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**This Sunday's Service**  
**December 10th, 2023 10am**  
**Holiday Music Service**

With Mavis Cauffman,  
 Andrea Fink, Janet Garrow,  
 Gary Hattal, Sandy Welch,  
 Dave Cauffman,  
 and special musicians  
 Cynthia Morrow-Hattal,  
 Tintinnabulation, and YOU!

Please join us in person or on  
**Zoom.**

We'll explore the history of some holiday traditions and sing - including a mass singing of the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah. If you would like to brush up your part, check [here](#).

## Service Link

If you have trouble joining our Zoom meeting, email [webmaster@uucwi.org](mailto:webmaster@uucwi.org) for help.

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### Next Sunday's Service December 17th, 2023 10am Opening the Barn Door Joseph Bednarik

With Toyan Copeland,  
Worship Leader and  
Eileen Soskin,  
Special Musician

*Image by AStoKo on Pixabay*

In his poem "the lamb was bleating softy," Juan Ramon Jimenez imagines being in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. "I opened the barn door to see if/He was there/He was!" As we approach the generous mysteries of Christmas, let's pull open the barn door of our heart to marvel at the holy child inside us.

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### This Week's Calendar

[Click here](#) to view our full UUCWI



### Calendar.

Click on blue titles for Zoom link.

Check out our [Members and Friends Facebook Page](#).

*Image by Aaron Burden on Unsplash*

### ***Friday, December 8***

6 - 7:30pm VAC Reception (Gallery)

### ***Saturday, December 9***

7 - 8:30 pm Whidbey Island Trio Concert (Sanctuary)

### ***Sunday, December 10***

10:00 [Worship Service](#) (Zoom & In Person)

After Service Book Talk

### ***Monday, December 11***

### ***Tuesday, December 12***

10am - Noon [Membership Committee](#) (Zoom)

10am - noon [Worship Committee](#) (Zoom)

2:30 - 5pm Board of Trustees (Zoom [email](#) for link)

3:30 - 4:30pm [Caring Circle](#)

### ***Wednesday, December 13***

10am - Noon [Men's Group](#)

11am - 12:30pm Women's Group (Various Locations)

3 - 5pm Holiday Gathering (Sanctuary)

6:30 - 8pm [Native Connections Initiative](#) (Zoom)

### ***Thursday, December 14***

10 - 11am [Engagement Committee](#) (Zoom)

11am - noon [Stewardship](#) (Zoom)

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## Announcements and News

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### Leadership Council Friday, Dec. 15th 10am - noon

You are invited and encouraged to attend a meeting of the Leadership Council on Friday, December 15, from 10 am to 12 noon. If you chair or serve on a committee, have worked on an event, are thinking about being involved, or are just plain curious, please come. Your questions and thoughts will be welcome - and important.

Discussions will include:

- The new website (Has your committee submitted their material?)
- Welcome (How do we do this? What more can we do?)

- Radical Welcome (What does this mean? How can we do better?)
- Coordination (How can we do these things together?)
- What the BOT is thinking

Coffee and nibbles will be provided.

Questions? Please contact Mavis Cauffman or Toyan Copeland.



*Image by Annie Spratt on Unsplash.*

## Pastoral Care & Connections at UUCWI

UUCWI offers comfort and presence when times of trauma and distress touch our lives. We have a pastoral care team which includes Rev. Kate Lore, our interim minister for pastoral care. If you or someone you know might benefit from this offering please consider contacting our coordinator, Bill Graves, at [pastor@uucwi.org](mailto:pastor@uucwi.org).

UUCWI also has a Caring Connections team that can provide needed short-term support of a logistical nature (food, a ride to medical, etc.). To make requests email Mavis Cauffman, our coordinator of these types of services, at [caringconnections@uucwi.org](mailto:caringconnections@uucwi.org).

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Send in your website content and pictures!



We need your help!

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The Visual Arts Committee invites you to attend a reception for the

**WHIDBEY BEARDS PROJECT**  
**TODAY!**  
**Friday, December 8th 6pm**

After a year-and-a-half, the project has finally been published as a book! There will be two hard copies to exhibit but the rest

of the press run, 247 copies, are in a container ship on their way from Shenzhen China. They may arrive Christmas week or the first week of January at the latest. In the meantime, come to the reception where we will show each page of the book projected on a large screen with some commentary. Many of the "beards" plan to attend, some wearing the costumes depicted in their portraits. Also, there will be large canvas prints of nine portraits in the foyer as you enter the church. It should be a great time!

