



Island Passages *October 2014*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10am UU Men's Group	2 7pm Book Group	3 6pm Family Game Night	4 10am VAC Mtg
5 10am UU Worship 11:30am Music Ctte 4pm Quaker Worship	6 8:45 WIN 4pm Meditation 5:30pm TWOG 6:30pm Witnessing Whiteness	7 1pm Dennis' Office Hours 7pm Choir Rehearsal	8 5pm LWV setup 6pm League of Women Voters 7pm Worship Ctte	9 3:30pm Pastoral Assoc. Mtg 7pm Concert Rehearsal	10 3pm Concert Rehearsal	11 10am OWL Parent orientation 1pm North End Coffee 6pm concert setup 7:30pm guitar concert Enric Madriguera
12 8:45am Choir 10am UU Worship 4pm Quaker Worship 5pm Quaker dinner 7pm Concert Anna Fritz, cello & voice	13 8:45 WIN 5:30pm TWOG 6:30pm PFLAG	14 10am Women's Group 10am Membership Ctte 1pm Dennis' Office Hours 3pm SRC strg Ctte WiFire	15 10am UU Men's Group 4pm MAGIC 6:30pm Billy Collins' Poetry	16 3pm Ctte on Ministry 4pm Finance Ctte 6pm North End Grp	17 5pm OWL sleepover	18 all day OWL sleepover 6pm Circle Dinner & Jelcy & Conrad's
19 10am UU Worship 11:45am UU101 4pm Quaker Worship 5pm Quaker Business Mtg 6pm Seeking Spirit @Glo's	20 8:45am WIN 4pm Meditation 5:30pm TWOG 6:30pm Witnessing Whiteness Newsletter Deadline	21 1pm Dennis' Office Hours 7pm Choir Rehearsal	22 6pm Mutiny Bay Water District Annual Mtg 6:30pm Billy Collins' Poetry	23 2pm SRC 6pm BOT mtg	24 7pm Greening Congregation Movie: Plant for the Planet	25 9am Work Party Please come and help care for our shared home 10:30 South End Coffee 11am Rehearsal
26 10am UU Worship 12pm Rehearsal 4pm Quaker Worship 6pm Northend Dine Out 7pm Dances of Universal Peace	27 8:45 WIN 5:30pm TWOG	28 10am Women's Group 1 pm Dennis' Office Hours 7pm Choir Rehearsal	29 6:30pm Billy Collins' Poetry	30	31 	Auction!

And always check the most current version of our calendar online at www.uucwi.org

October Worship Services (Sundays at 10 am unless otherwise noted)

October 5: The Eagle and the 22nd Psalm with Rev Dennis

The ancient Psalms were written and adopted as part of worship by the ancient people indigenous the land that became Israel. How might such ancient wisdom, whether it comes from people of the desert or those from more abundant climates, like our own, offer guidance as we face the trials and tribulations of our own life journeys?

Music: Talia Marcus

Worship Leader: Terra Anderson

October 19: Securing Human Rights Through the UUSC with Dave Coulton

UUs assert that if we want a more humane and peaceful world, we need to work for basic human rights for everyone. What is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)? What does the UUSC actually DO? We'll start with some video clips featuring the UUSC's human rights work around the world. Then we will consider distinctions between traditional relief agencies (e.g. CARE, Red Cross) and the "eye-to-eye partnership model" that guides the work of the UUSC. Opportunities for involvement with the UUSC will be identified.

Our speaker recently served on the UUSC's Board of Trustees. An educator, he has a history of engagement with social justice issues. He and his wife, Mary, are active members of the UU Church in Albuquerque. Their son Jim and his partner, Lori Taylor, attend UUCWI.

Music: Eileen Soskin

Worship Leader: Dave Cauffman

Note: this service is sponsored by the UUCWI Social Responsibility Council

October 12: UU Views of Prayer

with Sandy Welch, Mavis Cauffman & the UUCWI Chalice Choir

Some UUs are skeptical of prayer. But how might we reframe our understanding of it so that it can be a powerful and positive force in our lives? This service will include readings, congregational and choral singing.

