

Interim Passages -- by Rev. Heather Lynn Hanson

wish I could pretend I never make mistakes. But it's quite obvious that I do. So sometimes I have to eat crow. You may have heard that I lost my temper at the February board meeting and behaved in a manner that is embarrassing to me and not beneficial to the debate that was going on. I apologized for my outburst, but that does not undo the damage to trust and mutual respect that was sacrificed. Particularly following a sermon on conflict and how to reduce it. Crow, with or without feathers, is not a delicacy I recommend.

One of the dynamics that happens in groups is that we slide into expectations about roles. "R" is always cheerful. Let him be the greeter. "S" is a whiz with repairing stuff. Leave it for her to fix. "T" knows how to (fill in the blank) so of course he will step in. "P" is great at smoothing ruffled feathers and calming people down. If we get into a squabble, "P" will rescue us. "Q" is a nurse and knows how to administer CPR. If there is an emergency, "Q" will step up and take charge.

But what if P, Q, R, S, or T is the one in a jam? Then who has the skills, interest, experience to step up? Wouldn't we be more effective if many of us were "cross-trained"?--if at least 30% of our congregation could be greeters, make the coffee, calm down disagreements, administer CPR, fix things? Heavens, not the same 30% for all these skills! But imagine how well we would be able to function if everyone attending had two or three abilities they contributed from time to time, and would step up when they saw a need. And the folks with skills would offer to mentor others? What if every Covenant Group and Chalice Circle took an inventory of

their members, and talked about ways to increase the skill pool in the congregation. What if, when volunteers were asked for, people came forward knowing that they would not be the only one "stuck" with the whole responsibility forever, because there would be 6 others interested, too?

I would have been grateful (a bit embarrassed, of course, but I can survive that) if any other member of the board had stepped in when I fell off my "lofty perch" and entered the fray. Someone to ask if this is what the board needs to do right now. Or to suggest that we all take two minutes of total silence and simply breathe. I couldn't do it at that moment. Someone else needed to minister to the board right then.

Just dreaming, but a dream unexpressed is likely to remain just a dream. Is there any part of it you personally could help make into reality?

Let me repeat that I regret having lost my temper, and particularly how I expressed myself in that meeting. It was not what I want for myself, or the person I attacked, or for this congregation. I apologize.

Sincerely, Heather Lynn

Rev. Heather Lynn Hanson is usually in the office Tuesdays 12:30 - 4:00, Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Fridays she writes at home. She comes in other times for meetings and appointments. Call the office to arrange an appointment or email minister@tuuc-wa.org.

Sunday March 7, 12:15pm to 2pm PST in the Social Hall

Polarity Management for Healthy Congregations

Description: How to come to resolution when the conflict should not be an either/or choice.

Workshop is for both active leaders and anyone wanting more conflict management skills.

Light lunch served in social hall; donations welcome. Please register through the office by 5 p.m. Thursday March 4, so we have a count for food and handouts.

Need child care? --call the office: 474-4646.

Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation

1115 South 56th Street Tacoma, WA 98408

(253) 474-4646 ❖ <http://tuuc-wa.org>

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The Dialog is published once a month and is sent to all TUUC contributors. Visitors who sign our TUUC guest book will receive six complimentary issues. The next due date and time for articles is **3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 19** for the April 2010 issue.

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 Announcements 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
Laura Karlin editor@tuuc-wa.org

and please ALSO send your event dates & times to
Mike Field admin@tuuc-wa.org for the CALENDAR

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.

MARCH 2010 ~ EVENTS & ACTIVITIES at TUUC

Unless otherwise noted, all events ARE OPEN to guests.

Wednesday 3rd

- 6:30 pm ASD - Who Was Mary Magdalene? — p.12
6:30 pm Social Action Dramatic Reading @UPS — p.9

Fri-Sun 5th-7th

Annual UU Women's Retreat @ Camp Seymour

Friday 5th

- 6:00 pm First Friday Film Forum - "The 11th Hour" — p.13

Saturday 6th

- 8:30 am Pathways to Membership, 1st of 2 — p.5
9:30 am Transforming Difficult Conversations

SUNDAY 7th

- 9:00 am Growth Options Task Force — p.13
9:00 am Sandwich Making for Tacoma Ave. Shelter — p.10
10:30 am Youth Group
11:45 am Organizing Changes to Coffee Hour — p.5
12 noon Meeting to plan for recruitment & training of sextons--tentative
12:15 pm Wkshp: Polarity Mgmt/Hlthy Congregations — p.1
2:30 pm Veterans For Peace Tacoma Chapter Mtg — p.10

Tuesday 9th

- 4:30 pm Chalice Circle Facilitator Meeting
6:30 pm Bylaws Revision Group
6:30 pm Men's Reading Group

Wednesday 10th

- 4:30 pm Lay Pastoral Care Team
6:30 pm ASD - Harvest Power: Leadership Journey — p.12

Saturday 13th

- 8:30 am Pathways to Membership, 2nd of 2 — p.5
9:00 am Program Council

SUNDAY 14th

- 9:00 am Growth Options Task Force
9:00 am Program Advisory Committee — p.13
10:30 am Youth Group
11:45 am "What's Up?" Forum — p.5
After svc OWL info mtg re: K-1st Grade (optional) — p.14
12 noon Rationality Covenant Group
4:00 pm Moondancers Covenant Group

Tuesday 16th

- 6:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting - *open to members*

Wednesday 17th

- 5:30 pm Worship Committee
6:30 pm ASD - Harvest Power: UU Journey — p.12

Thursday 18th

- 8:00 am Serve Breakfast/Lunch @ Hospitality Kitchen — p.10

Friday 19th

- 12 noon Third Fri Potluck,/Fannie Kelley/Healing Garden — p.6
3:00 pm APRIL Dialog articles DUE

Saturday 20th

- All day TUUC Intrepids Outing — p.6

SUNDAY 21st

- 9:00 am Growth Options Task Force
9:00 am Social Action Committee
10:30 am Yes We CAN - 3rd Sunday Food Drive
10:30 am Youth Group
11:50 am Membership Committee
12 noon OWL Parent/Child mtg K-1st Gr (mandatory) — p.14
12 noon TUUC Computer Club

