



# FIRST UU NEWS

*We gather in community to nourish souls, transform lives, and do justice.*

## Meaning and beauty from different places

by Rev. Chris Jimmerson



*I am so pleased to let you know that our senior minister, Meg Barnhouse, had a successful surgery to put in a new artificial hip and is recovering well. She plans to be back with us in mid-September. Thanks to everyone for the love and support you have expressed.*

We are an ever-growing, ever-diversifying congregation. Each week, our folks bring with them an ever-expanding tapestry of talents, desires and ideas for our church. We benefit from the continually widening worldview such a range of thought and experience can bring to us.

And we struggle with it sometimes too.

Recently, a number of folks have expressed how much the large screen we sometimes use in our services adds to the experience for them. One parent was so pleased that their child began singing along with the hymns for the first time when the lyrics were available via the large

screen. Other folks have said that they find the screen distracting.

We also have a variety of preferences about the music during worship. Some folks love it when we rock out! Others folks much prefer quieter, more classical pieces. Some of us love the wide variety of musical styles we get to experience. Some of our folks find that applauding during worship is a spontaneous reaction to their hearts being moved. Other folks would much prefer there not be applause.

We have in any typical worship service multiple generations, a variety of ethnic backgrounds, and a wide range of prior church experiences (or lack thereof). All of this can mean we have differing experiences of cultural norms regarding worship.

Knowing this, we can also begin to understand that if there is an element of a particular worship service that is not especially to our taste, it may hold great meaning for someone else. Likewise, an element that

is greatly moving to some of us may not be so for others.

If we lean into this, it becomes one of our great strengths. We can create worship that has many textures and great variety, such that we all expand our horizons and find the spirit moving within us from a growing multiplicity of potential worship elements. We can fill our sanctuary with meaning and beauty from a great many sources.

On the subject of our sanctuary, we hope to begin our expansion and renovations soon. We are still waiting for permitting from the City of Austin, which we may well have by the time this newsletter comes out. We will keep you updated, and please plan to attend an update on the renovations with our building committee and members of your board of trustees on **August 27 after second service**. We will gather at **12:30 in Howson Hall**, and the church will provide lunch.

Thank you for being a part of this wonderful religious community. ■

**PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

# Who really owns our church, anyway?

**by Jairy Grisaffe**



The question of who owns our church is one I hadn't thought much about until I started learning more about policy-based governance. We talk about the concept of "moral ownership," or ultimate source of authority, when we discuss church ownership under our governance model. Our board policies define this as "those on whose behalf we pursue our mission, including past, present and future members and friends of our church, our denomination, and the surrounding community."

The more I read this, the more responsibility I feel as someone living out our mission. It calls on us to remember those that came before us and remember what they contributed as owners. It reminds us to think about those for whom

we serve now. It asks us to consider how we might serve those that will come after us in our community. And while our church and denomination are an important part of who we are, it asks us to also include our consideration for the surrounding community.

As you can probably figure out by now, we the congregants are the moral owners of our church and our mission. And as owners, we take a special pride in making First UU of Austin ours when we engage in responsible ownership. We take care of our church beyond our own personal use of it. We strive to make good decisions about the church and how we carry out our mission.

It's important that we understand our role as the moral owners

of the church as we head into this fall and begin revisiting our values, ends, and mission. We all have the opportunity to make our voices heard when comes to expressing what we want these to be. We have an important responsibility to remember our past, think about our present, and consider our future when speaking up for the values we hold most dear.

At our recent annual retreat, our board created a subcommittee to shepherd our congregation through the values, ends, and mission revision process. Everyone on our board will be involved in some way throughout the process. Our working together to accomplish this meaningful endeavor will be a wonderful expression of ownership of our church. ■

## PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CLINIC

## Healthcare, and so much more

People's Community Clinic is one of the nonprofit organizations supported by the First UU congregation as part of its mission to "do justice." For several years, members and friends of the church have gathered, once a month, at each of the two clinic sites to collate educational materials that are used by the health educators with the patients. The materials include important health and wellness information that addresses pregnancy, women's health, as well as the care, health, and safety of children from birth through 12 years of age.

