



# UUCB News



January, 2014

**UPDATED MISSION  
STATEMENT  
of the  
UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF  
BARTLESVILLE**

*The Unitarian  
Universalist  
Church of  
Bartlesville  
seeks to create  
a loving  
community that  
nourishes the  
spirit and mind;  
whose members  
joyfully work to  
build a just and  
sustainable  
world.*

June 2012

## Congregational Meeting January 11th

Each year UUs from all over Bartlesville gather to choose their new leaders for the coming year...and vote on a budget. This year's Congregational Meeting is set for January 11th after the service. The slate of candidates for the 2015 being put up for approval of the church membership is as follows:

President: Trish Winters

Vice President: Jason Peacock

Secretary; Kristin Duncan

Treasurer: Debbie Tipton

Member at Large: Virgil Reese

Member at Large; James McColloch

Past President: Tom Perrine

It is mix of newcomers and veterans of former Boards. Tom Perrine and Trish Winters serve on the current Board and James McColloch was President of the Board a few years ago.

The Budget will be presented at the meeting.

## Thank You, Tom!

Although he remains on the Board as Past-President, Tom Perrine is stepping down from the leadership position he has held for the past two years. It was an action-packed term that Tom handled magnificently. From the death of our beloved Minister, Kathryn Reese to the ultimate decision by the congregation on the future of the annex and 424 properties, Tom showed quiet and extremely competent leadership during those times. While the road ahead is still rocky, the church is in great shape to handle the bumps ahead. Next time you see Tom, say thanks. He deserves it.

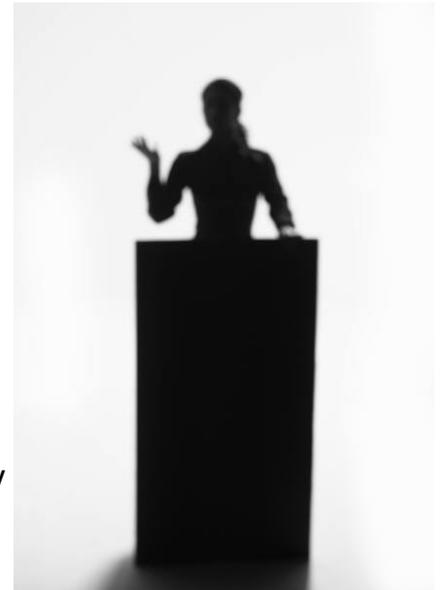
## January Sermons

January 4: Steven Williams: "Each Day a New Year" - We resolve, each January, to do better in our lives, and often fall off the wagon by February. What happens when we resolve to begin anew each day?

January 11: Warren Sapp—TBA

January 18: Steve Williams: "The King and I" - A reflection on my journey as a social justice activist and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s influence on it

November 25: TBA



## January Forums

January 4th: Virgil Reese — "What is dietary ketosis, and what is it good for?"

January 11th: Second Sunday Cinema — Titles TBA

January 18th: Steve Williams—TBA

January 25th: John Grismore — "Artificial Intelligence

## A UU Said it...

*To grow restless with who we are helps us move toward our ideals. Perfection is impossible, but we all have the potential to be more patient, more compassionate, more open-minded.*

—Stephen Shick (Unitarian Universalist, peace activist, reformer, clergy) [Be The Change: Poems, Prayers and Meditations for Peacemakers](#)

## Psychic 2014 Fails

Predicting the future is a tough thing to do, and psychics had a tough time in 2014. Now that 2014 is over, this is the perfect time to look at some of the predictions for 2014 that were accurate and not-so-accurate. These predictions are courtesy of Psychic Nikki, the "Psychic to the Stars." She compiles a lengthy list of predictions for each coming year.

**Successes** (although I think most of us could have predicted these)

- More cyber attacks
- More water contamination in cities
- Sex Scandal in Washington (Oooh that was a reach)
- More Solar Flares
- Comedy legend passes (don't we get one every year?)

### Failures

- Empire State Building starts tipping
- CN Tower in Toronto collapses
- People killed in Chicago by glass falling off buildings
- A gorilla eats its trainer
- Air Force One would be attacked
- Danger for George Clooney (then again he did get married)

*Raycom News Network*

# Message from the Minister

Dear UUCB Friends,

Another year has gone by, and what a year it has been! I am grateful to have shared so much of it with you as I have been welcomed into your lives and the life of this congregation.

As we've gotten to know each other, the bonds of community have grown stronger. We left off 2014 with a sacred circle for Solstice, and shared what brought light into our lives (or challenged us with darkness) since the Sun's last birthday. Such deeper sharing brings us to more intimate ground as individuals and as a religious body.

In 2015, we get to keep building on this ground as I continue my student ministry with you. It is my hope that we will continue to stretch ourselves individually and together to open our hearts, our doors, and our lives to each other and the wider Bartlesville community. In this spirit, my sermons for January will have a more personal element as I share parts of my journey with you. On January 4, I will contemplate the idea of each day being New Year's Day, and share how I have practiced (and struggled with) that in my own life. On January 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, I will take you on a walk through my journey as a social justice activist and how Dr. King has been a teacher for me in that process.

As usual, my office hours at UUCB will be Saturday, January 3 and 17, from 2-4 pm, and I will be available to chat in a more casual setting at Jude's both Fridays, January 2 and 16, from 4-6 p.m.

I look forward to sharing a new year with all of you!