Tuesday 23rd

- 6:30 pm Bylaws Revision Group

Wednesday 24th

- 6:30 pm ASD - Harvest Power: Power & Authority — p.12

Friday 26th

- 2:00 pm Mailing Party for April Dialog
5:30 pm Sandwich Making for Homeless

Saturday 27th

- 3-6 pm SCDL extra hours Sanctuary rental
6:30 pm Washington Public Campaigns - rental
In Homes Circle Dinners — p.6

SUNDAY 28th

- 9:00 am Growth Options Task Force
12:15 pm ASD - "A Year to Live" (*class is full*)

Chalice Circle Schedule — p.8

Events Occurring EVERY WEEK:

- SUNDAY 10:30 am - Sunday Service
MONDAY Due by Noon -Caring Community notes
7:00 pm - Vipassana Meditation
TUESDAY * 8:30 am - 12:30 pm FHE Homeschool
* 6:30 pm - AA Group
WEDNESDAY Due by Noon - Weekly Announcements
Due by Noon - Order of Service notes
THURSDAY 6:00 pm - Yoga
6:45 pm - Choir
SATURDAY * 1-4 pm Spiritual Church of Divine Light
(* denotes RENTERS)

TUUC Calendar: <http://tuuc-wa.org/calendar>

Our Online Calendar depends on people like you to turn in event and meeting notices. Please tell both members of the administrative staff when you choose a Date and Time for your group, committee, circle or event.

Calendar: admin@tuuc-wa.org

Publications: editor@tuuc-wa.org

Even if you don't want to publicize a meeting, ***if it is to be held inside the TUUC building***, please list your event on the church's online calendar, so others can plan for available space. Thank you!

2010 Winter/Spring Program Guide online: <http://tuuc-wa.org/Documents/2010-WinterSpring-Program-Web.pdf>

President's Column

After our last Board meeting, an aphorism I heard a long time ago came to mind. "Let go and let God." Googling this phrase led me to www.lovehealth.org/books/letgo, from which I quote:

Letting go and accepting what is happening does not have to mean "quitting" or "giving up." It means allowing a "space" to occur – a space which can become a crucible of creativity.

Letting go opens the door to working in harmony with what is inevitable, rather than using our energy to fight against what is inevitable. As we let go of our willful need to change the world, we come into our power to transform ourselves, or at least to try a different approach or attitude.

We at TUUC have begun our own such letting-go process by asking PNWD's Healthy Congregations team to come and help us handle our internal conflicts. Knowing that experts in conflict management are coming to look at us with fresh eyes gives us a chance to relax from the strain and effort of questioning, planning and reasoning, and trying to solve all our problems on our own. I hope we can indeed make this interlude a time of reflection and creativity.

Please welcome this team when they arrive and participate fully in their agenda. Please be honest with the team and with yourself. And please be open to change.

Christine Stalaker,
TUUC President

Volunteer Filling Station

Volunteer Positions Filled

Sheila Wynn is the new Green Team Coordinator.

New members of this committee are needed – please contact Sheila at wynn1614@comcast.net.

Thanks to Sheila for volunteering to serve TUUC!

Volunteer Positions to Fill

Do you know of a volunteer position that needs to be filled? Do you know of a volunteer position that has been filled? If so, please contact Laura Gardner at lmgardner@comcast.net for inclusion in this list.

Membership & Ministry Program Area: Sunday Coffee Service Coordinator beginning June 2010 (contact Joan Benderson at 253-566-4334 or joan.benderson@nventure.com)

Worship & Celebration Program Area:

* Ushers - Be you an early or a late riser, if you're considering being an early or late service usher when the two-service trial gets underway, get tips now from members of the current corps. Ushers hand out the Order of Service, hymnals and miscellaneous items from other activities. They also pick up and count the offering. There are NO meetings! Please contact Darel Jenkins at 312-2673 if you are interested.

* Sextons

* Sound Techs

* Art Gallery: The art gallery opens a new show every six weeks; volunteers are needed to assist with setting up and cleaning up the food provided during the opening. The job takes about 15 minutes before service and 10 minutes during coffee time. Please contact Betty Ragan at 759-5706 or esappragan@yahoo.com if you'd like to help.

Facilities & Use Program Area: Design & Decor Committee Chair, Orchard Property Steward (contact Bob Hays at 206-919-4936 or Captn.Bob.Hays@gmail.com)

Business & Communication Program Area: Finance Committee Chair, Endowment Fund Trustees (contact Doug Schafer at 431-5156 or schafer@pobox.com)

Dialog Mailing Volunteers (contact Bruce Rowan at 230-9264)

Religious Exploration Program Area: Library volunteers (contact Beverly Wilson, beverlyjack@comcastnet or 732-5327)

Social Justice Program Area:

* Green Team Coordinator - please contact Sheila Wynn at wynn1614@comcast.net

* Social Action Committee members: Meets 3rd Sunday of the month 9:00 - 10:15 AM.

* Just Peacemaking: Inner/Interpersonal Peacemaking Coordinator, works with the Just Peacemaking Steering Committee, meeting quarterly, to integrate the concepts of UUA Peacemaking into TUUC interactions, programs and presentations. Works collaboratively with TUUC Program Coordinator.

(contact Jan Karroll at 752-9119 or karrollart@aol.com)

COFFEE SERVICE CHANGE

A new model for handling Sunday coffee hour will be tested this spring — April through June. A number of congregants have volunteered to make coffee one Sunday of each month, but a few more volunteers are needed. There will be a short meeting to organize this change immediately following service on March 7 in the "cry room". To volunteer, call Joan Benderson at 253-566-4334 or email at joan.benderson@nventure.com.

The **"What's Up?" Forum** provides a time and place where the congregation can ask the Board and the Minister questions about a specific church topic that is identified in advance. Or, if no topic is named in advance, then questions about anything going on in the life of the congregation will be entertained. It's designed to engender dialogue rather than a monologue. The next "What's Up?" Forum will be on **Sunday March 14** after the 10:30 a.m. service.

