

## A Message From Bill Taking a Bite of the Apple

September rolls around once again and that evokes pleasant thoughts of apple harvest. I look out of my home office window at our four apple trees and see a profusion of their fruit ripening in spite of La Nina. Frances and I annually squeeze our apples into cider—truly an ambrosia.

September is also the month that we start the new church calendar, go back to two Sunday services, revive our Wednesday adult spiritual development classes, children's RE, and our burgeoning youth group. The choir will start warbling and Karin Van Vlack has put together a scintillating menu of topics for our Chalice Circle groups to bite into. I will return to my regular Wednesday (or Tuesday) through Sunday schedule in a reinvigorated condition. Additionally, this Fall we will kick off four major events going beyond business as usual.

In September, we will meet on a Sunday afternoon/evening to take a look at new architectural concepts for our Orchard Street property prepared pursuant to congregational vote in 2008. In October, we will conduct our annual stewardship drive and the results will go a long way towards putting us on a directional course for the future. In November, we plan on kicking off a discernment/dream shaping process, in which every member will be invited to participate in an exploration of what is precious about our community and what it could be. The precise form this will take is in the process of being detailed by a planning committee appointed by the Board. We have every reason to expect the result to be a joyful, non-boring, passion-building experience. The fourth major event to be anticipated is consideration of the proposals of our Bylaws Committee, the fruits of their dedicated industry going on for over a year.

Whew! Why do we do all this? My thoughts go back to the original apple picking myth. Curious, courageous, authority-challenging Eve wanted to know the difference between good and evil contained somehow in an apple. Learning the difference, Adam and Eve were forever changed. They saw that they lived in a fragile world, not in paradise. They saw that they were capable of moral and compassionate lives—or, of selfish and destructive lives. Perhaps we are doing all these activities together at TUUC because we are people preferring to bend our capabilities in the former direction, to nurture life. We sense that being a part of a progressive religious community, especially this one, offers us our best chance. We know we are fallible and need one another's help and love. We know the world needs our collective help.

In a sermon this past Spring I shared with you my personal credo: 1) To grow a soul [continued on page 4]

## Enid R. Laulicht

Enid R. Laulicht of Tacoma WA died of cardiac arrest on August 15, 2011 at St. Josephs Hospital. Enid was born April 30, 1929 in New York City. She was a librarian for the Veteran's Administration in Tacoma before her retirement in 1995. Enid earned a masters degree in library science from the University of Toronto. She attended New York City's Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Art and maintained a lifelong interest in the visual and performing arts. Enid was an active member of the Tacoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation for the past 30 years. She was an avid reader who also enjoyed experiencing the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest, traveling and socializing. She was always delighted when friends or family came to visit.

Enid was married to Jerome Herman Laulicht in 1949. They lived in Kentucky, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Ontario, and Pennsylvania and were divorced in 1973. Enid moved to Tacoma for her job in 1980 and built a strong network of friends in the community.

She is survived by her three daughters, Nancy Laulicht Seibel, Iliana Laulicht and Roberta Laulicht Sims. She has five grandchildren, Casey, Zac and Maddie Sims and Stephen and David Seibel. Her daughters remember their mother discussing world events, drawing and painting, sewing clothes and dance costumes for them, teaching them to knit, and folk dancing. She shared with them her love of reading and the value of giving to others. Her many friends remember her giving spirit, her humor, her beautiful smile, her eagerness to learn, and her interest in and concern for those around her. Family and friends are sharing memories and celebrations of her life.



**Fall Canvass Dinner**  
**Sunday, October 16 from 5:00 to 7:00**  
**Watch for details in the October Dialog.**

## Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation

1115 South 56th Street Tacoma, WA 98408

(253) 474-4646 ❖ <http://tuuc-wa.org>

Office: [admin@tuuc-wa.org](mailto:admin@tuuc-wa.org) Publications: [editor@tuuc-wa.org](mailto:editor@tuuc-wa.org)

### *Ministers / Staff*

Consulting Minister:	Rev. Bill Graves
Community Minister:	Rev. Jim Anderson
Dir. of Religious Exploration:	Lori Fernholz-Hartman
Youth Director:	Anne-Marie Davidson
Program Coordinator:	Susie Maharry
Music Director:	Rafe Wadleigh
Administrator:	Michael Field
Publications:	James Venturini

### *2011 Board of Trustees Members*

Church President:	Jack Bregger
Church Vice President:	Susan Dye
Church Secretary:	Susan Kunkel
Church Treasurer:	Harold Smelt ( <i>ex-officio</i> )
Trustees:	Steven Garrett, Chris Lawson, Rob Ramsey, Skip Tripp

### *Program Area Representatives*

Religious Exploration:	Debbie Cafazzo
Business and Communications:	TBD
Worship and Celebration:	Virginia Lane
Facilities Use and Management:	Bob Hays
Membership and Ministry:	Maryellen Martinez
Social Justice/Just Peacemaking:	Jan Karroll

### *Lay Pastoral Care Team*

Chair: Barb Lutzewitz. Members: An Alburger, Connie Andersen, Joan Benderson, Nancy Meyer, Rob Ramsey, Bruce Rowan, and Loretta Skochenko-Dhaese



*The Dialog* is published ten times per year and is sent to all TUUC contributors. Visitors who sign our TUUC guest book will receive six complimentary issues. The next due date for articles is **5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23** for the **OCTOBER issue**.

