



the unitarian universalist fellowship of waco
love is the doctrine of this fellowship

THE BIG BLUE PHROG NEWSLETTER

MARCH 16, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 18 - VEGAN POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Vegans and non-vegans alike - join us in the Derrick Fellowship Hall for this wonderful, monthly, vegan meal. Arrive at around 12:00 PM to help set up, then we'll eat at 12:30 PM. All are welcome to join this friendly group of people. If you're new, just come and eat. No need to bring anything.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19 – WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM – UUFW WACO SANCTUARY

We look forward to the return visit of Buddhist Susan Hutyra, who last spoke with us last October. Andy Hudson will be celebrant. Childcare is available to all who need it. Join us in the Derrick Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation following the service. A recording of the service will be at the UUWaco Facebook site.

ALSO ON SUNDAY - Safe Fellowship Team building inspection after church.

MONDAY, MARCH 20 - Safe Fellowship Team zoom mtg. 7-8 PM.

MEDITATION - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22 - 12 TO 1 PM – SOFA ROOM

STILL BEING RESCHEDULED - ALL-CHURCH WORKDAY and BECOMING UU WORKSHOP



The reflection on SUNDAY Mar 12 was *The Belief Panel* moderated by Sara Hudson. On the panel were Susie Raines, Jennifer Farley, Becky Warren, Talor Krupa and Vanessa Wilcox. They each shared what their beliefs mean to them as well as how they came to attend UUWaco. Contact Sara Hudson if you'd like to be on the next Belief Panel.

GOOD MORNING!

Eyes up. Hearts up. Minds sharp.

Compassion on full blast. (Sip coffee) Okay, let's go.

~ Lin-Manuel Miranda ~

SOCIAL ACTION

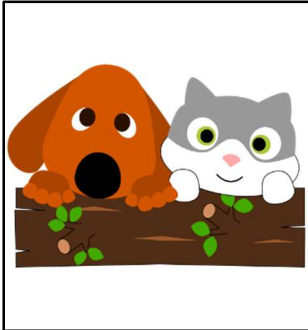
\$161.50 was sent to Caritas, which was our Share the Plate Partner for February.

REMEMBER: **EVERY SUNDAY** IS CEREAL SUNDAY FOR CARITAS!



Please bring your food or monetary donations and place them in the red tote in the foyer. If the tote is missing, place your donations on the table in the sanctuary foyer. Caritas counts on UUWaco to help keep their shelves stocked with nourishing food for Waco's less privileged adults and kids. See Becky Warren if you have questions or suggestions.

OUR SHARE THE PLATE PARTNER FOR MARCH IS THE ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL CLINIC



In 1988, the Animal Birth Control clinic was opened to offer a low-cost alternative for the entire community to achieve a reduction in the numbers of unwanted and euthanized animals. Generally, ABC services are used by Waco and McLennan County residents, but they serve many clients from surrounding counties also. They are currently performing about 265 surgeries per week, in addition to providing vaccinations, prescription medicines, and general preventative care. For more information, see [HTTPS://WWW.ANIMALBIRTHCONTROL.ORG](https://www.animalbirthcontrol.org) and give generously to support this worthwhile cause.

YOU ARE INVITED
to The Waco National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club

FOUNDERS DAY & WOMEN HISTORY MONTH
Celebration!

—FREE!—
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
6:00 P.M.
SOUTH WACO LIBRARY
2737 S. 18th Street
Waco, TX 76706

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Waco Chief of Police,
Dr. Sheryl Victorian

ALL ARE INVITED.
REFRESHMENTS WILL
BE SERVED.

**HONORING 1935 NATIONAL FOUNDERS
& WACO 2022 LOCAL FOUNDERS:**
MRS. KAY BELL
MRS. LINDA CRAWFORD
DR. SHAMONICA TRUNELL

HONORING WOMEN MAKING HISTORY:
COMMISSIONER PATRICIA
CHISOLM-MILLER
The Sojourner Truth Award 2023
DR. SHAMONICA TRUNELL
The 2023 Business Woman's Award
DR. PEACHES HENRY
The 2023 Professional Woman's Award

<- LET'S SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR IMPORTANT WACO EVENTS LIKE THESE. SEE YOU AT THE LIBRARY!

HELP WANTED

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The number of children attending UUFW is growing! We recognize the value of a curriculum for these kiddos, teaching about our faith, what "UU" means, and to provide experiences around the strength of community. We are looking for teams of two to help during Sunday services. We'll provide curriculum. Anyone who's interested should contact Sara Hudson, so we can schedule an interest meeting.

USHERS AND GREETERS

We are recruiting for a handful of members and friends to join our **USHERS AND GREETERS TEAM**. Jim

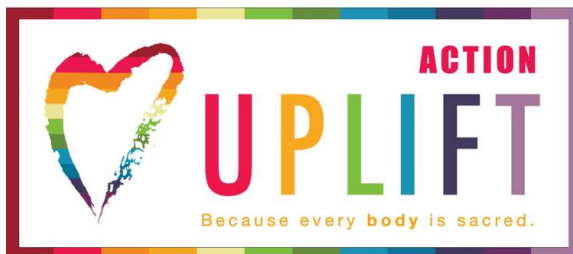
McKeown has volunteered to be the team's scheduler. Please see Jim – who is usually ushering from the sanctuary foyer – to find out more.

