



Island Passages

20103 State Route 525 • P.O. Box 1076, Freeland, WA 98249 • 360-321-8656 • www.whidbey.com/uucwi/

February 2010

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 9 am Worship Committee	2	3 10 am Men's Group	4	5	6
7 10 am Service: "Seven Jewish Children, A Play for Gaza" 5:30 pm South End Dine Out	8	9 7 pm Book Group	10 7:30 pm EvenSong "Compassionate Communication"	11	12 9-11 am BOT	13 10-Noon Visual Arts 1-3 pm NEKK 7 pm Fun On Whidbey
14 10 am Service: "Love Will Guide Us" after service: SRC potluck and meeting	15	16	17 10 am Membership Committee 10 am Men's Group	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20 Small Group Dinners
21 10 am Service: "Music as a Spirit- ual Discipline"	22	23	24 5:30 pm CRE	25 4-6 pm SEKK	26	27 7 pm Conversation at Kit's
28 10 am Service: "Still Standing on the Side of Love" 5:30 North End Dine Out						

For More Information on Listings - see pages 2 and 3

From Our Minister



Dear Whidbey friends,

February is the month of Valentine's Day, Leap Year proposals, chocolate and flowers. This year it's also the month when we consider the meaning of belonging to a faith community and the love that grows between us as members and supporters of that community. In keeping with that theme, I'll be preaching on what love means in our spiritual life together as well as in our personal and secular lives.

Coming up in early March, we have an opportunity to learn more about non-violent communication in the tradition of Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Marshall Rosenberg. Rosenberg took the teachings of Gandhi and King and developed a technique for talking and listening to one another which diminishes fear and resistance and encourages openness and cooperation. It is a powerfully effective way to be in community, as well as easing family dynamics and work relationships. It's inexpensive, there's child care and LUNCH! Scholarships are available as well. I hope you'll consider registering; check the blurb elsewhere in the newsletter for more information. We are doing this in conjunction with several other congregations plus Whidbey Institute and it will be in our meeting hall.

Save the date: Friday evening, March 5, and Saturday, March 6. You may find it life-transforming!

By the way, have I told you lately that I love you? I do, you know, and I am grateful to you for the love you offer me. I thank my lucky stars every day that I am here in this community, with you all as part of my life.

Much love,
Kit

Calendar Listings

Feb. 7: "Seven Jewish Children, A Play for Gaza"

Five UUCWI members will read this short play which is a series of adult conversations around the question of what to tell children in times of enormous stress. It begins in Germany during the Holocaust and brings us all the way up to modern Israel. Written by Caryl Churchill this play had its first London production in 2009. Critics are at odds, and some denounced it as anti-Semitic while others have called it "dense, beautiful, elusive and intentionally indeterminate.." Following the service those interested will be invited to join us in further discussion of the play. The readers are: Judy Kaplan, Wendy Ferrier, Karla and Thomas Kelly and John Long.

Worship Leader: Mary Goolsby

Feb. 10, 7:30 pm: EvenSong "Compassionate Communication"

On the second Wednesday of each month UUCWI holds a quiet, contemplative candlelight gathering of song, meditation, and readings. This month's focus is on Compassionate Communication. Accompanied by harp music and reminiscent of Taize, this is a time of reflection and offers one way to enhance our personal spiritual practice.

Feb. 14: "Love Will Guide Us"

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

Our theme for February is the theological question "what does it mean to be a faith community?". Rev. Kit Ketcham will consider the benefits and responsibilities of being part of a faith community, both to each other and to the world beyond our walls. How are we supported by our time together and what can we do to support others?

Worship Leader: Joann Roomes

Feb. 21: "Music as a Spiritual Discipline"

Speakers: Tom and Claudia Walker

"Music, in thee we float, and lose the lonely note of self in thy celestial-ordered strain" (Henry Van Dyke).

Claudia and Tom have been singing and playing music together for about 40 years. Claudia is a Music Therapist and Certified Music-Thanatologist using the harp and voice at the bedside of patients at Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett.

Tom is a guitarist who has written many songs and performs locally with the Rural Characters.