To receive the following two **weekly email messages**, please sign up at

[http://tuuc-wa.org/mailman/listinfo/announce\\_tuuc-wa.org](http://tuuc-wa.org/mailman/listinfo/announce_tuuc-wa.org)  
(underscore symbol before 2nd tuuc)

\* **Caring Community** is an un-archived, subscribed Tuesday email notice for members and friends to share joys, sorrows, concerns, and personal announcements. Submissions are due by **noon on Mondays**.

\* **Weekly E-News** is an online & emailed Thursday message of church business and news. Submissions are due by **noon on Wednesdays**, the same as for the **Sunday Order of Service**.

Send articles and announcements to James Venturini at [edi-tor@tuuc-wa.org](mailto:editor@tuuc-wa.org); please ALSO send your event DATES & TIMES to Mike Field at [admin@tuuc-wa.org](mailto:admin@tuuc-wa.org)

## OUR VISION

The Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation is an enduring community in which we promote the values of liberal religion through our actions both individually and as a community.

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation is to sustain a community in which we:

- Welcome all with love and compassion,
- Celebrate the diversity in our common humanity,
- Inspire the spirit, heart, and mind,
- Engage with the wider community in working for justice,
- Live and promote Unitarian Universalist principles.

## TUUC COVENANT

We the members of the Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation, do hereby commit ourselves to strive to live by the following words:

- 1) I will connect with people in a respectful and loving way by listening carefully, by welcoming newcomers and members alike with kindness and encouragement, and by promoting diversity.
- 2) I will offer my stewardship to enable the church and its programs to flourish; and to provide fair compensation, a proper working environment and continuing professional development of the minister and church staff.
- 3) I will make commitments thoughtfully, keep them faithfully, and support the work done by others.
- 4) I will pay faithful attention to my relationship to the church, and balance my commitment to the nurturing of myself and others.
- 5) I will support the Board of Trustees, its committees, and the staff in the governance of the congregation, and will express my opinions through these channels, especially if I disagree with a decision.
- 6) Recognizing that conflict can be an opportunity, I will engage with others in responsible problem solving by speaking respectfully and directly to the person involved first; and by listening carefully, respecting confidences, and being willing to participate in mediation.
- 7) I will participate in a process that examines the church's relationship to the wider community and strives to be a responsible, vital, and inspirational part of that community in a way that is consistent with our Unitarian Universalist principles and values.

# September 2011 Events & Activities at TUUC

## EVERY WEEK (\*denotes RENTERS)

**MONDAY** by Noon - Caring Community notes DUE--p.2  
7:00 pm - Vipassana Meditation  
7:00 pm - elsewhere: TUUC BAND -- RSVP for location, [wolfwall2@gmail.com](mailto:wolfwall2@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY** 6:30 pm - AA Group \*

**WEDNESDAY** by Noon - Weekly E-news notes DUE---p.2  
by Noon - Order of Service notes DUE---p.2  
6:30 pm - Adult Spiritual Development  
7:00 pm - Choir --see Program Guide

**THURSDAY** 6:00 pm - Yoga

**SUNDAY** **Worship Services** ---see back cover  
11:15 am - Youth Group, Thomas Jefferson Rm

## UNIQUE EVENTS in SEPT.

**SUN. SEPTEMBER 4**, 9:00a Pancake Breakfast  
**SUN. SEPTEMBER 11**, 12:30p Gallery Opening p.5  
**THUR. SEPTEMBER 15** 7:30p Young Adults Group  
**SAT. SEPTEMBER 17**, 6:30p Intrepids Game Night p.5  
**SUN. SEPTEMBER 18**, 8:30a RE Brunch/Lunch p.10  
**SUN. SEPTEMBER 18**, 10:30a Sally Craig celebration p4  
**FRI. SEPTEMBER 23**, 5:00p October Dialog newsletter items **DUE**  
**SUN. SEPTEMBER 25**, 5:00p New church milestone meeting p.5

