



---

## From the President's Computer. . .

As I initially compose this column, I'm riding back from AGM in Portland\* (that is, Annual General Meeting – the annual meeting/conference of the PNW District UU congregations).

At the conference, there were oodles of good talks, workshops, and opportunities for personal and congregational development, and even moments of inspiration. One theme that ran throughout (and we've heard it a bit from Joan as well) was the need for UUs to not only live our values in our daily lives and many community activities, but also to let others know that we are UUs living UU values as we do our good work. In other words – the “E” word (Evangelize)!

I don't know about you, but for me, my values, faith and religion have always been very personal. If discussed at all, it is only in close company. And “living my values” yes, I try, but gosh golly(!) sometimes that is challenging enough, without feeling I need to evangelize. But – now I am convinced.

In that light, let me leave you with a few (scribbled, near-quote) phrases from the Opening Ceremony Address of the conference, given by Gini Courter (from UUA). My intention is to give you encouragement and food for thought toward further identifying your UUism as you live your values.

“It is not enough to be merely political, but silent about religion. We need to speak about our religion... [which is] based on feeling, liberty and compassion...”

“There are countless lonely believers out there, and we need to bring them together.”

“When we talk about our religion, at least people will know we have one.”

“Our message will make other's ears tingle.”

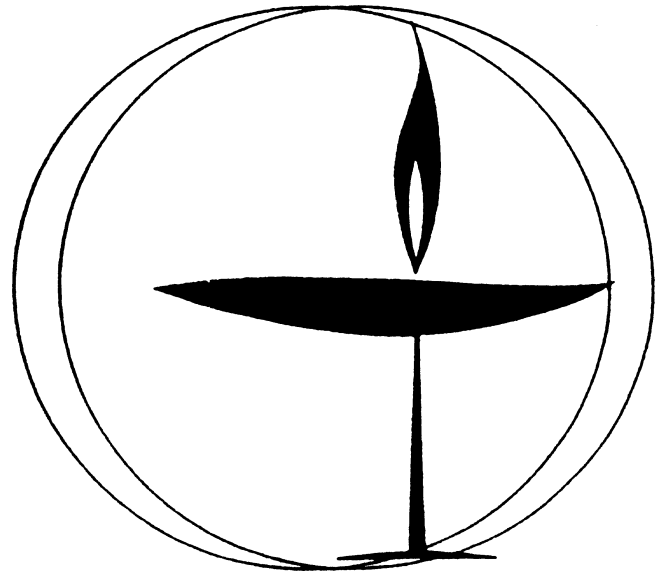
Enjoy the lengthening days, and live the warm, compassionate, optimism of our faith\*\*.

-Cathy Perillo

*\*Besides Joan and myself, other attendees were Marissa Purdue, Betty Smith, Archie George, and Rebecca Rod. Ask them about what THEY took away from the conference ☺*

*\*\* “optimism” was another dominant theme of the conference. We may not feel it always or even often. One more near-quote phrase from Gini:*

*– “You and I are not able to say we are powerless... We live in the most influential country on the planet, which gives us a responsibility... Take this religion to the public square. This is our time, my friends, our time.”*



---

## From the Minister

The Service Auction brings out the best in people.

Over the years I have found myself offering services to our community I didn't even know I had.

I always suspected I had a Tea Party Hostess in me dying to get out, but I didn't fully embrace my inner Victorian until one Service Auction when I offered to serve those little sandwiches without crusts and scones with clotted cream to nine fortunate souls.

I always knew I was supposed to preach from our pulpit, but it seems the services which evoke the most response each year are the sermons purchased at the Service Auction: "The Sermon Topic of Your Choice, A Chance to Put Your Words in Joan's Mouth." I suppose its because you push me in directions I wouldn't normally go. I'm still reeling from some of your purchased sermons: "The Power of Costume," "Why Music Matters," "Whither the Mystery?"

And then there was the year I found myself, much to my own amusement and astonishment, offering "Your Brain in Jell-O." Two people bought that particular item, though I note that neither has, as of yet, claimed it.

This year I am alarmed to discover I am offering to host an unlimited number of people in a boisterous and wild game of "Apples to Apples." Not only that, I seem to be prepared to feed all these people all kinds of apple comestibles and drinks.

I find myself offering all kinds of items that I didn't even know I had to give.

