

SAN GABRIEL UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

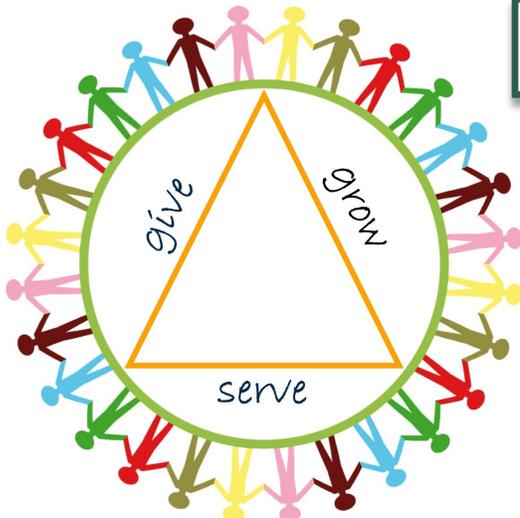
We are a Welcoming Congregation



Newsletter

November/December 2015

Give, Grow & Serve: Stewardship 2016



STEWARDSHIP 2016 – CAMPAIGN WRAP-UP

Our Thanksgiving Potluck on Sunday, November 22nd, marks the end of our Stewardship 2016 Give, Grow & Serve campaign. The tally of all our pledges will give us a final budget number for the Proposed 2016 Budget. The Proposed Budget will be voted on at our annual **Congregational Business Meeting at noon on December 13th**. Members should receive a copy of the budget and an agenda by email at least a week before the meeting. Please plan to participate in this important part of our congregation's democratic process.

3RD ANNUAL SGUUF SUSTAINABLE THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

As we gather for our annual meal of thanksgiving, let's continue to follow and improve on our earth-friendly habit of making it a sustainable meal.

How?

- ✘ Our practice has been to make it a **“zero waste”** event by bringing your own plate and eating utensils. And FYI, should any visitors come or folks forget theirs, SGUUF owns extra plates and utensils. Plastic cups will be provided. *And don't throw those away!* They will go in the dishwasher afterwards. Our only trash will be paper napkins. Pretty close to a zero waste event!
- ✘ Please bring **sustainable food**. There is a special effort this year to focus on the food we bring, and if it is possible for you to do so, please bring food that is locally grown and raised with no toxic pesticides. Probably a lot of you already shop at your local farmers market or search for organic foods at your local store. If not possible, please not to worry, but hold that thought of what is good for us and our good earth as we enjoy this meal together.
- ✘ One more step – please bring the unused parts of those fresh fruits or vegetables to donate to the **compost** pile that is behind the Fellowship House. There will be a tin bucket beside the kitchen door where you can deposit your peelings and scraps.



Look for the sign-up sheets on Nov. 8th and 15th to designate what you will bring. Turkey, ham and iced tea will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Douglass, Hospitality Committee Chair, at r_douglass@post.harvard.edu

Thanks for your efforts. *Let us again gather to celebrate this special time of year!*

Sunday Worship Services

All services are held at our church home, 1322 East University Avenue (Highway 29), in Georgetown.

Service begins at 10:30 a.m.

NOVEMBER 1

Redeeming the Sacred

Rev. Mark Skrabacz

The realm of the holy has been a life-long preoccupation of mine. I suppose that's not much of a stretch for a minister; maybe for a UU minister, who generally serves a people of deeds and not creeds, and inveterate do-ers rather than folks who might be characterized as contemplative be-ers. How can the sacred serve as an anchor point in our lives? On this All Saint's Day, let us explore the idea of the sacred.

NOVEMBER 8

Be That Change

Martha House

While change is an inevitable part of our lives, it can wreak havoc in our daily functioning. How can we as Unitarian Universalists, in our humanness, learn to embrace change in a way that leads to a more content inner self and a more peaceful world.

Martha House is a member at SGUUF. She has held several leadership roles and is currently Chair of the Sunday Service Team. Martha is an artist, primarily as a stone sculptor. Also a lover of nature, she is most at peace in the great outdoors. Martha is single and shares her home with two small dogs who keep her "on her toes".

