



THE ORACLE

"Conscience is an oracle of the Divinity" - William Ellery Channing

We welcome everyone to our congregation, recognizing no distinction of class, nationality, race, gender, or sexual orientation.



Month of September 2015

September 6
The Reverend Nell Newsom
"I'll Start With the Dog"

We are a social species and dogs are a social species, and our two species have become intertwined. As I write this, my Zen buddy is at my side, snoring gently, her paws twitching in her sleep. Yes, we love our dogs, and yes, the word "dog" is just "god" flipped around, but do we have a theology that includes them? Are we fully open to the saving grace of dogs?

Reverend Nell Newsom graduated from Meadville Lombard Theological School this past May and was ordained in June by her internship congregation. A lifelong UU, she lives in Austin with her husband, two teenagers, a flock of chickens, too many cats, and one sweet dog.



September 13
The Reverend Adam Robinson
"Ready for More Flood Waters"

It is a privilege for me to join you for your annual Water Communion. I'm afraid I may ask more questions than supply answers. I'd like to investigate our readiness for unexpected guests who may join us at any time bringing their own waters to fill the basin that is your gathered community. Can we stay out of the way and not let our own expectations get in the way? Is it even our basin? Are we responsible for who mingles their waters with us? Or should we just step back and be prepared for a flood of blessings?

Ordained in 1992 at his childhood church, Maple Lawn Christian Church (Joliet, IL) Rev. Adam has always tried to be ready to share his ministerial gifts and abilities whenever and wherever they are called for. He has served both as a volunteer and paid minister in both churches and parachurch organizations

From his work with the homeless at the Inner Cities Ministries (Springfield, IL) through his time as assistant minister at First UU Church of Houston he has been shaped by the progressive revelation and discovery of the Divine he understands as God. After a much needed break from formal ministry to do some intense work on becoming a healthier person he likes to think that mentally, emotionally, physically, and spiritually he is more whole now than he has ever been. He and his dog, Deoji, enjoy country life at their home at Lakeside Village in San Jacinto County.

September 20

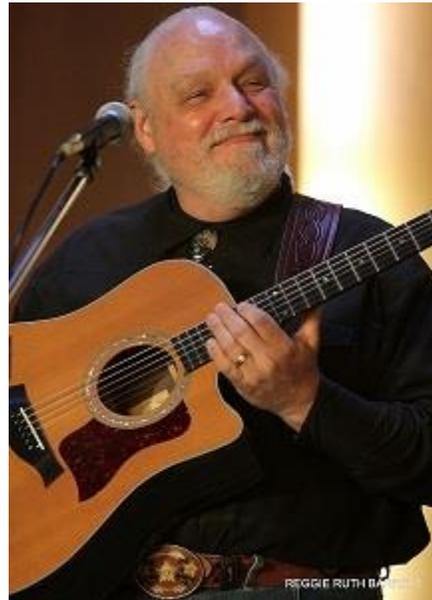
Gary Paul

"Repaying Your Karmic Debt: You Are the Miracle Someone Has Been Waiting For"

This is an examination through music and personal experience of the true meaning of Karma and its intersection with both the Zen concept of "Maybe" and the Hebrew concept of Tikun Olam-- repairing the world.

Re-evaluate how people and circumstances have interceded on your behalf and the importance of returning the favor by doing unto others.

Gary Paul is a performing singer-songwriter who produces original narrative story songs. He has won recognition in song writing competitions and has been a 3-time nominee for New Mexico Music Awards. His repertoire is an American travelogue geographically and in musical styles. His experiences in the health care field starting as a ward aide caring for the developmentally disabled have been an important part of his life's work and greatly inform his presentations.



September 27

Fellowship Sunday

In August, we started a new way of programming for the 4th Sunday of each month. The format will be similar except that instead of a formal speaker we will be doing short activities such as having different kinds of communion [water, flower, chocolate, bread and wine] having congregational meetings recognizing members/volunteers, watching short DVDs, having topical discussions or doing nothing and starting our potluck lunch sooner. If you have suggestions for Fellowship Sunday, talk to Pam Johnson.



*****VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES*****

Sunday Morning Programs If you are willing to be the meeting leader, introduce the speaker, read a story or reading (you may provide your own story/reading or read one that has been selected for you), be a greeter, treat the speaker to lunch, please contact Ann Sigler or email info@twuuc.org. Sign-up is for an individual week.

Order of Service If you are willing to take over the weekly OOS, please let Anne True know.

Worship Committee If you are willing to be on the Worship Committee, please let Pam Johnson know.

Religious Education If you would like to help with RE, please talk to Beth Williamson at 295-3170.

Building and Grounds If you would like to help maintain the building and/or grounds, please contact Paul Culp at culp@shsu.edu.

Coffeehouse If you would like to help with the coffeehouse, please contact Pam Johnson via email at pamjohnson05@suddenlink.net or call 936-661-4313/936-661-4313. We need help with admission table, kitchen, setup and teardown during the event, as well as bakers.



