

# UNITARIANA

## Worship Services 9:15 & 11 a.m.

### FEBRUARY 5 -- UNDERSTANDING WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO: AN EVOLUTIONARY TALE

Perhaps by deepening our understanding of the role evolution has played in our development as creatures of this Earth our lives could more closely approximate the divinely human being so many of us aspire toward. At this service we also introduce this year's Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Guest at Your Table.

— *The Reverend Arthur Vaeni*

### FEBRUARY 12 -- FOR THE LOVE OF FRIENDS

In this intergenerational Valentine's service through song, story and our traditional chocolate communion we honor and celebrate friendship in its many forms.

— *Troy Fisher & The Reverend Arthur Vaeni*

### FEBRUARY 19 -- SEEKING THE SACRED IN THE MIDST OF SILENCE

As it was about four years ago that I last spoke about the importance of silence as part of one's spiritual life, I believe it is time to do so again. If there is any single theological characteristic shared by most religious traditions, it's the value placed on silence in eliciting life's sacredness. Besides, how can one not appreciate the wonderful irony of speaking about silence.

— *The Reverend Arthur Vaeni*

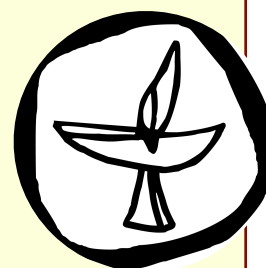
### FEBRUARY 26 -- HEROIC HERESY AND US

Our religious tradition exists today because in times past people -- some of our religious ancestors among them -- had the courage to choose.

— *The Reverend Arthur*

### Our Mission

We are a liberal religious community that opens minds, fills hearts, and transforms lives. We work for peace, equality, a healthy earth, and an end to poverty.



### INSIDE

<i>Leader's Messages</i>	2
<i>Congregational Meeting</i>	9
<i>Religious Education</i>	4
<i>Connections</i>	5
<i>Blessed Recycling</i>	6
<i>Solar at OUUC</i>	6
<i>The Shape of Justice</i>	7
<i>Share the Plate Reception</i>	7
<i>Guest at Your Table</i>	8
<i>Books, Brownies, Beans</i>	9
<i>PNWD Social Change</i>	8
<i>Pot o'Gold Auction</i>	10
<i>New Members</i>	10
<i>Women's Retreat</i>	11
<i>Calendar</i>	13



### WE ARE PODCASTING!

You can hear our sermons at [www.ouuc.org](http://www.ouuc.org) (click *Listen* on menu bar). CDs of every sermon are available between services in the sanctuary sound booth. Donations are welcome.

## ALONG THE MINISTERIAL WAY

*The Reverend Arthur Vaeni, Minister*

What could be more fun in the Northwest than taking a long walk in mid-February? If that's not enough to entice you, how about this? You can take that walk with other members of our congregation. Alright, if that still does not have you lacing up your walking shoes, try this: Your mid-February walk will also promote marriage equality in the state of Washington and, perhaps, even play a role in helping it become a reality here.

Last fall a coalition of ministers in the Vancouver area came up with the idea of creating "The Love for All March for Marriage Equality" that will extend from Vancouver to Olympia. In their announcement, they write:

*The march itself will stretch over a hundred miles from Vancouver to Olympia but don't let that distance deter you from participating. We will conquer this distance by covering it with teams of walkers of all abilities. The way it will work is this: Each team will commit to walking at least one of the seven days required to make this march. While the team as a whole will seek to cover all of the miles designated for their day of walking, individual participants can walk as much or as little as they want. What matters is not how far any single person walks but rather the statement we make as a people united behind a cause. We value everyone's participation in making this statement.*

The Vancouver organizers of this march wanted to demonstrate to the legislature, as well as to the general public, that support for marriage equality is not limited to the metropolitan areas or to Puget Sound. They also wanted to show that members of various religious traditions support the right to marry for all people regardless of their sexual orientation. This year it appears there is an excellent chance that, particularly given the Governor's recently announced support, a bill to bring about marriage equality will be passed by our state's legislature and signed into law by our Governor.

One of the fundamental attributes of our humanity is the need to connect with and to live in union



with other human beings. With all the issues that can come with marriage it has, nonetheless, evolved in meaning and function in our culture as a fundamental institution through which we enact one of the deepest expressions of our desire and need for union. We have a responsibility to ensure that no couple, simply because of their sexual orientation, is denied the legal protections or the social supports that will allow their lives to be as enriched as possible by their union.

The Reverend Carol McKinley, our congregation's affiliated community minister who is also the director for UU Voices for Justice, our statewide legislative advocacy network, has posted a sign-up list in the Commons for the walk. Carol and I have signed up to participate in the final leg of the walk (or some part thereof) on Wednesday, February 15, from Tenino to Olympia. While we highly value and enjoy one another's company, we also look forward to sharing this experience with some of you. Indeed, could anything be more fun in the Northwest than such a walk in mid-February?

