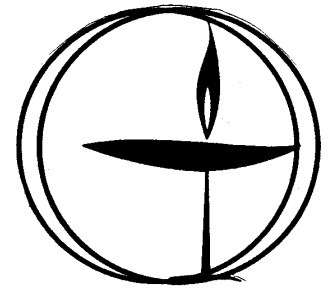


UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH of LAWTON



A family of faith valuing diversity, community and religious growth

Volume 16 Issue 12

December 2010

701 B Avenue

A Month of Sundays

December 5th

Emotional Intelligence:

Rev. Jennifer Long

Taking captive our thoughts--philosophies of positivity and faith

Graduate of Texas Tech University with a BA in English, and MSA in Classics. Rev. Long served as pastor of Cache United Methodist for 5 years. She plays banjo in a bluegrass group and writes "cowgirl" poetry and various columns and blogs. She is married to Kevin Long and has 2 sons, age 6 and 10.

December 12th

Defining Transcendence: Society

Anna Holloway, Mdiv

Most religious, spiritual, or faith traditions deal with transcendence in some way. Transcendence is the central reality, whether embodied in a god-concept or in an intellectual process, that makes us reach for more. It's also really hard to talk about!

Anna Holloway lives in Norman, OK with her daughter and works at OU as an Academic Editor. She was our

student minister for over a year while attending Phillips Seminary and is now working on ordination through the United Church of Christ.

December 19th

Why Celebrate Christmas?"

Dr Mark Davies

An exploration of some pretty good reasons to celebrate Christmas through finding ways to make love incarnate in our world.

Dr. Mark Davies is dean of the Petree College of Arts and Sciences and Wimberly Professor of Social Ethics at Oklahoma City University.. Dr. Davies has published in the areas of Boston personalism, process philosophy and ethics, and ecological ethics, and he is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. Dr. Davies is co-founder of Oikos, Inc., a non-profit organization that focuses on systemic solutions for global sustainability with special emphasis on the issues of peace and nonviolence, social justice and human need, and ecological sustainability

December 26th

"Epistemology: How Do I Know that I Know What I Know?"

Robert Duncan

An overview of the philosophical field of epistemology, the study of knowledge. Some of the subjects covered will be: the practical use of skepticism, the difference between knowing and believing, and logical errors.

Robert Duncan is a Master's level graduate of Cameron University. He has taught high school science, math, history, English, and special education. As an undergraduate, he minored in philosophy, which is just enough exposure to the discipline to make one's thought process dangerous.

Sunday's Schedule:

Adult Forum 9:30 am
Fellowship 10:15-10:30 am
Worship 10:30; am
Discussion 11.30-11.45
Children's Sunday school:
10.30-11.30 am

Children's Program

Dec. 5—One Month Many Holidays (craft designing personal holiday pin/buttons)

Dec. 12—My Favorite Dec. Holiday Open Discussion (craft snowmen)

Dec. 19—Holiday Party

Dec. 26—New Beginnings/New Year (craft puzzles)

DUNCAN DINERS

Duncan Diners will meet 6:30 on Dec. 16 (third Thurs) at the home of Ellen Steely 1113 Bent Tree in Duncan for pre-Christmas drinks and finger foods. All are invited, just let Ellen know if you are coming - ellensteely@sbcglobal.net.

The next Board meeting will take place on 12th December at 12.noon All welcome to attend.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Lawton

Board Members

Ian Robb, President

Dan Scraper, Past President

Russ Bennett, VP

Sandy Unruh Bennett, Treasurer

Pat Hankins, Clerk

Trustees

Weyodi Grandbergs

Susan Houser

Sam McMichael

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LUNCH BUNCH



12/5 Brown bag at church

12/12 Hong Kong Buffet

12/19 El Chico

12/26 To be decided

November Treats



12/5 Sean & Susan

12/12 Patricia Routon

12/19 Ellen

12/26 Billie Campbell

November Flowers



12/5 Jack & Patsy

12/12 Bill & Karen

12/19 Poinsettia

Sunday

12/26 Open

November Cleaning



Cleaning Church ready for:

12/5 Ian & Linda

12/12 Eli

12/19 Russ Bennett

12/26 Open

Committee Chairs

Religious Education- Leah Ellis

Ellen Steely, Worship

Patsy Nixon, Membership

Eli Williamson, Building & Grounds

Mary McClure, Public Relations

Karen Moreno, Small Groups

Bill Moreno, Hospitality

Beverley Davenport, Pastoral care

Robert Duncan, Social Justice

Kate McClure, Bylaws

Susan Houser, Audit

Billie Campbell, Church librarian

Russ Bennett Outreach program

Ian's Notes.

