



# The Chalice Light

We Nurture. We Learn. We Act.

The Newsletter of the  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Lubbock, Texas  
A Welcoming Congregation

Volume 58, Number 6

March 15, 2015

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## Sunday Morning

Service 11:00AM

Children's and Adult Classes 10:00AM

## Reverend Tom Schmidt, March 29 Service!

### Services

**March 22:** "Ostara Ritual", Charree Mahoney

**March 29:** "Five Smooth Stones",  
Rev. Tom Schmidt (Midland)

### Children's Religious Education

**March 22:**

Cubbies: All kinds of families are for caring

Youth: Bead 7: Rain Falls/Oceans Form

**March 29:**

Cubbies: We need our families

Youth: Bead 8: Life Begins

### Intersections – Adult Religious Exploration

**March 22:** Jesus for UU, Bill Stewart

**March 29:** Practicing Right Relations (Part 2),  
Gay Hedges

### **Information**

The Chalice Light is a publication of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Lubbock, TX. It is published every two weeks. Newsletter Editor is Pat Smith. Send newsletter items to [firstuu@nts-online.net](mailto:firstuu@nts-online.net).

The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Lubbock is a religious community of free minds which supports your free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

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## Sunday Morning Services –

### Details...

**March 22:** “Ostara/Spring Equinox”

Charree Mahoney will be assisted by members of the Elder Grove, a local pagan group. The service will include the exchange of the horn crown and the battle between the Holly King and the Oak King. Please join us in celebrating the balance of day and night and the return of Spring.

**March 29:** “Five Smooth Stones”, Rev. Tom Schmidt (Midland). Utilizing the work of James Luther Adams, Rev. Schmidt will discuss the principles of liberal religion and how they relate to our daily lives through this uniquely Unitarian Universalist perspective.

## Services – Looking Ahead...

**April 5:** “Stewardship”, Stewardship Committee

**April 12:** "Going Green: What is environmental Justice?", Louise Sanders



*Adult Religious Exploration,  
where religion intersects culture,  
science, and politics –*

## Sunday Morning Intersections –

### Details...

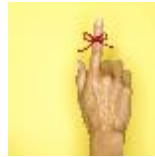
**March 22:** Jesus for UU, Bill Stewart

**March 29:** Practicing Right Relations (Part 2),  
Gay Hedges

## Intersections - Looking Ahead...

**April 5:** *Planning Session*

**April 12:** Friedman's Fables, Wanda Clark



## Mark Your Calendar!

**March 22:** All Committees meet after service

**March 25:** Green Sanctuary Committee, 6:30PM

**March 25:** Safety/RE Committee, 7pm

**March 27:** Drum Circle, 5:30 pm

**March 27:** Social Action Game Night, 6 pm

**March 29:** Next newsletter deadline, 5 PM

**April 5:** Membership committee NO MEETING

**April 5:** Easter Brunch, after service

**April 7:** Sunday Services Committee, 7PM

**April 12:** Social Action Committee, after service

**April 14:** Board of Trustees, 7 PM

**April 19:** Potluck after service

**May 2:** South Plains Food Bank Workday



## Children’s Religious Education

By April Velasquez, Director of Religious Education

It’s hard to believe that Easter is 4 weeks away! When this was brought up in class one child responded "Wow, this year is going by fast". So it is now time to start collecting filled eggs for our egg hunt. RE is asking that each family please send a dozen filled eggs by **April 5, 2015** to be used after service in a traditional egg hunt for all children. Candy is an option but also feel free to use loose change, stickers, fruit snacks, small bouncy balls. The ideas are abundant! Please feel free to contact April Velasquez with any comments or concerns at [lstuu.dre@gmail.com](mailto:lstuu.dre@gmail.com).





## Reverend Tom Schmidt Bio

Rev. Schmidt has been active in ministry for over 10 years, having served churches in California and South Carolina before arriving in Midland, TX three years ago. Rev. Schmidt has an Associate's degree in Biology, a Bachelor's in Literature and a Masters of Divinity, which he credits for shaping his unique theological perspective. Rev. Schmidt is well versed in many different religious traditions including Buddhism, Christianity, Paganism, Taoism, and the teachings of Rumi. He believes at the heart of all the great wisdom traditions is the call to love each other and the whole of creation. It is the goal of the spiritual path, he believes, to work to overcome all obstacles to love and compassion.