NOVEMBER 15

Native American Spirituality

Ben Nava

Join us as we explore the meaning of Spirit in Ben's Native American tradition. How does Native American spirituality guide the lives of those who practice it and what can it teach us in our relationship to the earth and people around us? In keeping with our Sunday Services commitment to welcome diversity, we provide regular explorations into the world religions displayed in the symbols adorning the walls of our chancel, this year we have experienced presentations from the Jewish, Buddhist, Christian and Muslim faith traditions.

Ben Nava is Lipan Apache and lives in Georgetown with his wife Lisa. They have four children, Benjamin, Angelita, RJ and Joseph. Ben is employed by Southwestern University and is the advisor for Southwestern University Native, the Native American student organization.

NOVEMBER 22

A Prayer of Thanks

Rev. Mark Skrabacz

As we culminate our month-long Pledge Drive during this week of the Thanksgiving Holiday, we find ourselves being thankful. What does this mean for us and how can it affect our level of happiness? What does it mean to pray? Let's examine how meaningful the practices of thankfulness and prayerfulness are to us today. Today's service will be followed by our annual Thanksgiving Celebration Potluck.

NOVEMBER 29

What is a Parliament of World Religions?

Rev. Mark Skrabacz

As the fulfillment of a long-time goal I participated in the Parliament in mid-October. Along with 11,000 registrants from some 50 religions, I attended workshops, worship services, lectures, plenaries, concerts and more. In attendance were tribal chiefs, religious scholars, high lamas, shamans and seekers of all kinds. Today let's explore what the experience means to me and what can it mean for all of us?

Sunday Worship Services

All services are held at our church home, 1322 East University Avenue (Highway 29), in Georgetown.

Service begins at 10:30 a.m.

DECEMBER 1

Interwoven: Reflections on Our Need for Each Other

Rev. Megan Davidson

In this message the Rev. Davidson will address how interconnectedness in the world propels us to work for social justice and change. Specifically, she'll reflect on the increased use of prison labor as it relates to purchasing power. Is there a better way forward free from abuse and exploitation? We pray so. This Sunday visit is part of an agreement between the Reverends Mark and Megan to exchange pulpits.

The Rev. Megan (Davidson) Danner serves as Southwestern University's Chaplain and Director of Spiritual and Religious Life. She graduated cum laude from Southwestern in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology and attended Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University where she received a Master of Divinity in 2010, magna cum laude. Her career passion has been connecting with and advising college-age students in their personal, spiritual and educational pursuits.

DECEMBER 13

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

Rev. Mark Skrabacz

"Learn joy" was the advice I once received from a 94 year old woman when I asked what she could tell me about living a long and happy life. This advice is at the heart of our Service today. What could be more timely as we face all of our individual and collective concerns, influences and conditions? Let's gather to learn more about joy.

Our Annual Congregational Business Meeting will be held at 12noon. Members are encouraged to attend.

DECEMBER 20

Holiday Musical Celebration

Featuring Judy Mayo, Peter Geiger, Jan and Joe Nesheim, our Family Choir

The month of December contains many holidays including Hanukkah, Kwanza, Solstice and Christmas. This service will honor these holidays in song and story. You are invited to join us to experience the warmth of these diverse expressions of love and light.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 7:00 P.M.

A Christmas Eve Celebration

Rev. Mark Skrabacz

Follow the lighted path of luminaria into our Sanctuary for a Family Service with a Christmas Tree, stories, carols, a darkened church illuminated by candlelight, and a joyous reception with cookies, punch and egg nog. Come join with us in celebration!

DECEMBER 27

A Unitarian Christmas

Rev. Mark Skrabacz

Many of the symbols we have come to associate with this winter holiday season have their roots in pagan traditions -- things like the burning of the yule log, the decorating of the Christmas tree, and kissing under the mistletoe. However our modern celebrations of Christmas find their sources in two stories, one of birth, and one of rebirth. The birth story is that of Jesus, who was born in Bethlehem and who is revered by many to be the Son of God and Savior of the world. The other is a story of rebirth and redemption framed in Charles Dickens immortal tale "The Christmas Carol." Today, let's enjoy its retelling.

The Minister's Mind

The Rev. Mark Skrabacz

The Idea of the Holy

A few years ago, I participated in an all-day workshop at First UU Austin given by Unity Consulting, a group of UU trainers specializing in equipping our churches with leadership in everything from worship to organizational development. What I found interesting was that as a vehicle for exploring our UU core values we were asked to contemplate on and express ourselves regarding the question of our personal experience of the Holy. To the 30 participants the facilitator reminded us that personal and direct experience is absolutely at the center of our faith tradition.