Music: Chalice Choir

October 26: Encountering Grace with Rev. Amy Moses-Lagos

The early Universalist theologians taught that grace was the unconditional love of God bestowed on all humans. How do we understand this idea of grace today? How can we be open to moments of grace in our everyday lives? You are invited to join guest speaker Amy Moses-Lagos in exploring these questions

Reverend Amy Moses-Lagos is a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry. She has served at Mt. Diablo UU Church in Walnut Creek, CA. and the UU Church of Berkeley. Amy recently moved to Seattle with her husband and one-year-old son to be closer to their extended family. She is working as a stay-at-home mom and preaching occasionally at nearby UU congregations.

Music: a surprise ☺

Worship Leader: Effie Brown



After-Service Refreshments

Enjoying coffee and goodies together after services offers an opportunity to connect and visit with new and emergent friends. We strongly believe that providing refreshments is a valuable service to our church community and we need your help! There is a calendar posted on the back of the door into the kitchen from the sanctuary. Sign up soon!!!

And if you have suggestions for improving the refreshment procedure please contact us, [Corinne Ludy](#) & [Clara Beier](#), co-chairs of the Membership Committee.

Gene's puzzler:

- Draw a square with both the diagonals. How many triangles are in it?
- (Challenge) Draw a pentagon with all its diagonals. How many triangles are in it?

Post your answers to [Gene](#)

Fall Activities for your Enjoyment...

Adult Education Opportunities...

Poetry of Billy Collins

Let's explore together the wit, wisdom and words of a poet some consider a modern prophet, recent American Poet Laureate Billy Collins.

Collins' poems are very accessible. His publisher notes that "They may begin with irony and end in lyric transcendence. They may open with humor and close with grief. They may, and often do, begin with the everyday and end with infinity."

Participants are invited to select poems from assigned readings and join with other class members in reflecting on these poems. We are after life meaning, not academic dissection. We hope to avoid the mistakes Collins identifies in his poem "Introduction to Poetry."

There will be no rubber hoses in this 6-week course that begins Wednesday, Oct 15th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Five additional sessions will be scheduled to best meet the needs of participants. Contact [Rev. Dennis Reynolds](#)

Introduction to Poetry

by Billy Collins

*I ask them to take a poem
and hold it up to the light
like a color slide*

or press an ear against its hive.

*I say drop a mouse into a poem
and watch him probe his way out,
or walk inside the poem's room
and feel the walls for a light switch.*

*I want them to waterski
across the surface of a poem
waving at the author's name on the shore.*

*But all they want to do
is tie the poem to a chair with rope
and torture a confession out of it.
They begin beating it with a hose
to find out what it really means.*

Reclaiming Prophetic Witness: Liberal Religion in the Public Square

Do you wonder what is meant by "prophetic witness"? Do UUs prophesy? Are you frustrated by the weak voice of "liberal religion in the public square"? How can you effectively raise your own voice to counter injustice? In this 2-session program based on this year's 136-page UUA "common read", we will envision how to raise our unique and important voices, joining others willing engage the difficult social justice issues of our time.

Put it on your calendar - Tues. Nov. 11, 7-9 pm and Wed. Nov. 19, 7-9 pm. Then let us know you want to attend, and tell us by Oct. 1st if you wish us to order you a hardcopy (\$15.50 with group discount plus shipping). It is also available on Amazon for \$8 (Kindle version).

Contact: [Jean McIntosh](#) or [Dave Cauffman](#)

UU101

October 19, 11:45 am - 3 pm

Are you curious about Unitarian Universalism (UU) and this congregation? Perhaps you are considering membership and want to know who and what U and U and UU have been and currently are. You are invited to join our minister, Rev. Dennis Reynolds, and other members of the congregation in "UU101". This is an informal, fun discussion with a bit of history, a touch of theology and some details specific to our congregation. A light lunch will be provided. To RSVP, contact [Clara Beier](#) or [Corinne Ludy](#) so we can prepare food and handouts. Let us know if you will need child care.

And there's even more!



Auction...Auction... Auction

Dia de los Muertos

November 1st

It is time for our annual Auction, an opportunity to laugh with your friends, enjoy a delicious dinner, do some holiday shopping, and help raise the necessary funds for the operation of our beloved congregation. There will be items for *every* budget.

In the past members have offered fabulous dinner parties, picnics, bird watching, kayak excursions, mystery theater, guided hiking trips, sing-a-longs, candle making, compost for your garden... the list is limited only by our imaginations.