The Ministerial Search Committee is closing in on two years' worth of work, together, to call a settled minister to the congregation. We were called together to work as a group in April 2008, shortly after Rev. Jones' resignation. Way back then, none of us had any idea of the complexity of the task ahead. Our committee consists of wise and talented folks, including former Board members, members with years of experience in the congregation and as Unitarian Universalists, and we share diverse work and life experiences that inform our work together. We did a formal survey of the congregation last spring which captured the ideas of the congregation then. We've been talking to everyone since then, and doing our best, together, to find a minister whose skills, talents, and desires best match with the needs of the entire congregation. We also understand that a growing congregation may need a minister whose skills may differ from what we have come to expect of our prior ministers. We have had a unique opportunity to meet, visit, and work with UU congregations and ministers in the Pacific Northwest District over the past two years. And just as there is no such thing as a perfect congregation, or perfect timing, there certainly is no such thing as a perfect minister, either. If you have thoughts you would like to share with us, outlining what qualities you think will best serve us in the coming years, you can send a message to the members of the MSC at the following e-mail address: tuuc-msc@tuuc-wa.org. Or better yet, you can find one of us in person. The MSC consists of Kate Araujo, Jack Bregger, Dick Coulter, Jennifer Johnston, Lisa Kelley, Tony Paulson, and Helen Sohlberg.

Pathways to Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of TUUC or learning more about Unitarian Universalism in general and our church in particular, please join us on **two Saturday mornings, March 6th and 13th**, when we will be offering the Spring Pathways to Membership classes from 8:30 a.m. to noon. A light breakfast will be available at 8:15. Childcare will be provided. We do ask that if you need childcare, let Barbara or the church office know in advance so we will have an idea as to the number of children and their ages.

Attending these classes is not a commitment to membership; however, it is our hope that all potential new members will make every effort to attend both sessions. Not only do they provide a wealth of information, they are also a wonderfully effective way of getting to know a core group of people within the congregation. If you are a long-time UUer and are unable to attend these sessions but would like to join our congregation, please speak with Heather Lynn Hanson, our interim minister.

If you have any questions, please call or e-mail Barbara Tripp, Membership Chair, at 253 265-0871, barbaratripp@centurytel.net or call the church office at 253 474-4646.

Like a light bulb, or a halo

Sunday morning chalice lighters can be the kids in a Religious Exploration class, the members of a committee, an individual, a family, or some other category. The RE classes are assigned in advance, but other Sundays are open.

Since we don't live in cartoon-land (despite occasional experiences), none of us walks around under a drawing of a light bulb, a halo, or a chalice. Your bright ideas, your goodness, and your interest in being a chalice lighter (which need not occur simultaneously) require expression. If you are interested in lighting the chalice some Sunday, or want to suggest an individual or a group to do that, please call Virginia Lane at (253) 752-4339 or email handelfest@yahoo.com.



Mary Boze Gallery News

Christopher Mathie's exhibition, **ON THE WATER**, continues in the gallery until March 31st. This exhibition is the first in a series of exhibits that show work that is related to a particular place. Christopher's work references the water that is near the location of his studio near Southworth, Washington. His ceramic work became well known several years ago, but he began to experience problems from overuse of his hands. Now that he has found a second medium, he is able to express himself quite well in paint with mixed media. He will pull us all into his landscapes that tell us stories about the water and water-related life that surrounds him.

Third Friday Potluck is scheduled for Friday, March 19 at 12:00 noon. Our guest will be Fannie Kelley, owner of the Healing Garden Tea Room. Fannie retired from Federal Way schools where she was a successful middle school principal and opened her delightful tea room. She'll tell us about that. Potluck at noon, Friday, March 19. -- Helen Sohlberg

Circle Dinners are coming up again **Saturday, March 27**. Circle Dinners are small group potlucks in different people's homes. **You do not have to be a member.** It is a wonderful way to get to know people in the church on a more social basis. If you would like to be a host and have a small group come to your home just call 531-7742 and let us know how many people you can accommodate. The host only provides the atmosphere, one main dish and refreshments. If you prefer to be a guest, call to sign up 531-7742. If you have allergies or dietary requirements, we take that into consideration if you let us know about them. Last day to sign up is Saturday March 20. -- Glenda Hammond

TUUC Intrepids

Outing Saturday, March 20th, either lowland hike (S. Fork Skokomish River?), or if adequate snow/conditions, snowshoe trip; type of outing/destination to be determined based on conditions.

All day outings, details to be posted nearer to 3/20 via weekly announcements, order of service, group email list. Details/signup contact Felice felicedav@mindspring.com 253-756-4977, or Fran tatooshie@yahoo.com 253-359-4314. Possible other impromptu outings, contact us to be added to group email list.

About TUUC Intrepids:

TUUC Intrepids (adult recreational group) is an active, vital group of TUUC members going on frequent hikes, snowshoes, and the occasional game night. We share reverence for the wonders of nature and the outdoor cathedral. (Photo at right is from TUUC Intrepids' February outing.)

Do you dream of inexpensive

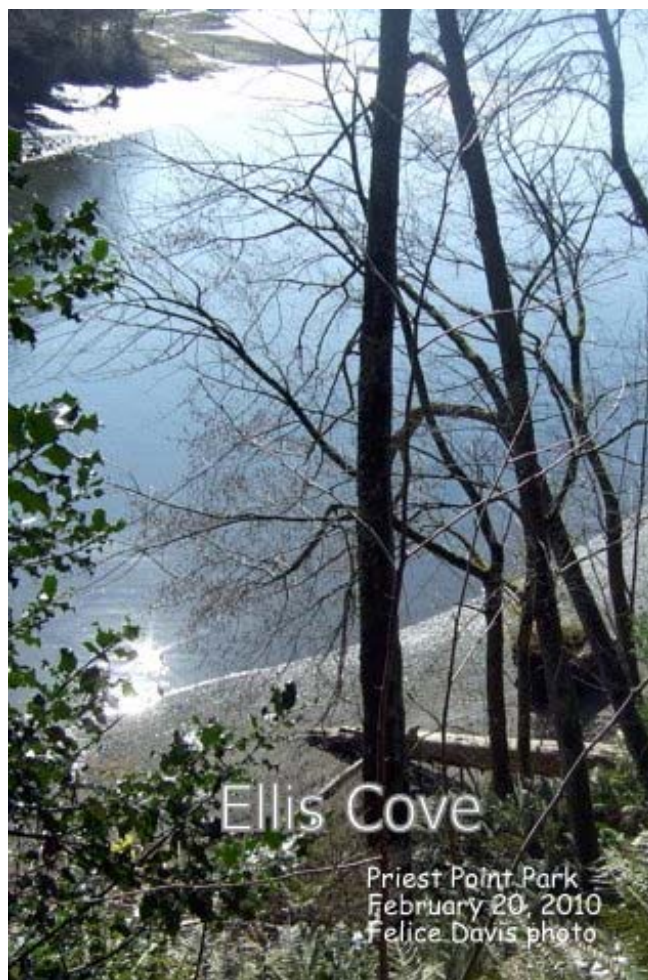
vacation

travel to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

The UU bed and breakfast directory **UU're Home** (formerly "Homecomings") can fulfill your dream. For 31 years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory: see www.UUreHome.com for an application. If you have questions, contact us at info@uurehome.com or call 828-281-3253.