In the spirit of love and peace,

—Arthur Vaeni

### UU Association News

#### Current Study/Action Issues

The three issues are ethical eating, immigration as a moral issue, and creating peace. See [www.uua.org/statements/](http://www.uua.org/statements/)

#### General Assembly 2012

General Assembly 2012 will be a gathering with multiple ways of engaging in justice work for people of all ages. Joining with the people of Arizona, we will worship, witness, learn and work together. We will leave General Assembly grounded in our faith, energized for justice and with resources to bring this work home to our congregations. June 20–24 in Phoenix, Arizona. See [www.uua.org/ga/](http://www.uua.org/ga/)

#### Social Justice Issues

UUA social justice issues include economic justice, environmental justice, immigration, international issues, LGBT welcome an equality, multiculturalism, peace, religious and civil liberties, and reproductive justice. See [www.uua.org/justice/](http://www.uua.org/justice/).

## OUUC — A FORCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

*Kelly Thompson, Board President.*



The thing about Bob Dylan's songs is that they get stuck in my head and then pop up at the oddest times. I was walking in the snow and thinking about what is important to share as a context for the next month, or year, at OUUC. Try as I might, I could not dislodge the song "Shelter from the Storm":

*I was in another lifetime, one of  
toil and blood  
When blackness was a virtue and  
the road was full of mud  
I came in from the wilderness a  
creature void of form.  
"Come in," she said "I'll give you  
shelter from the storm".*

It seems to me that OUUC offers shelter to many people in many ways. Together, with some other folks in this community, we share an awareness that we are not all wired the same — even though we all have mostly the same needs and desires. The most obvious shelter we work for is that of a dry room with a roof and a caring person. Selena and a support crew help this happen with the *Out of the Woods* shelter while others help with the Overflow Shelter, Camp Quixote/Panza, and other homeless care advocacies. Signs are pointing to an increasing need for

these shelters in 2012. We will be called to respond.

*Now there's a wall between us,  
somethin' there's been lost.  
I took too much for granted, got my  
signals crossed  
Just to think that it all began on a  
long-forgotten morn.  
"Come in," she said, "I'll give you  
shelter from the storm"*

As I listen to the screaming mantras from our political leaders, I long for a place where there is not a high price of admission for our opinions, our concerns and our hopes for the next four or eight years. OUUC offers such a place. In our Religious Education (both adult and children's), as well as the many other forums and groups that occur any night of the week at OUUC, we have the opportunity to seek understanding of others' views of the world and our responsibilities to the next generations. These forums can be a springboard for actions that allow us to live and express our values in the larger community.

*Well, I'm livin' in a foreign country  
but I'm bound to cross the line  
Beauty walks a razor's edge, someday  
I'll make it mine  
If I could only turn back the clock to  
when God and her were born.  
"Come in," she said, "I'll give you  
shelter from the storm"*

Whether it is our belief in the full personhood for people of the queer nation, or the emerging OUUC addictions ministry for those coping with a society that cleans its feet on people's souls,

OUUC can be a home for the cast out. My view is that our country is drifting decidedly into a place where differences are threats, and sectarian passion is the coin of the realm. By speaking out and living out our values we have an opportunity to counter the fears that drive our sisters and brothers to depersonalize those who are not the same as they.

Storms will come, and one is now upon us. The OUUC has just demonstrated the strength of conviction in a healthy stewardship drive, as well as increasing numbers of those willing to dedicate their time and energy to grow our community. Let's build the shelter strong, but leave the doors open wide. There is a place for all of us, and we will build a place for more of us.

*In a world of steel-eyed death, and  
men who are fighting to be warm.  
"Come in," she said, "I'll give you  
shelter from the storm"*

—Kelly

### Pot o'Gold Auction

Volunteer, donate, attend!  
Don't miss it — see page 10.



**March 17, 4:30 – 9 p.m.**

## TENDING THE FLAME: THE ART OF UU PARENTING

*Sara Lewis, Director of Religious Education*



As Unitarian Universalists, we strive to accept each other and different ideas, and support a

“free and responsible search for truth and meaning”. Many UU’s are constantly evolving their beliefs and creating new traditions — this is a Living Tradition, indeed.

All of that can sometimes present parents who are raising their children as Unitarian Universalists with some unique challenges. Parents may not know what answers to give when children ask about things like death or heaven. Families may long for ways to practice spirituality at home but not know what to do. Holidays may have different meanings or be difficult to negotiate with multi-faith families.

And there truly are no road maps that a UU parent can just follow, as each person’s and each family’s faith journey will be

unique. But while you may be doing it just a bit differently than anyone else is, you still don’t have to do it alone. This journey of love and faith is also being traveled by all the other families here at OUUC, and sharing thoughts about our challenges or ideas that have worked for us, or even just telling our stories to someone who is open to hearing them, can ease our burden and help us all along the path.

This winter I will be facilitating a Parent Book Discussion using the book *Tending the Flame: The Art of Unitarian Universalist Parenting* by Michelle Richards. The book is described as a “first-of-its-kind guide to Unitarian Universalist parenting — encourages a practical and proactive approach to raising Unitarian Universalist children”. Copies of the book are easily available online at the UUA bookstore at [www.uuabookstore.org/](http://www.uuabookstore.org/) (or even other online booksellers).

We’ll meet four times to discuss sections of the book and to share and support each other on this parenting journey. With meetings set two weeks apart, I hope

not to overburden busy parents and give everyone time to read and digest the book. Discussions will be held on Saturdays, 1:30–3 p.m., February 18th, March 3rd, March 17th, and March 31st. Please RSVP to me at [dre@ouuc.org](mailto:dre@ouuc.org) if you will be attending one or more of the discussions.

