

Island Passages

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF WHIDBEY ISLAND
 P.O. Box 1076, Freeland, WA 98249 • 360-321-8656 • www.whidbey.com/uucwi/

FEBRUARY 2003

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	3	4 3:00 PM Pastoral Services Committee meeting.	5	6	7	8 7:00 PM Movie Night at the home of a member. See item on page 3.
9 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	10 8:30 AM World Events Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Cafe.	11	12 7:30 PM Worship Committee meeting at Malcolm F.'s house.	13	14	15
16 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	17	18 7:30 PM Book Group meeting at Peg and Baird B.s. See item page 2.	19	20	21	22 6:00 PM Services Auction and Dinner. See insert and item on page 3.
23 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity. 5:15 PM Executive Committee meeting at Trinity.	24 8:30 AM World Events Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Cafe.	25	26 7:00 PM Board meeting at Trinity.	27	28	1 <i>March</i>

2
4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.
5:30 PM Congregational meeting at Trinity. See item on page 2.

“The Western arrogance of feeling that it has everything to teach others and nothing to learn from them is not just. A true revolution of values will lay hands on the world order and say of war: This way of settling differences is not just.”

—Martin Luther King Jr.

UPCOMING SERVICES Services are scheduled for Sundays, 4:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran church. Child care and nursery care are provided during the services (at Trinity) unless otherwise indicated.

February 2 — “*Abortion: Supporting Choice,*”
with guest speaker, **Baird Bardarson**

UUCWI member Baird Bardarson, MD, is a 1955 graduate of the University of Washington Medical School. He will speak on the topic: “Abortion: Supporting Choice.” Baird practiced medicine in Renton, WA, for thirty-five years before retiring in 1991. The last fifteen years of his career he was an abortion provider. He pioneered second trimester abortion technology in the State of Washington and was a board member of the National Abortion Federation. He was previously Chief of Staff of the Valley Medical Center, Renton, and was the Medical Director of the Cedar River Clinic. He presents a personal view of the abortion scene on the thirtieth anniversary of Roe vs Wade.

Our special musician will be Trystan Matthews.

Facilitator: Peggy B.

Membership Representative: Baird B.

Usher: Malcolm F. Refreshments: Sandy M.

February 9 — “*Love is a Deeper Season,*”
with guest UU minister, **Rev. Leon Hopper**

Rev. Hopper shares this statement about his presentation: “For some time now I have been reflecting on the evolving nature of relationships, particularly on the continuing thrust for individuality and independence. Looking toward Valentine’s Day, I will explore how it might be possible to strive for a deeper season than reason to provide and ensure enduring relationships.”

Rev. C. Leon Hopper is Minister Emeritus of the East Shore Unitarian Church, Bellevue, WA where he had been the Senior Minister for eleven years. Prior to coming to Bellevue, he served churches in Colorado and New England as well as two administrative positions with the Unitarian Universalist Association in Boston, MA. For the past ten years he had been active in the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council which fosters connections between North American UU churches and Unitarian churches in Romania, Hungary, the Philippines and India.

Our special music will be vocalist, Beverly Graham.

Facilitator: Sarah R.

Membership Representative: Roy B.

Usher: open Refreshments: Wendy F.

February 16 — “*Introduction to the EcoEconomy,*”
with guest speakers, **Nancy Snow and Malcolm Ferrier**

Nancy Snow and Malcolm Ferrier will speak on this unusual-sounding topic. It’s the Ecologically Sustainable Economy—the concept that the environment has immense value, should be calculated in all economic reckon-

ings, and cared for. (This is in contrast to the Industrial ethos of the past century, when the environment was thought to have little or no value, a commodity to be exploited. This view leads to the ruination of the earth.)

Nancy and Malcolm will outline the EcoEconomy approach, which has new concepts, new technology, and new profit streams. Nancy will focus on round-the-home things, Malcolm on energy production and enabling concepts. They’ll discuss how to help bring it all about, and hope that congregants will go home with dozens of important ideas and globe-saving actions. Bring all your friends—it’s a most interesting approach, and an essential one in our overcrowded and wasteful society. It’s our UU seventh principle in practice.

Facilitator: Malcolm F.

Membership Representative: Malcolm F.

Usher: open Refreshments: Linda G.

February 23—“*The Quest for the Historical Jesus: Jesus, the Clever Subversive,*”

with guest speaker, **Al Grapel**

We are all familiar with Jesus’ instruction to “turn the other cheek” and “go the extra mile.” This has traditionally been understood to mean nonresistance in the face of evil, or even willingly sacrificing oneself to that evil.

In this third in a series of talks on the historical Jesus, Al Grapel will describe how new understanding of the culture in which Jesus lived and preached casts new light on what these sayings would have meant to those who heard Jesus say them. And, although our culture is not the same, the spirit of the advice is as creative today as it was 2000 years ago.

Membership Representative: Baird B.

Usher: Mavis C. Refreshments: Sarah R.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 2**

Our next congregational meeting will take up the issue of proposed changes to the bylaws. The meeting will also include updates from the Building Committee and Ministerial Search. The meeting will be held on Sunday, March 2 following the service.

UU BOOK CLUB

The UU Book Club meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. We try to have a mix of fiction and non-fiction. This month, February 18, we will meet at the home of Peggy and Baird B. to discuss *In the Fall* by Jeffrey Lent. We usually have questions provided ahead of time so that we have some direction during the meeting. Please join us!

COME HAVE FUN AT THE AUCTION!

Come one, come all to the third annual UUCWI Services Auction and Dinner, Saturday, February 22. Drinks and pre-auction viewing will begin at 6:00 p.m., dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m., auction to begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for dinner will be \$10 per person, \$25 per family. Come enjoy drinks, dinner, desserts, and bidding on great events and items. You can even view some of the auction items ahead of time at our web site, www.whidbey.com/uucwi/. It's not too late to donate or to volunteer to help with various tasks. To donate, fill out and return the enclosed auction form to Sarah. To volunteer, call or email Sarah R. See you there!

MOVIE NIGHT

Movie Night will be held Saturday, February 8, 7:00 p.m. at Roy and Carol B.'s home.

The movie will be *My Brilliant Career* (Australia, 1979) Gillian Anderson's stunning adaptation of Miles Franklin's novel about a headstrong young woman who defies social convention and pursues a life of education and intellectual honesty in turn-of-the-century Australia. The film stars Judy Davis and Sam Neill.

INTRODUCTION TO MEDITATION

Saturday, March 1, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

West Seattle UU Fellowship, 4736 40th Avenue SW (Masonic Temple Bldg)

Taught by Rev. William H. Houff, Minister Emeritus, Spokane UU Church, this workshop will include a discussion of the philosophy, benefits, and methods of meditation. It will especially focus on several specific meditational practices, with a discussion of how to be most successful in one's chosen approach. To register, send \$25 with your name, e-mail, and phone to: WSUUF, PO Box 16461 Seattle, WA 98116. For more information: pegmorgan@mindspring.com or 206-909-2856.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES SOUGHT

Do you know of opportunities for youth to participate in service groups in this area? The Social Action Committee is compiling a resource for youth and parents in our congregation. Until we have enough youth to form an effective group of our own, we'll provide information about other groups that our youth may want to investigate and perhaps join. So far, we have information about the youth group at St. Hubert's Church and 4-H Teen Ambassadors. Please send any information that you have about other youth opportunities to Nancy S.

KEN'S KOLUMN

Woody Allen said, "80% of life is showing up." So, for those of you who showed up for the "Preparing for Ministry" workshop presented by our district executive, Anne Heller, thank you for adding to the life of this community. If you couldn't make it, we understand. We all have a lot going on in our lives. Just, remember please, there is a vital, relevant, and important community growing at UUCWI and your energies are needed.

Preparing for Ministry

Our Ministerial Search Committee has begun the process of identifying and hiring a part-time minister. This is a big step for a congregation. In preparation for that step, the Board and the Ministerial Search Committee invited Anne Heller to lead a workshop on what to expect from the search process, the hiring process, and our new minister. We discussed the qualities we are looking for in our spiritual leader and what traits we could do without. We also asked ourselves what a minister might expect from us. Finally, we talked about how much a quarter-to-half-time minister can do with the time we are paying for and how we can make the most of it. For more information, or to get your two cents in, please contact the Ministerial Search Committee. I had a teacher once who said, "You have no reasonable expectation of receiving anything you haven't asked for." So ask. We want to hear from you.

Readings

Since the workshop was held before our regular service, we decided to hold a truncated program of readings, music, and meditations. We asked those attending to bring a favorite reading to share. I threw in some folk songs and some hymns and, *viola*, we have a service. I fully expected a toss off service, some quick eats, and home for dinner, but this group continually surprises me. This was as moving and satisfying a service as I have ever attended at this church. One after another, they got up and read with passion and humor and pathos and common sense and incredible beauty. Great job, everybody and thanks.

What's so funny about peace, love, and understanding?

Finally, for at least the third straight week, Barb H. rose and lit a candle for peace instead of war during "Joys and Concerns." Peggy, Baird, Susan, Kathy, Sandy, Bill, Barb, and many others continue their peace demonstrations and are on the verge of expanding their efforts. The discussion group led by Don W. debates the debasement of our civil liberties and loss of the freedoms that make this country great. Small voices in the face of George Bush's escalating rhetoric of war, terror, and aggression on national television—small but loud. Thank you all for showing up.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR OUR KIDS

from Peggy B.

On January 2, almost all the parents of school-age children in our church family attended a meeting to discuss interests and needs for a church school. The meeting was attended by ten adults and two kids. A lively discussion was held and many interesting ideas were shared summarized as follows: older youth need a community service project and to meet at other than church time; arts and music need to be included; teach open-mindedness and about all religions; we need teachers who care about kids, not just curriculum, and a pool of adult church members to rotate through the program as teachers; children need “joys and concerns” time too; a regular short ritual each session and a lesson plan; social service projects unify age disparity; a “we believe” series for kids; boy's needs differ from girl's as noted in a recent UU World article; parents do not want to be the only staff and teachers for CRE. These are but of the few ideas discussed.

What was expressed as imperative was the hiring of a CRE coordinator as soon as possible. In a most remarkable example of “synchronicity,” an applicant appeared the next Sunday and her hiring has been approved by the Board pending required paperwork. Nikki A., 21, was active in the high school group five years ago. She is currently studying Early Childhood Education and will be married soon.

The other challenge remaining is the participation of adults of UUCWI as teachers. These are our kids—they are the future of UUCWI and the world. Our religion of inclusiveness, justice, and compassion brings a message that Whidbey needs. When you are approached to share your time and knowledge with our kids, be generous.

LET THE WORD GO FORTH

On Sunday afternoon, June 24, at the UUA General Assembly, a resolution of support for our UUA Beacon Press was proposed. The resolution called on each of us to buy Beacon books and to see that the members of our congregations did the same. It was suggested that if every UU bought two Beacon books a year, the struggle to keep the Press economically viable would be won. The delegate body voted for the resolution unanimously.

On page 5 of the current issue of UU WORLD (November-December 2002), our President, Bill Sinkford, reminds us that, “Beacon publishes books that promote UU values and make a crucial difference in the world—books that would probably never be published if Beacon didn’t exist.” If you care about keeping Beacon Press alive, buy its books. You can view special gift package ideas at the Beacon Press website: www.beacon.org/packages.html.

BOARD NOTES

The Board of Trustees met for its monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 22. The Board reviewed and approved the Treasurer’s Report prepared by Dave C. The Board then took up the issue of proposed changes to UUCWI bylaws. Due to our land purchase and entry into a ministerial search, the Board proposed changes to the bylaws as recommended by the UUA and PNWD. These changes primarily affect Membership and Ministerial Relations areas of the bylaws. A special Bylaws Committee appointed by the Board drafted the changes. The Board approved the changes with some suggested amendments and will publish them for congregational approval. The Board agreed to an extensive period of public comment and planned a March congregational meeting for a final vote.

The Board also adopted a “Board Policy on Policies and Practices” document as submitted by Dave C. This document sets forth ground rules for establishing formal policies and practices for the Board, committees, and congregation at large. We hope this policy will help our congregation develop a set of “best practices” that will serve as a resource to Boards, committees, and the congregation in the years to come.

The Board approved the hiring of Nikki A. as our CRE director for the remainder of the Church year. Nikki will be responsible for developing a CRE curriculum and coordinating volunteers to lead Sunday school. Nikki is a longtime friend of UUCWI and we welcome her to the family.

CHOIR HEADS UP

The choir is taking a winter break, but don't forget that Heidi H., our successful choir director from last year, will return at the end of March. Here is a little message from Heidi: "I'm still looking forward to working with the choir when I return." If you're interested in joining the choir, whether you're a member or not, check the newsletter next month for developing details.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE PLANS

The Board has asked that we have at least four services in the summer, rather than closing up shop altogether as we have formerly done. The suggestion is that we have variety—a beach walk, a debate, a picnic, a sing-song—anything that will help maintain our community during July and August.

So here's everybody's chance to have their favorite, or even to propose some (mildly) outrageous event. One person has offered talks on two UU icons—our chief symbol, the coffee pot; and balderdash!

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

A chief theme that we will frequently visit is the EcoEconomy—the concept that Nature is valuable and should be preserved, rather than the Industrial Revolution concept that it had little value and could be destroyed.

The February 16 service will introduce the topic (please see the service announcements on page 2), and we hope this might lead to a series of discussions on many of the fascinating and important ramifications. A lot of Whidbey Islanders are committed to these aspects, so it might be a good way to introduce people to our church.

PROGRESS ON THE PICKET LINES

from Peggy B.

As many of you know, what began here in September has become a groundswell of protest nation-wide to halt the march to war on Iraq. Pundits are now acknowledging that there has never been such a huge mass protest *before* any war in our nation's history. The White House is beginning to back-pedal, as the coalition of nations falls apart. Their case has not been made, because there is no case for this war. January 18 saw a successful and peaceful protest in our Navy town of Oak Harbor with over 100 participating in solidarity with the national effort. Martin Luther King Day brought an opportunity to hear his inspiring words on the Vietnam War which are so timely today. Pray for the President and his advisors that their hearts and minds may be changed. And, join us at Bayview, Saturdays, from 11:00 to noon, and Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Pull out your UUCWI directory 'cause here are some entries to be added:

Asterisks indicate membership. If you don't have a directory and would like one, contact our Church Coordinator at 321-8656.

IN THE FAMILY. . .

UUCWI congregant Craig S. will make his acting debut in the role of “the husband” in “Mousetrap” by Agatha Christie which will run at WICA in Langley, February 14, 15, 16, 21, and 22. This classic Christie mystery is the longest running play in London theater history. Call WICA for tickets and times at 221 8268.

STEWARDSHIP

The time is fast approaching when we will be asked to commit our resources to the operating budget of our church. There is good news for this year. In spite of the onerous burden of the country's economic downturn and the uncertainties of war, it is reported that Unitarian Universalists are committing to the support of their churches with increased generosity. This year we will have a face-to-face every member canvass. A member of the PNWD FACT team, Janine L, will do canvasser training on Saturday morning, March 15. The Kickoff Canvass Dinner will be held at the Grange Hall on April 5, and the Canvass will officially begin the day after. The theme will involve the Stone Soup Miracle. Prepare, and be of glad heart.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Building Committee work continues in several areas:

1. A pre-application conference request is planned to be submitted by Friday, January 31 to the County. They will then schedule a meeting with the Building Committee and our professional engineer to review out site requirements.
2. We should hear from the County soon on our request for a property line adjustment for 1.2 acres on the south of the property. Hopefully, we can then complete the purchase in February.
3. Members of the committee are continuing to visit several building types to determine what would work best for our congregation.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The Membership Committee has recommended that all those interested in becoming new members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island be given an orientation into the history and future expectations of the privileges and expectations of membership. Ours is a history of inspiring faith and steadfast belief in the essential good of each and every one of us. We hope to enlarge our circle of seekers and provide a dynamic education program for children, which will enable them to live wholesome, ethical and fulfilling lives. If your interested in joining UUCWI, please call our church telephone number: 321-8656, or send a



Services Auction

Saturday, Feb. 22!!

Auction Promise



Due by Sunday, February 9, 2002

Please explain in detail what you would like to offer. Include (when applicable) the date, or date range for which you are offering the service, items or event, advance time notification needed, number of people item is for (e.g.. lasagna that will serve six), total number of buyers you desire (e.g. a dinner in my home for ten people), length of time of service (e.g.. four hours of yard work), and any other additional information to make your offering as clear and as interesting as possible. Please use a separate Auction Promise sheet for each service/item. Copy this one, or get extras on the web, at church on Sundays, or call Sarah.

Name of Service or Item _____

Description of service/item

Donor(s) _____

Date(s) _____

Minimum Bid \$_____ Per _____ Maximum Quantity _____

Item will be available the night of the auction on date indicated to be arranged

Will sample be on display? Yes No

Good Faith fair market value of your offering (to conform to IRS regulations) \$_____

Signed _____ Phone _____

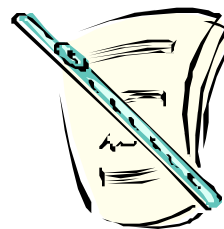
E-mail _____

I prefer to be contacted about this via E-mail Phone



The Services Auction

Saturday, Feb. 22.....is only a bit more than a month away! Join with other UUCWI folks to trade services or items all for the good of the church coffers. This is a real auction - complete with auctioneer and bidding paddles. You can give and buy things that keep on delivering fun times and great ways to connect....Time to get creative and think up some great service or item that will be fun to give.



Here are some ideas to help you think up a marvelous way to offer something special just from you. The best items are ones that are a favorite activity or passion of yours and/or they involve getting together with others.

- Centerpieces
- Apple Lavender Jelly
- Beautiful Dahlias planted in your yard
- Birds & Brunch
- Cottage Room
- Clam Bake
- Elegant Brunch
- Extraordinary Mariner's Tickets
- Soothe your Muscles
- Firewood
- Five glorious months of cottage flower bouquets
- Four Hours of Yard Work
- Golf lessons
- Guided Meditations specifically for you
- HEARTLIGHT Meditations
- Watercolor Painting



- Lavender Planted for you
- Music Lesson
- Weekend @ Waterfront House
- Photographic Portrait
- Trail Ride (horse & pony) & Tea
- Pottery Classes
- Relaxing full-body massage
- Sailing Dinner
- Slippers
- Sea Kayaking Basics
- Square Stoneware Pottery Baking/Serving Dish
- Trio of Homemade Jam
- Warm chili dinner on a blustery night
- White Water Raft Trip - A
- Wine



Ok, you get the idea? Now come up with your own version and get ready to have fun.

Send your completed form to Sarah R. or bring them to her on a Sunday. Call or e-mail Sarah for information, donation forms, and volunteer opportunities.

