

February 2012



All Souls News

*A newsletter for the members and friends of All Souls
Unitarian Universalist Church of Shreveport, Louisiana*

9449 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106 ♦ (318) 868-3313 ♦ FAX (318) 868-9030

February Services at 11:00 a.m.

Nursery care is available from 10:45 a.m.

Children and youth join us in the Sanctuary each Sunday before they are dismissed to class.

February 5th - Rev. Barbara Jarrell is in the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Clay Walker and Janet Hennigan **Flowers: Janet Hennigan**

February 12^h - "Companions for the Journey" – Our quarterly series featuring members of All Souls telling the stories of the journeys that brought them to All Souls, and the reasons they stay. This morning, we will hear from Ken Peterson, Danette Moore and Carmen Cambre.

Board Persons of the Day: John Ratcliff and Terry McNeil **Flowers: Open—Your Name Here?**

February 19th - "Inspired by the World" – Children, youth and adults of All Souls present a celebration of our Third Source, "Wisdom from the world's religions, which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life."

Board Persons of the Day: Betty G. Parent and Susan Bettinger **Flowers/Decorations: The Children of All Souls**

February 26th - Rev. Barbara Jarrell returns to the pulpit this morning.

Board Persons of the Day: Claudia Harris and Virginia Villarreal **Flowers: Open**

Please check the 2012 chart in the hallway to sign up for Sanctuary Flowers, or call the office at 318-868-3313..

News From the Membership Committee

The next information session will be held on February 26, immediately following the service. These meetings are co-facilitated by the Membership Committee and the staff and are tailored to visitors and guests that would like more information on Unitarian Universalism, the activities of and possible areas of involvement in All Souls, and membership process. These meetings are an excellent way to gain a better feel for the suitability of the church in meeting one's spiritual needs. Questions are answered and spiritual journeys are shared in a safe and loving environment. If you have any questions regarding membership at All Souls, please see me at church or call me at home at 318-686-3151.

[Submitted by Ron Thurston, Membership Chairman]

2nd—5th Grade World Religions Service Project

As part of their pillar on World Religions, the 2nd-5th Grade class is looking at the tradition of service as it exists in a number of the world's religions as well as our own. Part of the curriculum is to come up with a service project for their class, and they had the choice of doing something to help the church, the wider local community, or the wider world.

The class decided to have a cookie sale, which will begin Sunday, February 5th and continue February 12th and 19th. They decided that they wanted to help close to home AND far away, so half their earnings will go toward the erosion abatement project here at the church, and half will go to Heifer International to buy a gift of their choosing for a village in another part of the world. So if you smell freshly-baked cookies in the hallway, **GIVE IN to temptation**, knowing you are doing the work of peace and justice in the world! The 2nd-5th Grade class and their teachers, **Rovena Windsor and Eric First**, thank you very much!

- Submitted by Susan Caldwell, Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Office Hours - Monday: Office Closed
Church Website: www.allsoulsuushreveport.org

Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Office email: office@allsoulsuushreveport.org



Board President

Clay Walker (318-221-4975)

Minister

Barbara Jarrell
318-868-3313 – Church Office
minister@allsoulsuushreveport.org

Director of Religious Education (DRE)

Susan Caldwell (318-868-3313,
or 318-465-3427 cell)
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Building & Grounds

Betty Gorey Parent
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Caring Connection

Susan Bettinger (318-868-0863)

Children/Youth Religious Education Contact

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Membership Growth

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Social Justice Team

OPEN

Welcoming Congregation

Clay Walker (318-221-4975)
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Raydra Hall (318-294-7071)
raydra@gmail.com

Worship

Barbara Jarrell (318-797-1957)

Youth Advisor

Steve Caldwell (318-752-2805)
steve.caldwell@barksdale.af.mil
(Adult Facilitator)

*We are a Deliberately
Diverse Community*

Volunteer of the Month

Pamela Holt

The word that comes to mind with February's Volunteer of the Month is **Success**. Pam Holt has been chosen for her continuing service to the Silent Auction. She has continued to build upon her previous work and her vision has again proven financially successful from putting together a great committee to the murder mystery. We thank you, Pam, for all your hard work.