The journey of UU parenting can be a joyous and marvelous adventure. It deepens not just our children’s faith and understandings, but also our own. As Michelle Richards writes in the book: “Although we may take our children to religious education classes to give them the richness that participation in a faith community offers, most such programs last only an hour or two. As parents, we are the primary religious educators of our children. They will learn their concepts of faith, morality, responsibility, and justice from us. This means we are continually challenged to examine our own theological beliefs — for they not only influence our thinking and motivations, but communicate deep truths to our children.”

—Sara

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## NAMETAGS AND FOOTBALL

The nametag kiosk is expanding! We will have almost 161 feet of nametags — the width of a football field! It’s a good thing, too, as there were 644 nametags when counted mid-January. At that time there were also 60 names of active folks whose tags were not there — perhaps because they take them home. That’s 704 tags!

Please help! We welcome all newcomers but we can’t know everyone any more. If you see nametags

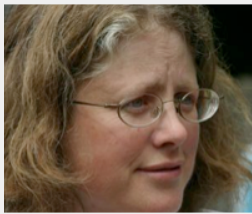
of folks whom you are sure are no longer attending, please pull the tags and leave them in the office.

Please also remember to wear your own nametag! As we grow, nametags offer a friendly, personable way to facilitate conversation. Severe attacks of name-forgetting are common! — your nametag can be your best friend in an effort to build rapport and connection.

—Linda Crabtree

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

Bonnie Guyer-Graham, Connections Coordinator



Now that the holidays have passed, activities are

multiplying again at OUUC. Think about how you could participate in two large spring events.

Why? Because it's fun.

Because your energy will make the each event better. And because you will have the chance to work with other fun OUUC members and friends. You could be helping now with organizing and set-up, or you could choose to participate on the event date.

### Books, Brownies, Beans

February, 25th. Behind the scenes work has begun, and you could start helping now, or you could sign-up for a job at the event itself. Contact with Martha Nicoloff at [mnicoloff@hotmail.com](mailto:mnicoloff@hotmail.com) to find your place in Books, Brownies and Beans, our huge annual used book sale. You can also sign up on the board in the Commons

### Pot O' Gold Auction

March 17th. This is a great opportunity to volunteer and get to know some of your fellow congregation members and friends. Join the other 99 people it takes to put on this event in grand style! To find your place at the Auction, contact Jule Rodwell, 2012 Auction Chair at [julie.cfd@ccountry.net](mailto:julie.cfd@ccountry.net) or sign up on the board in the Commons.

### Warm Windows Workshops

February 11 or 18. On a smaller scale, you could get together with OUUC friends to help improve the energy efficiency of your homes at the Warm Windows workshops. Make some interior storm window inserts to keep the unwanted chill out of your home. Contact Joe Joy to register at [joejoy2@comcast.net](mailto:joejoy2@comcast.net).

### LONGER TERM PROJECTS

As needs become apparent, people at OUUC step forward to meet those needs. Two new committees have formed recently to help serve our congregation.

### Memorial Services Committee

The death of a loved one is often a highly stressful time for family and close friends. Several OUUC members have gathered together to support our members and friends at this time of need. For more information look at the light blue brochure found in the literature rack in the Commons or contact Diana Finch at [dandefinch@gmail.com](mailto:dandefinch@gmail.com).

### Leadership Development

This group has transformed from the part-time Nominating Committee to the year-round Leadership Development Committee. The group works with the Board, ministers, volunteer coordinator, and others to identify people with leadership potential, to encourage and support their involvement in congregational affairs, and to help

develop their leadership skills. Look for leadership opportunities offered by this committee as the year progresses. If you have questions, you can contact Mike Harbour at [mharbour@comcast.net](mailto:mharbour@comcast.net).

### Partner Church Committee

This Committee is dedicated to nurturing the relationship between Kissolymos, Romania and OUUC. If you are intrigued by cross cultural communication and learning about a place far from here, then this committee is for you. To find out more, contact Janet Pearson at [jlpearson99@yahoo.com](mailto:jlpearson99@yahoo.com).

### Green Sanctuary Committee

This group of people helps our congregation live sustainably as individuals and as a group. If you are interested in transportation reduction, food justice or environmental justice then this group is for you! Contact Leslie Romer at [LeslieHR@aol.com](mailto:LeslieHR@aol.com).

### Kitchen Services

Do you enjoy all the delicious things that come out of our kitchen? We could use one or two more people help keep this space organized and ready for church events and Sunday mornings. Everyone would appreciate any help you could provide. Contact Janet Pearson at [jlpearson99@yahoo.com](mailto:jlpearson99@yahoo.com).

Thank you for participating in our liberal religious community!

—Bonnie

## BLESSED ARE THE RECYCLERS...

*Blessed are the recyclers for they waste not the fruitful gifts of the Earth.* You won't be able to find these words among the biblical beatitudes, but there were no manufactured items to recycle two thousand years ago, were there?

Today's commerce includes many products that are intended to be used only once — paper products, beverage and food containers, scraps from food preparation, and packaging. People in Washington do better than average in recycling. Most people in our area recycle regularly through both home and office recycling programs.

It gets a little harder to recycle when we are away from our homes and work routines. Each household has its own system of sorting and storing the recycling categories that our waste collection services accept.

