



**The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island
Weekly News**

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This Sunday's Service

**There will be no morning
service today**

December 24th, 2023 4pm

In person only

Christmas Eve Service

Two Stories of Christmas

With Terra Anderson,

Grey Bialik,

Effie Brown,

Mary Gooslby,

Karen Heather,

Jay Taksony Hewitt,

Judy Kaplan,

Rebecca Maclain,

and Patricia Pocock

Please join us in person.

woman who has never properly celebrated Christmas until a young star child comes to earth to find out what Christmas is all about. Together they discover the true meaning and magic of Christmas.

The birth of Jesus is the traditional story, told in word and song, of the child who came to teach us to truly love one another. The service closes with the candlelit singing of *Silent Night*.



Next Sunday's Service
December 31st, 2023 10am
New Year's Eve Service
How to Make a
New Year's Resolution -
Advice from a Pro

Ken Merrell

**With Mark Simpson, Worship
Leader**

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

Image by im Mossholder on Unsplash

Thinking about making a few New Year's resolutions? How did last year's fare? Always good to think through what you are asking of yourself. Ken Merrill will talk about the ways the word "resolution" is used. The word means one thing to a musician and something totally different to a chemist. Still, when we use it in the sense of a New Year's Resolution, we forget that its primary meaning is clarity and completeness. Ken will challenge the congregation to seek clarity and completeness instead of making promises to the New Year.

If you have trouble joining our Zoom meeting, email webmaster@uucwi.org for help.



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

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve

4pm Worship Service (In Person Only)

Monday, December 25 Christmas



Tuesday, December 26

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

Wednesday, December 27

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

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

Thursday, December 28

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

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Announcements and News



Image by Annie Spratt on Unsplash.

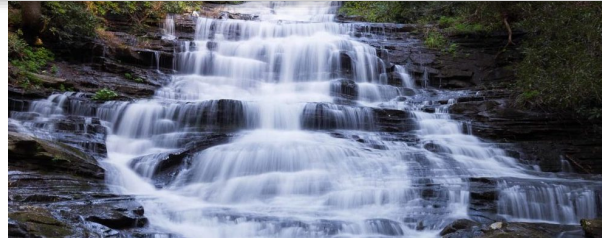
UUCWI offers comfort and presence when times of trauma and distress touch our lives. We have a pastoral care team which includes Rev. Kate Lore, our interim minister for pastoral care. If you or someone you know might benefit from this offering please consider contacting our coordinator, Bill Graves,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

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.

Send in your website content and pictures!



We need your help!



New Gallery Show The Natural World

"The Natural World" is celebrated in the newest UU Gallery show. During the cold winter months of January and February, our Gallery will keep us warm with beautiful pastel images created by Annette Hanna. This show also includes the ceramic work of Jill Lipoti. The earthiness of both clay and chalk come together in an expression of admiration for the world in which we live.

3rd Sunday Dinners

After Sunday Services
at China City in Freeland
11:30 - 12:30

We're going back to China City and their large round table to enjoy each other's company, have quite a good number of laughs and share plates of Chinese food, family style! **Every third Sunday**, at 11:30, please join us at China City. Often, we've played a game with our little printed fortunes and found even more laughs. We'll begin in January on the 21st. Happy New Year!

End of the Month Potlucks

Our End of the Month potlucks have been cancelled in favor of 3rd Sunday dinners.



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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UUCWI Initiative News

[New Initiative Proposal Form Link](#)

Subscribe	Past Issues	Translate ▼
	Spiritual Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Arts Committee • Music Committee • Worship Committee 	Troyan Copeiana
	Member Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership • Library • Engagement Development 	Clara <u>Beier</u>
	Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tech Team • Internet 	Janet Garrow
	Building and Grounds	John Long and Don Winebrinner
	Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance • Stewardship 	Lois Chowen
	Community Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Initiatives • Social Justice 	Rommel Nunn

Native Connections Initiative



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER [HERE](#):

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

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

Moon of the Sacred Time.