What would you like to offer this year? Our hard-working auction team requests you use the [form](#) posted on the front page of our [web site](#) to write your auction items – it will save them immense amounts of work re-typing. ☺

The theme, should you decide to accept the offer to dress up outrageously, is [Dia de los Muertos](#).

Plan to buy your tickets in the foyer before and after services. Your \$20 ticket includes a delicious dinner and a \$10 credit toward auction purchases.

Your Auction planning team could really use your help. Please contact the [auction committee](#) with your ideas, energy and creativity.

Remembranza/Remembrances

Saturday, October 11 at 7:30pm in our sanctuary

The first performance in our annual Concert Series will feature Enric Madriguera playing the music of Bach, Segovia, Tedesco and Villa-Lobos on classical guitar.

Tickets are only \$15 for adults, \$5 for students.

October Work Party – come one, come all. We need your help keeping our sanctuary, kitchen, foyer, bathrooms, classrooms and grounds sparkling. Don't you love coming to UUCWI and appreciating how beautiful our building is? Well... that's accomplished by the loving care of members just like you. And it's fun! Really. ☺ Please come and bring a friend. October 25th

UUA General Assembly *is in our proverbial "back yard"!*

Is the [General Assembly](#) on your calendar for next year??? It is being held in Portland so perhaps lots of us can attend.

What is General Assembly? It's the annual meeting of congregations all across the country. It offers multiple opportunities for education, with stimulating lectures and informative workshops, for worship together on both a grand and an intimate scale, for networking, for music, for expanding your horizons and bringing back ideas and inspirations to your congregation.

When and where does it happen? June 24-28 (Wednesday afternoon through Sunday afternoon), at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland.

Mark your calendars! More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

From the Minister's Corner

Dennis' October Musings...on being "happy"

I encountered a news report recently that made me very unhappy. It reported how 6 young Iranians had been sentenced to 6 months in jail and 91 lashes (yes, 91 "lashes") for the crime of acting in and filming a video version of the American hit song "Happy" by Pharrell Williams. This is the same song that many of you sang and clapped with when it was part of the August service on contemporary music.

I watched the Iranian video version and it made me smile. At its conclusion are some joy filled "out takes" and the message "We have made this video as Pharrell Williams' fans in 8hrs, with iPhone 5S. 'Happy' was an excuse to be happy. We enjoyed every second of making it. Hope it puts a smile on your face." You can [watch](#) it yourself.

The video went viral and Iranian authorities were not happy. Back in May the young people were arrested and have now been sentenced for their crime. The final punishment was "suspended," meaning they are on a 3-year probation and will not be jailed nor lashed if they stay out of trouble.

Williams protested the arrests on Facebook, posting, 'It is beyond sad that these kids were arrested for trying to spread happiness.' An Amnesty International official said, "Arresting people for dancing in a video tribute to a song called Happy is taking things to a new level of dark irony even for the authoritarian Iranian authorities."

I don't often get too riled up about news events that are far away and unlikely to have an impact on any part of my life. It has to do with that part of the Serenity Prayer about being granted the wisdom to accept the things I cannot change.

And yet this one got me. First it is nearly beyond belief, as many authorities and commentators have noted, that the authoritarian regime in that country so limits people freedom and options for expressions of love and joy.

But is it truly that amazing?

Until very recently it was illegal in this state, and still is in many states, for couples to shared wedded bliss if both were of the same gender. Even now, homophobia still imprisons many. The rates of homelessness and suicide for lesbian, bi-sexual, gay, transgendered and questioning youth are many times higher than those for other teens. This is the result of judgment and harassment that is often religiously based? I know from my work with Whidbey PFLAG that the higher suicide rate is true here on Whidbey Island. That too makes me unhappy.

So what to do? Wallow in my unhappiness? Yes, but just enough for me to recognize the truth of what some might call the dark side of judgment and oppression. I seek too, to keep my mind and spirit vigilant to my own judgmental dark side.

I take heart knowing that I can do a wee bit of something. It can be supporting LBGTQ youth and adults in my community. It can be supporting Amnesty and other organizations that advocate globally.

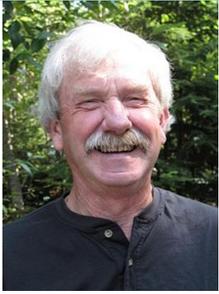
Finally, I appreciate what I do have in freedoms of expression and action that I all too often take for granted. Thinking about that and watching various videos of William's song do make me happier.