Host listings on the **UU're Home** website at www.UUreHome.com are updated whenever changes are made or new hosts are added. The paper edition is published once a year in April. For a copy of the 2010 directory and a year's access to the website listings, please click on "become a member" to pay by credit card, or send a check for \$25 and *your e-mail address* to UU're Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.



The (Heart) Beat Goes On!

The TUUC celebrated Valentine's Day at South Park Community Center on Saturday evening, February 13, for 3 hours. Thanks to organizers Audrey Alande, Felice Davis, Fran Pieterman, and Nancy Meyer, about 70 people got together for a potluck snack of munchies, brownies, cookies, chips/dip, fruit and vegetable platters, lemonade & wine, and to dance!



Steve Garrett prepared disks that played tunes ranging from Sinatra, the Beatles, to Disco, all of it classic dance music spanning the decades.

A successful evening soiree kept intact the community tradition of enjoying the Lovers' Holiday with friends and significant others. Most people danced but there was also the usual sensation, conversation, and revelation common to our events. Many newer members of our family were present. We welcome our new members and extend a thankful appreciation to the organizers and our existing attendees.

Several members made donations prior to the dance and we accepted donations at the door. The committee was able to cover their costs and they even donated the \$129 profit to the church. What a wonderful evening!

-- Tim Battin

FAIR TRADE ORGANIC COFFEE FUNDRAISER

Order fair trade organic coffee at TUUC – Save money –Benefit TUUC

The TUUC Board has approved a trial fundraiser to sell bulk fair trade organic coffee to TUUC members and friends. The coffee will be purchased from the same company now used for the TUUC Sunday coffee hour. There are three coffee choices- Full City (a medium roast), French roast (robust smoky flavor) and Decaf. The coffee is available as whole beans or ground in bulk five-pound bags for \$45.00 (\$9.00/pound).

Coffee orders likely will be placed monthly. Payment by check is required at the time of submitting an order. Make check payable to TUUC and note "coffee purchase" in memo line. Submit order form and payment in sealed envelope or stapled together, and place in mailbox slot labeled "COFFEE ORDERS" in TUUC copy room or send by mail to:

Joan Benderson
9201 65th St Ct W.
University Place, WA 98467

Please contact Joan at 253-566-4334
or by email at
joan.benderson@nventure.com
with questions.

(cut along dotted line)



Fair Trade Organic Coffee Order Form

A FUNDRAISING BENEFIT FOR
TAHOMA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

The price of each five-pound bag is \$45.00. Payment by check is required at the time of submitting your order. Make check payable to TUUC and note "coffee purchase" in memo line. Submit order form and payment in sealed envelope and place in labeled "COFFEE ORDERS" mailbox slot in TUUC copy room or send by mail to:

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Please contact Joan at 253-566-4334 or by email at joan.benderson@nventure.com with questions.

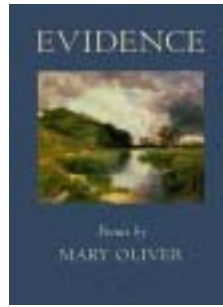
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YOUR NAME: _____ DATE: _____

CHECK NUMBER: _____ TOTAL: \$ _____

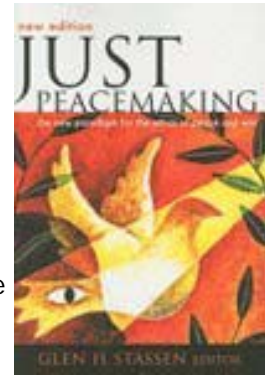
Quantity (Number of 5 lb bags)	Ground	Whole Beans	Type of Coffee/Roast
_____	_____	_____	Full City (medium roast)
_____	_____	_____	French Roast
_____	_____	_____	Decaf (roast between Full City & French)

News from Laura Foltz Memorial Library



We've received several new books this past month. A couple of books of poetry are worth mentioning. They're both by Mary Oliver (did you know she received the Pulitzer Prize for poetry?), and both are new. *Evidence* came out in 2009, and *Red Bird* in 2008. Like all her poetry, these poems are deceptively simple to read and filled with imagination and some humor.

The Social Justice Committee gave us four titles, not all brand new publications, but new to our library. In no particular order they are *The Power of Nonviolence*, writings by advocates of peace, with an introduction by Howard Zinn; *Real Peace, Real Security* by Sharon D. Welch; the new edition of *Just Peacemaking*, edited by Glen H. Stassen; and *Peace in our Lifetime*, edited by Susan Skog, with a foreword by Thich Nhat Hanh. We're grateful for these timely additions to the library.



Last but not least, a book that was already on our shelves: *Be the Change*, a book of poems and meditations for peacemakers and justice seekers.

I leave you with a thought from that:

Oh let America be America again—
The land that has never been yet—

And yet must be.

LANGSTON HUGHES

Remember, you can look us up and search our holdings by going to the TUUC website under Spirituality and following the directions to Library Thing.

<http://www.librarything.com/catalog.php?view=tuuclibrary>

-- Alice Christiansen

ADDENDUM: Three copies of another good book, "*DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS: How to Discuss What Matters Most*", just arrived February 24 for our library.

-- Heather Lynn Hanson

Co-Sponsored by the TUUC Social Action Committee:

On March 3, at 7:00 p.m. there will be a dramatic reading of the play MY NAME IS RACHEL CORRIE in Kilworth Chapel of the University of Puget Sound, on N. 18th St. between Union Ave. and N. Alder St., Tacoma. There is no charge for this one-night event and it is open to the public. MY NAME IS RACHEL CORRIE had its debut at the Royal Court Theater in London, and has also played in Israel, South America, Australia, Greece, Scotland, Iceland, and all around the United States, including a run at Seattle Repertory Theater.

