



Island Passages

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

June 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Service 4-5pm: This I Believe (p2) Bring a Friend Sunday (p5)	4	5	6	7 6-8 pm Board Meeting	8	9 1-3pm: North End Koffee Klatch (p4)
10 Service 4-5pm: The Holy Fool: Unitarian Universalism? (p2)	11 9am: Worship Committee at Trinity	12 6pm: Book Group Potluck (p3)	13 10am-12 noon: South End Koffee Klatch (p4) 7 pm: Women's Group (p2)	14	15	16
17 Service 4-5pm: Hymn Sing (p2)	18	19	20 General Assembly Begins in Portland!!	21 GA continues	22 GA continues	23 GA continues
24 Service 4-5pm: Move into Summer with Mary Oliver (p2) GA concludes	25	26	27	28	29	30

June 3: This I Believe

Speakers: Pat L., Mark B., Katie H., and Ken M.

Join us for one of our favorite services. Four people from our congregation will speak about their own personal beliefs. Be inspired by the insights they have collected on their journeys through life. This year we'll be hearing from Pat L., Mark B., Katie H., and Ken M.. Through this sharing we come to know each other in more meaningful ways and are motivated and challenged to think about our own beliefs.

Lay Leader: Sandy W.

June 10: The Holy Fool: Unitarian Universalism?

Speaker: Reverend Kit Ketcham

There are so many jokes made about Unitarian Universalism by Garrison Keillor and other wags that it's practically become a cottage industry. It's a good thing we are good at seeing the humorous side of our religious tradition. And maybe it's working for us in a way we don't recognize. Rev. Kit Ketcham will tell a lot of UU jokes while thinking about our possible UU role as "the Holy Fool".

Lay Leader: Peggy B.

June 17: Hymn Sing

The hymn sing service is a joyous tradition to begin our transition into summer break. This is truly a congregational service as we rely upon YOU to select and present the hymns and/or readings. Which are your favorites? Please email or call Ken M. with your recommendations (otherwise you'll only hear his). Then be thinking about how you will introduce your choice with a couple of sentences on why it's your favorite, whether it provokes a long-ago memory, the music stirs you in some way, or perhaps the words are powerful to you.

Lay Leader: Ken M.

**June 24: Move into Summer with Mary Oliver
Speaker: Mary G.**

Many of you will be at General Assembly in Portland this weekend. But if you're here, come and join us as we observe some of this poet's celebration of nature in an informal service. Be prepared to join in the discussion, not necessarily

to analyze but just to share what comes up for us as we listen to her words. Feel free to bring your own favorite Mary Oliver poem or volunteer to read some that will be available. This will be our last service until we meet on our property in August.

Lay Leader: Mary G.

News and Events**Women's Group: Wednesday, June 13**

We've finally settled on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month for the UU Women's Discussion Group. We hope that this day will better serve more people. That means that our June meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 13th at Camille L.'s house. Join us at 7pm for coffee, tea and chat and we'll start our discussion at 7:30.

The topic for June was suggested by Heidi and is sure to interest us: personal reflections and conversation about how we were impacted in our coming of age years by what was happening around us at the time -- the politics, social values, public policies, etc. Women of all ages are encouraged to come and share their experiences -- the more 'decades' and generations represented the better! Look for an email a few days before the meeting that will have some quotations and questions to stir your memories. If you are not currently on the email distribution list for this group and would like to be, please contact Camille.

Carpooling is encouraged.

~Camille L.

Building Committee Progress Report

There's good news! We have been approved for a loan for our new building from the UUA at a more favorable rate than that available through commercial channels. And we have received a check for \$25,000 for a First Home Grant from the UUA. (free money!)

Our building project is beginning in earnest. Clearing, grading and road building are underway on the property. Many surplus trees are being removed and will net us upwards of \$3,000 from their sale. The property has changed from a potential building site to a construction zone and is beginning to look different! Be careful when you visit as footing is uneven at this point.

Morning services are planned for the month of August on the property at 10:00 am, perhaps in a different location than usual. On September 9 at 4:00 pm at the annual In-gathering and Salmon-bake, a formal Dedication of the project will take place.

Sandy W. has agreed to become Building Committee Chair in June. Roy will continue as Project Manager.