He explained by relating that Ralph Waldo Emerson in the 19th century asked "Why should not we have an original relation with the universe?" Emerson was pointing to what we could call the experience of the holy -- an experience of the universe. The facilitator went on to inquire that such contemplation results in concepts like union, merger, awe, freedom, a sense of letting go of our particular identities in order to experience a oneness or deep connectedness to All, or God or as Emerson coined it -- the Universe. Soon the room was silent for 5 minutes and then abuzz with conversations between dyads of two that grew into foursomes and finally eightsomes, before the required 40 minutes were eclipsed.

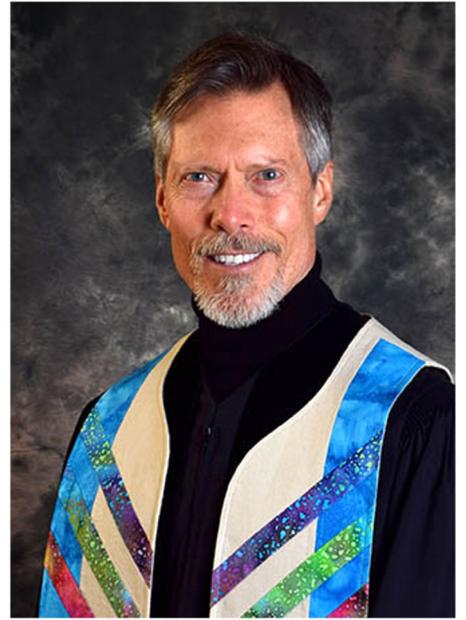
Frankly I wasn't amazed that UUs would engage so vigorously and enthusiastically, especially on this topic, although I was somewhat surprised and amused, because we are people of deeds not creeds and inveterate doers rather than folks I would characterize as contemplative be-ers. Is this idea of the holy an anchor point to the discovery of our being-ness or true essence? Most of us are rather constantly involved in doing-ness, which often results in our distraction. To distract is to be "pulled apart" ...and the idea of the holy in contrast is a "pulled together" thing. Of course, we need not consider being and doing as mutually exclusive. The art of balancing these leads to a healthier way to live. Most of us do not need support in becoming more active. However many of us do in becoming more contemplative. Yours truly included.

It has become common for religious seekers of all ages to make the following statement: "I'm spiritual, but not religious." Often this claim is given as an explanation for leaving a particular church or choosing not to attend church at all. Sadly, contemporary churches have often failed to address the spiritual hungers of church members and seekers. This neglect has spawned a generation of what are called "spiritual orphans," people who have little or no knowledge or attachment to traditional religious institutions.

Most pastors, including me, entered the pathway of ministry as a result of gradual or dramatic spiritual experiences that transformed their way of understanding themselves and the world. Even those pastors who struggled for years with their sense of call before entering seminary, or in my case after completing seminary, experienced, for the most part, a pull that drew them toward holy things and holy persons. They found they could not fully and directly experience personal wholeness or fulfillment until they embodied this holy call in the everyday ministerial tasks of teaching, healing, comforting, and providing guidance for the grieving and dying.

I write this for your edification and as an invitation that if you are curious or interested about your own essence or true nature, or you would like to have a conversation about the spiritual, the holy or sacred in life, please let me know and we can get together. I am available to you.

Respectfully yours,
Rev. Mark



Rev. Skrabacz received his Master of Divinity from the Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley. He is an ordained UU minister, serves as a Trustee of UBarU Retreat & Conference Center, facilitator of the PFLAG Austin monthly meeting in Georgetown and is an Initiated Elder of the New Mexico Men's Wellness Community.



UU & SGUUF ORIENTATION

Saturday, December 19
2:00-4:00 p.m.

In the Meeting Room

Rev. Mark will facilitate this educational gathering that involves an enjoyable sharing by persons interested in exploring our historic, free faith and how we live it at San Gabriel.

For further information contact Rev. Mark, markskrabacz@hotmail.com, land 512-819-1608, cell 830-928-3722.

The Fight for \$15

Keith Hutchinson, Board President

In the next few weeks, many of us will be shopping for Christmas presents in stores at Wolf Ranch, at the Rivery, and on the downtown Square. As you shop at these places or eat in local restaurants, you will be interacting with people in Georgetown who are not earning a living wage.