Submitted by Rovena Windsor

Erosion Report from Patrick Early, Building and Grounds Committee

Several church members including John Allen, Patrick Early, John Ratcliff, Amanda Lawrence, Terry McNeil, Barbara Jarrell, Susan Caldwell and other interested church members met with Justin Earnest, Civil Engineer to discuss the erosion problem behind the sanctuary. Justin's observations and suggestions are voluntary and were offered at no charge. The following is a summary of ideas Justin shared with us.

Justin thinks that the problem where the sidewalk has collapsed into a deep gully, can be addressed immediately, though temporarily, to arrest further rapid erosion. The top of the gully could be stabilized using cement in gunny sacks to reinforce it. He does not think the wall of the sanctuary to be in danger of eminent damage, but timely action should be taken to stop the loss of soil that directly or indirectly supports the sanctuary building.

He pointed out that the present contour of the soil near the sanctuary tends to funnel water down to the head of the gully next to the building. A longer term solution to address the sidewalk collapse and to stop the rapid erosion of soil could involve, re-routing the water that runs down the East sanctuary wall past the gully to the less steeply sloped area behind the glass wall or onto the hillside re-shaped and engineered to slow water velocity and spread the flow across the slope. A more permanent solution he thinks should involve the reshaping of the hill side from the new gully over to and including the other big gully that has been partially filled with wood and shrub debris, extending to the near end of the patio and the sidewalk by the sanctuary. By moving soil from the higher ground between the gullies, into the gullies and lowering the soil next to the sanctuary, some water on that side can then run downhill in a more controlled less eroding way. Using existing soil to fill in where needed will save money by lessening the need for soil to be trucked in. The long term solution could involve terracing as part of the soil moving and reshaping operation.

Justin also recommended removal of the gutters above the sidewalk along the east side of the sanctuary because they are uncleanable and to the extent they do work, serve to concentrate water at one point adding to the water velocity problem that causes soil loss. Another beneficial action to protect the building and patio might be to cut down certain trees whose eventual death and uncontrolled falling over could pull out their root balls exposing a new large area to erosion and in one case, undermine or break up part of the patio.

Justin looked at church foundation blueprints and could see no pilings or columns that serve as anchors for the foundation. He also concluded that dump trucks could not travel across the patio in back without damaging it. He does think that a small back hoe or a Kubota type earth mover could cross the patio with little risk of damage. Justin also mentioned that he thought landscape fabric could be used to help stop or prevent erosion especially after earth moving operations had been performed.

From the Minister



In faith communities of every kind, people are trying to decipher the changes that are taking place within those communities with the inevitable movement from one generation's understanding, strengths, and personality to another's. Across the religious spectrum leaders are meeting in hopes that they might effectively prepare for the future and keep their traditions vibrant and relevant. In that regard our tradition is no different. As we sift through what commissioned studies and statistics we may gather, we eventually come back to the necessity of both letting go of some things we have loved and valued and letting in some things that are unfamiliar but burgeoning with potential.

Our congregation was started by individuals from the "Greatest Generation," a generation whose priorities were building and commitment, some of whom mortgaged their homes to construct our first church building and insure a future for liberal religion in this city. From their shadow sprung the "Boomers" who were idealists and put their energy into growing civil rights and women's rights. Boomers, who asked questions and re-envisioned the possibilities, moved us into this building. Since then have come the Gen Xers (who don't like that name) who are pragmatic and entrepreneurial but not so much "joiners". Nevertheless we have been well-served by those hard working and energetic Gen Xers who have elected to join us. On their heels are the Millennials who seem to be community oriented and civic minded but who also question existing organizations. They, too, step up and shine when given the chance. Though the lines between one generation and another are not so sharply drawn in our community, and the work that has been and will be done is shared by all, no doubt as the opportunities arise we will ultimately see great things attributed to the latter two groups just as the two former.

As most of you know, we recently had a significant erosion event just north of the sanctuary. The very land around us has reminded us by its shifting that there is no such thing as staying the same. We are ever on new ground... perpetually in new times and at the start of what is to follow. The most successful journeys wind up being a matter of simply taking the next right step or doing the next right thing, being present where we are in the moment with eyes looking forward rather than behind.

I invite you to consider these words from David Bumbaugh, Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Church in Summit, New Jersey that were part of our candlelight service:

"The world belongs to those who can set out on long journeys, leaving behind familiar places and comfortable conventions, searching for that which is of ultimate significance. The world belongs to the fresh and young of whatever age who are willing to embrace the strange and novel world of tomorrow, and to those wise enough to know that the future always exists among us, waiting to disclose itself to those willing to see."

