

KVUUC News



Kittitas Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation

February 2018

Worship in February

February 4

My Year in France - Meg Ludlum

Green Sanctuary/Social Justice Council, 12 :15 pm

February 11

"A Perfect Heart" Intergenerational Service -

Rev. Bill, Becca Wassell, KVUUC Choir

Worship Council, 12:15 pm

February 18

Race and Justice - Rev. Bill

Membership Council, 12:15 pm

February 25

Love, Touchstones

CommNet, 12:15 pm

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*Adult Discussion Group 9:45 –10:45am
 Every Sunday (except 5th)*

NEWCOMER ORIENTATION

Saturday, February 17

9am to Noon

Lunch Provided

Would you like to deepen your understanding of Unitarian Universalism, of KVUUC, and perhaps consider becoming a member of our congregation? This informal session will be led by Rev. Bill Graves along with members of the Board.

Please RSVP to Liz,
 509-899-0357 or
whitakerliz@hotmail.com

Upcoming Meetings & Special Events

Mon, 2/5	• Religious Education Council, 7 pm
Wed, 2/14	• KVUU Board Meeting, 6 pm
Thu, 2/15	• Adult Ed "Our Long Strange Trip, Pt. 1", KVUUC 7 pm (pizza 6:30)
Fri, 2/16	• Council on Ministry, Dakota Café 8 am
Sat, 2/17	• "Pathways to Membership" class, KVUUC 9am–12 includes lunch
Fri, 2/23	• Don Gallagher presents: Songwriter Phil Ochs, KVUUC 7 pm
4/27–29	• UU Pacific Regional Assembly, Portland OR (see p. 3)

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The View From Here

Rev. Bill Graves

Greetings from **Oaxaca**! I write you from the apartment where Frances and I have spent the past eight Januarys. Today Saturday, January 26 will be typical. The temperature will range from about 52 to 74 degrees and with no chance of rain. I will make a breakfast of eggs and sliced papaya, both ingredients bought from friends Maria and Elena at our local, public market. We will meet Gary and Gia Commisk for dinner (they are down here for about 3 months). Oaxaca has its rough edges but we are drawn to it because we see a culture with a roots, friendly people, low prices for food and accommodations, and, of course, the weather. In a few days we will return to the Northwest and I am hoping for an easy commute over the Pass.



Rev. Bill Graves

Looking over upcoming events I highly recommend the **Pacific Western Regional Assembly**, www.uua.org/pwr (see pg. 6) April 27-29 in Portland, OR. Speakers include civil rights activist, the Rev. Dr. William Barber; Washington Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, advocate for women's, immigrant, civil, and human rights; and the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, newly elected UUA president. Programming includes workshops, worship, district meetings, and an optional social justice activity. Childcare and youth programming will be available. Maggie, Jan J. and I will be there. Making connections with our larger movement is one of the ways to get the most out of your membership with KVVUC.

I am delighted to see our **Search Committee** for a new minister is up and running. As the congregation goes about this process I hope it will keep in mind the wisdom of *A Parable for Pulpit Committees* by Clinton Lee Scott:

Now it came to pass that while the elder in Israel tarried in Babylon, a message came to him from a distant city saying, come thou and counsel with us. Help us to search out a priest for the one that has served us has gone mad. And the elder in Israel arose and journeyed to that distant city. And when the men of affairs were assembled, the elder spake unto them saying, what manner of man seeketh thee to be your new priest? And they answered and said unto him, we seek a young man yet with the wisdom of gray hairs. One that speaketh his mind freely yet giveth offense to no one. That draweth the multitude to the temple on the Sabbath but will not be displeased when we ourselves are absent. We desire one who has a gay mood yet is of sober mind. That seeketh out dark sayings and prophecies yet speaketh not over our heads. That filleth the temple, buildeth it up yet defileth not the sanctuary with a Motley assortment of strangers. We seeketh one that put the instruction of the young first but requireth not that we become teachers. That causeth the treasury to prosper yet asketh not that we give more of our substance. Verily we seek a prophet that will be unto us a leader but will not seek to change us, for we like not to be disturbed. And the elder in Israel answered and said unto them, when I have found such a priest I will indeed send him unto you, but you may have to wait long, for the mother of such a one has not yet been born."

In the Spirit of Love, Peace and Good Humor,

Rev. Bill

Bill's Blurbs for February

SUNDAY SERVICES

February 11, 11 am

"A Perfect Heart"

Worship led by Rev. Bill Graves, Rebecca Wassell and our KVVUC choir lead by Jan Jaffe

On the eve of Valentine's Day this multi-generational service will explore the many kinds of love we experience. Or, is "love" is too strong a word to apply to most of our relationships? Thespians of all ages will enact a short play called "The Perfect Heart", our choir for all ages will be singing, and everyone will have an opportunity to create and give away a Valentine gift.