The core group of volunteer document collators from First UU includes: Amy Bennett, Barbara Tuttle, Diane Barnet, Jon Montgomery, Judy Appelt, Martha Northington, Sandy Madsen, Veryan Thompson, Zosia Hunt, Nan & Bob Sechler, and Nancy & Max Stout. Others come as they are able. And, without exception, volunteers report that they receive as much as they give.

The healthcare provided by PCC to the uninsured in our community is greatly needed. But the clinic does so much more than just care for the physical health of its patients. One such service is its Medical Legal Partnership, which assists clients with legal issues that affect their welfare and, ultimately, their health.

Ms. Keegan Warren-Clem, an attorney with the clinic, describes what happened with a female patient of the clinic who was to be evicted from her home:

*Ms. H received a Notice to Vacate and then an eviction notice. Her landlord told her she need not go to court, so she did not attend and did not appeal. Her not showing up in court lead to a default judgment by a judge and the loss of her Section 8 voucher, a coupon for rental assistance that helps individuals and families pay for housing.*

*Without the voucher, she couldn't afford an apartment and risked becoming homeless. She told a doctor at the clinic about her situation, and the doctor contacted the Legal Assistance unit.*

*The clinic's lawyer represented Ms. H at a hearing, explaining her lack of understanding of the process and the landlord's instruction. The lawyer was able to reverse the Housing Authority's decision to take away the Section 8 voucher. As a result, Ms. H is no longer facing becoming homeless. Instead, she has a stable home that allows her to work full-time and better manage her health.*

When we think about People's Community Clinic, we think health issues. But health has a wide net. The clinic's dedicated staff and volunteers work very hard to address their patients' social, mental, and physical needs. In so doing, they maintain the health of our neighbors and help to further a more desirable community for all of us.

For more information about First UU's volunteer efforts with PCC, please email [pcc@austinuu.org](mailto:pcc@austinuu.org). All are welcome to join in this effort.

**Connections Fair—  
Save the Date!**

**Sunday, October 22**  
**Church courtyard**  
**8:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Please join us for First UU's annual Connections Fair. Learn about different groups and ministries at the church and how you can get involved! Contact: Shannon Posern, [membership@austinuu.org](mailto:membership@austinuu.org).

**Alphabet Soup Film  
Screening: "The  
David Dance"**

**Wednesday, August 23**  
**Rm. 13**  
**7 p.m.**

Celebrate Austin LGBTQ Pride week with the Austin premier of the feature film, "The David Dance." The story deals with a gay man's struggles with self-doubt when his single sister asks him to be the father figure for her soon-to-be adopted Brazilian child. This film explores the colorful relationship between a brother and sister, and the impact of the spoken word on the human spirit. Contact Tomas Medina: [alphabetsoup@austinuu.org](mailto:alphabetsoup@austinuu.org).

## LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT

# Lifespan FD highlights

by **Laine Young, Interim Director of Lifespan Faith Development**



I don't know about y'all, but July turned out to be quite the test of patience for me! Patience has never been my strong suit. (You can ask any of my parents, or even my kiddo!)

At the beginning of July I was involved in a car accident that had me suddenly dealing with things like filing police reports, driving an unfamiliar car for most of the month, trying to feel comfortable being behind the wheel again, having to take a break from the gym and my Krav Maga classes, and several calls with our insurance company. It was a lot to deal with when I was still trying to process what had happened. I quickly found myself becoming more frustrated and impatient every day.

Here at the church, Shannon has been doing an amazing job of helping set up our Sunday school sign-in kiosk, which has involved learning how the label printer works, making templates, reconfiguring the computer, testing everything during the week, and I'm sure I don't have the full list of things. Every single Sunday the kiosk has done something unexpected. One Sunday it refused to connect to the wifi, and on another the printer printed all the labels inverse!