These journeys are seldom physical (though certainly some are). Most often the pilgrimages that are required of us by our own maturing awakening natures are of spirit, heart, and mind. The places to be left behind may well be points of view. The comfortable conventions to let go—the assumptions we make about life, the world as we have known it and our place in it. As Unitarian Universalists we are challenged to live with the paradox of finding consistency in that which is ever in transition. To stay fresh and young we must be solid and fluid at the same time—stable and adaptive, rooted/grounded in a history of principles with branches that reach to the open sky and dance with the wind.

While the willingness to see may require keeping our eyes open in painfully bright light or excruciatingly dark times, most of the time it asks simply that we look more deeply into what is before us—face our challenges with courage and compassion.

Someone shared with me a quote that immediately meant a great deal to me. My prayer is to internalize both the words and the sentiment and grow into them more with each passing day. I leave them with you now along with my love and my prayers that our congregation may continue to live more fully into its promise.

"I swear I will not dishonor my soul with hatred, but offer myself humbly as a guardian of nature, as a healer of misery, as a messenger of wonder, as an architect of peace...."

From a School Prayer by Diane Ackerman

Yours in ever evolving faith,

Barbara



Corner Office with a NEW View

Religious Education

By Susan Caldwell,
Director of Lifespan Religious Education

En Febrero, únete a nosotros para las clases de Español con Virginia Villarreal, en la preparación de la Asamblea General de Justicia de este verano en Phoenix, Arizona.

True Confession Time: I did that through the power of Google Translate, but here is what it said: In February, join us for **Spanish classes with Virginia Villarreal**, in preparation for the **Justice General Assembly** this summer in Phoenix, Arizona. Whether you plan to attend GA or not, take this opportunity to further broaden your horizons in our increasingly global community. The class will meet on twelve Tuesday evenings, February 7th – May 22nd. The class will not meet on Feb. 21st, March 20th or April 17th because of the Board meetings.

World Religions in the RE Wing: In January, we began our pillar on World Religions, the Third Source of Unitarian Universalism (“Wisdom from the world’s religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life”). Although ours is a proud and historic tradition in its own right and not simply, “That church with all the religions,” we do indeed have much to learn from other faiths. The stories and teachings of other paths are often keys to a better understanding of our own, and the lessons our children learn during this pillar are always tied back to our Unitarian Universalist Principles. Please thank this pillar’s teachers: **Robin Drury** in our PreK/K-1 Class, **Rovena Windsor and Eric First** in the 2nd-5th Grade Class, and **Steve Caldwell**, currently teaching a combined Middle School and High School Group.

Adults had their own opportunity to learn about the religions of the world, too, by attending **World Religion Day** on January 22nd at the Highland Center. I was gratified to see so many attending from All Souls, and so many who came to volunteer. Please see the article in this newsletter.

I have so many people to thank for all they’ve done for the Religious Education program and the entire church throughout this past pillar and the holiday season, particularly our talented and dedicated RE Co-Chairs **Audrey Allen** and **Cherrie Groves**, who also taught in the fall, along with **Raydra Hall, Steve Caldwell** and **Pam Carlisle**. As Audrey takes a break for awhile, I am grateful to Cherrie for staying on as chair, and to all the volunteers who are the village that helps to teach and nurture the children and youth of All Souls.

The All-Ages Holiday Party was a big success, thanks to a number of people: **Pam Holt** for the idea, materials and expertise for making the beautiful Hmsas, or “Hands of Fatima”, **Rovena and Boogie Windsor** for supplying the cookies and some of the decorating supplies for the cookie table, and **Elysse, Stuart, Mac and Annalyse Orchard** for helping out at the cookie table and with the dreidel game. **Elizabeth Just** brought the idea and supplies for the Edible Christmas Trees, and **Pamela Raintree** brought the ornaments that were decorated and used as gift tags for our Angel Tree gifts. Helping with our Angel Tree organizing and giftwrapping this year were **Ron Thurston, Pam Raintree, Pam and Rick Carlisle, Brad Seidel, Rena Reisman, Betty Parent, Janet Hennigan, Maryanne Cummings, Carol Graywing, and Eleanora Lawrence**. And once again, **Amanda Lawrence** organized the Cookie Swap as a fundraiser for the playground. Thanks to Amanda and to all the wonderful bakers who helped to make that elegantly simple fundraiser another delicious success!

