



Island Passages

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

September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9am: Worship Committee Meeting 11-3: Building Clean-up Work Party	4	5	6
7 Service 10am: Pooling the Waters of Our Lives Followed by salmon bake/potluck lunch (p2)	8	9 7pm: Book Group (p5)	10	11	12 9am-3pm BOT Meeting/ Potluck	13 9-11 am: Calendar Session (p4) 12 noon: Kitchen Shower (p3)
14 Service 10am: Acting on Our First Principle (p2)	15	16 10am-12 noon: South End Koffee Klatch at Rockhoppers (p4)	17	18	19	20 1-3pm: North End Koffee Klatch at Whidbey General Hospital (p4) 7pm: Conversa- tion on the First Principle (p4)
21 Service 10am: What Do Teenagers Want? (p2)	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25	26	27
28 Service 10am: Looking Back and Looking Ahead (p2)	29	30	October 1	2	3	4

Sept. 7: Pooling the Waters of Our Lives**Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham**

At this first service of the new church year, we traditionally bring water symbolizing the spiritual growth in our lives over the past months, pooling it in a common vessel which contains water from previous Water Ceremonies. This will be an intergenerational service; there will be no nursery care, but children are welcome in the service. Rev. Kit Ketcham, DRE Lorie W and Worship Leader Malcolm F will offer stories and reflections for all ages.

The Water Ceremony is open to all who wish to participate. Please bring a small vial of water to mingle with others in a common vessel; you will have a chance to say where it came from and why it is spiritually significant to you. If you forget your water, there will be water available for you at the service.

*Worship Leader: Malcolm F**Membership: Lois C***Sept. 14: Acting on our First Principle****Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham**

We Unitarian Universalists affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person. How do we reflect this principle in our outreach to our community? If we believe that each person has worth and dignity, what can we do to make this belief visible in our congregation's actions?

*Worship Leader: Joann R**Membership: Ken M***Sept. 21: What Do Teenagers Want?****Speaker: Peggy Taylor**

There is a tangible divide between adults and teenagers in today's world. So much so, that adults often see teens as another species and social science research shows that trust in adults is at an all-time low for American youth. How do we bridge the gap and develop generative relationships not only with our own children and grandchildren, but with teens in our community and in the world at large?

Peggy Taylor will share perspectives based on over a decade working with teens from a wide range of cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.

The organization she co-founded on Whidbey Island 12 years ago, Power of Hope: Youth Empowerment Through the Arts, has touched the lives of thousands of teens and adult mentors:

teachers, youth workers, artists, and others, who want to make a difference in the lives of young people. Peggy is a creativity specialist, a musician, and writer with a Masters of Education in Creative Arts in Learning. She co-founded the Power of Hope, and co-directs Partnership for Youth Empowerment. Power of Hope now serves several thousand youth in the Northwest each year, and through Partnership for Youth Empowerment has spin-off programs in Kampala, Uganda and London, England.

*Worship Leader: Terri A**Membership: Baird B***Sept. 28: Looking Back and Looking Ahead****Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham**

The Jewish High Holidays at this season offer a way of examining the past year, acknowledging the mistakes made, asking forgiveness, and entering a new year with joy and expectation. How does this coincide with Unitarian Universalist ideals and our covenant with one another? Rev. Kit Ketcham and Worship Leader Judy K will offer their thoughts.

*Worship Leader: Judy K**Membership: Lois C****Ingathering Service & Salmon Bake/Potluck***

**Sunday, September 7 at 10 a.m.
20103 State Route 525, Freeland**

We will initiate the new UUCWI year with a Pooling of the Waters service in our new building followed by

a salmon bake and potluck lunch.

Wild salmon, dessert and soft drinks will be provided for \$5/person or \$10/family.

Please bring a potluck side dish or salad to share.

In order to plan the amount of fish to have available,

RSVP before Sept 3

uuadmin@whidbey.com or 321-8656

News and Events

Kitchen Shower: Saturday Sept. 13

Please call Mary (579-2838) for suggestions for a kitchen gift and let her know what you're planning to bring (to avoid duplications). The Aesthetics Committee is planning a celebration and initiation of our new kitchen. And, frankly, we're hoping to stock it with equipment and supplies so it can actually be used. We'll have Pot Luck at Noon on Saturday, September 13th. Please bring a salad and we'll supply everything else. And don't forget to call!