Over the years, I've also I discovered that I want services I never knew I wanted. Oh there were services I wanted that didn't particularly surprise me like sushi dinners (yum), mushroom hunts (fun), and knitting classes (good gracious, I'm really knitting!).

But who knew I wanted to become an e-bay master (click), or see tours of an Antarctic field station (brrr), or learn Ukrainian Easter egg painting (good gracious, I am really painting Ukrainian Easter eggs)? Who knew? Certainly not me. An the "Chicks Night Out" came as complete surprise (yikes). I didn't even sign up for that one! Someone forged my name....really! Regardless,

somehow I ended up going out with the "Chicks" and having a grand old time with some charming church ladies with a remarkable sense of style.

The Service Auction brings out the best in people. It invites us to be more creative than we ever thought we could be with our generosity. It invites us to try new and exciting adventures with friends. The Service Auction is a party that blossoms into more parties, new friendships, thrilling skills, outdoor activities, retreats, garden produce, and gorgeous flowers. The list can only end with the horizons of your imagination.

So come to the Service Auction on March 5. It will be a party in and of itself, and it is also a door onto the ever growing life of our beloved community.

Yours in faith,  
joan

---

## Thanks!

Thanks go to **Rebecca Rod** for leading us all into a Valentine Chocolate haze for the sake of a good cause. We are grateful to the **Friday Morning** and the **Wednesday Night Small Groups** for putting on this event. Thank you to **Sandra Haarsager** for her lovely gifts of music. The Chocolate fest was a great ministry to our congregation: much fun was had by all. This event was also a ministry to the wider community as it raised funds for a new Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Transexual community group called Inland Oasis.

---

## In the Family...

Congratulations to **Ben Walden** for his stellar performance on *A Prairie Home Companion*!

Congratulations go to **Jan** and **Jack Keller** who are now grand parents! Baby **Bjorn Keller** was born in Alaska in early February.

We are keeping **Joseph Erhard Hudson** in our thoughts. Joseph's grandfather recently experienced a stroke and is not faring well.

---

## Hospitality Tip of the Month

Creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere is the job of the entire congregation. Imagine yourself as the newcomer. What would you hope would happen when you go downstairs for the social time? Let's all help make it happen!



### Feed of Dreams

Join us for dinner on March 23 at 6:00 in the church basement. Cost is \$3.00 per person with a maximum of \$10.00 per family. All are welcome!

## Repast with the Rev.



Joan will be having lunch at Tam's Place Restaurant, 1005 E. Main St., in Pullman on Thurs., March 24 at 12:00. She would love some company. Hope to see you there!

---

---



Those perusing Nick Gier's book *The Virtue of Non-Violence* at the January 23 service may not have realized that it was on sale at the author's discount price of \$25. There may be a few people out there who should see Nick about settling their account. More copies of the book are still available

## Small Group Ministry

It's a new way of doing church!

"Small Group Ministry is the spiritual development group I've been hoping to find for a long time."

"Small Group Ministry has re-connected me to the church community."

"Small Group Ministry helps me build personal relationships."

"Small Group Ministry goes beyond coffee hour."

"Its fun!"

If you are interested in getting to know kindred spirits, and if you are interested in serving your church with your friends, and if you are interested in making a difference in the world, then Small Group Ministry is for you. Pick up a yellow registration form in the foyer; fill it out; and give it to Rev. Joan, mail it to our office, or drop it in the offertory basket. You can also register online.

---

## Wine Tasting

Another Wine Tasting Event has been planned. This time it will be a Merlot tasting where we will get the opportunity to compare and contrast from among several brands. If you have a particular favorite, please call with suggestions. I will try to obtain some unusual wines from a variety of geographical locations. The Merlot event will take place at the beautiful home of Mary George in Pullman. Her address is 832 S.E. Edge Knoll. The date and time are: Sunday, April 3rd, from 4 - 7 pm.



You can call Mary for directions at: 332-2540 or myself, Carol Taylor, at: 883-0680. Cost will be again, \$5 per person. Bring light snacks that go with Merlot.