What did I learn with these two wildly different tests of patience? Very similar things, actually. I learned that it helps to stop, take a deep breath, and think about what you can be thankful for in the situation. While dealing with the car accident it became part of my daily practice to remind myself that Kaitlyn and I were both able to walk away from the car accident, and I am immensely thankful for that. I was reminded of the power of community. Your community cares for you and that we are all here to support one another. Every Sunday

that the printer has acted up, y'all have done everything from offering to help fix the kiosk to making jokes to help lighten the mood. Patience and understanding from your community are game-changing in such an amazingly positive way, and I am so thankful for this patient and understanding church community!

In fellowship,  
*Laine Young*

P.S. Find our latest LFD Children and Youth calendar bookmarks for 2017–18 at the LFD table outside the sanctuary on Sundays. Pick one up the next time you are at church so you can join in all the fun!

### **Classroom Prep Morning, August 5 9 a.m. – noon**

Please join us for a morning of fun, food, fellowship while we spruce up the classrooms and classroom supplies and get ready for the fall semester! Breakfast will be provided. Contact Laine Young to RSVP: [laine.young@austinuu.org](mailto:laine.young@austinuu.org).

### **Blessing of the Backpacks, Students, and Educators: August 13**

Join us for our second annual Blessing of Backpacks, Students, and Educators! Bring your backpack, book bag, lanyard, or any other school item and join us for a special back-to-school blessing during the Story For All Ages during each service (9:15 & 10:45 a.m.) Weather permitting, we will also have a sidewalk chalk station right outside the sanctuary.

**Racism Unlearning Circle  
August 19, 10:00 a.m.**

Based on Undoing White Supremacy Austin's Unlearning Circles, this group will be a place for white folks to discuss the creation and meaning of whiteness, white supremacy, racism, our role in perpetuating oppressive systems (intentionally or not), and how we can take accountable action to dismantle white supremacy and show up with minoritized peoples to demand an end to dehumanization. This group was initiated by parents of young children, so part of the work we do is discussions of how to talk to them about race, model anti-racism work with them, and support them in finding strength in their own voice for racial and social justice. However, all folks are welcome, as the primary focus will be unlearning the culture and system of white supremacy we all live in and how to dismantle it within ourselves and collectively within society.

**Mark Your Calendar! Families LFD  
Lunch, September 10, 12:30 p.m.**

All parents and guardians whose children or teens will participate in 2017–18 Faith Development are encouraged to attend this information session. We'll discuss the year's upcoming curricula and will have enrollment forms available. Bring your kids, your curiosity, your questions, and your appetite—we'll be serving lunch. We truly want to get to know you and hear what you'd like in a Lifespan Faith Development program! RSVP to [laine.young@austinuu.org](mailto:laine.young@austinuu.org). Hope to see you all there!

**Join the RE Family!**

Would you like to strengthen your connection to the larger First UU of Austin community, deepen your spiritual life, see the world through a whole new perspective, and have a ton of fun? If so, the LFD team would love for you to join our great group of talented volunteer teachers! We are seeking those who would like to hang out and learn with our kids over the next year as a lead teacher, co-lead teacher, or classroom helper. No teaching experience necessary, as you will be given an orientation and curriculum. Contact Laine to get more information! [Laine.young@austinuu.org](mailto:Laine.young@austinuu.org)

**MONTHLY SPECIAL OFFERING**

**CHECK ENGINE LIGHT:  
Our clients rely on your  
support**

**by Peter Durkin**

Every nonprofit is obligated to ask: why do we exist, and what good do we do?

The mission of Planned Parenthood is to ensure the right and ability of all individuals to manage their sexual and reproductive health by providing health services, education, and advocacy.

For over 100 years, Planned Parenthood has existed as a national organization. We were founded by Margaret Sanger, considered by Time magazine as one of the top leaders and revolutionaries of the last century. Margaret coined the words “family planning.” Indeed, family planning was considered one of the top ten public health achievements of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, according to the Center of Disease Control.

