



Island Passages

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March 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2 10 am Men's Group	3	4	5 10 - noon VAC 7:30 pm Seattle Freelance Soloists Concert
6 10 am Service: "Social Justice Sunday" after svc: South End Lunch Bunch	7 9-11 am Worship Committee	8	9	10	11	12 1-3 pm North End Koffee Klatch
13 10 am Service: "Evolution Rocks" after svc BOT	14	15	16 10 am Men's Group	17 Noonish South End Koffee Klatch	18	19 2-4 pm VAC Artists' Reception
20 10 am Service: "Equinox and the Present Mo- ment"	21	22	23 7 pm Lyceum 2.0	24	25	26 7 pm Convesation at Kit's
27 10 am Service: "Celebrating the Mystery" 6pm North End Dine Out	28	29	30	31		

For More Information on Listings - see pages 2 and 3

From Our Minister



Dear Whidbey friends,

Our recent work on our Covenant of Right Relations has gotten me thinking about the kinds of needs we have within our congregation. At any given time, we have folks who need our help, whether that's just a friendly visit, a coffee date, a ride to an event, or food because they are temporarily so busy they are unable to cook for themselves.

Kindness in these situations is so appreciated by the recipient that we are doubly blessed by reaching out. We receive the pleasure of companionship during a visit or a coffee date or a ride or dropping off a casserole or loaf of bread *and* we receive the deep joy of serving others.

Right now, I could match up folks who would love a visit or a call or a coffee date with folks who would love to converse with someone or offer a ride or meet someone for a cuppa coffee or tea.

Everyone gets a little lonely at times, everyone occasionally wonders what's going on in someone else's life, and everyone has some gift to give others, from listening to someone's joys and sorrows or letting someone listen to our joys and sorrows! What would you be willing to give? A listening ear or a chance to let someone else listen? A ride to church or other event? Or a desire for a ride? A casserole given or a casserole received?

Our Caring Connections committee is able to help in many instances. Dave Metheny's ride-sharing idea is beginning to catch on. A healthy congregation like UUCWI is able to support and care for members and friends in many ways. Let's develop that collective consciousness about each others' needs and reach out to help.

If you are interested in visiting folks who could use an hour of sitting and chatting about life or if you can offer a ride or a casserole, please let me know. If you are interested in having a visit from someone – or a ride or a casserole – let me know. I'll either match you up myself or alert the Caring Connections folks that there is a need.

Much Love,
Kit

Calender Listings

March 6: "Social Justice Sunday"

Speaker: Steven DeAvilla

We sent them to war whole; they came back home broken. What do we owe our returning veterans? Trying to reintegrate into life in America during these tough times would be hard enough. Imagine what it's like for veterans hampered by injuries and disabilities both obvious and hidden. Commander DeAvilla will speak about PTSD and the unique needs of returning disabled veterans.

Steve DeAvilla is the Commander of Disabled American Veterans Chapter 47. He holds an ATA degree in Human Services and is an expert on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. All proceeds of the collection plate for this service will be donated to Disabled American Veterans Chapter 47.

March 13: "Evolution Rocks"

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

Every winter, around the time of Charles Darwin's birthday, the Clergy Letter Project proclaims "Evolution Sunday" and thousands of congregations across the continent celebrate the scientific insights discovered and described by Charles Darwin, whose writings inspired a shift from the legends surrounding creation to the growing body of scientific knowledge about the earth's origins. Rev Kit Ketcham, a signer of the Clergy Letter which has been adopted by over 12,000 clergy of all faith traditions, will speak.

Worship Leader: Peggy Bardarson

March 20: "Equinox and the Present Moment"

Co-facilitators: Terra Anderson and Effie Brown

Nature's seasonal cycles of birth, death, and rebirth invite us to participate in the vibrant, interdependent web of life. The Earth's still point of balance between darkness and light at the Vernal Equinox, is reflected in the still point of balance between our every in-breath and out-breath. Both hold all that has gone before and the promise of what is to come. Join us in reflecting on how we may experience the fullness of life – not in yesterday, nor in tomorrow, but in the timeless, present moment.

March 27: “Celebrating the Mystery”

Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham

As scientists pursue answers to the questions of earth’s origins, human nature, the power beyond human power, and how to make the world a better place, people of faith struggle with the mysteries that lie beyond the answers science discovers. Rev. Kit Ketcham will speak about the spiritual benefits of accepting mystery.

Worship Leader: TBA

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March 5, 7:30 pm: Benefit Concert

The Seattle Freelance Soloists will present a Winter Classical Concert. Miodrag Veselinovic (violinist), Kevin Kaukl (pianist), Teo Benson (violinist) will perform a program of works by Beethoven, De Sarasate, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak, and Vitali.