According to figures on glassdoor.com, cashiers at Target earn \$8.86 per hour, cashiers at Kohl's earn \$8.54, and cashiers at Home Depot make \$9.18. A crew member at McDonald's makes \$8.08.

Someone working full-time at \$8.54 per hour would earn about \$1,366 per month, before taxes. Apartments in Georgetown rent for about \$850 to \$1,000 per month. For a single parent with children, that would leave about \$300 to \$500 each month for food, utilities, payroll taxes, a car payment, gas, clothes, insurance, and medical expenses.

These numbers show that for many of our neighbors here in Georgetown, just like millions of people across the country, their paychecks are not enough to cover monthly living expenses. For these people, the living wage issue is a daily reality.

For that reason, it was very encouraging to see workers stage strikes and demonstrations in 270 cities across the U.S. on Tuesday as part of the Fight for \$15 campaign. Workers from McDonald's, Burger King, and Wendy's, as well as other low-wage workers in childcare and from grocery stores, joined the protests. Service Employees International Union members have been key organizers in the Fight for \$15 campaign.

On Tuesday before addressing a Fight for \$15 rally in Washington, DC, Bernie Sanders posted to Facebook, "The \$7.25 an hour federal minimum wage is a starvation wage. It has got to be increased to a living wage of \$15 an hour!"

Among Democratic candidates for president, Martin O'Malley and Sanders both support raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. Hillary Clinton supports an increase to \$12 an hour.

There have been some recent successes on the fight for a living wage. This week New York City approved a minimum wage increase that will raise pay for fast-food workers to \$9 an hour and increase that rate to \$15 an hour over the next few years. The state of New York and the city of Pittsburgh also approved increases to \$15 an hour. In Los Angeles, the minimum wage will increase to \$15 an hour by 2010.

The protests and actions this week indicate that the living wage issue may be gaining momentum as the 2016 presidential campaign heats up. We can expect to see more ballot items on the state and local level next year. As we have seen in the last few elections, when living wage items are on the ballot, they usually win, even in red states like Arkansas.

So as you interact with people in stores and restaurants in Georgetown during the holiday shopping season, be aware of all those who could benefit from a \$15 minimum wage. And think about what we might do to help that effort locally.

Congregational Conversation

The Social Justice Committee will be hosting a Congregational Conversation after Sunday Service on November 29th. The purpose of this meeting is three-fold:

1. Updating the congregation on the latest developments regarding the Williamson County Confederate Monument,
2. Discussing all of our options for moving forward, and
3. Creating a subcommittee to develop strategies for our SJC and the congregation to respond to local race-related issues.

A light lunch will be served, and we look forward to a productive conversation!

The Austin Branch NAACP Presents
The 50th Annual
Dewitty/Overton Freedom Fund Banquet
CIVIL RIGHTS & SOCIAL JUSTICE


Saturday December 5, 2015 at 6pm
The Austin Convention Center, Ballroom D
500 East Cesar Chavez Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Featuring Keynote Speaker Dr. Paul Butler

2015 marks the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Austin Chapter of the NAACP. This is also the historic year of the same anniversary of the Civil Rights March in Selma, Alabama.

Several of our members will join Rev. Mark Skrabacz in attending the Freedom Fund Banquet at the Austin Convention Center on **Saturday, December 5, at 6:00 p.m.** You are invited to join us as we carpool to Austin for this historic celebration of Civil Rights and Social Justice. Individual tickets cost \$75.00.

If you are interested in attending and carpooling, please contact Rachael Jonrowe at 512-627-9596(cell/text), or versluys8@aol.com.

For more information on the Event, see www.naacpaustin.com/about-the-2015-banquet.html.

Life of the Congregation

Men's Breakfast

On the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, November 5th & 19th, at 8:00 a.m., men from the congregation will meet at the IHOP in the Rivery Shopping Center facing IH-35. All members and friends are welcome. Contact: Frank Sanders, fcsanders@suddenlink.net or, 512-864-7385.

Ladies Luncheon

Thursday November 19, 11:45 a.m., at the home of Judy Mayo, 104 Wild Turkey Lane in Sun City.

This will be our last program on the religions of the world. We'll focus on the Baha'i Religion with the discussion led by Pat Kessler. Please bring a sack lunch; water and hot tea provided.

