

# Island Passages

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

## June 2003

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 8:30 AM "Shooting the Breeze About Seismic Events," Current Affairs Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Cafe.	3	4	5	6	7
8 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 2:00 PM Choir rehearsal at Trinity. 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	16 8:30 AM "Shooting the Breeze About Seismic Events," Current Affairs Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Cafe.	17 7:30 PM Book Group planning potluck at Francie's. See item page 3.	18	19	20	21 9:00 AM Work party at the church property. See item on page 2. 7:30 PM Karin Blaine Studio Concert. See item on page 4.
22 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	23	24	25 7:00 PM Board meeting at Trinity.	26	27 7:30 PM Chaminade Trio Fund-raiser Concert. See below and item on page 5.	28
29 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity. 5:15 PM Congregational meeting at Trinity. See item on page 2.	30 8:30 AM "Shooting the Breeze About Seismic Events," Current Affairs Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Cafe.	1 <i>July</i>	2	3 6:00 PM Potluck and Fireworks at the Bardarson's. See item page 5.	4	5



Don't miss this opportunity to hear the marvelously gifted musicians who comprise Chaminade Trio: Peggy Bardarson on violin, her sister Carol on cello, and Nola Allen on piano  
 The program will include an eclectic variety of period and style—something for everyone!  
 For more details, see page 5.

**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.

**June 8**—“*Atheism and Humanism,*”

**from lay-speaker Malcolm Ferrier**

Starting with a rationale for the concepts of Atheism, Worship Committee Chair Malcolm Ferrier will then offer a set of values that Humanism embraces. Malcolm has recently sent a series of 80 essays to the publisher, subtitled *A Transplanted Scotsman’s Guide to Modern Living*. It offers his eccentric views on many topics, including a dozen on Religion and Ethics. He is a scientist, environmentalist, and family man—and hopes to continue to be our church’s gad-fly and loyal opposition.

*Facilitator: Frances Wood*

*Membership Representative: Malcolm F.*

*Usher: the Cs Refreshments: Sandy W.*

**June 15** — “*The Great Story:*

*A Bridge for UU Diversity,*”

**from guest speakers Connie Barlow and Michael Dowd**

Renowned Harvard biologist Edward O. Wilson has written, “The evolutionary epic is probably the best myth we will ever have.” What does Wilson mean by myth? And why does cultural historian Thomas Berry characterize this all-embracing story as “meta-religious,” rather than religious? In an engaging presentation, Michael and Connie introduce this vibrant young movement and show how it builds on the very foundations of our UU tradition. They identify ways that this all-inclusive story bridges the rich diversity that exists within our UU communities today—from secular humanists to theists and pagans. They close by offering a view of our congregations as spiritual microcosms of the larger world, and as sanctuaries where religious differences are not merely accepted but celebrated.

Connie and Michael have presented “The Great Story” at UU societies across the country.

*Facilitator: Al G.*

*Membership Representative: Roy B.*

*Usher: open Refreshments: open*

**June 22** — “*Understanding Islam,*”

**with guest minister Rev. Jamal Rahman**

Gandhi once said that it is the sacred duty of every individual to have an appreciative understanding of other faiths. This Sunday, Jamal will offer an appreciative understanding of Islam and focus on those aspects that are commonly misunderstood. If time permits, he will touch upon what Islam has to offer to the sacred work of cultivating interfaith harmony and unity.

Many will remember Jamal Rahman from his lively presentation last year on Sufism.

*Facilitator: Malcolm F.*

*Membership Representative: Baird B.*

*Usher and Refreshments: Wendy F.*

**June 29** — “*Understanding Islam, Part II*”

**with guest speaker Suzanne Fageol**

Suzanne Fageol, local Episcopalian priest—who also has been with us twice before—will supplement Jamal’s talk on Islam with her own interpretation/extension of this world view.

Suzanne Fageol, M. Div., is a Spiritual Director, Episcopal priest, and deep ecologist who has ministered and trained in the United States, Great Britain, Europe, the Caribbean, and Africa. She has led workshops and retreats for professionals and lay persons on spirituality for the past twenty-five years. Suzanne is in private practice as a spiritual director and craniosacral practitioner. She works in interfaith and non-traditional settings.