The Building Committee continues to meet weekly; its members are Baird B., Peggy B., Roy B., Wayne B., Tim K., Marjorie L., Sandy W., Tom B., and Mavis C.. The Esthetics/Kitchen Committee members are Mavis C., Marjorie L., Joan G., Mary G., Peggy B. and Sandy W.

As this long journey now has its goal in sight, we need to be appreciative of the work and dedication of the many UUCWI members and friends who have contributed so much in time, expertise and financial support to this six-year-long project. It has been a team effort from the start and continues to be so. Bless us every one!

~Peggy B.

June 12th: Help plan next year's Book Discussion Group meetings and readings for next year

The UUCWI Book Group will meet at Joan G's in Langley at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 12th to select readings for next year (Sept-June), and to consider possible variations in their meeting format.

This June meeting will begin with a pot-luck dinner and move into book selection and related activities over dessert. To recommend a book, you'll need to have read it – so use this time before the meeting to read and evaluate that special title you've been wanting to peruse. If you've not participated in the book group before or have done so only occasionally, come and let us know what variations in our typical meeting format might encourage you to participate -- or participate more often!

Please call Joan at least a day or two in advance to let her know you'll be there so that she can plan accordingly for the pot luck dinner.

~Joan G.



From Our Minister

Thank you all for such a good church year! As we head into June and later our brief summer hiatus, I think back over the events and learnings of the year and am grateful to all of you for your interest and support of UUCWI, your attendance at our services and events, your participation in committees and helping with our religious education program, your tunefulness in the choir, and the endless ways you all serve this small congregation of likeminded souls.

In the Worship committee meeting recently, we talked about how much we appreciate the efforts of all who participate so fully and we realized that we often don't say thank you enough.

Sometimes we're hesitant to list all those we're grateful to, for fear of leaving someone out and hurting feelings. Sometimes we forget. Sometimes we're so busy we run out of time. Sometimes we're a little hurt ourselves because someone didn't thank us. Sometimes we just plain don't feel like it.

We've decided, as a committee, to cultivate an atmosphere of gratitude in our meetings and to do what we can to cultivate that same atmosphere of gratitude in the congregation. What would UUCWI be like if we appreciated the heck out of everyone's hard work?

Maybe that's the answer, to "appreciate the heck" out of everything. What would UUCWI be like if there were no heck, because it had been appreciated out? (I'm trying to be funny here, so bear with me) I'd like to invite us all to participate in this effort, to say thank you to our lay leaders and those who do so much to keep this congregation going strong. Offer support and encouragement every chance you get; it will be returned a thousand fold!

Gratefully and with much love,
Kit

President's Column

From Toyon C., UUCWI President

My sincere thanks to the members and friends of UUCWI for the honor of serving as President these past two years. Thank you for the opportunity to see close-up how much talent, energy and commitment we have. Thank you for the chance to get to know a number of people I might not otherwise have connected with.

The dedicated, thoughtful and ever-ready Board of Trustees (Frank A., Kathleen B., Tom B., Dave C., Mary G. and Sandy W.) has been a pleasure to work with. Together, we have considered matters dealing with construction, budgets, grant applications, personnel, policies and more. We got acquainted at a retreat last fall, defined goals and wishes for UUCWI and proceeded on to a full year.

Thank you for all of the accomplishments of the hard-working committees. Our CRE program, the consistent weekly services – these would not have happened without those who have been willing to contribute considerable time and thought.

I have learned during these past two years that I had no idea so many details need attention in making our not-too-large but active group tick. Volunteers are critical for ushers, web site, newsletter, refreshments, pot-lucks, committees, and fund-raisers. Thank you to all who have served.

Thank you to our staff, who work so hard and are so dedicated to their roles in our organization. Our minister, Kit, has made herself more a part of our community by moving to the island; Mavis continues to be our “hub” in keeping track of just about everything; and Lori and her assistants have developed a CRE program of which we can all be proud.

And I truly appreciate the ever-growing number of friends and members, who gather each Sunday, participate in events, donate their time and money and otherwise contribute to this community that has become so important to many of us.

I have been very lucky to have had this opportunity. Thank you for making it happen. May the coming year, under the capable leadership of the new officers and Board, be productive, peaceful and fun!!

