



Island Passages

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

October 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 9am - 1pm UU Orienta- tion
4 Service: 10 am "Creativity in Tough Times"	5 9 - 11 am Worship Committee	6	7	8 7pm Book Group	9 9 - 11am BOT 6 - 9pm Fun on Whidbey	10 10 - Noon VAC 1 - 3pm NEKK
11 Service: 10 am "What is Human Nature?"	12	13	14 10am Membership Committee 7:30 - 8:30pm EvenSong	15	16 Newsletter Deadline	17 6pm Small Group Dinners
18 Service: 10 am "A Parent's Tears"	19	20	21 5:30 pm CRE	22 4 - 6pm SEKK	23	24 7pm Conver- sation @ Kit's
25 Service: 10 am "The History of Evil"	26	27	28	29	30	31

For More Information on Listings - see pages 2 -4

From Our Minister



Dear Whidbey friends

I love this time of year! The leaves are so beautiful and the misty mornings when the fog-horn sounds across the Strait give me shivers--- and not just from the chilly rain. It's a wonderful season, autumn. Our sanctuary is a particularly beautiful place to be during the season of falling leaves and soft rain. I hope you're enjoying it too.

Our worship theme this month is "Human Nature and Identity". Many of our social justice efforts tend to be in defense of the equality, the worth and dignity of all humans, despite the differences among us. And always the question arises, "are human beings born sinful? Or do we learn to do wrong things because of our upbringing or other identity-damaging experiences we've had?"

Original sin is one of the doctrines that Unitarian Universalists have mostly discarded, but we still have to deal with wrong-doing and the motivations for wrong-doing. We cannot overlook harmful behavior and must find ways to deal with it that are respectful and yet protect those who are vulnerable.

This will be an interesting month in worship as we consider the theological implications of human nature and our tendencies toward wrong-doing. I hope you'll be able to attend often!

Much love,
Kit

Project, and from his own life, about the remarkable motivating power of service — of making life better for other people.

John Graham shipped out on a freighter when he was sixteen, took part in the first ascent of Mt. McKinley's North Wall at twenty, and hitchhiked around the world at twenty-two.

A Foreign Service Officer for fifteen years, he was in the middle of the revolution in Libya and the war in Vietnam. For three years in the mid-seventies, he was a member of NATO's top-secret Nuclear Planning Group, then served as a foreign policy advisor to Senator John Glenn. At the United Nations, he was deeply involved in U.S. initiatives in Southern Africa, South Asia and Cuba.

Since 1983 Graham has been a leader of the Giraffe Heroes Project, an international organization, based in Langley, moving people to stick their necks out for the common good. A familiar keynote speaker, he's done TV and radio all over the world. He's the author of *Outdoor Leadership* and *Stick Your Neck Out—A Street-smart Guide to Creating Change in Your Community and Beyond*. His memoir, *Sit Down Young Stranger*, was published in 2008 and will be available for sale and signing after the service.

He has a degree in geology from Harvard and one in engineering from Stanford, neither of which he ever expects to use.

Worship Leader: Sandy W.

Oct. 11: "What is Human Nature?"

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

We tend to think of human nature as that which is innate and common to all human beings, acting upon culture, religion, politics, to shape the society in which we live. Oct. 11 is National Coming Out Day. Are sexual orientation, gender identity, race and other innate traits also part of human nature? And how can Unitarian Universalists respond to these traits which cause such societal controversy?

Worship Leader: Joann R.

Calendar Listings

Oct. 4: "Creativity in Tough Times"

Speaker: John Graham of The Giraffe Project

How do you stay creative and committed to your community in these tough times? John Graham, President of the Giraffe Heroes Project, will share stories from the remarkable heroes honored by his

Oct. 14: EvenSong Service,

7:30-8:30 pm in the Sanctuary

You're invited to the first monthly candlelight EvenSong service - a quiet, contemplative gathering of chant, meditation, and readings (there will not be a sermon). This first service will be accompanied by harp music. EvenSong services will be the second

Wednesday of each month. If you would like more information, or could help provide vocal support by learning the chants ahead of time, contact Mavis at uuadmin@whidbey.com.