*Facilitator: Bill G.*

*Membership Representative: Malcolm F.*

*Usher: open Refreshments: open*

**NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

A congregational meeting will be held June 29 following the Sunday service. Business before the congregation will be Board of Trustee elections (see Ken’s Kolumn for the slate of candidates), CRE report, Facilities report, and Ministerial Search report. Food will be provided. The meeting is expected to last approximately 90 minutes.

**MINISTERIAL SEARCH NEWS**

Dear UU Members and Friends:

I’m very disappointed to report that Lena Breen called to say she would not be able to be a candidate for our post, due to turmoil in her personal life. Under the circumstances it is necessary to cancel all the activities for candidating weekend. We have already contacted David Maynard, the district’s settlement representative, to enlist his aid in continuing our search.

We won’t let this get us down. We’ll recover. These things have a way of turning out for the best. We’ve made a valuable and capable friend, who is also a neighbor, and had these circumstances in her personal life arisen after she was on board, it would have been even more troublesome to all parties. Let’s go forward.

Sincerely,

*Dave C., Chair, Ministerial Search Committee*

**BUILDING COMMITTEE NEWS**

Come join us at our work party on Saturday, June 21, 9:00 a.m. at the property—rake, haul and burn! Hot dogs will be roasted at noon. Please come.

On June 12, representatives from the committee will present a preliminary site plan to County officials. The next Building Committee meeting will be held on June 23.

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE NOTES

Late May brought us some inescapable changes to our original schedule. The current batting order is in the calendar. We still have needs for ushers and snack-bringers—a permanent condition, by the by. Kindly volunteer to Mavis. The number of people who step up seems to be diminishing. To run our lay-led congregation, we need more volunteers. Thank you!

Summertime will have four services, all of a slightly off-beat character. On July 13, Malcolm F. will focus on the Religion of Golf. You will surely be astonished at the ways golf makes you a beautiful person. July 27 sees a detailed botanical tour of our property by Linda G.'s friend Ryan Brin—be prepared to creep about inspecting plants. For August 10, Bill G. is arranging a surprise 90th birthday party for Jean H.—suggestions for tributes, please. And on August 24 Peggy B. will be in charge of an as-yet-unspecified amazing topic. As ever, congregants are invited to throw in ideas for these keep-in-touch summertime get-togethers.

**Please note that all four Summer Services will be at our property, and start at 10.00 am.**

## INVITATION TO THE BOOK GROUP

On June 17 at 6:00 p.m., we will hold our planning potluck at Francie and Bill's. Visitors and new members are encouraged to attend. At that meeting we come with suggestions of books we have read and would like to recommend to the group. After hearing "plugs" for everyone's favorites, we vote to select books we would like to read, and set up the schedule for next year. We typically do not meet in July or August, but start up again in September. Please bring a dish to share and a book (or two) to recommend.

## KEN'S KOLUMN

*from UUCWI Board President, Ken M.*

### Congregational Meeting:

Our annual year-end congregational meeting is scheduled for June 29, at Trinity Lutheran following the Sunday Service.

This is the meeting in which we thank our current Board members for all their hard work and vote on the slate of candidates that will comprise our new Board of Trustees for next year. The Nominating Committee did a great job and have presented the congregation with a slate of highly qualified and dedicated candidates for the Board. They are:

Dave C. - President (1 year)  
 Roy B. - Treasurer (1 year)  
 Elaine W. - Secretary (1 year)  
 Baird B. - Trustee (1 more year)  
 Al G.- Trustee (1 more year)  
 Marjorie L. - Trustee (2 years)  
 Paula K. - Trustee (2 years)

The Nominating Committee is also charged with nominating a new Nominating Committee. The new Nominating Committee will be John A., Carol B., and Sandy W.

We will also discuss issues related to the lot plan for our property now that the land purchase and lot-line adjustment have been completed. Finally, we will hear a report on our developing CRE program, a report on our current and future facilities, and an update on our ministerial search.