**Wish these members and friends
born in September a HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

If you have a September birthday, let us
know!

Lee Stringer September 5

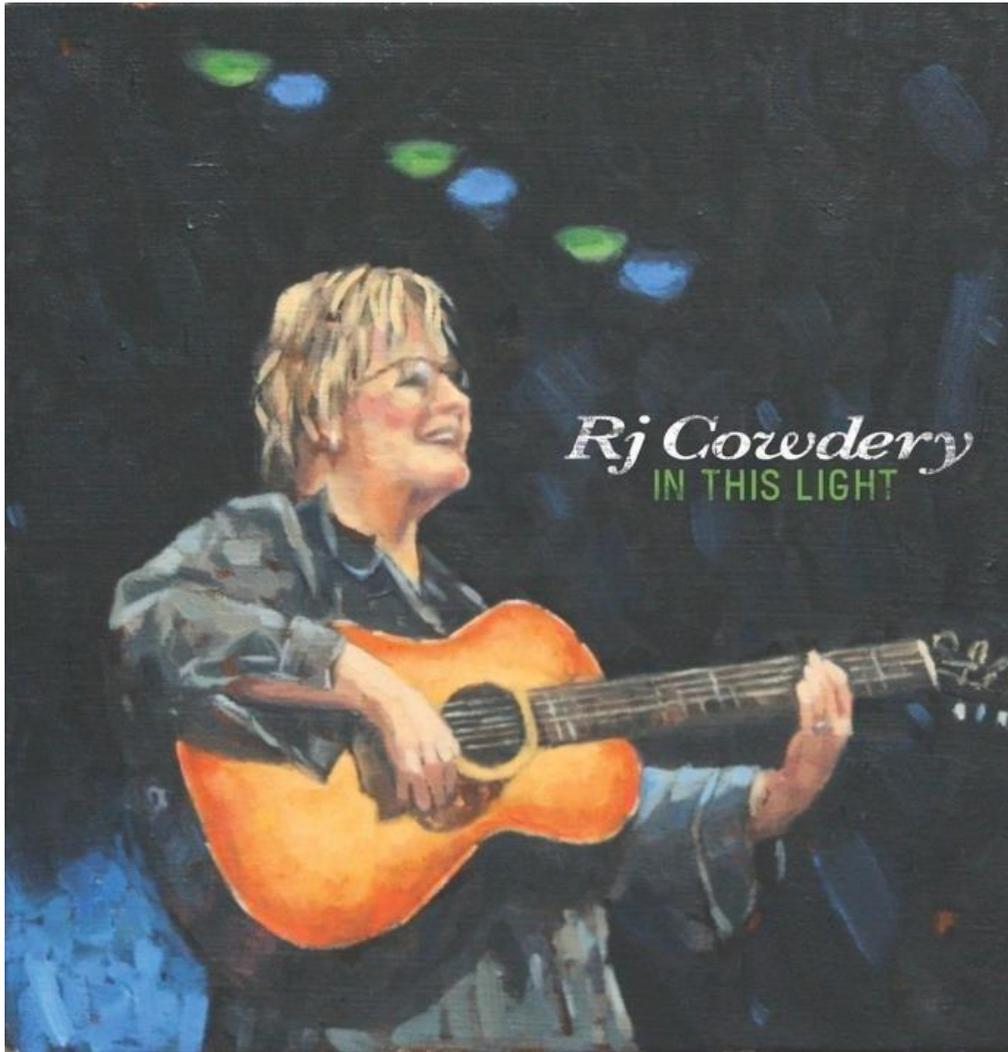
Bruce Marx September 10

DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS



EVENTS

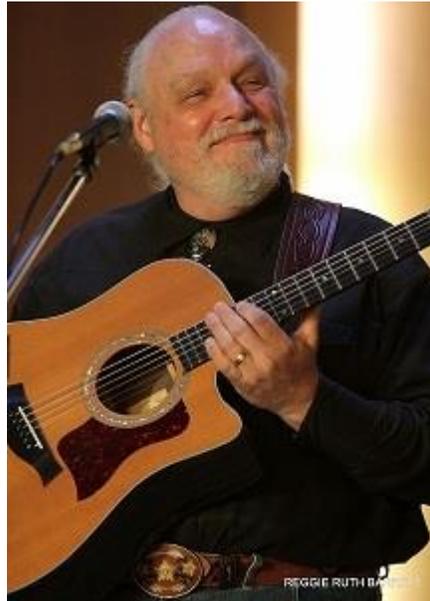
The Chamber of Commerce website has an excellent community calendar:
<http://huntsvilletx.chambermaster.com/events/>.