February 18, 11 am

"Reflections on Racism"

Worship led by Rev. Bill Graves

Our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) in 2017, placed the issue of racism at the front and center of our inter-denominational conversation. That includes the process of seriously considering the addition of an 8th Principle by which UU's would covenant to "accountably dismantle racism." Some question whether this distracts from other profound concerns about our national leadership and direction. Others point out that a politics of racism is squarely behind that leadership and direction. The UUA has requested that each member congregation devote a service this Winter to this subject and take up a collection to help fund a commitment of \$5.4 million dollars to support the work of BLUU (Black Lives Unitarian Universalist). Our KVVUC Board of Trustees has dedicated this service to those objectives.

Do you have to be an activist to be a Unitarian Universalist?

Six UU leaders with diverse perspectives respond to four questions about prophetic ministry and activism: <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/activism-unitarian-universalist>.

ADULT CLASSES

"Our Long Strange Trip: UU History in Depth"

In February we will start six sessions exploring the great story of UU history based on a video series called "Long Strange Trip" by Ron Cordes.

Tuesday, February 13, 7 pm

(Veggie pizza, 6:30)

Part 1—"In the Beginning"

In this session we will explore the early Christian roots from which we sprang. It was a centuries-long story of the Church trying to settle on an orthodoxy and to eliminate dissent, i.e., heresy. We tend to identify with the heretics - martyrs such as Jan Hus and Michael Servetus. They were not so much trying to break away as to get back to what they saw as the original texts and practices of the earliest Christians. In what ways are we still heretics; or not?

Thursday, February 15, 7 pm

(Veggie pizza, 6:30)

Part 2—"The Birth of Unitarianism"

The Reformation was a time of rapid religious and cultural change. We will examine debate about religious belief occurring in Europe in the 16th and 17th Centuries and discuss commonalities with debates about religion that occur in our society today.

Kids invited!

Choir this month is for ALL AGES! Practices are at 5:15 - 6:30pm on Thursday, February 1 and February 8 for the Intergenerational Service on Sunday, February 11.



Religious Education

Maggie Patterson, Religious Education Coordinator

Dates to Remember

- **Sun, Feb. 4:** Celebration Sunday. All ages meet in the zendo during the service to plan our peace-and-justice post we'll install in the bee garden in April.

More information on Posts for Peace & Justice, is on their website:

www.postsforpeaceandjustice.org or Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/PeacePosts/>

- **Mon, Feb. 5:** 7pm RE meeting at KUUUC. All are welcome!
- **Fri, Feb. 9:** "Wonder" Party! **5:30 pm:** meet to discuss the book "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio and eat pizza. **6:30:** movie "Wonder". All are invited but please RSVP to Maggie Patterson or on our facebook page so we know how much pizza to order. Bring blankets and pillows, if you like.
- **Sun, Feb. 11:** Intergenerational service, led by Rev. Bill & Becca Wassell. The theme is love. No RE. Childcare in the zendo.
- **Wed. Feb. 14:** Happy Valentine's Day
- **Sun, Feb 18 & 25:** Regular RE classes.
Society of the Magi, Zendo, 9:45-10:45am
Chalice Children, Zendo during service

Maggie Patterson, RE Coordinator
margaretfultonpatt@gmail.com or
509-925-2552(home)



Ministerial Search Committee

The Ministerial Search Committee members are Cindi Coe, Austin Clark, Lita Malone, Carol Ritzenthaler, Liz Smith.

We have been revising the materials we will send to candidates, describing who we are and what we're looking for. Our job posting is up on the UUA website. The UU church in Pasco is looking for a half-time minister, and we are exploring the possibility of combining our positions, on the condition that we both like the same candidate. A 3/4 time position is likely to increase our pool of interested candidates, so that possibility is indicated on both our job postings. Next, we'll begin to review applications as we receive them.

Rev. Bill's Ellensburg Schedule February 2018

- 2-9 Whidbey Island office**
- 10-18 Ellensburg office hours at KUUUC*
- 10 Practice for Intergenerational Service (tbd)
- 11 "A Perfect Heart" Intergenerational Service
- 13 Adult RE class "Our Long Strange Trip pt.1"
See p. 3. (pizza 6:30; class 7-8:30pm).
- 14 Open time for coffee/conversation at
Dakota Café – 8:30-10:00am
- 14 Board meeting: 6pm
- 15 KV Interfaith Alliance planning mtg (tbd)
- 15 Adult RE class "Our Long Strange Trip pt 2".
See p. 3. (pizza 6:30; class 7-8:30pm).
- 16 Council on Ministry, Dakota Café 8am
- 17 "Pathways to Membership" class 9-12
- 18 "Reflections on Racism" Worship Service
- 19-28 Whidbey Island office**

Rev. Bill Graves 360-661-7289, wgraves@whidbey.com
PO Box 1254, Langley, WA 98260

*In Ellensburg available by appt. for conversation, meetings, counseling, listening,, home or hospital visits, or camaraderie.