With this last version of my notes as President, I would really like to thank all those who have supported the church in its varied activities. There are too many to mention in detail again (mentioned at the ABM) but it is this support that keeps our group going. I would also especially like to say how much the group has meant to me on a personal level- if it weren't for the group I would by now have returned to England- instead my next destination looks like being Houston. Life can be full of surprises!

I hope you are able to take advantage of the end-of-year opportunity to donate to the church all that additional unwanted (and even wanted?) money that is cluttering your bank balances- remember that this is eligible for tax relief which Sandy will be delighted to verify.

And please welcome your new 2011 President- Russ Bennett- with the same support that you gave me! There is plenty to do to make the church even better than it is at present.

Please have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing ya'll in 2011.

Covenant Groups.

Mondays Meditation Covenant Group

7:00-9:00 pm Mondays at the church.

2) Film Group

An excellent time was had in November seeing "Charlie Wilson's War" about the U.S. helping Afghanistan fight the Russians who were trying to take over the country in the 70s. There was vigorous discussion after the film.

Friday, December 10, at 7 p.m. we will see "Babette's Feast" at the home of Sandy and Russell Bennett, 2731 NW Denver, 248-2476. The film is based on a short novel by Isak Dinesen and is "a rousing yarn of delicate philosophical overtones about a French female chef de cuisine of five-star repute, exiled after the Paris uprisings of 1871, who survives as a maid and cook to a couple of elderly puritan and devout spinster daughters of a strict sectarian vicar-prophet, now passed away, on a remote and rugged Scandinavian North Sea coast." The former chef, Babette, wins a large sum from a lottery ticket and spends it all on a feast for the sisters and some villagers. and a reviewer says not to see the film on an empty stomach as the feast is very well displayed. It is a Swedish film, subtitled, and was released in 1987.

This should be interesting. Beverley

3) Poetry Group. The Poetry group will meet this month- 11th December at 6.30 pm- come along and enjoy the best poetry in Lawton

4) Singing Group: we meet at 6.15 pm at the church on each Wednesday of each month- great fun and a little singing!

Upcoming Events

- a) **Victorian Tea with Dr Vivian Thomlinson** @ Simmons Center, Duncan 5.00pm Friday December 10th; General: \$10.00; K<12 &5.00; RSVP: (580) 581-5506; a very enjoyable event to be sure!
- b) **Blue Moon Productions @ Centenary Methodist Church:** Frank Capra: It's a Wonderful Life; Dec 3,4 10,11th; 6.30pm (meal) or 8.pm (play); more details at: <http://bluemoonprod.net/>

Joys and Concerns

As many of you now know Mary McClure fell last week and broke her wrist and pelvis- Mary is in the Rehabilitation Center, Comanche County Hospital (on Gore) and we all wish her a speedy recovery.

It was a delight to see Mr & Mrs Forehand (Sean & Susan) last week at the church & we wish them all the best in their life together.

Reiki Classes

Judie Snelson holds Reiki classes at the church on Saturday morning- anyone interested in this rather wonderful relaxation treatment should contact Judie at followyourdreams@unhinderedliving.com

You've got to love the Irish!

- 1) Gallagher opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly phoned his best friend, Finney.
"Did you see the paper?" asked Gallagher. "They say I died!!"
"Yes, I saw it!" replied Finney. "Where are ye callin' from?"
- 2) An Irish priest is driving down to New York and gets stopped for speeding in Connecticut. The state trooper smells alcohol on the priest's breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car.
He says, "Sir, have you been drinking?"
"Just water," says the priest.
The trooper says, "Then why do I smell wine?"
The priest looks at the bottle and says, "Good Lord! He's done it again!"
- 3) Flynn staggered home very late after another evening with his drinking buddy, Paddy. He took off his shoes to avoid waking his wife, Mary.

He tiptoed as quietly as he could toward the stairs leading to their upstairs bedroom, but misjudged the bottom step. As he caught himself by grabbing the banister, his body swung around and he landed heavily on his rump. A whiskey bottle in each back pocket broke and made the landing especially painful.

Managing not to yell, Flynn sprung up, pulled down his pants, and looked in the hall mirror to see that his butt cheeks were cut and bleeding. He managed to quietly find a full box of Band-Aids and began putting a Band-Aid as best he could on each place he saw blood.

He then hid the now almost empty Band-Aid box and shuffled and stumbled his way to bed.

In the morning, Flynn woke up with searing pain in both his head and butt and Mary staring at him from across the room.

She said, "You were drunk again last night weren't you?"

Flynn said, "Why you say such a mean thing?"

"Well," Mary said, "it could be the open front door, it could be the broken glass at the bottom of the stairs, it could be the drops of blood trailing through the house, it could be your bloodshot eyes, but mostly.....it's all those Band-Aids stuck on the hall mirror.