Pastoral Support

The Pastoral Associates are ready and willing to be present to those in need of an ear to listen and a heart to care. The Coordinator for October is [Diane Ahuna](#), who can be reached via e-mail or at 360-678-6903. If you have need of a visit or hear of a member or friend of the congregation who is home-bound, hospitalized or otherwise facing hard times, please contact her or [Rev Dennis](#).

From Leadership



The President's Pen

I feel it's time that I told you some of what your Board of Trustees has been doing since the new board started its work in June. I am pleased with the positive attitude, the commitment and the work we have been able to do on behalf of this community. And I want to thank the members of the Board for their efforts on behalf of the ministry we share with all of you. Current members are Frank Allen, Mary Goolsby, Charlie Knutilla, Gladys Mitchell, Sarah Richards, Libby Roberts, and our ex officio member Dennis Reynolds.

In June and July we drafted and approved a [Policy on Endorsements and Resolutions](#) for UUCWI. This policy lays out procedures for congregational endorsements and resolutions on social justice issues. This is not new territory for us; in the past we have endorsed campaigns against torture and in favor of marriage equality. This spring we were approached by the Faith Action Network (FAN), asking our congregation to endorse Initiative 594, universal background checks on handgun purchases in Washington. The Social Responsibility Council asked us for a policy that would allow our congregation a method of deciding whether or not to endorse any particular initiative. The policy, which will be used to address future requests for our congregation - as a whole - to take stands on such issues as immigration and climate change, can be found on our [website](#), or just click the link above.

Recognizing that as we try to spread the word about our programs and values, various programs and committees may wish to use the UUCWI name to lend weight to stands being taken, we have developed and adopted a [name use policy](#) which expands on a section of the by-laws and gives concrete standards and procedures for using the UUCWI name in public communications. I invite you to browse some of our other policies, again by visiting our [website](#) and scanning the [members](#) page and the [documents](#) subpage.

At our recent Board retreat we started the process for developing a long-range plan for UUCWI which will guide the Board and the congregation for the next five years. We did an assessment of our current strengths and weaknesses and identified some of the areas that need to be addressed in such long range planning. We will be assembling a committee of Board members and others to develop this plan over the next few months and establish goals and methods for reaching them. We will be bringing this plan to the congregational meeting this spring.

Several of you have brought to me issues and problems that you would like the Board to address. I invite you to continue to do so. You may approach any Board member (listed above) and they will bring an issue to the Board for consideration. But you don't have to have an issue to give us feedback. Please let us know how we as a Board are communicating with and listening to you. Feedback includes kudos as well as concerns. Don't be shy. And the Board encourages you to give feedback to the Worship Committee, Minister Dennis, the RE Committee, the Adult Programs Coordinator, and the numerous other groups and individuals whose work makes up the shared ministry of our community. With great respect, John Long

Phase II Shared Ministry Highlights

Shared Ministry Task Force members, Effie Brown, Toyon Copeland, Gladys Howard, Jean McIntosh, and Dennis Reynolds are anticipating the forthcoming congregational conversations about "shared ministry" with enthusiasm. Specific plans will unfold in the coming months for multiple ways of engaging members and friends of our congregation in exploring what "ministry" means to each of us and how we each *experience* and *share* ministry as part of this beloved community. As a first step in this ongoing process, we will invite chalice circles to begin this exciting conversation. In preparation for those conversations, in the coming weeks take time to notice the variety of ways in which **you** *experience* and *share* ministry as part of this congregation

Announcements and FUN Around UUCWI

Caring and Connecting

For quite a while we have had no structured Caring Connections Committee. While members have cobbled together rides and some meals for those in need, many needs have likely have gone unmet. We are pleased to report that a solution is in the works. Later in the Fall you will hear more about a new incarnation of Caring Connections that is beginning to emerge. It will not be a new committee but rather two individuals, Glo Sherman and Mary Ann Imkamp, who have graciously agreed to serve as *coordinators* to help make connections. All of you will be invited to be on call to offer care when needed.

Until then, [Rev. Dennis](#), as your minister, continues to be the first contact to make when you know of members and friends in need. There are still ways we can respond to most needs.

Unitarian Indulgences Available...