Rachel Corrie, a 23 year-old human rights activist from Olympia, was killed on March 17, 2003, by a Caterpillar D9R armored bulldozer operated by the Israeli Defense Forces. Rachel was protecting a house from demolition in Rafah, Gaza, which belonged to a Palestinian pharmacist and his family who were home at the time.

The play is based on Rachel's journals from childhood until just before her death. Even when young, Rachel seemed to understand the inter-connectedness of all living things. A ten-year-old Rachel said: "People in third world countries think and care and smile and cry just like us. We've got to understand that they are us and we are them." She seemed to grasp that when harm is perpetuated on some, it hurts us all.

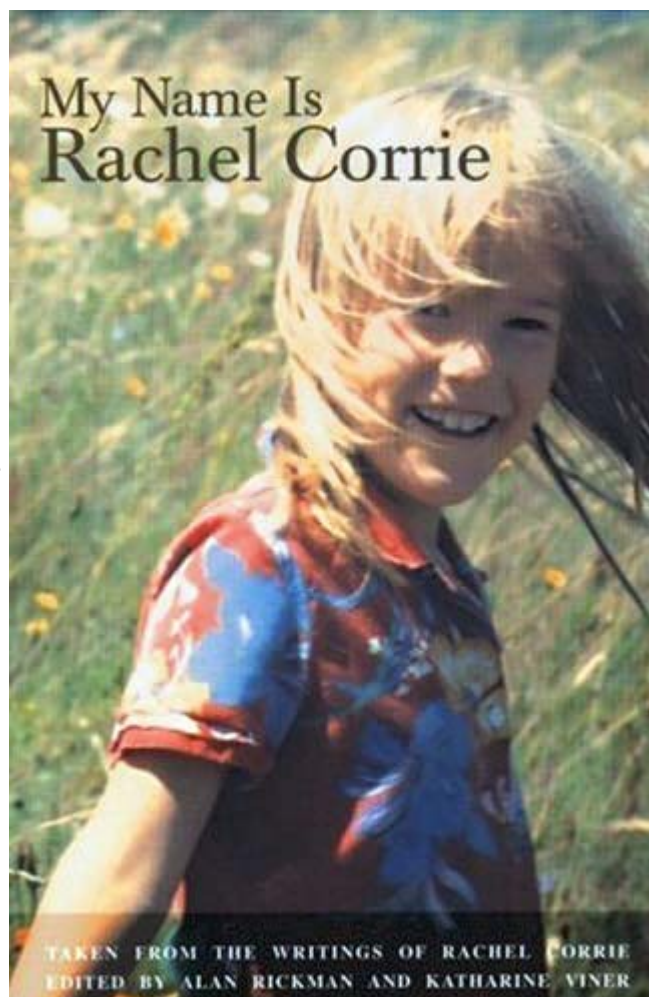
Rachel went to Gaza to try to help in the injustice and violence inherent in the occupation of one country by another. Her life ended in an attempt to protect others from harm.

The reading of the play is a collaboration of exceptional Tacoma talent. David Domkoski has been known in theater circles in the Northwest for more than 35 years as actor, director, and teacher of drama. He has chosen Angelica Duncan for the role of Rachel. Angelica, 23, educated in Fife, at home, at Annie Wright, and a graduate of Tacoma School of the Arts, has received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Ithaca College in New York in 2009. She spent her summers returning to Tacoma to work with youth in drama. She recently was acting in New York, and will be performing soon with the Northwest Theater group in Tacoma. The role of the Reporter is taken by Michael Storslee, himself a veteran of 25 years in theater in Tacoma.

A most remarkable collaboration has been between Rev. David Wright, chaplain of the University of Puget Sound, and all the departments of UPS who have helped put this production forward. Rev. Wright has been in tireless contact with Domkoski, the publicists in New York who hold the rights to the play, and with a local committee of local ministers and other community and arts organizers who wanted this reading to be available in Tacoma. Following the 90-minute reading, there will be a discussion with Cindy and Craig Corrie, Rachel's parents, and Kate Cohn, Assistant Dean of Students at UPS. The Corries will then depart immediately for Israel for a long-awaited court date involving accountability they've sought in Rachel's death.

Co-sponsors of this event are: The Micah Project; People for Peace, Justice, and Healing; Rachel Corrie Foundation; Tacoma District of the United Methodist Church; Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Social Action Committee; and United for Peace Pierce County.

Doors at Kilworth Chapel will open at 6:30 p.m. Since there are no tickets, an early arrival is advised. A map indicating "General Parking" areas is at http://www.pugetsound.edu/files/resources/492_CampusMap_09.pdf. The Chapel is on N. 18th at Warner St. — map legend #19.



SHELTER DINNERS

For the past six months, a few congregants have been preparing and delivering a sandwich dinner for the patrons of the Tacoma Avenue Shelter at S. 13th & Court E in downtown Tacoma. But the project will not continue with the efforts of only the two people who made sandwiches in February. This project needs four to six individuals who can make sandwiches and bag cookies before service on the first Sunday of each month and then can deliver the dinner to the shelter about 6 pm that same evening. There is a small budget to purchase items for the sandwich dinner. Please call Joan Benderson at 253-566-4334 or email at joan.benderson@nventure.com with questions or to volunteer. Next session: Sun. March 7, 9am @TUUC.

HOSPITALITY KITCHEN

We will be helping to prepare and serve breakfast and lunch at the Hospitality Kitchen on Thursday, March 18 from 8 am - 12:30 pm. The director of this facility AND the Tacoma Avenue Shelter is our UU Community Minister, Jim Anderson. Please call Joan Benderson at 253-566-4334 or email her at joan.benderson@nventure.com with questions or to volunteer to help.



In Peace ... Women in Black

Women in Black is a "world-wide network of women committed to peace with justice and actively opposed to injustice, war, militarism and other forms of violence." Women in Black began in Israel in 1988, as a response to perceived violations of human rights by Israeli soldiers in the Occupied Territories. Black clothing was worn in mourning for all victims of the conflict.

In Tacoma, Women in Black has been holding vigils for years, twice a month, in front of the Federal Courthouse on Pacific Avenue. Women dress in black and stand silently with a banner—Women in Black—on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, from 5:15 pm to 6:15 pm.