## TUUC Online Calendar

<http://www.my.calendars.net/tuucadmin>

## ONCE (or twice) each MONTH

<b>FIRST SUNDAY:</b>	<b>Facilitators Covenant Group</b> , 9:15 a.m.	- September 4	---see Program Guide
	<b>Supper for Tacoma Ave. Shelter</b>	- September 4	
<b>SECOND SATURDAY:</b>	<b>Program Council</b> , 9:00 a.m.	- September 10	
<b>SECOND SUNDAY:</b>	<b>Program Advisory Committee</b> , 11:15 a.m.	- September 11	
	<b>Religious Exploration Committee</b> , 12:30 p.m.	- September 11	
	<b>Rationality Covenant Group</b> , 12:30 p.m.	- September 11	---see Program Guide
	<b>Social Action Committee</b> , 12:30 p.m.	- September 11	---see page 5
<b>SECOND MONDAY:</b>	<b>Art &amp; Creativity Covenant Group</b> , 6:30 p.m.	- September 12	
<b>SECOND TUESDAY:</b>	<b>Men's Reading Group</b> , 6:30 p.m.	- September 13	
<b>SECOND WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>Lay Pastoral Care Team</b> , 4:30 p.m.	- September 14	
	<b>Women In Black</b> , 5:15 p.m.	- September 14	---see page 5
<b>THIRD FRIDAY:</b>	<b>Third Friday Potluck</b> 12:00 p.m.	- September 16	
<b>THIRD SUNDAY:</b>	<b>Yes, We CAN! Food Drive</b> , during worship	- September 18	
	<b>Computer Club</b> , 12:15 p.m.	- September 18	---see Program Guide
	<b>NW Detention Center Vigil</b> 1:00 p.m.	- September 18	
<b>THIRD TUESDAY:</b>	<b>Board of Trustees</b> 6:30 p.m. (open to members)	- September 20	
<b>THIRD THURSDAY:</b>	<b>Hospitality Kitchen Serving</b> 8:00 a.m.	- September 22	
	<b>Worship Committee</b> 5:30 p.m.	- September 22	
	<b>TUUC Young Adults - 6th Ave.</b> 7:30 p.m.	- September 22	---see Program Guide
<b>FOURTH SATURDAY:</b>	<b>Parenting Covenant Group.</b> 5:00p in homes	- September 24	
<b>FOURTH SUNDAY:</b>	<b>Membership Committee</b> , 12:30 p.m.	- September 25	
<b>FOURTH TUESDAY:</b>	<b>Simplicity Discussion Group.</b> 6:30 p.m.	- September 27	--- Thos. Jefferson Rm
<b>FOURTH WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>Women In Black</b> 5:15 p.m.	- September 28	---see page 5
<b>LAST FRIDAY:</b>	<b>Sandwich Making for Hungry/Homeless</b> 5:30p.m.	- September 30	

## COMING UP

Celebrant Training **OCTOBER 1**, See page 7  
Pathways to membership **OCTOBER 15, 22**, See page 7



Read about TUUC Programs in the [2011 Winter/Spring Program Guide](#)

Click link above, or look for this Peace Chalice at [tuuc-wa.org](http://tuuc-wa.org)

# Money Matters

## Focus on Adult Spiritual Development And Covenant Groups

Do you know what some of the biggest attractions of new members to TUUC are? Potential members repeatedly say they are drawn by the educational/discussion opportunities offered through our Adult Spiritual Development classes and the covenant groups and chalice circles. A high percentage of Wednesday evening attendees are new members and folks contemplating membership, and the total number of participants in general has increased each year.

Six years ago there was one covenant group. It was for women and when it reached its limit of 10 members it was closed to anyone new. This was not a warm way to welcome new members. Currently there are 15 covenant groups for both men and women that focus on specific and general areas of interest. New ones are actively evolving as interests develop. Last year there were 5 chalice circles as well, which run for 9 months and focus on specific areas of discussion.

As we have developed programming to meet the wishes/needs of our members, we have grown into a more vibrant, dynamic congregation. We have all said we want this church to expand and flourish. What have we done to make this happen so far? We have hired Susie Maharry as our part-time program coordinator to develop these varied and intriguing programs. She currently has a budget of \$1000 for program development. Think where we could go if she could focus on this full time, if this budget could include outside professional speakers/trainers, if we could maintain a library of training materials, and if we had quality AV equipment to support programming, etc.

We often talk about increasing membership to support all the dreams we have. However, it takes a village to build a congregation. We need the support of every congregant we have now. Together we can project our shared vision for TUUC and do everything in our power to make that happen. If we build ourselves a beautiful new church; provide programming to stimulate our minds, bodies, and spirits; support community outreach at a whole new level ... When we do this, they will come ...

Please, each one of you, think clearly what your vision is for TUUC and what it can offer to you and to the greater community. Then open your heart and help make that happen.

Our canvass campaign is right around the corner. Please catch the spirit and help us go OVER THE TOP!

—Chris George and Barbara Tripp

## TUUC CHARITABLE COLLECTIONS

— August 2011 —  
(excluding Sunday August 28)

For TUUC Operations: \$ 505

**Change For Change: \$ 65.38**  
(*NW Immigrants Rights Project*)

“Yes, We CAN!” Third Sunday Food Drive: \$0

### SUNDAY ATTENDANCE (EXCLUDES SUNDAY, AUGUST 28)

July 31  
108 at 10:30 a.m.  
August 7  
78 at 10:30 a.m.  
August 14  
93 at 10:30 a.m.  
August 21  
135 at 10:30 a.m.

