



**Thoreau Woods  
Unitarian Universalist  
Church  
April 2018**

## THE ORACLE

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

***Paraphrase of a quote from Henry David Thoreau, for whom our church is named.***

***"If we do not keep pace with our companions, perhaps it is because we march to the sound of a different drummer. Let us step to the music that we hear, however measured or far away."***

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

**We now have child care beginning at 9:15 AM until the end of the Sunday morning service.**

**Month April 2018**

**Sunday, April 1, 2018**

**Steve Brooks**

**"The Crack in Everything: the Theology of Leonard Cohen"**

**Of the great songwriters of our time, Leonard Cohen was perhaps the most spiritual. He spent five years in a Zen monastery. His songs are cryptic koans, about the contradictions of seeking light, love, and justice in a dark and fallen world, while holding onto humor and hope. Songwriter Steve Brooks sings and unravels some of his favorites, while he explores their lessons for surviving the New Dark Age.**



**Steve Brooks, UU Speaker and Musician**

A longtime member of Austin's Wildflower Church, Steve Brooks has performed at more than 35 UU churches around Texas and beyond. Musically, he's known for writing a song-a-week for Jim Hightower's radio show and for songs that have been recorded by folk and Americana artists like Slaid Cleaves, Albert & Gage, Russell Crowe and more. A master of words as well as music, he was featured on TV's "I've Got a Secret" as six-time World Pun Champion.

**Sunday, April 8, 2018**

**Rev. Adam Robinson**

**"Listening to the Rhythms of Spring"**

**THE CROCUS'S SOLILOQUY**  
by Hannah Flagg Gould

Down in my solitude under the snow,  
Where nothing cheering can reach me;  
Here, without light to see how to grow,  
I'll trust to nature to teach me.

I will not despair, nor be idle, nor frown,  
Locked in so gloomy a dwelling;  
My leaves shall run up, and my roots shall run  
down,  
While the bud in my bosom is swelling.

Soon as the frost will get out of my bed,  
From this cold dungeon to free me,  
I will peer up with my little bright head;  
All will be joyful to see me.

Then from my heart will young petals diverge,  
As rays from the sun from their focus,  
I from the darkness of earth will emerge  
A happy and beautiful Crocus!

Gaily arrayed in my yellow and green,  
When to their view I have risen  
Will they not wonder how one so serene  
Came from so dismal a prison?

I ran across this poem years ago. At this point  
I don't remember when or how. But it spoke to  
me then and speaks to me now. With Easter  
and the Spring Equinox having both just  
recently passed, now seems like a good time



to contemplate and reflect on what about these words resonates with me.

**Sunday, April 15, 2018**

**Rev. Betty Skwarek**

**"Hey, God, Are You There?"**

**James Luther Adams, the 20th century Unitarian Theologian, said that "the unexamined faith is not worth having because it can only be true by accident." Does what we believe really matter? Is it time to shelve our old beliefs? Is it time to forget religion or to find something new?**



**Sunday, April 22, 2018**

**Nancy Beaudette**

**"Peace Date"**

**Nancy Beaudette – With musical roots originating in Eastern Ontario, Canada, award-winning singer-songwriter Nancy Beaudette has been performing internationally for over thirty years. On the border of Glengarry County, she was raised on French fiddle-music and Irish and Scottish reels, and as a youngster, she cut her teeth chording to her grandfather's old-time fiddling in the family home. Nancy's songwriting and recordings have received numerous accolades through the years. In 1997 Nancy won a CGMA for song of the year (Canadian Gospel Music Award – highest honor for gospel music in Canada), and has been a Winner or Finalist in some of the industries most distinguished competitions, including Mountain Stage New Song Competition, Mid-Atlantic Song**



Contest, Great American Song Contest, and the Independent Music Awards. On-stage and off, this beloved songwriter practices hometown hospitality. Now she brings the warmth of that musical 'kitchen party' experience to The Kelly Girls. Nancy is a full time touring artist, private music teacher, and creativity coach. She plays guitar, mandolin, and bouzouki with the band.

Sunday, April 29, 2018

### Fellowship Sunday

On this Fellowship Sunday we will have the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. To approve our budget and make other decisions for the congregation, we need a quorum. Friends may attend the meeting, but only members may vote. We will have potluck lunch. Please bring something to eat and something to share with others.

### A Message from the President of Thoreau Woods Unitarian Universalist Church

I want to thank Sandy Fruhman for taking control of our officer nominating committee and Paul Culp and Emil Barker for helping her. We will have a slate to present, along with a budget, at our annual business meeting.