TOKITAE CONTINUES TO MAKE THE NEWS

[The Washington Post](#) recently published an excellent article about the life, death, and legacy of Tokitae.

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](#)

Supporters of United Student Leaders Initiative



Annual Fundraiser

United Student Leaders is hosting our annual fundraiser to support youth climate and social justice organizing. With the new year, we are looking towards advocating for stronger education funding for schools in Washington State and organizing an educational youth climate summit to network and connect with students in the area. **Please help us meet our goal of \$7,500 by December 31st. Fill out the form [linked here](#) to contribute now!** and thank-you for your support.

Edmonds Schools Presentation

Last week, USL members presented in two middle school classrooms in the Edmonds School District. We explained our mission and how we got started, as well as how we create change in our community. We also

multitude of questions and were very engaged. We are grateful for the opportunity to present and share what we've learned about leading action in our community.

COP28

The 28th international COP climate summit is currently taking place in Dubai. There has been controversy over the head of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, Sultan Al Jaber serving as the president of the summit. This summit operates as a meeting for delegates from 200 countries to collaborate on collective action towards the climate crisis. As of December 4th, COP28 had mobilized over \$58 billion with the United States putting \$3 billion towards the Green Climate Fund. The United States has also been at the face of criticism for President Biden not attending the summit and only contributing \$17.5 million (towards the \$100 million promised) to an environmental damage and loss fund. So far, there has been some movement on sustainable agriculture and other efforts but many countries disagree over a phase-out plan for fossil fuels. In the coming days of the COP28, we hope to see stronger collaboration towards climate justice supported with concrete action plans.

Naomi Atwood, Sophia Patrin, and Audrey Gmerek on behalf of USL

*submitted by Gary Piazzon USL/UUCWI liaison



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



"A study by the International Council on Clean Transportation found that if the country (USA) invested in high-speed rail, [54 percent of domestic flights](#) could be replaced by train travel."

Holydays Gifts to the Future...

Ask President Biden to Tighten Pollution Standards. Join Interfaith Power & Light in urging the President and EPA to tighten pollution standards. The Climate/Ocean crisis targets communities of color and historically vulnerable communities who are more likely to experience health impacts because of carbon pollution. The President and the Administrator of the EPA both must do more to finalize the rules safeguarding our communities and our Common Home. [Sign our petition calling on them to finalize pollution standards by May!](#)

Take the Earth Bill Pledge- officially known as "The Earth Act to Stop Climate Pollution by 2030", was [introduced in the 118th Congress](#) It is a visionary, science-based law to mandate an end to climate pollution at the source - at the industry level - on the timeline required to save ourselves and the future. Learn more [here](#).

Sign On To Solutionary Rail: Investing in trains, run on renewables, is a win for salmon, orca, tribes and climate. Learn more [here](#).

Benefits of High Speed Passenger Rail -[A Study](#) by the International Council on Clean Transportation found that if the USA invested in high-speed rail 54 percent of domestic flights could be replaced by train

The pandemic could have eased the [impacts of flying](#).

In the spring of 2020, as the [coronavirus](#) swept over the globe, air travel disappeared. Airlines flew empty "ghost flights" to retain airport slots. Airport terminals were deserted. And the planet-warming [emissions](#) from aviation also plummeted — to less than half their [2019 levels](#). As the pandemic wore on, workers grew accustomed to Zoom meetings and virtual conferences; families opted to take driving trips instead of getting on cross-country flights. Some climate experts and activists wondered if the shift in transportation would have long-term effects — transforming the way Americans travel for work and vacation.

[Should Mass Transit Be Free?](#) It boosts economic opportunity and social mobility. It's good for the environment. So why do we charge people to use it?

"When we think we sit down. When we act we stand up. When prayers are actions, miracles can happen." Richard Mazza, Delta 5 plaintiff

submitted with hope and humility by UUCWI member Gary Piazzon

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.
-

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

Thank you!



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