



Island Passages

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF WHIDBEY ISLAND

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

November 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Election Day	3	4	5	6 7:00p Movie Night (p. 3)
7 4:00p -5:15p Service: Faithful Reflections 4:00p -5:00p CRE	8 8:30a World Events Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Café	9 7:30p Choir practice at Trinity	10	11	12 9:30a Social Action Committee meeting at Trinity	13 9:00a -11:00a North End Koffee Klatch (p. 3) 9:00a -1:00p Work Party (p. 3)
14 2:00p Choir practice 4:00p -5:15p Service: Stretching Our Understanding 4:00p -5:00p CRE	15 9:00a Worship Committee meeting at Trinity 7:00p Board of Trustees meeting at Trinity	16 7:30p Book Group (p. 3)	17	18 10:00a Caring Connections Committee meeting	19	20 newsletter deadline
21 2:00p Choir practice 4:00p -5:15p Service: What Wondrous Love is This? 4:00p -5:00p CRE	22 8:30a World Events Discussion Group at the Lighthouse Café	23	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28 2:00p Choir practice 4:00p -5:15p Service: Nonlabelling: A Healing Approach to Relationships 4:00p -5:00p CRE	29	30 7:30p Choir practice at Trinity	Additions and updates can be found on the calendar on the congregation's web site: www.whidbey.com/uucwi/			

November 7th — Faithful Reflections
with guest speaker Sharon Daloz Parks

Sharon Parks will offer reflections on how we might faithfully respond to the post-election currents moving in our society and world.

Dr. Sharon Daloz Parks is associate director at the Whidbey Institute where she also directs a new initiative: Leadership for the New Commons. She is the co-author of *Common Fire: Leading Lives of Commitment in a Complex World* and the forthcoming *Can Leadership Be Taught?* Prior to moving to her current work on Whidbey Island, for over sixteen years she held faculty and research positions at Harvard University in the schools of Divinity, Business, and Government.

Lay Leader: Sandy W.; Membership Representative: Malcolm F.

Collection Recipient: Friends of Friends (See p. 3)

- CRE Older Group: Dorothea Dix from the *We Believe* curriculum

November 14th — Stretching Our Understanding
with minister the Reverend Kit Ketcham

In January, UUCWI will begin an adult religious education series to move us toward becoming a Welcoming Congregation, a congregation which has educated itself about sexual minority issues and has internalized the language, openness and understandings that will help us become truly welcoming to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender folks. The Reverend Kit Ketcham will speak about some of the challenges of sexuality.

Lay Leader: Joann C.; Membership Representative: Roy B.

- CRE Older Group: A Very Short Rule from the *We Believe* curriculum

November 21st — What Wondrous Love is This?
with minister the Reverend Kit Ketcham

This week we celebrate Thanksgiving, the

holiday that many Americans consider their favorite because of the emphasis on family and friends and being grateful for the many blessings of life. So it's a good time to think about the love we share with other humans, the love that is bigger than romantic attraction. We will also receive "Guest at your table" boxes. (see p. 4)

Lay Leader: Ken M; Membership Representative: Baird B.

- CRE Older Group: Used-to-thinks from the *We Believe* curriculum

November 28th — Nonlabelling: A Healing Approach to Relationships
with guest speaker Alan Merson

This concerns the very human tendency to pigeonhole, to overly define, bound and enclose freely moving concepts with labels which often substitute for the reality behind them. Freeing us from the tyranny of labels opens up opportunities for meaningful communication and the advancement of human understanding.

Alan Merson is an internationally recognized mediator and leader in conflict resolution and stress management. He is an honors graduate of Harvard College and holds professional degrees from the Harvard Law School and from the Institute for Ecumenical Theological Studies at Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry. He has held professorships at the University of Denver, the Iliff School of Theology, and the University of Washington. In addition to his counseling and mediation practice, he has also taught at Central Washington University and the Graduate Theological Union. As an attorney, he has advised local and state governments on critical public policy issues and has served as regional administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. As a minister, his pastoral counseling has been directed toward individuals confronting grief and difficult life choices.

Lay Leader: Carol B.; Membership Representative: Tim K.