Oct. 18: "A Parent's Tears"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Peter J. Luton

Human beings are not reptiles that lay eggs and forget about them. This helps me understand the poet Robert Bly's observation that every step our children take is precarious which means full of prayers.

The Rev. Dr. Peter J. Luton grew up in the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland where he was active in the Liberal Religious Youth Program and the night custodian. Since 1994 he has served as Senior Minister of East Shore Unitarian Church in Bellevue, Washington. A graduate of Meadville Lombard Theological School in 1982, he began his parish career in Yarmouth, Maine. He served for six years on the CENTER Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association which develops continuing education opportunities for clergy. He has also served on the UUMA Executive Committee and is currently a member of the UUA Growth Team. For the past three years he has worked with UU seminarians at the School for Theology and Ministry, Seattle University as their Denominational Formation Director.

Worship Leader: Rev. Kit Ketcham

Oct. 25: "The History of Evil"

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

Unitarian Universalists have an ambivalent attitude toward evil. On the one hand, we tend to disagree with the doctrine of original sin; on the other hand, we cannot disregard the very real evidence of violence and malevolence in our world. What about Satan? Hitler? Rev. Fred Phelps? Idi Amin? How has our understanding of evil evolved?

Worship Leader: Peggy B.

Nov. 1: "The Spirituality of Pilgrimage"

As this newsletter issue goes to press, Bill G., the Ministerial Candidate sponsored by this congregation is finishing up his walk of 250 miles of the Camino de Santiago in Spain. His sermon will grow out of that experience using pilgrimage as a metaphor for spiritual renewal and transformation.

Oct. 3, 9am - 1pm: UU Orientation Session

A few times each year we offer an orientation class to better acquaint friends, visitors and new UUs with our history, values, principles, and the men and women who have contributed to our movement. The next class will be Saturday, October 3 from 9 am to 1 pm at UUCWI.

Lunch will be provided. The class is an informal, fun way to learn about UUCWI and to get to know some other people in the congregation. If you are interested in learning more about us or are contemplating becoming a member of our congregation, you are invited to attend. (Attendance at one of these orientations is a requirement of membership.)

Please RSVP to Kit or Mavis (uuadmin@whidbey.com) so we can plan food and materials. If you will need childcare, please let us know.

October 8, 7pm: Book Discussion Group

A Mad Desire to Dance by Elie Wiesel is the selection for this Thursday evening meeting at the Langley apartment of Mary G. Wiesel is a writer, professor, political activist, Nobel Laureate and Holocaust survivor. Donna Rifkind writes "The new novel's narrator is 60ish Doriel Waldman, ... who asks, again and again, how he, a Holocaust survivor, can hope for faith, equanimity or even sanity during a life 'amputated' by overwhelming personal suffering and loss. Like other Wiesel protagonists, he's preoccupied with madness -- his own and the world's -- and he seeks treatment in the office of Therese Goldschmidt, a Jewish psychotherapist who also managed to survive the war."

There are copies available in Sno-Isle library system. Join us for discussion. Please call Mary to let her know if you can come.

Oct. 9, 6 - 9pm: Fun on Whidbey Group

Carpool from the Greenbank Store at 5:30 to Oak Harbor Elks Lodge.

Calling all German people and non-German folks! We are heading up north to OkSOBERfest for all-you-can-eat German food, dancing, games of skill, as well as silent and live auctions with our Jim Freeman as the Emcee Extraordinaire. All this for only \$5 for adults and \$1 for ages 10-19. The Oak

From the Pres



Another Opportunity to Connect!

I know I sound like a broken record. It's because I feel so strongly that the way we build a strong community is through working and playing together. So I want to take a moment to encourage you to give serious thought to having some fun!

Our annual auction is coming up VERY soon... November 7th. This is one of the best opportunities you will have all year to connect with fellow UUCWI members and friends. How? Well first by coming to the auction! It is always a fun-filled party. But the fun doesn't stop there. You could leave the auction with a calendar filled with a variety of future get-togethers. A hike? A picnic? A Mariner's game? A museum trip? A movie night? A concert?

And in addition to the items you purchased there, will be those that you offer for bidding. What do you really enjoy doing? How might you turn that into an event to share with others? Get creative. The wonderful variety of events offered at this annual auction provides all of us with many opportunities to enjoy the company of, and get better acquainted with our fellow UUs.