Audio Tapes and Online Versions of Sermons

Remember that the texts of some of our sermons are online (www.whidbey.com/uucwi) and that there are audio tapes for some sermons. See Mavis C. to borrow these.

Koffee Klatches: Best Conversation on the Island!

North End: 1-3pm, Saturday June 9

The North End Koffee Klatch will meet at Whidbey General Hospital's West Wind Café.

South End: 10am-12noon, Wednesday, June 13

The South End Koffee Klatch will meet at Rockhoppers in Clinton.

Sign Up for New Small Group Ministry Program

In last month's newsletter we announced that we would soon be introducing a new program to our Congregation-- a program referred to variously as Small Group Ministry, Covenant Groups, or Chalice Groups. These small discussion groups are a vehicle for connecting more deeply with others in our congregation while at the same time getting better acquainted with ourselves spiritually. This adult program is scheduled to commence in late September 2007 and sign-ups for the program begin this month!

Sign-up sheets and a brochure about this new program may be found in the hallway on the membership table on Sundays. Please let us know if you are interested in participating and what days of the week and time of day will work for you. We'll also want to know the length of time you are willing and/or able to commit to the program; groups will be formed for 3, 6 and 11 month time periods.

If you are interested in becoming a facilitator for one of these covenant groups, please contact Lois C. at 331-2042 or loischowen@msn.com. Training will be provided during the summer months.

Small Group Ministry is a popular adult program in many Unitarian Universalist Congregations throughout the country, and more information about this movement may be found on the UUA website or at <http://www.smallgroupministry.net/>

~Lois C.

Bring a Friend Sunday

Sunday, June 3rd is BRING-A-FRIEND Sunday! This will be a This I Believe service, which is a great time to bring any friends you might want to introduce to Unitarian Universalism. Special refreshments will be served after the service during the social hour as an additional enticement. You won't want to miss this!

So, get on the phone and call a few friends that you've been meaning to invite but just haven't gotten around to yet. Let's see how many folks we can get into that sanctuary.

~Lois C., for the Membership Committee

Choir News

We've completed 8 months of lay-led choir, which is a tribute to the dedication of a few singers, volunteer leaders and two professional conductors, Michael B. and Vern O.. It has been a learning experience, and has helped us appreciate all that Heidi did.

Recently Gladys H. donated a bag of choral materials, which I'm trying to integrate into our library. Since I'm now leading the CRE music program, I'm hoping we can do more services where we combine voices, as on Earth Day when the adult choir members were "buddies" with the children. Also Evan W., is in training to be a musical youth leader--he's learning songs from "Let Your Heart Sing!" on piano. I'm making a resolution to include the choir schedule in the newsletter, so we can note it in our calendars. Thanks to everyone who has been sharing musical gifts, both vocal and instrumental.

~Linda G.

New Members

Please welcome new members Kirk G. and Beverly G.! Here are their biographies as written by them:



Beverly was born November, 1932, in Amarillo, Texas. Her father was a pediatrician and, for many years, was the President of the Texas State Pediatrics Association. Although born into an Orthodox Christian

family, Beverly was a free-thinker from the beginning. When she first attended Sunday school she rebelled against the Church's authoritarianism. The teacher was saying God made this and God made that, and little five-year-old Beverly piped up and asked, "And who made God?!" When the teacher shook her finger at Beverly and said, "We don't ask such questions," that really turned Beverly off because she has a keen and inquiring mind, and she felt that the teacher was unable to answer what to Beverly was a logical question.

That, along with similar episodes during her growing-years completely alienated Beverly from even the mention of the words "God" and "Jesus." Beverly was never religious in the usual sense, but from time to time she has had experiences which kept her open to acceptance of the spiritual world.

She knows there is Something greater than herself, but she neither understands nor knows the nature of that Something. Beverly's expression of worship is to go out at night and gaze at the vast panoply of the stars. When she does this she is caught up in the breathtaking wonder and beauty of the Universe. That is her God and that is her worship. Beverly feels at home in our church. Being a free-thinker herself, Beverly is looking forward to becoming part of our free-thinking community.



