



Island Passages

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

September 2003

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2	3		5	6	
7 4:00 PM Salmon bake potluck and Ingathering service at the church property. See item on page 2.	8 8:30 AM "Shooting the Breeze About Seismic Events," Current Affairs Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Cafe.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; transform: rotate(-10deg);"> <p>Jean H. wishes to thank the Congregation for her 90th birthday party. She was deeply moved and appreciative for the warm wishes and delicious cake!!</p> </div>			11	12 CANDIDATE'S WEEKEND For a schedule of events and times, see page 3.	13
14 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity. 5:30 PM Congregational meeting. 6:00 PM Pizza Celebration.	15 8:00 AM Board meeting at Trinity.	16 7:30 PM Book Group meeting at the A's. See page 2 for more info.	17	18	19	20	
21 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	22 8:30 AM "Shooting the Breeze About Seismic Events," Current Affairs Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Cafe.	23	24	25 7:00 PM "What it Means to be a UU" meeting at Trinity. See page 5 for more info.	26	27 7:30 PM Movie Night Planning Session at the B.'s. See page 4 for more info.	
28 4:00 PM Sunday Service at Trinity.	29 9:00 AM Leadership Meeting at Trinity. Membership Committee meeting to follow.	30	MINISTERIAL CANDIDATE SELECTED The UUCWI Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) has selected Reverend Elizabeth "Kit" Ketcham as the candidate to be our quarter-time consulting minister. Rev. Ketcham has recently been selected as quarter-time minister for the Vashon Island UU Fellowship and would continue to serve there if she is selected by UUCWI. Please take the time to meet her and hear her present a sermon during the "candidate's weekend" scheduled for September 12-14! A congregational meeting will be held following the September 14 service to vote on selecting her as our minister.				

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The MSC has listened to Rev. Ketcham preach, interviewed her, and talked to numerous references and mutual acquaintances. The committee is unanimous and enthusiastic in its recommendation that Rev. Ketcham be elected as our minister. A biographical sketch appears on page 3.

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

September 7—“*Welcome to the New UUCWI Year!*,”
**Ingathering Service & Salmon Bake/Potluck
at the Church Property**

We invite you to attend a service and potluck salmon bake to start our new year of activities on Sunday, September 7 at 4:00 pm. This has become a beloved UUCWI tradition. The service will include a water communion celebration called "Joining of the Waters." If you gathered a little water representing something special that you experienced during the summer, bring it to contribute to the service. If you didn't collect any during the summer, bring some water from home to represent that special time. The service will be followed by a salmon bake/potluck. Baird Bardarson has again volunteered to cook the salmon, and soft drinks/juices will be provided. The cost for the salmon will be \$5/person or \$10/family. Please bring a potluck item to round out the menu. In environmentally responsible style, we encourage you to bring plate/utensils that you can take home in order to keep trash accumulation to a minimum.

In order to plan the amount of fish to have available, we would very much appreciate an RSVP if you plan to attend. However, if your plans are uncertain and you decide to come at the last minute, do not let lack of notice stop you from coming! If Mother Nature decides to rain on our party, we will move to Trinity. We will observe the burn ban by using self-contained propane grills. We look forward to seeing friends old and new at this event!

Please RSVP to Baird as soon as possible.

September 14 — “*The Beloved Community,*”
with guest UU minister, Rev. Elizabeth Ketcham

Reverend Ketcham will speak of what community means to us as human beings, how we create the beloved community, and why it is important to us as Unitarian Universalists.

This will be a special service for UUCWI—a highlight in a weekend spent getting to know Elizabeth as a recommended ministerial candidate for our congregation. For more information about Reverend Ketcham and the events of our "Candidate's Weekend," please review the items on the following page.