## Sally Craig

Sunday, September 18, 2011, will be a belated celebration for Sally Craig's 101st birthday since she wasn't able to attend her 100th; we'll also celebrate the lives of our octo- and nonagenarians with a "bruncheon" during the social hour. Details and requests for assistance at a later

### Message from Bill continued

(i.e., to nurture wholeness and compassion); 2) to love and be loved; 3) to help repair the world. Why do this in a religious community? Perhaps, at its best, religion is where spiritually alive people accompany, guide and support each other in bending their lives in the same three directions. That is the wisdom from biting the apple I find most compelling.

You have come a long way last year after a time of reeling. I am looking forward with enthusiasm to a year of deepening and strengthening our shared awareness of our purpose and ownership of this church community. It's September. The apple harvest is coming and so is the church year—both delicious.

--Reverend Bill Graves

## Social Action Committee

Put the Associated Ministries annual Hunger Walk on your calendars now - October 2, 2011, 2:00 p.m., Fort Steilacoom Park.

The next vigil at the Northwest Detention Center will be on September 18 at 1 p.m., and the next Social Action meeting will be on September 11, after church, in the Betty Turner room downstairs.

September's Change for Change expands our borders to another country in supporting Kids in Need of Desks (K.I.N.D.). This is a joint program with UNICEF along with Lawrence O'Donnell, a commentator on MSNBC, to improve schools in Malawi through the donation of desks. O'Donnell visited Malawi on vacation and was stunned to see how students had to learn as they typically sit on dirt floors. Each desk is \$48 and made locally in Malawi using a time-honored and tested design from UNICEF; each desk seats two students--given how thin the Malawian students are, three students are frequently accommodated by one desk. Additional information/videos are available at [LastWordDesks.msnbc.com](http://LastWordDesks.msnbc.com) or [unicefusa.org/kind](http://unicefusa.org/kind).

## Third Friday Potluck

September starts with a bang- well maybe a little tweet. Frances Wood will present a program on Birding. She is a writer, avid birder and the wife of our minister. Lunch starts at noon. Bring your favorite dish. September 16 at noon.

## Women In Black

The next Women in Black vigils are **Wednesdays September 14 & 28** in front of the US Courthouse at 1717 Pacific Avenue, from 5:15 to 6:15 pm. I hope TUUC women can attend.

## Come See What Our New Church Might Be

September 25 (Sunday) 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM David Boe, our architect, has four beautiful concept designs which he will present to the Congregation. You'll see what the exterior can look like and how the building fits on the site. You also can view floor plans for interior space and how they meet our needs. Members of the New Church Building Committee will explain the challenges in funding the building and other aspects of the project. The meeting will start with an invocation and a short history of church-building at TUUC by Bill Graves. Refreshments will be served. Childcare and dinner for the children will be available. Please contact the church office if you intend to bring along your family.

## Intrepids

GAME NIGHT SATURDAY the 17th 6:30 p.m.

We'll choose between Pictionary, poker or ... ? Always fun! BYOB as in beverage and finger food potluck, optional if you don't plan to snack. All adults are welcome! Our game nights have been very successful!

If interested, please contact

Felice [fdavis1944@gmail.com](mailto:fdavis1944@gmail.com) 253-756-4977

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## MARY BOZE GALLERY

Please plan on staying after second service on **Sunday, September 11 at 12:30 p.m.** to welcome and learn about the art of Mauricio Robalino, who began painting at age ten during a month-long boat ride from his native South America to England. His mastery of color, shape, and timeless images is informed by his Equatorial upbringing and influenced by artists of all times and cultures. This is an opening not to be missed! The show will run through November 1.

Questions? Kathy Crabb [\(253\) 973-2218](tel:2539732218) or [crabb.kathy@gmail.com](mailto:crabb.kathy@gmail.com)



## Laura Foltz Memorial Library News

The library committee has recently added a small selection of books on addiction recovery and sobriety to the Laura Foltz Memorial Library collection. These are some of the titles:

One Breath at a Time: Buddhism and the Twelve Steps (c2004) by Kevin Griffin

Staying Sober: A Guide for Relapse Prevention (c1986) by Terence Gorski

Passages through Recovery: An Action Plan for Preventing Relapse (c1997) also by Gorski

The Enabler: When Helping Hurts the Ones You Love (c2001) by Angelyn Miller

Why Don't They Just Quit? (c2010) by Joe Herzanek

Two titles new to the collection, one for adults, one for children, are these (reviews are from Booklist Magazine):

A book intended for middle readers is Inside Out and Back Again (c2011) by Thanhha Lai, which I am currently reading and thoroughly enjoying.