---

## Book Discussion Group

The discussion book for March is Brick Lane by Monica Ali. From Amazon.com: Wildly embraced by critics, readers, and contest judges (who put it on the short-list for the 2003 Man Booker Prize), Brick Lane is indeed a rare find: a book that lives up to its hype. Monica Ali's debut novel chronicles the life of Nazneen, a Bangladeshi girl so sickly at birth that the midwife at first declares her stillborn. At 18 her parents arrange a marriage to Chanu, a Bengali immigrant living in England. Although Chanu—who's twice Nazneen's age—turns out to be a foolish blowhard who "had a face like a frog," Nazneen accepts her fate, which seems to be the main life lesson taught by the women in her family. "If God wanted us to ask questions," her mother tells her, "he would have made us men." Over the next decade-and-a-half Nazneen grows into a strong, confident woman who doesn't defy fate so much as bend it to her will. The great delight to be had in Brick Lane lies with Ali's characters, from Chanu the kindly fool to Mrs. Islam the elderly loan shark to Karim the political rabblerouser, all living in a hothouse of Bengali immigrants. Brick Lane combines the wide scope of a social novel about the struggles of Islamic immigrants in pre- and post-9/11 England with the intimate story of Nazneen, one of the more memorable heroines to come along in a long time. If Dickens or Trollope were loosed upon contemporary London, this is exactly the sort of novel they would cook up.

*The discussion of this book will be on Wednesday, March 30. Place will be announced later.*

Our book for April will be War Trash by Ha Jin. The "war trash" of this hypnotic novel are Chinese soldiers who were taken prisoner by U.N. forces — mainly American — during the Korean War. Written in the modest, uninflected prose of a soldier's letter home, Ha Jin's story, a mixture of authentic historical detail and realistic invention, is a powerful work of the imagination whose psychic territory is not the hunger and humiliation of the prison camp but the haunted past that was the old, lost China and the mysterious future that is in the process of becoming Mao Zedong's chimerical new China.

Caught between the two is the narrator, an instinctively decent young man named Yu Yuan, a cadet at Huangpu Military Academy, the West Point of Nationalist China. Though on the losing side, he feels "grateful to the Communists, who seemed finally to have brought peace to our war-battered land." Because Yu speaks English, the communists permit him to complete his studies. He soon finds himself crossing the Yalu River with the 180th Division of the People's Volunteer Army. He leaves behind his widowed mother and his young fiancée, for both of whom he feels deeply and worriedly responsible.

The soldiers of the 180th Division are told to expect little resistance from the soft, spoiled Americans they will meet in combat. "At the mere sight of us, the Americans would go to their knees and surrender — they were just pussycats." Poorly equipped with Soviet weapons they do not know how to use, incompetently led by Party hacks, the 180th soon encounters reality. Pounded by U.S. airpower and shattered by ferocious American ground attacks, the division is surrounded and destroyed. Thousands, including a grievously wounded Yu, are taken prisoner.

After surgery in an American hospital, Yu is sent to a large, American-run prisoner-of-war camp on Kojima Island in the Sea of Japan near Pusan. "Inside the compound," Yu tells us, "my first impression was that I had returned to the Chinese Nationalist army: everywhere I turned, I saw people wearing the sun emblem of the Nationalist Party." These men, who are in control of the camp by American consent and through sheer force of numbers, are still loyal to Chiang Kai-shek. They plan to go to Taiwan after the war. The communists, many fewer in number, are determined to return to the motherland.

Each side competes fiercely for the loyalty of every new prisoner. Because of his value as an interpreter, Yu Yuan is a desirable prize. Though Yu is not a communist — and realizes that he is likely to have an easier personal life in Taiwan than in a Maoist China that will always suspect his loyalty — he opts for return to the mainland. His reasons are Confucian: An only child, he is the sole support of his old mother, and he also supposes that he must soon become a father as the result of a single night of lovemaking with his fiancée.

When he declines to join the Nationalist faction, its enforcers knock him over the head and, while he is unconscious, tattoo the English words "[Expletive] COMMUNISM" on his belly. Thus indelibly branded as an enemy of the people, Yu Yuan struggles to elude the fate that political zealots have designed for him. But in his insistence on being the captain of his soul, he fashions a destiny with which it might have been impossible to live had he not, in the end, been able to live with himself — and with the obscene tattoo that is a constant reminder that what is written is written.

*The book discussion group is open to anyone who likes to read books and talk about them. Send an e-mail to [mhamilto@vetmed.wsu.edu](mailto:mhamilto@vetmed.wsu.edu) to get on the e-mail list for book reviews and notices of meetings.*

---

## Thank You. . .

Thank you Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse for your donation of many pairs of sweatpants, sweatshirts, sox and underwear to the students at West Park Elementary. A special thanks to Donna Bradberry and the Social Action Committee who made the donation possible. Our young population of students often needs a change of clothes due to wet/cold weather or illness. This donation enables us to continue to look out for our children in essential care so that learning can continue with less disruption.

