

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.

SEPTEMBER 2015
THEME IS

**Acceptance of One Another and Encouragement to Spiritual Growth
in Our Congregation**

Sept 6 Carol Stanfill on church history,
Sept 13 Denise Marion for the water communion/homecoming,
Sept 20 Bud Hearn's The Sphinx Head Hotel: Transcendentalism and beyond,
Sept 27 Bob Van Hook

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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

It's September and we have a lot going on at our church. Here are some notes from the last board meeting on August 25 and the congregation meeting on August 30

1. Board meetings will be the last Tuesday of each month at 3:00. All are welcome. Let me know if there is something we need to add to our agenda.

2. Some projects are continuing, thanks to hard working UU's. Charlotte is working on getting us a sign on Grand Avenue. Oliver has arranged for our roof to be repaired by Razorback Roofing Co. in mid September. John and Geary are planning a new sound system for our sanctuary. I am meeting monthly with Kim Harrison, president of the UU Church of HS Village to share ideas and work together. Linda, Sheri, and I are planning to make our sign out front, the one in the flowerbed, more presentable. (Ideas welcome.) All board members are updating our job descriptions for publication. John will install our handicapped parking signs. Jesse has put the address number 100 on the front of our building. Hazel is working on curtains for the room at the top of the stairs. Dee, Hazel, Sheri, and I continue to plan a great all-church retreat for November 6-8 at Mountain Harbor. And lots of others are making our church GREAT!



3. Rummage Sale, upcoming in the fall. Thanks to Jane, Geary, Barbara, Peter, Oliver for sharing the organizing and planning. You can store "treasures" in the room across from our library for now. Plans for bigger items will come later.

4. Retreat Sign Up Sheets are in the kitchen downstairs. You can sign up for a room in one of the beautiful condos and volunteer to bring food to the potluck on Friday night. Cost for registration is \$60 per person. Watch your email for more information.

5. Church maintenance: Since we voted to take the church off the market for a while, we are concentrating on making improvements to our building. After the roof is completed, we should be able to work on indoor painting, replacing some ceiling panels, building a handicapped ramp at the door by the organ, fixing the bathrooms, and many other things. We're showing our little church some love!

6. Bring food and/or monetary donations for Jackson House Food Pantry during September. Dorothy will deliver the food and a check from the church. Make checks out to UUCHS and indicate Jackson House on the FOR line at the bottom.

7. I am working on a church history. Bonnie Schlabowske, former member, put together three nice notebooks of our early years. Oliver, Barbara, and Peter are helping fill in missing details. I find it very interesting to see how many people have worked hard since the 1960's, to keep our UU presence in the Hot Springs area. There will be a 50 year Celebration in October. Watch your email for details.

8. Remember, we have two suggestion boxes at church. Pencils and paper are inside. The board will check these before each meeting.

9. The board likes the idea to have a "Memorial Plaque" that will include the names of deceased church members. We are discussing how far back in history to go, (Continued)

when adding names of members who have passed away. Let me know your ideas. Some have said we need to include all names from the beginning, in the 1960's, some suggested we begin when we split into two churches, one remaining here and one in the Village.

10. There is an updated list of our "Go To People" included in this month's *InSpirit*. Let me know of any changes. If you were not present at the Aug. 30th meeting, email me and let me know where you can help. We have had great response so far, with almost everyone helping somewhere. I understand, though, if you cannot be a volunteer. We love to see your smiling face at church anyway. But, a million thanks to all who help!!

Enjoy this beautiful "almost fall" weather in September!
Carol Stanfill, president

PROGRAMS

"Going to church doesn't make you righteous any more than being in a garage makes you a car." Unknown Author



Dear congregation,

August has been just that. We've had an august group of programs. We want to thank Ana Wilson for her thought provoking presentation on prison social justice, Denise and Karen Holcomb for their moving service on being a locavore, Alan and Father Rick Ward-Harder's inspiring presentation about social justice, Peter and Barbara Thexton's insightful service on Transcendentalism, and Carol Stanfill for her stirring congregational meeting.

The September line up features Carol Stanfill on church history, Denise Marion for the water communion/homecoming, Bud Hearn's The Sphinx Head Hotel: Transcendentalism and beyond, and last but certainly not least will be a presentation by Bob Van Hook.

October looks to be interesting as well with Bud Hearn, Susan Smith (joint service with the Hot Springs Village Church,) Adam Slate, and Linda Puckett.

It is beginning to feel like Autumn. Enjoy the cooler temperatures.
Joe

Members Respond to Jackson House Food Crisis

The Jackson House community crisis center was and still is in dire need of food donations. Janie Smith, executive director, said pantry shelves were so low on items that even 47 cases of food purchased from Project H.O.P.E Food Bank barely made a dent. Donations of nonperishable item, canned and boxed goods are needed. Monetary donations are accepted to make purchases from the food bank, Smith said, noting "I can get \$3 worth of food for every dollar.



UU members and friends responded with generous food and monetary donations on short notice Sunday, August 30th. Six large boxes of food was delivered to the Jackson House on Monday. Monetary donations totaled \$205.00 and will be given to Jackson House after another appeal for food and monetary donations next Sunday, September 6th. Thank you for responding so quickly and generously.

Dorothy

Library News:

Situation Ethics: A book the Religious Exploration Group 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***

Joe and Alan Tie The Knot

Our own Joe and Alan repeated their vows in the Grand Ballroom at the Arlington Hotel on August 22. Father Rick conducted a beautifully crafted ceremony specifically for the Groom and Groom.



Crafts Club

August 5 and 19

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

UUCHS Project for Homeless



Homeless sleeping mat project

Judy, Elsie, and Jane assisted with making the “pam”, 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 1st and 3rd 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



September 9th and 23rd

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.

