



## November 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2 10 am Men's Group	3	4	5 4:30 pm Auction 2011 "Roaring 20's"
6 10 am Service: "Whose Are We?"  Noon South End Lunch Bunch	7 9-11 Worship Ctte	8	9 7:30 EvenSong: "Gratitude"	10	11	12 1-3 North End Koffee Klatch
13 10 am Service: "Saved from What? - Salvation UU Style"  after svc BOT	14	15	16 10 am Membership Ctte  10 am Men's Group	17 Noon South End Koffee Klatch	18	19 11am - 3pm UU101  6-8 Circle Suppers
20 10 am Service: "Service and Spirituality"	21	22	23	24 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	25	26
27 10 am Service: "Turning Toward the Morning"  after svc SRC  6 pm North End Dine Out	28	29	30			

## From Our Minister



Dear Whidbey Friends,

Many of you have honked and waved as we've passed each other on Bush Point Road in the mornings, me on foot as part of my new-found fitness program and you on your way to your many activities---a latte, a visit to Payless, or to catch a ferry. I have appreciated your support as I've undertaken this fitness and weight-loss effort; it feels good to have your encouragement on my way to the best health I can achieve before beginning retirement. (I'm hoping to meet my Weight Watchers goal weight by Christmas!)

You might think that Bush Point Road, with its traffic, would not be much fun to walk in the mornings. And it wasn't, when I started out last spring. I considered it my last resort for exercise; I'd just walk the road when I didn't have time to do anything else.

Yet I've come to appreciate that stretch of roadway, and not just because of your cheery greetings from behind the wheel. When I began walking it, it wasn't yet spring in the woods, but gradually the wild currant, the horsetails, the ferns, and the alder began to leaf out, unfurl their fronds, and begin their headlong plunge into the verdancy that we associate so strongly with our beautiful countryside.

As it got light earlier, I was out sometimes during the dawn song of the birds and a bit later in the morning, I could hear the crows noisily warning each other of my approach. I'd meet neighbors on their way out to the newspaper box or to feed the horses; occasionally somebody was waiting for the bus at the corner of Mutiny Bay and Bush Point.

The important thing about that morning walk up the road is the opportunity it has given me to observe what is happening in the natural world--the cycles of nature, the activities of wildlife, the weather from the west. And then, just as I'm

getting a little out of breath from climbing the hill westbound, ahead of me is that magnificent panorama of the Sound with the Olympics behind it, the sun glinting on the water. It's worth every stride.

And it's become less a discipline and more a pleasure. I used to have to make myself go out for the walk; now I welcome the opportunity to do so. It's a way to start the day that does something for me that even that delicious cup of shade-grown, organic coffee can't do! It's become a part of my spiritual practice and I hope for many years more to enjoy it.

Much love,  
Kit

## Calender Listings

**Nov. 6: "Whose Are We?"**

**Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham**

At first glance, this might seem like a loaded question with a pre-conceived answer: "We're God's, of course." But there are more answers than one. This question is at the heart of Unitarian Universalist theology and is one of the Top Ten Things that make UUs different from many other religious paths.

*Worship leader Mary Goolsby*

**Nov. 9, 7:30 pm: EvenSong - "Gratitude"**

On the second Wednesday of each month UUCWI hold a contemplative candlelight evening gathering of readings, song, and meditation. In appreciation of this season of harvest and thanksgiving, our theme will be Gratitude. All are welcome.

**Nov. 13: "Saved from What? - Salvation UU Style"**  
**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Barbara Wells ten Hove**

Salvation is a tricky issue. Can we re-imagine it? Go beyond salvation from this world and our sin to salvation as "the gift of full aliveness"? Using the book *A House for Hope* by theologians and ministers John Buehrens and Rebecca Parker, our guest will explore the liberal religious idea of salvation. The

Rev. Dr. Barbara W. ten Hove is co-minister of Cedars UU Church, Bainbridge Island.

*Worship Leader: Frank Allen*

**Nov. 20: "Service and Spirituality"**

**Speaker: Rev. Daniel Link**

This SRC-sponsored service is offered in honor of veterans. Reverend Daniel Link from NAS Whidbey will be speaking on the topic of service and spirituality – with special acknowledgement of military service. The dedicated offering will be for the Veterans Resource Center on Whidbey.

