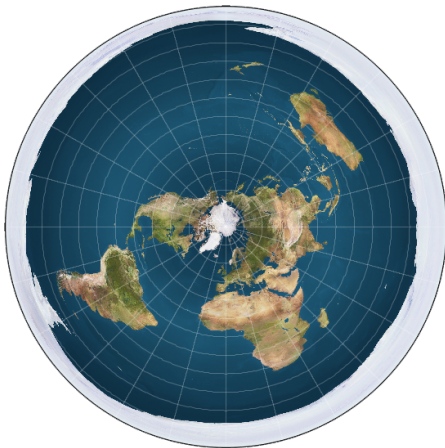




The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island Weekly News

Image by Aaron Burdenon Unsplash



This Sunday's Service

March 3, 2024 10am

**The Flat Earth Society
Rev. Amanda Aikman**

**With Effie Brown,
Worship Leader
and Eileen Soskin,
Special Music**

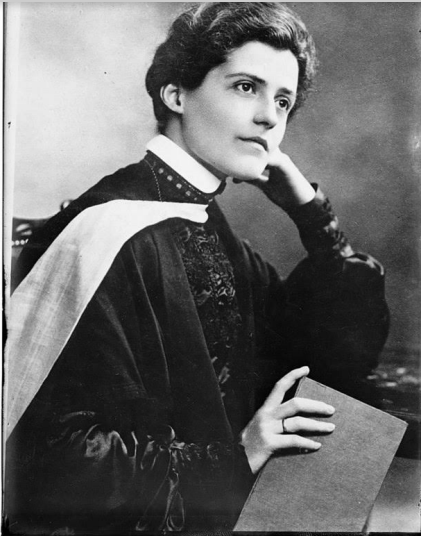
**Please join us in person or on
Zoom.**

It seems almost beyond belief, but there are many people who are absolutely convinced that the earth is flat.

Let's explore this extraordinary attitude — and also dare to reflect on which of our own cherished beliefs are irrational or weird.

Service Link

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



March 20, 2021 Team

**Prophetic Sisters: Our UU
Women Ancestors
Rev. Florence Caplow**



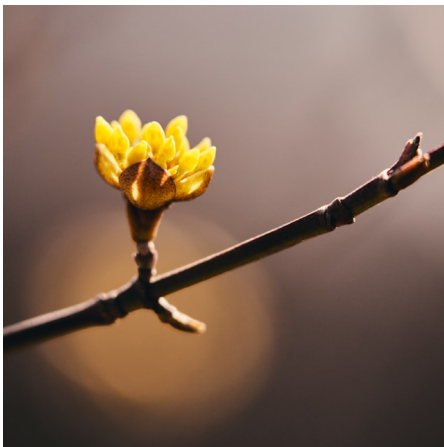
**With Terra Anderson &
Gary Hattal,
Worship Leaders
and Karen Heather,
Special Music**

In honor of Women's History Month, Rev. Florence Caplow, will share stories of the groundbreaking - and powerful - women Unitarian and Universalist ministers of the 19th century, a time when women were barred from leadership nearly everywhere, including within churches.

MOTHER MENTORS

Whidbey Island

We will also dedicate our morning offering to **Mother Mentors**. Mother Mentors is focused on reducing stress and strengthening families. They nurture parents and caregivers of children birth to age 5 by providing resources for practical and emotional support, engaging in early learning, By building relationships and community, they create a network of support for Whidbey Island families with young children.



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 Martin Brechtl on Unsplash

Friday, March 1

10am - noon Leadership Council (Sanctuary)

Saturday, March 2

7 - 8:30pm The Laramie Project (A Play)

Sunday, March 3

10am [Worship Service](#) (In Person and on Zoom)

7:30 - 9pm Salish Sea Early Music Festival Telemann Paris Quartets

Monday, March 4**Tuesday, March 5**

11am - Noon [VAC](#) (Zoom)

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

Wednesday, March 6

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

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

Thursday, March 7

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Announcements and News

The Future of UUCWI

Join an important in-person workshop / conversation

on

Saturday, March 23, 2024 - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Lunch will be provided.

