



# Hill Country Happenings

The Newsletter for the Unitarian Universalist  
Church of the Hill Country  
March 2016

## FROM YOUR MINISTER...

### Greetings!

*I was driving around town the other day and spotted a yard filled with Daffodils. Daffodils in February! I was amazed! In Wisconsin when I had Daffodils in my yard I had no expectations of seeing them until at least April or May and yet, here in Kerrville, I was able to see them so much earlier. When I spoke with a friend in Wisconsin and excitedly told her, she moaned that she was still shoveling the 3 inches of snow that had fallen the night before and I felt very sad for her.*

*Every year the Daffodils find a way to push their heads through the dirt, shaking off the cold and emerging to let us know that the warmer weather is here. This beautiful little yellow flower tells us that this is a time of rebirth and new beginnings. I always love to see them, to know that warmer weather is coming and that even the darkest of winters will end, spring will arrive and hope is in the air.*

*Along with the Daffodils we have the other yellow flower that blooms, the dreaded Dandelion. We see this little yellow plant in our yards and it is time to get out the sprayer and attempt to kill them. I always found it interesting that nature sends us beautiful flowers and we spend much time trying to destroy them. Just as Daffodils have meaning, so do Dandelions. If you check the internet you will find that the Dandelion's meaning is "surviving through all challenges and difficulties". How fitting is that for a flower that we spend so much time trying to kill?*

*This is a new season or a new beginning for our congregation. In our congregation we have both Daffodils and Dandelions and they are both beautiful. Those who are Daffodils remind us of the beauty of our congregation, the way that over the years we*

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## Church Outreach Activities

- ⊕ On Saturday, April 9, a community-wide clean-up project called "CSI (Christian Services Initiative) in Kerrville" will be held. It is sponsored by the Christian Men's Job Corps of Kerr County. The UUCHC can 1) nominate possible work sites in our neighborhood AND 2) we can form one or more work teams of 2-10 people. If you are interested in either or both of these, talk to Mike or Karen Burkett, Marie Brown, Jan Lentner or Pastor Ja.
- ⊕ Texas UU Justice Ministry Launches "1000 Courageous, Sustaining UUs for Justice" Campaign! TXUJMJ has accomplished impressive things in its brief existence but is still a start-up organization. Financially, it operates with only a two month surplus, making it difficult to budget, plan and sustain the actions needed to bring about systemic change in Texas. With your help, the financial

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830.792-3626

[www.uuchc.org](http://www.uuchc.org)

email: [churchofthehillcountry@uuchc.org](mailto:churchofthehillcountry@uuchc.org)

Check out our Facebook page

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 - From Your Minister

have continued to come back year after year and continued to do the good work of the congregation and to continue to push forward. Those who are Dandelions are also beautiful, these are the people who continue to tell us that we can, above all else, continue to move forward and survive "through all of the challenges and difficulties". We are all beautiful yellow flowers and every member and friend of this congregation has meaning and dignity.

Although not a member of the plant family the other thing we are beginning to see are Ladybugs. When you see a Ladybug and you make a wish this little spotted bug is said to bring abundance and luck. Ladybugs live in complete harmony with both the Dandelions and the Daffodils. Daffodils and Dandelions live in complete harmony. Let us look to nature, to see the beauty of being able to live in harmony, to see new beginnings and to survive through all of the challenges and difficulties that life sends our way. And always look for ladybugs and continue to make wishes for the future.

With gratitude,

*Ja*



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base needed to move forward more quickly, including increasing our Executive Director, Rev. Chuck Freeman, to a full time position will be fulfilled. Please visit [txuujm.org](http://txuujm.org), and press "DONATE" at the bottom of the page. It will take you to PayPal where you can put in your monthly sustaining donation. Our very own UUCHC Justice Ministry thanks you! Please contact Jan Lentner for more information 719.371-6825/ [macawma2001@yahoo.com](mailto:macawma2001@yahoo.com).



Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country members and friends enjoy the "I'll Take You Home" Steve Brooks CD Release Concert which was held on Saturday, February 27

## March Calendar of Upcoming Events, Programs & Meetings

~Subject to Change; Consult [www.uuchc.org](http://www.uuchc.org) and/or Weekly Calendar Update emailed on Thursdays~

- 3 Thursday - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/ [pmeredithc@yahoo.com](mailto:pmeredithc@yahoo.com)
- 4 Friday - 11:30am - Palmer Annex: **Men's Fellowship Lunch** - There will be news, views, and thought provoking discussion. Guys bring your sandwich or gourmet repast as you wish. ☎ Contact Steve Galland 830.634-7668/ [sgalland@afgimail.com](mailto:sgalland@afgimail.com)  
2pm - Palmer Annex: "Needles" Group - Church crafting open to all. ☎ Contact Shari Gore 830.367-3142

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Member, *Lucy Silva* is recovering from a car accident at Hilltop Village Nursing & Rehab Center (1400 Hilltop Rd. 830.895-3200) and is accepting visitors.



### March Chalice Table Décor

Thank you to the following members  
decorating the chalice table  
on these Sundays:

- 6 - Jerry Best/Judy Ashcraft**  
**13 - Marie Brown**  
**20 - Mike & Karen Burkett**  
**27 - Sherri Curry**

For more information about Chalice Table décor,  
please contact Shari Gore 830.367-3142.

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- 6 Sunday - 9-9:45am - Palmer Annex: **Adult Forum**  
Discussion of Feb. 15 "Time" Magazine article by Alice Park/London; "A scientist gets the green light to edit the human genome". British scientists have been able to find and correct mutations that can lead to deadly diseases. This work has been done on viable human embryos and therefore, raises many questions as to the ethical advisability of this step in human engineering. ☎ Contact Karen Burkett 830.895-7076/ [m.k.burkett@att.net](mailto:m.k.burkett@att.net)  
10am - Church Sanctuary: Sermon Pastor, Ja Rickard "UU Women, Then and Now": UU women who have made a difference and the problems of women today. ☎ Ja Rickard 262.237-0634/ [jauhle@hotmail.com](mailto:jauhle@hotmail.com)
- 9 Wednesday - 6:30pm - Palmer Annex: **Monthly Board Meeting**. Open to all. ☎ Contact President, Bob Lentner 719.371-6825/ [rwlinthewest@yahoo.com](mailto:rwlinthewest@yahoo.com)
- 10 Thursday - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/ [pmeredithc@yahoo.com](mailto:pmeredithc@yahoo.com)



**Easter is  
Sunday,  
March 27**

- 11 Friday - 1pm - AACOG offices, San Antonio: TXUUJM (Texas UU Justice Ministry) **Transportation Group special interest event**. Bill Moseley (Regional Transportation Director for AACOG) is making a public presentation to the Alamo Senior Advisory Committee (ASAC). For those interested in regional transportation, this is a great opportunity. The ASAC is the advisory committee on matters of importance to seniors in the rural counties and is made up of representatives from each county that AACOG serves. These open, public meetings are held every other month. Mr. Moseley's presentation will address fixed route transportation in small urban areas and rural counties. Some of UUCHC Transportation Study Committee members will be observing this meeting and welcome additional support by interested parties. ☎ Contact Karen Burkett 830.895-7076/ [m.k.burkett@att.net](mailto:m.k.burkett@att.net) for carpool information. (UUCHC group will be leaving from BCFS Transition Center on Main Street, the new building next to the Christian Women's Job Corps, at 11:30am.)



- 13 Sunday - 9-9:45am - Palmer Annex: **Adult Forum**  
Megan Smith, Social Worker at the South Texas Health Care Facility will speak about Veteran's and Social Work Services. ☎ Contact Karen Burkett 830.895-7076/ [m.k.burkett@att.net](mailto:m.k.burkett@att.net)  
10am - Church Sanctuary: Mary K Isaacs to speak; "The Sheltering Walls". Unitarian Universalists find truth everywhere, or strive to. So why do we need church? What makes the church community different from my garden, my kitchen, my bed? Elizabeth Cady Stanton wrote of "solitude of self," saying that every person should grow as strong as possible since we always face the most difficult of passages of life alone. Rumi, on the other hand, said, "This being human

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## ...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3 - Calendar

- 13 Sunday - continued  
is a guest house.” So, do we need a religious community? This is a question we can only delve into together. ☎ Contact Mike Burkett 830.895-7076/  
[m.k.burkett@att.net](mailto:m.k.burkett@att.net)

*Bio: Mary K. Isaacs is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist, lay minister, consultant, and writer. She has written curricula for the Unitarian Universalist Association's Tapestry of Faith series and served as Director of Religious Education for a number of congregations. Isaacs currently preaches, writes, and provides educational consulting services in Austin.*

Christian Area Ministry (CAM) Sunday - Focus is on boxed and canned food items.