- CRE Older Group: Asking Questions from the *We Believe* curriculum

Congregational News & Events

Movie Night: November 6th

Our monthly evening of film, food, and discussion will be held Saturday, November 6, at 7:00 pm at the home of Roy and Carol B., (for directions or to RSVP call Roy or Carol. Our film will be Bruce Beresford's *Black Robe* (USA/Canada, 1991). In the rugged 17th-century Canadian wilderness, a young, idealistic Jesuit priest is assigned to go upriver on a perilous journey to convert the Huron Indians. The question: who converts whom? *Black Robe* is a story of faith, culture, history, and discovery. The cinematography is breathtaking. And, while you may not recognize the actors, the performances are pitch perfect. Topics open for discussion are myriad. Hope to see you there. As always, bring whatever munchies and beverages will enhance your viewing pleasure, and we'll make the popcorn.

~ Ken M.

North End Koffee Klatch, November 13th

The North End Koffee Klatch will meet from 9-11 a.m. in the West Wind cafeteria at Whidbey General Hospital. This is a great location for an inexpensive breakfast, coffee, and conversation, though it sounds a little odd! NEKK is open to all members and friends of UUCWI; come and bring a friend!

Work Party at the Property: November 13th

Come and join the building committee for a work party at the property on Saturday, November 13, from 9am to 1pm. We'll rake up, pile up and burn up, and clear paths! Bring gloves, rakes, shovels, etc and we'll have a grand old time. Hot dogs at noon over the fire.

~ Roy B.

Book Group: November 16th

On Tuesday, November 16, 7:30 pm at the home of Ken M. and Sandy W., there will be a book discussion of Robert Heinlein's *Stranger in a Strange Land*.

Winner of the 1962 Hugo Award, the novel tells the story of Valentine Michael Smith, born during, and the only survivor of, the first manned

mission to Mars. Raised by Martians, Michael arrives on Earth as a true innocent. He has never seen a woman and has no knowledge of Earth's cultures or religions. But he brings turmoil with him, as he is the legal heir to an enormous financial empire, not to mention *de facto* owner of the planet Mars. With the irascible popular author Jubal Harshaw to protect him, Michael explores human morality and the meanings of love. He founds his own church, preaching free love and disseminating the psychic talents taught him by the Martians. Ultimately, he confronts the fate reserved for all messiahs. Can you grok it?

Please RSVP to Sandy or
An RSVP will also get you
advance discussion questions.

~ Ken M.

November Charity Recipient: Friends of Friends

On November 7th, our service collection will be donated to Friends of Friends Medical Fund. Friends of Friends assists residents with unmet medical needs, thus allowing them to continue to have funding for their other basic needs, such as housing and food.

CVM Workshop Follow-up

At the congregation's Covenant-Mission-Vision workshop September 18th, an ad-hoc committee was formed to amalgamate the candidate mission statements created at the meeting. The committee members are Dave C., Mary G., Tim K., Ken M. and Sarah Rs. It has met and agreed upon the following proposed mission statement:

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island:

Sharing a spiritual journey of service toward a loving and interconnected world.

On October 18th the board approved submission of this statement to the congregation for an up-or-down vote. This will occur the next time there is additional reason for a congregational meeting. Note: it is not proposed to change the congregation's statement of purpose contained in the bylaws, part of which forms the affirmation recited at each service.

~ Dave C.

Capital Campaign Launched: Canvassing October 17 – 31

The Kick-off party on October 16 was a great success, filled with good food, fellowship and inspiration, and enjoyed by 45 adults and several children.

Thanks go to Carol B. and her committee for making all the arrangements with the caterer and setting up and cleaning up. Lovely new tablecloths made by Mavis C. were graced by flower arrangements by Marjorie L.. Helping were Wendy F., Sandy M. and Elaine W. Our kids enjoyed pizza and *Finding Nemo* down the hall with the babysitter.

Larry Bridges led us in singing and shared his story about the Woodinville congregation's successful new church-building project and the growth it has brought to them. Reverend Kit inspired us to give to our dream so that we can become the strong liberal church that Whidbey needs. President Dave C. urged the participation of all members and friends in the Capital Campaign and building process.

Roy B. presented the conceptual drawings of the Phase I building and the scale model. He stressed that we are at the beginning of the design process and that much more input from the congregation will be sought, leading to the final design to be approved by the congregation.

