

KVUUC News



Kittitas Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation

January 2018

Worship in January

January 7

Burning Bowl

****Congregational Meeting, 12 :15 pm**

To amend By-Laws & appoint ministerial search committee

January 14

"Crimmigration" - Chuck Reasons

Worship Council, 12:15 pm

January 21

TBD

Membership Council, 12:15 pm

January 28

Our Story - Coleen Renee

CommNet, 12:15 pm

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

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

An annual tradition in which congregation members honor people that the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) has worked with recently. These people are your 'guests,' and you are asked to share your blessings by contributing the cost of a meal for them. You can learn about your guests in the Stories of Hope booklet.

Donations of \$125 are matched. KVUUC will collect funds from those participating at the **end of January**.

Upcoming Meetings & Special Events

ASAP	• DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT YOUR SURVEY GRID
Sun, 1/7	• Congregational Meeting, 12:15
Mon, 1/8	• Religious Education Council, 7 pm
Wed, 1/10	• KVUU Board Meeting, 6 pm
Fri, 1/19	• Don Gallagher presents: Songwriter Stan Rogers, KVUUC 7 pm
Fri, 2/16	• 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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Rev. Bill's New Year's Resolutions for KVVUUC

Rev. Bill Graves

What is my vision for KVVUUC? As we enter into the new year I face the fact that I will be saying adios in August. That prompts me to consider my fondest wish for the state of KVVUUC when I leave. My wish is a congregation that feels so good about itself that an "erotic energy" is palpable. By that I don't mean x-rated services. Here is what a little "erotic energy" around N. Anderson St. might look like:



Rev. Bill Graves

There is a life force, a buzz, a stir you can feel. It is a place where people find transformation, redemption.

*This spirit of life and love is moving and bursts out into the larger community.
We are a beacon of social justice and compassion in a broken world.*

People feel open and safe here. They express emotions; they laugh and cry, openly.

*People find community connections with a depth that is rare in the modern world.
They have an almost brain-stem intuition: "These are my people".*

People know that in times of need help and love will be there for them.

*People find transcendent connections beyond themselves and
celebrate with reverence and gratitude.*

*We're not boring. People find here a "living tradition" as well
as depth and surprise in worship.*

*Our offering of a differing experience of R.E., of community involvement, of fine
programs and excellent music all make people proud to be a part.*

We have fun here. That is our ultimate litmus test on any activity.

Congregations that are brimful of such energy are the ones that achieve "breakout" growth and impact upon their larger communities. I have found measures of that energy in several UU congregations, including KVVUUC. It is why I have stayed involved for over 40 years and will continue through thick or thin.

Frances and I send all of KVVUUC a hope that 2018 will be a year of joy and meaningful encounters. As you read this we will probably be winging our way to our retreat in Oaxaca, Mexico. This will be the eighth 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 feet, 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 two hours earlier than you). I will call you back.

To Joy and Service, Here and Now:

Rev. Bill

Religious Education

Maggie Patterson, Religious Education Coordinator

Dates to Remember

- **Sun, Jan 7:** Celebration Sunday. All ages meet in the zendo during the service. Our stream clean-up will be postponed until it is less icy outside. We'll make snowflakes and talk about new year goals and plans.
- **Mon, Jan. 8:** 7pm RE meeting at KVVUC
- **Sun, Jan. 14, 21, 28:** Regular RE classes.
Society of the Magi, Zendo, 9:45-10-45am
Chalice Children, Zendo during service

Looking ahead: Save February 11 on your calendars for a fabulous intergenerational service led by Rev. Bill.

Maggie Patterson, RE Coordinator
margaretfultonpatt@gmail.com or

Questions Before Dark

By Jeanne Lohmann from "The Light of Invisible Bodies"

Day ends, and before sleep
when the sky dies down, consider
your altered state: has this day
changed you? Are the corners
sharper or rounded off? Did you
live with death? Make decisions
that quieted? Find one clear word
that fit? At the sun's midpoint
did you notice a pitch of absence,
bewilderment that invites
the possible? What did you learn
from things you dropped and picked up
and dropped again? Did you set a straw
parallel to the river, let the flow
carry you downstream?

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.

KVUUC Board Minutes

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

Attendance:

Kristin Paton, Tom Duke, Debbie Williams, Rev. Bill Graves, Jim Schwing, Vivian Dunbar, Maggie Patterson

Approval of Minutes from November 2017 Board meeting delayed until the January meeting

Council Reports

Finance

- No printed report available as Jim's printer broke down – account totals are just a few hundred \$ from November totals.