So we try to keep recycling fairly simple at OUUC. Each room has a waste basket. Meeting rooms, offices, and classrooms

have plastic lattice bins for recycling “mixed papers” (clean paper and non-corrugated cardboard). In the restrooms, Commons and kitchen are waste bins for organics. In the restrooms organic bins are labeled “paper towels only” to avoid disposal of food and other waste that could cause odors.

You have probably noticed the line of waste receptacles in the kitchen. That is Recycling and Waste Management Central for OUUC! To maximize our recycling and minimize the cost to our congregation, the bin labeled GARBAGE should be your last choice. Most of what belongs there is plastic or coated paper that does not compost easily.

There are clearly labeled containers for organics (food waste and compostable paper products), mixed paper, glass and mixed metal and recyclable plastics as well. Corrugated cardboard is currently stacked in a nearby corner for recycling, too. You are welcome to leave cans and other con-

tainers on the kitchen window counters when the kitchen is busy.

An organics bin has recently been moved to the Commons to make the collection of recyclable food waste and related paper easier during coffee hour and other social events.

Let's help our spiritual home be as good a recycler as our residences! If you haven't done it yet, please read the labels on the full variety of recycling containers in OUUC. Remembering the color coding will probably help make you choose the right bin quickly and easily. Then we will all be blessed for wasting fewer of the fruitful gifts of the Earth.

The Green Sanctuary Committee meets at 11:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month. When all OUUC classrooms are full we meet at Traditions Café at 5th and Water Street in downtown Olympia. Please contact Leslie Romer if you have questions or comments.

—Leslie Romer

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## SOLAR IS COMING TO OUUC!

The Green Sanctuary Committee, with support from members David Love and Kirk Haffner (our resident solar pros), have started the fund raising for the installation of a 48-module solar electric system on the roof of the OUUC building. We are offering an “Adopt-A-Module” approach and already have commitments for 12 modules. To make this opportunity available to all, we are accepting adoption of full modules for \$1350 each, half modules for \$675 each or “slices” of modules for any donation that fits you.

Since the solar electric system will last a long time, your donation will keep giving to the church for the next 25 years. The system will reduce the operating expenses of the church by \$22,000 and reduce of carbon footprint by 170 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> (equal to 500,000 miles of driving a small car) over that time.

The team of Joy and Love are happy to answer your questions. Find us on Sundays or contact us at: Joe Joy, [southofjoy@comcast.net](mailto:southofjoy@comcast.net) and David Love, [DLove2412@gmail.com](mailto:DLove2412@gmail.com).

—David Love

# Giving life the shape of justice

## *A social justice workshop*

Can our congregation's social justice work be more effective and engage the hearts and minds of more people? Join us for this special opportunity to learn and experience effective congregation-based social action from the Reverend Richard Gilbert, an outspoken voice for Unitarian Universalist justice-making work.

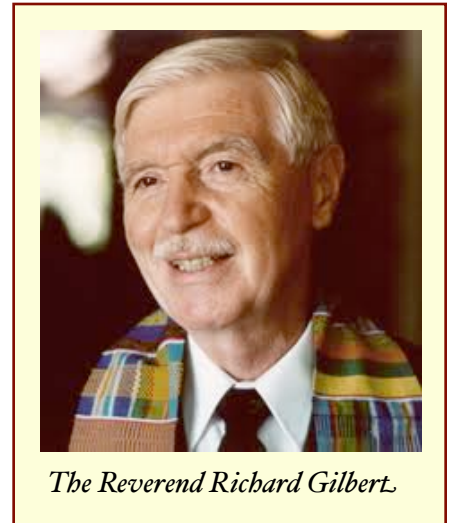
The Reverend Gilbert, Minister Emeritus of First Unitarian

March 23 – 24, 2012. Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church, Kirkland, Washington

Church of Rochester NY, is the author of the "Building Your Own Theology" curriculum and of *The Prophetic Imperative: Social Gospel in Theory and Practice*, and *How Much Do We Deserve?: An Inquiry into Distributive Justice*, as well as meditation manuals.

The workshop cost is \$25 per person which includes lunch on Saturday. To register, contact Washington Unitarian Universalist Voices for Justice coordinator at [coordinator@uuvoiceswa.org](mailto:coordinator@uuvoiceswa.org).

—Carol McKinley



*The Reverend Richard Gilbert.*

## SHARE THE PLATE RECIPIENT RECEPTION

There will be a reception for the 2011 Share the Plate recipients on Tuesday, February 28th from 5 – 7 p.m. at the church. We will provide finger food hors d'oeuvres and short presentations from representatives of the six organizations. Please come to say hello and meet with those that we support in the larger community.

Each Sunday (with occasional exceptions), half of our OUUC offering is given to a local organization which serves society's well-being in keeping

with our UU principles. These recipients change every two months.

For the current year we are asking representatives of this year's STP recipients to visit us in the Commons during their two months. This will replace the reception in 2013 for this year's recipients. We think it will also give a more timely and personal approach for both those giving and those receiving. Watch for information in the weekly on-line emails as well as the Sunday bulletins.

—Terrance Zander

## THANKS FROM CAMP QUIXOTE

To all the volunteers who helped us move on Dec 16 and Dec 17, 2011:

We, the residents of Camp Quixote, cannot express the gratitude we have for all the support we have received from the volunteer movers, volunteer hosts, and the organizers that make this possible.

A very heart-felt Thank You goes out to everyone. Without you and your support, Camp Quixote would not be the success we have been.

