



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

SEPTEMBER 2011

September 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.

September 4th --- We welcome back to our pulpit **Lady Carlson**, Organizer for Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith, who will explore the challenges facing workers in today's economy, and how a community of faith can create a more supportive environment for them. **In the Religious Education wing, this is our first Sunday of the new church year and the start of our pillar on Unitarian Universalist Identity.**

September 11th --- **"Ten Years Later"** – Members of the Worship Committee explore the events of September 11th, 2001. The service will feature readings from the world's religions as well as personal reflections on the day, including Michael Diaczynsky's experiences as part of a team of volunteer firefighters who traveled to New York in the aftermath. Ultimately, the path away from such horror is a true appreciation of human diversity and the rich tapestry that is "us",

September 18th --- **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** returns to the pulpit this morning.

September 25th --- **Rev. Barbara Jarrell** is in the pulpit this morning.

Office Hours

Monday: Office Closed

Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Church Website: www.allsoulsuushreveport.org

Office email: office@allsoulsuushreveport.org





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**We are a Deliberately
Diverse Community**

News from the Membership Committee

We had a great information session on August 21st and the following people signed the Stepping Stones book: Melanie Mangham, Russell Schneider, and Bradley Howell. Please take the time to meet these fine folks and help them feel welcome as they consider Membership at All Souls. Our next Information session will be September 18 following the regular Sunday morning service beginning about 12:30. These sessions are designed to give visitors and quests a broader picture of our Denomination, more information about All Souls and the Membership process. Questions are encouraged and information is freely given in a very safe and supportive environment. The meeting is open to all. Should you have any questions about Membership please see me at church or call me at home.

Thanks you, Ron Thurston - Membership Chairman - 686-3151 (home)



Volunteer of the Month

Abbas Moussaoui

The Council is proud to name Abbas Moussaoui as the Volunteer of the Month for September. He is active in many areas of church life and has done a lot with the Religious Education program this summer and their activities. The Council hopes that use of the VoM parking space will be as helpful to him as he is to the Church. We appreciate his continuing efforts at All Souls.



Save the Date

November 5, 2011

All Souls 2011 Silent Auction and more...

Information coming soon!

FROM THE MINISTER



Answering the Call

Happy end of the summer, everyone and welcome back! I am writing this as I prepare for our Water Communion Service and Swim Party. By the time you read this both events will have come and gone, but the subject of water and its place in our lives will no doubt still be on our minds due to the drought. In this article I wish to discuss a matter I believe to be of real concern for all of us, but not only that. I'd like to suggest a mission I believe we are particularly well suited to serve. Whatever your response...I hope you will share it with me.

Having heard at this summer's General Assembly how far out of control matters have become regarding water in other parts of the country and having watched dramatic differences in our own local weather patterns I found myself wondering who in our area is watching over this basic human need—something that has been so easy to take for granted here for so very long. As the result of my pondering I have begun to ask questions...poke around and seek out individuals who know about water laws/regulations/ordinances. What are the most significant issues pertaining to water in our area? Who manages what? How well do they manage it and how do we know that? To whom do they report? As you may imagine, so far the information is pretty disturbing. Indications are that there is a great deal very wrong with the system at every level. And all of it must be addressed in order to correct any of it. Water could easily become the most significant issue of this generation.

Making any impact at all will require strong champions, an abundance of public will, and will no doubt generate backlash from sources that benefit by its being left alone. Who if not us? When if not now?

As a congregation we have made important strides in our social justice work this year. We took a stand in support of LGBTQ rights. We have continued to work towards becoming a Green Sanctuary. We have improved accessibility in our own facility. With Interfaith we have taken on habitability standards, work force development, neighborhood revitalization and safety, broadening public transportation options, and education at every level. With Louisiana Coalition for Alternatives to the Death Penalty we have stood for equal representation on juries and other matters of justice. And we will continue to invest our energy in each of the causes that are so dear to our hearts—from literacy and juvenile justice to animal, human, women's, children's, civil and equal rights. Can we take one more—one of monumental significance? Last Sunday, along with several other questions, I asked if humankind truly has the rational capacity to work together for survival. Because there is so very much to consider, so very much in need of correction, it may well be much easier to disregard it and dance along to the band on our Titanic. But that isn't what our faith calls us to do. We are called to affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

