



KUUUC NEWS

February 2017

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Worship in February

February 5
 Congregational Goals -Board
 Green Sanctuary/Social Justice Councils , 12 :15 pm

February 12
 Be Ours a Religion-Interfaith
 Rev. Bill Graves
 RE Council, 8:00 am | Worship Council, 12:15 pm

February 19
 Old Turtle and Broken Truth
 Rev. Bill Graves and Becca Wassel
 Membership Council, 12:15 pm

February 26
 Muscial presentation-Jan Jaffe
 Comnet, 12:15 pm



Valentine's Day

KUUUC BOARD

- Co-Presidents:**
 Karen Johnson & Eva Whitsett
 copresident1@kvuu.org
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- Past Co-President:**
 Jason Irwin
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- Secretary:**
 Vivian Dunbar
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- Financial Secretary:**
 Jim Schwing
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- Treasurer:**
 Carol Gilliom
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- Staff**
- Minister:** Rev. Bill Graves
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- Director of Religious Education:** Maggie Patterson
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- Music Director:** Jan Jaffe
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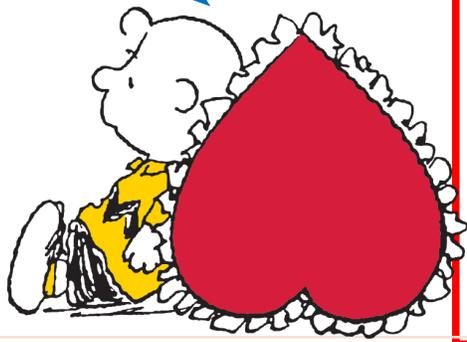
Upcoming Special Events

- BOARD MEETING**
 Wednesday, Feb 5 - 6:00-7:30 p.m.
 KUUUC
- OUR ENVIRONMENT**
 Tuesday, Feb. 14 - 6 p.m.
 Saturday, Feb. 25 - 9:00 a.m.
 United Methodist Church
- ADULT SEMINAR**
 "Book Discussion: "The Things They Carried" by Tim O'Brien
 lead by Rev. Bill Graves & Gerard Hogan
 Thursday, Feb 16 - 7:00-8:30 p.m.
 (pizza plus at 6:30p.m. RSVP to Bill)
 KUUUC
- WORKSHOP FOR WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS**
 Saturday, Feb 18 - 9:00 a.m.
 KUUUC
- VEGETARIAN SOCIETY**
 Tuesday, Feb 24 - 6 p.m.
 IOOF Hall
 307 North Pine Street

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



**The theme for February is:
 Tolerance**

KVUUC NEWS

A Bulletin From Bill, February 2017

Thoughts from Mexico

I am writing this having marched yesterday with Frances and about 800 others in the Oaxaca, Mexico, Women's March. We joined with millions of others across the globe in resistance to the Trump agenda and misogyny. Here, it felt particularly important to indicate solidarity with the Mexican people. I noted some protest signs I particularly liked: "Puentes Si; Muros No"; "No, A La Zanahora Fascista"; "Dear World: We Are Sorry"; "Make America Kind Again".

I can't help thinking this IS what democracy looks like. I am encouraged by the prospects that the impositions and injustices of the Trump administration will actually create a surge in activism that will overcome indifference and neglect of the poor, those in the middle class, and all those who feel unseen and unsupported. A united, relational-based, courageous, compelling, nonviolent response is needed. I think it has been launched.

Shortly, I will return home. I feel a renewed commitment to nurture community. In order to cope with the uncertainties and dangers ahead we need to foster and maintain relationships with people we know well and trust; people who share our values. We need these people to be there for each other when we face danger. And, I will encourage my communities to support those people and communities who are threatened yet are less known to me. Working and protesting and praying and singing and finding awe and joy together is how I see I am most likely to find my place in the historical moment I am living.

We simply don't know what to expect in these coming months. However, we do know we are going to need to live with a new level of vigilance for ourselves and others. These words by Thomas Merton offer guidance: "In a time of drastic change one can be too preoccupied with what is ending or too obsessed with what seems to be beginning. In either case one loses touch with the present and with its obscure but dynamic possibilities. You do not need to know precisely what is happening, or exactly where it is all going. What you need is to recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment, and to embrace them with courage, faith, and hope."