### Ministerial Search:

I think we're all, myself included, very disappointed that Lena Breen will not be able to be a candidate for our ministerial position. Dave C., Ministerial Search Committee Chairperson, spoke to Lena to explore if a way could be found to make her candidacy work out, as have Ann Heller and Peggy B. However, we did not succeed in changing her mind or in negotiating a delay in her decision. We must respect that her choice is based on her desire to be effective in what she undertakes.

While this is not the best news, I am pleased to report the Ministerial Search Committee is taking this development in stride and is actively seeking a candidate for the post. They are currently interviewing prospects. We'll keep you posted.

### Finally...

I completed my canvassing duties today after a very nice talk with a newcomer to our congregation. I'm really pleased to see our community growing and attracting so many visitors, and I am always impressed to see how warm and inviting we are to newcomers, but my canvasser pointed out something to me I think we should all keep in mind. We need to make the same effort to be warm and welcoming to everyone in our community, whether this is their first experience with us or their 100<sup>th</sup>. So I invite us all to reach out to those in the congregation who, for whatever reason, we haven't met or connected with yet and get to know them. Visitors, guests, and newcomers are important, and we want to let them know they're welcome, but we also want to continue to strengthen the bonds that hold our community together. That's what keeps us a family church no matter how much we grow.

## CRE: A BEGINNING

*from Peggy B., convenor*

Our four session pilot-project for Childrens' Religious Education was completed on May 18. Nikki H. was the paid coordinator for the sessions, assisted by Francie W., Paula K., Sandy W., Siri S. and Peggy B. All parents were contacted and kids invited. We had our three regulars, Evan, Seth, and Lucy, plus a visitor. This is the core group from which we will grow and represents a huge growth from the days a few years ago when Evan was our token child. It was a good beginning. Two sessions were field trips to the property and the beach. Thanks to the kids and all involved.

## STUDIO CONCERT

Singer/songwriter Karin Blaine (aka Karin Bardarson) will be appearing at a "Live at Sound Trap Studio Concert and Webcast" in Freeland on Saturday evening, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. celebrating the release of her new CD, *Dirty Money*, which was recorded at Sound Trap.

Tickets are \$12.50 at the door. Box office will open at 6:45 pm. Limited seating available. Sound Trap Studio is located at 3799 E. Harbour road—10 telephone poles past Brainers Road on the right. For more info call (206) 721-2035.

The show will also be webcast at [www.electricedge.com/testingtesting](http://www.electricedge.com/testingtesting) for home listening.

## BASKETS FOR BOOKS BIG SUCCESS

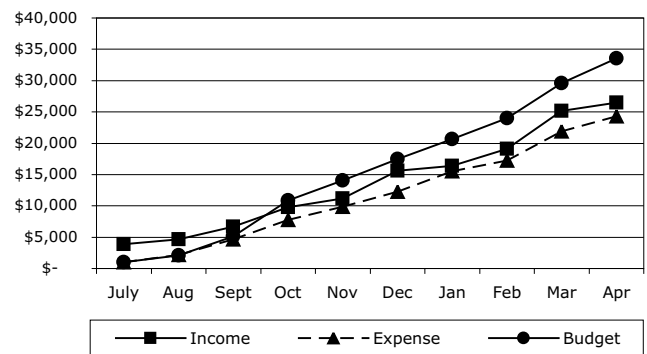
The UUCWI Social Action Committee is delighted with the response to its first shipment of baskets weaved by Bolivian Guarani women. We have sold 76 of the 84 baskets we received and grossed \$1056.00 which should be enough to send one of their young persons for an entire year towards obtaining a two-year technical certificate. We thank you profusely! A second shipment is due to arrive in June and if we manage to sell it entirely, we should fulfill our goal of providing a full scholarship for the technical certificate. Obviously, selling the second shipment will require reaching out to new markets. *You can help:*

1. Consider taking a supply of baskets and offer them for sale at a meeting of any group you are a member of.
2. Download the baskets page from the UUCWI website and send it to friends with a note that they can aid a great cause by placing an order.
3. Consider your own gifting needs for upcoming birthdays and next Christmas—they make great gifts.
4. Donations to the scholarship fund are gratefully accepted. Contact Wendy F. if you can help in any of the manners listed above.