You don't want to miss this event. Last year these talented, young performers played to a full house at UUCWI and were received with standing ovations. Proceeds from the concert will support UUCWI and the Social Responsibility Council.

A pre-concert will be presented by Eileen Soskin at 6:45.

March 6, noonish: South End Lunch Bunch

after services, at China City. We reserve the big table at the far end of the restaurant, order family style, and split the check. All are warmly welcomed for a relaxed lunch with UUCWI friends, longtime and new.

March 12, 1-3: North End Koffee Klatch

at Whidbey General Hospital’s cafeteria. For lunch or just coffee, join this friendly crew and enjoy the company of North Enders who like to have serious conversations *or* just a lot of laughs.

March 17, noonish: South End Koffee Klatch

at Living Green in Langley. Join us for a delicious vegetarian/vegan lunch or just a hot beverage. Great conversation with UUCWI friends, longtime and new. All are welcome.

March 23, 7 pm: Lyceum 2.0

UUCWI’s answer to the community’s need for interesting and challenging scientific information, hosts Will Einstein from Puget Sound Energy

who will speak about electric cars and how PSE is involved in this new technology. For more info, see related article elsewhere in the newsletter.

March 26, 7 pm: Conversation at Kit’s

We socialize from 7 to 7:30 with beverages and dessert and begin our conversation at 7:30. The topic for March is “Science as a Source of Spiritual Inspiration”.

March 27, 6 pm: North End Dine Out

at Zorba's in Oak Harbor. We reserve a few tables and order off the menu. Join us for a lively and delicious dinner among friends old and new. No need to rsvp; just come and enjoy a great Sunday evening event.

Announcements

WA State UU Voices for Justice

Join WA State UU Voices for Justice in bringing our Unitarian Universalist values and voices to the public square.

Interfaith Advocacy Day – Thursday, March 17, 8:30 am - 3 pm, United Churches of Olympia. Diminishing tax revenues and continuing budget cuts make it critical that the moral voice of the faith community be heard during this legislative session. For information and registration, visit www.thewac.org/ifad2011, or call (206) 625-9790.

Equality Day – Tuesday, March 22, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm, State Capitol Building. Let’s stand on the side of love! WA UU Voices will be there, along with many others speaking out for love and equality. Two bills are before the legislature that would eliminate marriage discrimination based on gender and sexual orientation.

Sign up to receive WA UU Voices’ newsletter and legislative updates at www.uuvoiceswa.org

Einstein Speaks!

Will Einstein will speak to Lyceum 2.0 attendees, at the March 23rd event at 7 pm at UUCWI. Will is Puget Sound Energy’s manager of Emerging Technologies and Climate Change. In this position, Einstein manages the exploration of new energy technologies and the development of PSE’s climate

From the Pres



Our Good Work

I believe that a religious community has two primary purposes. One is centered on meeting specific needs of the members of that community. The other addresses the larger community.

The support we offer each other within our community includes such things as pastoral care during stressful times, opportunities for spiritual growth, religious education for all age groups, friendship and companionship.

Our outreach to the larger community can be quite varied. We offer some financial help to service groups here on the island. We have given aid to more distant communities in times of disaster. We keep our eyes and ears open for needs of those around us.

These good works call for coordinated effort. At a meeting on February 20, our congregation approved the adoption of a Covenant of Right Relations. This agreement we made with each other forms a foundation from which we can most effectively and efficiently focus our energies on the good work at hand.

A big "THANK YOU" to all who contributed to the development of this Covenant and to all who participated in the meetings that were held for discussion and ratification of this document. It is good.

Warmest regards,
Lois

Announcements continued from page 3

change policy. This includes overseeing PSE's work in the deployment of electric vehicles in the Puget Sound Region, analysis and modeling of emerging greenhouse gas regulatory programs, and PSE's participation in the renewable energy credit and carbon credit markets.

Join us for a stimulating evening at this presentation in Lyceum 2.0's series on "Energy Futures for Puget Sound". Refreshments will be served!

Peace Activities

The Whidbey peace group meets every Saturday at Bayview Park & Ride from 10-11 am. Come join our friendly, interesting group.

Women in Black, a nation-wide organization, meets the 1st Friday of each month just south of the Bayview Park & Ride on the grass. We display the sign "Women in Black Standing for Peace" from 3-4.

Barb Hutton

Heads Up - Save these Dates in early April!