Worship Leader Mavis Cauffman

Feb. 28: "Still Standing on the Side of Love"

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

Last year about this time, we began giving the gift of our sanctuary and minister to same-sex couples who wanted to have a wedding ceremony. But "standing on the side of love" can mean more than wedding ceremonies. How does this commitment affect other areas of our life as a faith community? Our Designated Offering will go to Planned Parenthood today.

Worship Leader: Karla Kelly

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Feb. 7, 5:30 pm: South End Dine Out at China City

Let Kit know (331-2163 or kitketcham@comcast.net) if you are able to attend. This is a great group of UUCWers; if you're a newcomer, you're especially welcome!

Feb. 9, 7 pm: Book Group

Under discussion will be *Timbuktu*, a novel by Paul Auster (who wrote the movie, *Smoke*). The story is told from the point of view of a dog, Mr. Bones who is the companion of a troubled and homeless man who is dying. Together they set off in search of a safe haven for Mr. Bones. One doesn't find the sentimental writing generally expected given this scenario. Rather, Auster has woven a rich and compelling tale.

We are meeting at the home of Mary Goolsby. Please call for directions and to let her know you are coming. (579-2838)

March book: *The Whistling Season* by Ivan Doig

Feb. 13, 1-3 pm: North End Koffee Klatch

at the West Wind Cafeteria in Whidbey General Hospital, Coupeville. Inexpensive eats, good coffee, terrific conversation. Some of our attendees ought to be in stand-up comedy! Newcomers welcome!

Feb. 13, 7 pm: Fun on Whidbey

One day before St. Valentine's Day is a perfect time to have a dress-up affair. Grab your sweetie and

bring him or her to the Sweetheart Ball at Bayview Hall. The dress is semi-formal to formal attire and costs \$15 per person. The tunes will be played by the Locomotion Dance Experience and will include nostalgic songs by the Big Band Sound. Walter Dill will give his waltz workshop at 7:00. The dance lasts until 11:00.

Feb. 20: Small Group Dinners

The small group dinners resumed in January. These are gatherings of from four to ten people. We meet in various homes to enjoy a potluck dinner and conversation. We meet on the third Saturday of each month. The next dinner is Saturday, February 20th. If you are unable to host a dinner in your home, but would like to join, please contact me. It is fun to partner with someone else. You can be the organizer of the dinner and the other party can provide the home. You don't have to join for the whole year, but please let me know by the Tuesday before each dinner if you can come. Hosts are needed before I can arrange the meeting places. The hosts are given the names of their guests and will contact them as to time and what to bring.

Please contact me, Carol Bingman by phone: 360-730-1955 or e-mail: bingman@whidbey.com if you would like to join us.

Feb. 25, 4-6 pm: South End Koffee Klatch

at Mike's in Langley. Let's try a new place this month; we've been shopping around for the best afternoon gathering spot in Langley. Mike's seems promising, with their ice cream shop and coffee drinks. Join us for great companionship and conversation. Newcomers welcome!

Feb. 27, 7 pm: Conversation at Kit's

This month's theme for worship is "what does it mean to be a faith community?" and we'll be discussing what UUCWI means to us, spiritually and socially. Newcomers welcome!

Feb. 28, 5:30 pm: North End Dine Out

at the San Remo. Let Kit know (331-2163 or kitketcham@comcast.net) if you are able to attend. This fledgling group has been attracting a dozen or more diners for good food and stimulating conversation. If you're a newcomer, this is a great way to meet people!

From the Pres



Stewarding our UUCWI Community

We are rapidly approaching that time of year when we reconfirm our commitment to supporting our congregation. I think this is a very exciting time of year. It's a time during which we shine the spotlight on how we are doing as a community. It is a time for each and every one of us to roll up our sleeves and take an active part in the stewardship of UUCWI.