## PEACE DIALOG POTLUCK FOLLOW-UP

Did you participate in our Peace Dialog Potluck on April 27th? The Social Action Committee would like to know if you were inspired or enabled to take any action as a result of the dialog. Did you do something as simple as visit a new web site or read a newspaper that you heard about at the dialog? Did you write a letter to a government official, join a group, donate to an organization? Have you been in contact with someone you met at the dialog? We'd like to find out if our dialog has had any impact. Please send comments to Nancy S.

## UUCWI BUDGET STATUS



Building fund:	\$12,765	Property value:	\$65,780
Ministerial fund:	\$950	General fund:	\$14,606
Social Action Fund:	\$1,000		

The chart above shows cumulative values of income, expense, and budgeted expense through April 30, 2003 in dollars. The Congregation's income to date slightly exceeds expenses and both are well below the amount budgeted. As a result of our constrained spending we no longer expect to incur, or even approach, the \$6168 deficit for the year that was approved by the congregation in the annual budget. This month the property value is increased by \$19,500 reflecting the amount paid for additional property adjacent to the original acreage, and the building fund has been debited by our expenses for the transaction.

## CANVASS REPORT

from Al G. and Baird B.

Good News. We have more Members and Friends pledging financial support for our church than ever before. Comparing the pledges from last year to the pledges collected for the 2003-2004 church year, pledging is up by 20%. This probably reflects the enthusiasm of our congregation of plans for a consulting minister and of the desire to have a sacred meeting place on our church property.

We had a great training session from Janine Larson of the Woodinville UU Church who is a professional fundraiser. She forgave her professional fee after nine hardy souls from UUCWI ventured to Woodinville to donate a days labor to their church building which is being completed by all volunteer labor. Bill G. arranged for this opportunity.

The thirteen canvassers were: Ken M., John A., Gail A., Al G., Peggy B., Francie W., Roy B., Carol B., Bill G., Elaine W., Craig C. Baird B., and Malcolm F. Most all appreciated the opportunity to participate in this outreach process and to get to know their fellow members and friends better.

The Canvass Co-Chairs wish to thank one and all for making this pledge drive a success.

## POTLUCK AND FIREWORKS

All UUCWI members and friends are invited to a potluck and fireworks viewing at the B.s July 3. This is about the “best seat in the house” for viewing this community sponsored show. Bring assorted food to share and your favorite beverages. We’ll provide paper plates and plastic table service. The fireworks don’t start until almost 10:30, so bring a warm jacket. Your own (adult supervised) fireworks are welcome. Your dog is not going to enjoy the fireworks, so best to leave it home. We’ll have the Webber fired up and ready for whatever you bring to grill. Also there is swimming for the brave and the hot tub for the rest of us. Bring your musical instruments, song books, and voices—we always have a great hootenany while we wait for it to get dark.

The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. For directions to our place (on Holmes Harbor in Freeland) call Peggy and Baird.

## NEW MEMBER

Joan G. moved to Whidbey Island (north of Oak Harbor) four years ago from the San Francisco Bay area where she had been living for about 30 years. Her three grown children and other family members all live elsewhere around the United States.

A semi-retired research librarian, Joan now spends much of her “free” time pursuing two lifelong interests — nature photography and boating. Joan’s spiritual journey has taken her from Presbyterian, Episcopal, and Science of Mind Churches to our door (The Unitarian Universalist Church), where she feels she can finally feel “at home” and enjoy being part of a community of spiritually-oriented individuals who do not have a need for and/or believe in the dogma of other religious traditions but who nonetheless value the insights and teachings on which many of those traditions were initially founded. Welcome, Joan!



## HOUSE CONCERT FUND-RAISER

The program is set and the piano tuned!

Tickets are now available for a recital by Chaminade Trio:  
Peggy Bardarson on violin, her sister Carol on cello, and Nola Allen on piano

**Friday, June 27, 7:30 p.m.**

at the C.’

And of course we wouldn’t have a musical soiree without wine and appetizers!  
Suggested donation is \$15/person and all proceeds go to the UUCWI general fund.

Seating is limited, so act quickly if you want to come.

Contact Mavis at 321-8656 or [uuwhidby@whidbey.com](mailto:uuwhidby@whidbey.com)