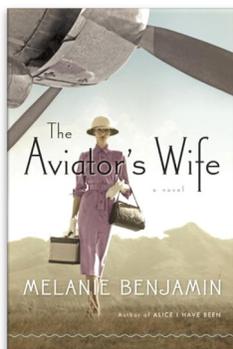
Looking ahead, our Thursday, December 17th meeting will be a Holiday Potluck luncheon at the home of Judy Mayo.

For more information please call or email Judy at judymayo@suddenlink.net, cell phone 269-806-4919

Women's Book Club

The Women's Afternoon Book Group meets on the 1st Thursday of the month from 2:00-4:00 p.m., at homes of members.

On December 3rd, Frances Rieser will host the discussion of [The Aviator's Wife](#) by Melanie Benjamin. If you enjoy reading and discussing a wide variety of books and issues, consider joining this group. Contact Arlene Zimbelman at 512-869-6202 or arlene@zimbelman.com.

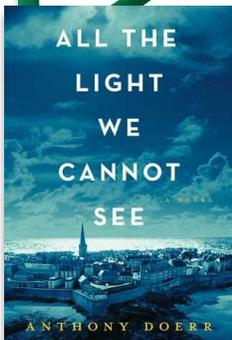
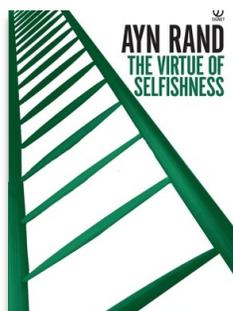


RIDGE

The next RIDGE meeting is on Thursday, November 12th, at the home of Lynn Ellis, 146 Blacksmiths Dr., Sun City. If you plan to attend, please contact her at 512-863-0753 or lynn_ellis@hotmail.com.

Our book will be [The Virtue of Selfishness, Centennial Edition](#), by Ayn Rand (and Nathaniel Branden).

We will have one meeting in November and one in December, on the second Thursday of each month, due to conflicts between the fourth Thursdays and the holidays. For the December 10th meeting, we will read the novel [All the Light We Cannot See](#), by Anthony Doerr.



December Dining Out

Save the Date

December's Dining Out will be a

Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 9

5:30 p.m.

at The Oaks at Wildwood

30 Wildwood Drive

This event will be catered by

Frankie's New York Pizza and Pasta.

Cost: \$12.00 and BYODs.

Reservations will be required.

Call or email Rita Wiegenstein, 512-591-7635, grwieg@suddenlink.net. Please indicate food allergies at time of reservation.

Roe Mackey has indicated that parking, just around the right of the building, is limited. Please contact Roe for parking suggestions, 512-864-7948, or roemackey@gmail.com.



GAMES NIGHT HAS A NEW LOCATION FOR NOVEMBER!

Mary and Dave Abbey are hosting

at 131 Canyon Road,

on Saturday, November 21st

at 6:30 p.m.

Please call 651-238-7836 or email maryabbey@gmail.com. Mary and Dave would like to know how many chairs to set out.

Due to holiday schedules, December Games Night has been cancelled.

Fill the Barrels: Help Feed the Hungry

Our annual food drive for The Caring Place will be held on two Sundays, **December 6 and 13.**



We will have three large blue barrels at the church for food donations from our congregation. Last year we asked our members and friends to bring “food equal to your body weight”. Our congregation ended up donating two barrels full of food along with \$1,600.00 in donations. This year we are increasing the number of barrels to fill over these two Sundays in December.

Rather than asking for monetary donations, The Caring Place would like for churches to provide food items that they cannot buy from the regional Food Bank. In November and December, The Caring Place hopes to receive 250,000 lbs. in food donations to help fulfill their goal for **“Hunger Free Holidays”** for people in need in our community.