A formal notice will follow but at this point we have posted this meeting on the web site for April 29 immediately following our service. We do need one-third of all voting members present to take action on these two items.

Hope to see you there!

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## **Book Reviews by Ann Staples**

### **Archimedes and the Door of Science by Jeanne Bendick**

Juvenile classification but good basic science\_

**Charlie Red Star True Reports of One of North America's Biggest UFO Sightings** by Grant Cameron Sightings area is Manitoba, Canada 1075-76 very interesting

**The End of Alzheimer's-- The First Program to Prevent and Reverse Cognitive Decline** by Dale Bredezen MD Good information on Diet

**Jefferson's Daughters--Three Sisters, White and Black, in A Young America** by Catherine Kerrison, Especially Chapter 9, "An Enlightened Household"

**Times and Troubles Will Tame an Advanced Young Woman, But An Advanced Old Woman Is Uncontrolable by Any Earthly Force** by Dorothy L Sayers 1893-1957

**Happy Birthdays to those born in April!**

**Ir you have an April birthday, please tell the editor!**

**April 6 Elliot Norman  
April 6 Payson Norman  
April 7 Richard Lane**

New worker for Childcare at Thoreau Woods UU Church.

My name is Elizabeth Franklin. I am a mom to a beautiful daughter named Kayleigh. In my free time I coach my daughters baseball team for HYBL. I have worked as an assistant teacher for two years but have always loved being around kids. When I'm not coaching baseball or working with kids, I am working on my health and wellness business.



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\*\*\*\*\*VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday Morning Programs** If you are willing to be the meeting leader, guest speaker, or read a story for all ages, please contact Pam Johnson or email [info@twuuc.org](mailto:info@twuuc.org)

**Building and Grounds** If you would like to help maintain the building and/or grounds, please contact Paul Culp at [culp@shsu.edu](mailto:culp@shsu.edu)

**Coffeehouse** If you would like to help with the coffeehouse, please contact Pam Johnson via email at [pammoon41@aim.com](mailto:pammoon41@aim.com) or call James at 936-661-6332 We need help with admission table, kitchen, setup and teardown during the event, as well as bakers

**Membershio/Outreach Committee**--We still need volunteers to handle a more organized way of greeting people, providing assistance to members who are ill, and outreach to the community.



## Thoreau Woods Coffeehouse

### Dana Louise & The Glorious Birds

with Nancy Beaudette opening



**Saturday, April 21, 2018 @ 7 pm**  
Doors open 6:30

**Dana Louise**, the daughter of Ezra Idlet of the Grammy-nominated Trout Fishing in America, Dana has been singing and songwriting professionally, touring regionally and internationally, and is currently touring her debut album with Trout Records. Joined by the Glorious Birds —Ezra Idlet and Keith Grimwood (Trout Fishing in America) — Dana brings her vibrant, melodic vocals and finger picking to a body of complex songs. Drawing from jazz and bluegrass, carrying a contemporary beat, the sound is roots-rooted flung-into-the-future folk. Dana Louise and the Glorious Birds work to leave their audiences glowing with the magic music can bring: genuine human connection.

**Nancy Beaudette**, with musical roots originating in Eastern Ontario, Canada, has been performing locally and internationally for over thirty years. Well-crafted songs framed with poignant vocals and impassioned performance style have caught the attention of music icons, including Grammy winners Kathy Mattea, Jon Vesner & Louisa Branscomb, and hit writers like Kerry Chater & Lynn Gillespie, whom Nancy has had the pleasure of working and writing with. For the latest news please visit Moonlit Pond Records: <http://www.moonlitpond.com>

Suggested donation: \$20/\$15 students and seniors, all proceeds to artists. Coffee & desserts available, 144 E. Mosley Lane, Huntsville, TX. For more information visit website [twuuc.org/Coffeehouse.html](http://twuuc.org/Coffeehouse.html), email [pammoon41@aim.com](mailto:pammoon41@aim.com) or call (936) 661-6332.

**Next at Johnson Studio House Concerts:** March 25 Sofia Tolvik, June 24 Hans York  
**Next Thoreau Woods Coffeehouse:** May 19 Byrd & Street with Jordi Baizan opening

**CONTACT US**

**Church Location**

**144 East Mosley Lane  
Huntsville TX 77340**

**Off HWY 75 South**

**Turn left on Mosley Lane approximately 1 mile south of McCoy's**

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Website: [www.twuuc.org](http://www.twuuc.org)

Facebook: TWUUC and Thoreau Woods Coffeehouse

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**OFFICERS**

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Webmaster: Pam Johnson



LEARN MORE

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