



the unitarian universalist fellowship of waco

love is the doctrine of this fellowship

THE BIG BLUE PHROG NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 61 – JULY 29, 2022

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF WACO

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

www.uuwaco.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY SONG CIRCLE

JULY 30 – 7 PM - DERRICK FELLOWSHIP HALL



Bring your best voice, instrument, and/or a snack to share (optional) this Saturday's and join the fun, lively Song Circle. Tambourines, spoons, fiddles, banjos, ukuleles ... you name it. We'll find a way to include you in this traditional sing-along. Members and friends can also come to just watch, hum, tap your foot or sing along. These informal sessions are all about fellowship and fun.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

JULY 31 – 11:00 AM



Learn with us today how making good food choices will improve our lives, brains and bodies with **Cherie Rogers** of Clifton. Ramona McKeown will be our Celebrant. Cherie is a retired school instructor and counselor whose unusual educational background will surprise you. She is also former juvenile probation officer and a decades-long vegan. Childcare is available for anyone needing it. Join us for snacks after church.

To watch the service from home, go to the UUFW Facebook Live event at <https://www.facebook.com/uuwaco> ("UUFW Live Streaming Service").

FIND YOUR INNER PEACE

WED., AUG. 3 – NOON

Many thanks to Vanessa Rush for co-leading marvelous meditations at the Fellowship. Join us for a midday break in the sofa room. Contact info@uuwaco.org for more information.

YOU'RE INVITED BY ANCHOR NEWS

20TH ANNIVERSARY FREE RECEPTION & GIRLS NIGHT OUT

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

Our friends at Anchor News – JL and Linda 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. The celebration kicks off Friday, August 5 @ 6 PM with Ladies Night Out at the Waco Lion's Den, next to the Extraco Center.

(Continued ...)



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. It will include a Style Show, Door Prizes, Auction, Motivational Speakers, Commissioner Pat Miller, and Former US Congressman Chet Edwards. Catered by Sascee's. Call 254-715-8943 for more information. Come one! Come all!

MONTHLY INFORMATION 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

Whether you are a voracious or casual reader – or something in-between – join fellow readers for this stimulating and very interesting book discussion. Location to be announced. Read and get ready for a jolly good time. We meet each second Monday of the month. Contact the hostess for information @ TxNewswoman@Yahoo.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

UU WACO SUPPORTS CARITAS

Thanks for continuing to bring your cereal donations on Sundays. And since it's so hot, please consider an extra donation to Caritas for their Fan Club program to assist low income folks with electric bills. You can drop a check or cash in the collection basket designated for Caritas fans to help some of our local citizens cope with our heat wave. We appreciate your ongoing support to this important agency by also placing boxes of cereal, easy-to-eat foods, and money in the red bin in the sanctuary foyer.

SHARE THE PLATE RETURNS

ONE WAY WE SHARE WITH OUR COMMUNITY

UU Waco has a long tradition of sharing our Sunday non-pledge donations with non-profit agencies. The collection from this final week of July, and throughout July, will be shared with 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. Last Sunday's guest speaker was Rev. Erin Walter of TXUUJM and the *UU Wildflower Church in Austin*

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 and anniversaries are also appreciated.

TOGETHER WE DINE PROGRAM

TO LEARN ABOUT RACIAL EQUITY

Project Unity is new in Waco brought to us by our new friend Cris Houston. Four of our members dined and listened to presentations via zoom and participated in focus groups on race relations/racism with people who are racially/ethnically different. This is a monthly event. Talk with any of our participants if you want to know more: Jane Kittner, Lee VanWagner, Marty VanWagner, or Bruce Allen.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

This is an FYI from Lee VanWagner, UU Waco's new membership chair. At the *Becoming UU Class* this past Saturday, we only touched on the teams that get things done around the UU because we had so many participants and went longer than expected, which is a good thing. It was the biggest Becoming UU class I have ever seen. There were also several people that couldn't make it to the class so this is also for them. It will come as no surprise that it takes a lot of effort to keep things going and to do the work in the community that we are committed to. I'm not going to cover a couple of the more esoteric teams today, but I'll get to them in another FYI.