*William Marineau, Principal  
West Park Elementary School*

## Retirees Luncheon

The UU Retirees will meet for lunch noon on Thursday, March 3 in the Latah Room at Best Western

---

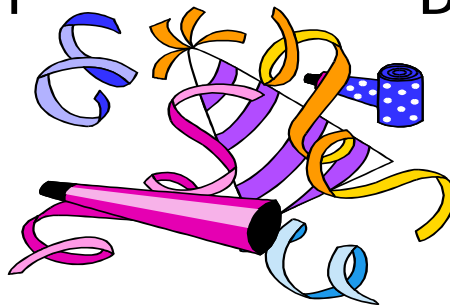
## March

Kate Tinney

Isabel Huggins

Kate Bentley

Shay Hatten



## Birthdays

Dayton Livingston

Rhea Hatten

Wil Caisley

Sam Caisley

Lulu Saberi

---

## Finding the Center: An Action Oriented Human Rights Conference

The first joint Idaho-Washington regional human rights conference for the Inland Pacific Northwest will take place March 30 – April 1<sup>st</sup> at the University of Idaho in Moscow. The Conference will offer renowned guest speakers, exciting workshops, fellowship, networking, entertainment and dining. Four stimulating workshop tracks will help guide participants in the development of new tools and strategies for finding a common, inclusive center on which to build a welcoming place of respect for human rights. All community members interested in building a better community are invited to attend. Registration and scholarship information are available at [www.uidaho.edu/ftc](http://www.uidaho.edu/ftc).

Tracks (each participant can choose two):

- 1) Concepts of Community Which Promote Unity
- 2) Character Education: From Violence to Virtue
- 3) Taking Action – Practical Contributions to Civility
- 4) Good Government – Successful Experiences from Across the Region and Country. Presented by members of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, Tribal leaders, and Hispanic Community leaders.

The Conference is sponsored by the City of Moscow, the University of Idaho, the City of Pullman, Washington State University, CHEER (Center for Health, Education, and Economic Resources,) the Latah County Human Rights Task Force and the YWCA of WSU.

---

# Religious Education News

Yellow House Greetings!

As spring begins the Yellow House is bustling with activity. Secret Pals has started, Passover and Easter are waiting to be celebrated, the canned good hunt helps to fill the food bank, and the Spring theme, Environmental Awareness, has begun. Here are some tips for adults *and* children for helping the Secret Pals program run smoothly:

## Secret Pal Tips!

- **Correspond with your pal each week.** If you are going to be out of town, let your pal know. Or if you want something delivered while you are out of town, let me know and I can do it for you.
- Please don't spend money on large gifts for your pal. Homemade items, treats, small tokens of your esteem are appropriate. Large gifts put pressure on other pals, and cause Secret Pal Envy.
- **NO LURKING!** Please clear the area around the folders so that pals may safely deliver their notes without the trouble of costumes. Children and adults who seem to be shamelessly loitering around the folders will be shooed away by the RE staff.
- Use the Secret Pal Tamper Proof Box for extra confidence in your deliveries. The RE staff will place your deliveries into the correct folder – no more worries about your identity being discovered!
- If you forget who your pal is, or need any assistance whatever, please contact Ginger or Caitlin for help
- Parents should monitor their children's correspondence for extra safety.
- **HAVE FUN!**

If you haven't been in the Yellow House lately, you may want to take a peek. Many talented people have been working hard on much needed remodeling. Please excuse the mess if you use the Yellow House for meetings or get-togethers, it will be well worth it when the projects are finished!

Warm Wishes,

Ginger George, Acting Director of Religious Education

---

## Canned Goods Collection

Passover/Easter Canned Goods Collection begins this Month beginning **March 6th**, please bring canned goods to the basket in the church foyer to begin our collection for the annual Passover / Easter canned good hunt, which is **March 27<sup>th</sup>**. Food goes to the local food bank. Contact Ginger George, Acting DRE for more information.