The Saratoga Chamber Orchestra will present concerts on Monday April 4 in Oak Harbor and Tuesday, April 5 in Langley of music from Spain. Featured will be "Nights in the Gardens of Spain" by Manuel de Falla with Linnea Bardarson as piano soloist. Linnea is the daughter of Baird and Peggy Bardarson and holds an MA in piano performance from New England Conservatory. She is currently Music Director of the First Parish UU of Dedham, Massachusetts

Loss Workshop

"Loss: Navigating the Rough Country Journey", with Leah Green, M.Ed. Saturday(s), April 9 & 23: 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at UUCWI.

Leah is offering a two-part, experiential workshop on how to map out the powerful journey we can take when we lose something or someone important to us. The class is appropriate for any kind of loss, e.g., loss of a family member, friend, a job, a pet or a shift in identity or role (as in divorce).

Leah is a Certified Coach, former psychotherapist and Antioch Univ. Adjunct Faculty with over 40 years teaching experience. Registration limited to 12 participants. Deadline, April 2.

Contact: leah@whidbey.com 360-221-8426

Openings available for Smorgasbord

The Swedish Smorgasbord auction event on Saturday, May 21, 5:30pm at UUCWI has openings remaining. If you haven't already signed up, please consider attending. The cost for an evening of abundant, yummy food and some easy Swedish folk dance is just a \$40 donation to UUCWI. Invite your friends too. The food and fun will be provided by John & May Britt Kron, Janis Hummel, and Lois & Dan Anderson, with pea soup provided by our own Kit Ketchum. The Scandinavian musical group Sommarfesterna also plans to provide some live music for the evening. Please e-mail Lois & Dan at andersons18@comcast.net for more information or to let us know you plan to attend.

Committee News

Kitchen Committee

Are you looking for an easy way to contribute some of your energy to this community? Join our Kitchen Committee! We are the monitors of kitchen and bathroom supplies, recyclers (nothing heavy), and volunteer-getters for Sundays' services. We don't make coffee or clean up. We have no regular meetings and with 8 people, you would be responsible for one Sunday every two months. You are so needed. There are 5 of us. Many hands make light work. Email Judy Kaplan.

From the Music Director

Thanks to Nola for being such an excellent steward of the grand piano, which is being worked on. Thanks to Frank for being such a fine chair of the music committee. Thanks to Peggy Bardarson for her years of service on the music committee, and to all who come to our bi-monthly meetings.

March 6 we'll have Japanese music, and March 20 we feature Maureen Freehill, celebrating Spring Equinox with butoh dance. Our special musician on March 27 will be Gordon Ullman, who plays baroque trumpet. He is not available very often so we're always glad when he can come. Gordon often chooses baroque music, which will take us back to the Age of Enlightenment, when early scientists made important breakthroughs. How fitting for this month's theme: "Science as a Source of Spiritual Inspiration".

Gladys Howard leads the choir in March, with rehearsals at 8:45 on March 6 and 13. The choir will sing at the service on the 13th.

Social Responsibility Council

At the last SRC meeting, Cary Peterson, of the Whidbey Land Trust and the Whidbey Institute, shared a brief presentation with the SRC outlining a scholarship fund proposal that will benefit exiled Tibetan children. Cary hopes that with the help of UUCWI, the program can be expanded over time to benefit other impoverished, disadvantaged, and at-risk youth around the world. Cary is putting together a more detailed proposal for the board.

We are also looking forward to supporting the efforts of Ryan's house, a new resource for homeless youth on Whidbey Island. For more information go to www.ryanshouse.org. Here's their mission statement: "*To provide a safe atmosphere where students can grow, with the help of caring mentors, in a loving environment.*"

We will be taking up a special offering on behalf of Ryan's House in the near future and hope to connect more with this important organization.

Our next Social Responsibility Sunday will be March 6. This service will center on the needs of returning veterans, especially disabled vets and those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. Steve DeAvilla Commander of the Oak Harbor chapter of Disabled American Veterans and an expert on post-traumatic stress disorder, will speak. The DAV assists returning veterans in navigating Veteran's Administration benefits programs, getting veterans and their dependants enrolled in college, vocational, and technical training programs, and getting them the help they need in rejoining life. All proceeds from the collection plate for that service will go to the Oak Harbor chapter of the DAV.

Visual Arts Committee

Maple Ridge artists will be featured at the UUCWI Gallery during March and April. There will be a reception on Saturday, March 19 from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. Help us welcome these talented individuals.

Mary Goolsby

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If you wish to contact any of the Board members,
call UUCWI voice mail at 360-321-8656.

Minister: Rev. 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.

Director of Religious Education: Vanessa Kohlhaas

Newsletter Information:

News, announcements, events, and other items
concerning the UUCWI Congregation or the UU
principles are welcome. Please submit to the editor:
Celia Bartram: celia@bartramrecorders.com

Submissions may be edited at the editor's discretion.
Ads will not be printed.

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
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**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION
OF WHIDBEY ISLAND**

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