After her father has been missing in action for nine years during the Vietnam War, 10-year-old Hà flees with her mother and three older brothers. Traveling first by boat, the family reaches a tent city in Guam, moves on to Florida, and is finally connected with sponsors in Alabama, where Hà finds refuge but also cruel rejection, especially from mean classmates. Based on Lai's personal experience, this first novel captures a child-refugee's struggle with rare honesty. Written in accessible, short free-verse poems, Hà's immediate narrative describes her mistakes—both humorous and heartbreaking—with grammar, customs, and dress (she wears a flannel nightgown to school, for example); and readers will be moved by Hà's sorrow as they recognize the anguish of being the outcast who spends lunchtime hiding in the bathroom. Eventually, Hà does get back at the sneering kids who bully her at school, and she finds help adjusting to her new life from a kind teacher who lost a son in Vietnam. The elemental details of Hà's struggle dramatize a foreigner's experience of alienation. And even as she begins to shape a new life, there is no easy comfort: her father is still gone. Grades 4-8.--Hazel Rochman

**Beginner's Grace: Bringing Prayer to Life** (c2010) by Kate Braestrup, who is a UU Minister and Chaplain for the Maine Warden Service, is Braestrup's next book after **Here If You Need Me: A True Story** (c2008), one of my favorite memoirs.

Braestrup is astute, entertaining, and scholarly in suggesting prayers from myriad faiths that have served countless generations, including this one. There are prayers for almost every occasion and circumstance: shared meals, birth, death and grief, old age, bedtime for anxious children, safety for those facing daily occupational hazards, even romantic intentions. She invites people to make up their own prayers as she includes tales of frayed nerves, abiding love, and opting for generosity in settings as mundane as the Shop 'N Save. This confirms the comfort and grace afforded by prayer and its power to reveal the beauty of life, warts and all. Amen. --Susan DeGrane

As a reminder, here is the address for linking to the TUUC library collection online:

[www.librarything.com/catalog/tuuclibrary](http://www.librarything.com/catalog/tuuclibrary)

Another reminder – the Laura Foltz Memorial Library accepts donations of books, both paperback and hardcover, DVDs, and CDs for which you no longer have room on your home shelves. If the item does not go into the collection, it will be put on the book sale shelves in the sanctuary for others to browse and purchase. Proceeds from the sale of these items go into TUUC's general fund. Please remember to return books you have checked out from the church library when they are due, or let the library staff know you wish to renew them. Others may be waiting for them.

**Good reading! --Beverly Wilson [bbwilson46@gmail.com](mailto:bbwilson46@gmail.com)**

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# Bible Study:

## Seeking wisdom in scripture from a liberal religious perspective

**3rd Sunday of the Month, Sept. through May – 11:15 a.m., during 2nd service**

The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) is a three-year cycle of readings from the Bible used by many Protestant churches. The RCL identifies Old Testament and New Testament readings for each week. It usually is about 10 minutes of reading, but we should have fertile ground for an hour of discussion. What did the ancients really mean? What was the historical perspective? Do different translations give a different impression? How does this speak to us in our modern, UU world?

Last year, the participants in the group had some great discussions. Ironically, we were often able to relate the readings for the week to the sermon we had just listened to in the 9:30 service.

Bring a Bible, if you can (any translation). A few extras will be provided. Location: TUUC Library

### 2011 Bible Study Schedule

**September 18, 2011**

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

**October 16, 2011**

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalms 99

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

**November 20, 2011**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalms 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

**December 18, 2011**

Luke 2:1-20

Isaiah 52:7-10

Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)

John 1:1-14

Psalms 98

### Upcoming Pathways to Membership Classes

If you are interested in becoming a member of TUUC or learning more about UUism, please join us at our fall PATHWAYS to Membership classes, which will be held two Saturday mornings, October 15th and 22nd from 8:30 until noon. Breakfast goodies will be provided at 8:15 and childcare will be available upon request. Attending these classes is not a commitment to membership but we hope that all potential members will make every effort to attend both sessions. This is a great way to learn more about us and to meet and become well-acquainted with a core group of people within our church community. If it is not possible for you to attend these sessions but would like to become a member of TUUC, please make an appointment to speak with Bill Graves, our Consulting Minister.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Barbara Tripp at [barbaramtripp@gmail.com](mailto:barbaramtripp@gmail.com), Felice Davis at [fdavis1944@gmail.com](mailto:fdavis1944@gmail.com), or call the church office at 474-4646. It is not necessary to let us know in advance that you are coming unless you need childcare.

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## Training for Potential Celebrants

Do you wonder about being a celebrant? It's part emcee-ing, sometimes part wrangling of people and things, and a rewarding way of volunteering. Training will be offered for potential celebrants the morning of Saturday, October 1. If you're interested, talk with a celebrant (after the service, please), or call Virginia Lane at 752-4339, or Janee Cox at 572-9463.

# Adult Spiritual Development

Wednesday Evening ASD

More information: Susie Maharry at [smaharry@hotmail.com](mailto:smaharry@hotmail.com).

