



Island Passages

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF WHIDBEY ISLAND

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

July 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 9:00a Building Committee meeting at Trinity	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 newsletter deadline	25	26	27 9:00a Building Committee meeting at Trinity	28	29
30	31	Additions and updates can be found on the calendar on the congregation's website: www.whidbey.com/uucwi/				

Summer Services

There will be no Sunday services in July. Morning services will be held on Sundays during August at 10:00 outdoors at our property on Highway 525. Look for details in the August newsletter.

Congregational News & Events

UUCWI Book Group

The book group met and had a wonderful time discussing books and selecting titles to read next year. Here's the list in case you'd like to get a jump start over the summer:

September: *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides

October: *Dreams from My Father* by Barack Obama

November: *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf

January: *Benjamin Franklin* by Walter Isaacson

February: *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion

March: *The Golden Spruce* by John Vaillant

April: *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison

May: *How Israel Lost* by Richard Ben Cramer

The group will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. All church members are welcome!

~ Mavis C.

Building Committee News

As we approach the time of groundbreaking for our new building, the Building Committee is meeting every other week. We have the working drawing from Flatrock. Firm costs are being obtained by our in-house contractor Roy B. A new business plan will be devised taking these costs into consideration. The loan application will be submitted, and the congregation should be ready to give its final approval to the project at a special meeting in September. We are hoping to be able to afford the very best in heating systems for the structure, proper insulation and metal roofing. Site plan approval is expected at the end of August at which time work will commence on clearing, roads, power and septic. The building permit will follow the site plan approval by four to eight weeks. Building Committee meetings will be July 13th and 27th at 9:00 a.m. at Trinity. All are invited.

~ Baird B.

From the UUA

UUA Report Posted

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has just announced that "Generosity, Compassion and Faith in the Face of Tragedy: Stewardship Report on the UUA-UUSC Gulf Coast Relief Fund" has been posted on the UUA website. It's in pdf format. You can view or download a copy at this address: www.uua.org/news/gulfcoastrelief/pdf/StewardshipReport2006-06.pdf. Individuals who donated will receive individual letters.

The report describes the facts of the disaster, our response and the use of funds. UUCWI participated in the relief fund, donating more than \$400 from a special offering in September in addition to several individual contributions from members of our congregation.

If you are not able to access the report online but would like to read it, please contact me.

~ Nancy S.

Newcomer's Corner

The UUA website has a section especially for newcomers to Unitarian Universalism, the UUA or the UUA website. The site includes Frequently Asked Questions, an online forum, a website tour, and a newcomer bulletin board. Access the site at www.uua.org/newcomers/.

New UU Forums

The UUA has dozens of online forums for UUs on a wide variety of topics. New forums include UURN, a forum for those who find their sources of meaning within the natural world, and UU-prison-justice, a forum for UUs involved in prison ministries and restorative justice. To access the list of all public mailing lists and find out more, please visit <http://lists.uua.org/mailman/listinfo>.

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UUCWI is proud of our commitment to openly welcome people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities and belief systems. Anyone who agrees to promote the seven UU principles is welcome to become a part of this congregation. If you would like to join us but have not completed the membership process, please contact Malcolm F for more information.

From Our Minister

Dear Whidbey friends,

This has been a wonderful year! I hope you have enjoyed the growth and gains that UUCWI has made this year as much as I have. I have appreciated your support and encouragement as I have packed as much as possible into our time together.



I thought you might be interested in a ministerial perspective on the year, so here is a listing of what I see as our most outstanding achievements, in no particular order:

1. Our Welcoming Congregation work which resulted in a unanimous vote to apply to the UUA for official Welcoming Congregation status.
2. Our congregation's support of the activities of the Religious Coalition for Equality, advocating for equal rights for all couples and civil rights for all. Many in the congregation have contributed financially to this cause.
3. An increased number of preaching opportunities with you, adding an extra five services to my regular schedule and continuing a pattern set last church year.
4. Working with our wonderful Worship Committee, which has offered increasingly high quality worship on Sundays, including
5. Working with this year's excellent Board of Trustees and learning, with them, about the intricacies of our building project.
6. Seeing our building project take shape and having the opportunity to indulge my pyromaniac tendencies by tending the slash fire at the property on occasion.
7. Many opportunities for pastoral care, which is one of my favorite pastoral duties, and feeling the privilege of being invited into people's lives when they are struggling.
8. Enjoying the company of the North Enders who continue to turn out for NEKK every month and, before my move, the companionship of Carol and Roy Bingman as a guest in their home on my UUCWI weekends.
9. Listening to UUCWI's name being read at the District meeting in February as one of the most rapidly growing congregations in the district.
10. Moving to my new home on Bush Point Road!

In the new church year, I hope we will continue to expand our efforts to serve the Whidbey Island community and each other, as I increase my hours with you.

Have a wonderful summer, and I will see you in August!

Much love,

Kit

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**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Whidbey Island**

2006-2007 Board of Trustees

Toyan C. President
John A., Secretary
Kathleen B., Treasurer
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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)

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.

Newsletter Information:

News, announcements, events, and other items of
general interest to members of the congregation
should be submitted in writing by the 20th of each
month to editor Nancy S.

Short faxed
items may be acceptable; call for more
information. 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:

Nancy S., Newsletter Editor and Webmaster
Mavis C., Church Coordinator