



the unitarian universalist fellowship of waco

love is the doctrine of this fellowship

THE BIG *BLUE PHROG* NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 62 – AUGUST 4, 2022

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF WACO

4209 N. 27TH ST., WACO, TX 76708

www.uuwaco.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOU'RE INVITED BY ANCHOR NEWS

20TH ANNIVERSARY FREE RECEPTION & GIRLS NIGHT OUT

FRI., AUG. 5, SAT., AUG. 6



Our friends at Anchor News – Linda & JL Crawford – are celebrating their publication's 20th Anniversary. Anchor News is the only minority newspaper in Central Texas. Copies of the paper are always on our reception table in the church foyer. Please take one and read it to learn about our partners in the community. The celebration kicks off Friday, August 5 @ 6 PM with *Ladies Night Out* at the Waco Lion's Den, near Waco High School and next to the Extraco Center. Everything is free: food, drinks, makeovers, massages, manicures, facials, neuro scanning ... everything. THIS WILL BE FUN! Door prizes and vendors will be available. Then the celebration continues on Saturday, August 6 @ 6:30 to

8:30 PM, with a free reception at Neighborhood Works on Franklin. The party will include a Style Show, Door Prizes, Auction, Motivational Speakers, Commissioner Pat Miller, and Former US Congressman Chet Edwards. Catered by Sascee's. Come one! Come all!

SUNDAY WORSHIP

AUGUST 7 – 11:00 AM



Victoria Volker, M. Divinity
Iliff School of Theology

Victoria Volker returns to our pulpit this Sunday, speaking about "*On Love, Marriage, and Transitions*." Becky Warren will be our Celebrant. Special music by Lee VanWagner and Marty VanWagner.

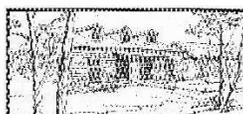
Victoria pastors her own house church, *The Lady Justice House Church*, which, many of us will recall is how our own UU Fellowship was founded. The Lady Justice church is an intentionally small spiritual community focused on liberation and loving-kindness for all people, but especially for those with marginalized identities or who have been harmed by the church. In addition, she is a *Provisional Elder* with United Methodist Church.

Childcare is available for anyone needing it. Join us for snacks after church. To watch the service from home, go to UUFW Facebook Live event at <https://www.facebook.com/uuwaco>.

MONTHLY INFO SESSION

SUNDAY, AUG. 7 – 12:00 PM

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS OR JUST LISTEN - On the first Sunday of each month, members of our board and other senior leaders will listen and talk informally during Coffee Hour with anyone having questions about the UU Fellowship of Waco. Look for the Welcome Sign in the Fellowship Hall and join us!



READING CIRCLE

MON., AUG. 8 – 6:30 PM



The UU Reading Circle continues its summer sojourn from the Book Barn "out back" at Mosley Manor, returning to the wide open spaces of Fellowship Hall. The meetings take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m. the Second Monday of the month: Aug. 8 and Sept. 12 are set. So, enjoy the abundant AC, easily-accessed bathrooms and dog-free environs to share your latest hot reads with a gaggle of eager readers. For more information, contact your hostess, TJ Mosley, at TxNewswoman@Yahoo.com

FIND YOUR INNER PEACE

WED., AUG. 10 – NOON

Men and women alike: Join us for a midday break in the sofa room. You'll be amazed by how good unwinding and resting really feels! Contact info@uuwaco.org for more information.

ALSO ON WEDNESDAY – WOMEN'S GROUP

WED., AUG. 10 – 6:30 PM

Our Women's Group will meet in the Fellowship Sofa Room at 6:30 PM. Come at 6 PM if you'd like to help set up snacks and catch up with friends before the program kicks off.

THE UU HUMANIST COVENANT GROUP

THURS., AUG. 11 – 6:30 PM

Group members will meet in the sofa room at UUFW. We will read and discuss "Humanism and Its Aspirations: Humanist Manifesto III, A Successor to the Humanist Manifesto of 1933." This reading is available online at <https://americanhumanist.org/what-is-humanism/manifesto3/> and continues our understanding of what it means to be a humanist in today's society. Newcomers are welcome.

THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

UU WACO SUPPORTS CARITAS

Cereal Sunday notes: 27 pounds of cereal and non perishable food items and \$25 donation was delivered to Caritas in July. Please bring cereal donations to the altar next Sunday for the August Cereal Sunday kick-off. However, the red tote in the foyer accepts cereal, etc. every day of the month!



UUFW SUPPORTS TXUUM

ONE WAY WE SHARE WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Our "*Share The Plate*" (STP) partner for July was the *Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry* - our UU state action network - which educates and organizes Texas UU congregations to advocate effectively for public policies that uphold UU principles. A total of **\$361.50** was awarded to TXUUM, whose executive director, Rev. Erin Walter, was our Sunday speaker on July 24th. Folks who attended that service enjoyed a video presentation and lovely music by Rev. Walter.

NOW WE NEED YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SHARE THE PLATE. What local nonprofit agencies do you recommend for our Share the Plate program? Please send your idea(s) and why you believe they should receive half our non-pledged Sunday offering plate donations to info@uuwaco.org. We'll vote during our upcoming Congregational meeting on which agencies will receive monthly donations from us through this fall and 2023.