**Available to return phone calls or emails when on Whidbey; also available by Skype or similar by prior arrangement.

KVUUC Awarded \$4,000 Technology Grant

Debbie Williams, Co-president

We have been awarded a Chalice Lighter Growth Technology Initiative Grant for 2018 thanks to some excellent grant writing and presentation by Tom Duke.

Here is a brief outline of the grant proposal which has been designed to provide a complete technology upgrade of the sound system and microphone needs, presentation capabilities, video streaming support equipment and cable plant which will when complete add many enhanced service offerings for the congregation. These additional offerings will include billable music venues and concerts, need focused gathering venues (LGBT /Hispanic/ Black/Native American and Environmental for example) and increased overall utilization of the premises for the benefit of the community and the congregation.

The upgrade also addresses the lack of shielding in our building wiring that allows radio telecasts to broadcast randomly during the service, the need for equality in providing an option for our non-mobile members to speak their truth with wireless microphones, and ADA issues we currently have such as cables routed across paths that need to be clear. The upgrade will allow greater access to our services for everyone either in the Sanctuary or online. This upgrade will provide for the perfect mixture to ensure success for the future of KVUUC and its members through greater utilization of the facility providing for a broad range of creative po-

tential to add revenue to move the total congregation forward.

Our obligations upon receiving this grant are to maintain our Honor Congregation status and our 30% Chalice Lighters membership for the next three years and to submit a report within four months on our project (along with photographs). There will be opportunities for everyone to participate in making these improvements from painting to helping

to move furniture to taking photos. Please speak to Tom Duke or Debbie Williams if you are available to help for even a few hours on this important project.

We have a new Chalice Lighter Ambassador, Deitra Underhill. She can answer any questions you may have about becoming one of our congregation's chalice lighter members. It is a worthwhile program funded by all the congregations in our region to help all the congregations with improvements to their buildings.

Our obligations...are to maintain our Honor Congregation status and 30% Chalice Lighters membership for the next three years

What is an Honor Congregation? A congregation who is fair share for both UUA Annual Program Fund and PNWD Dues for the most recently completed fiscal year.

What are Chalice Lighters? You will receive no more than three call letters in a year. The letter will explain the express purpose of the call and ask for your donation of at least \$20. The grant must be used for those purposes, so you will know exactly where your money is going. Their annual Technology Grant for Growth is what we applied for and received this year.

Regional Mission Trip for Youth and Adults next summer!

- Do you have a passion for environmental justice?
- Have you been interested to partner with grass-roots organizations to create a lasting partnership in solidarity with local communities?
- Have you ever wanted to make a real difference while learning hands on skills and concepts?

“Pacific Western Region Justice Journey: Roots, Reflections and Relationships - An Environmental Justice Journey.

A week long immersion experience focusing on Environmental Sustainability through service, learning, and a meditation practice designed to be reflective and to sustain future justice work.

Sat, July 14 - Sun, July 22, 2018 at
Throop Unitarian Universalist Church
300 S. Los Robles Ave. , Pasadena, CA 91101

You are invited! 25 multigenerational participants— Families with youth, YA's and adults welcome. Cost is \$550.00 pp, inc. meals, lodging, local transportation. (Transportation to Pasadena is not included.)

Scholarships are available!

Information: <https://www.uua.org/pacific-western/calendar> [select July]

Registration: <https://register.pwruua.org/event-registrations/pwr-mission-trip/>

Contact: Katie Covey, PWR Mission Trip Lead at katiecovey@gmail.com.

UUA Pacific Western 2018 Regional Assembly, Portland OR April 27—29

The four districts of the UUA's Pacific Western Region will gather April 27-29 in Portland, OR for the 2018 Regional Assembly. Speakers include:

- Civil rights activist, the Rev. Dr. William Barber
- Washington Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, advocate for women's, immigrant, civil, and human rights
- The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, newly elected UUA president.

Programming includes workshops, worship, district meetings, and an optional social justice activity. A day-long Professional Day designed for religious professionals is planned for Friday, April 27, before the start of Regional Assembly.