And speaking of the playground, after a series of successful fundraisers, the playground committee has made the first of the needed repairs, replacing the cross beam supporting the tire swing. Please be sure and thank **J.L. and Halen Hall, Ken Peterson, Abbas Moussaoui, Eric and Sam First, John Allen, Ron Thurston, and Joshua Lawrence** for all their hard work on that project, and **Amanda Lawrence** and her Dad, Bruce Bethell (you can thank him next time he visits!), for bringing food for the hungry workers.

The congregation once again stepped up to make Christmas happen for the 30 children of Community Support. Thanks so much to all of you who bought presents for the children. The profusion of boxes and bikes that were loaded into the two vans for that organization were beautiful to behold, and just one more testament to the generous spirit of this congregation.

The Free and Responsible Search: Adult Enrichment Opportunities

Great Questions of Life Group (formerly Eastern Religions) is reading *Einstein's God* by Krista Tippett.

Ms. Tippett interviews James Moore, biographer of Charles Darwin. Mr. Moore quotes Darwin as saying "we are all netted together." "It's more humble and I believe true to see us as created from the animals." And for Darwin, Mr. Moore states that isn't to reduce human beings. It's to raise everything that grew on the genealogical tree, even the branches that fall off, the things that go extinct. They fall to the earth and they form the soil in which others grow. It's a wonderful vision of the richness of organic nature and the unity of life. Darwin wasn't a vegetarian but his vision of us all being netted together- the human races as one family and all of life as part of the great tree of life whose creator, through the laws of nature, is God - that is Darwin's way of looking at the world.

Basic Conversational Spanish

12 Week Course

UUA President Rev. Peter Morales has recommended that Unitarian Universalists learn Spanish in preparation for this summer's Justice General Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona, June 20th - 24th. Whether you plan to attend GA or not, take this opportunity to broaden your linguistic and cultural horizons!

Instructor: Virginia Villarreal

Date: Tuesdays, beginning February 7th, 2012

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Book: Barron's *Learn Spanish the Fast and Fun Way*, 3rd Edition

Suggested Donation to All Souls : \$30.00 for the 12 week course; \$12.50 for the Book.

No one turned away - do NOT let money be a reason for not taking this course. On the other hand, if you are able to fund more than one book, you are welcome to do so.

Once you sign up, please write a separate check payable to All Souls UU Church, Memo: Spanish Books. We will order the books from Amazon. If you wish, you may order your own book from Amazon.com. Be sure and go through the Amazon Vendor Partnership Window on the [church's website](#), so that the church gets a percentage.

Don't Delay!!! Sign up today!!!

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

February 12th - Valentine's Day Gift and Bake Sale

Please help make this event a success by donating baked goods and gifts that could be a Valentine's Day present. And come and buy some great stuff!!\

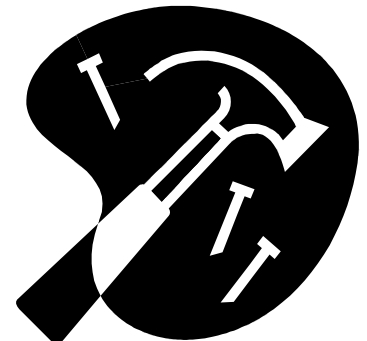
March 17 Spring Sale

We are planning a spring sale, featuring lawn and garden supplies and sporting goods, as well as plants. As you do your spring cleaning, look for items that you might want to donate and contact **Elizabeth Just**, elizjust2003@yahoo.com, 318-797-3435 or **Kathy Osuch**, kjosuch@aol.com, 318-861-6729, to let us know and for help to get your items to the church.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS THANKS & REMINDER

Betty Gorey Parent would like to extend a warm thanks to all who have helped out during the past few Building and Grounds Workdays. The church is looking great! Don't forget we'll have yet another workday on **Saturday, February 4**, beginning at 9:00 a.m., until not sure, to address the erosion, and the regular work day **Saturday, February 11**, 9am-1 pm.

We can always use more hands!



Current Covenant Group Listing

You do not have to be a member of All Souls to join a covenant group or take a class. We hope that through your participation, you will make a close circle of friends that you will look forward to seeing at Sunday services and other All Souls events.

Earth-Based Spirituality Group For more information, contact Rovena Windsor, 286-5315 or rovena@hughes.net

Great Questions of Life (formerly Eastern Religions) Covenant Group— a book based discussion group focused on philosophy, ethics, world theology, spirituality. Meets Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Hazel Martin, group facilitator, 869-2290. Currently reading *Einstein's God* by K. Tippett.