The book itself is large: 11 1/4" x 12 1/4", 74 pages with 62 photographs, hardbound with a spiffy dust cover. The final price will be \$64.95 + sales tax and shipping if required.

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## UUCWI 2023-2024 ARTIST SERIES FALL SEASON

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**TOMORROW!**  
**Whidbey Island String Trio**  
**Saturday, December 9th 7pm**

**Whidbey Island String Trio**



Gideon Freudmann   Gloria Ferry-Brennan   Aniela Marie Perry

**a musical nod to the past and leap toward the future**

**Saturday Dec 9 @ 7 PM**

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
20103 WA-525, Freeland, WA

suggested donation at the door \$25

Presented by Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island Artist series

We are happy to offer a concert by this new musical group on Whidbey Island, known as WIST. The Whidbey Island String Trio is a chamber group whose music is a nod to the past and leap toward the future. Gideon, Gloria and Aniela all have a classical foundation and love for musical adventure. Their repertoire includes elegant waltzes, playful blues with forays into bossa nova, swing, hoedowns, and fiddle tunes. Their concerts combine delicate elegance with spontaneous exuberance. [Cow Buoy video](#)

Musicians are:

**Cellist Gideon Freudmann**, cellist and composer whose music appears in TV and film. He is a TED Talks speaker a contributor to NPR and 'This American Life'. He has composed music for film and dance and toured in Europe, Asia Australia and throughout the U.S.



**Violinist Gloria Ferry-Brennan** has an illustrious career as a soloist performing with several distinguished orchestras and winning classical competitions. Gloria plays with passion and elegance and is a beloved musical treasure.

**Cellist Aniela Marie Perry** lived in Los Angeles for over 20 years where she collaborated with a veritable Who's Who in the music world and performed on numerous feature film and television scores. She is also an accomplished bass player.

Suggested donation of \$25 at the door.

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## Sing the Hallelujah Chorus

### Sunday Service, December 10th



At the Dec 10 Holiday service, you'll be invited to join in singing the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah. If you would like to brush up on your part, check our website, click on Choir under the Activities menu item at [UUCWI.ORG](https://UUCWI.ORG) or click [here](#). You'll find a link to the recording we'll sing along with, sheet music, and audio rehearsal files for all parts. Come join the fun!

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# *Holiday Cheer*

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH  
3-5 PM at UUCWI

HOSTED BY  
The Pastoral Care Team  
UU Congregation  
of Whidbey Island

**Bring a holiday memory or story to share!**

*Cookies & warm drinks provided*

ALL ARE WELCOME!



## 2nd Hour Initiative

### After Sunday Services

11:30 - 12:30

Members and Friends, please suggest topics for discussion, crafts, music share, etc. by [emailing](#).

### 2H December 10th Book Talk

#### Library News

Our *Book Talk* group meets this coming Sunday after Services. (2nd Sunday of every month). Enjoy an opportunity to tell others about a book you are currently reading or just come to hear about what others are reading! We start about 11:15 - depending upon just when Services are over and whether there is a discussion with the speaker about the sermon - and we will meet for 1 hour.

We look forward to joining us!

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## End of the Month Potlucks

Our End of the Month potlucks will pause for the holiday season. We will resume the potlucks on January 28th, 2024. Time flies so fast - 2024 would you believe?

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*Image by DJ Winebrinner*

## Women's Group

All Meetings 11:00am - 12:30pm

### **Wednesdays In Person at Various Locations**

May be at a variety of impromptu locations by group members for activities together like having coffee, shopping, walking trails, visit studio or nurseries, going out to eat, etc. Sign up on our email list to receive those invites. Contact DJ Winebrinner by phone or email.

*Image by Jonathan Borba on Unsplash*

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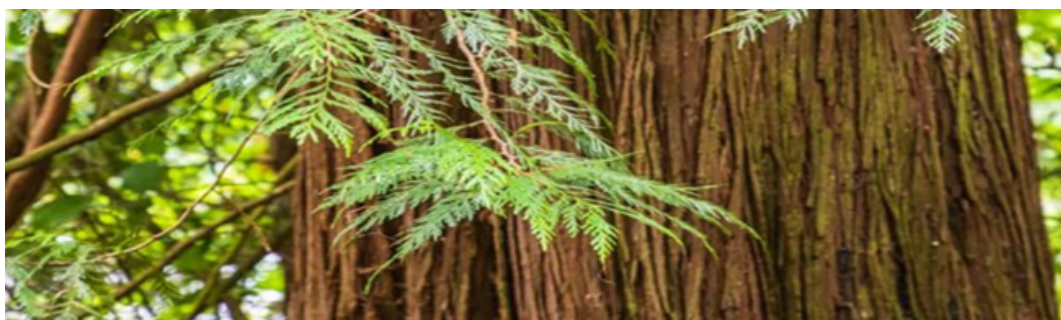
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# UUCWI Initiative News