During April we will be conducting our annual Stewardship Drive – beginning with our “kick-off” dinner on April 10th. But there is a lot of preparation work to do before then. Our Stewardship Chair, Baird Bardarson will soon be asking you to sign up for one of the several roles to be filled. Some of the tasks can be handled on one day, such as setting up or cleaning up on the day of our dinner. Other duties may involve portions of several days. Here are a few examples:

- Kitchen crew: plan the menu, shop for the needed items, and prepare the meal.
- Decorations: plan the theme and décor, prepare/assemble the decorations, and prepare the room.
- Publicity: plan and publish the brochure that explains the pledge drive, put notices in the newsletter and Orders of Service.
- Visiting stewards: be one of 25 or more members who call on three members or friends of UUCWI to discuss the health of our congregation.

Now, here is a little secret. If you have your heart set on one of these roles, contact Baird right away. Don't wait for him to call on you. You might find that someone else has already claimed the spot you wanted if you wait too long.

If you are one of our visiting stewards, my hope for you is that at least one of the people you call on will be someone you do not yet know very well. You are in for a very rewarding experience.

Most of us who have served as visiting stewards can tell you stories of wonderful, even memorable conversations we have had during a stewardship campaign as we got better acquainted with new friends.

Happy stewarding to all!
Lois

Announcements

Non-Violent Communication Workshop - Save the Date

On March 5 and 6, UUCWI will host a Non-Violent Communication workshop (aka Compassionate Communication), in interfaith collaboration with the Quakers, Unity, St. Augustine, Langley United Methodist, and Whidbey Institute. The workshop is inexpensive (\$30 plus the opportunity to purchase a WIN lunch for \$6; free to youth under 18, with child care offered) and scholarships are available.

NVC is a technique developed in the tradition of Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Marshall Rosenberg. This is a very powerful process that can be used in our daily interactions with others as well as in those times of intense conflict---for families, couples, businesses, nations, at home, in town, and at work. It can even be used when the other party does not know anything about Nonviolent Communication, to bring about a shift from conflict and resistance to empathy and compassion.

All proceeds will benefit Whidbey Island Food Banks. If you would like to register for this training please go to www.nwcompass.org and click “Trainings” at the bottom of the home page then scroll to the correct dates.

Canvasser Training

2010-2011 Operating Budget

March 27: 10:00am

We need twenty five canvasser volunteers. Each volunteer will visit the homes of three UUCWI members. They will discuss renewal of membership, financial support and how the spiritual needs of our congregation are being met. Phone Baird Bardarson, Stewardship Chair, 331-1081

2010 Stewardship Drive

“I’ve Been To The Mountaintop”

This is the popular name of the speech given by Martin Luther King the day before he was killed by a sniper’s bullet. His vision of a just society could not be dimmed.

Our Annual Kickoff Dinner will be held 6:00 pm Saturday, April 10 at our Meeting House. It will formally start our Stewardship Drive for the 2010-2011 church year. The evening will feature a complimentary dinner with wine, the music of our own Sweetwater Revival Blue Grass Band, singing and a Testimonial or two.

The Stewardship Drive will be the opportunity to give generously to our Annual Operating Budget but it is much more than that. Every member and friend will be visited. This will be a chance to share your joys, concerns and suggestions about UUCWI, its future and its growth. It will be a time to recommit your financial and spiritual support to the future of our congregation.

May we each see beyond the Mountaintop to where there is liberty and justice for all and where the worth and dignity of every person is respected and affirmed. May UUCWI become a beacon on Whidbey Island as we journey to that place.

In Faith,

Baird Bardarson, Stewardship Chair

Church Finances Tutorial - Section 1

As we prepare for the annual Stewardship campaign, I will be writing a series of three articles to answer questions that often come up about church finances. This first article will address the size and proportion of our annual budget in terms of income and expenses.

The table below lays out the major categories in our 2009/10 budget, in round numbers, as projected through June. We will have a deficit, but it is smaller than originally expected - this is a good report. Most of our income (90%) comes from member donations, especially pledges. Fundraising events are also important- the annual auction alone contributes 10% of our budget. “In Kind” contributions represents the value of professional services provided by members that would normally be compensated, such as bookkeeping and music for worship services. These volunteer efforts allow us to conserve cash. Income from others is Sunday plate collections and building rental. Building rental is growing nicely and indicates that the community is deriving benefit from our investment in the new church.