I am so proud to be both a member of First UU Austin and the retired (after 27 years) CEO of Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast (Houston and Louisiana). This congregation has consistently voted Planned Parenthood as one of their top special offering organizations. On behalf of our clients, I thank you.

It is reassuring to have my work values, attitudes, and beliefs reaffirmed by my religious denomination. UUs have long ago addressed challenging issues of sexuality education, access to healthcare, choice, HIV services, and gender equality, way ahead of other denominations who continue to squabble over what we take for granted.

I would ask that when you contemplate making a gift to Planned

Parenthood, picture this: you are a 22-year-old woman with a job you don't love, a toddler you would die for, and no health insurance. You live paycheck to paycheck, and you know to the penny how much cash you've got until the end of the month.

You are rushing home on I-35 to relieve your mom, who's with your baby, and the “check engine light” on the car comes on. You feel a wave of panic. You know you're always one emergency away from everything falling apart. That is our client, I always have her in my mind. I hope you will too.

Thank you, Peter Durkin

*Monthly Special Offerings are done every second Sunday of the month at worship services. All groups supported by MSOs receive a check at the end of the year, with the total of the 12 monthly donations divided equally.*

## WHITE ALLIES FOR RACIAL EQUITY

### Learn about our latest anti-racism efforts

**Sunday, Aug. 20**  
**Room 13**  
**12:30–2 p.m.**

At our Aug. meeting, we'll hear about the three different anti-racism efforts currently taking place at First UU. The first is White Allies itself, the second is the Unlearning Circles program, and the third is an upcoming group called the Change Team, which is working on programming

for the fall.

Based on Undoing White Supremacy Austin's Unlearning Circles, the event to be hosted at the church is listed on pg. 5.

The Change Team is a coalition of white allies and people of color at our church, working to move all of the congregation up the racial development scale and move our church toward becoming an anti-racist

social change organization.

The UU White Allies for Racial Equity is a group of self-identified white Austin area UUs and friends. Through training and self-examination, we educate ourselves about racism and whiteness in order to be good allies as we do anti-racism work in our church and our communities. For more info, contact Scott Butki at [sbutki@gmail.com](mailto:sbutki@gmail.com).

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



### OPPORTUNITY ABOUNDS AT FIRST UU!

“Opportunity” — that’s the overriding message, and word that best describes this year’s stewardship campaign.

“Talk about an era of opportunity...,” said Bill Edwards, chair of the Stewardship Ministry. He cited the building project about to take wing and break ground after our successful capital campaign. Edwards noted that in the follow-up capital campaign earlier this year, new member families pledged \$115,000. “These families joined our church since 2015 and have already shown their commitment.”

He noted the anonymous gift that has made possible the continuation of Susan Yarbrough’s organized outreach to our members who live

at the Westminster Senior Living Community. This program began last year as part of our intern minister’s seminary training. Now Kathleen Ellis, congregant and ordained UU minister, will be able to continue this formal “Westminster Worship” every month.

Edwards said 27 folks had signed the membership book in January, and more had signed or expressed interest in joining since then. “The need is there,” he said, as evidenced by the increase in the number of visitors on Sundays — up by an average of 14 over the prior year.

“Opportunity begets opportunity,” he said, “now more than ever.”

In keeping with the opportunity

theme, canvassers now have a new name: “stewardship visitors.” Those who have already signed on began training July 29. A second training session will be held Aug. 4.

“You can count on your own stewardship visitor contacting you soon to talk about our church and the opportunities before us,” Edwards said. In addition, persons can stop by the stewardship table in the gallery until the campaign ends Sunday, Oct. 29.

For more information on the campaign and to sign on as a stewardship visitor, contact Edwards at (210) 274-4496. He promises it will be a great opportunity to become more involved and to make new friends.

## MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

# Our butterflies will be migrating!

by Rose Ann Reeser

Before this year is out, we anticipate that construction will begin on our new enlarged sanctuary space.

What's to become of the butterfly sculpture on the hallway wall in the sanctuary foyer? That's the beautiful wood and glass sculpture and painted scene, inspired by the ancient oaks at our Hill Country retreat. The scene is embellished

with butterflies donated in memory of our departed church friends and family. Beside the sculpture is a book with a brief biography of the people who are memorialized with butterflies.

When we commissioned this memorial sculpture back in 2007, we were already planning for future construction and stipulated that a

new memorial must be movable. So it is. Good thinking!

We don't know exactly how the memorial will be displayed in or near our new sanctuary, but we know it will continue to be a visible commemoration of those who have meant so much in the life of this church.

Butterflies are a symbol of death and rebirth in many indigenous American cultures. They represent the shortness of life, profound change, and the continuity of the cycle of life. They are also symbolic of our Seventh Principle: the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

We are glad that the butterfly memorial will continue to grace our new sanctuary home for years to come, and invite you to visit the sculpture soon.

If you are interested in donating a butterfly for your loved one, please contact Shannon Posern in the church office for more information.



*The butterfly memorial wall, near the south sanctuary entrance. Photo: Victoria Valadez*



## DENOMINATIONAL CONNECTIONS

### General Assembly Adopts Statement of Conscience on Inequality

Every two years, delegates at GA select a major justice issue for three years of study and reflection, culminating in the adoption of a Statement of Conscience. This statement documents our denomination's position on the issue and identifies actions that can be taken at the national and local church level. For example, in 2014 delegates selected "Escalating Inequality." At GA in New Orleans this summer, delegates discussed, debated and adopted a Statement of Conscience on that issue. The SOC identifies the many justice issues stemming from economic inequality, lays out the religious grounds for addressing them, and identifies a large number of actions that congregations are encouraged to consider. Read more about the SOC at [uuworld.org/articles/economic-inequality-statement-2017](http://uuworld.org/articles/economic-inequality-statement-2017). In 2016 General Assembly selected "Corruption of our Democracy" as the current study issue. A new issue will be selected in 2018.

### Wildflower UU Church Women's Retreat: Save the Date! October 13–15, 2017

The annual Wildflower Women's Retreat will be held at the gorgeous Camp Young Judaea in Wimberley, TX. This is an opportunity to recharge and reconnect with your core, your community, and your UU values. Activities will include: five meals (included with registration), fun and inspiring workshops, a bonfire, singalong, swimming, worship, and opportunities to explore the beautiful natural setting

on your own. Five meals included with registration. Register now: <http://bit.ly/womensretreatregistration>. For more info, check out [facebook.com/WildflowerWomensRetreat](https://www.facebook.com/WildflowerWomensRetreat) or email the retreat team at [womensretreat@wildflowerchurch.org](mailto:womensretreat@wildflowerchurch.org).

### Love Resists

Love Resists is a joint campaign of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee that is activating people of faith and conscience to resist the criminalization of our neighbors and communities and create a safer, more just, welcoming, and sustainable world. Love Resists includes actions to create stronger community partnerships and to raise our voices for justice. Learn more at [www.uua.org/loveresists](http://www.uua.org/loveresists).

### Chalice Lighters

The UU Chalice Lighter program began in 1984 as a way for individuals to extend our UU faith by making small donations to "Chalice Calls" during the year. You can become a Chalice Lighter by joining the email list at [www.uua.org/southern/chalice-lighters](http://www.uua.org/southern/chalice-lighters), and clicking on the box on the right-hand side of the page.

UBarU has been selected as a Chalice Lighter program recipient, to support their ADA Accessibility Improvement Project. Learn more and donate at [www.ubaru.org/home/ADA\\_Accessibility](http://www.ubaru.org/home/ADA_Accessibility).

### Carpool Opportunities

Want to carpool to an event outside Austin? Email [denom@austinuu.org](mailto:denom@austinuu.org) and we'll try to put you together with someone to share the ride.

### Austin Presence Group

**September 5 & 19**  
**Room 13B**  
**6:30–8 p.m.**

As we reconvene Austin Presence Group meetings, we'll be starting a brand new book discussion on Michael Singer's "The Untethered Soul." For our first meeting we'll be joined by special guest speaker Stephen Summers.