Kirk was born September, 1939, in Jacksonville, Florida. He became aware of the paradoxes of human nature at about age three. When Kirk was five he went to Sunday school for the first time and experienced his first lesson about Orthodox Christianity, and this prompted him to study the Christian bible. The contrast between Jehovah of the Old Testament and Christ Jesus of the New Testament was a contrast which he found difficult to reconcile, causing him to renounce the Old Testament and its avenging god and to wholeheartedly embrace the teachings of the Christ Jesus as a model to live by.

At age six, Kirk became ill with a persistent high fever and his mother engaged a Christian Science practitioner to heal him; which she did. Thereupon he took up the study of Christian Science because it had proven to work, and he practiced it diligently. But he became dissatisfied

with CS because it shielded him from the vicissitudes of life, and he wanted to experience all of life in its fullness: its joys and sorrows, pleasures and pains, and a deeper understanding of people. So from CS he went to Unity at age eight and for several years was content. Then once again Kirk became dissatisfied because Unity, although it explained the relationship of Man to the Divine, it fell silent at the question, "What is the life of man between Death and Rebirth?"--a question which was always present in Kirk's mind.

Then, about age thirteen, Kirk had a chance acquaintance with an intriguing man who, in a mere two hours, introduced Kirk to the rudiments of Theosophy and thereby indicated a new path of inquiry. This led eventually to further study of many other philosophies and religions which culminated in Kirk's adoption of Anthroposophy because it came closest to being an articulation of his inner sense of truth and because it offered (for him) the clearest and most appropriate path for personal spiritual evolution. Kirk is a free-thinker, and he is delighted to have found our church of free-thinkers where people of all beliefs and lifestyles are lovingly accepted.

Reminder from the Caring Connections Committee: Buy Local!

Farmer's Markets:

<u>Saturdays</u>	<u>Sundays</u>
Bayview Corner	Greenbank Farm
Coupeville	
Tilth Market	

Local Subscription Produce Service:
Whidbey Green Goods (in Clinton)
www.whidbeygreengoods.com

Worship Committee Survey

Your worship committee needs your help! We have worked all this year to bring you an assortment of speakers, topics and sermon formats. Now, as we begin planning for next year, we need your opinions to guide us in our decisions for the next 12 months. Would you be willing to give us just seven minutes of your time? Your seven minutes will inform us which types of congregant-created services to repeat. Your opinions will guide us in the selection of our guest speakers. And most importantly, your engaging with our survey process will ensure that we, your worship committee, are as representative of your wishes as possible. Please, please, please give us the benefit of your wisdom.

What do you want us to continue doing?

What changes do you want us to make?

What would make you want to invite ALL your friends to church with you next year?

How can we make our 2007-2008 the best ever?

You may complete the survey electronically and e-mail it to Terri A.

You may print it and complete it with a pencil, then return it to anyone on the worship committee: Peggy B., Frank A., Marilyn S., Mary G., Bill G., Linda G., Sandy M., Toyan C., Mavis C.

And if you would prefer a personal interview instead of this paper survey, please call Terri and we'll arrange something personal for you. Please know that your opinion matters to us! We want to hear from you.

UUCWI Worship Survey

The Worship Committee really needs your opinions to begin planning services for the 2007-2008 year. Please answer the questions on this and the opposite page. You may complete it electronically and send it to any committee member or hand it to any one of us at any service between now and the end of the year: Bill G., Frank A., Linda G., Marilyn S., Mary G., Mavis C., Peggy B., Sandy M., Toyon C. and Terri A. *Again, thank you so very much for sharing your opinions with us. They matter! We want to co-create with you the very best UU services you can imagine.*

Who would you like us to invite to speak or return to speak next year.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

What types of non-sermon programs would you like next year

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

The number of services featuring various presenters planned for the 2006-2007 year is shown below (or on the backside if you print this). A few are yet to be experienced. Please indicate whether you want the balance to remain the same, or shift. Please keep in mind that as you request that one category be increased another category needs to be reduced. We have a total of 47 services. Kit provided 17 of those. Next year we will have 48 services.

	2006-07	I want more	I want same	I want less
Other UU ministers: Keith Kron, Amanda Aikman, Gretchen Woods, Shirley Ranck	4			
Other guest speakers, including UU students	14			
UUCWI member sermons	4			
Programs like This I Believe, Soap Box Sunday, Flower Communion, Hymn Sing, Christmas concert, play (Ruth's Story), Social Action, etc	9			

What suggestions do you have for topics and/or speakers for next year?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please indicate if you are willing to _____ serve on the worship committee, _____ be a lay leader, _____ be involved in creating a service (what in particular intrigues you? _____)

What else would you like the worship committee to know as we plan the budget and speakers for next year?