Membership supplies greeters for Sundays. We help new friends and members get acquainted with the Fellowship. We arrange for you to receive the UU magazine which comes from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Association. We'll see to it that you know what's happening and when.

Hospitality takes care of setting up and cleaning up the fellowship hall each Sunday. There is a sign up sheet for that. Cleaning up can actually be a lot of fun and a good way to get to know your congregation. Hospitality also makes arrangements for special events like the recent ice cream social and Waldo's coffeehouse.

The **Social Action Team** is what we are really all about. We support liberal causes and help out where we can. We have been supportive of Planned Parenthood, Habitat for Humanity, Caritas, Talitha Koum, Guitars for Vets, and more. We've dug water wells in Africa and we've cooperated with the Community Race Relations Coalition and Interfaith Council. I've left a lot out but you get the idea.

PR and Communications maintain the website, the newsletter, promotional materials and news releases.

The **Care Team** takes care of members and friends in need such as providing meals to families with members with health problems.

House and Grounds takes care of the building and grounds. We sometimes have to hire help but we do what we can to keep the place running on our own labor.

The **Worship Team** puts together the Sunday service. They find speakers, provide celebrants and come up with music and readings.

I'm going to stop here and continue next week. Please consider what you'd like to do to help us all get where we're going, which is a more just and caring world. I'm sure there are talents out there I don't know about. One thing you may not expect to hear from me is this: Don't over commit. We'd rather you take on a reasonable amount of work and be with us a long time than jump in headfirst and burn out. Teams are not exclusive clubs. House and grounds always needs help, and when someone needs help you don't have to formally join the care team.

I'm usually there on Sunday. Talk to me if you have questions or want to join a team.

IN OUR HEARTS & ON OUR MINDS

Our dear friend Jim Harris is convalescing at the Brookdale Lake Brazos Assisted Living Community in Waco. He'd love visits from friends! Call (254) 875-5542 and leave a message. He always returns calls. Cards can be sent to Jim at 3801 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Waco, TX 76708. You might recall that Jim and John Nobis delivered Meals on Wheels together for a long time. Jim has been a big contributor to our church for a great many years.

READY FOR YOUR OWN NAME BADGE?

IF YOU'VE BECOME A REGULAR, CONTACT info@uuwaco.org TO ASK FOR YOUR OWN BADGE.

SAVE THESE DATES

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – Sun., October 16
FUNDRAISING EXTRAORDINAIRE PARTY TO REPLACE OUR RE WING FURNACE – Sat., September 10

HAPPY-HAPPY-HAPPY!

KITCHEN DUTY DATES FOR AUGUST COMMITTED

A big thanks to those of you who have signed on for Kitchen Duty in August!

Aug. 7	SET-UP	Becky Warren
	SET-UP	Kasey and Brandy Neimeier
	CLEAN-UP	Bryan Brown
	CLEAN-UP	Lee VanWagner
Aug. 14	SET-UP	Jennifer Farley
	SET-UP	Laura Farley
	CLEAN-UP	Elaine Earl
	CLEAN-UP	Gordon Norrell
Aug. 21	SET-UP	Barbara Locher
	SET-UP	Vanessa Rush
	CLEAN-UP	Cynthia Richards
	CLEAN-UP	Marty VanWagner
Aug. 28	SET-UP	Marianna Thomson
	SET-UP	Judy Suci
	CLEAN-UP	Todd Nafe
	CLEAN-UP	Haley Nafe

One of our senior leaders will be there to support you in every way. We thank you for helping with this fun and important duty! A Task List will be sent in a different message for our Kitchen Crews.

**▲ big thank you to our July kitchen crews!
Your service and goodies were primo!**