In the upcoming year we hope to continue to be a model for tent cities and help more homeless get back on their feet. With your continued support we will be able to achieve this goal. If you have any questions or concerns please call the camp at (360) 951-0731.

Again, thank you for everything.

The residents of Camp Quixote.

—Tmamarie Swihart.  
*Camp Quixote Secretary*

# Guest at Your Table



This month our congregation has the opportunity to participate in the yearly fundraising activity for the Unitarian

Universalist Service Committee — Guest at Your Table.

On February 5, we will introduce the program during the worship services and children's religious education classes. We will offer collection boxes or envelopes that we suggest you put on your dining table as a daily reminder to share what you can with the real people who are helped by the UUSC in their human-rights work.

On February 26, we will accept your donation boxes or envelopes with what you have been able to give. Large or small, it all adds up. Last year our congregation donated more than \$1800 through Guest at Your Table. Way to go! What can we accomplish this year?

Learn more about how UUSC invests our Guest at Your Table donations at [www.uusc.org/guest/donations](http://www.uusc.org/guest/donations).

—Ann Yeo

## How UUSC invests our funds

The following are examples of the many ways in which UUSC translates support from Guest at Your Table donors into tangible projects to advance human rights. Learn more at [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org).

### Gifts of \$20 and up

\$20 pays for training in survey collection for a worker member of the Northwest Arkansas Workers' Justice Center to collect data from poultry-processing workers on their wages, working conditions, and the most serious issues facing them on the job. The center will use these surveys to launch an organizing campaign against a local poultry plant in the area.

\$40 helps 30 families in Myanmar bring their crops to market successfully. Participating in revolving loans allows farmers to buy food and meet basic needs while waiting for their harvest, when they will be able to sell their rice at a better and fairer price.

\$75 helps workers in Arkansas, enabling the Northwest Arkansas Workers' Justice Center to conduct outreach and education projects tailored to specific challenges faced by poultry-processing and construction workers.

### Gifts of \$100 and up

\$100 spreads the word by paying for 25 copies of STITCH's Women, Labor, and Leadership curriculum, which trains women workers in organizing and empowers them to make an impact through their unions. STITCH is a network of women unionists, activists, and organizers that educates women workers about gender, globalization, and unionism, and connects women in Central America and the United States so that together they build their voices for economic justice.

\$200 pays for the Northwest Arkansas Workers' Justice Center to rent a booth and print flyers for a local fair to educate poultry-processing workers in Springdale, Ark., about their right to healthy and safe working conditions in the poultry plants.

\$500 enables the [Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition](http://www.tortureabortion.org) to fund travel for a U.S.-based torture survivor to Washington, D.C., for Torture Awareness Week. During the week, they will learn effective healing techniques, support each other's recovery, and lobby Congress to end state-sponsored torture.

## UUA AND IMMIGRATION ISSUES

Immigration as a moral issue was selected by the 2010 UUA General Assembly as the congregational study/action issue for 2010 – 2014. A study program was created based on Margaret Regan's book, *The Death of Josseline*. Many members of the congregation have already read the book and numerous copies are available for others to read. Frances Tanaka will begin circulating them again starting on Febru-

ary 19. See her between services on Sunday or contact her at [yftanaka@cco.net](mailto:yftanaka@cco.net).

The UUA General Assembly ("The Justice GA"), to be held in Phoenix, Arizona from June 20–24 is another excellent place to learn more about immigration issues. For more information go to [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga).

—Frances Tanaka

# Books, Brownies & Beans used book sale

*Gigantic Book Sale and Gala Bistro at OUUC on Saturday, February 25!*



Great bargains are to be found at Books-Brownies-Beans' huge sale of used books, CD's, DVD's, audiobooks and video games! Come to browse the books and check out the Bistro, too — fresh-baked brownies, sundaes, coffee and tea plus live entertainment

in the OUUC Commons! Sale and Bistro hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All proceeds benefit *Out of the Woods*, a shelter for homeless families in our community.

- Mark your calendars and **save the date**. Invite and bring family members, friends, and neighbors.
- Mention the **Books Brownies Beans** sale and Bistro on your **Facebook** page!
- Collect and **donate to the sale**; leave books, CD's, DVD's audiobooks and video games in the

wide hallway near the minister's office (not in the Commons, please!).

- Ask **family members, friends, neighbors and co-workers to donate** to the sale---and to come on Saturday, Feb. 25, as well.
- **Sign out a brightly labeled Collection Box** to take to your gym, club meetings, workplace etc. Collection Boxes are available for sign-out after Sunday services.
- **Volunteer!** Many hands are needed for the sorting party on Thursday, Feb. 23 and many more will be needed on sale day, Saturday, Feb. 25. Sign up in the Commons after services on Sundays.

A reminder that this year, like last year, **there will be no pre-sale**. Sincere thanks to the many members and friends who have already contributed their efforts to the success of the 2012 BBB sale!

—*Michele Hendrickson*

## **Book ~ Brownies ~ Beans**

Saturday, February 25, 2012, OUUC

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Annual Used Book Sale & Bistro

## SO WHAT HAPPENED AT THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING?

On Friday the 13th, some good things happened at the OUUC Congregational Meeting.

