

*No person is your friend who demands your silence,  
or denies your right to grow.*

Alice Walker

## GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

- ◆ Ringing the Tibetan Bowl
- ◆ Call to Community  
*In Faith*  
by Sunshine Jeremiah Wolfe\*
- ◆ Prelude/ Candles of Community  
*We Are Unity*  
written and performed by Joelle
- ◆ Chalice Lighting  
*Thirsty*  
by Gregory Pelley\*
- ◆ Spoken Affirmation  
*Love is the spirit of this church and service is its law.  
This is our great covenant to dwell together in peace,  
To seek the truth in freedom and to help one another.*

## EXPANDING OUR UNDERSTANDINGS

- ◆ Opening Thought  
*Dear Mister Rogers, Does it ever rain in your  
neighborhood?*  
from Letters to Mister Rogers
- ◆ Song - 360  
*Here We Have Gathered*  
performed by the UU congregation, White Plains, NY

## EMBRACING OUR LIMITATIONS

- ◆ Reading  
from *The Third Principle*  
by Rev. David Usher\*
- ◆ Practices  
Contemplation  
*Meditation on the Power of We* by Elandria Williams

## Quiet Sitting for a Moment

Musical Response - 299

*Be Our a Religion*

performed by Jan Jaffe

- ◆ Reading  
from the pen of Rev. Rob Hardies\*, quoted in *The  
Seven Principles in Word and Worship*, ed. Ellen Brandenburg\*
- ◆ Song – 1014  
*Answering the all of Love*  
Performed by Jonathan Long and Gerald Brown

## DECLARING OUR POSSIBILITIES

- ◆ Discourse  
*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Principle: Acceptance of one another and en-  
couragement to spiritual growth in our congregations*  
by Mark Y.A. Davies

## CONFIRMING OUR FAITH

- ◆ Giving  
*Those who wish may bring their gifts to the table.*
- ◆ Song  
*We Are Gathered*  
Lyrics: Amanda Udis-Kessler | Vocals & Piano: Kelly Blackmail
- ◆ Parting Thought  
from *Middle School - Safety Goggles Advised: Exploring  
the WEIRD Stuff from Gossip to Grades, Cliques to  
Crushes and Popularity to Peer Pressure*  
by Jessica Speer
- ◆ Extinguishing the Chalice  
*We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth,  
The warmth of community or the fire of commitment.  
These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.*
- ◆ Postlude  
*Jazz Alleluia*  
performed by UU Church, Concord, NH

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Joining us this morning** is the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies. You can read his bio on the “This Sunday” listing on our church website and mobile app.

**Cold Weather and Jackets** – Remember our Cloak-room which is in the back hall. Easier than trying to hang on the back of your chair in the chapel.

**Earth Day Planners** meets this month on Tuesday @ 6 pm in the Emerson Room (rather than on Thursday).

**Chair Yoga** meets on Tuesday @ 10 am for an hour of low impact movements. Open to all.

**Spiritual Perspectives** meets Tuesday evening from 6-8 pm to explore various ways to understand spiritual perspectives. All are welcome.

**Is Your Group or activity planning on meeting** but it isn't listed in the church calendar? The calendar is located on the church website home page. It is the Go-To spot to check on what's happening at church but is only effective if everyone planning a meeting, event, etc. remembers to send the details (the ‘who, what, where, when and why’) to [news@redriveruu.org](mailto:news@redriveruu.org). A gentle reminder so everyone can be ‘in the know’.

## MAKING THINGS HAPPEN TODAY

- ◆ Board rep: *David Dyer*
- ◆ Greeting us at the door: *Amy Hoffman-Shehan*
- ◆ Leading today: *the Rev. Dr. Mark Y.A. Davies*
- ◆ AV crew: *Carole Harner, Don Rogers, Jim Holmes, Marla Loturco*
- ◆ Sunday school leader: *David Dyer*
- ◆ Providing refreshments: *Good Times Team #1*

## WELCOME VISITORS

*We are Unitarian Universalists. We are brave, curious, and compassionate thinkers and doers. We are people from many backgrounds who have different beliefs, but shared values.*

*Grounded in more than two hundred years of thoughtful, spiritual communities, we are people of many generations, ethnicities, genders and sexualities, and spiritual backgrounds. People engaged in making the world a better place. People focusing on what really matters – love, justice, integrity, and hope.*

*We are a lay-led congregation. Lay-led congregations have no minister which means members of the congregation manage the various aspects of our church life. Unitarian Universalism has a proud tradition of lay-led churches.*

*We Unitarian Universalists have different beliefs, but shared values. We are Unitarian Universalists, and at the same time we may also be agnostic, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, humanist, Jewish, Muslim, pagan, atheist, believers in God, and those who just let the great mystery be. The diversity of beliefs you'll find in our church community is one of our strengths – we're always learning how to see the world from a different perspective.*

*Learn more about us at your leisure by downloading our mobile app 'Red River UU' from Google Play or the Apps Store (or use the QR code on the back panel.)*

*This is who we are. We are glad you joined us today.*



## NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024

10 am - Adult Forum

### A Virtual Look at the Universe

Now thru March 3

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

### Seeds for the New Year

the Rev Dr. Sofia Betancourt, *video message*

What seeds are you planting for the new year? How are you weaving your magic into your relationships with others? How can we center beauty and goodness and love in all that's ahead? These questions are at the heart of this special morning that will also include a charming children's story **Bridge of Flowers** by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha.

12:15 pm – Conversations & Calories

Red River Unitarian Universalists

515 North Burnett Ave

mail: PO BOX 1806

Denison, TX 75020

903.231.3232 📧 [redriveruu.org](mailto:redriveruu.org)

Download our mobile app >>>>



# THE MORNING PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024



*accept one another  
and encourage  
spiritual growth*

*Spiritually Alive  
Joyfully Inclusive  
Justice Centered*