



## Welcome to World Religion Day Shreveport-Bossier 2016!

Sunday, January 24th, 2016  
1:00—5:00 p.m.  
The Highland Center  
520 Olive Street, Shreveport

We are proud to welcome your group to the 17th Annual Celebration of World Religion Day Shreveport-Bossier. This year's opening ceremonies will be a little different from previous years. Instead of a keynote speaker, we will have an interfaith service featuring readings, prayers, songs and chants from many of the faith groups represented at our event. If you have not yet registered, you can do so at our Survey Monkey site:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WRD2016>

Please know that while **all our speaker panels are full**, we are still very open to additional faith groups bringing table displays and joining in the celebration!

Many of the particulars of the event are explained in the pages that follow and in the text of the survey. If you have further questions, you may call or text **318.465.3427**, or email **Susan: dre@allsoulsushreveport.org**

### SCHEDULE FOR WORLD RELIGION DAY 2016

**1:00 – 1:30 - Opening Ceremonies** An interfaith worship service celebrating our unity in diversity as we come together with Seeking Minds and Seeking Hearts in search of greater understanding and peace.

**1:30 – 1:45** – Break, visit tables

**1:45 – 2:15 – First Panel - How does your faith tradition prepare its members to meet and accept death?**

Are there specific rituals and practices or is the practice more individualized for each family? How does your faith community support those who have suffered the loss of a loved one?

**Moderator: Rev. Betty Grace McCollum, South Arkansas University**

**2:15 – 2:30** Break

**2:30 – 3:00** Music (Chapel) 2:30 Southern Saints Choir (From the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)  
2:45 Rabbi Jana De Benedetti, B'nai Zion Congregation and Cantor Neil Schwartz,  
Congregation Agudath Achim

**3:00 – 3:15** Break

**3:15 – 3:45 – Second Panel – Outside of this event, what more can we, as a multifaith community, do to promote greater understanding among the various faiths and the community at large?** How do we not succumb to fear and keep our houses of worship completely hospitable? .

**Moderator: Rev. Judith Taylor, Minister, Unity of Shreveport**

**3:45 – 4:15** Music (Chapel) 3:45 Choir of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church  
4:00 Church for the Highlands Jazz Band

**4:15 – 4:45 Third Panel - How does the separation of church and state affect your religious tradition?** How do we balance our cherished principle of religious freedom with our equally important principle of civil rights for all? What does your faith tradition teach about the role of the individual in relation to the government, such as the separation of church and state?

**5:00** **Closing of World Religion Day / Breakdown and Cleanup---** *Please stay and help!*

**6:00** **Vacate Building - See you next year!**

**World Religion Day 2016**  
**Speaker Panels, Panelists and Moderators**

**1:45—2:15 How does your faith tradition prepare its members to meet and accept death?**  
Are there specific rituals and practices or is the practice more individualized for each family?  
How does your faith community support those who have suffered the loss of a loved one?

**Moderator: Rev. Betty Grace McCollum, South Arkansas University**

Ross E. Smith, Director of Public Affairs and Former Bishop, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
Chaplain Khurshid Khan , Muslim Chaplain, Masjid Al Noor and Islamic Association of Greater Shreveport  
Father James McClelland, Chaplain at Christus Schumpert Highland and priest at St. Clement of Rome, Vivian, LA.  
Mr. Chan Hearn, Teacher, Followers of Jesus of Nazareth

**3:15—3:45 Outside of this event, what more can we, as a multifaith community, do to promote greater understanding among the various faiths and the community at large?**  
How do we not succumb to fear and keep our houses of worship completely hospitable?

**Moderator: Rev. Judith Taylor, Unity of Shreveport**

Ms. Rovena Windsor, Deputy Regional Druid, Ár nDraíocht Féin  
Rev. Barbara Jarrell , Minister, All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Shreveport  
Ms. Anne Menard, (or other Eck speaker) Regional Eck Spiritual Aide, Eckankar, The Religion of the Light and Sound of God  
Rabbi Jana De Benedetti, B'nai Zion Congregation (Reform Judaism)

**4:15—4:45 How does the separation of church and state affect your religious tradition?**  
**How do we balance our cherished principle of religious freedom with our equally important principle of civil rights for all? What does your faith tradition teach about the role of the individual in relation to the government, such as the separation of church and state?**

**Moderator: Mr. Chan Hearn, Teacher, Followers of Jesus of Nazareth**

Cantor Neil Schwartz, Congregation Agudath Achim (Conservative Judaism)  
Mr. Randall Lord, Member, Ark-La-Tex Freethinkers, Atheists, Agnostics and Humanists  
Mr. John Mitchell, Member, Baha'i Faith  
Rev. John Henson, Minister, Church for the Highlands (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship)