



Island Passages

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

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Service 4-5pm Shaping Worth Together: How We Worship (p2)	5 Worship Committee	6 Membership Committee	7	8	9	10 1-3pm: North End Koffee Klatch at Whidbey General Hospital (p5)
11 2pm: Choir Rehearsal Service 4-5pm: The Story of Our Faith (p2)	12	13 7:30pm: Book Group (p6)	14 9 am BOT Meeting at Trinity	15	16	17 Picnic Potluck for Visiting UU's (p3) 7:30pm: Saratoga Chamber Or.(p6)
18 2pm: Choir Rehearsal Service 4-5pm: The Arts' Importance to UU's (p2)	19 RE Committee	20 10am-12 noon: South End Koffee Klatch (p5) Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23	24 7-9pm: Conversation on the Arts as a possible Source for UUism, at Kit's home (p3)
25 Service 4-5pm: The Theology of Eating Locally (p2)	26	27	28 7-8:30pm: Women's Discussion Group (p6)	29	30 7:30pm: House Concert Fundraiser (p6)	31
June 1 Service 4-5pm: The Importance of Science to UU's (p2)						

May 4: Shaping Worth Together: How We Worship

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

We Unitarian Universalists have a different concept of the word “worship”. For us, it doesn’t mean adoration of a deity; it means coming together to experience the joy of community, the inspiration of meaningful words and ideas, and finding strength together to carry our love for humanity into the world. Rev. Kit Ketcham and Worship Leader Peggy B will collaborate to offer this service.

Worship Leader: Peggy B

Membership: Lois C

May 11: The Story of Our Faith

Featuring a recreation of the painting “Simple Gifts” by P.S. Gordon, this intergenerational Mother’s Day service will feature a child dedication and Flower Communion. Director of Religious Education Lorie Wood, Rev. Kit Ketcham, Linda G., and our children will help to present this beautiful tribute to families and our Unitarian Universalist community.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Kit Ketcham, Lorie W.

Membership: Ken M

May 18: A New Source: the Arts’ Importance to Unitarian Universalists

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

During this church year, we have explored the six official Sources of UUism. But there are many people who find the arts and the creativity the arts inspire in themselves to be a foundational source of their UU values. At UUCWI we have many artists in many different media, from painting to music to fabric arts and writing—and more! Rev. Kit Ketcham and Worship Leader Mary G will collaborate to explore this topic.

Worship Leader: Mary G

Membership: Baird B

May 25: The Theology of Eating Locally

Speaker: Bill Graves

This talk will be given by Bill Graves, Ministerial Intern, Skagit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

The more we look at issues of social justice, the more it is obvious that all are interrelated. How true it is that we are part of an "interconnected web of all existence" (UU Seventh Principle). In recent years

our eyes have been opened to seeing that what we choose to eat has ramifications upon such wide-ranging issues as the energy crisis, global warming, degradation of the environment, unlawful immigration, as well as our own spiritual and physical health.

Worship Leader: Mavis C

Membership: Earl B

June 1: A New Source: the Importance of Science to Unitarian Universalists

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

This church year we have explored the six official Sources of UUism and have informally added the Arts as a Source for us. We also find a great deal of meaning in Science as a foundational source for our UU values. At UUCWI, we have several scientists in several different areas, from civil engineering to rocket science to medical and social sciences. Rev. Kit Ketcham and Dave C will collaborate to explore this topic.

Worship Leader: Dave C

Membership: Lois C

News and Events

Building Committee Report

The saga of the siding continues _ it’s complete on all exterior walls except the west side of the sanctuary. We’re also filling staple holes and checking all windows for caulking in preparation for exterior paint. We also passed our electrical inspection. Trenching has been done to bring water to the building and to run electricity to the location where the sign will be installed by the entry drive. We’ve also begun some of the grading for drainage control. Forms are also being built for exterior steps and the front portico.

We’re a bit slowed by scheduling problems with our contractor, who needs to do some final work before we can call for the mechanical inspection. But lots of background work and research has been accomplished: we have our septic permit from the county; we made a trip to Second Use in Seattle and bought used sinks for the kitchen, bathrooms, and classrooms and a used propane stove for the kitchen. Panic bars (required by the county) for the sanctuary and classroom exterior doors have been identified and ordered; propane piping has been installed for the stove; bids have been obtained and accepted for

insulation, drywall, interior painting, septic system, and gutters. We've sought advice on the acoustics of the sanctuary and have arranged for QuietRock (soundproof drywall) to be applied to the east wall of the sanctuary.

The interior paint bid submitted by the drywall subcontractor was so low it was barely over the cost of paint, so we'll let the professionals do that job. However, we will be doing the exterior painting ourselves. As soon as the weather improves, we can also demolish the remains of the old shed, move the play equipment to its permanent location, and start cleaning up winter debris. If you can help with any of these tasks, please let someone on the building committee know so you can be included on the email list for notification of work parties.

~Mavis C for the Building Committee

Stewardship Status

We are close to completion of our stewardship campaign to raise funds for our 2008-2009 operating budget. With 36 households reporting so far, we have pledges totaling \$46,213.00. A huge thank you to all of our visiting stewards for their dedication to this campaign. And another huge thank you to all of you for your generous financial support of our thriving congregation. I will have more to report in the June newsletter, when we have the final results.

~Lois C, Stewardship Chair

Picnic on the Grounds

On May 17, there will be a picnic on the site of our new church home to honor the folks from Woodinville UUC and Quimper (Port Townsend) UUF who are coming that day to help work on the building. This will be a potluck. More details as the date approaches.

~Rev. Kit Ketcham

Conversation on a "New" UU Source

On May 24, there will be a conversation on the Arts as a possible Source for UUism, at Kit's home, 7-9 p.m.

~Rev. Kit Ketcham

From Our Minister

One of the things that our UU system of governance (congregational polity) means is that we are autonomous in our governance, but that we work together with other UU congregations to support each other and help out when we can.



We have an opportunity to put that principle into practice on May 17, when crews from two neighboring UU congregations, Port Townsend and Woodinville, will come to help us work on our building. It's a wonderful chance for us to get to know other UUs in our general area and to experience the delight of receiving the care and help of others in a time of need.

WUUC (Woodinville UU Congregation) received the help of some of our members when they were building a few years ago and QUUF (Quimper UU Fellowship, Port Townsend) will need our help in the coming year or so, when their building project begins.

To say thank you for their service, I'd like to propose that we have an all-congregation picnic that day, at the church grounds, to feed our hungry crews and to have a good time together. If you haven't yet come out to help with the building, this would be a good time to get started.

Look for more details as the date approaches. If you have thoughts about such an undertaking or would like to help pull it together, please let me know.

Much love,
Kit

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2008. The most important items of business are election of officers and approval of the budget. As you know, our church year runs from June 30, 2008 to July 1, 2009. The By-Laws set a quorum at 30% of the membership (21). All are invited to attend, but only members may vote. By mid-May you will receive a slate of candidates for office as well as the proposed budget. The meeting will commence about 5:15pm, after services and a cup of coffee. Please plan on attending

~Baird B.

Sanctuary Seating “Adopt-a-Chair” Campaign

It’s very exciting to see our building going up and to be at the stage where we need to plan furnishings.

The aesthetics committee has put a good deal of thought and research into chairs for the new building and we have selected a very comfortable padded model that can serve as seating for services, dinners, concerts, and other events. On May 11, we’ll bring a sample chair (as well as other samples of flooring, lighting, etc) to the service for you to see during coffee hour. At that time we’ll begin a campaign to raise funds to place an order for 100 chairs to furnish the new sanctuary. These chairs are well built and “Made in the U.S.A.” It will make a huge difference in the mood of the sanctuary to have beautiful, coordinated, comfortable seating!

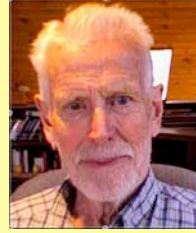
Each chair (including shipping) is \$75. Two members of our congregation have pledged matching funds for this project – so if you adopt a chair, it will mean two chairs for the congregation. If you adopt two chairs, it means four chairs, etc!

Please let Mavis C know if you can adopt one or more chairs! The manufacturer has informed us that the costs will go up on June 1 due to an increase in the price of steel, so the order will be placed on May 25 ... your commitment and payment (to UUCWI) before that date would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

~*The Aesthetics Committee (Mavis C, Peggy B, Joan G, Mary G, and Sandy W)*



The Prez Says:



Sex

OWL stands for “Our Whole Lives”. It is a Unitarian Universalist sexuality education curriculum developed in partnership with the United Church of Christ. I do believe it is the only church sponsored program of its kind. It is age appropriate and medically accurate. There are programs for elementary, intermediate, junior high and high school groups. It requires positive involvement with the parents and support from the minister, the board, the religious education committee and probably an oversight committee of knowledgeable and enthusiastic members.

The teachers (requires a male and female) will come from the congregation and must be trained and certified. The goal is to teach our children healthy decision-making skills that have a sound ethical basis and which treat peers with respect and justice. It is appropriate for all the youth of the community.

Our government has spent 1.5 billion dollars to promote “Abstinence Only Sex Education Programs.” This ill-fated effort has been harmful to our children and left them poorly prepared for their future sexual lives, often with a view of sex tinged with fear and shame. We have learned from governmental studies that these programs lead to a disproportionate increase in teen pregnancy, STDs and risky sexual behaviors. In many cases parents and schools do an excellent job of sexuality education – sometimes not. But there is no such thing as too much information.

Is it too early to lay the groundwork for the OWL program in our congregation? If we can extrapolate from our neighbor churches, Quimper (Port Townsend) and Sequim, we will have a doubling of our membership in the three or four years after our building is completed. It is from this new membership that the children and their teachers will come. We must prepare for the future. I have a set of the curricula books that are available for loan.

~*Baird B*

House Concert Fund-Raiser on Friday, May 30 Reserve Your Tickets Now!

This year's house concert to benefit UUCWI is a varied one! The program will feature Beethoven's *'Spring' Sonata*, Opus 24 No. 5 performed by Peggy Bardarson, violin, and Nola Allen, piano. Soprano Susan Strick will present a group of French art songs accompanied by Nola. James Hinkley and Siri Bardarson, cellists, will play *Five Duos for Two Cellos* by the Canadian composer, Halsey Stevens.

The concert will be Friday, May 30 at the home of Dave and Mavis C. The music begins at 7:30 pm and tickets are \$20 per person. There will be hors d'oeuvres and refreshments afterwards. If the weather is nice, come a half hour early and enjoy the view from the deck. In any case, arrive by 7:30, so we can begin promptly.

Seating for this event is limited and it is always a sell-out. Contact Mavis at mavis@C.net or 579-4053 to reserve your tickets.

~ Mavis C

Koffee Klatches: Best Conversation on the Island!

- *North End*: 1-3 pm, Saturday, May 10, the North End Koffee Klatch will meet. We gather in the West Wind Cafeteria at Whidbey General Hospital in Coupeville, for terrific conversation, cheap eats, and good coffee on the North End. All are welcome.
- *South End*: 10am-12noon, Tuesday, May 20, South Enders meet at Rockhoppers' coffee shop and art gallery from 10 am to 12 noon, for great coffee and wonderful conversation. All are welcome.

Choir News

Michael B. will be leading the choir in May. Music will include a joyful madrigal, *Now is the Month of Maying* by Thomas Morley; *We've Ploughed Our Land*, a simple spring round from a collection by Bryen Masters; and *Bristol*, a glorious shape note song by Joseph Addison.

Rehearsal times are 2pm on May 11 and 18th, with the choir performing on May 18th.

~ Linda G

Book Group: Tuesday, May 13, 7:30pm

On Tuesday May 13th the Book Club will convene at the home of Joan G in Langley for a discussion of *Out of the Flames* by Lawrence and Nancy Goldstone. This historical thriller features one of the heroes of Unitarian Universalism, Michael Servetis. He was a heretic who espoused Unitarian Universalist principles and was put to death, burned at the stake by John Calvin. It takes place at the infancy of printing. It's a riveting read. See you there.

~ Baird B

Women's Discussion Group Wednesday, May 28, 7-8:30pm

UU women have much to talk about. This time our topic is: What has been your experience with the work-a-day world, now and in the past? Have you experienced various corporate cultures or played/avoided "office politics"? Has your perspective changed over the years with regard to working in America?

We will meet at Judy K's house on Wednesday, May 28, from 7 to 8:30 pm. She lives in South Greenbank on Classic Road. Please email her for directions and to RSVP.

~Judy K

Chalice Lighters

This is a somewhat amorphous program run by the PNWD whereby members commit to respond to three (usually) annual requests for money (minimum \$10 each time). Contributions mostly go to newer congregations, though here too criteria are pretty vague. We got a building grant of \$8000 in 2005, and are eligible again after five years, though we are negotiating to get another one sooner.

To qualify for a grant, a church has to have an impeccable record: fulfill two PNWD Honor Society criteria having to do with sending required funds to PNWD, have at least 30% of its members sign up to be Chalice lighters, and have a formal growth plan and show progress in it.

We qualify on all three grounds. Even so, it would help our cause for another grant (say, for furnishings in our new building; or more hymn books; or cushions; or individual sound amplification – it's our choice) were we to raise our percentage of Chalice Lighter membership a

notch or two. It's easy: if you can sign your name on their form, and agree to respond to a maximum of three appeals a year (total minimum \$30), you've qualified.

Malcolm Ferrier is this year's coordinator; he will have Chalice Lighter and PNWD literature on the membership table for each of the next several weeks.

~Malcolm Ferrier

Community News

Honoring Chris Highland

Our beloved friend and frequent guest speaker at UUCWI, Chris Highland, is leaving Whidbey Island next month. His joy is our loss. He will be joining his bride-to-be in Marin County, to teach courses on Walt Whitman and Natural Spirituality at Dominican University.

Tom and I are hosting a farewell celebration for Chris, to honor him and his contributions to our community. It will be held at our home, May 1st, starting at 6:30pm. We are planning simple finger food and beverages. The emphasis will be on Chris, not entertaining. If you would like to attend, and share with him your appreciation of his talks at UUCWI and how his wisdom has touched you, please give us a call. 221-2071.

~Terri A

Saratoga Chamber Orchestra Concert

Saturday, May 17

Several UUCWI members and friends are participants in the new Saratoga Chamber Orchestra. The final concert of the season features baroque music: Handel's *Royal Fireworks Music*, Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5* and *Orchestral Suite No. 3*, as well as works for brass by Gabrielli.

The concert is Saturday, May 17th at 7:30pm at South Whidbey High School.

Church members in the orchestra are Linda G, Peggy B, Siri B, and 'friends' Kat Fritz, Gloria Ferry-Brennan,

James Hinkley, Judith Burns and others.

This is a truly local orchestra and worthy of community support. Please plan to attend!

~Peggy B

Spanish Conversation Group

An intermediate Spanish conversation group meets every Tuesday night in Freeland. The emphasis is on listening and speaking. Our native Spanish teacher is certified and charges \$10 for an hour and a half class. If you have studied Spanish for a while and just need more practice, you are probably an intermediate student! Join us – we have great fun.

For more information, contact Judy K. Her email is not in the UUCWI directory so ask our church administrator.

~Judy K

Furnishing our new home: Donation forms are now available

Our Vision

As the construction work on our new UUCWI home moves more and more to the inside of the building, your *Aesthetics Committee* is sharpening its focus on the *furnishings* we want inside.

Our *vision*, of course, is grand. Our foyer feels very welcoming – reflecting the diversity and creativity of our members, our friends, and the community around us. Our main meeting room complements our Sunday Services -- our music soars softly through the beams high above, our seating arrangements are flexible, the forest of trees surrounding our building is visible through the windows. We see our children going ‘in peace’ to classrooms designed and equipped for exploring challenging ideas and lively discussions. On many evenings, delightful smells are floating through the air as a UUCWI dinner or other community meal is being prepared in our kitchen. Week days, our main room is often transformed to accommodate many other types of events – weddings, art shows, concerts. Our small but nicely equipped office bustles almost constantly with activity too – with the planning and coordinating of all these things!

Donation Plan

Our *plan* for furnishing our new home is *two-fold*. We are seeking both *donated items* that match our physical needs as determined by the Aesthetics Committee and *financial donations* with which we will *purchase* other specific items, such as the 100 chairs of the model we’ve selected for our main meeting room. Your participation in this phase of our building project is part of our overall vision.

A special ‘campaign’ to fund the purchase of our chairs is being coordinated by Mavis C and is currently in progress. The cost of each of the chairs for our main meeting room is \$75, but a donor has offered to match all dollars contributed toward this effort, which means that your donation to cover the cost of one chair will buy *two* chairs! Please contact Mavis if this is the way you’d like to help us furnish our new home.

Our ‘*starter*’ list of other *items* needed to furnish our new home includes the following:

- Bookcases (for storage room, classroom, hallway – although built in would be best in the hall)
- A fine quality piano
- Mirrors for bathrooms
- Office furniture and equipment (desk(s), bookcases, file cabinets, chairs, maybe table, etc.)
- Refrigerator
- Stacking plastic chairs for classroom
- Smaller items like kitchen supplies, clocks, etc
- A table or two (carefully sized) for the foyer and maybe a small chair or two

Donation Form

Please use our *Donation Form* to let us know if you have one or more items that you would like to donate to UUCWI. Don’t hesitate to suggest something that is not included on our ‘starter’ list. Your completed form will be accepted by any member of the Aesthetics Committee. All offers will be thoughtfully reviewed at weekly meetings, and hopefully we will identify many ‘matches’ with our vision.

Thank you in advance for helping our dream come true. We’re looking forward to hearing from you!

Peggy B, Mavis C, Joan G, Mary G, Sandy W

Furnishing our New UUCWI Home Donation Form

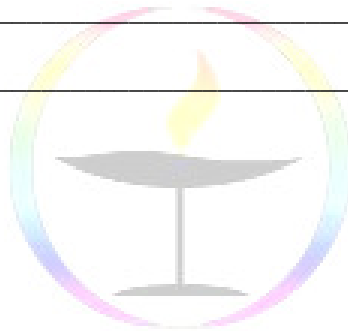
Detailed description of item you wish to donate to UUCWI, *including dimensions, color(s), finish:*

Condition: _____

Maintenance needs, including cost(s) of same: _____

How you envision this item being used in our new building: _____

Photo (required) :



One 4" x 6" photo will fit here. If you have additional photos that will help us evaluate this item, please staple them to this form.

Your Name(s): _____ Best way to contact you: ___Phone ___Email

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Whidbey Island
2007 - 2008 Board of Trustees**

Baird B, President
Paula K, Treasurer
Pat L, Secretary
Frank A, Trustee
Lois C, Trustee
Mary G, Trustee
Camille L, 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

Chaplains: Sally Elder 360-675-3314
Bill Graves 360-661-7289

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

Director of Religious Education: Lorie Wood

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
Rebecca S. 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](http://www.whidbey.com/uucwi/newsletter.html). Last names, phone numbers, and
addresses are deleted from the online version for
members' privacy.

Communications Committee:

Rebecca S, Newsletter Editor
Maureen M, Church Administrator
Dave C, Webmaster

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION OF WHIDBEY ISLAND**

P.O. Box 1076
Freeland, WA 98249
360-321-8656