

OUR CHURCH LIFE

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country

1/1/2016

A New Year – A New Look

Changes in Information Release

There are times when changes have to be made. Please bear with us as we adjust to reorganization. We hope to make it easier for you to get the activities and news of the church. Also, make it easier to give news and notices to the Newsletter, Order of Service, Website, and Facebook.

All requests for publication should be presented in writing, either by email or handwritten, to Judy Ashcraft. Judy will make sure that all areas have the same information to eliminate confusion. Now you will only have one person to inform instead of 5.

Thank You.

❖ CHURCH CONTACTS

• **Board of Directors 2016**

President: Bob Lentner
Vice President: Mike Burkett
Secretary: Laurie Pesez
Treasurer: Judy Ashcraft
Past President: Diane McMahon

• Other Key Contacts

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

Membership Committee: Ellen Jackson - Chair (Adult/Youth RE, Child Care, Library,)

Budget, Finance, Operations and Planning Committee: Andy Pesez - Chair (Budget, Pledging, Fundraising, Property Management and Maintenance, Audits, By-laws, Op directives, Long and Short term Planning)

Social/Outreach/Congregational Committee Jan Lentner - Chair (Social, Women's Connection, Community Care, Men's Fellowship Lunch)



NEW MINISTER

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Ja Rickard has been hired as our part-time Minister. Ja will be our first speaker for 2016. Please come and welcome her to our pulpit.

Ja is a graduate of American Public University and holds a BA in Religion. Ja earned her Masters of Divinity from Meadville Lombard Theological School and has ministered in congregations in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Arkansas.

Most recently she had worked with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mountain Home, Arkansas where she had preached, taught, and worked with the Board to help them understand their meaning and mission.

Ja lives with her dog Sophie and their two cats. She enjoys camping, traveling around the country to see new things, and when the weather is not cooperating she spends time reading. Ja has settled into our parsonage and is ready to become a member of our community.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- **January 3 Sunday**

Forum: 9-9:45 in the annex. Topic: Principles and Purposes. "We covenant to affirm and promote the Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty and Justice for all." This is the sixth in this series. The quality of the discussions has been high although the numbers low. Coffee will be served. Facilitated by Marie Brown.

Service: 10-11 am. Looking Forward-Looking Back by Ja Rickard. We welcome Ja to our pulpit! She is our new minister and this is her first sermon.

- **January 4 Monday**

Adult education series: 2-4 pm in the annex. We'll view a movie on the history of Islam. For further info contact Marie Brown or Karen or Mike Burkett.

- **January 6 Wednesday**

The Justice Ministry group will welcome Kathy Rice of Baptist Children and Family Services (BCFS), 1:30 pm in the annex. She will share information about BCFS and their newly opened facility, as well as information she has gathered on the topic of public transportation in Kerrville. All are welcome to join us. For further info: Karen Burkett 895-7076, m.k.burkett@att.net.

- **January 8 Friday**

Needles: a crafting group open to all, meets in the annex, 2nd and 4th Fridays, 2 pm. For further info: Shari Gore, 367-3142.

- **January 10 Sunday**

Forum: 9-9:45 in the annex. Topic: the UU World magazine in the 2015 Winter edition: UUs aid immigrants, offer sanctuary. This article details our Texas churches, including First Church San Antonio, that have courageously supported immigrants during detention and court hearings. Mike Phillips, a member of SA First Church, will additionally talk about the activities there and how we can become involved as we wish.

Service: topic to be announced, by Scottie McIntyre Johnson.

- **January 13 Wednesday**

Board meeting: 6:30 pm in the annex. All are welcome.

- **January 16 Saturday**

Special Movie night: 7 - 9 pm in the annex. We'll view the award-winning movie Selma (2014), a documentary about the 1965 voting rights marches from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. Bring snacks and drinks to share as you wish.

- **January 17 Sunday**

Service: How We Came To Be Where We Are: by Ja Rickard. And, our fund-raising drive for UUSC's Guest At Your Table program begins. Marie Brown will give short talk on the history and importance of this program.

Potluck luncheon after the service in the annex. Please join us.

- **January 20 Wednesday**

The Women's Connection: 11 am in the annex. Women meet 3rd Wednesdays for fun and support. Please join us and go out to lunch afterward. Contact Kay White for more information.

- **January 22 Friday**

Needles: a crafting group open to all, meets in the annex, 2nd and 4th Fridays, 2 pm. For further info: Shari Gore, 367-3142.

- **January 24 Sunday**

Service: topic to be announced: by Eldon Sheffer

- **January 25 Monday**

Book discussion group: UUA Common Read, Mondays 2-4 pm in the annex for 3 to 4 weeks we will be joining UUs across the country reading and discussing the book chosen as The Common Read for 2015-16, Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson. It is an exploration, beautifully told, of the ethical, moral and spiritual questions that we are forced to face when we delve into the lives of those that have been sentenced to die by our justice system. Those guilty of crimes and those wrongfully sentenced are profiled. Mary Jones will be the facilitator. Sign up on the sheet at the back table and buy your book from Mary for \$11.

For more information on The Common Read see uua.org/re/adults/read.

- **January 31 Sunday**

Service: topic to be announced: by Andy Gerhart, new to our pulpit. He is in theological seminary.

Chalice Table / Greeter

Following is the roster for decorating the chalice table and greeting members and guests. If you cannot participate on the Sunday listed, please contact Shari Gore, 367-3142.

- Jan. 3 Betty & Merle Funk
- Jan. 10 Steve & Ann Galland
- Jan. 17 Bill & Selma Gibson
- Jan. 24 Shari Gore
- Jan. 31 June & Kevin Hartley

We are not human because we think. We are human because we care. All true meaning is shared meaning.

Forrest Church (Unitarian Universalist, clergy, author) *Love & Death: My Journey Through The Valley of The Shadow*

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country

Address: 960 Barnett St,
Kerrville TX 78028

Palmer Annex
Address: 96 Barnett

Church phone: 830-792-3626

Webpage: uuchc.org

Check out our church Facebook page.
Email: churchofthehillcountry@uuchc.org

JOIN US!! Every person is an important part of the larger congregation; each of us, contributing, creates a vibrant, powerful whole.

Men's Fellowship Lunch, Needles, Congregational Care, Social Committee, UUCHC Justice Ministry, Women's Connection, Information Services, and more.

We would love to have you. Speak to anyone in our contacts lists, on page one, and they will connect you with the group you are interested in.

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country
960 Barnett St.
Kerrville, TX 78028