



# Island Passages

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF WHIDBEY ISLAND

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## June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> 7 pm Dessert and Beverage Reception to meet Dennis and Suzanne Reynolds @ UUCWI	<b>2</b> 9 am Leadership Council 10 am VAC mtg
<b>3</b> 10 am UU Worship- Dennis Reynolds <b>11:30</b> <b>Congregational Mtg</b> 4 pm Quaker Worship Svc	<b>4</b> 9 am SRC/WIN in Kitchen 9 am Worship Ctte	<b>5</b> 7 pm Chalice Singers (private home)  7 pm Meditation	<b>6</b> 10 am UU Mens Group	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 1 pm North End Koffee Klatch at Whidbey General
<b>10</b> 10 am UU Worship 12 pm South End Dine Out, Freeland 4 pm Quaker Worship Svc	<b>11</b> 10 am Membership Ctte  6:30 pm PFLAG	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:30 pm Evensong	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Kit's Celebration – 4 pm setup 5 pm PARTY!
<b>17</b> 10 am UU Worship 2:30 pm Quaker Potluck/Mtg 4 pm Quaker Worship Svc	<b>18</b> 9 am SRC/WIN in Kitchen	<b>19</b> 7 pm Chalice Singers (private home)  7 pm Meditation	<b>20</b> Newsletter Deadline  10 am UU Men's Group  4 pm MAGIC	<b>21</b> 6 pm North End Discussion	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6 pm Circle Dinners
<b>24</b> 8:45 Chalice Singers 10 am UU Worship 11:30 am SRC Mtg  4 pm Quaker Worship Svc 6:30 North End Dine Out, Oak Harbor 7 pm Dances of Universal Peace	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9 am RE Appreciation Brunch - Kohlhaas

**June 1: Dessert and Beverage Reception to Meet Dennis and Suzanne Reynolds - 7 pm at UUCWI**

Members and friends of UUCWI are invited.

**Worship Services:**

**June 3: “Oh, the Places You’ll Go”**

Life can take us to many places that offer opportunities for learning and discerning. Dennis Reynolds, our Ministerial Candidate will share some of his journey with a focus on a 2011 Unitarian Universalist Service Committee trip to Haiti and the lessons learned there that offer instruction for us all.

***Voting Members of UUCWI***

***Congregational Meeting to vote on inviting Dennis Reynolds to be our new minister.***

***Please plan to attend so we achieve a quorum!***

***June 3 following the worship service***

**June 10: “Sanctuary for the Spirit”** The Visual Arts Committee and Rev. Kit Ketcham will offer a time of experiencing spirituality through beauty, the visual arts and our own creativity. We will welcome new members to the congregation this morning. Gladys Howard is worship leader

**June 13, 7:30 pm, EvenSong at UUCWI**  
(Prelude at 7:20 pm)

On the second Wednesday of each month we hold a quiet, contemplative evening service of readings, songs accompanied by harp, and silent meditation. All are welcome.

**June 17: “Celebration of the Sacred Tilt”**

Guest speakers Victoria Castle and Tim Morley with Glo Sherman will lead us in a celebration of the summer solstice. You are encouraged to dress informally (like what you wear gardening), and to wear straw hats and bright colors to add to the festive atmosphere. Fathers..it’s your day, too, so you are invited to wear your wildest Hawaiian shirt or t-shirt. If you have them, or can find some, bring a drum, two sticks or blocks of wood, a tambourine or castanets ... any percussion

“thing” with which to accompany one of our hymns. Join us in this gathering of light, stardust, and gratitude.

**June 24: “Down Memory Lane and Into the Future”** The Committee on Ministry will assist Rev. Kit Ketcham in a service of leave-taking, celebrating our ministry together, remembering many highlights and a few lowlights, sharing our hopes for the future, and looking ahead to a changed relationship. Mark Brown is worship leader.

**June Events:**

June 9: North End Koffee Klatch, 1-3 p.m. at Whidbey General Hospital’s cafeteria. We pull a couple of tables together, get our coffee, amuse the kitchen staff with our howls of laughter, and discuss everything from world affairs to ferry fares. This will be Kit’s last NEKK gathering. Everyone is welcome!

**June 23rd, 6 pm: Circle Dinners**

This is our last Circle Dinner for this year. Dinners will resume again in the fall. We have two locations this month, both in the Greenbank area. Hosting will be John Leaser and Ann Sullivan, and Bill and Sandy Marsh. Circle dinners are potluck dinners and are a great opportunity to socialize with other Unitarians. To sign up, call Janis Hummel at 360-632-9847 or email [jhummel50@yahoo](mailto:jhummel50@yahoo).

**June 10: South End Lunch Bunch NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!** In order not to interfere with the very important congregational meeting after the service on June 3, this event has been rescheduled for noonish on June 10. This will be Kit’s last SELB gathering. We gather at China City in Freeland, noonish, occupy the big table in the rear of the restaurant, order off the menu and split the cost. Everyone is welcome!

