



KUUUC NEWS

January 2017

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Worship in January

January 1
 "Burning Bowl - the Old & the New"
 Jim Schwing
 Green Sanctuary/Social Justice - 12:15 pm

January 8
 UUA Sermon Read by Liz Whitaker
 RE Council - 8:00 am | Worship Council - 12:15 pm

January 15
 Sustainability, Patty Martin, former Mayor Quincy
 Membership Council - 12:15 pm

January 22
 "Politics 2017" Todd Schaefer
 Communications Council - 12:15 pm

January 29
 Potluck

KUUUC BOARD

- Co-Presidents:**
 Karen Johnson & Eva Whitsett
 copresident1@kvuu.org
 copresident2@kvuu.org
- Past Co-President:**
 Jason Irwin
 pastpresident@kvuu.org
- Secretary:**
 Vivian Dunbar
 secretary@kvuu.org
- Financial Secretary:**
 Jim Schwing
 financialsecty@kvuu.org
- Treasurer:**
 Carol Gilliom
 treasurer@kvuu.org
- Staff**
- Minister:** Rev. Bill Graves
 minister@kvuu.org
- Director of Religious Education:** Maggie Patterson
 recoordinator@kvuu.org
- Music Director:** Jan Jaffe
 music@kvuu.org

KUUUC needs folks interested in outreach through our website, Facebook, and newsletter. No prior knowledge is required—we'll provide the training.

Tracking money your thing—we need some new blood working with the books.

Also if you are interested in picking up admin duties, please email Jim at schwing@fairpoint.net

Upcoming Special Events

- OUR ENVIRONMENT**
 Sat, Jan 14—10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
 United Methodist Church
- Sat, Jan 28—10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
 United Methodist Church
- BOARD MEETING**
 Wed, Jan 4—6:00-7:30 p.m.
 KUUUC
- THE MOUNTAINTOP**
 Play about MLK Jr
 Jan. 6 & 7 | 7:30 p.m.
 Jan. 8 | 2 p.m.
 Tower Theatre in McConnell Hall
 Free | Open to the public
- ADULT SEMINAR**
 "Book Discussion: "The Things They Carried" by Tim O'Brien
 lead by Rev. Bill Graves & Gerard Hogan
 Thu, Feb 16—7:00-8:30 p.m.
 (pizza plus at 6:30p.m. RSVP to Bill)
 KUUUC

**The theme for January is:
 Renewal**



KVUUC NEWS

A Bulletin From Bill, January 2016

Bracing for the New Year

Donald Trump was named "Person of The Year" for 2016 by Time Magazine. I would counter that by naming the KVUUC Newsletter's "Person(s) of the Year." The winner is the 10,000 Water Protectors who gathered at Standing Rock, North Dakota. You see our editorial Board takes into account more than the amount of ink spilled; we also consider impact upon the common good.



The Water Protectors exhibited enormous courage and commitment as they withstood withering hardship and oppression. They stood in support of Native peoples seeking to protect their water sources and sacred lands. They stood against the fossil fuel industry. Their commitment to nonviolence was and is inspiring, hopeful and a modeling of the best of the human spirit in solidarity with a sense of beloved community and caring for our Earth. I am proud that Unitarian Universalist clergy and laity had a prominent presence among the Water Protectors.

For the time being it appears that the protesters have succeeded in disrupting the planned pipeline. Yet, we are on the cusp of the impending Trump presidency. The epic drama of Standing Rock is not likely over and may become just one among scores of confrontations between the militarized forces of power and nonviolent resisters. I struggle to imagine how to prepare myself for the potential disasters that seem looming in 2017.

For those whose spirits are similarly challenged I offer these words of comfort and resolve. One of our ministers wrote it, Rev. Audette Fulbright Fulson, who serves in Wyoming.

Did you rise this morning, broken and hung over with weariness and pain and rage tattered from waving too long in a brutal wind? Get up, child. Pull your bones upright gather your skin and muscle into a patch of sun. Draw breath deep into your lungs; you will need it for another day calls to you. I know you ache. I know you wish the work were done and you, with everyone you have ever loved were on a distant shore; safe, and unafraid. But remember this, tired as you are: you are not alone. Here and here and here also there are others weeping and rising and gathering their courage. You belong to them and they to you and together, we will break through and bend the arc of justice all the way down into our lives.

Rev. Bill

KVUUC NEWS

Bill's Blurbs for December 2016

Congregation Retreat Postponed

At its December meeting the Board of Trustees agreed with recommendations to postpone the proposed all-congregational retreat until next Fall. At the same time the Board voted to make the holding of such a retreat a top priority for 2017. However, persons willing to take charge in organizing the event have not yet appeared and finding a workable date this Spring proved to be problematic.

Interfaith Event planned for Jan. 20

The Interfaith Alliance of Kittitas County (which KVUUC is active in) will celebrate World Religion Day by sponsoring a dialogue about interfaith values and pot-luck dinner on January 20. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information about time and location.