With over 90 engaged UU members and friends attending, we did the following:

- We adopted an operating budget of \$451K for the 2012 year. This is based upon a pledge level of \$404K, which may be the healthiest pledge commitment yet delivered to OUUC. Thank you!
- We discussed the newly revised site plan for the Sanctuary expansion and increased parking. We have yet to move into details and estimates, but the plans are moving toward a match with our Capital Campaign pledges of \$714K. Thanks again!
- We were presented with a draft of our new Bylaws by the Bylaws Workgroup. We will consider these new “rules of the road” and submit com-

ments by February 15. The workgroup will edit the Bylaws with an objective of adopting the final form at the April 27th Annual Meeting.

- We also had a visit from the Chief Leprechaun for the March 17th annual auction, Pot o' Gold. She noted that the only thing more satisfying than enjoying the evening is volunteering to make it happen. Stay tuned!

—*Kelly Thompson*

# Pot O' Gold St. Patrick's Day Auction

*Mark calendars for the annual OUUC auction March 17 for all members, friends and guests*



Hold the Date for the Annual OUUC Auction! Saint Patrick's Day, March 17 starting at 4:30 p.m. is our annual OUUC auction. This is a three-part opportunity to make new friends and deepen existing friendships and one of the most fun events on our calendar. St. Patrick's Day is our theme this year.

First, you can volunteer to fill one of the many slots needed to make this event a success. The auction involves about half the membership as volunteers and new help is needed both before and on the day. Let the Auction Chair/Chief Leprechaun, Julie Rodwell, know or look for sign-up sheets in the Commons very soon.

Second, you can have fun and make new friends at the silent auction, dinner and live auction event on March 17 itself.

Third, you can go to parties and outings all year long by bidding for them at the auction.

## How to Buy Tickets

Tickets will be \$30 per person this year, available online at [www.ouuc.org/auction](http://www.ouuc.org/auction). Seats are limited. You will also be able to buy tickets in person on some

Sundays during February and March. More on that soon.

## How to Donate Items

You can donate your items and events online, at [www.ouuc.org/auction](http://www.ouuc.org/auction). For donations other than events, February and March dates will be posted that you can deliver them to the container at the church. Please attach the donation form! Please note that childcare will NOT be provided at the auction venue, but parents desiring to collaborate on shared childcare elsewhere should contact Sharon Love at 754-3586 or [olyshar@gmail.com](mailto:olyshar@gmail.com)

Questions? Suggestions? Contact Julie Rodwell, 2012 Auction Chair at [julie.cfd@ccountry.net](mailto:julie.cfd@ccountry.net).

—Julie Rodwell

## NEW MEMBER CELEBRATION

February 19th at first service we will be welcoming new members into our congregation once again. Potential members have attended the Membership Class — or if they have come from another UU church, they have met with the minister, Arthur. At this writing, the class is in process so stay tuned for numbers and names.

Meantime, Cynde LaPrelle is organizing a finger-food brunch between services in honor of the new members. We hope that folks from first service will stay...and folks attending second service will come early.

Please make it a point to meet the new folks. You'll know who they are as each will be carrying a flower which they will receive as part of the service.

Any finger-food makers/bakers out there? Cynde needs a few more people to be sure there's enough for all. If you can help, please contact her to see what's needed at [craic23@yahoo.com](mailto:craic23@yahoo.com).

—Cynde  
LaPrelle & Linda Crabtree



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN’S RETREAT, MARCH 2 – 4

It's time for our annual UU Women's Retreat, hosted by our Tacoma friends — your opportunity to bond with fellow UU women and take time out to focus on you. We will celebrate ourselves through creative, physical and spiritual activities. This weekend is yours to use as you wish: engage with others, spend time in quiet contemplation, or do both! We'll be at Camp Seymour, located on beautiful Glen Cove, just 30 miles from Tacoma! Enjoy:

- **Two** nights in heated cabins with bathrooms and showers.
- **Five** meals prepared and served by camp staff (no cooking or dishwashing)!
- **Outdoor** activities: hiking, archery, boating, climbing wall, quiet contemplation.
- **Workshops:** Chocolate Appreciation (the sequel!); Getting Healthy Staying Healthy; Journaling Your Life; Meet Pierce County's Famous Suffragettes; Nature Walk; Book Sharing and Discussion; Yoga; Arts & Crafts and MORE!
- **Massages** for an additional fee (first-come, first-served; sign-in sheets will be available at the retreat).
- **Sunday service.**



**•Keynote speaker:**  
 Lisa Voso is a trial attorney and professional speaker. Her topic will be “It’s OK...Just Catch the Next Bus.” You can read more about her at [www.vosoimpact.com/](http://www.vosoimpact.com/).

WHAT DO WE DO AT THE RETREAT?

**Friday:** Check-in (4–7 p.m.); dinner (7–8 p.m.); keynote speaker; gathering worship and get ac-

quainted; unscheduled time (crafts, games, fellowship)

**Saturday:** Breakfast, lunch, and dinner served. Workshops will be offered throughout the day along with indoor/outdoor activities. After dinner, we’ll have an informal talent show, a short worship, quiet games and/or a sock hop!

**Sunday:** Breakfast and closing service.

REGISTRATION

Registration with a deposit of \$55 to guarantee yourself a spot! Discounted price (if registered by January 22) is \$105. Full price (if registered after January 22) is \$115. Saturday only (no overnight stay) is \$ 60.

