

OUR CHURCH LIFE

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



A special congregational meeting will be held April 17 after the service. The meeting's purpose is to inform the congregation of the Board's choice for a new president and a new past president in compliance with our By-Laws. The Board hopes that the congregation will affirm these necessary changes.



UUCHC
Congregational
Care Committee

Do you know of a church member who has had or is about to have surgery? Or, possibly you know of a member who has been in a car accident, is ill or is unable to drive for any reason? The UUCHC Congregational Care Committee, headed by Membership Chair, Ellen Jackson, is here to help.

FROM YOUR MINISTER...

Greetings!

The Democratic Process

Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations are different from other denominational congregations in the fact that we are autonomous congregations. This means that each and every UU congregation is allowed to run their congregation in a manner that suits the congregation rather than having the denomination determine how we should govern ourselves.

Every congregation is different. If you are traveling and visit another congregation on a Sunday morning you will see that every one of them has a different take on how they worship together. Here in Kerrville we have our congregation and also a UU Fellowship and we have different ways of worshiping and governing. You will find that if you visit other congregations this will be the case but in every case you will find that people adhere to the 5th principle which is "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large".

In our congregation we have chosen to elect members to our Board of Directors as have many other congregations. Again, each congregation has determined

How does CCC work? First, Ellen needs to learn of the need and that's where church members help the most. When Ellen receives word that a member of the congregation needs assistance she contacts the party in question to determine what is needed. Then she reaches out to other church members to see if they can fulfill any of these needs.

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Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country
960 Barnett Street
Kerrville, TX 78028-4667
830.792-3626

www.uuchc.org
email: churchofthehillcountry@uuchc.org
Check out our Facebook page

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how this Board will reflect the values of the congregation. I have been a member of a Board that does nothing but write policy. This is accomplished by empowering the committees of the congregation to make decisions that are carefully worked out in a meeting where all of the committee chairs come together, and by listening to the members of the congregation they make determinations as to what the congregation is interested in. If a policy needs to be written, they make a recommendation to the Board.

I have also been a member of a Board that uses this same model but the Committees are represented in the Board meeting and together they work to accomplish the desires of the congregation. In my last congregation, which consisted of 15 members, the Board met once every six months and the Board President was given the duty of running the day to day operations of the congregation. During my time there we elected a Board and I spent months working with them to learn what a Board does and how to do it.

In our congregation our Board runs the day to day operations of the congregation. They listen to input from the committee chairs and they make decisions to keep the congregation running smoothly. Currently our Board does not write policies as they have farmed out the writing of policies to a committee to consist of several Board members, two congregation members and me. I believe this is a great idea which will allow congregational input so that all voices will be heard.

What is so good about policies? UU congregations are always very skeptical about policies. However, without them there is no direction and with every member attempting to move differently, it causes many complications. I believe some direction is necessary so that we can just look up the policy, know what we have decided on and know what direction to take. This will be especially helpful as our congregation continues to grow.

I hope you will take the time to think about what types of policies are important in your part of the congregation and if you are interested in being one of the two congregation members who will help write policies please contact any Board member or me.

With gratitude,

Ja



Julie Davis displays the hat that won her First Place during the Easter Bonnet/Hat Parade on Sunday, March 27

April Calendar of Upcoming Events, Programs & Meetings

-Subject to Change; Consult www.uuchc.org and/or Weekly Calendar Update emailed on Thursdays-

- 1 **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
1pm - Building & Grounds Committee Meeting - All church members and friends welcomed. We will discuss projects for the Church wide Cleanup Day on Saturday April 16. Contact Andy Pesez 214.663-2798/
hpesez@stx.rr.com
- 2 **Sunday** - 9-9:45am - Palmer Annex: **Adult Forum** - Progress update on the transportation study begun by UUCHC and includes other members of the community. This initiative focuses on starting a transportation service in Kerrville. Contact Karen Burkett 830.895-7076/
m.k.burkett@att.net

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April Chalice Table Décor

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

- 3 - Fran Davis
- 10 - Julie Davis & Troy Fannin
- 17 - Steve & Ann Galland
- 24 - Bill & Selma Gibson