Items can be new or gently used. Please call Mary ASAP to avoid duplications. Here are the items we need:

Trash Cans (3) no more than 34" high, one no more than 17" wide

Toaster Oven

Electric & regular can openers

Food Warmers

Cookie Sheets

Large Stock Pots

Pots & Pans

Juicer

Spices

Olive oil

Drip coffee maker

30-40 cup percolator

Aluminum foil

Saran wrap

Zipper bags

Plastic trash can liners

Serving implements

Bowls

Platters

Plates, large and small

140 forks

100 knives

100 spoons

Cloth Napkins

Table cloths (6 ft. tables)

Dish towels

~Mary G

From Our Minister

Dear Whidbey Friends,

I'm looking forward to the possibility this year of using our building to reach out into our community and to become a congregation that is recognized for its community service.



One of the possibilities that our board and I are considering is making our space available for an outreach effort to returning veterans and to their families. We UUs often are assumed to be anti-military because of our passion for peacemaking. Yet most of us support our military troops and are grateful for their protection while, on the other hand, deploring some of the things our military personnel are required to do.

This fall, we will be offering a congregational conversation on the banner we exhibited in June: "Torture is a Moral Issue." We are planning to display the banner for limited periods of time over the next year and want to engage the congregation in a discussion of what this statement means to us. This will be an opportunity to share our thoughts in a safe environment on an important moral issue of our time. Stay tuned for more news.

Later in the year, we hope to work with others to sponsor support groups or other aid to the families and parents of returning vets. This is an area in which there are few services available on the island. We may be able to help by offering space and friendship.

I'll be interested in your thoughts about the new year and what our new home will mean to us.

Much love,
Kit

Koffee Klatches: Best Conversation on the Island!

North End: 1-3 pm, Saturday, September 20, at Whidbey General Hospital's cafeteria in Coupeville. Great conversation, cheap food, good company. This month the meeting is on the third rather than the second Saturday of the month.

South End: 10am-12noon, Tuesday Sept. 16, at Rockhopper's in Clinton. Best conversation and coffee on the south end!

Church Calendar Session

There will be a church calendar session September 13 from 9-11am. All committee heads, Board of Trustees members, administrative staff and interested parties are encouraged to attend.
~*Baird B*

Conversation on the First Principle

During this church year, our theme is centered on our Unitarian Universalist Principles. During August and September, Rev. Ketcham has preached on "the inherent worth and dignity of every person" a couple of times. You are invited to a conversation evening at Kit's home on Saturday night Sept. 20, to talk about how we can live this principle as individuals and as a community. Socializing begins at 7pm; conversation at 7:30. Call for directions (331-2163).

~*Kit Ketcham*

UUCWI Directory

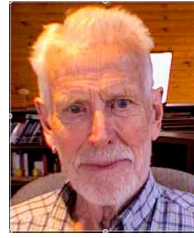
The new directory is in the works. If you are in the directory, wish to remain in, or have any changes to your entry, PLEASE let me know ASAP. If you are not in the directory and would like to be, let me know. Thank you! Mavis C, UUCWI Administrator [uuadmin at whidbey.com](mailto:uuadmin@whidbey.com).

Choir News

Please note that our Sunday morning choir will start up in October, and that new singers are welcome. We'll be making decisions about rehearsal time in September. Please give input to me before the September worship committee meeting on September 3. Thanks.

~*Linda G*

The Prez Says:



As we are preparing to move into our new building I thought the words of the Reverend Heather Starr of the UU Fellowship of Central Oregon were particularly inspiring:

“Unitarian Universalism is not a simple faith tradition. It is complex and it is demanding. It asks of us on a daily, sometimes hourly basis: Are you honoring the inherent worth and dignity of every person you encounter? Are you practicing justice, equity, and compassion in your relationships? Are you accepting of other people’s humanity? Are you encouraging others to spiritual growth in their lives--on their terms and not yours? Are you engaging in a free and responsible search for truth and meaning in your daily life? Are you participating actively and energetically in the democratic process in this congregation and in our society at large? Are you helping to build a world community that has as its primary goals peace, liberty, and justice, for all people? And are you doing all that you can to acknowledge and respect that your individual human life is part of a fragile, interdependent web of all existence? These questions, these Seven Principles of our Unitarian Universalist tradition can inspire us and they can surely overwhelm us. We need this Community, this Fellowship, to help us stay on course, to remind us of what we are about and to encourage us to believe in the possibilities of the future.

