



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

*Image by Aaron Burdenon Unsplash*



**This Sunday's Service**  
**February 4, 2024 10am**

**Habitable Alien Worlds**  
**Rev. Amanda Aikman**  
**With Terra Anderson,**  
**Worship Leader**  
**and Eileen Soskin,**  
**Special Music**

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

Why are habitable exoplanets bad news for humanity? What would it mean to discover that we are not alone in the universe?

**Service Link**

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

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**More Than a Box of  
Chocolates: Heart-Opening  
Vulnerabilities and Their  
Gifts**  
**Barbara Wolf Terao**  
**With Patricia Pocock &  
Effie Brown**  
**Worship Leaders**  
**and Eileen Soskin & Ken Merrell,**  
**Special Music**

Researcher Brene Brown asserts, "Vulnerability is the birthplace of innovation, creativity, and change." While many of us tend to hide or deny our vulnerabilities, we all have them. What benefits might they hold for us? What is the soul trying to tell us? Exploring five varieties of vulnerabilities, Barbara Wolf Terao unearths gems from our deepest selves for our consideration.

Barbara Wolf Terao grew up as a Unitarian Universalist in Northfield, Minnesota. She and her husband, Donald, raised their two daughters in Evanston, Illinois and they now live near their children and grandchild on Whidbey Island. Barbara has been a teacher, psychologist, land ethic leader, and television host, though her most joyful roles are as mother and grandmother! Her articles and essays have appeared in *The Seattle Times*, *Orion*, *Association for Humanistic Psychology* journal, *Writer's Digest*, *Art in the Time of Unbearable Crisis*, and other publications, as well as on her *Of the Earth* website and *Substack*. The message of her memoir, *Reconfigured? When your life calls, listen.*



### **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

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***Friday, February 2***

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***Saturday, February 3***

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***Sunday, February 4***

10am [Worship Service](#) (In Person and on Zoom)  
After Service Art Exhibit Reception

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**Tuesday, February 6**11am - noon [Visual Arts Committee](#)

2 - 4pm Finance Committee (Cascade Room)

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

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**Wednesday, February 7**10am - Noon [Men's Group](#)11am - 12:30pm Women's Group (Various Locations)

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**Thursday, February 8**10 - 11am [Engagement Committee](#)

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## Announcements and News

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*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 Jane Hayes, our interim coordinator of these types of services, at [caringconnections@uucwi.org](mailto:caringconnections@uucwi.org).

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## New website

Dear UUCWI Members and Friends,

As indicated in last week's eNews, UUCWI now has a new face to the (virtual) world. The rebuilt web site is up and running under our usual web address <https://uucwi.org>. The Website Rebuild Initiative successfully launched the web site on Monday afternoon, January 29.

Please check out the web site. You should easily find the information you are looking for. Look around and please notice what is there, and what is missing. If you have pictures or information that should be on the site, let us know! Please send comments, feedback, suggestions, and additional content to [webmaster@uucwi.org](mailto:webmaster@uucwi.org).

It is important that the web site reflects the vibrant community we are. Technically, the web site - and the underlying technology - meets a high standard. Let's keep the content up to date and relevant, too.

It takes all of us to keep it valuable and worth the time to visit the site.

In the coming weeks, the Website Rebuild Initiative team will introduce new capabilities that were previously hard to implement. These new capabilities will make UUCWI's communication to the public and among members and friends even more efficient. More to come - stay tuned!

Again, a big THANK YOU for all the support and encouragement you provided to make this effort happen. Thank you!

The Website Rebuild Initiative  
(Mavis Cauffman, Sarah Richards, Werner Gruenert)

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## UUCWI ARTIST SERIES PRESENTS SKYLARK WITH CONDUCTOR CYNTHIA MORROW-HATTAL Saturday, February 10 AT 7 PM A MUSICAL VALENTINE

Don't miss this special concert with conductor, Cynthia Morrow-Hattal and Skylark String Chamber Orchestra. who have prepared a musical Valentine for us entitled

nostalgia to a program brimming with lush string music. Several violinists from within the orchestra will be featured to create an evening sure to delight and inspire.

It is an honor to welcome Skylark which promises a sublime evening of romantic music. A suggested donation at the door of \$20 is appreciated. Proceeds will be donated to the Whidbey Island Orchestra for their youth program. All are welcome. The Music Committee provides light refreshments.



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### 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!



*Image by DJ Winebrinner*

### Women's Group

**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](#)

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>	Toyan Copeland
<b>Member Service</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership</li> <li>• Library</li> <li>• Engagement Development</li> </ul>	Clara Beier
<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



**NEXT NCI MEETING: FEBRUARY 14 at 6:30 pm**

Meeting will be on Zoom. Discussion and information on legislation that particularly impacts Native people. Join our email list to receive the Zoom link.

**JANUARY NEWSLETTER [CLICK HERE](#):**

The co-facilitators of the NCI will have a table in the foyer to share information about the NCI and local/regional Indigenous issues.