I look forward to spending an evening with you at the auction ... and to seeing all the creative offerings you come up with.

Lois C.

Continued from page 3

Harbor Elks and the Impaired Driving Impact Panel of Island County are bringing all this to us with the sponsorship of many local businesses.

All proceeds help support IDIPIC's youth drug prevention programs in our schools and communities - a very worthy cause. Call IDIPIC 360 672-8219 for more info. Children are loved and welcomed.
Judy K.

Oct. 10, 1-3: North End Koffee Klatch

Whidbey General Hospital's cafeteria.

Delicious inexpensive food, good coffee, inimitable conversation with interesting people. Join us!

Oct. 22, 4-6: South End Koffee Klatch

Island Angel Chocolate in Langley.

Outstanding treats and coffee drinks, art on the walls, wonderful conversation----who could ask for more? We are checking out some Langley venues and looking for a place to settle down. Join us!

Oct. 24, 7pm: Conversation at Kit's

This month's worship theme is "What is Human Nature and Human Identity? What are Good and Evil?" These will be pretty meaty questions to toss around with each other!

7 p.m. for refreshments, 7:30 for conversation.

Announcements

Save The Date For Equality!

Join Washington UU Voices for Justice for a Conversation on Referendum 71 in Your Area. WA UU Voices is facilitating discussions to discuss Referendum 71 and its importance to same-sex couples in Washington. All are welcome -- this is an opportunity for your family, friends, and co-workers to learn why passage of this referendum is so important to their community's families.

Saturday, Oct. 3, 3 pm-5 pm

Spokane UU Congregation

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 7 pm-9 pm

Vancouver UU Congregation

Thursday, Oct. 8, 7 pm-9 pm

Cedars UU Congregation, Bainbridge Island

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7 pm-9 pm

Olympia UU Congregation

Sunday, Oct. 18, 7 pm-9 pm

Evergreen UU Fellowship, Marysville

For more information on each event, go to www.uuvoiceswa.org To host a conversation on Referendum 71, contact Reverend Carol McKinley, WA UU Voices Coordinator, coordinator@uuvoiceswa.org or (360) 786-8074.

Domestic Partnership Law

More than 5,000 couples have registered as domestic partners since 2007. These couples reside in every county in Washington. The Domestic Partnership Law ensures that all Washington families have the same protections, rights, and responsibilities as their neighbors. The law guarantees that all families will be treated fairly, especially in times of crisis. Many gay and lesbian couples, often with children, and many senior couples are domestic partners. Often these seniors can't marry without sacrificing hard-earned social security and pension benefits. The Domestic Partnership Law allows them to protect their loved ones.

Washington Families Standing Together is campaigning for Ref. 17. For more information or to see how you can help, go to: www.approve71.org

Interfaith Vigil of Peace and Hope

On Sunday afternoon of October 18 at 4:00, St. Augustine's-in-the-Woods will host the sixth annual Community Interfaith Vigil of Peace and Hope. St. Augustine's Episcopal Peace Fellowship is again sponsoring the event. This year's vigil will emphasize the themes of justice and peace; "Know Justice, Know Peace."

Island churches, faith communities and peace groups involved in the vigil planning and participation are the Tahoma One Drop Zen Buddhist Monastery, Langley Methodist Church, St. Hubert's Roman Catholic, Trinity Lutheran, Whidbey Friends Worship Group (Quakers), St. Augustine's Episcopal Peace Fellowship, Dances of Universal Peace, Unity Church, and Unitarian Universalists.

The Interfaith Vigil of Peace and Hope is a wonderful opportunity for South Whidbey residents to share in different worship traditions while experiencing a common desire for peace and justice expressed in prayers, readings and music.

Nov. 1: 7:30-10:00pm: Sufi Zikr and Dances of Universal Peace

with Murshid Allaudin Ottinger from Kansas City, Missouri. Please join us for this very special occasion. Allaudin is a senior teacher in the Sufi Ruhaniat International, as well as an accomplished leader of the Dances of Universal Peace, a professional musician with three CDs, and a humble and delightful human being. Come sing, dance, and "Drink with

the Beloved!" No experience needed. Tickets \$15. For more information, contact Chandra Devi Judyth Reichenberg at (360) 221-7715 or judythr@gmail.com.