Your name (optional) _____

Please return this form to Terri Anderson, or to any other member of the worship committee

Worship Calendar 2006-2007

Date	Speaker	Sermon title	check favorites
Aug 6	Larry Daloz	Thoreau on the Land	
Aug 13	Rev Kit Ketcham	Question Box Sermon	
Aug 20	Play by Amanda Aikman - Ruth's Story		
Aug 27	UU Rev Gretchen Woods	Opening Spirituality	
Sept 3	Toyana Copeland	Our 7 th principle	
Sept 10	Rev Kit Ketcham	Ingathering & water ceremony	
Sept 7	Dr Bill Grace	Courage & Faith in a Time of Empire	
Sept 24	** Steven Greenebaum	Yom Kippur: ancient rite, modern relevance	
Oct 1	Mohammad Fani	Islam & the Unity of Creation	
Oct 8	Rev Kit Ketcham	Roots & Wings (UU history)	
Oct 15	UU Rev Keith Kron	How to Heal a World Filled with Hatred & Oppression	
Oct 22	UU Rev Amanda Aikman	Regret is Hard to Handle	
Oct 29	Sam Magill	On Being Fully Human	
Nov 5	Rev Chris Highland	Nature is God: path clearing with John Burroughs	
Nov 12	Rev Kit Ketcham	Voting our Values	
Nov 19	Rev Rachel Taber-Hamilton	Jerusalem: 2000 yrs of Multireligious community	
Nov 26	Heidi Hoelting	The Spiritual Challenge of Global Warming	Snowed out
Dec 3	Rev Sharon Parks	Waiting...	
Dec 10	Rev Kit Ketcham	Surprised by Joy	
Dec 17	Christmas concert with choir and Mary Goolsby		
Dec 24	Rev Kit Ketcham	Carols, Candles and Stories	
Dec 31	Soapbox: Allen, Smith, Berg, Richards, Long		
Jan 7	** Bill Graves	Where's God in This?	
Jan 14	Rev Kit Ketcham	Honoring our Spiritual Ancestors	
Jan 21	UU Rev Shirley Ranck	The Grandmother Galaxy	
Jan 28	Social Action Comm: An Inconvenient Truth		
Feb 4	Rev Lynnaea Lumbard	Right Use of Money?	
Feb 11	Rev Kit Ketcham	Our Love is Here to Stay	
Feb 18	** Barbara Cornell	The Future of Our Faith	
Feb 25	Walter Andrews	An Optimist Reflects on Islam	
Mar 4	Jamal Rahman	A Sufi Perspective on Islam	
Mar 11	Rev Kit Ketcham	Faithfulness to Self	
Mar 18	Rev Kit Ketcham	Faithfulness to Community	
Mar 25	Rev Kit Ketcham	Faithfulness to Earth	
Apr 1	** Cynthia Brix & Will Keepin	Women Healing Women in India	
Apr 8	Rev Kit Ketcham	Renascence	
Apr 15	Rev Tom Walker	What REALLY happened Easter Morning	
Apr 22	Rev Kit Ketcham	Intergenerational service: The Earth is our Mother	
Apr 29	Heidi Hoelting	Repeat 11/26: Challenge of Global Warming	
May 6	Flower Communion with Bill Graves		
May 13	Rev Kit Ketcham	Contributions of Women in UU History	
May 20	Rev Kit Ketcham	Leaving the Island	
May 27	Memorial Day sharing with Rev Kit Ketcham		
June 3	This I Believe		
June 10	Rev Kit Ketcham	The Holy Fool: Unitarian Universalism?	
June 17	Hymn Sing		
June 24	Circle of Sharing and the poetry of Mary Oliver with Mary Goolsby		

** Bill Graves, Stephen Greenbaum, Barbara Cornell are UU students of theology;
Cynthia Brix is a candidate for ministry

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Whidbey Island**

2006-2007 Board of Trustees

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Dave C., Secretary
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Mary G., Trustee
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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 (360-341-1772)

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

Newsletter Information:

News, announcements, events, and other items of
general 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:

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