THOREAU WOODS COFFEEHOUSE

**RJ COWDERY WITH GARY PAUL
OPENING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2015 7:00 PM,
DOORS OPEN 6:30**

RJ Cowdery is a Columbus, Ohio based artist who has solidified her place as a standout of the next generation of performing songwriters. Though she wrote her first songs as a teenager, Cowdery took a circuitous path to becoming a full-time artist. She experienced exciting creative breakthroughs followed by distractions and obligations that took her away from her lifelong dream of being a professional singer/songwriter. But it has all paid off in recent years. Cowdery's past few years on the folk festival trail have been nothing short of extraordinary. She has received major accolades at some of the most prestigious festivals in the U.S., including wins at the 2007 Mountain Stage NewSong, 2008 Kerrville New Folk, and 2008 Falcon Ridge Emerging Artist competitions. Most recently, she won the Dave Carter Memorial Songwriting Contest at the Sisters Folk Festival in Oregon. Her most recent release *In This Light* has been met with rave reviews from critics, fans, and her fellow artists.



“The tone of her voice, the clarity of her guitar and spot on emotive lyrics plumb the depths of human hope and struggle.” -Joe Crookston

“A shot-gun seat on a ride of the heart.” -Billy Crockett
“In This Light” featured in Sing Out! Magazine.

“In This Light” selected by Lufthansa

**Airlines for Inflight program airplay.
Look for 2 new recordings in 2015. An
album of original material and a cover
disc of friends and heroes!**

NOTABLE VENUES

**30A Songwriter Festival, Seaside, FL
Anderson Fair, Houston, TX
The Ark, Ann Arbor, MI
Blue Bird Cafe, Nashville, TN
Blue Rock Artist Ranch, Wimberley,
TX
Kerrville Folk Festival, Kerrville, TX
Me&Thee Coffeehouse Series,
Marblehead, MA, Rocky Mountain
Folks Fest, Lyons, CO
Sisters Folk Festival, Sisters OR
Six String Concerts, Columbus, OH
Snowbird Music Festival- IAMA, Salt
Lake City, UT
Uncle Calvin's Coffeehouse, Dallas,
TX
Wildflower! Music and Arts Festival,
Richardson, TX
Woodstock Folk Festival, Woodstock
ILz**

**Performing songwriter Gary Paul
spins enchanting original narrative
story songs marked by photographic
detail, an actor's character insight
and the craft of a storyteller,
expressed in poetic lyrics and set to
subtle finger style guitar work. His
rich history & broad musical journey
fill his songs with life. Winner of the
2006 Xtreme Folk Scene's Song
Contest & three-time Nominee for
New Mexico Music Awards, 2014-
2015, his repertoire is an American
travelogue, both geographically and
in terms of musical styles. He also
holds a Bachelor's degree in
Psychology and Masters degrees in
both Public Administration and
Computer Science. His 30 years
experience in civil service in the
health care field, starting as a ward**

aid working with the developmentally disabled, have been an important part of his life's work and greatly informs his presentations.

Thoreau Wood Coffeehouse hosts an eclectic blend of acoustic singer-songwriters in a smoke free, family friendly environment. Homemade baked goods, free-trade coffee, and other refreshments are available during each show. This show is \$15, \$10 students & seniors. This is a non-profit venue. All admission proceeds go to the artists, unless noted as a charity fundraiser. Proceeds from the refreshments go to the church.

Thoreau Woods Coffeehouse is produced by James and Pam Johnson, and staffed entirely by volunteers. James is a professional musician with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education, and Master's in Music Therapy. He teaches guitar at SHSU, and guitar, piano, and bass privately at Johnson Studio . Pam handles the business end. They also put on Johnson Studio House Concerts , and are allied with Millbend Coffeehouse in The Woodlands.
Phone: (936) 661-6332
Email: info@twuuc.org

Located at Thoreau Woods UU Church
144 E. Mosley Lane, Huntsville, Texas.

From the south: Take I-45 exit 112, go north on Hwy. 75 (Sam Houston Ave.). Shortly after you pass Southwood Dr., you will take a right on E. Mosley.

From the north: Take I-45 exit 114, go east on FM 1374 (Montgomery Rd.) to

Hwy. 75 (Sam Houston Ave.). Go right. After you pass junction Hwy 19, go .8 mile and take a left on E. Mosley Lane.

The church is the last building on the right.

Upcoming Shows:

October 17 Todd Hoke with Scott
McCarley opening

November 21 John Batdorf with
Leslie Krafka opening

Picture of April 2015 concert below

Thoreau Woods Unitarian Universalist
Church
144 E. Mosley Lane
Huntsville, TX 77340
Update your Email Preferences or
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CONTACT US

Phone: (936) 439-9505

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Facebook: TWUUC and Thoreau Woods Coffeehouse

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Huntsville TX 77342-6751

OFFICERS

President: Rosanne Barker

his_rmb@shsu.edu

Vice President: Pam Johnson

pamjohnson05@suddenlink.net

Treasurer: Blaine Hinds
titan65pa@hotmail.com

Secretary: Beth Williamson
betwil@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Beth Williamson (deadline last Sunday of the month)
Webmaster: Pam Johnson

LEARN MORE

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144 E. Mosley Lane
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response**
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