Particular food items that are needed include:

- * Canned Meats: Tuna, Salmon, Chicken, Stew, Chili, Spam
- * Vegetable Protein: Peanut Butter, Dry Beans of All Types, All Canned Beans (Kidney, Refried, Pinto, Ranch)
- * Canned Vegetables: Peas, Green Beans, Corn, Mixed Vegetables, Spinach, Carrots, Tomato Products
- * Canned Fruit: Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail, Applesauce, Pineapple
- * Snacks: Popcorn, Saltines, Chips, Jello, Puddings
- * Soups and Sauces: Canned Soup (all kinds), Dry Soup Mix, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomato Products
- * Pastas and Grains: Macaroni, Spaghetti, Rice, Canned Pasta Products
- * Breakfast Items: Cereal, Hot Cereals, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Breakfast Bars, Jam and Jelly
- * Baking Products: Flour, Sugar, Cooking Oil, Corn Meal, Muffin Mix, Cake Mixes, Evaporated Milk
- * Boxed Dinners: Hamburger or Tuna Helper, Boxed Pasta Dinners, Macaroni and Cheese, Instant Potatoes, Rice and Noodle Mixes
- * Beverages: Shelf-Stable Milk, All Fruit Juices, Powdered Drink Mixes, Tea, Coffee
- * “Food to Go”: Small sizes

Hand trucks and strong backs will be available at the church on December 6 & 13 to help you unload your food donations. Monetary donations can be made to “The Caring Place” with a notation for a food donation on your check.

Please plan to help us Fill the Barrels with Food Donations on December 6 & 13!



Our Green Sanctuary Committee and volunteers hard at work on the new garden bed on the east side of the Sanctuary.



**Extended Leadership Training with Natalie Briscoe,
hosted by New Braunfels UU.
Saturday, December 5, 10:00-3:00 p.m.**

Specifically designed for our Cluster of Heart of Texas UU Congregations, this series of Saturday training sessions breaks down the usual weeklong leadership series into bite size portions. This session will cover Systems Theory and Faith Development. \$30 registration includes lunch

Rev. Mark and others will carpool. Register on-line at www.formdesk.com/UUASR/ComalCounty

FAIR TRADE COFFEE & CHOCOLATE PROJECT



Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate will be available for purchase in the meeting room following the Sunday Service on **November 15th**.

WE HAVE ORDERED EXTRA CHOCOLATE FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

The prices are \$3.00 for the organic fair trade chocolate bars. The Organic Regular Coffee is \$8.00. The Organic Decaf Coffee is \$9.00.

The Church will make a profit of \$1.60 on each pound of coffee and \$.50 on each chocolate bar.

UBarU Family Camp 2016

Friday June 10 - Monday June 13

The price of \$130 for adults and \$55 for children 5-18, includes seven meals and bunkhouse accommodations for three nights. Children under five are free.

More information is available at ubaru.org.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

- ✧ Cook-out
- ✧ Campfires
- ✧ Sing-Alongs
- ✧ Worship
- ✧ Swimming
- ✧ Nature Education
- ✧ Star Party

UBarU Camp and Retreat Center Named International Dark Sky Park

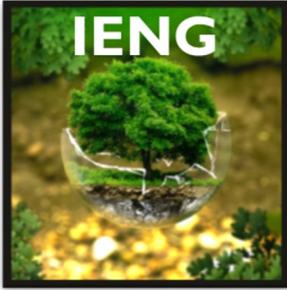
The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) has named the UBarU Camp and Retreat Center in Texas an International Dark Sky Park.

The designation of the UBarU is part of a broader movement in the Hill Country to protect night skies and includes the certification of a Dark Sky Community in Dripping Springs, a Dark Sky Park at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, and improvements to lighting ordinances in cities such as Fredericksburg.

“Creating a Dark Sky Park on UU land is consistent with the Seventh UU Principle – respect for the interdependent web of all existence – and Unitarian values in general,” explained Roy Ellzey of the Foundation. “Attention to proper lighting and natural conditions at night dovetails well with other environmental efforts at UBarU such as using solar power, rainwater collection, recycling and habitat restoration.”



- ✧ To learn more about UBarU’s Dark Sky Park designation, visit ubaru.org/home/DarkSky.
- ✧ For more information about the International Dark Sky Association, visit darksky.org.



interfaith eco-network of georgetown forum

Thursday, NOVEMBER 19th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

First United Methodist Church, 410 E University Ave in the Fellowship Hall

ADAPTING TO THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL REALITY

Presented by Harry Hudson, a businessman & member of FUMC
Climate change is inevitably changing the way that we live on Earth. But we are a resilient population, addressing the challenges with old and new technologies. This discussion will focus on a few of the ways that society is currently and will in the future, mitigate the risk."