Thursday Evening Seminar - February 16, 2017

Book Discussion: "The Things They Carried" by Tim O'Brien, led by Rev. Bill Graves and CWU Librarian, Gerard Hogan, Thurs. Feb. 16, 7-8:30pm.

This book is a groundbreaking meditation on war in our time. It is prose that heads to the nerve center of our Viet Nam disaster and it calls to us to not forget the lessons experienced there. It is part of a "Big Read" organized by Dr. Hogan who has received a grant to support distribution of copies of the book and events focused on it and other pro-peace media. It will culminate in a visit to the CWU campus by author Tim O'Brien later in the Spring. The wider community will be invited to participate in this class. Get early copies of the book at the library or your local bookstore.

Workshop on worship to be held on February 18, 2017

We would love to expand our group of Sunday worship service leaders. If this is a way you might consider contributing to KVUUC you are invited to attend a workshop on worship presentation to be led by Rev. Bill on Sat. Feb. 18 at 9:00am. We will discuss values, techniques and expectations that go into producing a quality worship experience. The workshop will last roughly 1 ½ hour. Please let Bill know if you can attend or just have questions. (wcgraves@whidbey.com)



KVUUC NEWS

Rev. Bill's Whereabouts in January

Frances and I send all of KVUUC a hope that 2016 will be a year of joy and meaningful encounters. Under my contract January is one of the months I will not be coming to Ellensburg. Instead we will be mostly in Oaxaca, Mexico. This will be the 7th year that we have rented a small apartment in the heart of that city where we are surrounded by forested mountains rising to 11,000 ft., and colonial buildings from the 16th Century. I will be available by email (wcgraves@whidbey.com) and if you wish to talk to me just send a phone number and time (remembering I am 2 hours earlier than you). I will call you back on Skype or FaceTime and the cost is negligible. While in Oaxaca I will be working on preparing the two Sunday services and two adult classes I will present at KVUUC in February.

Do you recognize this UU?

He's an inveterate hiker, backpacker, outdoorsman.

Has climbed every peak in the Northwest, Rainier twice and Baker four times.

And five times has led ski tours in Europe.

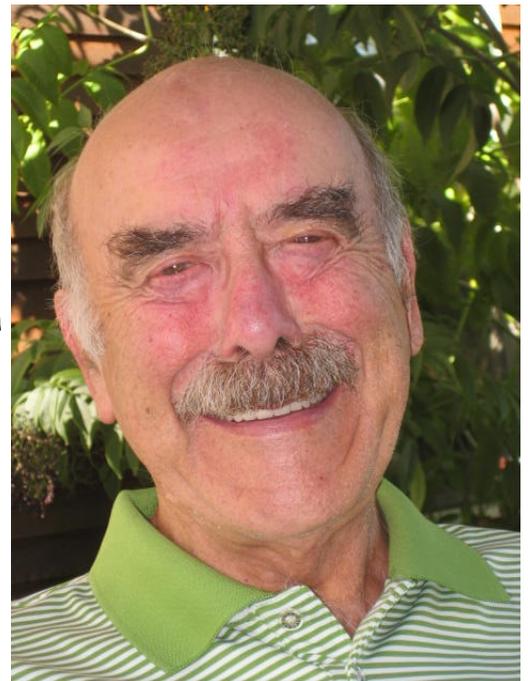
He's a sculptor. His large sculptures are installed at Children's Hospital and at Ballard Hospital.

In the Navy just before Vietnam he was the ship's doctor on transport vessels.

And here's a giveaway: he loved being a general practice doctor so much, he always said he should pay his patients, rather than the reverse.

Today he contents himself with reading, studying art, walking, football (but only winning teams) and grumbling about his wife's garden obsession.

Answer Last Page.



Circle Suppers are hosted potlucks. The host chooses a date and decides how many folks can be accommodated. Those who sign up are contacted and receive a general category of food to bring so that the meal will be reasonably balanced. The cozy setting of a home, the intimacy of sharing a meal, the extra time for conversation - Sign-up sheets are available on Sunday. Please see Janet Adams

LOCAL NEWS

"The shortest day has passed, and whatever nastiness of weather we may look forward to in January and February, at least we notice that the days are getting longer. Minute by minute they lengthen out. It takes some weeks before we become aware of the change. It is imperceptible even as the growth of a child, as you watch it day by day, until the moment comes when with a start of delighted surprise we realize that we can stay out of doors in a twilight lasting for another quarter of a precious hour."

- Vita Sackville-West

OUR ENVIRONMENT

NOTE: Our Environment meets on Jan. 14 and 28 —at the United Methodist Church. All are invited 10:00 a.m. —12:00 p.m.



The emphasis is on what we can do locally that will affect the future of our planet by being active in working with various organizations in our community to make changes that are essential—please join us!