**June 24: North End Dine Out** Plans are not completely firm as yet, but there has been talk of picking up barbecue and meeting at a nearby park or residence for our gathering. This will be Kit’s last NEDO gathering. More information will be forthcoming via the Friday E-News. Everyone is welcome!

## ***From Our Minister:***

Dear Whidbey Friends,  
We are coming to the end of nine wonderful years together in ministry to Whidbey Island and its larger community. We have grown together in many ways; we have endured some challenging losses and we have learned to cope using new ways of being together. We've been a good team.



Now it's time to change our relationship. You have voted to honor me as your Minister Emerita, a designation which recognizes my long service with you and, at the same time, makes it clear that I am in service to you in a different way. You will have a new minister and I hope you will make room in your hearts for him too, welcoming him as your pastor, preacher, teacher, leader.

He will have new ideas for you to consider. He will bring a wealth of experience that is different from mine and will offer you ways of reaching out into the community that you might not have thought of before. He has a great deal to offer you and I hope that he will have as wonderful an experience as I have had.

My status as Minister Emerita means that I will have a covenant with your new minister to support his work with you, to be a good colleague to him, to encourage you all to think of him as your minister. It means that when we see each other in the future, I will be mindful of our new relationship and remind myself that I am your former minister, that he is now the minister at UUCWI. It's important that I do this, for all our sakes.

On down the road, I may be invited back to speak for some special occasion. Or perhaps I will help him with a memorial service or two. These are the kinds of things that a Minister Emerita can do. What I can't do is to provide the kind of care that I have provided during my nine years here. That will become his job and I am happy to let go of it.

Ministry is a tough job and though I've enjoyed nearly every moment of it, I am pretty tired of working so hard! I am thrilled for the shining prospect of your future and I am looking forward to getting some much-needed rest!

Much love,  
Kit



## **Thank You**

This month's column is my last as president of your board for the past year. I am going to spare you my attempts to provide an edifying discourse or to cajole or coach. Those aren't parts of the role I was comfortable with, anyway.

Instead, I simply want to thank each of you for everything you have done to support and encourage me in this role.

Thank you for your generosity of spirit, and your generosity with your time, talents, and resources. This good-heartedness is what makes this such a dynamic institution.

Thank you for "being there for me" and being so open to different viewpoints and new approaches. I appreciate your patience in pointing out what I did not know and explaining what I have not understood. Sharing your wisdom and experience has helped me tremendously.

Thank you for so swiftly moving to do what needs done, whether asked to or not. I am especially grateful for your saying "Sure!" when I or others did summon the courage to ask.

Thank you!

-- Dave Cauffman, President UUCWI  
Board of Trustees

## **SRC News!**

The **Social Responsibility Council** is pleased to report that our volunteer teams continue to support Whidbey Island Nourishes (WIN) by providing food items for needy South Whidbey children, teens, and homeless adults in both the WIN vending machines in Langley and Bayview and in the backpack lunches for elementary students. In May we provided over 200 food items to WIN! Thank you to everyone who baked banana bread and made burrito roll-ups! UUCWI members are

encouraged to continue bringing banana bread loaves to UUCWI *whenever possible*. Just leave them in the refrigerator, and Libby will pick them up. As a fundraiser for WIN, the SRC will make lunches for the **June 23 Garden Tour**. We need people on Friday (June 22) to put together the lunches and on Saturday (June 23) to distribute them. Please contact Libby at [libbyroberts10@gmail.com](mailto:libbyroberts10@gmail.com) if you can help!

Gene Berg who works with the Veterans Resource Center asked the SRC to sponsor and support an evening presentation of the movie "The Welcome" by the **Veterans Resource Center** at UUCWI on May 25th. "The Welcome" portrays veterans returning from war zones or perilous duty and focuses on welcoming them home. Your attendance and support for the VRC is always greatly appreciated.

The SRC is pleased to inform you that the dedicated offering on May 20 benefited the **South Whidbey Hearts & Hammers**. The June dedicated offering will go to **Senior Services of Island County**.

May was our first month as a congregation to partner with Habitat for Humanity, and we need your support as we move into the summer months. Thanks to our Movers and Shakers team of Pat Collins, Tom Buxton, John Leaser, Chris Bell, Dave Sweetwood, Jim Sundberg, Gene Berg, and John Long. A crew has been assigned to Tuesday mornings, picking up furniture to sell at the Habitat Store. Already, the Movers and Shakers have picked up several thousand dollars worth of merchandise. Libby Roberts, Mary Goolsby, Effie and Mark Brown, and Jean McIntosh have provided lunches for the work crews and volunteered in the store in May. If you'd like to join the movers, contact John Long, [johnlong45@gmail.com](mailto:johnlong45@gmail.com); if you have time to prepare an occasional lunch for the Habitat volunteers and/or work in the Freeland store, please contact Jean McIntosh at [jeanmc@whidbey.com](mailto:jeanmc@whidbey.com).

Thanks to everyone for your contributions!