I recognize that each of you, each of us, has our pet causes...that our schedules are already filled from one end of the day to the other. You may be thinking that this is not your issue. You may be right. Still these discussions must begin. There is no other responsible choice. Very frankly I think we, the members of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, could excel as the ones to open this can of worms. I think we would be adept at pulling together all the facts and experts that we can find, learning whatever is necessary to respond responsibly, listening to and considering all sides, then acting with those who are working to develop a comprehensive approach to resolving the whole network of problems. Do we have the fortitude to become the standard bearer for this cause that affects every living being? I welcome your feedback.

Yours in ever evolving faith,

Barbara

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 ser-vices and other All Souls events.

Earth-Based Spirituality Group

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

Eastern Religions Covenant Group

Meets Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Hazel Martin. Currently reading *The God Delusion* by Richard Dawkins. Group facilitator is Hazel Martin.

First Friday Film Group

Meets the first Friday of each month. All movie buffs welcome! Contact John Allen, 318-865-2008; 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 Lunch Group

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m., Zocolo Restaurant, Shreveport. Open to any men from the church. Contact Roger Christian, 347-7083.

Vocal And Instrumental Ensemble

This group meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 1st Thursday of the month at various members' homes. Bob Jordan, 861-0167.

Young Adult Group

For more information, contact Jennifer-Kaye Smith at 518-8748 or Noah Wagstaff at 797-1957. On Facebook, check out "All Souls UU Young Adults."

Women's Dinner Group

Gather with the women of the church for a relaxed, informal dinner at a selected restaurant, first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Call Sharon DeCarlo at 868-3313 or email her at office@allsoulsuushreveport.org.

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.

Our Whole Lives High School Level Offered This Year



Our Whole Lives is the Comprehensive Sexuality Education curriculum developed jointly by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ. Raydra Hall and Clay Walker have been trained to teach this curriculum at the junior high and high school levels, and we are hoping to offer the 12-week High School curriculum (Grades 10-12) this church year. Using a positive,

comprehensive and age-appropriate approach, the OWL curriculum offers not only vital information on anatomy, physiology and reproductive health, but also deals with building healthy, non-exploitive relationships.

Parents who wish to enroll their youth in OWL **MUST ATTEND** an orientation session and sign a permission form. The orientation will "walk you through" the topics and issues that will be covered in the class. The high school program is 12 weeks long, and scheduling is usually determined by the students, parents and facilitators involved.

We will be scheduling a parent orientation very soon. For more information, please call Susan Caldwell at 318-465-3427 or email her at dre@allsoulsuushreveport.org.

Weekly Email Announcements

You can sign up for free announcement emails from the church office. Just look for this button on the church website:

Sign up for weekly
announcement emails



[Click to join AllSoulsNews](#)

If you have any questions about this, please email Steve Caldwell at webmaster@allsoulsuushreveport.org.

[Submitted by Steve Caldwell – All Souls Webmaster]



Corner Office with a View

Religious Education

By Susan Caldwell, DRE



True Confession Time: I'm writing this several days past deadline (forgive me, Raydra!) and hoping it doesn't become known as The Percocet Papers. Still, in the wake of my recent rotator cuff surgery, I'll take that risk along with this opportunity to thank the members and friends of All Souls who have so lovingly provided my family and me with meals during this period of recovery. Whether you cooked or bought a gift certificate to some wonderful place (and the variety is incredible! Did you all talk to each other?), you have touched us and made us feel even more grateful to be a part of such a caring and loving church community. The meals are still coming, and I do hope to thank each of you individually and personally, but I want to recognize and publicly thank Sharon DeCarlo for coordinating this profound act of generosity.