A \$5 donation is requested in order to support the church. For additional details, visit us at [meetup.com/AustinPresence](http://meetup.com/AustinPresence).

Come light another candle to illuminate your understanding along the spiritual path called life. Contact: Joe Linsalata, (512) 327-5000 or [Linsalata@austin.rr.com](mailto:Linsalata@austin.rr.com).

**Eclectic Folk Jam****Friday, August 11****Rm. 17****7–10 p.m.**

An open jam session for singers and instrumentalists, held on the second Friday of every month. We have “Rise Up Singing” and “Rise Again” song books, and music stands. Bring other songs if you like. Bring drinks and snacks to share.

Contact Pete and Kim Akenhead at (512) 834-0188, or Mary Jane Ford at (512) 926-4122 or [singalong@austinuu.org](mailto:singalong@austinuu.org).

**UU/Quaker Singalong**

**Saturday, August 26**  
**Friends Meeting House**  
**(3701 E. MLK Blvd.)**

**7–10 p.m.**

Bring snacks and finger foods, and musical instruments. Copies of “Rise Up Singing” and “Rise Again” are provided, but you may bring other songs. This is an alcohol-free event, round-robin format, held on the fourth Saturday of every month.

Contact Larry Vaughn at (512) 469-0029 or Mary Jane Ford at (512) 926-4122 or [singalong@austinuu.org](mailto:singalong@austinuu.org).

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

S A N C T U A R Y 9 : 1 5 A M A N D 1 0 : 4 5 A M

**AUGUST 6****Many Gifts, Many Ways**

REV. CHRIS JIMMERSON

In our struggles for social justice—as well as in life itself—we all bring different gifts, and there are often more ways than one to move forward. We’ll explore how respecting and encouraging these different gifts and means can maximize our creative potential for bringing about beneficial change.

**AUGUST 13****From Eve to Us**

ERIN WALTER

Sexism and misogyny go way back, as exemplified in interpretations of the Genesis story, and challenging those oppressions can be a source of personal and spiritual growth. Why are UUs called to address sexism in ourselves, our churches, and our wider world? What simple or creative ways can people of all genders rise against misogyny in our daily lives? This is the sermon for which Walter won the UU Women’s Federation “Justice for Women and Girls” 2017 sermon award.

Don’t forget it’s Blessing of the Backpacks this Sunday! See pg. 4 for details.

**AUGUST 20****Big Gay Sunday**

REV. CHRIS JIMMERSON

Our mission begins with “we gather in community.” As we prepare to celebrate and participate in LGBTQ Pride week and activities, we’ll examine how our common purpose begins with a concept of community that values all of us as our truest, full selves. This will be the first in a series of sermons on the elements of our mission.

**AUGUST 27****A Story in Three Acts**

REV. CHRIS JIMMERSON

When we encounter life’s challenges and difficulties, the stories we construct about them can help us or hinder us from fully engaging in them and moving toward wholeness and healthiness. Drawing on the work of Glennon Doyle Melton and Brené Brown, we will look at all three acts they outline for our stories.



## Music Matters

*Check out the music offering we're serving up this month at Sunday Services!*

### AUGUST 6

#### **Austin Haller, along with First UU Vocal Quartet**

Austin Haller is an organist, pianist, conductor, vocal coach, arranger, and tenor who can be heard in Texas and beyond. Hailed as “always remarkable” (Austin Chronicle), he performs regularly with the Conspirare Company of Voices and Symphonic Choir, Austin Cabaret Theatre, Panoramic Voices, and the Amphion Youth Choir; and he is the organist and pianist for the Allegro ensemble of the Conspirare Youth Choir. Austin also serves as music director of regional theatre productions and is the recipient of Austin Critics’ Table and B. Iden Payne Awards for music direction. He is currently the interim associate music director in the musical theatre program of Texas State University’s Dept. of Theatre & Dance.