KVUUC's website:
kvuu.org

Bee Garden Buzz

This Month: A Winter Garden Thought

"January is the quietest month in the garden. ... But just because it looks quiet doesn't mean that nothing is happening. The soil, open to the sky, absorbs the pure rainfall while microorganisms convert tilled-under fodder into usable nutrients for the next crop of plants. The feasting earthworms tunnel along, aerating the soil and preparing it to welcome the seeds and bare roots to come."

- Rosalie Muller Wright, Editor of Sunset Magazine,



"Nature has undoubtedly mastered the art of winter gardening and even the most experienced gardener can learn from the unrestrained beauty around them."

- Vincent A. Simeone



Local NEWS

The Mountaintop

Jan. 6 & 7, 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 8, 2 p.m. Tower Theatre in McConnell Hall
Free & Open to the Public

The iconic play "The Mountaintop" will be coming to CWU for three days in January. This performance is part of the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration on campus. This play, written by Katori Hall, is a re-imagining of King's last night on earth where a stranger forces King to confront his destiny and legacy while also addressing contemporary issues of race, resistance and progress.

This event will be free and open to the public. The production will feature two CWU students, Nathaniel Hiko Addison and Jaena Davis, who will play Martin Luther King Jr. and the hotel maid, Camae, respectively.

For information, contact Matthieu Chapman at 509-963-1750 or Matthieu.chapman@cwu.edu.

Religious Freedom Day

Each year, the President declares January 16th to be Religious Freedom Day, and calls upon Americans to "observe this day through appropriate events and activities in homes, schools, and places of worship." The day is the anniversary of the passage, in 1786, of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom. Schools are encouraged to recognize Religious Freedom Day during the school week leading up to January 16.

The goal of ReligiousFreedomDay.com is to promote and protect students' religious expression rights by informing educators, parents, and students about these liberties.

National NEWS

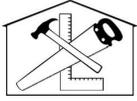
Holiday Message from UUA President Peter Morales

The winter holidays are rich with stories that touch our hearts because they resonate with our life experience. This holiday season, I'm reflecting on the theme of journeys. I'm thinking especially of the Christmas stories, of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, of the three wise men crossing the desert in pursuit of the star, and of Jesus and his family fleeing later to Egypt to escape King Herod.

These are stories of difficult journeys motivated by hope. Stories of journeys have a special appeal, because life is a journey, a journey in time that is driven by hope. As I reflect on my life's journey, I recall once again, the hopes that have powered me and the people who've helped me through the perils along the way. We too live in a time of unrest.

None of us makes it through life alone. The love and support of family and friends shapes who we are. This holiday season, take time to recall both the hope that has inspired you, and the special people in your life. Give thanks for their many gifts. And if you can, reconnect with people with whom you've lost contact. Life is a journey we cannot make alone. May this be a time rich in blessings.

UU HELPERS - The people listed below have special skills you may need - remember shop locally!
If you have a skill/service you would like to advertise to our congregation, let Cynthia know, at 509-933-3198.



DON GALLAGHER - Quality Carpentry - Remodeling, painting, roofing, plumbing and electrical repairs. Don Gallagher.
CONTACT: 509-306-0608.



RICHARD GALLAGHER - Experienced auto trouble-shooter. Services: repairs, carpooling, garden preparation, snow removal, unusables removed, needed items located.
You have needs? Richard has solutions!!!
CONTACT: 509-306-9329.



BRUCE HAGEMEYER - Bruce Custom Remodeling - Licensed General Contractor
Building - Remodeling - Carpentry - Plans & Permits
CONTACT: 509-964-2086.



TAMZEN SHISSLER - Because Tamzen is a busy student, please call early in the week to make sure she has time available to care for your children from ages 2-10. She is now a junior in high school and is a graduate of the Red Cross Babysitting class. She charges \$6 per hour for one child, more for additional children. She can also help with household chores or watch the kids while you do chores.
CONTACT: 509-962-5650.



JAN JAFFE — is now accepting adults for **music lessons!**

- Piano, guitar, voice
- Experienced teacher
- Master of Music Education from CWU, 2009
- Specializes in beginner & hobby adult lessons
- Flexible evening schedule for regular or special occasion lessons
- All music styles, songwriting, & theory

(Also available as a performance coach for individuals, ensembles, bands, worship teams, etc. Improve skills and build confidence for talent shows, competitions, and workshops.)

CONTACT: 509-679-1383 janjaffe@gmail.com www.linkedin.com/in/missjan



Answer to Do you recognize this UU? Of course, our own Joe King.

Our web page: kvuuc.org

Our Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kittitas-Valley-Unitarian-Universalist-Congregation-KVUUC/121639554572008>

Or YOU CAN GO TO OUR WEBSITE AND CLICK ON THE FACEBOOK ICON!