Some of the technologies he will discuss are:

- ✘ Large scale desalinization of sea water
- ✘ Hybrid breeding of drought tolerant crops
- ✘ Nuclear power
- ✘ Transitional systems including:
 - ✘ Automobiles
 - ✘ Stationary and mobile diesel engines

Contact: John Walker, 512-943-4599.

Global Climate March - Austin

Join us the Sunday after Thanksgiving for the biggest climate march ever!

On the **Sunday, November 29th**, the day before the Paris Climate Conference, thousands of people will gather in Austin on the State Capitol grounds to join the Global Climate Movement. We are coming together for a rally and a march to build awareness and demand that our global and local leaders take serious action on climate change and climate justice. There will be speakers highlighting the challenge of climate change for different communities, organizational tables to talk about different issues and give out information, kids' activities, music, and a march down Congress that loops around back to the capitol.

More info at gcmaustin.org and globalclimatemarch.org.

GLOBAL CLIMATE MARCH · AUSTIN

WE NEED YOU!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH

1PM AT THE CAPITOL

**MUSIC, KIDS ACTIVITIES,
AND INFO BOOTHS TOO!**

GCMAUSTIN.COM



The Sunday Service Team Needs You!

We are looking for 2-3 new team members to help in Sunday Service planning and to be Worship Leaders.

✧Lend your input to creating meaningful worship through choices about worship elements and selection of speakers & topics.

✧Being a Worship Leader requires only a confident speaking voice and following the script. If we have six Worship Leaders (currently 4), you would only have to do one service about every six weeks. So, for a fairly small time commitment you can play a very meaningful role here at SGUUF!

This is a relatively easy way to give back to SGUUF. The Sunday Service Team (SST) meets every 4-6 weeks for about an hour, usually right after a Sunday Service.

Please consider joining us. Contact Martha House, otrhouse@msn.com, if you have questions or would be willing to serve.

Music Makes the World Go 'Round...

Do you play any kind of musical instrument? Piano, guitar, wind or string instrument? The Sunday Service Team needs to expand our cast of musicians. Even if you are not a pianist able to play all the musical pieces in a Sunday Service, we welcome your contribution. Those willing to play a Prelude, Offertory &/or Postlude piece could help lighten the load for our two very hard working musician duos. If you happen to play piano and could do just one entire service every 4-6 weeks, that would be fantastic. But please don't feel like you have to be able to do it all to make a difference! Please consider sharing your talent with your fellow congregants.

Also, if you happen to have a friend or acquaintance outside SGUUF who is a pianist and might be interested in filling in on occasion, please let us know.

Please contact Martha House, otrhouse@msn.com, or Judy Mayo, judy mayo@suddenlink.net.



FULL MOON DRUM CIRCLE



Tea and Drumming

Saturday, November 21, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

San Gabriel Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

1322 E University Ave

Georgetown, TX 78626

Bring a Drum and healthy snack/dish to share.

We have a few extra Drums and rattles.

Children welcome if they are respectful and participating!!

*Questions? Call JK Khalsa, 512-921-9899,
QiToGo4u@gmail.com*



Georgetown Tara Circle

November 21 & December 12

3:00 - 4:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

For more information, contact Susan Rogers,
sjrogers2004@yahoo.com.

Our Meditation Circle

meets every Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Whether you are a beginner or long time meditator, curious or experienced, you will find a warm welcome and generous practice space in our Sanctuary every Sunday.

The Circle is facilitated.

It is becoming a truly inter-spiritual activity.

For information, please contact
Rev. Mark at 830-928-3722 or markskrabacz@hotmail.com.

Religious Education



SGUUF RE PROGRAMS

Religious Education (RE) at SGUUF takes place on Sundays during the Worship Service in the two houses behind the church. Children over age 3 participate in the first part of the service with their families and are then sung out to their classes at the end of the Story for All Ages. Parents are expected to pick up their children by noon.

Parents with children regularly attending our RE programs are expected to participate in the "Parent Volunteer Commitment" in which they may either volunteer time or opt for "pay my slot," where a parent can opt out of volunteer time to attend service by paying \$20 for someone else to volunteer for in their place. The sign up for volunteer time or pay my slot is located on a poster board in the Little House.

INFANT/TODDLER CARE

Children ages walking infant to 3 years can be dropped off at the Little House before the Worship Service begins, as early as 10:15 a.m. Please leave your contact number on the sign-out sheet in case we need you.