NEED MORE DETAILS ON WHAT'S UP THIS MONTH?

Check the UU Waco website @ www.uuwaco.org & click on CALENDAR. Here's what you'll find:

The screenshot shows a calendar for March 2023. The calendar is viewed in a grid format with days of the week as columns and dates as rows. Events are listed in colored boxes across the days. Key events include:

- March 26: 11am Sharyl Loewing speaks at Work
- March 3: Southwest UU Women's Conference
- March 5: Southwest UU Women's Conference
- March 6: 6pm Worship Team Meeting
- March 7: 7pm SAFE CONGREGATION TEAM A
- March 8: 12pm Group Meditation, 6pm Cakes for the Queen
- March 11: MEMORIAL SVC officiated by Jamie F
- March 12: 12:30pm Re-visioning for THE PHRC
- March 15: 7:30pm Phrog Team Meeting #2
- March 18: 12pm VEGAN POTLUCK LUNCH
- March 19: 12:15pm Safe Fellowship Team Wall
- March 20: 7pm Safe Fellowship Team Mtg
- March 22: WOMEN'S ZOOM CALL
- March 23: 10am Mary Cunningham speaks at E
- March 26: 12:30pm BOARD MTG, 12:30pm BOARD MTG, 9:30pm Adult Religious Education w
- March 30: 11am Jim McKeown Retirement Par



NEWS FROM UUA

Current UUA President, Susan Gray, recently shared her concerns about reproductive and gender justice: "As Unitarian Universalists, we are clear and unapologetic. Our LGBTQIA+ siblings are sacred, whole, and divine.

We understand the full expression of the diversity of gender and sexuality is a gift. As progressive people of faith, we know this is a fight for everyone's humanity." Please read [UUA Responds to Growing Legislative Attacks Against Trans and Nonbinary+ Kids and the LGBTQIA+ Community | Press Releases | UUA.org](#) and visit [UPLIFT Action for Reproductive and Gender Justice — Side With Love](#) to learn more about what you can do.

The Unitarian Universalist Association is preparing to elect a new president of the Association. We are all asked to participate in this endeavor by meeting the candidate in an open forum and voting in the election. This election year there is a single candidate for UUA President, Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt. Minister, educator, scholar, vocalist, poet, fiber artist and change-maker.

Rev. Dr. Betancourt has served Unitarian Universalism for more than 20 years in a wide range of volunteer and professional roles. Her work in the world and practice of Unitarian Universalism are informed by the belief that building mutual, accountable relationships with one another allows us to live our values more fully every day. If you are interested in attending the forum being held in Dallas on Saturday, June 3, click on the following link: [Register](#)

UUFW NEW MEMBER PROFILES

On October 23, 2022, we welcomed fourteen new members to the UUFW family. We'll feature a brief biography for each of them so we all can get to know them – some being former returning members, and some new. We'll run a bio of each new person each week. Thanks to our former, returning member Megan Miller for writing these bios.

NEW MEMBERS OF UU FELLOWSHIP OF WACO

SUSIE AND GARY RAINES



Please make welcome – Susie and Gary Raines

In August of 1979, Susie Zerwin moved to Waco, Texas from Iowa to start school. Little did she know that this funky little town/city of ours would be the start of her destiny. An important part of that destiny was a man named Gary Raines. She and Gary met the November after she arrived. They married the following year, and not long after had a daughter, Sara. Susie became a full-time mom, a Girl Scout leader, a volunteer in the classroom and a docent at the Art Center.

Gary was a telecommunications professional, who traveled often and ended up working for GTE (now known as Verizon).

Fast forward to 2020 –Susie's mother had passed away, and COVID ravaged the nation. The Raines wanted to find a spiritual home that was different, and open to all beliefs. UUFW soon became a big part of their lives.

The Raines enjoy helping others. In August last year, Susie planned and organized a baby shower for another new member (and here I need to mention again Andrew – what a cutie! Ask to see photos – it was quite an event!). She has also made Halloween tablescares for a fundraiser. Gary puts his technical expertise to good use here for the Worship Team and can often be found in the kitchen after coffee hours doing dishes and cleaning up.

They both agree: "UUFW makes us feel at home". To which we say: Welcome home, Susie and Gary!



UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
Fellowship of Waco

4209 N. 27TH ST.
WACO, TX 76708

[HTTPS://WWW.UUWACO.ORG](https://www.uuwaco.org)

The **Big Blue Phrog Newsletter** is a publication of the UU Fellowship of Waco. Team members involved in its development are Anita Knight, Vanessa Wilcox, Liz Mitchell, Susie Raines, and Megan Miller. It is created to give you more information about upcoming services and events so that every member, friend, and visitor can connect with the community. If you are interested in being a part of this team, contact Anita Knight (anita.knight@uuwaco.org).