

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.

JANUARY 2015
THEME IS PERSEVERANCE

- January 4 Betty Johann, will share her personal story of perseverance.
- January 11 Michelle Crandell will return with her special perspective of the word.
- January 18 Linda Puckett will return with a unique service she calls, 'White Stone'
- January 25 Kelly Owen, will share information about a new group to Hot Springs, NAMI (Nat'l Association of Mental Illness).

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No one saves us but ourselves. No one can and no one may. We ourselves must walk the path.

Buddha

PRESIDENT'S NOTE:



Hello UU friends I hope everyone had some great holidays. I know we did over at my house what with all the kids and grandkids being there. We had a good time. Christmas was great although at this stage of my life I must admit I don't really go for the heavy partying on New Year's Eve anymore so I usually just stay home. Nevertheless I would like to wish you all a happy new year. Here's hoping it will be an improvement over 2014.

The weather lately has been pretty damp and dreary but I must admit I sometimes like it that

way. It gives me a chance to just lay around the house and catch up on my reading and watch all those shows on Netflix and Amazon that I have on my lists.

Well I'm not in a particularly chatty mood right now so I'll just wish everyone a great 2015. Our church seems to be doing fine. No luck selling the building yet but like Patti Page, or was it Doris Day said, que sera, sera whatever will be will be.

Oliver Driver
Congregation President



John and Oliver distributed the funds from our Annual Rummage Sale to the Ouachita Children's Center, Project Hope Food Bank and Safe Haven Women's Shelter. Each organization was given \$500.



PROGRAMS

Thank you for your support of programs in 2014. You were good listeners to some very diverse services, and willing participants in meeting our challenge to have meaningful and inspiring services each week. In 2014, Members or Friends of our church, including 9 talks by Bud Hearn, presented 45 of our services. New members, Sylvia Smith, Jesse Davis and Linda Puckett all stepped up and shared their talents with us. As you see, when I say I could not do it without you that is literally true. We had 8 services by non-affiliated speakers. Jason Nickerson greatly enhanced our music with his multi-talents of voice and instruments. Overall it was a very good year.



2015 will get off to a great start as we examine "Perseverance." How it drives us to go beyond the limitations of our lives, as our friend Betty Johann, will tell us on the first Sunday of the New Year.

Michelle Crandell, will follow on January 11 with a little different take on "Perseverance." Answering the question, "Is it always a good thing?" Linda Puckett, will be back to help us focus positive energy for good in our lives, with a, "White Stone" service. Ending the month, Kelly Owens, will introduce us to the National Association of Mental Illness, (NAMI). She has led the effort to establish this national organization in Hot Springs early in the first quarter. Kelly is a crusader for bringing mental illness out of the closet of shame and despair, into a world of light and understanding, so that those dealing with these illnesses are able to receive the care needed to lead more balanced lives.

February is "Love." The first Sunday, we will have a repeat of a service entitled, "What do UUs Believe?" It is a good message for those old and new to UUism. February 8, Bud Hearn will return from a short time off and Pat Jobin will lead us in our annual "Poetry" service on the 15th. You are asked to bring a favorite from a poet you like, or perhaps one you, the poet, have penned. You are also welcome to just come and listen to others share. Those of you who were able to attend the Thanksgiving service at the UU Village church this year, heard Tucker Steinmetz speak. He is a member of the Little Rock UU church and has accepted our invitation to speak on the last Sunday of February.

In 2015, Joe Sturgill, music director, will continue to explore new ways to highlight music as a key component of each service. Those of us leading the programs work need your input, so please tell us what you would like more or less of, as we work together to make our Sunday service, fun, interesting and a reason to come back again and again....

Happy New Year!
Jane

Coming in February 'Love'
February 1 Jane Hufstedler, "What do UUs Believe?"
February 8 Bud Hearn
February 15 Pat Jobin, Poetry Interactive Service
February 22 Tucker Steinmetz from UU Little Rock



Women and Maidens 13 years old and older - please join us March 6-8, 2015, at the San Marcos Conference Center at Embassy Suites Hotel and Spa in San Marcos, Texas for a SWU UW Conference to remember. (Gentlemen, please share with the women in your life). Register soon, as the discounted registration fee of \$165 goes up after February 4. The registration fee also includes your SWU UW membership dues of \$25 for the year.

[Register Now](#)

Come early and stay late in the gem that is San Marcos, Texas. Hosted by the Southwest Unitarian Universalist Women, the San Marcos Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and the Comal County Unitarian Universalist Society, we've put together a fun and educational weekend featuring the world-renowned Rev. Dr. Rebecca Ann Parker and special guest musician Terri Hendrix, one of the best and most popular singer-songwriters around. The Saturday workshops are stellar, you'll have trouble making up your mind. Relax and recharge in the Red Tent Room, and browse the unique offerings in the Taste of Texas Bazaar.

The Embassy Suites offers complimentary made-to-order breakfast, a hosted manager's "happy hour" each evening, free parking, and free shuttles to the nearby Premier and Tanger Outlet Malls, one of the top tourist destinations in all of Texas. Or just find a spot on the beautiful, sparkling San Marcos River to relax and soak it all in during your downtime. For more information, contact conveners Jeannie Lewis and Jan Estes at conference@swuuw.org.



Crafts Club



January 7th and 21st.