Alone, this faith can seem daunting. Together, in community, we can each take a piece... Every person finds a meaningful way to give, from your life, to this Unitarian Universalist community. And as a result of your engagement, this community has a life to nourish others with a dynamic pull that beckons in newcomers and inspires new commitment. Each and every contribution of time, talent and treasure adds to the vitality of this community. The more that we deepen our commitment and connection to each other, the more we step into all the energy of creating Unitarian Universalism for Life, a religious home that fills our spirits, and an intergenerational spiritual community that calls on each of us to be our best selves.”

So be it.

Baird

Thanks for New Tables

Our heartfelt thanks to those members and friends who underwrote the purchase of the new tables. They were all subscribed after one announcement at church.

The contributors are:

Carol B
 Vicky P
 Sarah H
 Malcolm and Wendy F
 Joann R
 Kit K
 Gail A
 Rebecca and Jim S
 Frank and Nola A
 Dave and Mavis C
 John and Camille L
 Baird and Peggy B

Building Committee Report

We're so close to moving in! Except for thresholds, the bamboo and tile floors are complete. A concrete deck outside the sanctuary was poured and a seat/railing system constructed. Decks and stairs outside the kitchen and classrooms are complete. Sanding and varnishing of kitchen and classroom cabinets is almost complete.

Plumbing is finished, toilet partitions installed and the toilets are working. The porta-potty will soon be a distant memory! Some of the interior doors have been varnished and hung. Baseboard trim is being installed. The chairs have been delivered. And before you receive this newsletter, the carpet will have been installed in two of the classrooms and the office.

The landscape committee has met to discuss pathways, play areas, traffic flow, parking, etc. and is committed to using only native plants. The committee feels this is an important 7th principle issue and shows our commitment to our local wildlife and environment.

Behind the scenes the Building Use and Rental Committee is developing policies and rates for use of the building by other groups, as well as by our own members for non-church functions. A lot has been done, but there's still a lot to do! Contact Tom B if you would like to help.

~Mavis C for the Building Committee

Building Clean-up Work Party Wed, Sept 3 from 11 am - 3 pm

Bring a brownbag lunch. Bring a vacuum if you can. Contact Mavis with questions.

Book Group

September's book group selection is *Earth: the Sequel (The Race to Reinvent Energy and Stop Global Warming)*.

Although a bit technical for a neophyte like me, this book offers some exciting solutions to our need for energy alternatives. This is not a character-driven book, but we occasionally get a glimpse into the personality of the people being profiled via such things as favorite quotes.

To wit, from a satirical *Onion* headline: "Scientific Breakthrough Fixes Problems Caused by Last Scientific Breakthrough." Written by Fred Krupp, President of the Environmental Defense Fund, and Miriam Horn, another staff member, this book focuses on the cutting edge of today's solutions for circumventing our apparent rush to destroy what little we know of paradise. If you're interested in exploring one of the proposals on the list these authors describe, go online to: www.pickensplan.com. Then come and join our discussion at the home of Mary G (on Tuesday evening, September 9, at 7pm.

~Mary G

Religious Education News

Welcome to the 2008-09 RE year, and what an exciting year it will be with moving into the new home of UUCWI. We are fortunate to have three classroom spaces, one for our youth (ages 11+), one for our Spirit Play program (ages 3-10), and a nursery (age 2 and below). We also have an incredibly dedicated group of teachers, associate teachers and volunteers to help create a bigger and better program than ever before.

We'll be registering children and youth for our RE program following the Water Communion intergenerational service on September 7. Registration forms and additional information will be available. The first day of RE classes is September 14. Hope to see you there!

With warmth from the flame,

~Lorie W, Director of Religious Education

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Whidbey Island
2008 - 2009 Board of Trustees**

Baird B, President
Paula K, Treasurer
Pat L, Secretary
Lois C, Trustee
Amy C, Trustee
Camille L, Trustee
Joann R, 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 W

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

Last names, phone numbers, and addresses are
deleted from the online version for members'
privacy.

Communications Committee:

Rebecca S, Newsletter Editor
Mavis C, Church Administrator
Dave C, Webmaster

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