First Friday Film Group Meets the first Friday of each month. All movie buffs welcome! Contact John Allen, cell: 318-525-7806.

Hiking Group Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Susan Bettinger, 868-0863, to schedule and plan future hikes.

Men's Dinner Group (former lunch group) Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at Zocolo Restaurant, Shreveport. Open to any men from the church. Contact Roger Christian, 347-7083.

Vocal And Instrumental Ensemble This group meets at various members' homes. Call Bob Jordan, 861-0167, for times and location.

Women's Dinner Group Open and welcoming to ALL WOMEN of the church, bring your own take out/brown bag and meet at the church social hall on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. To get on the email notice list, call Sharon DeCarlo, 869-4415, sdecarlo@mindspring.com.

Young Adult Group For more information, contact Jennifer-Kaye Smith at 528-8748 or Noah Wagstaff at 797-1957. On Facebook, check out "All Souls UU Young Adults."

Ongoing Groups, Organizations and Activities

The Choir of All Souls

The choir usually rehearses on Wednesdays and Sundays at 5:30 p.m. However, because schedules are changeable, please call Barbara at 797-1957 if planning to come for the first time.

Meditation Group

Sitting Buddhist meditation, free of charge and open to all. Newcomers welcome. Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. at the church. Larry Androes, 221-6833.

Upcoming Denominational Events

Upcoming Denominational Events

EVERYTHING IS HOLY!

Let this music fill your soul. Get deeper spirituality through the magical music of Peter Mayer, writer of such favorites as Blue Boat Home and Everything is Holy Now. Peter Mayer will present Saturday morning, give a workshop Saturday afternoon and a concert Saturday evening. If you can't come for the entire event, tickets are on sale for his Saturday evening concert. Find out more at www.swuuc.org. Held **February 10-12, 2012**, at Holiday Inn Express, N. Dallas, Texas.

The Allies for Racial Equality present:

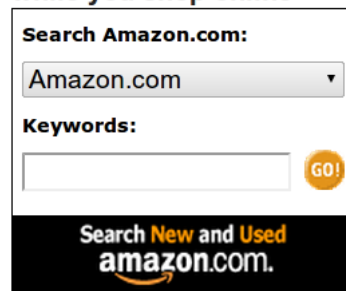
Colonization, Privilege, and Resistance February 17-20, 2012

First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, Ft. Worth, TX 76112 This annual conference will offer UUs who identify as white the opportunity to develop their anti-racist and anti-oppressive analysis and practice. Whether this will be your first or fifteenth anti-racist conference, we will provide you an opportunity to learn, grow and explore how you can turn your commitment into action. For more information, go to:

<https://sites.google.com/site/uualliesre/news-and-events/2012-annual-conference>

Note: If you want more details on upcoming denominational events and trends beyond this newsletter article, I can email you a copy of my monthly denominational affairs report that I provide to the board and council members. If you are interested in receiving this report, please email me at stevecaldwell@bellsouth.net.

Raise money for All Souls while you shop online



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To help All Souls with our ministry and community outreach, we have created online vendor partnerships with iGive and Amazon.com. The partnership links will provide you with the convenience of online shopping when buying gifts for your loved ones and also help raise money for All Souls. Go to our website, scroll down and find the Amazon Vendor Partnership Window.

[Submitted by Steve Caldwell, All Souls Denominational Affairs Committee Member]

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

February 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 RE Team Virtual Meeting	2	3	4 10:30 a.m. Meditation 9:00—Until Erosion Abatement B&G Day 3:00 Earth-Based Spirituality
5 11:00 a.m. Worship 12:30—Until (If needed) Erosion Abatement B&G Day		7 7:00 Great Questions 6:00—7:30 Spanish	8 11:30 Brown Bag	9 6:00 Worship Team	10 6:00—9:00 p.m. Kaye Lindauer Workshop	11 9:00 am.—1:00pm Building and Grounds Work Day 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Kaye Lindauer Workshop 10:30 a.m. Meditation
12 9:30 Valentine's Day Bake and Gift Sale 11:00 a.m. Worship	13	14 6:00—7:30 Spanish 7:00 Great Questions	15 11:30 Brown Bag	16	17	18 10:30 a.m. Meditation 3:00 p.m. Earth- Based Spirituality
19 11:00 a.m. Worship Highland Parade	20	21 6:00 Board and Council 7:00 Great Questions	22 11:30 Brown Bag	23	24	25 10:30 a.m. Meditation
26 11:00 a.m. Worship 12:30 Informa- tion Session	27	28 6:00—7:30 Spanish 7:00 Great Questions	29 11:30 Brown Bag			