Seven families were honored as "lead" givers. They have already pledged \$121,000 to the Building Fund over a three-year period, leaving only \$94,000 remaining to be received in pledges from members and friends. They are Nola and Frank A., Gail and John A., Peggy and Baird B., Dave and Mavis C., Wendy and Malcolm F., Bill G. and Francie W. and Sarah R. We are deeply appreciative of their generosity and commitment to our future.

It has been my pleasure to work planning the Capital Campaign for the past 15 months with a wonderful committee. They have many and varied talents and have contributed greatly. They are Baird B., Roy B., Toyon C., Ken M. and Elaine W. Thanks to all of you for making our kickoff such a success.

~ Peggy B.

Chair, Capital Campaign Committee

Thank you for Your Generosity!

by Dave C., UUCWI President



Have you noticed how many and how diverse the congregation's activities have been recently? (Hot tip: Expect even more of a smorgasbord as Adult Programs gears up this year under new Chair Sally Ann E.) Do you like the consistently high quality of sermons presented over the past year? Have you noticed the growing numbers of children in attendance at Sunday services? Have you gotten involved in the several programs of the Social Action Committee? All of these are signs of a healthy and optimistic fellowship. All are made possible because of your generosity with your resources and your willingness to pitch in and do what needs to be done. Your enthusiasm is contagious; new members are joining, encouraged by the spirit of welcome sharing and vitality they encounter in UUCWI.

One manifestation of the growing optimism and size of our congregation is the progress being made in moving towards building our own church home. The Capital Campaign is underway. You have been, or are about to be, visited by a canvasser to ask you for your support. It is a good opportunity to have a heart-to-heart talk about what the congregation means to you. Unlike many of our activities, the building project requires that we all pitch in and do so all at the same time. That time is now. Please be as generous as you are able.

Thank you!

Guest At Your Table

The Social Action Committee encourages all congregants to participate in the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee *Guest At Your Table* holiday collection. On November 21st, we'll have boxes and collection envelopes available in which families and individuals can collect daily change, the amount that would have been spent to have a "guest" at your table, or another meaningful amount. The collection will help fight injustice, promote fair trade, work for peace in regions of conflict and, most of all, offer hope. See www.uusc.org/.

Capital Campaign Building Fundraising Underway

An every-member canvass to raise \$94,000 for the Phase I building of our own meeting house is taking place now. All members and friends of UUCWI will be contacted and canvassed. The pledges are for a three-year pledge period. We welcome all donations from five figure to "sweat equity." Rich uncles are particularly welcome to donate. Don't laugh — it was just such a donor that helped substantially in the building of the Quimper church.

Our conceptual budget estimate:

Total congregational pledges	\$215,000
Grants	\$35,000
Loans: PNWD, UUA and bank	\$150,000
Total	\$400,000

These good people will be the canvassers: Baird B. (chair), John A., Dave C., Bill G., Francie W., Ken M., Marjorie L., Malcolm F., Peggy B., Carol B., Roy B., and Toyon C. We are deeply grateful for their service.

Remember, we have already received pledges of \$121,000, over half the amount to be raised from pledges. An old Chinese proverb says, "A journey of 1,000 miles begins with but a single step;" our journey to our own home has begun and we are on our way. Thank you in advance for your generosity and commitment to our dream.

~ Peggy B.

Uplift the Auction

You may have collected and delivered most of the items that you bought and sold at last year's Services Auction and feel pretty smug. BUT, it's time to start planning for the next one. I'd like to find some people who are interested in updating our auction so we can keep it interesting, fun, and stimulating to our senses of fun and the church coffers. Please whisper in my ear, send me an email, or let me twist your arm about your participating in the Services Auction Planning Committee — meeting date unknown.

~ Sarah R.

Update of Baskets to Books, a project of the UUCWI Social Action Committee

We have been notified by the *UU World* (our denomination magazine which all members should be receiving) of their preliminary interest in producing an article written by their staff about our Baskets to Books project. Currently, this project fully supports two college students in Bolivia from sales of baskets woven by women from their villages.

Our full inventory of baskets has been taken by the Woodinville UU Church for sale by a women's group within that church. The Edmonds UU Church youth group is in line to take our next shipment of baskets, which is on order. All profits will be added to our scholarship fund.

Sister Maura McCarthy wrote a letter to us dated October 3, 2004:

Dear Bill and all of the Unitarian Church contributors:

Our profound thanks to each of you for reaching out to the Guarani people through the Unitarian Church Scholarship Fund. Your recent contribution of \$2200 is such a generous amount and will help us to keep the Guarani prospective bilingual teachers in school — not only this year, but next year also.