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

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- 3 **Sunday** - continued
10am - Church Sanctuary: Sermon Pastor, Ja Rickard "Beloved Community": As members, friends or visitors of this congregation, we come together as a community. Let's explore that community and how we interact within it. ☎ Ja Rickard 262.237-0634/ jauhle@hotmail.com
LAST DAY to sign up to participate in April Circle Suppers.
- 5 **Tuesday** - 2-4pm - Palmer Annex: "World Religions" Continuing Series #4 of 6. After listening to a video regarding an aspect of Hinduism, it is discussed. ☎ Contact Marie Brown 830.895-5138/ marieuu34@gmail.com
- 7 **Thursday** - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/ pmeredithc@yahoo.com
- 8 **Friday** - 2pm - Palmer Annex: "Needles" Group - Church crafting open to all. ☎ Contact Shari Gore 830.367-3142
6pm - "Circle Supper" for April. Find out more and sign up to be a host or a guest by Sunday, April 3 on the special enrollment form on the back table of the sanctuary. ☎ Contact Marie Brown 830.895-5138/ marieuu34@gmail.com
- 9 **Saturday** - 6pm - "Circle Supper" for April. Find out more and sign up to be a host or a guest by Sunday, April 3 on the special enrollment form on the back table of the sanctuary. ☎ Contact Marie Brown 830.895-5138/ marieuu34@gmail.com

- 9 **Saturday** - continued
Southwest Spring Conference, "Differences that Make a Difference: Multicultural Justice Making Inside and Out;" Wildflower UU Church, Austin, TX
www.uuasouthernregion.org/swspring2016.html
- 10 **Sunday** - 9-9:45am - Palmer Annex: **Adult Forum**
Kerrville Police Public Relations Officer Juan Trevizo will provide an overview about the services of this important city department. Discussion is encouraged so come with your questions and concerns. ☎ Contact Marie Brown 830-895-5138/ marieuu34@gmail.com
10am - Church Sanctuary: Alan Conley to speak; "Center of the World?"
Christian Area Ministry (CAM) Sunday - Focus is on boxed and canned food items.



- 12 **Tuesday** - 2-4pm - Palmer Annex: "World Religions" Continuing Series #5 of 6. After listening to a video regarding an aspect of Hinduism, it is discussed. ☎ Contact Marie Brown 830.895-5138/ marieuu34@gmail.com
- 13 **Wednesday** - 6:30pm - Palmer Annex: **Monthly Board Meeting**. Open to all. ☎ Contact Vice President, Mike Burkett 830.895-7076/ m.k.burkett@att.net
- 14 **Thursday** - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/ pmeredithc@yahoo.com
- 15 **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
- 15-17 **Heart of Texas Men's Retreat**: UBarU Camp & Retreat Center, Kerrville, TX
<http://ubaru.org/home/Mens-Retreat>

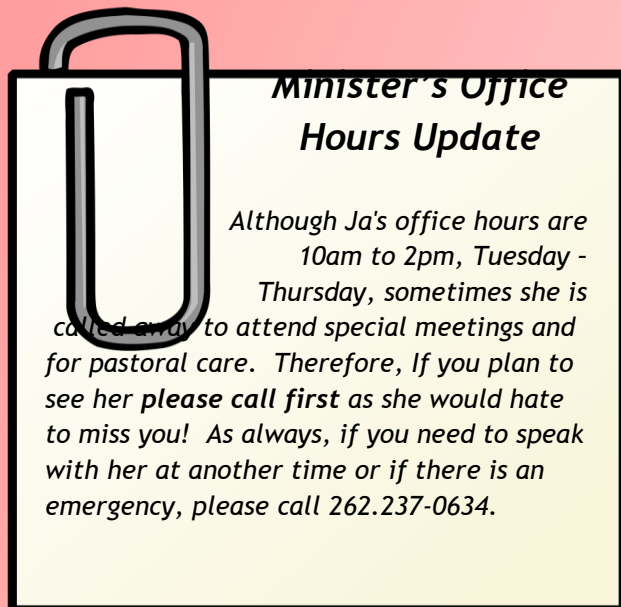
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- 16 **Saturday** - Time TBA - **Church Cleanup Day** ☎
Contact Andy Pesez 214.663-2798/
hpesez@stx.rr.com
- 17 **Sunday** - 10am - Church Sanctuary: Michael Grillo of Shreiner University, topic TBA.