A few partial scholarships are available on a first come, first served basis (donations to the scholarship fund are appreciated; see registration form available at [tuuc-wa.org/](http://tuuc-wa.org/).

**Registration deadline is February 19.**

Directions, map, packing list and itinerary will be sent 7-10 days before the retreat. We encourage carpooling. If you need a driver or passenger(s) please contact Allison Cerny at [alcerny@gmail.com](mailto:alcerny@gmail.com).

INFORMATION

To register, please contact Laura Gardner at [imgardner@comcast.net](mailto:imgardner@comcast.net). If you need a partial scholarship or have questions, please contact Allison Cerny at [alcerny@gmail.com](mailto:alcerny@gmail.com) or Debbie Cafazzo at [debbie.cafazzo@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.cafazzo@gmail.com).

—Jody Subrbier

**Lisa Voso**

Lisa offers leadership training, human resources training, customer service training, and does public speaking and keynotes. She helps people learn to speak comfortably and confidently in any situation. She entertains, engages and inspires audiences with her energy and charm.



**WANTED.** One easel to be used in the Commons on Sunday mornings to display event sign-up sheets and displays created by OUUC committees. Just a simple easel that would support a posterboard is needed. To donate an easel or ask questions, contact Bonnie Guyer Graham at 786-6383, ext. 104 or [ConnectionsCoordinator@ouuc.org](mailto:ConnectionsCoordinator@ouuc.org).

At Your Service				
	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
<b>Usher</b>	<b>9:15a</b> Joyce Steckler, Sheila Arendt <b>11:00a</b> Caroline True	<b>9:15a</b> Jan Spiller, Terrence Zander <b>11:00a</b> Susan Bakke, Nancy Brickell	<b>9:15a</b> Harmon Eaton, Sheila Arendt <b>11:00a</b> Ruth Abad, Michele Hendrickson	<b>9:15a</b> Ilona Hruska, Tricia Kiech <b>11:00a</b> Helen Henry, Anatha Attar
<b>Greeter</b>	<b>9:15a</b> Jan Pearson, Bernie Steckler <b>11:00a</b> Ruby Elliott, Jean Phillips	<b>9:15a</b> Melanie Ransom <b>11:00a</b> Helen Henry, Ruth Abad	<b>9:15a</b> Lorrie Eaton, Diana Finch <b>11:00a</b> Alice Kane, Elena Pierini-Buls	<b>9:15a</b> Jo Ann & Mikel Young <b>11:00a</b> Carol Williams, Selena Kilmoyer
<b>Coffee</b>	<b>9:15a</b> Alice Curtis, Mary Ellen Dawson <b>11:00a</b> Iran & David Luhr	<b>9:15a</b> Jan Pearson, Jean Phillips <b>11:00a</b> Ilona & Mark Swanson	<b>9:15a</b> Fumiko & Brian Coyne <b>11:00a</b> Bonnie Workman, Barb Carey	<b>9:15a</b> Nancy & Denys Curtiss <b>11:00a</b> Rick & Betsy Brandt-Kreutz
<b>AVTech</b>	Claire McGahern	Mikel Young	Fred Kellogg	George Lanning

## WHAT IS CARING FRIENDS?

Caring Friends are over 200 members and friends of OUUC who have signed up to be notified when one of our members has a crisis situation and/or is in need of some assistance. There is no obligation to do anything at all, but the opportunity is there if you can help.

When a good deal of assistance is needed, a coordinator from the Pastoral Care Team is designated

to organize the assistance with such things as driving to appointments and meal preparation.

If you wish to be added to the email list for Caring Friends and receive these announcements, please notify Mary Walton Cameron at [mwcameron@comcast.net](mailto:mwcameron@comcast.net).

—Mary Walton Cameron.

## LADY UNITARIAN SOCIAL HOUR



Ladies, please join us for the Lady Unitarian Social Hour (LUSH!) every Tuesday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. We gather at different venues around town. This is intended to be a drop in event, so if it works for you any given Tuesday, please join us. Newcomers are always welcome! Venues are: February 7th at the Chambers House Restaurant at Panorama, February 14th at Susan Bakke's house (bring a treat or drink to share!), February 21st at Mercato, and February 28 at Fall's Terrace. Hope you can join us!

—Suzanne Wilson & Susan Bakke

## GUYS TGIF MOVED TO THURSDAYS

"Guys, Thursday's is an even better day for a brewski"! This is an informal group of guys that get together each Thursday afternoon for refreshments and conversation at a local ale house of interest. (We previously met on Fridays, but haven't come up with a good new name yet.)

If you want to participate, contact Bernard Brady [broadeye@comcast.net](mailto:broadeye@comcast.net) and he'll put you on the e-mail list. The group gathers at about 4:30 p.m. and never goes past 6:00 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

—Bernie Brady

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Nursery care, 0–4 years old  
 9:15 All ages Storytellers Class  
 11:00 Age specific classes  
 12:30 High school youth group

**NEWS DEADLINE**

February 19 at 11 a.m. for the March issue. Send to [unitariana@ouuc.org](mailto:unitariana@ouuc.org).