Joan Bregger has been participating in the vigils since the summer of 2009, and invites all women peacemakers at TUUC to join her. Vigils in March will be **Wednesdays March 10 and March 24**. For information, you may call Joan at 253-761-9038.

-- J. Bregger

Sunday Attendance

January 3: 147
January 10: 172
January 17: 179
January 24: 211
(UUA Assoc. Sun.)
January 31: 145

TUUC

Charitable Collections January 2010

FISH Food Bank - \$199.⁶⁰
StandUp For Kids - \$603.⁷⁹
UUA Assoc. Sunday - \$163.³⁶
TUUC Operations - \$455

Veterans For Peace, Tacoma Chapter, will hold their monthly meeting for March in the TUUC sanctuary at 2:30 pm Sunday, March 7. Thereafter, monthly meetings will occur at the usual VFP venue, Coffee Strong, 15109 Union in Tillicum. The Tacoma VFP chapter has been active since 2005 and meetings are open to all.

This will be an opportunity to experience the operation of one of our community's peace groups, dedicated to eliminating U.S. participation in unjust and unnecessary military actions. <http://www.vfptacoma.com/>

-- Charley Dils, TUUC Just Peacemaking

Just Peacemaking item:

"It might be a bad dream, but it feels real enough. The mantle of warfare slips seamlessly from one president to another, from one party to another, from one decade to another, from one generation to another. The impetus of national aggression transcends race, creed, socio-economic status, age and geography. Our collective sin is the bald lie that we all live and perpetuate from moment to moment, year upon year, from our past to the days ahead: the misbegotten belief that we are a peaceful people."

The above quote is from an article titled "What the Muslim world can teach us about non-violence" by Dr. Randall Amster, professor of peace and justice studies at Prescott College. It provides a succinct description of the tragically false beliefs that underlie our national psyche and promote a state of continuous foreign military interventions and warfare, along with inordinate military expenditures that have plunged us deeply into debt and have depleted vital funding for other national priorities such as health care, education, infrastructure maintenance, social programs, environmental needs, etc. To read the full article go to:



<http://www.truthout.org/what-muslim-world-can-teach-us-about-nonviolence56684>

-- Charley Dils

UUA Social Justice Calendar March 2010

- 1: Deadline for nominations for the [Bennett](#), [Holmes-Weatherly](#), [Skinner Sermon](#), [Social Witness Sermon](#), and [Wilton Peace Prize](#) awards
- 6-10: [End Mountaintop Removal Week](#)
- 8: International Women's Day
- 19: Anniversary of Iraq War
- 19-22: [Ecumenical Advocacy Days](#): Immigration
- 20: Vernal Equinox
- 21: [March for America](#) (immigration)
- 22: [Sex Education Advocacy Call-In Day](#)
- 22: [World Water Day](#)
- 28: [Earth Hour](#)
- 30-5: Passover

Access the above underlined topics at <http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/calendar/index.shtml>



UUs in the News!

Read about sister campaigns across the globe -- Oklahoma to Uganda -- of UUs risking security to resist unjust laws.

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2010/2/15/837224/-Standing-on-the-Side-of-Love>



"...Here in this country, we who face far less danger for professing our view *that all people should be allowed the same rights even if their sexual orientation is not heterosexual*, need to do more.

"...This isn't a political issue, it's a human rights issue, one that progressives, libertarians, Republicans who are gay or have gay family members, and people who simply believe that the denial of civil rights for even one person is a threat to the civil rights of all should support."

See more ways to participate at <http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/>

Chalice Circles

Chalice Circles meet once per month with 7-10 other TUUC members to practice deep listening skills. They started in October but it's not too late to join. We have intentionally left empty chairs in each group to welcome you when you are ready.

First: pick a group that fits in with your schedule:

1st Monday, 7-9 p.m. in North End

2nd Monday, 1-3 p.m. @TUUC

2nd Monday, 7-9 p.m. in University Place

2nd Friday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. @TUUC

3rd Tuesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. @TUUC

3rd Thursday, 7-9 p.m. in homes

4th Sunday, 12:15-2:15 p.m. @TUUC

Then email our Program Coordinator, Susie Maharry at

smaharry@hotmail.com and let her know which group you

want to join. She will get you registered. It's just that easy!



What I learned at ASD

Mark Backus presented a class on Nonviolent Communication (NVC). He began by explaining the four-step process of Observation, Feelings, Needs, and Request. You begin by making an observation as objectively as possible, like what a video camera would see. Then you listen to your body and identify the feelings that are triggered in you. The feelings are clues to possible universal needs that you have by the nature of being human. Then you try to formulate a request from another person to help you to get your need/s met. If you follow these four steps you are speaking in NVC.

Mark handed out a sheet of universal feelings and needs and put us into groups of three and we each had a turn to play three different roles. The first role was to think about a conflict at TUUC that stirred up some feelings for you. The person on your left had the role of listening to you speak and asking you if you were feeling one of the feelings on the list and speculating on what need you might have. The person on your right had the role of empathically listening and wasn't allowed to speak. When it was my turn, I picked the polarity of privacy vs. transparency. I discussed the fear I had of having all the emails I ever wrote being broadcast on the internet for the world to see. My left side person asked me if I had a need for trust? I answered yes. Then I discussed the fear I had of the board making unilateral decisions without my knowledge. My left side person asked me again if I had a need for trust? Then I just smiled as the light bulb went off above my head. Wow, the need was the same on both ends of the polarity! Sometimes we choose different strategies for meeting the same need.

Namaste, Susie Maharry

p.s. (If this is a topic that interests you, I suggest attending Heather Lynn's Polarity Workshop on March 7th after the service and/or attending the NVC Covenant Group which meets on the First Saturday morning of each Month.)

Wednesday Adult Spiritual Development

Who was Mary Magdalene?

*Facilitator: Mary Rhine
Wednesday, March 3rd
6:30 – 8:00 p.m., TUUC Sanctuary;
Childcare Provided.*

This class will be based on one of the sessions from Cakes for the Queen of Heaven (session 3 from part 2, "The Apostle Mary"). It wasn't until the year 591 CE that Pope Gregory I cast Mary Magdalene in the role of harlot and repentant sinner. In the last century the Vatican stated that there was no evidence to support this; however, her image has generally not been able to overcome its erroneous association with prostitution. We will examine various sources (art, ancient texts, and theoretical works) that point toward Magdalene's true identity as a most trusted disciple of Jesus, who continued to spread his teachings after his crucifixion. We will discuss the impact of this degradation of Magdalene on Western culture and the Christian faith, and how the world might look if the importance of women in spiritual roles had been honored from the beginning.