🎯 **Pot Luck Dinner after the Service**

★ **IMPORTANT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER SERVICE!**



- 18 **Monday** - Last Day to Submit items for May newsletter ☎ Contact Susan Lipp 619.248-0669/
susan@lipphealth.com
- 19 **Tuesday** - 2-4pm - Palmer Annex: **"World Religions" Continuing Series #6 of 6.** We will listen to a video about Hinduism and then discuss it. ☎ Contact Marie Brown 830.895-5138/
marieuu34@gmail.com
- 20 **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.com2
- 21 **Thursday** - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/
pmeredithc@yahoo.com
- 22 **Friday** - 2pm - Palmer Annex: **"Needles" Group** - Church crafting open to all. ☎ Contact Shari Gore 830.367-3142

★ **Passover Begins**

🌍 **Earth Day**

- 23 **Saturday** - 7-9pm - Palmer Annex: **"Saturday Night at the Movies"** - "True Grit" 1969 movie (2 hours, 27 minutes). Teenage tomboy, Mattie Ross enlists the help of crusty lawman, Rooster Cogburn, to track down the hired hand who murdered her father. Joining them is Texas Ranger, La Boeuf, who's after the killer for a different crime. Cast: John Wayne, Glen Campbell, Kim Darby, more. Bring treats to share! ☎ Contact Judy Ashcraft 210.326-0084/
whodit@hotmail.com.
- 24 **Sunday** - 9-9:45am - Palmer Annex: **Adult Forum** - Chat with the Minister. In June we will be having a Congregational Meeting. Pastor Ja will facilitate a pre-meeting get together to discuss the ideas, dreams and problems that we would like discussed. Let's get together, converse and then present these ideas to the Board. ☎ Contact Ja Rickard 262.237-0634/
jauhle@hotmail.com
10am - Church Sanctuary: **Sermon Pastor, Ja Rickard "Passover"**: Discover what Passover can teach us about memory, optimism, faith, family, and responsibility. ☎ Ja Rickard 262.237-0634/
jauhle@hotmail.com



- Christian Area Ministry (CAM) **Sunday** - Focus is on personal products; shampoos, soaps, facial tissues, etc.
- 28 **Thursday** - 3:30-5pm - Church Sanctuary: **Choir Practice** ☎ Contact Meredith Hensley 830.522-0802/
pmeredithc@yahoo.com
- 29-May 1 **Deep in the Heart Women's Retreat**; UBarU Camp & Retreat Center, Kerrville, TX
<http://ubaru.org/home/Womens-Retreat>

Updates & additions to the April church newsletter may be found on www.uuchc.org and/or in the weekly calendar updates emailed Thursdays. Also see page 5 for contacts regarding church print & electronic communications. 😊



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

3 - Julie Davis

10 - Karen & Mike Burkett

21 - Susan Lipp

27 - Judy Ashcraft

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

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Examples of items that could be helpful are to:

- pick up a prescription or groceries,
- prepare a meal,
- run errands,
- provide transport to a doctor or therapy,
- perform light household duties such as dusting, taking out trash, vacuuming, and/or
- visiting them in the hospital or care facility.

Ellen believes as a congregation, we are not just willing, but eager to help when one of us is "temporarily out of service". The key to the service is letting Ellen know!



Church Outreach Activities

Thanks to the ♥ and Kindness of Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country members **168 food and toiletry items totalling over 2,000 pounds and \$240 was donated to CAM (Christian Area Ministries) in Kerrville, Texas!**



Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country Board Members for 2016

**Acting President & Vice President
Mike Burkett**

830.895-7076/ m.k.burkett@att.net

Secretary Laurie Pesez

830.895-4764/ lpesez@stx.rr.com

Treasurer Judy Ashcraft

210.326-0084/ whodit@hotmail.com

Past President Diane McMahon

830.370-6590/ 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,
Congregational Care

Budget, Finance, Operations & Planning

Committee Chair: Andy Pesez

Budget, Pledging, Fundraising, Property Management &
Maintenance, Audits, By-laws, Operational Directives,
Long & Short term Planning

Activities & Events Chair: Judy Ashcraft

Social, Women's Connection, Men's Fellowship Lunch,
"Needles", Building Scheduling, Interior Decor

Electronic Media: Judy Ashcraft

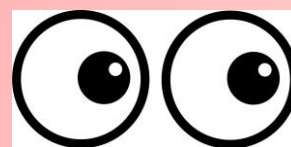
210.326-0084/ whodit@hotmail.com

Order of Service: Kevin Hartley

830.496-2174/ khartley@windstream.net

Newsletter Editor & Head of Information Services:

Susan Lipp 619.248-0669/ 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