**FEBRUARY**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00am-Faith Like a River 10:30am-PUG 6:00pm-Worship Arts 7:00pm-Get Organized Class 7:00pm-Navigating OUUC	2 10:00am-MUG 1:00pm-Students of the Dharma 4:30pm-Guys Thursday 7:00pm-Family Ministry 7:00pm-Turning the Ship 7:00pm-Knitting at the UU	3 6:00pm-Meditation	4 9:30am-Crafty Mamas and Papas 10:00am-Voice Class
5 9:15am-Worship 9:15am-Church School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Church School 12:30pm-Laughter Yoga 12:30pm-Youth Group	6 7:00pm-Choir Practice 7:00pm-Me and My Level Head	7 12:30pm-First Aid Class 4:30pm-LUSH 7:00pm-Bonds That Make Us Free Class 7:00pm-A Chosen Faith 7:30pm-CUUPS Monthly Circle	8 9:00am-Faith Like a River 10:30am-PUG 7:00pm-Addictions Ministry 7:00pm-Get Organized Class	9 10:00am-MUG 1:00pm-Students of the Dharma 4:30pm-Guys Thursday 7:00pm-Board 7:00pm-Turning the Ship	10 10:30am-Non-Church Event 6:00pm-Meditation	11 9:00am-Warm Windows 10:00am-Voice Class 10:00am-Addiction Class
12 <b>Choir sings</b> 9:15am-Worship 9:15am-Church School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Church School 12:30pm-Laughter Yoga 12:30pm-Youth Group	13 6:30pm-Book Sale Planning 7:00pm-Me and My Level Head	14 4:30pm-LUSH 6:00pm-Buildings and Grounds 7:00pm-Leadership Development Team  <b>VALENTINE'S DAY</b>	15 9:00am-Faith Like a River 10:30am-PUG 7:00pm-Choir Practice	16 10:00am-MUG 1:00pm-Adult Education 1:00pm-Students of the Dharma 4:30pm-Guys Thursday 5:00pm-Non-Church Event 7:00pm-Committee on Ministry 7:00pm-Book Group 7:00pm-Knitting at the UU	17 8:30am-Non-Church Event 6:00pm-Meditation	18 8:30am-Non-Church Event 9:00am-Warm Windows 9:00am-Preparing for a Disaster 10:00am-Voice Class 1:30pm-Parenting Book Group
19 9:15am-Worship 9:15am-Church School 10:15am-New Member Welcome Brunch 10:45am-Introduction to OUUC 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Church School 12:30pm-Laughter Yoga 12:30pm-Youth Group	20 7:00pm-Travel That Transforms Lives  <b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b>	21 4:30pm-LUSH 5:30pm-Circles of the Spirit Facilitators 6:00pm-Non-Church Event 6:30pm-Non-Church Event 6:30pm-Book Sale Planning 7:00pm-Bonds That Make Us Free Class	22 9:00am-Faith Like a River 10:30am-PUG 7:00pm-Choir Practice	23 10:00am-MUG 1:00pm-Students of the Dharma 3:00pm-Book Sale Prep 4:30pm-Guys Thursday 7:00pm-OTW Board	24 3:00pm-Book Sale Prep 6:00pm-Meditation	25 10:00am-Voice Class 10:00am-Books Beans Brownies 5:00pm-Family Game Night
26 <b>Choir sings</b> 9:15am-Worship 9:15am-Church School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Church School 12:30pm-Laughter Yoga 12:30pm-Youth Group 1:30pm-Non-Church Event	27 6:15pm-Partner Church 7:00pm-Travel That Transforms Lives	28 4:30pm-LUSH 5:00pm-Share the Plate Reception 7:00pm-Communications 7:00pm-Bonds That Make Us Free Class	29 10:30am-PUG 7:00pm-Choir Practice			

**NATIONAL  
 STANDING ON THE SIDE OF  
 LOVE  
 MONTH**

Welcome to THIRTY DAYS OF LOVE, beginning Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and culminating with Valentine's Day! THIRTY DAYS OF LOVE is a collective visioning process about making sense of the present moment, and what we are called to do. We aim to accomplish this with public advocacy campaigns — this month by telling Congress to stand on the side of love, by spreading the word about standing on the side of love, and by sharing stories which recognize those who exemplify the values of inclusion, diversity and equality. See the action calendar, the blog, stories and much more on the website.

—[www.standingonthesideoflove.org/](http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/)



## Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation

2300 East End St NW  
Olympia, WA 98502

### Newsletter via email

offers color photos, links to additional information, early delivery, less copying and mailing costs, and less use of paper. To change, just email the church office at [liberalfaith@ouuc.org](mailto:liberalfaith@ouuc.org).

## February Highlights

### GUEST AT YOUR TABLE



FEBRUARY 6-26. By celebrating Guest at Your Table, we are helping nurture a spirit of gratitude and justice, equity, and compassion in human relations here and around the world.

### BOOKS, BROWNIES & BEANS



FEBRUARY 25, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Great bargains on used books, CD's, DVD's, audiobooks and video games! Also a Bistro of coffee, brownies, entertainment and more.

### SHARE THE PLATE RECEPTION



FEBRUARY 28, 5 – 7 p.m. A celebration to meet and honor the 2011 recipients of Share the Plate. We'll enjoy hors d'oeuvres and hear short presentations.

## Contact Us

### Office Hours

Monday–Thursday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

### Contact Info

360-786-6383, [www.ouuc.org](http://www.ouuc.org),  
[liberalfaith@ouuc.org](mailto:liberalfaith@ouuc.org)

### Minister

The Reverend Arthur Vaeni

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