## **Chalice Singers: June Rehearsals**

We will rehearse the evenings of June 5 and 19, 7 pm - 8:30 pm at the home of Eileen Soskin and Gene Berg in Freeland. We will sing at the service on June 24. This will be Rev. Ketcham's final service with us, so we would like to send her off with great love and enthusiasm! There will be a rehearsal the morning of June 24 at 8:45 am. If you read music and love to sing, we would love to have you join us! The choir will not meet in July/August, but will reconvene in September with a potluck/meeting/rehearsal to plan the next year. Contact Mavis Cauffman for more information. [uuadmin@whidbey.com](mailto:uuadmin@whidbey.com)

## **Great Year for RE!**

It has been a wonderful RE year. In reflection of this year, I am so pleased by our accomplishments and growth and already looking forward to continued development next year. Community is an investment from all the people involved. It is not formed overnight. The RE program is dependent on parents prioritizing attendance as often as possible. The more regularly a child attends RE class, the more connections they will make with the teachers and other students, the more trust they will develop for those people (allowing them to ask questions and share their life's joys and concerns,) and the more deeply they will understand the UU principles that are shared during class. It is not easy in our modern society to set aside Sunday morning each week for church. But, for those parents that are willing to do it, it is a gift for their family and the church congregation as a whole. In order to create a RE community, many people share their gifts and time. Teachers volunteer with incredible integrity and commitment. Other congregation members bring snacks, make crafts for the program, offer classroom supplies, and organize special events.

We have much gratitude to offer to the wise teachers in our congregations. In Unitarian Universalist religious education, what we have begun more accurately referring to as "religious exploration", we look to our teachers and volunteers to show our children how to see, question and understand the many truths that are present all around us. We hope for religious

exploration that widens our understanding, to ask questions, to search for their own understanding of truth, and to take action for what is right and good. We look for teachers who are fully present with our children, recognizing how important they are, and able to do good for them through their knowledge, compassion, and deeds. In this way, they show by example, what is most important.

In this congregation, we have much to be thankful for—for all of these things and more have been shared with our children by the many RE teachers that support our children's program. Our children are fortunate to have all of us as their teachers of religious values, and inspiration. Thank you for working with us, for caring for our children, and for caring about their personal growth.

We are excited to announce that our RE program is expanding. This fall we will be teaming up with the Edmonds and Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Churches to offer a 7th/ 8th grade Our Whole Lives (OWL) – a sexuality education program for youth that models and teaches caring, compassion, respect and justice. OWL is a holistic program that moves beyond the intellect to address the attitudes, values, and feelings that youth have about themselves and the world. There have been many people holding the vision of OWL being offered to our Whidbey youth and it is wonderful to finally see this dream realized. I would like to thank Glen Eisenbrey, Shannon O'Phelan and Lori Taylor for agreeing to take the OWL facilitator training and be a part of the leadership for the training this fall.

As our program continues to develop, our need for volunteers increases. If you are able to support the children of our church as they look for answers to the important questions of life, please see Vanessa or talk to one of these teachers about their experiences.

### **WHIDBEY ISLAND PEACE GROUP**

Whidbey Island Peace Group meets every Saturday at the Bayview Park and Ride from 10 to 11 am. We have extra peace signs.

**Women in Black** meet the first Friday of each month from 3 to 4 pm on the grass just above Bayview Park and Ride.

### **Report from PNWD District Assembly**

May 18 – 20: Your District Assembly (DA) was held in Anchorage, Alaska this year, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pacific Northwest District. Dave attended as a member of the District Board, and Mavis as your congregational delegate.

It was the first time DA had been held in Alaska, and our hosts were clearly excited about showing off their state. Some of your district dues support providing the ministry that helps these congregations get started and thrive; it's working, and it's important work to provide community for religious liberals isolated in this frontier state.

At the board meetings and DA business meeting Dave was again elected district board treasurer. Carrie Krause from Woodinville was elected to the board. Elton Hall was re-elected president; Kate Lore was elected vice-president; and Carol McKinley was elected secretary. District bylaws were amended to be consistent with the new UUA provisions for electing trustees at the national level.

Highlights of the assembly were keynote addresses by Rev. Dr. Tom Chulak and UUA Chief Governance Officer and UUA Board of Trustees Moderator Gini Courter. Tom gave a retrospective look at the last 50 years and how we've grown and changed, while Gini looked ahead to what's on the horizon and the changes needed. Attending such informative and inspirational talks by such capable leaders is a major reason for attending DA or GA.

Next year, the PNWD DA will be held in conjunction with the other districts in the Pacific Western Region (Pacific Central, Pacific Southwest, and Mountain Desert). It will be the first Regional Assembly (RA). You can put it on your calendars now: 26-28 April, 2013 in San Jose, CA.

Dave and Mavis Cauffman

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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 360-331-2163

**Chaplain:** Sally Elder 360-675-3314

Our minister and chaplains are available for rites  
of passage ceremonies (including ceremonies of  
commitment or union) and pastoral visits.

**Director of Religious Exploration:**

Vanessa Kohlhaas uucwi.re@gmail.com

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**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

Cary Sinnett [scattolina2@hotmail.com](mailto:scattolina2@hotmail.com)

Items submitted after press time will appear in the  
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Time-sensitive late items will be posted with the  
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