Even better than our own good fortune is the realization that, far from an isolated outpouring, this is part of a new and welcome (and welcoming) trend within our congregation. This evening, I attended a planning meeting for the August 30th combined training of ushers, greeters and Worship Associates. It is no accident that two people present in that meeting, Susan Bettinger and Pam Holt, have been named Volunteers of the Year for their constant and sustained service to the church. Both of these women share a deep love of the church and a broad, deep and far-reaching vision of the compassionate community we can truly be. They want to involve a much larger portion of the congregation in the business of greeting and welcoming not only our first-time visitors, but everyone who walks through our doors: those who are coming for the first time, those who have come every week for years, those who have returned after long absence. And here's the great news – you can ALL do this, and it won't be hard. What's more, you needn't be hindered or frightened by that old chestnut of an excuse, "But I'm such an introvert!" As Pam so appropriately reminded us, being an introvert merely means that you are a person who needs time alone in order to recharge. Take it from one who knows, that's what Sunday afternoons are for! And the great and liberating news here is that your introverted nature need never again stop you from talking to someone new and making that person feel welcome. On the contrary, you can draw on that experience to bring a new level of compassion to your encounters with each new person who has taken the brave step of coming to the church for the first time.

Think back to your own experience when you were new here. What parts of it were wonderful, that you can strive to replicate? What parts of it were less than wonderful, that you can strive to improve for the next person? I remember being a very new member of only a few weeks' time, and trying to do my part to be a friendly, welcoming presence for the church. I spoke to someone (and no, I honestly don't remember who it was, because I still didn't know a lot of people, and it doesn't matter, so, hey, don't ask). I said something like, "So, is this your first time to visit the church?" to which I received a very frosty, "No, I've been a member for 15 years." So I went right into apology mode, explaining that I was still very new and didn't know many people myself, and this person then relaxed a bit and said, "No, it's OK, just goes to show I've been away too long." If you've been away, by all means, come back, we miss you! Just remember that if you are welcomed by someone you don't know, this is a good thing!

The Religious Education Year for Children and Youth begins Sunday, September 4th. If you've been a member or active friend of the church for 6 months or longer, please consider teaching Religious Education. Many adult members of the church have told me that they have strengthened their own Unitarian Universalist identity by teaching our children, and it's yet another way to increase your ownership in the church community. Don't miss this opportunity to get to know some of the most fascinating people in our church community. Buddhism teaches us that "when the student is ready, the teacher appears." Don't be surprised if your own teacher is three feet tall and down the hall!

Upcoming Denominational Events – September 2011 and Beyond

6-10 October 2010 YoUU Cruise – A worshipping and learning community at sea on Carnival Triumph Liner. This is an intergenerational event for Unitarian Universalists of all ages that will allow opportunities to:

- Growing our UU souls
- Deepening our UU faith
- Making a difference

The cruise will begin and end in Galveston TX with a day in Cozumel, Mexico. For more information, go online here: <http://swuuc.org/pages/services/cruise.php>

14-16 October 2011 Growing Healthy Covenant Groups - U Bar U Conference Center (near Kerrville TX). For more information, contact Sheri Philabaum (dlre@uusat.org). Sponsored by the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio TX and featuring guest speaker Peter Bowden.

21-23 October 2011 South Texas YRUU Rally – First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio TX. This conference event is for all high-school age youth (ages 14 to 19).

11-13 November 2011 SW District Fall Leadership Training - Location TBA

For more information on any of these events, please contact the church office (318-868-3313 or office@allsoulsuushreveport.org)

[Submitted by Steve Caldwell – All Souls Denominational Affairs Committee]



The World's Easiest Church Fund-Raiser

To help All Souls with our ministry and community outreach, we have an online partnership with Amazon.com. Look for the Amazon.com search box conveniently placed on our web site for your use:

Raise money for All Souls while you shop online



Anything you purchase from Amazon.com that is found by starting your search from the All Souls web site search box earns a 5% commission on the sale. A few mouse-clicks and you're raising money to support All Souls without breaking

a sweat while you're shopping online. And that's why this is the world's easiest fund-raiser.

[Submitted by Steve Caldwell – All Souls Webmaster]

Game and Potluck Night!

How about some Food, Folks and Fun to brighten up your Friday? Starting Friday, August 19th, there will be a Game and Potluck night at the church on the third Friday of the month (pending rental schedules, of course!). We'll start the eating and playing around 5pm. Bring a dish to share and a game you enjoy. It can be a board game or a party game or a card game. Whatever sounds fun to you! If you're interested and need childcare for this, or if you have an older child who might be interested in earning a little money by providing childcare, please let Amanda Lawrence know at missdufour@hotmail.com. Hope to see you there!

