

January 2019

IN SPIRIT NEWSLETTER

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS CHURCH OF HOT SPRINGS

Welcoming Congregation for Religious
Liberalism

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jesse Davis - President

Linda Puckett - Vice President

John Nino - Treasurer

Ann Hair - Secretary

Values in Action (Programs) - Joe Sturgill

Membership - Jason Nickerson

Community Action (Social Justice) - Casey Wiley

Publicity Relations Chair- Audrey Smelser



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our congregation! We as Unitarian Universalists welcome you, whomever you are, regardless of race, creed, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or physical or mental ability. We strive together as a community to celebrate diversity and to investigate together the spiritual questions that concern us all.

Who are Unitarian Universalists? They can be Christian, Jews, Buddhists, Agnostics, Atheists, Muslims, Pagan, or Other. The one thing we all have in common is that we respect each other for who we are, where we come from, and our reasons for seeking spiritual connectiveness with each other. We believe in making this world a better and just world for everyone.

Welcome!

SPEAKERS FOR JANUARY

January 6, 2019 – Linda Puckett- Burning Bowl Service

January 13, 2019- Casey Wylie “Why the Younger Generations are Disengaged in Politics and Why That is Changing”.

January 20, 2019- Bud Hearn “The Legacy of Martin Luther King”.

January 27, 2019 – Jesse Davis “Show People You Care & Make the World a Better Place”. It is a story of showing someone that you care about them can make a big difference in their life, and potentially the lives of others, for years to come. We don’t always know which seeds we sow will take root and will make a lasting difference.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Religious Exploration will begin at 9:00 am to 10 am the first and 3rd Sunday of each month. Join us to discuss various Ted Talks. Feel free to bring Ted Topics that you would like to recommend for discussion.

Wisdom Seekers meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month from 9:00 to 10:00 each month. The book currently being studied is "The book currently being studied is "Fantasy Land, How America went Haywire.

DISCUSSION GROUP

A discussion group is available to church members on the second and 4th Friday nights of each month beginning at 6:00 pm. Jason Nickerson invites all those who will benefit from this group to attend. We all need people at some time or another. Thanks, Jason, for all you do for the church.



YOGA

Bryan leads yoga classes on Wednesday nights beginning at 6:00 pm. It is a very fun, relaxing time for our church members. Bryan accepts donations for his instruction. Please check updates on Facebook UU Open Group for the dates in January that he will be able to teach class. Come join us and feel your worries dissolve!

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Dee Marion is collecting jackets for Jackson House to distribute in the cold weather. Coats of all weights and sizes are welcome.

There is a collection boxes for coats in the church in the lounge area.



DO GOODERS

By Dee Marion

Join the gang of hearty do-gooders at 9:00 am on Sunday, January 13th to participate in our quarterly public prayer, by which I mean public service since "service is our prayer", right? It may be cold and dreary, but if it is not raining or icy plan on us being there. We have bags, grabbers, gloves and safety vests, but you will probably want your own gloves this time of year. For info or questions, call Dee at 501-655-3130.



SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER

Ouachita Children's Center

by Dee Marion

Exciting things are happening at Ouachita Children's Center! The OCC is expanding in order to help homeless youth living on the streets and domestic violence. Below is a list of items that we need of to help get these programs off the ground. If you wish to donate to help those in need, please contact Mark Howard or Melissa Draper at (501) 623-5591.

Homeless Youth Drop- In Center

- Snack Foods
- Laundry Detergents
- Large Zip Lock Bags for Survival Kits
- Towels/Wash Clothes

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Sleeping Bags

(OCC cont.)

Tarps

Toiletry Items (Shampoo, Conditioner and Soap)

Disposable Razors

Computers (2) for job and resource searches

Board Games

Domestic Violence Center Intake Office

Hide-a-Bed

Microwave

Refrigerator

Blinds for Windows

Computer x 2

Children's Board Games

Domestic Violence Shelter

Refrigerator x 2

Microwave x 2

Deep Freeze x 3

Television x 3

Play Ground Equipment

Patio Furniture

Washer Dryer x 2

Hide a Bed x 2

Living Room Furniture

Rocking Chairs x 3

Laundry Baskets x 20

Laundry Detergents

Trash Cans large & small

Twin Size Sheets & pillow cases

Blankets/Quilts (no comforters please)

Pillows x 20

Towels/Wash clothes

Diapers (all sizes)

Wipes

Baby Formula

Dinette Set (large)

Dinette Set (small x 2)

Kitchen Bar Stools x 3

Chest of Drawers x 10

Locking Filing Cabinets x 2

Computers x 2

Kitchen Ware – silverware, cooking, utensils, pots, pans, plates, etc.