[New Initiative Proposal Form Link](#)

Mission Group Liaisons	
<b>Spiritual Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Arts Committee</li> <li>• Music Committee</li> <li>• Worship Committee</li> </ul>	Toyon Copeland
<b>Member Service</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership</li> <li>• Library</li> <li>• Engagement Development</li> </ul>	Clara <u>Beier</u>
<b>Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tech Team</li> <li>• Internet</li> </ul>	Janet Garrow
<b>Building and Grounds</b>	John Long and Don Winebrinner
<b>Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Stewardship</li> </ul>	Lois Chowen
<b>Community Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Initiatives</li> <li>• Social Justice</li> </ul>	Rommel Nunn

## Native Connections Initiative



**DECEMBER NEWSLETTER COMING SOON:**

[Join our email list](#) to automatically receive our monthly NCI newsletter in your inbox.

If you haven't read our November newsletter, click [here](#).

**DECEMBER 13, 6:30 PM: NCI MONTHLY MEETING:**

Join us to hear from Debra Ellers of the Port Townsend Quimper UU about



the removal of the Lower Snake River Dams and its importance to tribes, restoring salmon runs, the dwindling population of Orcas, and our responsibilities to uphold Tribal treaty rights.

[Join our email list](#) to receive the Zoom link.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 12-5, (Drop-in):** [Cedar Angel Ornament-making Class:](#)

Pamela SeaMonster (Snohomish) is an indigenous cultural educator who will share traditional stories while teaching you to create your cedar-bark doll or angel. **In the Front Room, 2nd floor of the Cash Store at the Bayview Corner.** Kits are available, \$50 for 4 small or 2 medium angels/dolls; and \$75 for a large angel tree-topper. Proceeds from this class will support an Indigenous non-profit, [People of the Confluence](#).

**INDIGENOUS CALENDARS:**

Two ways to explore the Indigenous calendars that are logical to the Peoples who have close relationships with our local, natural environment.

[SAMISH 13 MOONS:](#) For the Samish, after the *Moon of Putting the Paddles Away* (November), December is the *Moon of the Elders*.

[SWINOMISH 13 MOONS PROJECT:](#) **Children of the Setting Sun Productions** brings us stories and activities on YouTube for each of the 13 Moons. To the Swinomish Tribe, much of December is the *Moon to Put Your Paddles Away*, followed by the *Moon of the Sacred Time*.  
*Moon of the Sacred Time.*

**SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 13: POTLATCH**

The local Snohomish Tribe (sduhubs) invites us all to join them in a potlatch. Stay tuned for details.

**INDIGENOUS NEWS SOURCES:** If you'd like to stay current on the news from Indigenous people and their communities, here are some excellent sources:

[Native News Online](#)

[Indian Country Today](#)

[High Country News, Indigenous Affairs](#)

## [Seattle Crosscut, Indigenous Affairs](#)

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# Supporters of United Student Leaders Initiative



### **Support local youth justice action today!**

**Our goal is to raise \$7,500 by December 31th** to support youth organizing efforts on Whidbey Island and beyond. Please fill out the form on [our website](#) to make a contribution now! Use the form [linked here](#) to contribute

### **USL History**

USL was founded by two students from South Whidbey in 2019. Our first campaign was a series of Climate Strikes in Freeland, protesting Chase and Wells Fargo, two of the biggest investors in the fossil fuel industry. USL has pushed the City of Langley and Island County to declare a Climate Emergency, passing a declaration in Langley and a resolution in the County. We have helped implement two critical classes in the South Whidbey High School curriculum, Environmental Science and Ethnic Studies. USL organized many climate and social justice protests across Island County. During the pandemic, we facilitated three webinar series to educate ourselves and those around us re: patriarchy, discrimination, and the climate crisis.

### **Summary of 2023 & Goals for 2024**

Over the past year USL has organized various actions: We successfully encouraged our school district to apply for an EPA rebate for an electric bus. As a result we were invited to attend an event in Seattle where we

met EPA Administrator Regan, Senator Patty Murray, and Governor Jay Inslee. A USL member had the honor of introducing Vice President Kamala Harris! We have also been continuing our push for Island County to declare a Climate Emergency Declaration organizing a series of Vocalize Our Future protests across the county. These events featured community organizers and student activists. We held our 3rd annual Fridays for Future School Walkout in September calling for stronger climate action on the local and federal level. We have collaborated with other local organizations for community advocacy and educational such as a booth at the Island Fair and a presentation to South Whidbey and Edmonds School District students. We are successfully recruiting new students than ever before!