### AUGUST 13

#### **Concertmaster Dr. Stephen Redfield**

Violinist Stephen Redfield, D.M.A., is a member of the University of Southern Mississippi School of Music faculty, where he performs with the Mississippi Chamber Circle and the Impromptu Piano Trio. Throughout the year Stephen also acts as concertmaster of the Santa Fe Pro Musica and each summer plays with the Victoria Bach Festival; his performances as concertmaster and soloist there have been produced on discs and broadcast nationally. He is a long-standing participant in the Oregon Bach Festival, where he has participated in numerous recordings including the Grammy award-winning disc “Credo.” In addition, Stephen is concertmaster of the Arizona Bach Festival, was the long-time principal second violin of the Sunriver Music Festival, and served for five years as assistant concertmaster of the Austin Symphony Orchestra. Stephen has particularly extensive experience in the choral-orchestral repertoire and is an active chamber and solo musician throughout the U.S. and abroad.

### AUGUST 20

#### **First UU Church of Austin Choir & Band, with Nakia**

Celebrating “Big Gay Sunday,” you can look forward to music selections from Morrissey, Rufus Wainwright, and Hedwig and the Angry Inch.

Austin-based, Alabama-raised singer/songwriter Nakia has a heart that beats to the rhythms of Muscle Shoals soul, pumping blood infused with Stax funk to cells lined with Chicago blues grooves. His vocal talent is the kind that instantly turns listeners into fans. A consummate performer and band leader, Nakia made a name for himself locally in Austin before being launched into the national spotlight on NBC’s “The Voice” where he made it to the semifinals. He is an active member of the Austin music community, advocating for organizations such as Black Fret, HAAM, and the SIMS Foundation. He has served as the chair of the Austin Music Commission and is a member of the Board of Governors for the Texas Chapter of the Recording Academy. Nakia is a two-time Black Fret nominee. Nakia released a new album in June 2017, “Wine to Water (The “Water to Wine” Outtakes),” and can also be found performing with Nakia and the Blues Grifters.

### AUGUST 27

#### **The 45s, joined by several special guests**

For over a decade, musical group the 45s have been delighting audiences with their entertaining interpretations of the American Songbook, playing such notable Austin venues as Mercury Hall, Lost Pines Resort, and the Texas Union Ballroom. Band members have musical roots in just about every genre, from classical to country to heavy metal, with more than 80 years of combined performance experience between them. Drawing inspiration from Ella Fitzgerald and her collaborations with the famous big bands of her early career, the 45s serve up deliciously croony tunes with a contemporary flavor. ■

**First Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Austin**

(512) 452-6168

[www.austinuuu.org](http://www.austinuuu.org)

First UU Ministers

**Rev. Meg Barnhouse**

**Rev. Chris Jimmerson**

Director of Music

**Brent Baldwin**

Interim Director of Lifespan

Faith Development

**Laine Young**

Congregational Administrator

**Shannon Posern**

Communications Coordinator

**Victoria M. Valadez**

Financial Administrator

**Katherine Patton**

Board President

**Jairy Grisaffe**

**SOCIAL ACTION COUNCIL**

Support East Austin children heading back to school!

**Sunday, August 6 & 13**  
**Social Action table (in gallery)**

Counter Balance: ATX is seeking school supplies for elementary to high school students. Donated supplies will go to the East Austin communities that Counter Balance: ATX sponsors, as well as to children who have parents currently incarcerated. Needed items are listed on the right.

Donations will be accepted before, during, and after Sunday services on the above dates. Thanks in advance for your assistance!

- Backpacks (*not red or blue*)
- Binders
- Blue & black pens
- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Flash drives
- Folders with pockets & brads
- Tab dividers
- Markers
- No. 2 & colored pencils
- Round-tip scissors
- Reusable water bottles
- Spiral & composition notebooks
- Lined notebook paper
- Highlighters
- Erasers
- Scientific calculators



**First Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Austin**

4700 Grover Ave.  
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