## The Challenge of Compassion

Facilitator: Bill Graves

Dates: Wednesday, September 7

Time /Location: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. / TUUC

This class will view and discuss the 2011 Ware Lecture presented at the UU General Assembly in June by Karen Armstrong who is one of the world's leading commentators on religious affairs and a best-selling author. In this stunning lecture, Ms. Armstrong argues that compassion has been central to all the major faiths, and any ideology that does not restore compassion to the center of spiritual, religious and ethical life fails the test of time.

## Islam

Facilitators: Chris Meyers, Rachid Benkhalti, Rev. Bill Graves

Dates: Wednesdays, September 14, 21, 28

Time /Location: 6:30 – 8 p.m. / TUUC

We hear so much about Islam and about Muslims in the news, but it is often superficial or laden with stereotypes. We decided we wanted to learn more about Islam, and so we will have a series of three sessions on Islam.

**Sept. 14:** We will see a video on Islam, produced by the Smithsonian Institution. The video will give a lot of background and an introduction to Islam. After the video there will be time for a short discussion.

**Sept. 21:** Our guest speaker will be Rachid Benkhalti. Rachid was born in Morocco and raised as a Muslim. Rachid is a Professor of Mathematics at Pacific Lutheran University, and he has lived in the United States for many years. He will talk about his own experience growing up in a Muslim culture, and he will respond to any questions we may have.

**Sept 28:** "The Bible and the Quran" Sept. 28—Led by Rev. Bill Graves This class will examine some of the commonalities and differences among the scriptural mythology central to the Jewish, Christian and Islamic traditions. A video will be presented.

## Becoming Women of Wisdom: Marking the Passage Into the Crone Years

Facilitators: Mary Rhine and Susie Maharry

Dates: 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov 27, Jan 22

Time / Location: 11:15 to 12:45 p.m. / TUUC

What is a crone? How do you relate to this word, this stage of a woman's life? Ancient images of the divine feminine often represent a three-fold goddess – maiden, mother, and crone. In the crone phase of life, we are said to come into our wisdom. Psychologist and author Jean Shinoda Bolen says, in her book *Crones Don't Whine* that becoming a crone requires psychological and spiritual growth. She defines crone as "a crowning inner achievement of the third phase of life."

To examine what it means to be entering into our wisdom and marking our passage into the crone years, we will form a Wise Women's Circle that will meet through the church year to explore and grow. We will sit in council to learn from ourselves and from each other, to hear and to be heard. And we will create a ritual for ourselves to honor our transition at this stage of life.

If you want to embrace the crone years and accept your place as a wise woman, if you are willing to commit to meeting the fourth Sunday of each month during second service then join us on the journey!

Participation is limited to 12 women. Commitment to the entire process is important. This will not be a "drop in" class. A supply fee of \$10 will be collected, but no one will be turned away for inability to pay. Please contact Susie Maharry at [smaharry@hotmail.com](mailto:smaharry@hotmail.com) to register as soon as possible.

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# Chalice Circles

Chalice Circles meet once per month with 7-10 other TUUC members to practice deep listening skills. These groups meet from September 2011 through June 2012. This Year our Chalice Circles will be thematic to our year of discernment of collective vision initiated by Rev. Bill Graves. We will be using the four components of Appreciative Inquiry which are Discover, Dream, Design and Deliver to help guide us. Here are some examples of what group sessions might look like:

\*What you should know about me, or how I'm great right now!

\* Listening to my "still, small voice"

\*Daydreams and decisions - Participants reflect on how their daydreams and other ways of reflecting have influenced key decisions in their lives.

\*Designing my authentic, fabulous UU year ahead

\*Cultivating an Abandoned Place," from UU World, Spring 2011

\*Standing by the Side of Love

\*Blarney! Share a story, perhaps a bit exaggerated, that reveals something positive about you.

\*Stand and Deliver - Participants share an action they've taken that has grown from their reflection and dialogue in the past months. Group honors their efforts.

\*This I Appreciate!- Participants share a few words or sentences that arise from this prompt. Most of session is spent in conversation, fellowship, and perhaps with food?

Please contact Susie Maharry at [smaharry@hotmail.com](mailto:smaharry@hotmail.com) for more information on how you can get involved.

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## Choir

—God respects me when I work; but God loves me when I sing. ~Rabindranath Tagore

—He who sings frightens away his ills. ~Miguel de Cervantes, Don Quixote

—Of all the wonders of nature, a tree in summer is perhaps the most remarkable; with the possible exception of a moose singing "Embraceable You" in spats. ~Woody Allen

The TUUC Choir is winding up for another season of songs and laughs ... but someone is missing ... YOU! We want to have 25 full-time members by Christmas time, so the year has come for you to stop "considering" and start "conSINGering"! (fyi ... that is not a word ...)

Here are a few tweaks to the Choir Schedule that may allow you to join us this year:

Rehearsals are now Thursday 7:00PM – 8:30PM

Choir will sing two Sundays per month and ONLY at the second service.