The "special musicians" will be the singing group "Sarungano" which means "story tellers" in Shona. In conjunction, Donita Crosby will be displaying and selling handcrafted articles from a village she is working to support in Ghanathroug a project called "Dananai", which means "love each other". The project supports artists from Warren Park, a suburb of Harare, Zimbabwe by providing income, help with medical expenses, micro-loans for business development and support for educational projects in the community.

*Worship Leader: Libby Roberts*

**Nov. 27: "Turning Toward the Morning"**

**Speaker: Rev. Kit Ketcham**

Who are our friends? Where do we find them? How do we nurture our friendships, especially those of long ago? And how do our friends enhance our spiritual and religious life?

*Worship Leader: Judy Kaplan*

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**Nov. 5, 4:30 pm: Roaring 20s Auction 2011**

Come and enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and wine throughout the evening. Bid on fantastic items and support UUCWI. The silent auction begins at 4:30. The live auction will be approximately 6:00 - 7:30. Music and dancing may possibly follow.

Purchase your auction ticket(s) – and tickets for your friends – now to assure a seat at the auction. Advance tickets are \$20 per person. *Remember* \$10 of the ticket price can be applied to your purchases at the auction!

*Ed. Note:*

*A History of the Auction is on page 6 of this newsletter.*

**Nov. 6, noonish: South End Lunch Bunch**

at China City in Freeland. We reserve the big table in the back, order a bunch of great food, and split the cost. All are welcome.

**Nov. 12, 1-3 pm: North End Koffee Klatch**

at Whidbey General Hospital's cafeteria. Good food, good coffee, fabulous conversation! All are welcome.

**Nov. 17, noon: South End Koffee Klatch**

at Living Green in Langley. This has become more of a lunch bunch because of Living Green's wonderful vegan/vegetarian food. We snag the big table and have a great time. All are welcome.

**Nov. 19: 6 - 8 pm: Circle Suppers**

Circle Suppers are potluck dinners and are a great opportunity to socialize with other Unitarians. This month's suppers will be hosted by May-Britt and John Kron and by Mollie Swope and Janis Hummel. May-Britt and John will be hosting in their home near Coupeville and Mollie and Janis will be hosting in Mollie's home in Langley. To sign up email Janis Hummel, [jhummel50@yahoo.com](mailto:jhummel50@yahoo.com).

*Janis Hummel, Circle Supper Coordinator*

**Nov. 27, 6 pm: North End Dine Out**

possibly at Sweet Rice Thai in Oak Harbor or maybe someplace else. We were undecided at press time. An email will go out in case of a change of venue, but wherever we are, you can bet we'll have a great time. All are welcome.

**Announcements**

**WA UU Voices for Justice's 6th Annual Legislative Conference**

Join us Saturday, November 12, from 9:30 am to 3 pm at East Shore Unitarian Church, Bellevue, to learn about critical issues and help prioritize WA UU Voices' 2012 legislative agenda.

Keynote speaker, Representative Roger Goodman, 45th Legislative District, will preview major issues, especially the state economy and funding for critical services.

Your RSVP is important as we plan conference

## From Our President



### How Sweet It Is...

To be surrounded by such a generous, energetic, caring, and appreciative community of friends who are purposeful about building a better world...

To be blessed by Rev. Kit with her warmth and wisdom for her ninth and final year of ministry...

To see happy children busy in the Children's Religious Exploration program...

To be inspired by our exceptional musicians...

To hear Truth spoken here, in Love...

*Yes, how sweet it is, how valuable, how much we need* this contrast to the economic chaos, greed, and lack of compassion rampant in the world.

Let us all be thankful.

Dave Cauffman, Board President

Mark and Effie Brown for hosting the Circle Suppers in October. From all reports a good time was had by all who attended.

Would you like to host a Circle Supper? I still have open dates: December 17, January 21, March 17, April 21, May 19 and June 16.