PARENT VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT

Thank you to all of the parents that volunteer in the Little House and Fellowship House during Sunday Service!

If you have not yet chosen a volunteer slot for September through December, please sign up in the Little House or contact Melanie Jamison at melaniejamison14@gmail.com.

CHALICE CHILDREN

The Chalice Children program is for our youth ages 3-5. Chalice Children delves deep into our Unitarian Universalist faith. The program strives not just to teach about our faith, but also to provide experiences around the strength of community, the wonder and awe that transcend everyday understanding, and life issues we all share. This program meets in the Little House every Sunday during the service. Children are sung out after the Story for All Ages.

UU KIDS PROGRAM

Faithful Journeys program for our youth in grades 1st – 5th. Faithful Journey's equips children with language and experiences to develop and articulate a strong Unitarian Universalist faith identity through historic and contemporary stories of Unitarian Universalist faith in action. This program meets in the Fellowship House every Sunday during the service. Children are sung out after the Story for All Ages.



PFLAG Meeting Monday, November 23 6:45 p.m.

Community Room, Independent Bank
1503 Rivery Blvd., Georgetown

Join with facilitator Rev. Mark Skrabacz, members of San Gabriel and others to share our lives, discuss education and advocacy, and offer support to LGBTQ persons, families and friends.

For further information contact Rev. Mark

markskrabacz@hotmail.com

land 512-819-1608, cell 830-928-3722

PFLAG HOLIDAY PARTY

Monday, December 28th

7:00-8:30 p.m.

at the Home of

Judy and James Shepherd

2918 Gabriel View Dr.

Georgetown, TX 78628



Our Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote



- 1st Principle:** The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- 2nd Principle:** Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- 3rd Principle:** Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- 4th Principle:** A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- 5th Principle:** The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- 6th Principle:** The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- 7th Principle:** Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Deadline for submissions to the Monthly Newsletter is generally the 25th of the month. Items for publication in the Monthly Newsletter should be sent to Toya McClurkan, Communications Committee Chair, toya.mcclurkan@gmail.com, and cc'd to sguufellowship@gmail.com.

2015 Leadership

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Social: Rita Wiegenstein

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Sunday Services: Martha House

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Stewardship: Frank Sanders

fcsanders@suddenlink.net



November 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10:30am Worship Service 2pm Meditation	2	3	4	5 8am Men's Breakfast (IHOP) 11:30am Rev Mark @ Southwestern 2pm Women's Book Club	6	7 10am Pledge Cafe
8 10:30am Worship Service 2pm Meditation	9	10	11 2pm Rev. Mark @ Sun City Democrats 5:30pm Dining Out 	12 7pm RIDGE	13	14
15 10:30am Worship Service  Fair Trade Coffee & Chocolate 2pm Meditation	16	17	18	19 8am Men's Breakfast (IHOP) 11:45am Ladies Luncheon 7pm IENG @ First United Methodist	20	21 1pm Board Mtg(FH) 3pm Tara Circle(S) 6pm Drum Circle(S) 6:30pm Games Night @ the Abbey's
22 10:30am Worship Service 12noon Thanksgiving Potluck 2pm Meditation	23 6:45pm PFLAG @ Independent Bank	24	25	26  Thanksgiving	27	28
29 10:30am Worship Service 12noon Congregational Conversation 2pm Meditation	30	1	2	3	4	5

S ~ Sanctuary
 MR ~ Meeting Room
 FH ~ Fellowship House



December 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3 8am Men's Breakfast (IHOP) 2pm Women's Book Club	4	5 10am Extended Leadership Training
6 10:30am  Worship Service 2pm Meditation	7	8	9 5:30pm Dining Out <i>Christmas Party</i>	10 7pm RIDGE	11	12 3pm G'town Tara Circle (S)
13 10:30am  Worship Service 12noon Annual Congregational Business Meeting 2pm Meditation	14	15	16	17 8am Men's Breakfast (IHOP) 11:45am Ladies Luncheon	18	19 2pm Orientation (MR)
20 10:30am Worship Service 2pm Meditation	21	22	23	24 7pm Christmas Eve Celebration		26
27 10:30am Worship Service 2pm Meditation	28 7pm PFLAG Holiday Party	29	30	31	1	2

S ~ Sanctuary
MR ~ Meeting Room
FH ~ Fellowship House