our church, and to figure out what steps we will take to get there.

The Team checked out many possible venues for this fall but we won't decide on one until we can get a better estimate of costs and funding. The early count of folks who plan to go, without a specific date or personal cost, is 28, with 19 spending the night and eight coming for the day on Saturday. Not all members and friends were in this early count. Facilitator cost is another consideration. Carol is talking with UU leaders who might be a good fit for us.

The Retreat Team will meet again at noon on Friday, August 7. Contact Dee for more information.

# CALENDER

## AUGUST

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Anna Wilson with Ann Hair and Rebecca Ricks  RE: Destiny Disrupted	3	4	5 Craft Club 10:00	6 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	7	8
9 Karen Holcom and Rebecca Ricks  WS: Subliminal	10	11 “Dealing with Change” w/ Michelle. 2-3:00 Moved to 311 Ramble St.  Jason’s Music Studies 4:00	12 Women’s Club at Pat Jobin 10:00	13 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	14	15
16 Rick Harder-Ward and Rebecca Ricks  RE: Destiny Disrupted	17	18	19 Craft Club 10:00 AM  UUCHS board meetings, 1:00	20 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	21	22
23 Barbara Thexton with Peter Thexton and Rebecca Ricks  WS: Subliminal	24	25 Jason’s Music Studies 4:00	26 Women’s Club at Linda Puckett 10:00	27 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	28 Fourth Friday Movie: “TBD”. Dinner at 6pm and movie at 7pm	29
30 Congregational Meeting and Baked Potato Bar Pot Luck  RE: Destiny Disrupted	31					

RE = Religious Exploration. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays 9:00 to 10:00AM

WS = Wisdom Seekers. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 9:00 to 10:00AM