Follow us on Twitter @allsoulsshreve!!

You can get the latest updates from our website page if you follow our Twitter feed. Just look for the "Follow" button on our web site to get our Twitter updates:

Follow us on Twitter



[Submitted by Steve Caldwell – All Souls Webmaster]

All Souls and Goodwill: Two great organizations that can do great things together!



All Souls has just joined the Goodwill Good Samaritan Voucher Program. Here's how the program works: As you're cleaning out your drawers and closets this summer, place your outgrown or unused clothes into the bags provided (in a box in the church foyer). Bring the filled bags to church and you're done! Goodwill will come out to collect the bags and give us a \$2 credit for each bag. Vouchers will then be provided to the church in \$10 increments. We can then give these vouchers (that can be used in any Goodwill store) to church members or anyone else in the community who can then use them to shop for exactly what they need at Goodwill. This program is wonderful in its simplicity and in how many people it has the potential to help!

Donating to the Church has never been easier!

You can now make your donations to the church by EFT - Electronic Funds Transfer. All you have to do is go to the church website at <http://www.allsoulsuushreveport.org/> and on the right hands side of the page, click on "DONATE". You will be taken to our webpage where you can create an account and schedule donations to the church which are paid directly from your checking or savings account. You can make one time donations or schedule monthly pledge payments.

It is easy to set up and easy to use.... and it is safe.

Join us on Facebook!!

You can join us on Facebook as well to keep up with church news. Just look for the Facebook information on the church website:



[Submitted by Steve Caldwell – All Souls Webmaster]

HOW TO USE THE CREDIT AT THE THRIFTY PEANUT

(Used Book Stores in Bossier City & Shreveport)

The credit may be used for ANYTHING for All Souls. (R.E., writing a sermon, Children's Story, Sunday School, Covenant Groups etc...

1. Let Susan C. or Barbara know what you hope to get and how much you plan on spending. (Church credit will pay half; member will pay the other half.)
2. Identify yourself at the Thrifty Peanut Used Book Store in Shreveport or Bossier as a member of All Souls and use the credit.
3. When finished with the book(s) keep it, donate it to the Church, return it to the Thrifty Peanut for Credit.

Remember to donate your used books at either store to earn credit for All Souls.



September 2011

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Volunteer of the Month Abbas Moussaoui				<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 10:30 AM Meditation 3:00 PM Earth- Based Spirituality
<i>4</i> 11:00 AM Worship	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 7:00 PM Eastern Religions	<i>7</i> 600 PM RE Team	<i>8</i> 6:00 PM Worship Team	<i>9</i> 6:00—9:00 PM Board and Council Retreat 6:00 PM Stanton Rehearsal	<i>10</i> 9:00—4:00 Board & Council Retreat 9:00 AM—1:00 PM Building & Grounds Work Day 10:30 AM Meditation 3:00 PM Stanton Wedding
<i>11</i> 11:00 AM Worship	<i>12</i> 6:00 PM Eckankar Hu Song Meditation	<i>13</i> 7:00 PM Eastern Religions	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 6:30 PM Interfaith Collective Leadership	<i>16</i> 6:00 PM Whittaker rehearsal	<i>17</i> 10:30 AM Meditation 3:00 PM Earth- Based Spirituality 3:00 Whittaker wedding
Gay & Lesbian Film Festival—RFC						
<i>18</i> 11:00 AM Worship 12:30 PM Newcomer Information session	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 6:00 PM Council 7:30 PM Board 7:00 PM Eastern Religions	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 10:30 AM Meditation
PACE Gay and Lesbian Film Festival continues at Robinson Film Center						
<i>25</i> 11:00 AM Worship	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> 7:00 PM Eastern Religions	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 5:00 PM Kasey Simon rehearsal	<i>The choir rehearses most Wednesdays and Sundays from 5:30—7:00 p.m., but is occasionally subject to cancellation.. Call Rev. Barbara Jarrell at 393-5952 if planning to come for the first time.</i>