As always, free child-care is provided during rehearsals.

Singing in the choir is incredibly fun, and we have a hard time understanding why the entire congregation isn't joining us! If you've been looking for a deeper way to involve yourself in the fabric of TUUC, please consider using your voice to feed your spirit and the spirits of your fellow congregants; we would be honored to have you. All skill-levels are welcome, but only singers from 14yrs - 114yrs old, please.

Join us for our special "Try It Out, Sing It Out" evening on Sept. 8 at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. This is your chance to come sing some easy tunes, eat some food, meet the choir members, and get a feel for the gig. Child-care will be provided. Call Rafe Wadleigh at 253 219 6154 with any questions. We look forward to singing with you!

## Help Us Create an Astounding Music Program

We are forming a music committee to take our music to a new level, to plan in advance sparkling offerings at all of our services, to find and book talented performers from the Tacoma area, and, hopefully, even to sponsor some special concerts. Special musical talents are not required. If you could help in any way email Rafe Wadleigh at [rafetwang@gmail.com](mailto:rafetwang@gmail.com) and/or come to a meeting of the new committee at 12:30pm after the second service on September 11. We will have fun!

—Thanks, Rev. Bill

**Fall Religious Education**

**Class Schedule**

RE classes (starting 9/18) will be as follows:

**9:30 Service**

- ~Nursery for ages 3 and under w/ Claire & Bri
- ~Preschool for 3 & 4 year olds, teacher Yoshiko
- ~K-1st Grade Group, teacher Lori
- ~2nd-4th Grade Group, teachers Nancy & Robin
- ~5th grade and older attend service or help in a classroom, see Lori for assistance

**11:15 Service**

- ~Nursery for ages 4 and under w/ Claire & Bri
  - ~K-3rd Grades, teacher Erin
  - ~5th-6th OWL Class, teachers Louise & Mike
  - ~6th-8th Grades, teacher Debbie
  - ~High School Youth Group, Leader Anne-Marie
- Birthday celebrations will be after both services.

**Middle School Conference**

September 23-25, 2011 at Camp Sealth. Join 70 other UU 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from around the Sound as they enjoy a weekend of fun, living our UU Principles.

Cost \$110, includes meals all day Saturday, breakfast & lunch Sunday, lodging, activities.

**Early Bird registration deadline: 9/1 for \$110, Later registration fee \$125. Final Deadline: 9/7.** To register, ask Lori for form.

**Mark Your Calendars for the RE Kick-Off Luncheon**

September 18 after both services in the social hall. Come share a free brunch (at 10:30) or lunch (at 12:15) in exchange for your completed (or updated\*) registration form. Find forms in the church lobby. Meet your child's teachers, hear about all the fun things coming this year and how you can participate. This is a great way to reconnect with other UU families and to meet new- comers.

\*If you are already registered and the information is all correct you can just initial the 2010 form rather than filling out a new one.

**Upcoming Events**

- 9/4** All-ages Game Day in the Social Hall with Lori, 10:45—11:45 a.m.
- 9/11** **Two service schedule begins**  
—Water Communion Multigen service\*  
—RE Committee meets, 12:30 p.m.
- 9/12** —Campfire meeting, 5:45—7:15 p.m. Social Hall, please RSVP to Kathy Crabb at 253-
- 9/18** —Fall RE Classes begin  
—Teacher Dedication  
—Teachers light the chalice 973-2218  
—RE luncheon, see info below left
- 9/23** —Middle School Conference starts, 6 p.m., see details at left

\*For Water Communion, we are asking everyone to share the significance of their water and their summer with just 8 words. Something like a haiku. An example would be:

*Lake Michigan crashing  
Ocean Shores blowing  
Family surrounding*

**Happy Birthday to UU**

- Rory Strand, 2 Milo Bingham, 5
  - Logan Judish, 5 Rohan Strand, 6
  - Sophia Judish, 8 Kenji Smith, 8
  - Crystianna Steuart, 5 Aiden Ryan, 9
  - Dylan Fernholz-Hartman, 12
  - Liam Johnston, 13, Hannah James, 14
- Sept. birthdays will be celebrated on Oct. 2

**TUUC RE Camping Trip 2011**

This past year we had a parent discussion group, "Healthy Children, Healthy Planet" and the program encouraged us to get our kids out in nature. The idea of a group camping trip grew from this and the second weekend of August, ten TUUC families gathered at Dosewallips State Park on the Hood Canal for a lovely camping adventure. Please see our pictures on the Tahoma UU Congregation Facebook page. We plan to go again, the second weekend of August 2012, everyone is invited.