September 21 — “*The Value of Interfaith Work,*”
with guest speaker, Rev. Jamal Rahman

“Gandhi once said that it is the sacred duty of every individual to have an appreciative understanding of other faiths. Spiritual teachers say that religions are like branches of a tree swaying differently in the wind but connected at the root. Interfaith dialogue, heart-sharing and collaboration are about completion, not conversion. Please join me in exploring the many ways I have become a more authentic Muslim by being open to the beauty and wisdom of other traditions.”

*Come out of the circle of time and
enter into the Circle of Love.*

—Rumi

Reverend Rahman is a member of “Circle of Love,” an interfaith group of friends who gather together in search of global spirituality and community. This diverse collective is actively engaged in education, music, interfaith worship, healing, fundraising, and service projects. “Circle of Love” passionately believes in harmony and unity in diversity. To receive email announcements about “Circle of Love” events, gatherings, and programs, please send an email to: InterfaithCircleofLove-subscribe@YahooGroups.com To contact Jamal Rahman directly, please call: (206) 633-0150.

September 28—“*Internet Spirituality,*”
with guest speaker, Rich Parker

The internet is an amazing phenomenon with much spiritual power—it can connect people, motivate people, and inspire people. That, after all, is the basis of much spirituality—making us aware of our connections to others and to the earth, and all the mysteries which surrounded us. Rich Parker, Chief Managing Partner of Bigmindmedia, a Langley internet company that brings people together in various ways, will be our speaker. He will cite instances in which the internet has been used in this synthesizing, often unexpected mode, and note other ways we can use it for the general good of society and ourselves.

BOOK GROUP INVITATION

Please join the UUCWI Book Club Discussion Group on Tuesday, September 17, 7:30 pm at Gail A.'s house. We'll be discussing *Atonement* by Ian McEwan.

Please RSVP to Gail.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR CANDIDATE FOR MINISTER

Rev. Elizabeth “Kit” Ketcham is a Washington native, born in Chehalis, resident of Portland and eastern Oregon during her early years as an American Baptist minister’s daughter. She attended Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon, and served as a caseworker for the Washington State Department of Public Assistance until she went to Denver, Colorado, as a program worker in an inner-city Baptist community center.

Kit has been a Unitarian Universalist since the 1970s and served as an active layperson at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, Colorado before becoming a minister. She retired from public school teaching and counseling after twenty-five years and entered Iliff School of Theology in Denver in 1995, graduating with honors in 1999.

She was ordained by Jefferson Unitarian Church in 1999 and became the New Congregation minister at Wy’east UU Congregation in Portland, Oregon, where she served through June of 2003.

In addition to serving UUCWI, Kit also serves the Vashon Island Unitarian Fellowship and plans to move to the Seattle area to shorten the commute to both congregations.

Kit is divorced, the mother of a 31 year old son, Michael Gilmore, and the human of Loosy the Cat (Loosy is short for Appaloosa). She enjoys gardening, reading, gentle hiking, and is hoping to learn to draw and to practice yoga in her private time.

MEET KIT! VOTE AT THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 14

September 12-14 is the “Candidate’s Weekend” for Rev. Kit Ketcham, the candidate to become UUCWI’s quarter-time consulting minister. This weekend is your opportunity to get to know her as she meets informally with UUCWI committees, the board, and our chaplain, attends one of our famous potlucks Saturday night, September 13, and presents the sermon on September 14.

Immediately following the sermon there will be a brief congregational meeting for the purpose of voting on her candidacy. Anticipating the outcome, we have scheduled a pizza “celebration” after the vote. Check the detailed schedule for the weekend that appears in the next column.

CANDIDATE’S WEEKEND EVENTS

Friday, September 12

5:00-6:00 pm—G.-R. home, Coupeville—Hors d’oeuvres with north end congregation members and friends. RSVP.