 **Daylight Savings Time begins - Spring Ahead**

- 15 Tuesday - 2-4pm - Palmer Annex: **“World Religions” Continuing Series #1** of 6. We will listen to a video about Hinduism and then discuss it. The time of this very successful series has been changed to Tuesday to fit better with people’s schedules. ☎ Marie Brown 830.895-5138/  
[marieuu34@gmail.com](mailto:marieuu34@gmail.com)
- 16 Wednesday - 11am - Palmer Annex: **Women’s Connection** - Church women and their female friends meet for fun, support and then enjoy lunch afterward. ☎ Contact Kay White 830.896-2852/  
[kaywhite201222@gmail.com](mailto:kaywhite201222@gmail.com)
- 17 Thursday - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/  
[pmeredithc@yahoo.com](mailto:pmeredithc@yahoo.com)

 **St. Patrick’s Day**

- 18 Friday - 11:30am - Palmer Annex: **Men’s Fellowship Lunch** - There will be news, views, and thought provoking discussion. Guys bring your sandwich or gourmet repast as you wish. Contact Steve Galland 830.634-7668/  
[sgalland@afgimail.com](mailto:sgalland@afgimail.com)  
2pm - Palmer Annex: “Needles” Group - Church crafting open to all. Contact Shari Gore 830.367-3142
- 20 Sunday - 10am - Church Sanctuary: **Sermon** Pastor, Ja Rickard **“Climate Justice”**: What are we as UU’s doing to help the earth we live on. ☎ Ja Rickard 262.237-0634/  
[jauhle@hotmail.com](mailto:jauhle@hotmail.com)

 **Pot Luck Dinner after the Service**

 **Spring Begins & Palm Sunday**

- 22 Tuesday - 2-4pm - Palmer Annex: **“World Religions” Continuing Series #2** of 6. We will listen to a video about Hinduism and then discuss it. The time of this very successful series has been changed to Tuesday to fit better with people’s schedules. ☎ Marie Brown 830.895-5138/  
[marieuu34@gmail.com](mailto:marieuu34@gmail.com)
- 24 Thursday - 10:30am - Palmer Annex: **S.O.C.S. Committee (Social Justice)/TXUUJM meeting**. Jane Freid will come from San Antonio to speak to us about

filling backpacks for the refugees leaving San Antonio area facilities for their sponsors all over the United States. ☎ Contact Jan Lentner 719.371-6825/  
[macawma2001@yahoo.com](mailto:macawma2001@yahoo.com)

3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/  
[pmeredithc@yahoo.com](mailto:pmeredithc@yahoo.com)

- 26 Saturday - 7-9pm - Palmer Annex: **“Saturday Night at the Movies”** - “Walk, Don’t Run” 1966 movie (1 hour, 53 minutes). When an English businessman (Cary Grant, in his final film performance) arrives in Tokyo, the influx of tourists for the upcoming Olympic Games makes it almost impossible to find lodging. He smooth-talks his way into sharing an apartment with a beautiful British woman (Samantha Eggar) and soon he finds himself playing cupid for her and an American Olympic athlete (Jim Hutton). ☎ Contact Judy Ashcraft 210.326-0084/  
[whodit@hotmail.com](mailto:whodit@hotmail.com).