UUCHS Crafters meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 10:00 at the church. Folks bring all sorts of crafts to work on: knitting, crocheting, weaving, jewelry making, sewing, painting, and others. *Perhaps even photography.* Men and women come together to share projects and help each other learn new skills. Of course, the fellowship is most important, too.

Women's Club

January 14th and 28th

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 usually served by the hostess.

- Charlotte Gold will host on January 14th.
- Jane Hufstедler on January 28th.



Quote

The wine makes good blood, good blood causes good humor, good humor gives birth to good ideas, good ideas originate good actions and good actions lead to heaven. - Francois Rabelais
submitted by Denise Marion

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

Personal Spirituality

The Religious Exploration Group is examining a very exciting topic, Personal Spirituality. Each Sunday we meet we have an open discussion about our personal Spiritually: What it means to us? How we define it? How we use it? How we got to it? Is it with us all the time or does it come and go (like heart burn)? Did we develop it or just have an epiphany and there it was? And a thousand other questions. How does one get ones head around such a vast intangible as Spirituality?

This is such a great topic I think every one will want to hear other's stories and have an opportunity share their own. Don't miss these sessions they most likely will prove to be the most interesting of the year. Where else will you find not only a very intellectual but deeply personal discussion.

Knowing the mix of people we have in our congregation we will explore the Spirituality of Christians, Transcendentalist, Deist, Atheist, Humanist, Buddhist, and maybe even a Nihilist, or an Existentialist thrown in for fun. Maybe you're one of these and didn't realize it. This is how we grow

One thing for sure, The UU Church of Hot Springs is the *only Church* in town where you are likely to hear such a vast watershed of ideas on Spirituality.

Your Sharing Is Not Only Welcomed But Sought.

Quotes:

Make your own Bible. Select and collect all the words and sentences that in all your readings have been to you like the blast of a trumpet."

– **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

"I believe in God, but not as one thing, not as an old man in the sky. I believe that what people call God is something in all of us. I believe that what Jesus and Mohammed and Buddha and all the rest said was right. It's just that the translations have gone wrong."

– **John Lennon**

"Science is not only compatible with spirituality; it is a profound source of spirituality."

– **Carl Sagan, *The Demon-Haunted World: Science as a Candle in the Dark***

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

In this stunning collection of new poems, Mary Oliver returns to the imagery that has defined her life's work, describing with wonder both the everyday and the unaffected beauty of nature.

Hérons, sparrows, owls, and kingfishers flit across the page in meditations on love, artistry, and impermanence. Whether considering a bird's nest, the seeming patience of oak trees, or the artworks of Franz Marc, Oliver reminds us of the transformative power of attention and how much can be contained within the smallest moments.



At its heart, *Blue Horses* asks what it means to truly belong to this world, to live in it attuned to all its changes. Humorous, gentle, and always honest, Oliver is a visionary of the natural world.

Come and join us even if you haven't read the poems. The discussion is always more interesting than the book itself. We always have a good time. Please come and join us.

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Quote:

Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody.



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

We actually included this calendar many years ago. Just thought you might want to see it anew.....

2015 Unitarian Universalist Holidays (Includes Unitarian, Universalist, Transcendentalist, Deist & Humanist Dates)

- * 1/1: World Peace Day--Day to meditate for peace throughout the world.
- * 1/1: Day the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect freeing Confederate slaves (1863); day to mourn African victims of slavery and racism (past and present), make peace, and celebrate empowerment of African Americans.
- * 1/4: Day ethnic discrimination was outlawed world-wide (1969); day to mourn all manifestations of racism.
- * 1/12: Day genocide was outlawed world-wide (1951); day to mourn all victims of genocide.
- * 1/15 (Obs. 1/19): Birthday of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929)
- * 1/18: World Religions Day--Day to contemplate all religions as different paths to the one universal Deity of many names and aspects.
- * 1/22: Day the Supreme Court recognized women's right to reproductive autonomy (1973).
- * 1/29: Birthday of Thomas Paine (1737), Deist who recognized the inherent rights of all men and women, and opposed non-democratic government. Deists believe Deity to be consistent with Nature and reason.
- * 1/31 eve to 2/3 eve: Mid-Winter/Groundhog's Day/Candlemas--Festival marking the transformation from death to life - the beginning of the agricultural year, awakening of hibernating animals, and return of migrating birds and fish. Observed with a candlelight procession to bless fields and seeds, recognition of newborns, and contemplation of life.

Quote

Just as treasures are uncovered from the earth, so virtue appears from good deeds, and wisdom appears from a pure and peaceful mind. To walk safely through the maze of human life, one needs the light of wisdom and the guidance of virtue.

[Buddha](#)

CALENDER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 R E 9:00 Service 10:30 Betty Johann	5	6	7 UU Crafters 10-12 Play rehearsal 1-3	8	9	10
11 WS 9:00 Service 10:30 Michelle Crandell Gay Pride 5:00	12	13 “Dealing with Change” w/ Michelle. 2-3 Music Study w/ Jason 3-5	14 UUW @ Charlotte’s 10-12	15 Board Meeting 1-3	16	17
18 R E 9:00 Service 10:30 Linda Puckett	19	20	21 UU Crafters 10-12 Play rehearsal 1-3	22 Donna Scott Church Cleaning.	23	24
25 WS 9:00 Service 10:30 Kelly Owen Gay Pride 5:00	26	27 Music Study w/ Jason 3-5	28 UUW @ Jane’s 10-12	29	30 Forth Friday Film Night 6-9’ish	