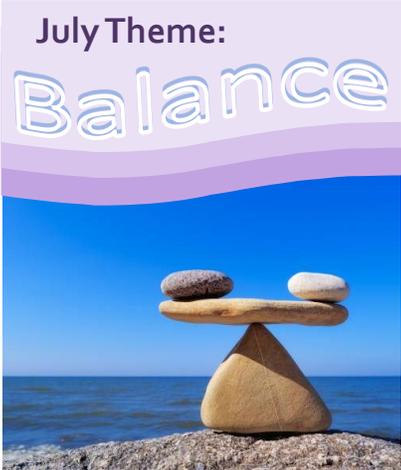




KUUUC NEWS

July 2017



July Theme:

Balance

Worship in July

July 2
 "On Balance" from the UAA Archives
Green Sanctuary/Social Justice Councils, 12 :15 pm

July 9
 Meditation & Chanting - Rev. Bill Graves & Jan Jaffe
Worship Council, 12:15 pm

July 16
 Henry David Thoreau's 200th Birthday - Debbie Williams
Membership Council, 12:15 pm

July 23
 Art & Music Save the World - Lena Renee
ComNet, 12:15 pm

July 30
 5th Sunday Potluck

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

7/2: Balance 7/9: Our Relationships to Pets 7/16: Empathy

Inside this issue:	
Worship & Upcoming Events	1
Rev. Bill's Column and Events	2-4
Local News	4-5, 7
Other UU events	6
Board & Staff, Advertisements	8

Visitors Appreciated!

Bill Beattie is currently living at Prestige Care & Rehabilitation Center, 1050 E Mountain View Ave and would welcome company. Find him in Room 14, South Wing.

Upcoming Special Events

COFFEE & CONVERSATION WITH REV. BILL
 Thursday, July 6, 8:30-10am, Dakota Café

CHOIR PRACTICE
 Thursday, July 6, 5:15-6:30pm at KUUUC

ADULT SEMINAR
 Building Your Own Theology with Rev. Bill Graves
 Thursday, July 6, 7:00-8:30pm at KUUUC
 (pizza at 6:30p.m. RSVP to Bill)

BOARD RETREAT
 Saturday, July 8, 9am- 2pm at Tom Duke's

REPORT ON 2017 UUA GEN'L ASSEMBLY
 led by Rev. Bill Graves
 Saturday, July 8, Potluck at 6pm at TBA

WHISKEY CREEK CLEAN-UP
 Saturday, July 22, 8-11am
 Meet at the Methodist Church, 3rd & Ruby

A Bulletin From Bill, July 2017

Reflections from New Orleans

I write this as I wend my way home from our denomination's annual General Assembly ("GA"), this year held in steamy New Orleans. As always it was a time to feel the joy and stimulation of celebrating our common faith with over 4000 UU's. The rich and spicy cuisine of the Big Easy also helped. For getting in touch with the cutting edge of what is percolating in our movement (good practice for an old dude!), and being reinvigorated in its promise, there is nothing like GA. Here is a brief summary of some of the major currents.

The 2017 session was dedicated to the theme of racial justice. This was in the wake of recent resignations of Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) President Morales, the Director of the UU Ministers Association, and two other national leaders who had been embroiled in controversies involving racial issues. Much of the message that dominated workshops, worship services, plenary sessions and the major lectures had to do with raising awareness about and dismantling systems of "white supremacy" infecting our association and culture and oppressing people of color. A primary leader of this movement is a group called Black Lives UU (B.L.U.U.) and the UU Board of Trustees has committed to raising \$5.3 million to support the work of that group.

Delegates voted in favor of sending a B.L.U.U. proposed 8th UU Principle to a study commission for a 1-2 year period. The proposed, new Principle affirms the centrality of antiracism and multiculturalism. Also, the UUA was charged by the assembled delegates to assist congregations in confronting the crises we face due to the intersection of racism, white supremacy, widening income inequality and environmental degradation. I hope to find ways to bring some of this conversation back to KUUUC.

Another proposal to amend our 1st Principle in to "affirm the inherent worth and dignity of all beings" (instead of persons) was tabled indefinitely. KUUUC through its board was one of 25 congregations that sponsored the original proposal. I expect supporters were relieved to have the proposal tabled as it appeared to lack broad support at this gathering.

It will take exquisite skill and wisdom to navigate successfully the troubled seas facing our denomination. Three very impressive female candidates vied to be the new UUA president. (If only a certain woman running in another recent presidential election had been as inspirational!) In the end Susan Frederick-Gray was elected. She has been a courageous leader in the struggle against anti-immigrant laws and practices in Arizona as minister of a UU congregation in Phoenix.

