



Arlington Unitarian Universalist Church

2001 California Lane
 Arlington, Texas 76015
 817-460-6481
 arlington-tx-uu.org

Kaleidoscope

August 2011

Tuesday	August 2	7:00 p.m.	Noetic Science Group — "Using Yoga to Develop Your Spiritual Life" by Peter Merola
Wednesday	August 3	7:00 p.m.	Pagan Open Forum: "Fundamentals of Ritual"
Sunday	August 7	10:00 a.m.	The Sunday School Gang continues <i>The Passions: Philosophy and the Intelligence of Emotions</i> , with "Emotions across Cultures — Differences"
		11:00 a.m.	Chad Martin speaks: "We Come from Monkeys! Myths and Misunderstandings About Evolution and Ecology"
Wednesday	August 10	7:00 p.m.	AUUC Movie Night features <i>Defending Your Life</i> , an Albert Brooks film (bring snacks to share)
Sunday	August 14	10:00 a.m.	Nikki Ashcraft leads a discussion on comparative religion: Islam
		11:00 a.m.	[Safe Haven Collection] Brother ChiSing, M.Div. Starr King UU School for the Ministry, ordained by ecumenical Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh, speaks
		12:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees meets, led by Daniel Melendez
Wednesday	August 17	7:00 p.m.	Pagan Open Forum: "Path Working & Astral Travel"
Sunday	August 21	10:00 a.m.	The Sunday School Gang
		11:00 a.m.	[Monthly collection for a Social Justice project] Bob Ray Sanders, of the <i>Star-Telegram</i> , speaks
		12:30 p.m.	Social Justice Committee, led by Sandra Martin. For August: children's tennis shoes for Safe Haven
Wednesday	August 24	7:00 p.m.	Drum Circle
Sunday	August 28	7:00 a.m.	Early Bird Special at the stage in Veteran's Park: Tai Chi Chuan and Qi Gong
		10:00 a.m.	Discussion of "The Spectrum of Consciousness and Expanding It" continues: "The Intentional Universe" with Sarah Parton, Gau Shou
		11:00 a.m.	Paula Shutman speaks on "The Inner Child — It's Never Too Late to Have a Happy Childhood"
		12:30 p.m.	Monthly Potluck — all are invited
Wednesday	August 31	7:00 p.m.	"Explorations in Consciousness" led by Keven Holt
			<i>Support Group led by John Reed Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m.</i>

Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Since 1949 DUUF has been a community for those seeking religious freedom, representing the ideas and principles of Unitarianism and Universalism in Denton County, Texas, the home of both North Texas State University and Texas Woman's University. The modernistic church building has a bright and colorful interior, a set of beautiful ceramic tiles decorating the front, and a quiet memorial wall garden. Even with its small congregation of about 40, DUUF maintains a full program of services and special interest groups, keeping the chalice bright in the Denton area.



Memorial Wall Garden



Some tiles from the church façade

Noetic Science Group

The Noetic Science Group, dedicated to "nurturing the conversation between science and spiritual values," meets 7:00 p.m. at the church on the **First Tuesday** of each month. **August 2** will be "Using Yoga to Develop Your Spiritual Life" by Peter Merola. Covers a variety of yogas and meditation techniques given by yogis for spiritual advancement. Also discusses the energy centers in the body and how to find balance and spiritualize the different aspects of life, money, sex, food,

relationships, dogmas, and spirituality. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome. For information contact Sara Horsfall at shorsfall99@hotmail.com. Find a complete list of programs on the Noetic Science page on Meetup.com. Please visit noetic.org.

Sunday Morning Nursery Care

Nursery care is available on demand. Members, friends or visitors with young children can attend the adult discussions or service.

AUUC Mission Statement – Our mission is to provide a nourishing environment:

- In which liberal religious thought and spiritual growth are encouraged; where doubt is welcome and free choice is the rule
- In which we will be motivated to contribute to the betterment of all life
- In which we will teach and promote all of the other Unitarian Universalist values, embodied in the Seven Principles

Meet Henry Bergh



On a New York street corner on April 22, 1866, Unitarian Henry Bergh gathered his courage and approached a cart driver unmercifully beating an exhausted horse. "My friend, you can't do that anymore." Astonished, the driver exclaimed, "Can't beat my own

horse? — the devil I can't," and resumed. Bergh added, "You are not aware, probably, that you are breaking the law, but . . . I have the new statute in my pocket, and the horse is yours only to treat kindly." Mouth agape, the driver advised, "Go to hell — you're mad!" That unpromising encounter launched two intertwined North American social movements: prevention of cruelty to animals and to children. Nothing in Bergh's early life forecast his call to compassion. A dilettante playwright with no children or pets, he once explained to a friend that he disliked her dog not because it was small, but because it was a dog. But in his early fifties, while serving as envoy to Czar Alexander II in 1863, Bergh witnessed cruelties that awoke his humane impulse. He resigned his post to study England's Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals — founded after Unitarian Jeremy Bentham asserted that the moral "question is not, Can [animals] reason? nor, Can they talk? but, Can they suffer?" So Bergh commenced his life work not from an affinity with animals, nor as a squeamish sentimentalist, but stirred by suffering and injustice. "This is a matter purely of conscience," he said. "It has no perplexing side issues. . . . It is a moral question in all its aspects." Unitarian newspaperman Horace Greeley and seventy other prominent citizens signed Bergh's "A Declaration of the Rights of Animals." The Albany legislature passed an animal welfare statute in response, also chartering the continent's first humane organization: the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Bergh's Unitarian minister served as one of the ASPCA's first vice-