In faith and hope:

Rev. Bill

KVUUC NEWS

Bill's Blurbs for February 2017

Preview of February 12 Service

"Fostering Interfaith Connections in a Conservative Community", Rev. Bill Graves and the KVUUC choir

As KVUUC has become a primary sponsor and participant in the Kittitas Valley Interfaith Alliance it would be a good time to consider what the term "interfaith" connotes and the value of such involvements. Bill will also describe some of his highs and lows in seeking connections with a diversity of beliefs and values. And, the choir will be raising the rooftop.

Thursday Evening Seminar - February 16

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

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)

Preview of February 19 Service

"Old Turtle and The Broken Truth", Rev. Bill Graves, Rebecca Wassel and our favorite thespians.

This will be a service intended for all ages although childcare will be provided for the very young. It is a multi-media drama based on the classic story about love, acceptance, and the nature of truth by Douglas Wood. The half-truth is: "You are Loved". Come and find out what the whole truth is. The service will include a homily by Bill that may help if you still don't get it.

KVUUC NEWS

Winter Greetings KVUUC,

Right now, when so many of us are feeling hopeless, worried, or scared about the future of our country, I urge you to remain hopeful, confident, and calm. We could all stand to do this for our mental health, but most importantly-do it for your children. As the RE Coordinator and a lead teacher of the Chalice Children here at KVUUC, I hear our children's hopes and fears firsthand.

Our children are directly influenced by the opinions and attitudes of those around them. Now this doesn't mean that you shouldn't share your feelings with your children about politics, in fact I strongly urge you to talk with your children now more than ever. The way that you choose to talk to them about the world and what is going on sets them up to either feel excited, engaged, and encouraged or worried, scared, and depressed. They are like sponges, soaking up everything around them. As UUs, we give our children a fantastic start in life, with OWL, RE classes, and through a church community that shows compassion and kindness to people of all walks of life. We are singing the living tradition (as the title of our hymnal suggests) through the way we live our lives. May we be beacons of hope for our next generation, because these wonderful children that we are raising are already ready to be leaders.

To grow restless with who we are helps us move toward our ideals. Perfection is impossible, but we all have the potential to be more patient, more compassionate, more open-minded.

Stephen Shick (Unitarian Universalist, peace activist, reformer, clergy)

Let us all model these qualities for our children. They grow up caring deeply for others and showing love towards ALL people because of this beloved community. Go out into the world and be peaceful! Be joyful! Spread love wherever you can.

Maggie Patterson
RE Coordinator
509-925-2552



KVUUC NEWS

Rev. Bill's Whereabouts in February

- 1 Return from Mexico
 - 2-10 Whidbey Island office* (except as otherwise indicated)
 - 11-19 Ellensburg office hours at KVUUC ** (staying at home of Jim Schwing)
 - 12 Lead worship service at KVUUC; attend council meetings (RE and Worship); visit RE classes
 - 14 Speak to CWU Grad. Student Union on mindfulness (5:00pm)
 - 15 Open time for coffee/conversation at Dakota Café - 8:30-10:00am
 - 15 Board Meeting 6-7:30 KVUUC
 - 16 Choir practice 5:15
 - 16 Lead discussion with Gerard Hogan on book: "The Things They Carried" by Tim O'Brien (pizza/finger food at 6:30pm while it lasts; class 7-8:30 p.m.).
 - 17 Counsel on Ministry to meet at Dakota Café.
 - 18 Open time for coffee/conversation at Dakota Café - 8:30-10:30am.
 - 19 Lead Intergenerational worship service at KVUUC (with Becca Wassell); attend council meetings (RE and Membership);
 - 20-28 Whidbey Island office* (except times otherwise indicated). He can be reached there at 360-661-7289 by email: wcgraves@whidbey.com or mail: POB 1254; Langley, WA 98260.
 - 26 Lead worship service at UU Congregation of Whidbey Island
- ** When in Ellensburg Bill is available by prior arrangement for conferences, conversations, meetings, counseling, listening, home or hospital visits or just camaraderie.