If you are interested in leaning more much of GA 2017 can be downloaded on line at <http://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2017>. A more detailed summary is at <http://www.uuworld.org/ga>. Also, it will be the topic of conversation with me in a potluck dinner on Saturday, June 8 in a location yet to be determined. Mark your calendars and stay tuned.

In faith and love,
Rev. Bill

KVUUC NEWS

Bill's Blurbs for July 2017

June 9, 11:00am: "Meditation and Chanting: A Day Hike to that Inherently Good Place" Rev. Bill Graves and Jan Jaffe

Meditation and chanting are two forms of spiritual practice. Spiritual practices assist in achieving heightened awareness and inner peace. Spiritual practice is an essential compliment to social justice work and vice versa. Bill and Jan will introduce a sampling of these life-enhancing practices.



Adult R.E. Building Your Own Theology, led by Rev. Bill Graves

A systematic, disciplined and communal process to build individual credos, or statements of individual beliefs. This classic curriculum designed by Rev. Richard Gilbert discusses all the important questions of religion from a UU perspective, allowing each student to come to their own understanding of what makes sense and works. All are invited although this is an on-going class and regular attendance and some outside reading will enhance the experience. We will use the "Building Your Own Theology, Vol. I", curriculum available for \$16.00 at the UU Bookstore: uua.org/bookstore. It is recommended that participants have their own copy of the curriculum.

BYOT Session 5: Thurs. July 6, 7:00pm

(As usual Bill invites you to come at 6:30 to share a vegetarian pizza so long as it lasts).

For this session we will work with chapter 7 (*Ethics as Unenforceable Obligations—The Importance of Being Good for Nothing*) in the BYOT curriculum book. Recommended readings in advance are pp. 62-65. Also, it will be very helpful to the class if participants reflect on what would be your own "ethical ten commandments" (see p. 60) and come prepared to share. Continue working on your credos incorporating any thoughts provoked by the recent sessions and readings.

Sat, Jul 8, 6:00pm: Report on 2017 Justice General Assembly - Rev. Bill Graves *(Potluck at 6:00 pm; stay tuned for location—probably the church).*

A report and conversation with Rev. Bill about what transpired at the 2017 Justice General Assembly: Are we a "white supremacist" organization? How does such a premise intersect with other social justice issues? Am I unavoidably a racist? Should our First Principle apply to "all beings" or "all persons." Should our "Standing on the Side of Love" campaign be rebranded to find a more inclusive word than "standing." What did Ware lecturer Bryan Stevenson have to say? What do you know about the new UUA President, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray?

KVUUC NEWS

Rev. Bill's Ministerial Schedule for JULY

- 1-4 Whidbey Island office* (except as otherwise indicated)
- 5-9 Ellensburg office hours at KVUUC ** (will be camping on Yakima River and/or staying with Jim Schwing)
- 5 Worship Service planning meeting with Jan J.
- 6 Open time for coffee/conversation at Dakota Café - 8:30-10:00am
- 6 Meet with KV Interfaith Alliance-10am
- 6 Choir practice - 5:15pm
- 6 Lead "Building Your Own Theology, Part 5" conversation group (pizza/finger food at 6:30pm while it lasts; class 7-8:30pm).
- 7 Open time for coffee/conversation at Dakota Café - 8:30-10:00am
- 8 Board Meeting and Retreat at Tom Duke estate (9am-2pm)
- 8 Potluck and conversation about UUA General Assembly-6pm. Location to be announced
- 9 Lead worship service "Meditation and Chanting: A Day Hike to that Inherently Good Place" at KVUUC; attend council meetings (RE and Worship)
- 10-31 Whidbey Island office* (except times otherwise indicated).

* Bill IS AVAILABLE to return phone calls (360-661-7289) or emails (wcgraves@whidbey.com) when on Whidbey Island. He also is available for conferences or meeting by Skype or comparable service by prior arrangement. Bill's Mailing address is POB 1254; Langley, WA 98260.

** When in Ellensburg Bill is available by prior arrangement for conferences, conversations, meetings, counseling, listening, home or hospital visits or just camaraderie.

RE Summer News

Thanks for an amazing year RE students and volunteers!

- No RE until September 17.

CHILDCARE

- No childcare July 2
- Childcare ONLY is available during summer services, (except July 2, when 3/4 of our childcare people are out of town).

PENPALS

Has your child written a pen pal letter recently to their friend at the Wenatchee UU Fellowship? Please encourage them to do so, and bring them to church. Once I have a few more I will send off a batch in the mail.

JULY FOOD PANTRY

Please bring household items for the Kittitas Food Pantry, such as dishes, towels, cooking pots or utensils, picture

frames, etc. We will donate these at the end of July.