We are hoping to visit the bilingual normal school in Camiri in the near future to check out the possibilities for enrolling as many as 10 new students this coming year.

Thank you for your amazing example of solidarity to a people struggling for dignity and education for their people.

My prayer for blessings and joy:

Sister Maura McCarthy

~ Bill G.

Thank You!

To the wonderful committee that put on the Cap Cam dinner: The dinner was a great success. I really must thank Majorie L., Joann C., Wendy F. and Sandy .

Thank you all. You were great to work with. The decorations were lovely. The set-up and clean-up time and effort was very much appreciated.

Thank you, Thank you.

~ Carol B.

From Our Minister

Dear Whidbey friends,

As I write this, it's two weeks until the election of a new president and other leaders in our nation and state. It's a tense time; I find myself turning away from the media's repetitious assessments of the various candidates and the issues, for I can hardly stand to read or hear another word about any of them! Perhaps you're the same way and are just waiting for the results of the election with a sick feeling of dread — what if it doesn't turn out "the way it's supposed to", whatever that may mean to each of us?

At our October 17 service, we had a spontaneous conversation after the sermon about how hard it is to be open to thinking that is different from our own, how tricky it is to be in conversation with those whose thinking is much different, and how frustrating it is to hear opinions that seem to lack critical thought.

We struggled to figure out how we, as Unitarian Universalists, can cope in a world where honest differences are hard to discuss, where our efforts to hear opposing points of view are met with resistance, and where we are a little afraid to get into conversation with friends and family about such volatile subjects as Iraq, the economy, the current administration.

How do we live out our commitment to the democratic process when the nation is so polarized around political issues and the religious implications of our national policies?



For me, my commitment to the six other principles that surround the one about the democratic process helps me with this difficult challenge. As some of you who spoke up on October 17 mentioned, it helps to remember that every human has the right to make political choices which seem right to him/her; it helps to listen non-judgmentally and non-confrontationally to others' opinions while trying to understand the culture and experiences which have shaped those opinions; and it helps to remember that we are interdependent with those who differ from us, that we are all in this together and that success when measured this way may look different from success measured by "who won the election".

That said, it also helps me to pray! Not that my candidate will win, but that America will be strong and healthy, that peace will come, that I will live with integrity, that good will prevail on earth. Because those are things I can do something about: the America around me will be stronger because I am doing something to make it stronger and more healthy; I will create peace in my life and help others find it in theirs; my life of integrity depends on what I do with my life; and I can do good for others and myself. Prayer is my way of promising myself and the universe that I will do all I can to make the world a better place.

Unitarian Universalism is not a mega-church; it is the yeast in our society, and we will, by our efforts, change the nation. Not overnight, but slowly, like yeast changing a lump of flour and water into bread. If you and I each do what we can, the nation will become the best it can be.

Much love,
Kit

Caring Connections Committee

We have received Al Grapel's resignation as chaplain. We have spoken with Sally Ann Elder, who has agreed to be our new chaplain. We will work with the board to make this transition happen as quickly as possible.

We will continue to sponsor the after-church potlucks the 2nd Sunday of the month after Kit's sermons. The CCC will furnish the drinks and dessert. Those attending should bring a dish to share. We encourage everyone to come, even if you forget to bring something.

Kit was able to visit Jean H. this week. Jean is fragile, but doing well. She would love to have visitors, but please call her daughter Barbara to arrange a time to visit.

Thank you all for the continued caring and connecting you all do.

~ Carol B., Chair

Welcoming Congregation

The Reverend Keith Kron's October presentation about Welcoming Congregation work was fascinating, and even folks who thought they knew a lot about sexuality issues learned new things! At the October board meeting, the UUCWI board voted for UUCWI to enter the process for becoming a Welcoming Congregation. The Reverend Kit Ketcham will teach the curriculum, having taught it in two other congregations in the past. Sessions will begin in January. Stay tuned for more information!

Member News & Notes

New Member: Mary G.

I grew up in Florida, the second daughter in a home which, although steeped in Celtic influences, nevertheless identified itself predominantly as Southern. Although I rebelled against many of my family's traditional beliefs, I continue to feel a special bond with Florida. My dad was a printer — the old-fashioned kind who actually inked his presses, and my family spent many weekends at the shop folding and collating the current rush job.