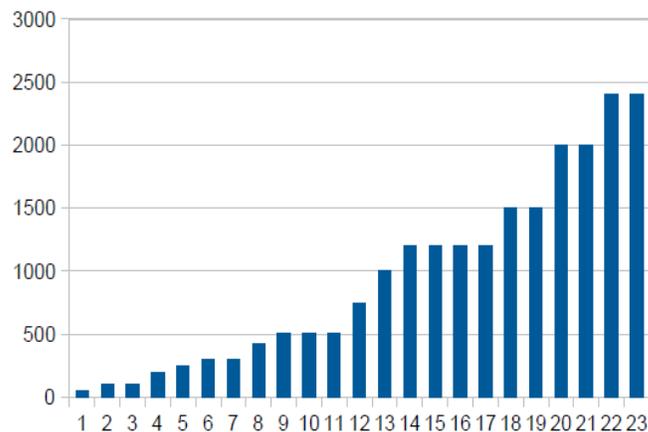
Namaste,

Steven Leigh Williams

Student Minister

## Have you Pledged?

If you haven't sent in your pledge to Gordon, please do so immediately. Pledges are your estimate of how much you expect to donate to the church in the coming year. This information is vital to putting together an accurate budget for the year, so we need everyone's pledge. There is more information on the next page about what your money does for the church. If you're not sure how much to give, here is some information on what others are giving. As you can see it is a wide range from less than \$100 to nearly \$2500. The average is \$938 annually. Just give whatever you can.



Scores of studies and surveys in 2014 revealed myriad, quirky ways we live out our faith and values. But the most intriguing findings were not always the headliners. Here are 10 telling numbers about religion and society that caught our eye.

- One in 3 Americans want a divorce between clergy and civil marriages. They say it's time for clergy to quit saying "By the power vested in me by the state ..."
- Suck it up, polar bear. Just 5 percent of Americans say climate change is their top issue, and religion is a major marker of divided views. White evangelical Protestants were the least likely to believe that climate change is a fact and that human activity is among the causes.
- Amen to online. Almost half of U.S. adults (46 percent) say they saw someone sharing "something about their faith" on the Internet in the last week.
- Fifty percent of white evangelicals see themselves as victims of significant discrimination.
- One in 4 millennials who grew up in a religion but now claim none say that an important reason for leaving was their childhood church's negative teachings or treatment of LGBT people.
- Choral laments. Since 1998, there has been a 23 percentage point drop among white conservative evangelicals who heard a choir at worship and a 28 percentage point drop for members of liberal and moderate Protestant congregations.
- No atheist in-laws. Nearly half of Americans (49 percent) would be unhappy with an unbeliever joining the family, but just 19 percent would gripe about a gun owner.
- Grads, leave religion off your resume. New grads hunting for jobs can be 24 to 30 percent less likely to hear back from potential employers if they included a mention of religious ties in college on their resume.
- You skipped church and then fibbed about attending. Nearly 1 in 7 falsely claimed they attended a religious service.

Religion survey babble confuses 103 percent of readers. Here's why. OK, the 103 percent is made up, but the point of this piece was to bring a discerning eye to news stories packed with numbers and help readers better understand statistics stories like this one.



---

# January 2015



---

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Service 11am Discussion 9:45am Board Meeting	5	6	7 Contemplative Service 6pm Drumming 7pm	8	9	10
11 Service 11am Discussion 9:45am Congregational Meeting—noon	12	13	14 Contemplative Service 6pm	15	16	17
18 Service 11am Discussion 9:45am Potluck	19	20	21 Contemplative Service 6pm Drumming 7pm	22	23	24
25 Service 11am Discussion 9:45am	26	27	28 Contemplative Service 6pm	29	30	31

---

---

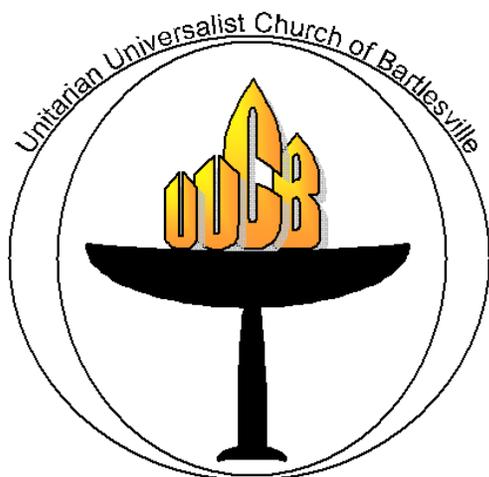
## Unitarian Universalist Church of Bartlesville

428 SE Seneca  
Bartlesville, Ok 74003

Church phone: 918-336-8385  
Newsletter email: bashine@cableone.net

Over 50 Years of  
Liberal Faith in  
Bartlesville

**On the web at  
[www.uubville.org](http://www.uubville.org)**



### What do UUs believe?

What Do You Say When Someone Asks You . . .

"So What Do Unitarian Universalists Believe In . . . ?"

Sometimes new Unitarian Universalists are unsure about how to explain their new religion to friends, relatives or coworkers. Here is a response to consider:

Rather than saying, "I'm a Unitarian Universalist because I can believe anything I want . . ."

. . . it's better to say that Unitarian Universalism is a faith tradition (or religion) which encourages each individual to develop a personal faith. It draws from many different religions, in the belief that no one religion has all the answers and that most have something to teach us. From Christianity we take the teachings of Christ. From Buddhism we take the power of meditation. From Judaism we take the belief that working together we can achieve peace and justice. From Native American and other earth-centered traditions we take respect for the earth and reverence for natural cycles.

For other excellent response ideas, go to <http://www.uua.org/interconnections/membership/believe.html>.

*from UUA InterConnections*

---