Great News from the Finance Committee

Submitted by Laurie Lyons

The church has three pieces of good news regarding our financial situation. The first is that on December 11, 2011 the congregation approved a **balanced budget for 2012** based on actual pledges to date and about \$3,180 for pledges we safely assumed would be forthcoming from members who had not yet responded to the pledge drive. The pledge drive has now been completed and we have exceeded (although barely) the budgeted pledge income (we budgeted \$159,526 in pledge income and have received pledges of \$161,836 for 2012). We substantially **increased pledges** from \$142,252 for 2011 to \$161,836 for 2012, an increase of 14%. We received 94.8% of the pledged income on 2011 pledges which is slightly more than our normal collection rate. We are grateful to Robert Smith and his team for their work and tremendous success on the pledge drive!

The second piece of good news is that our mortgage **interest rate will be reduced** from 6.56% to 3.5%. The one-time cost of the change is \$2,903, but we will save \$2,568 per year for the 7 years remaining on the loan. Over the remainder of the loan we will save net (after paying the fee) \$14,000.

Lastly, **John Ratcliff has generously contributed \$5,000**, which is in addition to his annual pledge, **to begin an endowment fund**. We have wanted to start an endowment fund for years, and John has now made it possible. All are welcome to contribute to the fund, the details of which will be worked out within the next couple of months. Once the level reaches \$10,000 the UUA will be able to manage the fund in conjunction with other UU church endowment funds. We will report more in the future about this fund. In the meantime, Thank You John!!

World Religion Day Thanks

The 13th annual celebration of World Religion Day has come and gone, and each year I am gratified to see the increasing participation and enthusiasm of All Souls members at this event. I have tried to thank each one of you personally, and although I live in fear of leaving any of you out, I'm willing to risk it:

Special thanks to **Ron Thurston, Janet Hennigan** and **John Girard** for helping out with Saturday set-up, and to **Ron and John** for coming back to help on Sunday, along with **Renee Boswell, Jennifer LeMarte, Kathy Osuch, Sam Adams, Maryanne Cummings, Richard Denton, and Pam Raintree**. Thanks also, to my "3rd child," **Sam Ritter**, an All Souls "member at heart" who may even make it to a service one of these days. I'm grateful to **Laurie Lyons** and **Richard Denton** for providing the delicious hummus and the lavender cookies for our table. Many thanks to **Mike Diaczynsky**, an All Souls member who does double duty at the event in his roles as High Priest of the Covenant of the Pentacle Wiccan Church and as coordinator of the Interfaith Café. As always, our own minister, **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** did us proud, speaking on a lively panel on Interfaith Marriage, and also leading our choir, which was very well-received. Thanks to all the choir members who put extra care into preparing the pieces we performed there: **Pam Carlisle, Danette Moore, Sam Adams, Virginia Villarreal, Maryanne Cummings, Terry McNeil, Gail Burt, Pamela Raintree, Rick Carlisle, Phil Boswell and Richard Denton**. Oh, and I would never forget **Joshua Pepper**, whose wonderful accompaniment adds so much to our choir performances.

I also want to give special mention and thanks to our good friend, **Rev. Betty Grace McCollum**, UU minister and Southern Arkansas University professor, who for several years has brought a large group of students from her World Religions class, and this year also served as a moderator for one of our panel discussions.

In addition to all the people who helped (including **Ryan Self** for bringing our tables back from the Highland Center), I saw an increased number of our members in attendance, and for that, too, I am so grateful. There was a terrific feeling in the gym all afternoon, and a wonderful, busy hum of people learning from each other. You, by your very presence, helped to create that.

-Submitted by Susan Caldwell



OUR FRONT YARD?

..... Someday

No, it doesn't look like this, yet. The highway department has "landscaped" it for us and the Board has approved turning it into a non-mowing, native plants and wild-flower area. If you have native plants which you could donate, call Kathy Osuch (and if you need help in moving them.) If you would like to join the Landscape committee working on this project, call Kathy at 318- 861-6729.