*Janis Hummel, Circle Supper coordinator*

### Plea for UUCWI Poetry

This congregation appears to really respond to and appreciate poetry. I know some of you write poems of your own. Rarely, if ever do we get to hear any of those and I'd like to change that. I am planning to organize a service around the first of April which will be built upon our own creative writing expressions. Please don't be shy. Send, email or snail mail copies of some of your poems. I'd like to see what might develop in the way of themes. And even if there are no themes, it would be delightful to get to know you better through this new and different avenue. Please send to Mary Goolsby (P.O. Box 795, Langley, WA 98260 - goolsbyonwhidbey@yahoo.com).

### 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 4-5.

*Barb Hutton*

## Committee News

### From the Treasurer

As we face the exciting year ahead, the Finance Committee has asked me to write a series of articles to keep you informed and involved in our financial health and needs. We have been fortunate the past few years as income has been able to keep up with expenses and members and friends have been generous in their support of the congregation. A variety of events, some good and some sad, leave us looking at a potential \$5,000 shortfall in this year's budget. First, there will be unexpected expenses because of the search for a new minister. While a budget for the

### *Announcements continued from page 3*

materials and lunch. Contact UU Voices' Coordinator, Rev. Carol McKinley, [coordinator@uuvoiceswa.org](mailto:coordinator@uuvoiceswa.org), 360 786-8074.

### Circle Suppers Call for Hosts

Circle Suppers are potluck dinners and are a great opportunity to socialize with other Unitarians. Thank you to Eileen Soskin and Gene Berg and to

search has not been established, a conservative guess for this year is an expense of at least \$2,500. Second, we budgeted for an additional \$1,000 in fund raising – not unreasonable, but not yet realized. And finally the deaths of long term generous members will undoubtedly result in a decrease in income. This shortfall may be met in a variety of ways; an especially good auction next month, income from the concert series which began recently, a special plea to fund the search and costs of a new minister, or other fun(d)raisers yet to be revealed.

Next month, I will write an article spelling out more clearly what the costs of the search and new minister will be to help us make informed decisions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask me or any other member of the finance committee. Current membership includes the Treasurer, the Financial Advisor (Tom Buxton), the Vice President (Terra Anderson) and Conrad Romberg.

*Mark Brown, Treasurer*

### **Caring Connections Committee**

We are compiling a list of helpers, those members and friends of the congregation that are willing to help with short-term, emergency needs such as power outages, transportation to medical appointments, visiting the sick or infirm, providing meals to the sick or bereaving, child care or pet care and emergency housing for visiting relatives of members and friends before memorial services. To this end, we are asking the congregation to fill out the "Organizing our Resources for Caring" Questionnaire found in the CCC brochure in the brochure holder which is in the foyer. The drop-off box is also in the foyer.

A similar request for helpers was made last September and several people offered to assist. We would like to include your offers in this year's "Helper List". Please let Judy Kaplan know if you wish to be removed from this list.

Perhaps you haven't seen a member or friend for several services. Are you wondering about them? Are you looking forward to seeing some folks, only to be disappointed? The CCC encourages you to call these "unseen" people and simply show you care. The CCCers will also take on this (new) task. The more calls, the merrier!

*Judy Kaplan*

## **Board Member Biography**

### **Dave Cauffman, Board of Trustees President**



Inspired by its beauty and its culture, Dave and Mavis Cauffman moved to Whidbey Island in late 2000 from the bay area of California, and discovered UUCWI soon thereafter. Although they had no UU background, they felt at home and became active members. Dave chaired the search committee that found Rev. Kit. Dave served earlier terms as treasurer and president, has been an active member of the Building, Finance, and Social Responsibility Committees, and most recently served on the Committee on Ministry. Unafraid to get his hands dirty, he installed our cabinets and path lights. One of his passions is social justice and preventing the USA from using torture. When time permits, he helps teach the youth class, and he instituted Youth Movie Night. Dave is occasionally in the pulpit as worship leader or speaker. A play he wrote was read at a worship service and a sermon that he delivered with Kit on "Science as a Source for Unitarian Universalism" in 2008 was recently published in the *Journal of Religious Humanism*, with Kit and the late Malcolm Ferrier as coauthors.