Updates & additions to March “Hill Country Happenings” may be found on [www.uuchc.org](http://www.uuchc.org) and/or in the weekly calendar updates emailed Thursdays. Also see page 5 for contacts regarding church print & electronic communications. 😊

- 27 Sunday - 9-9:45am - Palmer Annex: **Adult Forum** Social Kerrville Police Spokesperson Officer Juan Trevizo will come provide information about the current police force in our city and answer any questions. Given the current national controversy about police and community about each other this could be an opportunity to explore feelings. ☎ Contact Karen Burkett 830.895-7076/  
[m.k.burkett@att.net](mailto:m.k.burkett@att.net)  
10am - Church Sanctuary: Kathleen Hudson to speak. Subject TBA. ☎ Contact Mike Burkett 830.895-7076/  
[m.k.burkett@att.net](mailto:m.k.burkett@att.net)  
Christian Area Ministry (CAM) Sunday - Focus is on personal products; shampoos, soaps, facial tissues, etc.
- 29 Tuesday - 2-4pm - Palmer Annex: **“World Religions” Continuing Series #3** of 6. We will listen to a video about Hinduism and then discuss it. ☎ Marie Brown 830.895-5138/  
[marieuu34@gmail.com](mailto:marieuu34@gmail.com)

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**March Sunday  
Coffee Hour  
Church Treats  
brought to you by...**

- 6 - Julie Davis
- 14 - Marie Brown
- 21 - Judy Ashcraft
- 27 - Shari Gore

**Thanks for the yummys  
for our tummies!**

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31 Thursday - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☺ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/ [pmeredithc@yahoo.com](mailto:pmeredithc@yahoo.com)

# save the Dates!

## April Events

9 Saturday: Southwest Spring Conference, "Differences that Make a Difference: Multicultural Justice Making Inside and Out;" Wildflower UU Church, Austin, TX  
[www.uasouthernregion.org/swspring2016.html](http://www.uasouthernregion.org/swspring2016.html).

15-17 Heart of Texas Men's Retreat; UBarU Camp & Retreat Center, Kerrville, TX  
<http://ubaru.org/home/Mens-Retreat>

29-May 1 Deep in the Heart Women's Retreat; UBarU Camp & Retreat Center, Kerrville, TX  
<http://ubaru.org/home/Womens-Retreat>



**St. Patrick's Day  
Thursday, March 17**

## Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country Board Members for 2016

**President** Bob Lentner  
719.371-6825/ [rwlinthewest@yahoo.com](mailto:rwlinthewest@yahoo.com)  
**Vice President** Mike Burkett  
830.895-7076/ [m.k.burkett@att.net](mailto:m.k.burkett@att.net)  
**Secretary** Laurie Pesez  
830.895-4764/ [lpesez@stx.rr.com](mailto:lpesez@stx.rr.com)  
**Treasurer** Judy Ashcraft  
210.326-0084/ [whodit@hotmail.com](mailto:whodit@hotmail.com)  
**Past President** Diane McMahon  
830.370-6590/ [dianelm@windstream.com](mailto:dianelm@windstream.com)

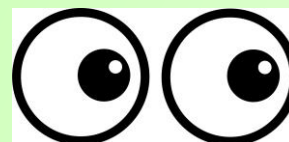
**Service Committee Chair: Mike Burkett**  
Service, Music, Chalice Table, Coffee, Wayside Pulpit, Ministerial Relations committee

**Membership Committee Chair: Ellen Jackson**  
Adult/Youth RE, Child Care, Greeters, Library

**Budget, Finance, Operations & Planning  
Committee Chair: Andy Pesez**  
Budget, Pledging, Fundraising, Property Management & Maintenance, Audits, By-laws, Operational Directives, Long & Short term Planning

**S.O.C.S. (Social/Outreach/Congregational  
Services) Committee Chair: Jan Lentner**  
Social, Women's Connection, Community Care & Outreach, Men's Fellowship Lunch

Electronic Media: Judy Ashcraft  
210.326-0084/ [whodit@hotmail.com](mailto:whodit@hotmail.com)  
 Order of Service: Kevin Hartley  
830.496-2174/ [khartley@windstream.net](mailto:khartley@windstream.net)  
 Newsletter Editor & Head of Information Services:  
Susan Lipp 619.248-0669/ [susan@lipphealth.com](mailto:susan@lipphealth.com)



**Looking  
For...**

...a new or "gently used" washer & dryer for the Parsonage. Ours are currently on their "last legs". If you, or someone you know can help, please contact Kay White 830.896-2852/ [kaywhite201222@gmail.com](mailto:kaywhite201222@gmail.com)