Your contribution will help us cover: materials to build signs, fees for guest speakers, transportation costs, conference and workshop fees, video editing, and food and drinks for meetings and events. Our goals for 2024 are: to advocate for increased education funding for Washington schools; to organize a youth climate summit and continue to push for a Climate Emergency Declaration on the County and Federal levels.



Photo: Jane Bear Photography.

Use the form [linked here](#) by 12/31/2023 to contribute now and help increase our opportunities as youth social justice organizers. All funds, minus a 5% processing fee, will be made directly to USL. Funds shall not be used to participate or intervene in any political campaign or for or against a candidate for public office. Please help us make this happen.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Naomi Atwood, Claire Philp, and Audrey Gmerek on behalf of United Student Leaders

\*edited for brevity and clarity by USL/UUCWI liaison Gary Piazzon



### Members and Friends Facebook Group

UUCWI has a Members and Friends Facebook Group to encourage sharing information, resources, and discussions. Check it out [here](#).

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## Social Environmental Justice

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*"I'm not in any way signing up to any discussion that is alarmist. There is no science out there, or no scenario out there, that says that the phase-out of fossil fuel is what's going to achieve 1.5C."- Cop28 president, Sultan Al Jaber*

**COP28 Has Been Completely Captured By the Fossil Fuel Industry - its**

being held in a petrostate, led by an oil company CEO and has the second largest number of delegates (2,500) with access to all meetings and decision makers, whereas, the indigenous community has only observer status. Leaked documents reveal the host country is there to make deals benefiting the industry. Read more [here](#)

[The Human Ecology of Overshoot: Why a Major ‘Population Correction’ Is Inevitable.](#) *Global civilizational collapse will almost certainly be accompanied by a major human population ‘correction’. In the best of all possible worlds, the whole transition might actually be managed in ways that prevent unnecessary suffering of millions (billions?) of people, but this is not happening—and cannot happen—in a world blind to its own predicament.*

[Tuvalu Plans to Create a Digital Copy of Itself](#) - in acknowledgment of their dire circumstance: loss of their island home and exodus of its inhabitants

### [What would happen if everyone stopped eating meat tomorrow?](#)

*Many researchers agree that phasing out meat entirely, let alone immediately, isn't an ideal solution to the climate crisis. It would be plenty, they say, to reduce consumption methodically and to focus on the countries that eat the most, particularly wealthy ones like the United States that have no shortage of alternatives.*

[the average American eats about 220 pounds of red meat and poultry each year](#)

humbly & gratefully submitted by UUCWI member Gary Piazzon  
all images publicly sourced

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## Submissions

### UUCWI Weekly E-News

**Purpose:** To remind and inform UUCWI congregation & visitors of upcoming services and church-related



events.

**Published:** Weekly, sent Fridays at 5:00 a.m. via MailChimp.

**Deadline:** All submissions must be sent to editor by **WEDNESDAY AT NOON** for the current week's publication.

**Submissions:**

- Be direct and concise in your announcement.
- Think of what, when, where, and why. Suggest a short headline.
- Avoid using acronyms or abbreviations. If you do, define your acronym or abbreviation in your first use, like this: *Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island (UUCWI)*.
- You may include a graphic if you would like but must credit the artist/source.
- Do not use personal emails or telephone numbers. Contact [admin@uucwi.org](mailto:admin@uucwi.org) if you would like to arrange contact information for your item.

**Topics:**

- Worship Services and congregational news
- Messages from the Minister
- Board of Trustees and UUCWI Official Notices
- Committee, Initiative and Program news submitted with the approval of the Chair, Initiative or Program Leader
- UUA information
- Local events UUCWI sponsors

To avoid duplicating other Island announcement services, like Drew's List, we will not accept notices for community events, unless UUCWI is a sponsor of, or a congregant is a participant in, the event.

**Editing:** The eNews editor will review each submission. Any post needing substantive editing will be returned and will need to be re-submitted.

**All submissions for eNews are due by**

**WEDNESDAY AT NOON.**

**Please send all submissions to UU Staff at [admin@uucwi.org](mailto:admin@uucwi.org)**

*Thank you!*



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