## Living Our Values

by Sara McLarty

If you oppose the death penalty or have reservations because it is imposed mostly on the poor, or because there have been many exonerations with DNA evidence, you may want to stand vigil on the days of execution with others at St. John's United Methodist Church, 15th and University. The next execution is scheduled March 18. Randall Mays is the person to be killed by the State of Texas. The local newspaper usually publishes the details the day of the execution.

We recite together prayers and words of healing for all, the person to be executed, the families, the victims of the crime, the guards, and the executioners. This is an interfaith witness, initiated

by People Of Faith Against the Death Penalty. The words spoken will be from several faith traditions in turn, usually chosen by those in actual attendance, but all agreeing to read the same thing. At the March 11 execution of Manuel Vasquez, who killed Juanita Ibarra, the words were from the script devised by UU Rita Chamblin, drawing from many sources.

We gather at the seating area by the church middle doors on its West side. You will see it easily. It is there that we do the reading so we can hear each other. After the reading we line up along University with NO DEATH PENALTY signs with various messages. Signs supplied. And a few chairs. Or bring yours. We keep the vigil for the 30 minutes it takes, we think, for the prisoner to walk to the death chamber, be strapped to the gurney and have the drug injected.

The schedule for the executions will follow. Please notify Sara McLarty if you want to be on the vigil list so that you can be contacted if there is a stay of execution.



## Joint Meeting of Safety and Religious Education Committees

By April Velasquez,  
Director of Religious Education

On Wednesday, **March 25 at 7pm** there will be a meeting of the Safety and RE Committees that will be run jointly by Jennifer Mora, Justin Deurmyer and Adviser Emeritus Sara McLarty. This meeting will be covering information that pertains to the well being of the Religious Education program. We highly encourage parent/guardians and volunteers to attend as this time allows any questions, comments, or concerns to be addressed over the Safety and RE program. If you would like to attend but need to utilize childcare, please contact April Velasquez so that we can make arrangements.





## Poster Needed in RE class

By Sara McLarty

Request for a poster, preferably framed, of the whole Earth, as photographed by the astronauts, needed all year. This is to use for display in the Great Story classes in Children's RE. The Earthrise poster would be good, too



## Green Sanctuary Committee Report

By Louise Sanders

At the February committee meeting, members loaded packets of nectar plant and milkweed seeds to sell for donations at the Tornado Gallery during the March and April 1 Fridays and at the church on Sundays. Several members participated in the March First Friday event and we made over \$80.

On March 4, Louise Sanders and Sue Weninger participated in a conference call with Karen Bramer, the UUA Green Sanctuary Manager. Also on the call were members of the Charlotte, NC and Portland Oregon congregations.

We learned that becoming a Green Sanctuary is about bringing environmental justice and social justice concerns together. It's about addressing the intersection between environmental degradation and human justice. Based on those definitions, I think the action of the West Texas Accountability Project which resulted in the revised city ordinances restricting oil and gas development within the city limits would be a good example of that concept. To find out more about environmental justice as it applies to the Green Sanctuary program, go to this

link:

<http://www.uua.org/environment/sanctuary/justice> .

Another important aspect of becoming a Green Sanctuary is about moving the life of our congregation towards sustainability. Our new, white roof and our recycling efforts are certainly moves in that direction. The next step will be to assess our use of resources and see where we could improve. To check out possible sustainability assessment processes, go to this link:

<http://www.uua.org/environment/sanctuary/steps/291716.shtml> .

The next Green Sanctuary Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30 pm at the church.



## Easter Brunch

By Wanda Clark

The Stewardship Committee would like to invite you to join in our celebratory Pancake Brunch on April 5. This is to mark the conclusion of our cottage meetings pledge program and to thank everyone for your generous participation and support. So please mark your calendars and plan to join us for a family meal after the service on Easter Sunday April 5.



## Spring is a Good Time of Year for the Church Auction

By Patsy Malin

I repeat:

As the weather brings snow and moisture to Lubbock, spring peaks out of the ground, trees bloom. The "Merry Month of May" is perfect for offerings – your best goodies and services, your get-togethers and dinners. Save those dollars too, so we

can plant a wildly blooming, fun, and celebratory fundraiser.