After attending the University of Florida in my hometown for three years, I felt I just had to get out of there and moved to Ohio where I met my husband while I was working in a rat lab at Ohio State. We moved to Connecticut where my daughter Jodie was born. I hadn't given much thought to preparing myself for motherhood, and she was an amazing revelation to me. It was hard to believe I had actually birthed a human being so delightful and fascinating. I quickly decided that I wanted a career focused on nurturing children who were disadvantaged in some way. Although I had begun my undergraduate studies in theatre, I finished as a special education major and worked with physically handicapped children for three years.

My husband's work took us to Arizona where my son Jason was born eight years after Jodie. I had always enjoyed playing around with art and began classes at Arizona State where I developed a real affinity for working in clay. Some years later my marriage dissolved, and I returned to Florida

with Jason and with plans for making a living through my own ceramic studio. My mother had suffered several strokes, so I moved in with her until her death six years later. The ceramic studio lasted only until my money gave out, as I was never able to produce the desired saggar-fired colors from the kilns I built.

At that point, I relied on my previous degree to acquire a job at a state institution housing developmentally delayed adults. I became a teacher to profoundly retarded, sensory-impaired individuals, and the teacher became a student again. It was a challenging and wonderful job, and, if only the bureaucracy had been reasonable, I might have stayed there forever.

Following my daughter to the Northwest, I moved to Oregon and updated my education to an MA in art therapy. The MA part helped me get a job in mental health, and I spent six years working with individuals with chronic mental illness before retiring this year and moving to Whidbey to be even closer to my daughter and her family. Jodie's husband Ken is a landscape architect, and she teaches third and fourth grades. I am the very proud Granny to one-year-old Annie and am looking forward to a second grandchild next May.

New and Improved Gift Giving

If you feel that you don't need any more "things" to make your life richer, if you find it increasingly difficult to find meaningful gifts for those near to you, then take a look at www.whatgoesaround.org. This site is an online gift registry in which the "gifts" are donations to charity organizations. As we approach the annual madness known as "the holidays", perhaps you'll consider sharing some of your gifts with charities that you value. You can register your preferences at this site and ask family and friends to donate in your name when they wish to make a gift to you. Gift givers will know that they've selected organizations that you value, and you will never have to exchange, return, or feel guilty about a gift that you don't want. If you offer a variety of charities for gift givers to choose from, they can donate to one or more charities that they may also support — everyone wins!

~ Nancy S.

New Member: Pat L.

Pat Lewis moved to Whidbey Island with her husband Leon in the summer of 1994. They had lived and taught in Wisconsin for 30 years where Leon was a linguist and chairman of the English Department and also associate dean of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. Pat taught in the public schools in elementary vocal and instrumental music. She was the supervisor of the K-12 Vocal Music Program for 20 years and served as an elementary principal for eight years before retiring. Pat also taught classes in music education and class piano at the university through the years, and then she taught full time in the UWSP music department in 1993-94, before moving here.

As Leon and Pat taught during the summer at WWU, they decided they wanted to retire here and bought land on Whidbey Island in Oak Harbor in 1986. During the '93-'94 school year they built their house, and Pat continued to teach part time for WWU in Bellingham and all the branch campuses until 1999. For the past five years, she has been the receptionist for H&R Block during tax season. Pat also works part time at "One More Thing" in Coupeville and continues to give piano lessons.

Pat's life changed 18 months ago when Leon died of cancer, only seven weeks after his diagnosis. Pat is trying to create a new life now, without her husband of 46 years. Pat and Leon had fully intended to join the Unitarian Church as soon as they moved into the new house they purchased on Roxlin Road in Freeland in 2002, but those plans were changed with Leon's sudden illness and death. Pat was left owning two houses and chose to sell the one in Freeland. Joining the Unitarian membership is fulfilling a dream the two of them had together.

Unitarianism is not new to Pat. While living in Stevens Point, WI, and raising two sons, Leon was a founder and first lay leader of the Stevens Point group of UU's. Pat played for the hymns, and their two boys attended Sunday school and services with them for many years.