Pack & Plays x 5

Strollers x 4

Car Seats x 6

Toasters x 3

Toys

Umbrellas x 10

Non-Perishable Foods

DVD Players x 4

Home Décor Pictures

Board and Table Games

Coloring Books/Crayons

Children Underwear/Pajamas

Adult Women Underwear/Pajamas

Gift Cards for Misc. Needs

Jackson House Volunteers Needed

By Dorothy Clark

We will prepare sack lunches at Jackson House on Tuesday, January 29th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. We need (6) six volunteers to help prepare and serve approximately 150-190 people. I will be asking for volunteers when it gets closer to the date. This is one of the many Social Justice programs we do each year.

Dorothy Clark – 318-3210

Jackson House Committee

UU WOMEN'S GROUP



The Unitarian Universalist Women's Group will be sending notices about upcoming luncheon and group meetings by email. If you would like to host an event or have a suggestion for an activity, please contact Sunnye Davis. Sunnye will also be organizing the church circle suppers. For more information, contact Sunnye Davis 760-2143.

The SWUW Conference will be in February. Linda Griffith Puckett will be contacting you for requests for volunteer assistance and additional information about the conference. Thanks, Linda, for all your hard work!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS IN DECEMBER



Joe Sturgill really outdid himself with the church Christmas decorations this past Season. These beautiful Christmas decorations began the season and festivities. We had Christmas carols sung by the "Birds" choral group, professional music provided by Rebecca Bingham string musicians, and wonderful speakers. Our own Ric Hudson and Bob VanHook and Trevor Lewin were our guest speakers during the month of December. We are so lucky to have so much talent in our church! Thank you for your service.



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE



A special Christmas Music Performance by Dianne Kesling (left), former mezzo soprano with the New York Metropolitan Opera, is currently professor of voice at UALR and plays violin with the Hot Springs Four Seasons String Quartet performed at the Church on December 16. Our own Rebecca Bingham is playing the cello (she has many talents). Dr. Lim Angela Tchol, new assistant Professor of Applied Piano and the Director of Keyboard Studies at Henderson State University, is performing on the piano. They played Christmas songs and the church assisted with singing of three very special songs. Ms. Kesling's beautiful soprano voice accompanied some of the songs. Thanks for providing our church with this wonderful Christmas magic!



Dr. Lim Angela Tchol



THE BIRDS CHORAL GROUP

The Birds meet on Thursday nights beginning at 5:15 for choir practice. Come join us!



SPOTLIGHT ON CHURCH MEMBERS

Our spotlight this month is on our Church



President, Jesse Davis. Jesse has been a member of the Hot Springs Unitarian Church since the spring of 2013. He was born in Hot Springs and graduated from Hot Springs Highschool. After he college, the army, and his working career, he retired to Hot Springs in 2011.

"He once was a professional student". Jesse stated. He earned bachelors degrees in



This Photo hv

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chemistry and chemical engineering and a master's in chemistry. After earning his education, he worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Baltimore Gas and Electric company in Maryland.

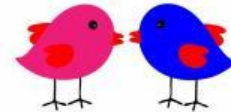


Jesse met his wife, Marianna, when they both worked at the Tennessee Valley Authority in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They have a daughter and seven-year-old granddaughter who live in Southern California. In addition, Marianna is very close to her family in East Tennessee and they visit there often.

His service to the church includes two years as treasurer and he now serves as president. Jesse stated that he was raised in the Presbyterian Church. "An organization that while well meaning, misses the big picture". he stated. He has had a long interest in Taoism, ancient Chinese Philosophies, and Buddhist principles. In addition, he mediates and is convinced that we would all be better off if we lived in the present moment.



His hobbies include being tended to by his lovely wife, (Marianna), outdoor activities, and reading and writing. Jesse sometimes creates Sunday Services from scratch and has been writing a lengthy memoir. In addition, he stated that he dodges a lot of trucks on the Interstate 40.



Our church is very lucky to have him as a member of our Unitarian Universalist organization. We have an abundance of smart, educated, talent, and thoughtful thinkers as church members of which Jesse scores at the top of our list. Thank you for all your service!

FIRST GRADE PICS (GUESS WHO~)

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FAMILY- CHRISTMAS 2017

Please contact me at crowha@sbcglobal.net if you have any suggestions or submissions for the Church Newsletter.

Audrey



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