In expenses, Administration and Facilities together

are more than 50% of the picture, the basic cost of providing our presence as a church. The mortgage alone is \$20,000 of the facilities line. Ministry/Worship/Music is Kit’s salary plus all other expenses of Sunday worship and adult programming. CRE is principally wages for the DRE and her assistants, plus modest amounts for curriculum and materials. The last item is the annual contribution to the denomination (UUA and Northwest District) that is based upon a “fair share” amount for each member in our church.

The last line in the table is Dedicated Offerings- the collections we make at least monthly for the benefit of charities and non-profits. This income is not part of our budget, all receipts go to the designated recipients. The outstanding generosity of our congregation will exceed \$6000 this year. In January alone we have contributed \$380 to NRCAT, \$438 to Guest at Your Table (UUSC) and \$885 to Haiti Earthquake relief. Thank you all; well done.

Account	Amount	%
Income		
<i>From Congregation</i>		
Annual Pledges	\$60,000	70%
Fundraising	\$10,000	12%
Labor/ Materials "In Kind"	\$7,000	8%
	\$77,000	90%
<i>From Others</i>		
Service Collections	\$4,000	5%
Building Rental	\$3,000	4%
Other	\$1,000	1%
	\$8,000	10%
Total Income	\$85,000	100%
Expense		
Administration	\$20,000	22%
Facilities (incl. mortgage)	\$26,000	30%
Ministry/Worship/ Music	\$10,000	11%
Religious Education	\$10,000	11%
UUA "Fair Share"	\$6,000	7%
Total Expense	\$88,000	100%
Net Deficit	-\$3,000	
<i>Dedicated Offerings for charities</i>	<i>\$6,000</i>	

Tom Buxton, UUCWI Treasurer

6
"got joy?"

If your life is sort of okay, but you yearn for a bit more zip and zest, then please consider joining the "Full-Spectrum Joyfulness" class. This seven-session adult series, for folks of all ages and abilities, will be led by our friend and neighbor, Rev. Amanda Aikman. Starting on March 1, the class will be on seven Monday evenings, from 7 to 8:45 pm.

Amanda's book, *"Full-Spectrum Joyfulness: Easy-to-Remember Games, Songs, and Practices for Creating More Joy in Your Everyday Life,"* has recently been published by Spirit of Life Publishing, in response to the positive feedback this program has gained when offered as a class at several local churches, as well as at the week-long Eliot summer camp in Canada.

The class approaches joyfulness through seven themes. It includes both quiet, inner times and large- and small-group activities, and gives participants a great deal of permission to explore the meaning of joyfulness in their lives. Fun class activities, including music, discussions, and games, will be interspersed with quiet practices. Every week, participants will choose one or more activities to try during the week, and check in with their small group to report progress and obstacles.

In the last session, each participant will have the opportunity to be given a group "send-off" as they select an adventure or challenge on which they wish to embark. All activities are completely optional, and the only rule is "it is impossible to make a mistake in this class!"

The series, including a workbook and all materials, costs \$70. Some scholarships are available in exchange for assistance. Please register by Monday, Feb. 22 at the very latest to reserve a spot in the class. Register by emailing revaikman@gmail.com, or call Amanda at 425-750-0711. Amanda also welcomes questions!

Saratoga Chamber Orchestra

The SCO will present two concerts featuring the music of American composers. The dates are Monday, February 15 at Oak Harbor High School and Tuesday, February 16 at South Whidbey High School.

The concerts will feature works by William Schuman "New England Tryptych", "American Salute" by Morton Gould, "Adagio for Strings" by Samuel Barber, a new composition by Kit Wells,

and "A Lincoln Portrait" by Aaron Copland. Actor David Ossman will be the narrator for the Copland.

Many musicians familiar to UUCWI are members of the orchestra. Please plan to attend and support this new group at a difficult time for all arts organizations. Both concerts are at 7:00 pm. Ticket information at 221-2352.