Pat has a master's plus 50 credits in vocal music education, curriculum and instruction, and educational administration. She served as president of many music and arts groups in

Wisconsin and nationally. She has traveled to Singapore, Malaysia, and France. In April 2005, she is going to Russia with a delegation of music educators who are going to examine the music instruction in the schools in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Pat has filled her days now with lots of yoga classes, participating in groups such as the Oak Harbor Garden Club, Friends of the Library, AAUW, and Chin Tong, and working part time. Pat enjoys music, reading, gardening, traveling, yoga, and her grandchildren. Her life has recently become better with the adoption of a new kitten. She is looking forward to her new life as a Unitarian again and to making more new friends.

Book Launch Party

You are invited to a Book Launch Party honoring our own Frances W. and her new book, *Brushed by Feathers: A Year of Birdwatching in the West*. The event will be held on Sunday, November 7, at 2:00 pm at the Bayview Cash Store (second floor gathering room.) The event will also honor the publication of local author Susan Zwinger's *The Hanford Reach: A Land of Contracts*. Both authors will read from and sign their books. Books will be available for purchase.

For more information call Frances at 341-2326. All are welcome.

~ Francie W.

From the PNW District

PNWD Changes

The Fall issue of *Changes*, the PNWD newspaper, is now online. You can access it from our Welcome page at www.pnwd.org. Take a moment to look at the other important announcements listed there as well.

~ Diane Brinson, District Administrator

2004 PNWD Growth Conference

The conference theme is *Radical Hospitality: How UU Evangelism Strengthens Congregations, One Soul at a Time*. Scheduled for November 12-14 in LaConner, WA, this conference requires preregistration. More information is available at www.pnwd.org/pdfs/LaConner.pdf.

From the UUA

Sudan Action

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is asking for signatures on a petition to the U.N. Security Council to put an immediate end to the genocide in the Sudan. A written copy of that petition will be available at the church or it can be downloaded, and further information is available at www.uusc.org/info/article091304.html.

The situation is alarming and getting steadily worse. A militia calling itself the Janjaweed has been making continuous attacks on the Fur, Masalit, and Zaghawa people of Darfur. Since February 2003, an estimated 100,000 black African Muslims have been systematically murdered and raped, leaving a host of children orphaned. Refugees have been fleeing into neighboring Chad, the majority women and children, with those left behind fearing further attacks and reprisals.

60 Minutes reported on Sunday, October 10, that the Janjaweed is continuing their ethnic cleansing unchecked, and relief is having a hard time getting through to the refugees.

The UUSC is challenging all UUs to collect at least 10 signatures on a petition to be mailed to U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, the U.S. Congress and the Embassy of Sudan. The petition urges that all take necessary measures to bring an end to the violence and ethnic cleansing in Darfur.

~ Patricia B., Social Action Committee

UUA Actions of Immediate Witness

Five Actions of Immediate Witness were passed by the 2004 General Assembly in Long Beach, California. These relate to

- the Alien Tort Claims Act
- electronic voting
- Iraq sovereignty and human rights
- opposition to a federal marriage amendment
- the expired federal ban on assault weapons.

UUs are encouraged to learn more about these issues and take action as your conscience dictates. For more information, please see www.uua.org/csw/aiws2004.htm.

UUA Updates

The UUA website is constantly being updated with information that is helpful to congregational leaders. See www.uua.org/whatsnew.html.

Join UUSC for Justice Sunday: Sunday, March 13, 2005.

On Justice Sunday, March 13, 2005, UU congregations nationwide will stand together for justice. Your congregation can make a difference on an important and pressing human rights issue. By joining UUSC to celebrate Justice Sunday, members of your congregation — including youth and young adults — will be empowered to take action for justice.

Last year, the congregations that participated in Justice Sunday worked hard to promote social justice in the world by generating petitions that have helped remind our government of the importance of holding corporations accountable in our continuing fight to defend human rights. By urging our government to protect the Alien Tort Claims Act, Justice Sunday participants helped defend the human rights of the people of Burma who have suffered under an oppressive military regime which has been aided and abetted by U.S. corporations.

To learn more, visit our website at www.uusc.org, call 800-388-3920 or 617-868-6600, or e-mail volunteerservices@uusc.org. When we each stand up together, we can defend human rights throughout the world. That's "The Power of You & You."

~ Rachel M. Binderman
Associate for Member Development



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PO BOX 1076
FREELAND, WA 98249
(360) 321-8656

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Whidbey Island**

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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 (206-781-3098)

Our minister is available for rights 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., uucwi@whidbey.com.

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 [http://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.

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