This is a time of change for our congregation. And change is exciting!



Call for Volunteers

The Nominating Committee has begun its work to build a slate of candidates for the Board of Trustees positions which will become vacant at the end of this fiscal year. Members of the committee are Dallas Huth, Diane Saffitz and Gaye Simpson. If you have interest in the important work of serving on the board, please speak to one of these members.



Leadership Council Meeting

TODAY

Friday, March 1st 10am

The Leadership Council will meet on Friday, March 1st at 10 am in the sanctuary. Mark your calendars! All leaders - past, current, or potential - are welcome. If you have anything you would like included in the agenda for this important gathering, please send an email to Werner (webmaster@uucwi.org) by Friday, Feb. 23rd. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Leadership Council meeting on March 1st.

An invitation from the Pastoral Care Team:

Interest has been expressed in forming a small group (3-5) of persons that would check-in with each other on a regular, probably weekly basis. It is envisioned that the focus of check-ins would be on mutual support of participants' projects, goals and physical/mental well-being. If this is something you might find worthwhile please contact Bill Graves, UUCWI Pastoral Care Coordinator, at pastor@uucwi.org.



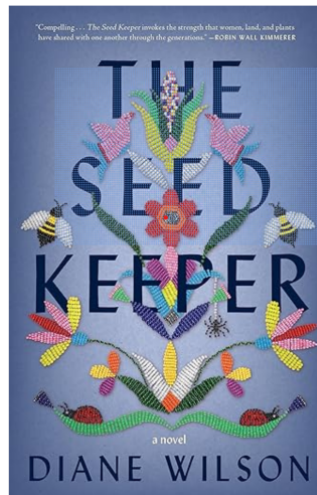
Image by Annie Spratt on Unsplash.

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.

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.



Native Authors Book Discussion Group

Next month on March 20, (6:30-8:00pm), we will begin our spring season with a discussion of *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson. This engaging novel invokes the strength that women, land, and plants have shared with one another through the generations. Wilson is a Dakota descendent, enrolled on the Roseburg Reservation and lives in Shafer, Minnesota.

This Zoom discussion is open to everyone. Please register [here](#). You will be sent discussions questions to guide your reading and in preparation of the discussion.

THE LARAMIE PROJECT -- A PLAY

Saturday, March 2, at 7 PM
UUCWI Sanctuary

This is a special opportunity to see a remarkable play brought to us by the King & Whidbey Playhouse. This performance on South Whidbey is one night only. All of the lines spoken are from interviews of members of the Laramie, Wyoming community.

The Laramie Project presents a deeply complex portrait of a community's response to the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man living in Laramie, Wyoming. In a series of poignant reflections, the residents of Laramie react to the hate crime and surrounding media storm with anger, bewilderment, and sorrow. The play portrays the seismic and deeply personal impact Matthew's death had on this small town while also demonstrating the power of the human spirit to triumph over bigotry and violence. The cast is mostly Oak Harbor High School Students. A few roles are played by non-students.

Disclaimer: There is adult heavy content and language. Parental discretion is advised.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island
(UUCWI) KING & Whidbey Playhouse Present

The Laramie Project

By Moises Kaufman and Members of
the Tectonic Theater Project

DIRECTED BY SHELBY MONTOYA PRODUCED BY ERIC GEORGE

DISCLAIMER: There is adult heavy content and language. Parental discretion is advised.

Show Performance: March 2, 2024 @ 7pm
20103 WA 525, Freeland Washington 98249
Seating Capacity: 100
Suggested donation of \$25 at the door

THE LARAMIE PROJECT IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DRAMATIST PLAY SERVICES 440 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NY 10016 PHONE 212-683-0940 FAX 212-213-4539 WWW.DRAMATIST.COM

Chamber Music

Sunday, March 3rd, 7:30pm
UUCWI Sanctuary

Sunday March 3rd, Telemann's brilliant "Paris Quartets" are to be celebrated in this

of concert, harpsichordist Elisabeth Wright, viola da gambaist Susie Napper, and baroque flutist **Jeffrey Cohan**. Telemann, one of the most prolific and influential composers of all time, composed his vibrant "Paris Quartets" in Hamburg and then Paris in response to a request in 1730 from the most famous Parisian flute, violin and cello virtuosi and resulted in his most significant journey away from home during his lifetime.