Committee News

Social Responsibility Council

The SRC met on January 23rd. Eleven people were in attendance for this monthly potluck and planning meeting. First, we heard from Judith Gorman, one of the directors of the Veterans' Resource Center on Whidbey. She and the SRC planned ways to work more closely together.

Next, we planned to present the Justice Sunday service on March 14th. The UUA is focusing on economic justice this year. We will be contacting people who are knowledgeable about economic injustice on Whidbey.

Lastly, UUCWI has a short stretch of Mutiny Bay Road to keep clean; this job traditionally has been under the direction of the SRC and we will continue to lead this endeavor twice per year. We will need only four people over the age of 16 each time. When the date and training is set, we will ask the congregation for helpers.

Our next potluck meeting is February 14th, right after the service. All are welcome to attend.

Visual Arts Committee & Gallery News

First, a thank you! The Visual Arts Committee would like to formally thank the many individuals in the Congregation who helped make possible three important events between September and December 2009 – the two Used Book Sales and the Zimbabwe Artists Project Exhibit. These events simply could not have happened without the incredible support that was so generously given.

We're sure you'll be as overjoyed as we are to know that all three events were an outstanding success! The used book sales raised \$1759 - which will be used to meet the expenses connected with the creation of two beautiful fabric art panels for the front wall of our Sanctuary, and the Zimbabwe Art sales raised \$4783 - which will be used to support

the Zimbabwe Artists Project's ongoing efforts in helping individuals in the rural community of Weya become more self-sufficient. Further, the books not sold during the book sales were warmly welcomed by the Friends of the Freeland Library for their own book sales, by the South Whidbey High School and Middle School Librarians for their school libraries, and by the VA Hospital in Seattle.

Second, some Gallery news! In March and April of this new year you will see our walls graced with a never-before-seen joint display of the art of Nola Allen, Sandy Allen, and Brenda Allen. Yes, a mother/daughter art show! In May and June, it will be a father/son art show –and will feature the art of Leonard Good and his father along and two other local artists – father and son of course!



Directory Updates

Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow
New Members
michael.dowd@thankgodforevolution.com

Juan Gonzales
Juan's wife is Helen, his daughter is Theresa

Jean Hurt
2771 Salal Lane, Langley

Dallas Huth
New Member

Barb Hutton
New Member

Jean McIntosh
New Member
2286 Whidbey Shores Rd, Langley
jeanmc@whidbey.com

Sarah Richards
sarah@lavenderwind.com

Gloria Sherman
New Member
P.O. Box 202, Clinton
341-4217
glosherman@whidbey.net

Libby Roberts and David Sweetwood
360-678-8408 (this corrects a wrong digit in directory)

Kent Vandervelde
vand93@mac.com

If there are any other corrections to the directory, please inform our administrator at uadmin@whidbey.com

UUCWI 2009-2010 Board of Trustees

Lois Chowen, President

Tom Buxton, Treasurer

Joann Roomes, Secretary

Roy Bingman, Trustee

Mark Brown, Trustee

Sally Ann Elder, Trustee

Helen Kushnereit, Trustee

If you wish to contact any of the Board members,
call UUCWI voice mail at 360-321-8656.

Minister: Rev. Kit Ketcham 360-331-2163

Chaplain: Sally Elder 360-675-3314

Our minister and chaplain are available for rites
of passage ceremonies (including ceremonies of
commitment or union) and pastoral visits.

Director of Religious Education: Vanessa Kohlhaas

Newsletter Information:

News, announcements, events, and other items of
interest to members of the congregation should be
submitted in writing by the deadline to editor
Celia Bartram: celia@bartramrecorders.com

Items submitted after press time will appear in the
following month's newsletter if appropriate.

Time-sensitive late items will be posted with the
announcements and/or on the calendar on our
web site.

Current and past issues of this newsletter are
available online at:

www.whidbey.com/uucwi/newsletter.html

Last names, phone numbers, and addresses are
deleted from the online version for members'
privacy.

Communications Committee:

Celia Bartram, Newsletter Editor

Mavis Cauffman, Church Administrator

Dean Enell, Webmaster

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
OF WHIDBEY ISLAND**

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