Discount lodging is available at the Portland DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, site of the Regional Assembly.

Childcare and youth programming will be available.

Early Bird adult registration ends Wednesday, January 31. Discounts available for young adults, youth, and children.

For full details, go to the PWR website, www.uua.org/pwr.

Be a more active instrument of justice... work creatively with our Ellensburg community with adapting to increased environment hostility. Help the younger generations with **education**, accurate with an accent of better outcomes from past mistakes. Growing and caring better food for the community.

- 1) Lobby nationally
- 2) Act locally
- 3) Enjoy family

Grant me patience to tolerate what will happen to my country.

Relationship is one of our most valuable assets. We need to treat those in our families as well as we can, those chosen or generated, because they are our future. Don't assume they will forgive because they love. Forgive because I love. Give them reasons to love me.

- 1-Be politically active and fight for environmental protection.
- 2-Find divinity in all.
- 3-Exercise fanatically
- 4-Work on family history

I see 2017 as a year of renewal, where reweave my stories so that I create a life of sustainability, joy & peace. I shall be more and more: juicy, **playful**, productive, content & fulfilled – as the year moves-this or better.

More friends-more creating-less sugar!

Good Intentions 2017- Be of service, move in ways of truthfulness, **service** and holiness, seek the truth in love, dwell together in peace, help one another.

May I be a **listener**, a helping hand, a shoulder to cry on. May I suspend judgment, and see the humanity & the possible pain that others may bear. May I continue to organize “things” in my life, and **use my time wisely, love & appreciate life.**

Manifest peace, love and harmony in my family, my neighborhood, my community & myself so this world walks in celebration of and in the life I/we live! **LOVE**

I embrace the love and wealth of this life with all its glorious challenges I am one with the universe in all the **divine grace** and goodness and creative play and perseverance I know flows freely through me so that I express as the best friend and angel I can be to myself and others in 2017. And so it is.

Renewed patience, radiant acquiescence, deep love, calm

I want to read, garden and declutter more. I want to be more patient with my husband and children. I want to repair my relationship with my dog. I want to continue to grow as a strong female role-model for my **children**. I want to nurture myself and honor my own thoughts and opinions as valid I want to con-

tinue to learn, be culturally, and grow as a kind, loving, and responsible human on this **beautiful earth.**

Be more patient and forgiving. Appreciate the problems others present to me as a method of learning.

Be Kind

Accepting the whole thing! Hausies! (winning Bonow cards)

Wish for gainful employment so I can remain among friends/family and their influence on my **spiritual growth.**

Continue my commitment to love Work every day for a better future

Take better care of myself, Look for hope and joy every day. Be vigilant and ready to act to oppose hate and brutality and embody love and understanding. Foster deeper connections with friends and family.

Practice: Love as an action word Learn to really work within community for change.

Continue to let go of possessions, ideas, worries, patterns that do not “work” for greater good.

Follow through with dreams despite set backs. Enjoy through with **dreams** despite set backs.

Enjoy company & successful cooperation of fellow dreamers.

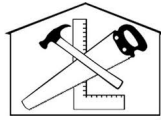
Remember **compassion** and presence are fundamental to **health.**

KVUUC Skills & Services

If you would like advertise your skill or service to our congregation, contact Jim at 509-933-3198 or Paula at 405-312-2786

DON GALLAGHER - Quality Carpentry

Remodeling, painting, roofing, plumbing and electrical repairs. **509-306-0608.**



RICHARD GALLAGHER - Experienced auto trouble-shooter. Services: repairs, carpooling, garden prep, snow & unusables removed, needed items located.



You have needs? Richard has solutions! **509-306-9329.**

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509-679-1383 janjaffe@gmail.com
www.linkedin.com/in/miss_jan

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- Licensed General Contractor - Building - Remodeling - Carpentry - Plans & Permits **509-964-2086**



DEBBIE WILLIAMS - Brick Road Books.

Used and new books. Turn your lightly used current reads into a donation to KVUUC—just tell Daniel or Debbie that the proceeds from selling your books should go to KVUUC. Family-owned and operated.

305 N. Main Street 509-925-1999

COLEEN RENEE - Find Your Story, Your Path, Your Purpose.

A guide and teacher for helping you find what makes you vital, happy and living your beauty. Available for Healing Sessions, Private Readings (*in person/via phone*), Inspirational Speaking & Classes. **509-312-0220.** Follow her blog! Visit her at CRhalenaRenee.com.



Paula McMinn - Green Cleaning Service



Housecleaning with earth friendly, non-toxic products. Experienced. Local references available.

509-859-1016 mmcminn18@gmail.com

KVUUC Board and Staff

Board

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