**Your special donations for birthdays & anniversaries
are also appreciated.**

ON OUR HEARTS & MINDS

Keep our friend Jim Harris in your thoughts. He continues to convalesce at the Brookdale Lake Brazos Assisted Living Community in Waco. Cards can be sent to Jim at 3801 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Waco, TX 76708. Jim also appreciates visitors.

REST IN PEACE MICHAEL HENRY RYAN



The mustachioed, grinning hippie in this picture, circa 1980, is how I will always remember my eldest brother, Mike, who was born a good 13 years before me and so was kinda of a heroic figure as a teen and I was a toddler.

Michael Henry Ryan, died July 29, at home, in Shell Lake, WI, in the tender care of his youngest child, Danielle. Although only 73, he looked more like 85 because the last few years had been hard on him. The other picture Danielle posted is from Mike's 60th birthday, in 2009 -- skydiving! I am on the cusp of 60 myself; I now will have a grand mental picture of him soaring to infinity and beyond.

~ Terri Jo Mosley ~

GOODBYE FRIEND: TRAVIS HIPP LEAVES UUFW

One thing we could always count on each month was that our vegan and vegetarian friends would show up at the Fellowship to enjoy a potluck luncheon together. That was faithfully made possible since 2015 by Travis Hipp. With a new opportunity in Shelocta Pennsylvania, he and fiancé Casey will be moving on in August. A replacement for program coordinator has not yet been named.



WHAT'S IN *YOUR* CLOSET?

We have an *urgent situation* with a young mother-to-be. Below is a short list of her most pressing needs, which will enable her to move into an apartment before her baby is born:

2 air conditioner window units	Lamps	Baby clothes, blankets, diapers
5 sets of curtains & rods for short windows	Pots and pans	Glasses, bowls and cups
Bath and kitchen towels	Pot holders	Microwave and/or toaster oven
Queen sized sheets	Mop, bucket	Dish soap
Help moving items to Groesbeck	Help cleaning	Help cleaning up yard
General handyman help	Shower curtain, rod	

We'll store donations in Anita's garage until move day in a couple of weeks (date TBD). Susie Raines is coordinating. Please contact her with questions, suggestions, donations, or to volunteer at susanraines@mygrande.net.

We also need a party planner to organize a ***BABY SHOWER*** please!

A FOLLOW-UP MESSAGE FROM LEE VAN WAGNER, OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

OK. I left a few things out last week. This week, I'll get into some other teams and groups starting with:

Adult Religious Education. Bruce Allen and others are starting a team specifically to fight racism. He has been doing classes in the past both before the service and during the service. Talk to Bruce if you want in. Warning: He's serious about this and there's going to be work to be done.

Covenant Groups generally meet once a month and often include people that aren't UU regulars. Right now there's a humanist group and a book group. There may be others resurrected or created. Read the *Phrog* for meeting times and places.

We have not started up yet with **Circle Suppers** but they are being planned. A circle supper czar puts together groups that meet for potluck dinners at people's homes. They are a great way to meet and get to know members and friends.

We have had a **Religious Education Program** for kids. Right now little ones are being babysat by Haley Nafe. If we start attracting older kids, Religious Education will be resurrected.

There is a **Financial Review Group** that reviews our standing in the financial world. If you are an accountant or lawyer or insurance person you would be especially welcome.

Waldos is an acoustic coffeehouse that once was once a month. It was started by Paul Derrick because there was so little music available in Waco. That situation has changed but we still keep doing one Waldos a year because of the popularity of Chris and Christine. They usually play early in January and pack the house with proceeds going to Planned Parenthood.

There is a **Vegan/Vegetarian Potluck Lunch** at the UU once a month. It is not an official UU function but it has a dedicated following.

I'm going to stop here. Holler at me if you have questions. Onward and upward, y'all. ~ Lee ~

LEARNING TO RESPOND: ACTIVE THREAT TRAINING



Board members Marty VanWagner and Anita Knight just attended an introductory workshop sponsored by the Waco Police Department to learn safety measures effective against various outside threats. **AVOID / DENY / DEFEND (ADD)** was emphasized as the "go to" response for acts of violence such as robbery, hostage situations, workplace or church violence, active shooter, etc. Additional training for any interested parties at our church can be arranged if there is great enough interest. Contact Anita (anita.knight@uwaco.org).



Dear UU Friends,

It was such a pleasure talking to you this past Sunday about Whole Food Plant-Based eating and why it has become my passion. I appreciate your kind reception and interest in the topic. For those who want more information I have sent Anita a "Healthy Table" brochure, a more comprehensive WFPB list of resources/websites, and two menus with recipes for breakfast, lunch and dinner. I hope these items will be helpful to those of you who wish to pursue the plant-based lifestyle further. I can attest to its benefits for personal health as well as for the welfare of the animals and our environment. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance. You are all part of such a beautiful fellowship at UU Waco. I look forward to being with you again in the future.

~ Gratefully, Cherie Rogers ~

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

DINNER PARTY TO RAISE FUNDS TO REPLACE OUR CHILDREN'S WING A/C UNIT – **SAT., SEPTEMBER 10**
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – **SUN., OCTOBER 16**

KITCHEN DUTY THIS WEEK



SET-UP Becky Warren
SET-UP Kasey and Brandy Neimeier
CLEAN-UP Bryan Brown
CLEAN-UP Lee VanWagner

(Guidelines are attached)

Need a Name Badge? Contact info@uuwaco.org and include your full name, as you'd like to be listed.

And Finally!!!



Everybody stay safe and cool as possible.
If you need help, just holler at us: info@uuwaco.org.