**Contact your Director of Religious Exploration, Lori Fernholz-Hartman**  
v-mail: (253) 306-7836, e-mail: [dre@tuuc-wa.org](mailto:dre@tuuc-wa.org) Office hours: Sun, Mon, Wed. 9 AM-3 PM

**We Don't Have to Do It Alone**  
**Notes From Chalice Camp 2011**

It's a blessing we were born  
 and it matters what we do.  
 What we know about life  
 is a piece of the truth.  
 Let the beauty you love,  
 be what you do.  
 And we don't have to do it alone.

This summer I had the joy of working with Louise Andersen, Anne Tumbusch, Heather Urshel and Mike Speir to offer the children of our congregation a day camp experience that we call Chalice Camp. The teachers and I decided our theme for the week would be based on the song above. To hear it just ask one of the children pictured here! We'd love to share it. The second day of camp focused on, "It matters what we do." We read the children a story: The Gardener in which a little girl makes a difference in the lives of her grumpy uncle and his entire neighborhood by planting and tending a large, lovely flower garden, to show the children an example of a child's actions affecting adults. Then, we wanted a project the children could do as service for our congregation, literally acting out that "it matters what we do." The logical project: a garden, but what kind? Vegetable, flower?

Though I liked this idea very much, I also hated it. I'm not a gardener, and I haven't the time to care for a garden. I had flashbacks to the time the church children planted flowers in front of the nursery window. For months, these quickly-dead flowers, in addition to making the entrance to our church much less attractive, reminded me that I was not taking care of them. I was wise enough not to repeat that mistake, but at the same time the volunteer teachers had excited energy around this idea and I didn't want to squelch that. I sat quietly as they buzzed about how to create the flower garden with the kids. I comforted myself in that I was not in charge of this project; Louise was! A few days later, Louise suggested we make a Zen Garden instead. No maintenance! Couldn't be better.

From here things went from good to great. I asked

one of our parents, Yoshiko Yamamoto, an artist originally from Japan, to help design the garden, and somehow Sheila Wynn who is an avid gardener joined forces with Louise. The three of them worked together while I was on vacation, clearing overgrown flowerbeds near the main entrance of church, ordering sand, and recruiting Sheila's husband, Mike Smith, to haul it. Louise introduced the idea to the children that fateful day, making sure they understood this was not a sandbox, but a place to relax and reflect, for meditation and peace, a gift we are making for the congregation that all of us will use. In the course of one morning, together with 19 children, the Zen Garden magically appeared. Every child had a hand in moving sand, and I never lifted a finger. The best possible outcome: the children felt useful and connected, the church was beautified and enriched, and the work was done by three very talented volunteers who did better work than I could have every imagined.

And we don't have to do it alone.



**Chalice Campers 2011**  
**For more photos of Chalice Camp please see**  
**Tahoma UU Congregation's Facebook page**

**Contact your Director of Religious Exploration, Lori Fernholz-Hartman**  
**v-mail: (253) 306-7836, e-mail: [dre@tuuc-wa.org](mailto:dre@tuuc-wa.org) Office hours: Sun, Mon, Wed. 9 AM-3 PM**

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## Services in September (two service times will resume on Sunday September 11):

### **Sunday, September 4 - 10:30 a.m. only** **"What I Read This Summer"**

A few members and friends will share a 5-minute presentation about a favorite book. This has been a tradition at TUUC for many years. Contact Scott Redman ([sredman@centurytel.net](mailto:sredman@centurytel.net) or 253.884.9888) to arrange your contribution to this service.

### **Sunday, September 11 - 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.** **"Keeping the Pump Primed" Water Communion** **Reverend Bill Graves & Lori Fernholz-Hartman DRE**

This is our annual "homecoming" service to start our new church year. Bring an ounce or so of water that you have gathered from some location that was meaningful to you during your summer journeys (if you forgot to collect any, fear not -- we will have some magic water available!). Think of an 8-word description to capture the essence of its meaning—sort of like a haiku. The mingled waters of our community will be preserved for child dedications and other purposes throughout the year. Come, explore and envision how TUUC can be an ever more welcoming home for your heart.

### **Sunday, September 18 - 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.** **"What To Do About G-d This Year?"**

Rev. Bill Graves

Unitarians and Universalists have been redefining, renaming, or expelling the "G-d" word for over 200 years. Sometimes it is the elephant in the living room. Sometimes it is a rich conversation. I hope to have the latter. I am proud to be a part of a religious community that encourages us to cross-examine such concepts and holds us even when our answers are not the norm.

### **Sunday, September 25 - 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.** **"Addictions Ministry" Rev. Bill Graves**

Many or most of us had, have, or will have, an addiction ministry because we, or someone close to us, needs help. The close relationship between addiction and spirituality will be explored in this service. Carl Jung wrote: "Spiritual consciousness is the only thing that can ultimately quench the thirst for alcohol or the craving of an addict." We will also celebrate the creation of a new addiction support group at TUUC and invite participation. The service is sponsored by the Addictions Ministry Program Committee.

*We welcome you! Our congregation celebrates the presence and participation of all, regardless of spiritual beliefs, age, gender, abilities, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, or gender identity.*