## Family Fun Night

By Louise Sanders

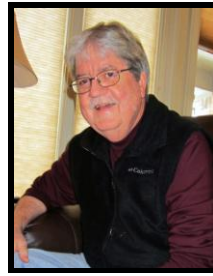
Sponsored by the Social Action Committee, Family Fun night this month will be held on Friday, March 27 from 6-9 pm at the church. Bring a snack to share and your favorite beverage. There will be pizza. Come one, come all!

We will view the PBS home video *The Incredible Journey of the Butterflies* about the monarch's journey of over 2000 miles from Canada to Mexico. The movie is about an hour long, leaving lots of time for fun and games afterwards.

We will have two Social Justice actions at this meeting:

1. We will collect empty medicine bottles for the Malawi Project. So often in the small rural hospitals medicine is dispensed into small torn pieces of newspaper for transportation to village homes. Then where to put them? Where will they be safe? Where will they be out of reach of children? Where will they stay clean? We can re-purpose our old medicine bottles by cleaning off the labels and glue and sending them to Malawi. This will become an ongoing project. Go to this link to find out more about the project: <http://malawiproject.org/>
2. We will write letters urging the Lubbock City Council to approve a bus route from the bus station in downtown Lubbock to the DMV which has been moved out towards the airport. The fact that there is no public transportation to the new location makes it difficult for many of our citizens to get state issued IDs which are necessary for voting and lots of other important life tasks.

We always have fun at this community building event. Come on! Learn about butterflies and play some games. Hope to see you there.



## Celebration of Life

By Sarah Mulkey

You are invited to a *Celebration of Life* service for Rob Mulkey on Saturday, April 11th, at 1:00PM, here at First UU.



## SWUUW Conference

By Pat Smith

The Southwest UU Women held their annual conference March 6-8 in San Marcos. The Comal County UU Society in New Braunfels and the San Marcos UU Fellowship hosted. The event was an opportunity to reconnect with other UUs and hear from experts on a variety of topics. I attended with Nancy Martin, a former member of our church, who now lives in Austin.

The keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Ann Parker, recently retired President of Starr King School for the Ministry. She has written several books and focused her two keynote addresses on her book "Saving Paradise", which is about early Christianity.

One workshop I attended was "From Environmental Justice to Climate Justice", led by Dr. Dianne Rahm, Texas State University. Another was "Finding Compassion in Our World (Starting with Ourselves)", led by Dr. Erin Flynn, who teaches at a high school in Wimberley. This turned out to be about Step 3 in the Book by Karen Armstrong "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life". Our church has had several sermons and Intersections on this book in the last few years.

Host congregations are helped financially by the SWUUW Board, and 70% of the profits from the

conference are donated directly to a local charity, chosen by the host congregation. This might be something for us to consider!

Besides the annual conference, SWUW also has a fall and spring retreat. More information can be found at <http://www.swuuw.org/>



## Online Store for Coffee and more!

By Jan Hardin, Office Manager

*Your purchase raises 25% profits for First UU!*  
Enjoy delicious, fairly-traded products while supporting your church and small-scale farmers across the world. Together we can create stronger local communities, a more just food system, and a healthier planet.

We have an online store where far-away friends and family can purchase items to be sent directly to their homes. Shipping is free for orders \$75 or more! Send friends to shop at:

<http://fundraiser.equalexchange.coop/?fundraiser=FR1390W>



## A Little UU History

By the UU Sunday Services Team

To fill in details, feel free to Google these historic UU ancestors.

**Dorothea Dix:** Famous for her work in prison reform, superintendent of women nurses during Civil War; a pioneer in the field of mental health.

**May Sarton:** Poet, novelist, essayist, lecturer, and writer. Author of 12 volumes of poetry, 16 novels, and five books of nonfiction.



## Buddhist Weekly Class Schedule

By Chondzin, Resident Buddhist Nun

**Tuesdays** –7:00PM – 8:00PM. Topics change.  
Please see website.

**Thursdays** - noon time meditation at HWY 108 on 50th just west of Quaker.  
12:15 - 12:45. \$5

**Thursdays** 6:30PM – 7:30PM.

**Sunday Mornings** – Prayers for World Peace, 10:30-11:45, "inspiring Solutions for Difficult Times" - a series on this topic. Donation.