Building/Grounds

- Tom Duke and Liz Ritzenthaler worked on raking.
- The 10' ladder has been hung in the hall behind the sanctuary.
- Tom indicated he has more shelving for the new storage room behind the sanctuary along with a plan for storing the tables more conveniently.
- Jim noted that signs currently stored in that hallway can be removed for recycle.
- It was decided that we will attempt to keep the water dispenser full. It was further decided that we would try a water dispenser that Tom has, that will dispense both cold and hot water.
- Irrigation water has been turned off. Heather will be tutored next spring so that she can set zone coverage as needed for the Bee Garden, etc.

Green Sanctuary & Social Justice

- Jim reported that judging for the essay contest is on-track to be completed this Friday, Dec. 8.
- Group is recommending that we restart the Sustainable Film Series though perhaps under a new name. For now, movies will be presented once a month though an actual day (such as third Friday) has not been chosen. Would like to start in January.
- Maggie noted another source of video would be Karen Stansbury.
- Board approved this idea and felt it would mesh nicely with the OE speaker series.
- Node committee will be folded into Green Sanctuary.

Library

- The library was able to expand to new shelving on the other side of the foyer.

Fellowship

- Had a new member orientation last month and had two folks join.
- It was recommended that Fellowship look into developing an exit interview program.

Worship

- Services for the next two quarters laid out.
- Still looking for someone to lead a burning bowl service January 7. Todd has indicated he will be unable to do this.
- Reminder that December 24 will be informal songs, sharing, perhaps games or readings.
- It was noted that Janet Adams will not continue as leader of this council and that Lita Malone will take over.
- Tom and Lita have spent some time looking at the policy and procedures for this committee.
- Some discussion of putting together orders of service ahead of time. It was decided that for now it may be more appropriate that a template be distributed and used.

Religious Education

- Maggie reported on the fun ornament making party.
- Classes will use a Sunday in January to continue with their cleanup of the part of Wilson Creek that they have adopted.

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KVUUC December 2017 Board Minutes *(Continued from page 4)*

Religious Education (cont'd)

- This past Sunday students spent writing letter either to their pen-pal in the Wenatchee congregation or to one of the congregation members who cannot attend due to illness.
- Kudos to Jan Jaffe for working with RE teachers to help improve teacher preparedness.
- After the meeting Board members will do a building walk through to look at questions raised by the RE class accessibility audit.
- We will run an OWL K – 1 class after spring break.
- The RE council is still trying to deal with splitting our second RE class. In order to make such a division, we need four adults and we are frequently left with just three due to issues such as sickness. The program will be reevaluated in January.

Comnet

- Since the Sunday slideshow of announcement terminated, Martha is no longer the central recipient of event information. This job has moved to Liz Whittaker who prepares a weekly email for the congregation.
- Maggie will print three copies of the newsletter for Richard, Don and Vivian.
- An idea came up to ask children to provide art for a Children's Corner in the newsletter.

Board

- Nothing additional to report.

Retreat Task Force

- October Retreat was fully paid for and final bills with Lazy F have been paid.
- The board endorsed having an annual retreat.
- Jim is correlating the "How Can I Help" Survey taken there.

Minister's Report

- Jason will resign from the Council on Ministry.
- Bill is planning an intergenerational service for some time in February.
- Bill recommends the addition of a services auction.
- Discussed adding a sermon repository to our website. Bill will send Jim some older sermons along with new ones so they can be posted.
- Bill discussed with the board who he needs to visit this week.

Old Business

Search Committee

- We now have membership for a viable search committee: Liz Smith, Carol Ritzenthaler, Cindy Coe, Lita Malone, and Austin Clark. May try to expand one or two members.
- Jim will act as board liaison to the committee.
- Need to have initial meeting early in January with District contacts. Bill will call and try to arrange.
- Need to contact Pasco.
- Need to survey congregation. Bill has an interesting survey.

Security

- Jim has information from Church Mutual. Tom has additional information. Needs to be reviewed and recommendations for training put together.

New Business

Technology Grant

- Tom and Debbie are working on a chalice lighters technology grant. Bill will check and make sure we are eligible. Jim will mail Tom earlier successful grant.

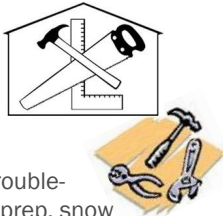
Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Schwing

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.

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BRUCE HAGEMEYER - Bruce Custom Remodeling

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



COLEEN 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. 509-312-0220. Follow her blog! Visit her at CRhalenaRenee.com.



JAN JAFFE - Adult 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.

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



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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

KVUUC Board and Staff

Board

Co-Presidents:

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Minister:

Rev. Bill Graves
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- Available by arrangement
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Music Director:

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Newsletter

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January
Theme:



Connect With Us

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Visit us on the web at kvuu.org