In addition to serving UUCWI, Dave is treasurer of the board of the Pacific Northwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

While he was a physics student at Haverford College, Dave became enchanted by a young Bryn Mawr College physics student. He and Mavis married in 1967. (It's hard to believe – 44 years ago!) Graduate school at the University of Iowa led to a Ph.D. in space physics. Dave designed, built instruments for, or managed, a variety of unmanned scientific spacecraft investigations. He worked for NASA, the Aerospace Corporation, and Lockheed Martin. Retired since 2002, he occasionally consults for NASA. Dave and Mavis have two sons and now four grandchildren of unrivaled cuteness.

Curiosity, skepticism, and optimism characterize Dave's approach to life. Fond of music and theatre, he enjoys travel, hiking, reading, and having coffee with friends.

## UUCWI History

### We've Come A Long Way: Auctions – Then and Now

Auction 2011 will be slightly different from 2010. Delicious hors d'oeuvres will be served throughout the evening, planned and coordinated by Gloria Sherman. The silent auction will close before the live auction begins. There may be music and dancing available after the auction for those who want to stay later.

Our UUCWI budget has come to depend greatly on funds raised through the auction, with \$12,000 expected this year, after \$10,000 was raised last year. Auction 2011 has come a long way from what Sandy Welch recalls of the earliest auctions at UUCWI. The first auctions before 1999, Sandy believes, were organized by Diane Piazzon, who was a member of UUCWI then, and raised around \$500. Since the congregation was meeting at the Deer Lagoon Grange, the auction was probably held there.

Sarah Richards brought the auction to the next level as she introduced the congregation to "FUNdraisers" and brought new energy to the organization in 2000 in preparation for the 2001 auction, which was held in February. Trinity Lutheran's Grigware Hall was the auction site, and we had a spaghetti dinner with it. Sarah remembers feeling challenged by trying to inspire the congregation to a higher level of commitment. She began the tradition of offering skits during Sunday services. She also automated much of the process through an application she created, using FileMaker Pro.

Sarah believes the auction became so successful because it was a fun event that also provided numerous opportunities for members to continue to get together throughout the year. She was the auction chairperson who convinced Ken Merrell that he would make a good auctioneer, and we all know what a fabulous job he does in this role. The auction brought in much more money under Sarah's leadership, raising \$3,600, an amazing gain for the UUCWI budget.

Following Sarah as auction chair was Joan Gerteis who organized and added better tracking of items sold and to whom, as well as improvement in check-out at auction's end. The auctions during

2006-7 raised \$5,100 and \$6,000. During this time, Trinity Lutheran determined that they didn't like our serving wine, and we moved our auction site to the Greenbank Community Center. The move helped strengthen the desire for our own building. Joan continued the tradition of offering skits during Sunday services, and they became even more fun when Camille and John Long began doing them. John's skill at humor is well known, and we've used his skill again this year.

According to Camille, Joan took John and her "under her wing" and taught them the ropes of chairing the auction. Camille and John added "themes" to the auction. In 2008 Rev. Kit Ketcham wanted to have a chili cook-off, so a western theme was the logical choice to accompany that event. The next theme that Camille remembers (probably for 2009) was "beach party." During the time that Camille and John chaired the auction, they learned that the number of items in the live auction must be limited to avoid having attendees run out of money and/or become too fatigued to continue to bid. Holding the auction in our own building made it much easier for all involved. It was around this time that the date of the auction was changed from February to early November, a date that is better suited for those who want to purchase Christmas gifts at the auction too.

Frances Wood and Toyon Copeland became the next auction chairs, with assistance from Chris Bell. Auction themes have been "Fiesta" in 2009 and "Nifty Fifties" in 2010. These auctions continued to include full dinners, along with wine, and the money raised continued to grow to the \$10,000 raised in 2010.

This year's theme is "the Roaring 20's". Libby Roberts is auction chair this year. Ken Merrell continues to be an integral part of the auction because of the humor and skill he brings to the role of auctioneer.

*Lois Anderson*



**UUCWI 2011 - 2012 Board of Trustees**

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Mark Brown, Treasurer

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Janis Hummel, Trustee

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Ken Merrell, Trustee

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: celiabartram@gmail.com  
Submissions may be edited at the editor's discretion.  
Ads will not be printed. The deadline for each  
month's newsletter is the 20th of the previous month.

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  
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**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION  
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