presidents, urging "zeal and . . . fearless arrests." Some newspapers labeled Bergh "the Great Meddler"; others, "An Ass That Should Have His Ears Cropped." Bergh broadcast that all animals fell under the Society's purview. Battles between Bergh and Universalist circus showman P.T. Barnum became legendary. Yet Bergh more typically targeted routine practices of the day: butchers who bound calves' legs and stacked the live animals like cordwood for transport over cobblestone streets, or who plucked and boiled chickens alive; dairymen who permanently chained cows to their stalls. Bergh's industriousness knew few bounds. Uninvited, he waded into legislatures in white spats and slaughterhouses in rubber boots. Criticized for tending animals rather than people, he replied that if animals had to await mercy until human affairs were resolved, they would still be waiting at the Second Coming. In 1874, Bergh learned of a nine-year-old girl beaten daily by her stepmother. No person or agency would intervene in a family matter. Bergh not only effected a rescue, but developed the first U.S. law shielding children from domestic abuse. He called for a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; when no one replied, he created it himself. Newspapers called his innovation "preposterous," under headlines like "Legislation Running Mad!" and "Leave Our Children Alone!" Bergh's anti-cruelty work accustomed him to death threats, public ridicule, and physical attacks. Top hat firmly



in place, employing his jaunty cane in self-defense when necessary, he remained ASPCA president and SPCC board member until his death in 1888. By that time, his societies had prosecuted over 12,000 cruelty cases. Long before Bergh's funeral, his city and nation had claimed him as hero. Many Unitarians supported Bergh's work during his lifetime, including Ralph Waldo Emerson and Louisa May Alcott. Unitarian and Universalist churches helped found myriad U.S. and Canadian humane societies. Unitarian poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow eulogized Bergh as "among the noblest of the land . . . The friend of every friendless beast." Barnum, won to what he called Bergh's "excellent cause," was one of Bergh's pallbearers.

From an article by John Gibb Millspaugh
U U World Summer 2011

<http://www.uuworld.org/ideas/articles/183480.shtml>

Adult Literacy Project

In an Arlington Public Library community outreach project, our volunteers work with clients one on one. For information about this activity, call Patsy Rosen at 817-860-9559.

Movie Night at the Church August 10

On Wednesday, **August 10**, at 7:00 p.m., we show *Defending Your Life*, a romantic comedy/fantasy from 1991 by Albert Brooks. A man must justify his life-long lack of assertiveness after he dies and arrives in the afterlife. Featuring Brooks, Meryl Streep, Lee Grant and Rip Torn. Bring whatever you like to munch and sip on.

New Sunday School Programs

Our children are excited about the new children's religious education curriculum being created and introduced by new member Sandra Martin. Sandra, wife of another new member Chad Martin, is originally from Warner Robins in central Georgia. She has studied Child Development and has a degree in Social Work from UTA. In August she has finalized plans for a session August 7 titled "We Are All One" — animal masks, August 14 "Hearing the Inner Voice" — self portraits and notebooks, August 21 "Faith, Hope and Prayer" — a collage of hopes for tomorrow, and August 28 "In Another's Shoes" — what would UUs do? You can already see some of the output of earlier sessions displayed in the church's central hallway - don't miss them!



UU Wednesdays

We now have regular Wednesday evening programming throughout the month. Pagan Open Forum meets first and third Wednesdays, Movie Night the second, Drum Circle the fourth Wednesday.

Cell phones should be turned off during the service.

Food in the Sanctuary: So we can all enjoy a snack and fellowship afterwards, please do not bring food into the sanctuary during services and forums.

Facilities Use Policy: Permission must be obtained prior to use from the church board or, at minimum, the church president. The fee is \$15 per hour unless another rate or free use is agreed upon by the AUUC Board prior to use. Copies of the policy are available upon request.

Support Group: For our members who are trying to get their lives straightened out or to search for just plain stress relief, we have organized a support group that meets at the church every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact John Reed, our dedicated problem-solver.

Side Porch Counseling: Arlington UU Church is sponsoring counseling services each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. For a moderate fee, Dr. John Reed, LPC, provides counseling for personal problems, stress management and relaxation. Call 817-460-6481 for more information or an appointment. Or just drop by.

New Members Welcome: Membership in the Arlington UU Church is open to everyone 16 or older who is in sympathy with our purpose and principles. If you wish to join us, you need only sign a membership form in the presence of an officer of the Church or the Membership Chair. Active (voting) members must additionally make a financial contribution of record during the year prior to, and be on the roster at least 60 days prior to, any congregational business meeting at which they wish to vote.

Newsletter/Publicity: Clara Blair, 817-265-3429, blairbards@sbcglobal.net