UUCWI Auction

La Fiesta

This year's auction will be Saturday, Nov. 7 beginning at 5:00 with the silent auction. Dinner and the live auction will follow.

It's time to think about what you'd like to contribute. Here are some suggestions:

*Handyman Help Gardening Movie Night
Cat Sitting Play Reading Guiding a Hike
Dinner Mystery Party Handmade Jewelry*

Please pick up Auction Promise forms at church or download from the web site. Forms are due to Frances or Toyon by Nov. 1.

Save the date and plan to enjoy a lively evening of fun and fundraising. ¡Olé!

2010 PNWD District Assembly

Feb. 19-21, at the Hilton Hotel in Bellevue, WA

The District Assembly provides an invaluable resource for you and your congregation. Be sure to save the date on your 2010 calendar!

See and hear Grammy award-winning entertainer Bill Harley. Meet Rev. Peter Morales, the new UUA President. Meet other members of Pacific Northwest District (PNWD). Share knowledge, experience, and resources. Learn new skills and expand your understanding of UUism at stimulating workshops. Be a delegate and participate in making district decisions at PNWD Annual Meeting. Above all have fun learning, laughing, and worshipping with new UU friends

Committee News

Choir News

Members of our UU choir had our retreat on Sept. 12, with a good turnout for the potluck lunch held outdoors with lovely warm weather. We went

6
inside to meet & sing. Frank A. graciously welcomed everyone to our new year. Frances W. is our newest member.

Linda introduced the songs she wants to lead in October. Rehearsal schedule will be the same as last year, except the choir leader may call extra rehearsals if needed. So, our first rehearsal will be Oct. 4 after the service, about 11:15 & we'll rehearse again at 8:30 on Oct. 11, the day we perform.

Baird will lead in Nov., (rehearse Nov. 1, perform on the 15th), Mavis in December & we'll take January off. CRE music (the Pageant) rehearsals will start Nov. 1.

Art Gallery News

Images in Watercolor and Woven Photography is upcoming art show in our UUCWI Art Gallery.

Opening reception for this new exhibit is Sunday, October 11th, 11:00am to 1:00pm. Featured artists are Pat Brookes, watercolorist, and Andi Stutz, photographer. The exhibit will run through mid-November.

Responding to the world around her, Watercolorist Pat Brookes paints from photos or plein air. Her experience as a hiker of all the beaches of Whidbey is reflected in many of her paintings.

Artist Andi Stutz appreciates the room to experiment that digital photography has given her. Influenced by her father's photographer's eye and her own background in painting and sculpture for the tactile senses, her current art bridges two technologies – photography and weaving.

Please consider lingering after Services on October 11th to talk with these artists about their work.

Community Voices

Let's get to know one another better. This space is dedicated to giving voice to all that we do to further the seven UU Principles. Photos, news of activities church-related or not, poems, questions, musings are all welcome. This space will grow as we hear from more people.



Toyon and Chris led lucky bidders from the 2008 Auction on this grand hike to Anderson-Watson Lakes in August. Incredible views of Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan, numerous wild flowers and bright sunny skies. All bidders appeared to be in great shape for the 6 mile round-trip.

Toyon and Chris have found that, besides the wonderful hikes available in the Olympics and Cascades, there are great walking trails on South Whidbey, for example, Ebey's Landing, Whidbey Institute, Saratoga Woods and local parks. This year's auction will feature another outing - destination to be announced - along with many other wonderful items.

Toyon C.

Photo: Terra A.

Where hate rules, let us bring love;
where sorrow, joy.

Let us strive more to comfort others than to be comforted,
to understand others, than to be understood,
to love others more than to be loved.

For it is in giving that we receive,
and in pardoning that we are pardoned.

*Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi
Reading # 702*

UUCWI 2009-2010 Board of Trustees

Lois C., President

Tom B., Treasurer

Pat L., Secretary

Mark B., Trustee

Sally Ann E., Trustee

Helen K., Trustee

Joann R., Trustee

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

Minister: 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 K.

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 B.

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 B., Newsletter Editor

Mavis C., Church Administrator

Dean E., Webmaster

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF WHIDBEY ISLAND

P.O. Box 1076

Freeland, WA 98249

360-321-8656