7:00-8:30 pm—B. home, Freeland—Board of Directors dinner

Saturday, September 13

9:00-10:00 am—B. home, north of Langley—Pastoral Services Committee

10:30-11:30 am—F. home, Langley—Social Action Committee

12:00-1:30 pm—F. home, Langley—Lunch with Worship Committee, Music Director, and Choir Director

2:00-3:00 pm—W.-G. home, Langley—Children’s Religious Education Committee

3:00-4:30 pm—W.-G. home, Langley—Finance discussions: Capital Campaign Committee, Building Committee, and Membership Committee

6:30-8:30 pm—A. home, Langley—Potluck with congregation members and friends, RSVP

Sunday September 14

4:00 pm—Trinity Lutheran, Freeland—Service and Sermon by Rev. Kit Ketcham; Frances W., Lay Facilitator

5:30 pm—Trinity Lutheran—Congregational Meeting

6:00 pm—Trinity Lutheran—Pizza Celebration

Notes: Persons interested in a committee’s work are welcome to attend sessions even if not committee members. If you cannot attend your scheduled meeting, you may attend another committee meeting. Please RSVP to the host/convener in a timely fashion so that there is an approximate count of attendees anticipated. This is particularly appreciated when food preparation is involved.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A UU

On Thursday, September 25, 7:00-9:00 pm at the Chapel of Trinity Lutheran Church, there will be a presentation on the responsibilities and rewards of being a Unitarian Universalist as well as an historical overview. This is open to the public and will be facilitated by Bill G. and Sarah R.

MOVIE NIGHT PLANNING SESSION

from Ken M.

In answer to the many requests for more adult programs, I will attempt to formalize Movie Night. This means planning our goals, films, and venues for the entire year. There are many different approaches we can take to a more thorough understanding of film: theoretic, cultural, film as art, etc. I'm looking for ideas and input from those interested in such an endeavor to help me in choosing an approach and plumbing its depths. To kick off this ambitious plan, I will hold a Movie Night Planning Session on Saturday, September 27, 7:30 pm, at Baird and Peggy B.'s house in Freeland. Bring your favorite dessert or "movie-munchie" along with your questions, curiosities, confusions, and knowledge about the art of film, and we'll plan a program that I hope will be challenging, informative, and fun. If you'd like to be on the movie night e-mail list, drop me a line.

"LET IT BE A DANCE WE DO..."

UUCWI: THE FIRST 10 YEARS

Save October 25 for an all-church potluck/party celebrating the 10th anniversary of UUCWI. We'll have an opportunity to learn some of the history of our church as well as to meet some of the participants from our early days.

The festivities will be held at the Deer Lagoon Grange from 5:30 until 9:00 pm and will feature Michael Lawson from the UU church of Woodinville and his quartet "Joyful Noise."

More information will be forthcoming in the October newsletter. Please contact Gail Adams if you are able to help with any of the following: set-up, decorations, coffee and tea, donation of appetizers or dessert.

Did you know??

The presidents of our congregation in order from 1993 on were:

Carmelita Logerwell
Gail Adams
Malcolm Ferrier
Duke LeBaron
Kord Roosen-Runge
Peggy Bardarson
Bill Graves
Ken Merrell
Dave Cauffman

In 1993 we first met at the old Dodge Building (now Whidbey Institute Offices) in Clinton; then at Bayview Hall; the Grange; and finally, Trinity Lutheran where we've been since 1998. It will be good to have our own home.

COME, COME, WHOEVER YOU ARE. . .

from Dave C., President of the Board

Nor knowest thou what argument
Thy life to they neighbor's creed has lent.
All are needed by each one;
Nothing is fair or good alone.

—Emerson

You are needed, as our congregational community reassembles this fall! Share in our smorgasbord of September activities.

The salmon bake and "Gathering of the Waters" service September 7 (4:00 pm on the land) will kick off the season with an opportunity for greeting fellow liberals you have missed all summer and exploring the boundaries of the additional land the congregation has purchased.