- September 9 Elsie
- September 23 Sunnye



SOCIAL JUSTICE HEAD LINES

How Long, O Lord, How Long **By Rev. Ana Marie Wilson**

Lord, we hear the cry of your children,
We witness the peril of the oppressed,
We feel your tears of anguish flooding our
spirits,
How long, O Lord, how long?

We read the stories of
Those harmed,
The looting,
The demonstrations,
The attacks,
The military like force,
The “us” and “them,”
How long, O Lord, how long?

Did “unrest” really become the word for
oppression,
Injustice that runs rampant,
Deep hurts,
Extreme force,
Righteous Anger
Harassment,
Coercion,
How long, O Lord, how long?

When will our voices be heard,
Oppression not be daily dialogue,
We stop reading and start acting,
We get off our sofas,
We leave our comfort zones,

We act in response to those in
need,
We speak and our silence is no
longer deafening,
How long, O Lord, how long?

Who are your children that need our
care,

Homeless,
People of color,
Elderly,
Queer community,
Differently abled,
Mentally ill,
How long, O Lord, how long?
Will we ever be at peace,
Reach out our hand in love,
See beyond ourselves,
Speak with love,
Extend grace,
Listen to stories with open
hearts,
Look in the eyes of the other
and see the face of God,
How long, O Lord, how long?

Lord, let us hear the laughter of all your
children,
Experience a world free from
oppression,
Feel your joy wash over our spirits
renewing life in all...
We wait...
We anticipate...
How long, O Lord, how long?

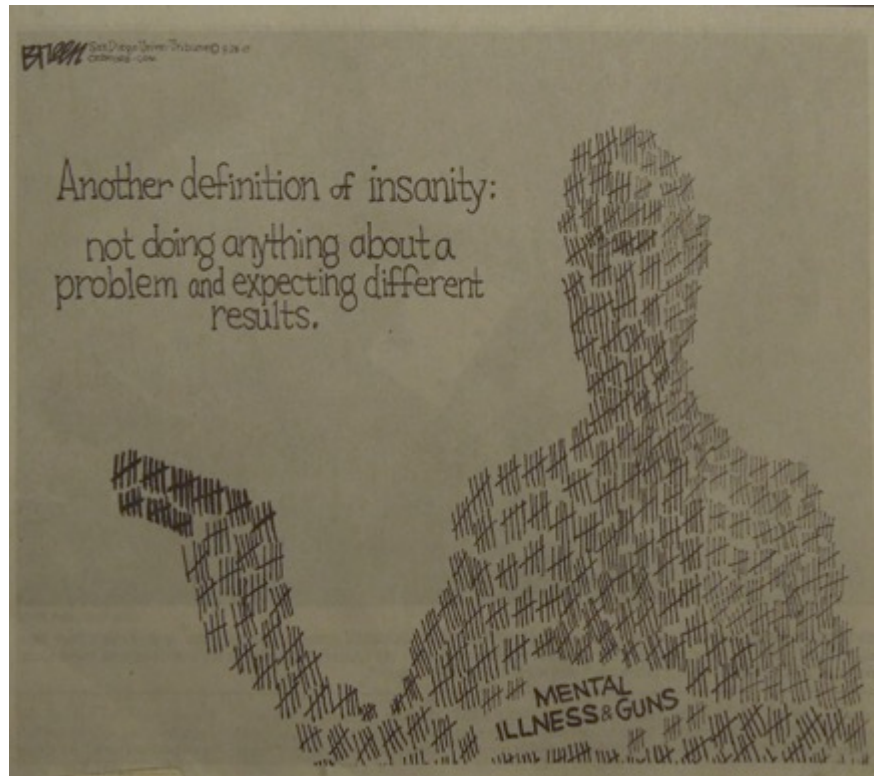
Rev. Ana Marie Wilson our UUCHS
Friend.

■ More Americans die in gun homicides and suicides every six months than have died in the last 25 years in every terrorist attack and the [wars in Afghanistan and Iraq combined](#).

■ More Americans have died from guns in the United States since 1968 [than on battlefields](#) of all the wars in American history.

■ American children are 14 times as likely to die from guns as children in other developed countries, according to David Hemenway, a Harvard professor and author of [an excellent book](#) on firearm safety.

We should all write, call and/or eMail our State and Federal representatives and make our views known. Editor



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

Subliminal: How Your Unconscious Mind Rules Your Behavior

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. 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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Religious Exploration
The Religious Exploration Classes / Discussion Group
1st 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.



Notice: The Hot Springs Gay Pride Group meet at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Hot Springs on 2nd and 4th Sunday of the

CALENDER

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Craft Club 10:00	3 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	4	5
6 Carol Stanfill on church history and Rebecca Ricks RE: Destiny Disrupted	7	8 “Dealing with Change” w/ Michelle. 2-3:00 Moved to 311 Ramble St.	9 Women’s Club at Elsie’s 10:00	10 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	11	12
13 Denise Marion for the water communion homecoming, and Rebecca Ricks WS: Subliminal	14	15	16 Craft Club 10:00 AM	17 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	18	19
20 Rev. Bud Hearn's The Sphinx Head Hotel: Transcendentalism and beyond, and Rebecca Ricks RE: Destiny Disrupted	21	22	23 Women’s Club at Sunnye’s 10:00	24 “BIRDS” Practice 5:15	25 Fourth Friday Movie: “Woman in Gold”. Dinner at 5:30pm and movie at 6:30pm	26
27 Rev. Bob Van Hook and Rebecca Ricks WS: Subliminal	28	29 UUCHS board meetings, 3:00	30 Something Special			

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

WS = Wisdom Seekers. 2^{ed} and 4th Sundays 9:00 to 10:00AM