Thanks to everyone who donated clothing in June!

As always, feel free to contact me. 509-925-2552 (home) or margaretfultonpatt@gmail.com

-Maggie Patterson, RE Coordinator

SUPPORTING THE KITTITAS FOOD PANTRY

We will collect items on Sundays all summer long.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| July | Household items (dishes, decorations, yard tools, kitchen utensils, etc) |
| August | Toiletries |
| September | Children will create individual toiletry bags with items we collected in August |

Local News & Events



Youth-Designed UU T-shirts Available for Purchase

- 100% cotton
- \$12 ea /\$14 XXL
- To order, contact Dan Schissler

These shirts were designed by the 5th -7th graders (the Chalice Seekers) who have been studying justice this year, and come in bright green. The back has a quote from Cornel West. We are going through Shirts and More in Kittitas.

From Jim Schwing

Stewardship/Pledge drive Report

Many thanks to everyone that participated in the Stewardship/Pledge desserts and of course to the whole KVVUUC community for your contributions of time, talent and treasure over the next year. In addition to your selfless contributions of time and talent that keep the congregation running, thirty-seven pledge units (families count as one unit) pledged \$36,160. This within just a few dollars of the "as collected" contributions last year. With that in mind, Jim Schwing will submit a slightly adjusted budget to the board that basically mirrors last year's spending at the Board meeting next week.

Status on the Use of the Building

The recent death of Tuck Forsythe puts the status of our church building in flux. Jim Schwing met with Kay Forsythe (Tuck's widow) and Bob Ota recently. Kay and Bob are the board of the ECE (Ecumenical Church of Ellensburg), the entity that owns the church building. Two things arose. First, they are perfectly happy with the current arrangements with no time limit. Second, should we as a community ever feel the urge to buy the building, they would happily consider any offer.



Fall Retreat! Mark your calendars: October 6-7 at Lazy F

Fun for all ages, children welcomed. Activities include music, crafts, bonding, nature walks, games, and adults will also have discussions about our visions for KVVUUC.

Cost \$68-75 per adult (less for children). Meals included.

Contact Maggie Patterson for more information

New Date: Whiskey Creek Clean-up Saturday, July 22, 8 - 11 am

We'll clean up the section of Whiskey Creek adopted by Our Environment (near 5th & Railroad), and supported by KVVUUC's Green Sanctuary and Social Justice Council.

Meet at the Methodist Church to carpool to the site (parking is limited).

Contact Martha Kurtz (509)607-3960 with questions on what to bring.

Invitations from UU Salem & Seattle

Eclipse B&B
Lodging
Salem, Oregon

August 19-23

Interested in viewing
the total solar eclipse
on August 21?

Salem, Oregon is very near the center of the path of the eclipse; we will have 1'54" of totality. Our congregation is offering guest rooms in our homes in return for contributions to the UU Congregation of Salem.

Bed and Breakfast style accommodations in Private homes in return for a donation to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem.

August 19-23. 40% discount on 2nd through 5th nights. Single or double occupancy.

For details, see our [Eclipse B&B](#) webpage



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem

5090 Center St NE, Salem, OR 97317

503.364.0932 www.uusalem.org

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

**Seattle Zen
Retreat
with
James Ford**

**Fri-Sun,
July 14-16**

University Unitarian Church (UUC) in Seattle will host a 3-day Zen Retreat, July 14-16, led by the Rev. James Ford, Roshi, and Janine Larsen, Practice Leader. On-line registration is now open. Fees are based on what you can pay, and attendance can be full-time or part-time. Some home hospitality is available for out-of-town participants, or commercial lodging is available reasonably close to the church. More details and online registration is available at www.uuchurch.org/Zen

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, contact Jim at 509-933-3198 or Paula at 405-312-2786



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 - Tamzen 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!** 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

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



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

C. Rhalena Renee, CSH is a guide and teacher for helping you find what makes you vital, happy and living your beauty. Lena is available for Healing Sessions, Private Readings (in person/via phone), Inspirational Speaking & Classes. CONTACT: 509-312-0220. Visit her at CRhalenaRenee.com. Follow her blog!



DEBBIE WILLIAMS -Brick Road Books. Used and new books. Turn your lightly used current reads into a donation to KUUUC -just tell Daniel or Debbie that the proceeds from selling your books should go to KUUUC. Family-owned and operated. Come in to 305 N. Main Street. CONTACT: 509-925-1999

KUUUC BOARD and STAFF

Board

Co-Presidents:
 Kristen Paton & Debbie Williams
 copresident1@kvuu.org
 copresident2@kvuu.org

Past Co-President:
 Karen Johnson
 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

Our web page: kvuu.org

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

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