If, after the session, there is enough interest in the material, I would like to start a Magdalene Study Group (even 3 or 4 people would be enough for a study group).

Harvest the Power Unit One: Identity

*Co-Facilitators: TUUC Congregational Leadership
Dates: Wednesdays, March 10, 17, 24, 31
12:15 – 2:15 p.m. in the TUUC Sanctuary; Childcare Provided.*

Unitarian Universalist Association's **Lifespan Tapestry of Faith** - "Harvest the Power" includes twelve two-hour workshops to help participants grow in spirit as they develop leadership skills for these challenging times.

Within each unit, the workshops explore progressively deeper aspects of leadership. Workshops 1 through 4 comprise a unit on **identity**. Participants explore their own leadership and religious journeys, the meanings of power and authority, and turning points and change opportunities in their lives and congregations.

- March 10 – Workshop 1: Leadership Journey
(with Bob Hays and Patty McPhee)
- March 17 – Workshop 2: Unitarian Universalist Journey
(with Chris Martin)
- March 24 – Workshop 3: Power and Authority
(with Susan Kunkel)
- March 31 – Workshop 4: Turning Points & Moments of Grace
(with Christine Stalnaker)

This is an excellent opportunity for those currently serving the church to further develop their leadership skills, and for those considering stepping into the leadership role in the near future.

Reservations Required by March 3rd.

This class requires a minimum reservation of at least 6 people or the class will be cancelled. Please send Susie Maharry an email and let her know of your intention to attend at smaharry@hotmail.com

Book Orders Due by March 7th

Northwest Earth Institute Choices for Sustainable Living

Choices for Sustainable Living is a seven-session course for the workplace, faith center, or home exploring the meaning of sustainable living and the ties between lifestyle choices and their impact on the earth. We will be offering this class at ASD on *Wednesdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19.* If you would like to get in on a group book order please notify Program Coordinator Susie Maharry at smaharry@hotmail.com, no later than March 7th. After that date you can order your book online at: <http://nwei.org/order-form>



First Friday Film Forum

Facilitator: Jennifer Marsellis diresu@gmail.com

Dates: First Friday of the Month

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the TUUC Sanctuary

We will watch a film with a Just Peacemaking or spiritual theme and have a guided discussion afterward.

Popcorn and childcare will be provided.

Friday March 5th - The 11th Hour

The 11th Hour is the last moment when change is possible. The film explores how we've arrived at this moment -



- how we live, how we impact the earth's ecosystems, and what we can do to change our course. Featuring ongoing dialogues of experts from all over the world, including former Soviet Prime Minister Mikhail Gorbachev, renowned scientist Stephen Hawking, former head of the CIA R. James Woolsey and sustainable design experts William McDonough and Bruce Mau in addition to over 50 leading scientists, thinkers and leaders who discuss the most important issues that face our planet and people. The film has spurred an action network (<http://11thhouraction.com/>) to bring sustainable solutions to local communities around the world.

Coming Attraction:

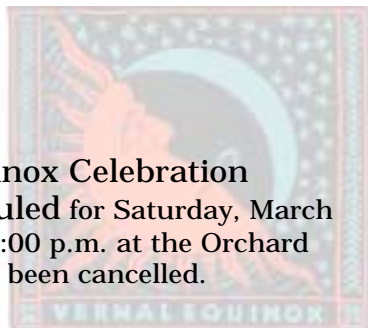
Friday April 2nd -

CANOE WAY: THE SACRED JOURNEY -

A documentary film about the annual Tribal Journeys of Pacific Northwest Coast Salish people. Indigenous tribes and First Nations from Oregon, Washington, Canada and Alaska follow their ancestral pathways through the waters of Puget Sound, Inside Passage and the Northwest Coast. The film's director, Mark Celletti, will be at the discussion session following the show.

Cancelled:

The Spring Equinox Celebration originally scheduled for Saturday, March 20th, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Orchard Street Property has been cancelled.



Are you leading a
Covenant Group ?

Covenant Group Facilitators Meeting

All facilitators of covenant groups are required to attend the Covenant Group Facilitators Meeting (or to send a designated representative from the group). We meet once per month on the first Sunday of every month downstairs in the Isaac Newton room at 9:00 a.m. This group is also open to anyone who thinks they might be interested in becoming a facilitator at some point in the future. We check in about our groups, explore relevant topics and problem-solve by deep listening to each other's mutual needs. The March 7th meeting will not be happening due to the UU Women's Retreat. However, members are invited to attend the Growth Options Meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Social Hall during that time.

Growth Options Task Force – Adult RE update:

On February 14th the Program Coordinator Advisory Committee (PAC for short!) met with the Growth Options Task Force to discuss offering Adult RE during the trial period of going to two services. We discussed that this trial period is less about trying to showcase and more about gathering information and seeing how pieces might fit together. We can see where adult RE will fit without trying to complicate the efforts. Likewise from the other perspective: we won't get past this trial period if we don't offer a view of the possibilities and advantages (for example, adult RE!). So even though we decided not to have an Adult RE class during the trial period, we want to make sure everyone knows that it is a possibility for the future.

Please be thinking about how and where you see adult RE fitting in and give your feedback to Program Coordinator Susie Maharry at smaharry@hotmail.com.

The PAC currently has openings. If you would like to join the advisory team to help steer the directions of Adult Spiritual Development & Covenant Group Ministry, consider joining PAC by contacting Program Coordinator Susie Maharry at smaharry@hotmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Sun., March 7

-2nd-3rd Grade Class lights the chalice
-End of Winter Term

Sun., March 14

-Spring term begins
-Optional informational meeting for families of KG-1st Grade about the upcoming OWL class, after service for 90 minutes, lunch and child care provided.

Sun., March 21

-Youth Group Worship Service
-Mandatory KG-1st Grade OWL Parent-Child meeting, noon-2:30, potluck
-RE committee meeting, noon, Alcott Room

Sun., March 28

-All RE Classes dye eggs in the social hall. Please bring 6-12 hard-boiled eggs.
Parent helpers needed.
-Birthday Celebrations for March & April

Happy Birthday

Eden Kelley, 2
Jaek Andersen, 9
Katie Warren, 13
Quinn Huelsbeck, 16

We will be celebrating their birthdays with the April folks March 28.