Do you recognize this UU? [Ans: pg.9]

She grew up in Central Washington and received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music Education at CWU. She taught in public schools, private schools, community arts schools, and summer camps around WA, happily settling for a while as a music teacher in the Bellevue School District and at Bellevue College. She had several transformative adventures in adulthood: first as a Lake Wenatchee YMCA Camp Counselor; then travelling Europe including walking 300 km of the Camino de Santiago in Spain with her husband, Marcus; and also getting LASIK to fix her terrible eyesight just to name a few. She and her husband decided to move back to Ellensburg in 2015 to bring their baby Vienna closer to their extended family (along with her older brother - a mutt named Stilts). She now teaches private lessons from home and performs as a singer-songwriter... which is how she discovered the UU faith. Reading the little brochure she picked up after a concert at a church, She realized she'd been a UU all along.



She coordinates with our minister and presenters to bring you historic hymns, interesting choir pieces, and other pertinent musical experiences. Indeed, she invites all members and friends, regardless of how much you've practiced lately, to get in touch about making music here!

LOCAL NEWS

OUR ENVIRONMENT

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

NOTE: Our Environment meets on Tuesday Feb. 14 at 6:00 pm and Saturday Feb. 25 at 9:00 am—at the United Methodist Church. All are invited.



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

A Berry Berry Good Thought

For winter berries, explore the Holly and Magnolia Collections. Various selections of holly, (see image below) display winter interest from fall until the magnolias bloom in spring. Hollies that are native to the United States include American holly selections and the deciduous, winterberry holly zone 5 - 9), which boasts clusters of red-berries long after the foliage is gone. ,



"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



National NEWS

Calling All Friends of Faith and Conscience: Invitation from UUA President and UUSC President and CEO

January 18, 2017

Dear Friends of Faith and Conscience,

We're writing with what we expect is the same urgent sense of concern you're feeling about the results of the presidential election and what will follow. Based on the many conversations we've had with each other, people of our communities, our partners, and those most likely to face looming threats, we've concluded that in these extraordinary times we must be united in purpose to protect the values of our democracy and those vulnerable populations among us.

To that end we have undertaken an unprecedented degree of coordination between the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. There is a sense of urgency, and a need for vigilance. And there is clarity that we must act, not alone, but together. We need everyone—including you, your congregation, your friends, and your colleagues.

As a first step, we have prepared a Declaration of Conscience (next page) stating in the strongest possible terms our commitment in these troubling times. By signing the declaration, individuals and congregations will be affirming our core values and declaring our willingness to put them into action. Please read it and, with your signature, join us in standing on the side of love, protecting the most vulnerable among us, and defending core values that are under attack.

We will be vigilant of administration actions, policies and verbal assaults that undermine the principles of our declaration or disparage, threaten or attack innocent people. We will respond by speaking truth to power and mobilizing support for those who are under siege. To be successful, your support and that of your congregants will be critical.

This is not about partisan politics. It is a principled response to the potential targeting of people not for what they have done, but for who they are. It is a commitment to speak out and to act in support of basic human rights. We will keep you informed of the progress of this effort and of further opportunities to advance our cause together in the coming weeks and months.

We cannot predict what the future will bring, and we do not pretend to have all the answers, but we can and will be ready for the struggle ahead of us. If you feel the same, please join us. Join us in transforming faith into action, sign the Declaration of Conscience today, share it with your own networks and please encourage others to sign as well.

Thank you for your concern, vigilance, and willingness to act.

In Faith and Solidarity,
The Rev. Peter Morales, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association
Hon. Thomas Andrews, president and CEO of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

National NEWS

DECLARATION OF CONSCIENCE



At this extraordinary time in our nation's history, we are called to affirm our profound commitment to the fundamental principles of justice, equity and compassion, to truth and core values of American society.

In the face of looming threats to immigrants, Muslims, people of color, and the LGBTQ community and the rise of hate speech, harassment and hate crimes, we affirm our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

In opposition to any steps to undermine the right of every citizen to vote or to turn back advances in access to health care and reproductive rights, we affirm our commitment to justice and compassion in human relations.

And against actions to weaken or eliminate initiatives to address the threat of climate change - actions that would threaten not only our country but the entire planet - we affirm our unyielding commitment to protect the interdependent web of all existence.

We will oppose any and all unjust government actions to deport, register, discriminate, or despoil.

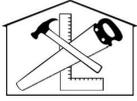
As people of conscience, we declare our commitment to translate our values into action as we stand on the side of love with the most vulnerable among us.

We welcome and invite all to join in this commitment for justice.

The time is now.

Sign at: <http://connect.uusc.org/l/103112/2017-01-17/gpgn2>

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 Jan Jaffe

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!