Using my authority as BAG*, with the endorsement of the Membership Committee, and with the support of a Resolution of the 2014 Conference of the ICMCD**, I am able to offer **Unitarian Indulgences** to members and friends of UUCWI who perform services to our community as listed below. Each service will be certified by a signed *Indulgence Certificate* providing the bearer with 20 minutes in Heaven. These certificates are suitable for framing and would look swell in your den or office. Please contact [Gene Berg](#) for details.

1. Provide and serve coffee and refreshments after a Sunday service (sign up behind the kitchen door).
2. Participate in a Third Saturday Work Party to help clean and repair our property, both inside and outside. The next opportunity will be 9-11 a.m. October 25.
3. Serve as ICC*** to lead the indoor cleanup activities of the Third Saturday Work Parties.
4. Numerous other service opportunities are available to the right person.

* Building and Grounds Committee Chairperson

** Island County Mosquito Control District

*** Indoor Cleaning Czar

The in-gathering was a tremendous success with fun for all...



Social Responsibility Council News

SRC...Be In the Know!

Unitarian Universalists confront social and environmental issues in many ways—individually, collectively, and organizationally. This month, the Social Responsibility Council sponsors our Sunday, October 19 service, which will focus on the [Unitarian Universalist Service Committee](#).

Having both domestic and international reach, UUSC impact includes human rights work on several continents, community and soul replenishment in Haiti and other countries, water equality and climate change initiatives nationally, and grassroots immigration work at border towns and detention facilities between the US and Mexican borders. Dave Colton, recently of the UUSC Board of Trustees, will speak of ways that our congregation can get involved with [Commit2Respond](#) and the [UUSC College of Social Justice](#).

If you are passionate about social and environmental justice and want to help define how best to support these fundamentally linked objectives, please attend the SRC Planning meeting on Thursday, October 23, 2PM, at UUCWI (middle classroom). All are welcome to this important discussion.

Environmental Justice Film, October 24th, 7pm

The Whidbey Island [Greening Congregations](#) * Film Series in October features the work of youth who are speaking out and acting for their futures. Take a moment to watch this [clip](#) where they ask **why** we aren't taking action to secure a world for them that is as beautiful as the one we inherited.

Now the official Tree-Counters for the United Nations Tree campaign, [Plant-For-The-Planet](#) was Founded by a 9-year-old boy in Germany and is organized by children around the world. They have a wildly ambitious plan that will impact climate change for good. We will also watch an [Alec Looorz](#) video, "Now We Children Save the World."

* St Augustines in-the-Woods, Langley Methodist & UUCWI

Fall Movie Series:
Friday nights, 7:00pm
in the UUCWI
sanctuary
November 21—
“[Forks over Knives](#)”
and Steve Rothboeck
of Animal Welfare

For our dedicated offering on September 21st we collected \$411 for the Red Cross relief efforts after the Wildfires in Central Washington.

Thank you for your generosity, UUCWI!



Planting a Pole for Peace

On September 7th, our Quaker friends and members of UUWCI gathered together to jointly dedicate the installation of the Peace Pole, donated by Faith Wilder. You will see it as you exit the sanctuary through our grassy area toward the east parking lot. It bears a plaque which reads "in memory of all that was lost in the world and found in our hearts on 9/11/01". The pole provides a permanent location not only for a 9/11 memorial but also to sustain persistent hope for peace to prevail on earth.

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Whidbey Island**

2014 - 2015 Board of Trustees

John Long, President
Libby Roberts, Vice President
Charlie Knutilla, Treasurer
Gladys Howard, Secretary
Frank Allen, Trustee
Mary Goolsby, Trustee
Sarah Richards, Trustee

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

Minister: Dennis Reynolds 541-517-7325

minister@uucwi.org

Chaplain: Sally Elder 360-675-3314

chaplain@uucwi.org

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

Administrator: Mavis Cauffman

admin@uucwi.org

Director of Religious Exploration: Ginger White

re_dir@uucwi.org

Newsletter Information:

News, announcements, events, and other items of
interest to members of the congregation should be
submitted in writing by the 20th of each month to
editor, Terra Anderson at newsletter@uucwi.org.
Suggestions for articles and information of interest
to the whole congregation are encouraged.

Items submitted after press time will appear in the
following month's newsletter if appropriate.

Communications Committee:

Terra Anderson, Newsletter Editor
Mavis Cauffman, Congregational Administrator
Charlie Knutilla, Website Manager:
wwg_chair@uucwi.org

UUCWI's website: www.uucwi.org

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