### **START READING!! WINTER BOOK DISCUSSIONS:**

Frances Wood will again lead us in three discussions by Native authors. Stay tuned for dates, but start reading these excellent selections!

**March:** [Seed Keeper](#) by Diane Wilson

**April:** [Red Paint](#) by Sasha LaPointe

**May:** [Jesintel: Living Wisdom from Coast Salish Elders](#)

### **INDIGENOUS BOARDING SCHOOLS**

In High Country News: [Washington State works to reconcile its history of Indigenous Boarding Schools](#). An all-Indigenous committee will identify the state's responsibility for rectifying harm caused to boarding school survivors and their descendants.

### **RETURNING TO THE LAND:**

[A 4-part series](#) co-sponsored by [Decolonizing Quakers](#) and presented by Nia to Go There (Cree). You can join the next Modules without seeing the first Module.

Module 3: Saturday, February 10, 12:30-3:30, *Colonization*

Module 4: Saturday, February 27, 12:30-3:30, *Decolonization*

### **LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS TO TAKE NOW:**

These bills directly impact Indigenous people who are incarcerated in Washington State. **The legislative website makes it very easy; it takes just a couple of minutes to click on a link for a bill and enter your comment.**

Bills to promote this session include:

[HB 2065](#)/ [SB 5971](#) Juvenile points

[HB 1325](#) / [SB 5451](#) Emerging Adults

[HB 2001](#) Judicial Discretion - Charles Longshore

[HB 1798](#) Allowing earned time release

HB = House Bill and should be referred to Representatives Shavers and Paul

SB = Senate Bill and should be referred to Senator Ron Muzzall.

Email Representative [Clyde Shavers](#):

Email Representative [Dave Paul](#):

Email Senator [Ron Muzzall](#):

[Tips for sending an effective e-mail.](#)

**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



*"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." MLK*

### February is Black History Month: Black History is American History

Reminder: "[Blessed Are the Peacemakers](#)" has been rescheduled to [Monday, February 24, at 1PM](#) - St. Augustine in the Woods will once again present this annual celebration of Martin Luther King and what he stood for. Come to learn and be inspired. This session will focus on the epidemic of gun violence in the USA.

### USL Recommends these Racial Justice and Intersectionality resources:

We highly encourage you to check out these available on [USL's website](#): *So You Want to Talk About Race*, *Stamped From the Beginning*, *Climate Change is Racist*, and more. Additionally, there is a collection of podcasts such as "1619" and "The Real Black History," that shed light on Black history that has often been excluded from classrooms.

[Here's a concept](#) whose time is come. "**Forget Your Carbon Footprint Let's Talk About Your Climate Shadow**" - Unlike your carbon footprint your climate shadow are your actions that influence as simple as speaking out or as involved as lobbying elected officials, participating in demonstrations such as USL's [#FridaysforFuture](#).

Gary Piazzon on behalf of USL



### 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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"Seemingly small things matter as well."





### **The Avocado Threat to Planet and People: Please Sign the Petition**

[Tell U.S. grocery stores to adopt avocado-sourcing policies that protect human rights and monarch habitat.](#)

Most avocados sold in the USA come from a single region in Mexico, where the industry burns forests and uses an enormous amount of water (18.5 gallons) to produce one avocado, in a region already suffering from extreme drought. Their production also brings land grabs, pollution, and violence to Indigenous and other local communities. Research from Climate Rights International has linked this devastation to importers that supply major U.S. grocery stores with avocados.

### **Great News for the Ecosphere: Putting the lid on LNG**

Led by [Third Act's](#) efforts President Biden agreed to pause approvals of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports, Here is the [official language](#). To thank President Biden and Energy Secretary Granholm for this important life affirming action use this [link](#). Meanwhile here in the other Washington the Puyallup tribe and their allies forced PSE to stop plans on developing a massive LNG plant in Tacoma that threatened the Pullayup reservation. Read about it [here](#).

**Here's a concept whose time is come. " Forget Your Carbon Footprint Let's Talk About Your Climate Shadow"** - Unlike your carbon footprint your climate shadow are your actions that influence as simple as speaking out or as involved as lobbying elected officials, participating in demonstrations such as USL's #FridaysforFuture. <https://www.mic.com/impact/forget-your-carbon-footprint-lets-talk-about-your-climate-shadow>

### **Reading Recommendations:**

[A Climate Vocabulary of the Future](#) by Herb Simmens This book creates a new vocabulary for the Anthropocene addressing the climate crisis. With 265 new words and terms, and > 165 currently used terms it explains key concepts with wit, simplicity, brevity and clarity." Fun engaging phrases like: *robin hood carbon tax, building biopsies, peak meat, planetary prosthetics, direct climate cooling, climate mindfulness and new words capturing new concepts: climatores, fungivores, climadelic therapy, electrologists, bioclimatism, inactivists, aquamation...* It really is astounding and mind expanding.

*"We are all just walking each other home."* Ram Dass

submitted with hope & humility by UUCWI member Gary Piazzon

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## **Submissions**

UUCWI Weekly E-News

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

**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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