The September 14 service (4:00 pm at Trinity) marks a major event in the history of UUCWI! It will be presided over by Rev. "Kit" Ketcham, the candidate recommended by the Ministerial Search Committee. Her sermon is entitled "The Beloved Community." Everyone will have an opportunity to meet Kit over hors d'oeuvres Friday (5:00 pm at Al G. and Sarah R.'s home) or at a potluck Saturday evening (6:30 pm) hosted by John and Gail A. Following the Sunday service, members of UUCWI will vote on calling Kit.

The incomparable storyteller Jamal Rahman will present the first of a series of sermons on September 21. Your worship committee has been listening to your requests! Have you been getting everything you can out of the Internet? On September 28 we will learn about "Internet Spirituality" with Rich Parker.

If you're a prospective new member, or just want to learn more about or brush up on UU background and culture, come to the "What it Means to be a UU" meeting, September 25 (7:00 pm at Trinity).

Speaking of culture, there are a number of UU special interest groups. Look for announcements and check them out. A good place to start: the Book Club, currently reading *Atonement*, by Ian McEwan, a Booker prize winner. It meets September 16 (7:30 pm, the Adams residence). Are you more interested in politics? There's a biweekly discussion group that meets at the Lighthouse Cafe in Freeland—check the calendar Is Social Action where your energy is? Talk to Malcolm F.—it's an active group.

The calendar of events this year is the best ever. We need each other. Come! You'll be glad you did.

OPERATION SACK LUNCH

Operation Sack Lunch needs immediate financial assistance. The program serves more meals to Seattle's homeless than any other program, and, due to the economy, is lacking funding. Its founder and executive director, Beverly Graham, is a Whidbey resident and musician who has performed for our Sunday services. Beverly has devoted much of her life to providing meals for homeless women, men, and children. A national Jefferson Award for Service winner, she has seen grants and donations decrease with the economic downturn, while the need only increases.

"Fourteen Years ago I saw an elderly homeless man digging in a garbage can for his food and I thought, 'Someone ought to do something about that.' In 1989, after being diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, something that rocked my world, I realized that I was that someone," said Bev.

Please consider sending as generous a donation as you can to Operation Sack Lunch, Box 1231, Clinton, WA 98236.

KIDS ARE ALWAYS ASKING QUESTIONS

Our UU children don't wait until Sunday to wonder about their world! All week long they are questioning and pondering their ever-expanding universe. Now you have an online resource to draw upon from The Church of the Larger Fellowship called "Between Sundays: Answering Kids' Questions" www.clfuu.org/betweensundays

This easy-to-use website has lots of fun activities for kids ages 4-13 which will help them discover the answers to such questions as "Can you believe anything you want as a UU?" or "Why do we light a chalice?" This online resource will help you extend your kids' knowledge of UUism, building upon what they learn in church on Sundays.

VIEW FROM THE DISTRICT

from Anne Heller, District Executive

Dear fellow UUs—help at last! There are telephone operators standing by to sign up those who wish to be placed on a "Do Not Call" registry. If you and/or your congregants wish to block unwanted telemarketing calls, there is a toll-free number: 888-382-1222; for TTY: 866-290-4236; and for email: www.donotcall.gov

Any of these options will put those requested on the new "Do Not Call Registry." Beginning in October, says the AARP newsletter, telemarketers will face penalties if they call telephone numbers on the registry. Registration is free. Be sure and pass the word on to any you think might be interested!

SURVEY—ADULT PROGRAMS

from Paula K.

Yes, we want them, so which ones, and when? Responding to requests for organized educational, social, and inspirational adult programs, the board is seeking specifics. We came up with a few ideas, and would like to know which you would support, or if you have additional program ideas. Please look over the following list, place a check beside those activities you would support, and return your survey by mail or drop it off at an upcoming service.

- Movie Night
- Potluck dinners
- Activities on our land [naturalist]
- Dances
- Current events
- Controversial topics discussion group
- Special topic discussions
- UUA topics/ Curricula
- P & P Night (poker & philosophy)

Your idea:

Can I call you? Name/phone

Come. Bring a Friend!

UUCWI Attn Paula K.
PO Box 1076
Freeland, WA 98249