Presented in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation

SALISH SEA

EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2024



TELEMANN PARIS QUARTETS

Susie Napper ~ *viola da gamba* + Elisabeth Wright ~ *harpsichord*
David Greenberg ~ *baroque violin* + Jeffrey Cohan ~ *baroque flute*

Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 7:30 PM

✦ Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island ✦

+ 20103 State Route 525 in Freeland on Whidbey Island +
suggested donation \$20 to \$30/a free will offering, all are welcome + 18 and under always free

✦ www.salishseafestival.org/whidbey ✦



VAC Hosts Artist Reception

Saturday, March 9th 3pm in the Gallery

A reception will be held on Saturday afternoon, March 9th, beginning at 3:00 p.m.
Please join us to celebrate the artist and her show, Spring into Springtime.



Susanne Öhrvik

Susanne Öhrvik grew up in Sweden, and moved to the US in her mid 20's. She has lived on the same corner in Langley since 1994, with a brief hiatus back in Sweden and onward to Quebec from 2010-2017. She has taken numerous and various art classes over the years, mainly in ceramics, illustration, and painting. While moving around the world, art kept her grounded while feeding her with friendship, beauty, and fun. She finds inspiration for her paintings and artwork in nature and the quirky people and animals around her.

The body of work in this exhibit is an eclectic collection of paintings, mostly with a Winter into Springtime theme, but there will also be a fair number of birds and dogs, as well as a fresh-off-the-press children's book. Most of the paintings were done over the last few years, but some date back 10 years.

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

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](#)

Mission Group Liaisons	
Spiritual Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Arts Committee • Music Committee • Worship Committee 	Toyana Copeland
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 	Janet Garrow
Community Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Initiatives • Social Justice 	Rommel Nunn

Native Connections Initiative



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER [CLICK HERE:](#)

NEXT NCI MEETING: WEDNESDAY, March 13 at 6:30 pm

Meetings will continue to be on Zoom, to accommodate Indigenous people who do not currently live on Whidbey. [Join our email list](#) to receive up-to-date information about the meeting.

START READING!! WINTER BOOK DISCUSSIONS: [Register here!](#)

Frances Wood will again lead us in three discussions on books by Native authors. She will provide questions for study and discussion for each book.

March 20, 6:30 pm: *Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson

April 17, 6:30 pm: *Red Paint* by Sasha LaPointe

May 15, 6:30 pm: *Jesintel: Living Wisdom from Coast Salish Elders*, edited by Children of the Setting Sun

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



Education Funding Forum Recap

Last Tuesday, February 20th, USL hosted a community forum to discuss our priorities for the 2024 state legislative session. We conversed with community members and took what we learned to Olympia to meet with our legislators. We spoke with them on many issues of concern due to the 10.4% budget cut this year, including: overcrowding of buses and buildings due to the closure of the middle school, large class sizes and limited high school course selection, as well as infrastructure problems and a lack of resources for gender-neutral bathrooms. Coupeville School District has also reduced their budget by about 10% and dealing with: unsafe drinking water due to contaminant pollution, loss of teachers and staff, and a significant reduction of their Farm to School Program. We want to thank the community members who attended the event. Your input is very important to us.

Here are a few bills that are currently in committee that we are strongly recommending our legislators support.

The South Whidbey School District has noticed a significant drop in the number of students eating school lunches since COVID funds for free lunches ran out. It is essential that nutrition is available to all students and not just defined by the pandemic. Providing free, nutritional school lunch to all students also comes with the advantage of reducing waste, something the SWSD is working towards. If almost all students are eating school lunches, they are not bringing extra packaging and the school can provide waste-free alternatives.

