



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 October 2015

Sunday, October 4
George T. Diaz, PhD

Tequileros and Texas Rangers: A Tale of Prohibition along the Rio Grande

Between 1919 and 1933, south Texas saw the rise of organized smugglers. During this period *tequileros*, ethnic Mexican liquor smugglers, supplied contraband Mexican liquor to thirsty Americans. U.S. law enforcement, however, saw *tequileros'* armed forays into the United States as an invasion and resisted them with deadly force. Conflicts between American law



enforcement and tequileros made Prohibition one of the bloodiest decades on the border. Despite this era's violence, both Anglos and ethnic Mexicans often smuggled liquor together. Although Anglo bootleggers and Mexican tequileros both violated American laws, U.S. law enforcement took a much higher toll on tequileros than their Anglo counterparts. American law enforcement's war on tequileros was so successful that by the end of the 1920s, it had effectively ended tequileros' incursions into south Texas. American authorities' victory over tequileros proved hollow, however, when more sophisticated and more violent gangs of smugglers took their place.

George T. Díaz's presentation is based on research for his book, *Border Contraband: A History of Smuggling across the Rio Grande*, which examines illicit trade by everyday people and those who profit off drugs and guns. His work is informed by investigations in Mexican and U.S. archives, as well as a lifetime of living on the border.

George T. Díaz is an assistant professor of history at Sam Houston State University. His award winning book, *Border Contraband: A History of Smuggling across the Rio Grande*, was published with the University of Texas Press. Recently he served as the Visiting Scholar at the Center for Mexican American Studies at the University of Houston where he designed and taught a course on smuggling in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. Díaz teaches courses in U.S. History, Texas, the North American West, and Mexican American history. He also serves as the sponsor for Sam Houston State University's League of United Latin American Citizens Council #4284, as well as the acclaimed SHSU Ballet Folklorico. Working with these groups and the History Department, Díaz also serves as the coordinator of Hispanic Heritage month at SHSU, a tradition he helped establish.

**Sunday, October 11
Reverend Adam Robinson
"National Coming Out Day"**

For 27 years, on October 11th, the anniversary of the first National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, National Coming Out Day has been observed. For the last two years the Human Rights Campaign, in their own words "the largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans" has set the theme as "Coming Out Still Matters". But why does it still matter? And who needs to come out?



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.

Sunday, October 18

Todd Hoke and Meg Hoke

"5 Happy Things"

Todd and Meg Hoke share through music and reflection how the practice of "5 Happy Things" has impacted their life. Todd Hoke is a singer-songwriter with three CDs and is also a nurse at Four Seasons' Hospice Inpatient Unit. Meg Hoke has a Master's of Social Work and is



Director of the Palliative Care program with Hospice of the Carolina Foothills. When people hear about our work, they often say 'How do you do that? It's so depressing!' 5 Happy Things is part of what keeps us balanced. As Meg and Todd have shared it with friends and family, they have discovered that it is powerful for others, too. This service will leave you with a smile on your face and another tool for living a meaningful life."

Sunday, October 25
Fellowship Sunday
Pot Luck Lunch Day
Please bring something to share!

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.



DENOMINATIONAL EVENT

Fall Conference 2015:
Into the FUUTURE!



Your congregation has been charged with an important task: to boldly go where no UU community has gone before! Join us at "Fall Conference 2015: Into the FUUTURE!" to gain tools and resources for

**charging ahead into the next
year, ten years, or ten
decades. Each track is
designed to help leaders effect
real cultural change toward
growing a vital, healthy,
effective UU community that
helps its members achieve our
vision of a world community
with peace, liberty, and justice
for all.**

**Where: Glen Lakes Camp and
Conference Center, Glen Rose,
TX**

When: 13-15 November, 2015

Tracks:

**Are We There Yet? Planning
As Spiritual Practice with Rev.**

Susan M. Smith

Compassionate

Communication: An

Introduction with Rev.

Carlton Elliott Smith and

Carrie Stewart

Facilitating Cultural Change

with Kathy McGowan and

Lewis Morris

Youth Ministry for the 21st

Century

Covenant, Conflict,

Community with Connie

Goodbread

Young Adult Convocation with

Montana Steele (ages 18-35)

Registration:

**Ages 14-adult (regular
programming): \$225 until 26**

October, \$275 for late

registration

Young Adult Convocation:

\$100

**Ages 5-14: \$100 until 26
October, \$125 for late
registration**

**Ages 6 mo.-4 years: \$50 until
26 October, \$75 for late
registration**

**Please visit the Southern
Region event page to
download the handbook, learn
about lodging options/prices,
and register.**

*******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 October a HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

**If you have a October birthday, let us
know!**

Jeanne Sumrall October 17

Anne True October 23

Sunisa Gillespie October 27



EVENTS

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





THOREAU WOODS COFFEEHOUSE

**Coffeehouse on October 17,
Todd Hoke with Scott McCarley
opening**

An evening with Todd Hoke will include songs about living, songs about dying, songs about laughing, and songs about chickens. To date, Todd has recorded 3 CDs with volume 4 currently in the works. (If we're enumerating Todd's achievements we could also mention that he's run 9 marathons, been married to Mrs. Hoke for 21 years, and has worked in hospice care for over 15 years.) Back in Hendersonville, NC—where Todd lives nowadays—he started an extremely popular “Gospel Brunch” series at Southern Appalachian Brewery with a couple of friends (performing under the name Redneck Mimosa). He also has a four piece band--King Possum--that plays a lot of Todd's material. But Todd's favorite performances are concerts like we'll be having on October 17th: intimate listening rooms where artist and audience can truly connect over an evening of story and song.



Joining Todd for this show on harmonica will be his good friend

(and newly retired fireman) Richard Brock.

So what should you expect from an evening with Todd Hoke? This: You will laugh. You will sing. You will walk out feeling better than you did walking in. Find out more about Todd and his music at toddhoke.com.

Scott McCarley's musical influences are rooted in the sounds of Woodstock Rock and traditional country music. His own sound evolved after the 70's Texas music revolution and have been rounded out by a sense and sound of folk. With deep roots in rural Texas, Scott paints the pictures of small town life in the words of song. Old men sitting under shade trees and the pain felt when the box plant closes and leaves a town without its primary employer. Whether you remember the big old cars of your younger years, proudly sported letter jackets or schoolboy art left prominently on the town's watertower, his songs will spark memories in all who hear them.

Suggested donation:

\$15, \$10 students/seniors, Coffee & desserts available

For more information visit website twuuc.org/Coffeehouse.html or call (936) 661-6332

144 E. Mosley Lane, Huntsville, TX

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 at the top of the hill.

Next Coffee House:

November 21 John Batdorf with
Leslie Krafka

Thoreau Woods Unitarian
Universalist Church

**144 E. Mosley Lane
Huntsville, TX 77340
Update your Email Preferences or
Unsubscribe**

CONTACT US

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LEARN MORE



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