OWL News

In January we had our annual Our Whole Lives planning meeting. OWL is a comprehensive sexuality education course with age-appropriate information for children and youth about values, decision-making, health, and personal safety.

This spring we will offer the K-1st Grade OWL course 4/11-6/6, 9:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

In order to be a teacher, a person needs to attend a 15-hour training (Friday-Sunday) which I have heard described as life-changing. If you have any interest in getting the training, please talk to Lori Fernholz-Hartman about it.

If you'd like to know more about OWL visit www.uua.org/owl/what.html

Classroom Helpers
Preschool

3/07 Karen Judish
3/14 Stacy Kelley
3/21 Karliy Sampaga
K-1st
3/07 David Judish
3/14 Yoshiko Yamamoto
3/21 Kelley Deis
2nd-3rd

3/07 Barb Lutzewitz
3/14 Tim Battin
3/21 Jen LeMay
4th-6th

3/07 Kathleen Murray
3/14 Melanie Forster
3/21 Cari Aida

Coming of Age

3/07 Lori F-H
3/14 Amy Doering
(March 20 sleepover)
3/21 Andy Bartels

Chalice Camp

This July 19-22 we will offer our 2nd TUUC summer day camp for children 5-12 years old. Registration forms will be available mid-March and will be due July 12. Camp runs M-Th, 9 a.m.—3 p.m. with a sleepover on Thursday night starting at 6 p.m. on the Orchard Street Property. Cost is \$50 per child if you provide lunch and snack or \$75 per child if TUUC provides lunch and snack. Parents are expected to be helpers for three hours, once in the week (either from 9-noon or noon-3), or pay an additional \$30 for us to hire a sitter in your stead.

Last year we had about 12 children and it was a lot of fun. This year Anne Tumbusch, Louise Andersen & I will co-lead camp. More info to come.

Contact the Director of Religious Exploration

Lori Fernholz-Hartman

v-mail: 253-306-7836, e-mail: dre@tuuc-wa.org

Lifelong Learning

February 18 I had the joy of attending Professional Days at the Pacific Northwest District Assembly in Bellevue. Ministers and Religious Educators from Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska gathered for worship and learning led by the Rev. Keith Kron, who was here at TUUC a few months ago leading us in the Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop. He is a former public elementary school teacher and taught us all about story-telling. We heard and discussed Frederick, Seven Blind Mice, and Click Clack Moo: engaging and delightful. I have always liked stories, but I had started to take them for granted. Good stories and good story-telling is really one of the most powerful learning tools we have.

He also reminded me that repeating stories is a good thing to do. For children, this provides comfort and reinforcement; for adults, time for reflection and the chance to hear a story with new ears. We can turn good stories over a hundred times to get all the meaning out. For example, he asked us to listen to Peter Rabbit, keeping the life of Beatrix Potter (a Unitarian!) in mind. Turns out Beatrix Potter is Peter Rabbit: neglected, rebellious, lover of nature, wild at heart.

I look forward to using what I learned upstairs and down!

Lori

Adult learning is more about unlearning, than learning.

Dear Parents,

What an exciting time at TUUC. The Sunday after Easter/Flower Communion, April 11, we will begin having 2 Sunday morning worship services: a 9:30 service which will offer 1) nursery for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and 2) a K-5th Grade Group offering, led for at least the first few weeks by me. The curriculum will focus on our principles & sources and will include games, crafts, sharing of joys and sorrows, singing, and stories. Children will begin upstairs and be sung down as they are now.

There will also be an 11:15 service which will offer RE that is a carbon copy of what is happening now at the 10:30 service (in regards to children and youth only; the style of adult worship is still being discussed).

Because I don't know whether you will attend the 9:30 or the 11:15 service, I can't assign helping times. If you know for sure that you will be attending the 11:15 on a regular basis, I would be happy to assign you dates as I have in the past, if you just let me know that is your intention. Or if you know you will mainly attend the 9:30 service, I will know you are not available to help at 11:15.

We need each family to sign up to help in the classroom about once a month, depending on how often you come to TUUC, and what works for your family. If you haven't already, please send me 3 dates you would be available to help and I will fill everyone in and get the final draft back to everyone by March 5. If you don't respond I will fill you in, as I have in the past and you will be expected to trade with someone else, if that doesn't work for you.

I appreciate your patience through this experiment and please call if you have questions: 253-306-7836.

With Warmth from the Flame,
Lori



Contact the Director of Religious Exploration
Lori Fernholz-Hartman
 v-mail: 253-306-7836, e-mail: dre@tuuc-wa.org

Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation
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Tacoma, WA 98408

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MARCH The Dialog 2010
Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

March 7

"Eyes on the Mountain Top, Feet in the Dust." -- Rev. Heather Lynn Hanson. Ministers and Presidents are people, too. Some things you might and might not expect from your next minister.

*Service is followed by a 12:15 workshop:
Polarity Management for Healthy Congregations
- see front cover for more information.*

March 14

"The Hand that Rocks the Cradle."
-- Rev. Heather Lynn Hanson. Changing roles of half the human race, and how GNP influences that.

*Service is followed by the monthly
"What's Up?" Forum*

**10:30 a.m.
Sunday Services**
are recorded and will be available in our Library.

March 21

"What's Your Topping?" -- TUUC Youth Group. Unitarian Universalists come from many different backgrounds, and while we celebrate the same religion, we hold different beliefs. Come join this special service, led by the high school youth group, about the commonalities we share and the "toppings" that make us unique.

Yes We CAN! - March 21 is the 3rd Sunday Food Drive

March 28

"The Evolution of God" -- Rev. Kit Ketcham, minister of the UU Congregation of Whidbey Island. In the past several years, there has been a spate of books and essays arguing for and against the likelihood of the Universe's being controlled by a God or Gods. Rev. Ketcham will consider how the concept of God has evolved over millenia and how we might think of it today.

CHANGE FOR CHANGE:

Sometimes charity begins at home! The beneficiary of Change For Change in the month of March is going to be TUUC. It will be easy to give this month. Not only change, everything in the basket goes to TUUC. Everybody knows how important it is to give this month. --Karen Forchione, Social Action Committee