Requiring and Funding Zero Emission Buses (SB 5431)

Diesel school buses leave an irreversible impact on our environment. This bill would be a tremendous step towards preserving a future for younger generations. The emissions from the buses also take a toll on students' health, leaving kids at greater risk of asthma and other respiratory diseases. The bill's grant program would also offer support for rural and small districts to have the resources to afford electric buses.

Lowering the Supermajority for School Bonds to 50% (SJR 8207)

This amendment of the WA Constitution is imperative to help limit the inequities between districts, specifically small rural school districts. Our school district, among several others in the region, has struggled for years to pass a bond, often reaching over the 50% threshold but slightly under the 60% mark. This lack of proper infrastructure has led to water leaking through ceiling tiles in classrooms, tripping hazards due to uneven flooring, mold exposure, and much more. This reality makes it extremely difficult for students to receive an education in a safe environment, which they deserve and require.

While these are current bills in the legislature, there are many other areas we feel need to be addressed including: comprehensive funding for paraeducators, teachers, and staff; support for the arts; a student voice in creating learning standards (a focus of Rep. Shavers), and movement away from zip code-based funding models. We believe that there needs to be a complete overhaul and change to the prototypical school funding model to support rural school districts.

MLK Blessed Are the Peacemakers Event

On Saturday, Feb 24th St. Augustine's Episcopal Peace Fellowship hosted the "Blessed Are the Peacemakers" in honor Martin Luther King jr. and to raise awareness about the escalating epidemic of gun violence in the USA. There were a horrifying 80 school shootings last year and 288 since 2018. During that same period Canada and France had 2, Germany had 1, while Japan, Italy and the UK had none.

submitted by USL liaison & UUCWI member Gary Piazzon in collaboration with Naomi Atwood 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



"I am furious! How dare you force me to choose between my own children and students I teach! How dare you allow powerful adults who love guns to be more important than a generation of children growing up in fear." - Rebecca Field, [A Teacher Speaks Out](#)

"I see no reason why, on the street, a citizen should be carrying weapons...guns are a ridiculous way to solve problems." Governor Ronald Reagan 1967

Gun Violence is Racial Injustice- Though blacks constitute 14% of the population they are 60% of gun deaths. Find more facts [here](#). The second amendment was adopted at the insistence of slave holding states. Change will come when we fix it. These groups are working successfully on changing America's violent, gun culture:

- [Sandyhook Promise:](#)
- [Alliance for Gun Responsibility](#)
- [Everytown for gun Safety](#)
- [Giffords PAC](#)
- [Brady United](#)
- March for Our Lives

Coming Events:

Saturday, March 2, Noon, WA Poor People's Campaign March to Stay Alive, in-person, WA State Capitol, Olympia. Join in the Mass Poor People's Assembly in Olympia. [Register here](#).

Sunday March 3, 11:00 AM to 1:00PM Breach Now! Rally- WA State Capitol

Tells Us and How We Take Action Today, in-person and online, University Unitarian Church, Seattle. Learn from lecturer David Domke about how the civic choices that we make today will determine the future of American democracy and justice. [Learn more here.](#)

America is a Gun

England is a cup of tea.

France, a wheel of ripened brie.

Greece, a short, squat olive tree.

America is a gun.

Brazil is football on the sand.

Argentina, Maradona's hand.

Germany, an oompah band.

America is a gun.

Holland is a wooden shoe.

Hungary, a goulash stew.

Australia, a kangaroo.

America is a gun.

Japan is a thermal spring.

Scotland is a highland fling.

Oh, better to be anything

than America as a gun.

-Brian Bilston

"I don't know why any individual should have a right to have a revolver in his house"" people should not have handguns...guns are an abomination." President Richard Nixon 1972

* **image- "Non-Violence"**- a sculpture by Carl Fredrick Reutersward in honor of John Lennon (1980)

respectfully submitted by UUCWI founding member

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 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 UUCWI Staff at enews@uucwi.org.

Thank you!



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