**Sunday Afternoons** - 4:00-5:00pm.

**Weekday Mornings** – Meditation and Buddhist Prayers, 7:30AM - 8:30AM

**Location:** Bodhichitta Kadampa Buddhist Center 6701 Aberdeen, Avenue, No. 4, one block SW of Slide and the Loop (behind Cardinals), right near Hobby Lobby.

**Cost:** \$10 per class (\$5 for students or seniors of limited income). Monthly Saturday courses are \$20.

**Details** at our beautiful website

[meditationinlubbock.org](http://meditationinlubbock.org)



## Interfaith Dialogue 2014 – 2015

Since February 1985, Lubbock Interfaith Dialogue has met for brown bag lunch at noon on the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month (except for 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in December) at St. John's United Methodist Church, 15<sup>th</sup> Street and University Avenue. Please

join us as we find unity in the sharing of our diverse perspectives on many topics. For further information, contact Mary Vines, 799-2494.

- March 24 Remedies for Relating with Dogmatism, Dr. Stacy Patty
- April 28 U.S. Income Inequality: Religious Reaction, Dr. Ed George
- May 26 Review of *Buddha's Brain*, Dr. Maribeth Dennis
- June 23 Who is Jesus: Abrahamic Faith Perspectives, Dr. Clarke Cochran
- July 28 Jainism
- August 25 Diversity/Freedom in a Muslim Country, Atilla Hafizoglu



## Needs and Gifts Exchange

Need something or want to give away something? Do you have something you think the church could use? Or do you need something that the church has but is not using? If so, contact the office. Let's take advantage of each other's generosity! Information will be posted on the bulletin board. Please bring your donations to the church office.



## Like Us on Facebook

First UU is now on Facebook. Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Unitarian-Universalist-Church-of-Lubbock/111666728872543> and like us to get church updates and more.



## Ongoing Church Activities



**Board Meeting:** Meets the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00PM.



**Children's Religious Education Committee:** Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:00PM.



**Green Sanctuary Committee:** Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM.



**Membership Committee:** Meets the first Sunday of the month following the service. *Will not meet the first Sunday in April.*



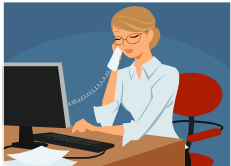
**Safety Committee:** Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 PM.



**Social Action Committee:** Meets the second Sunday of the month following the service and the last Friday of each month at 6 PM



**Sunday Services Committee:** monthly meetings at the church at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month



**Church Office Hours:** MWF - 1:00PM – 3:00PM  
TTh – 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM



## Board Members

President	Richard Hopson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Gay Hedges
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Laura Deurmyer
Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Wanda Clark
Trustee I	Jennifer Mora
Trustee II	Ariel Purkeypile



## Committee Contacts

Building	Richard Hopson
"Artist in Residence"	William Bengé
Grounds	<i>Chairman - Open</i>
"Academic Advisor"	Murray Coulter
Green Sanctuary	Louise Sanders, Laura and Justin Deurmyer, Jackie Driskill, Patsy Malin, Linda McGann, Sue Weninger
Membership	Judy Brown, Wanda Clark, Gay Hedges, Linda McGann
Potluck	<i>Open</i>
Recycling Team	Wanda Clark, Linda McGann
Religious Education	Justin Deurmyer,

Safety  
Social Action

Stewardship

Sunday Services

UU Tunes/  
Music Team

Sara McLarty  
Jennifer Mora  
Gay Hedges, Laura Deurmyer, Linda McGann  
Laura Deurmyer,  
Gay Hedges, Jennifer Mora  
Rita Chamblin,  
Wanda Clark,  
Barbara Holder,  
Pat Smith  
Wanda Clark,  
Justin Deurmyer,  
Kristina Mitchell,  
Ariel Purkeypile,  
Noel Ramirez,



## Our Vision

We are Lubbock's leader in liberal religion, spiritual exploration, and rational inquiry.



## Our Mission

We nurture. We learn. We act.



*All noble enthusiasms pass through a feverish stage, and grow wiser and more serene.*

**William Ellery Channing,  
19th century Unitarian**