**Have a Secret Pal but are leaving town?** Not to fret! Although it is important to correspond with your pal each week, you can let your pal know when you will be out of town or let the RE staff deliver your correspondence. Also, mark your calendars for the potluck 12:30 pm on **April 10.**



## Purple Paisley Quilters

February was busy for the quilters. The Trip Around the Garden raffle quilt is getting its final quilted border and looking nicer all the time. The top of the Dog Scarf Quilt is done, in a pattern of colorful pinwheels with muslin sashing, and has a cheerful, colorful contemporary look that is very appealing. Not strictly a quilt, this will be a tied comforter. We will be looking for new projects very soon, with these two finished.

We have also been working on baby quilts, as we can see we will be needing them soon. Hemstitching the binding on a baby quilt is a common second task for new quilters. First is usually ironing, an important component of the piecing process. After these tasks, people are usually ready to move on to hand quilting.

We have been getting some young people coming to quilting recently. Molly Jennings came by for some knitting tutoring. She has already knitted a bookmark and two scarves, and is now working on a dish cloth. Hazel Opie came first with her mother, then with her father, to pick out some fabrics for a blue and white doll quilt. She cut the squares and arranged them in a design, and is working with her mother to sew them together. Her success made us think of offering a kids quilting workshop for the Service Auction this year. A child and an adult can pair up to design a quilt, pick fabrics from the PPQ stash, cut the pieces, and make the top, which will then be tied into a cozy lap-size comforter. Of course, the PPQ will be there in force to offer advice, mentoring, ooohs and aaahs, and brownies. This is a great first time quilting experience, and the range of fabrics available assures that your creativity will know no limits.

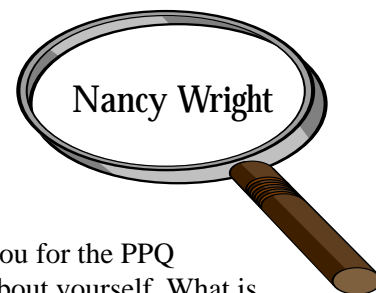
PPQ enjoyed a visit from Quilter Extraordinaire Marta Robertson and her daughter Jane Robertson, who was visiting from Norway. Marta has contributed many quilted pieces and a lot of fabric to PPQ, and is a continuing source of inspiration.

We had a very successful shipment of things to Afghans for Afghans early this year. We had a large strip afghan, two small lap size afghans, and a whole flotilla of hand-knit hats. Ulrike Axen coordinates that actual shipping to the collection point in San Francisco. If you have handmade things that you would like to include in a shipment, let us know, and we will get the items to Ulrike. The next shipment will be April 18. Socks and mittens would be particularly useful.

Not strictly a PPQ event, but I took on the job of finding a new coffee pot for church after all our other ones suffered an acute and uniformly fatal disorder. The new one is very large, stainless steel, and shaped like an urn. I think it suits the importance given to coffee in our church life. It teams up superbly with the Grounds for Change coffee that the PPQ sells to produce a fine beverage that meets everyone's caffeine needs on Sunday mornings.

## PPQ Interview

This month we present the second in our series of interviews with PPQ members. Our interviewee is Thea Logical, AKA



PPQ: Thank you for allowing us to interview you for the PPQ news. Tell us something about yourself. What is your favorite color?

TL/NW: Brown, because it reminds me of bare feet on the earth.

PPQ: What is your favorite food?

TL/NW: Peanut butter, because it is brown.

PPQ: How did you come to join the PPQ?

TL/NW: Mary Jo made me.

PPQ: Really? What did you find when you came to PPQ?

TL/NW: Humor, kindred spirits, joyful cynicism, deeply irreligious thinkers - a community that thrives on dark humor and white wine.

PPQ: What is your favorite PPQ activity?

TL/NW: I really like spending PPQ money on water buffaloes, bicycles and TB treatments. I also like it that they gave me an office and a title - heirophant. According to the OED, a heirophant is an official expounder of sacred mysteries or religious ceremonies. They don't have much call for that sort of thing at PPQ, but I'm always here, sort of on Stand By. They are kind of a wayward flock.

PPQ: What is your least favorite part of PPQ?

TL/NW: The quilting. I hate to quilt.

PPQ: Would you recommend PPQ to others?

TL/NW: Yes, for anyone with a strong need to laugh while eating brownies and doing useful projects with their hands. There is always knitting, you know - Afghans for Afghans. PPQ is my break from reality.

PPQ: What did you bring to PPQ?

TL/NW: Coffee.

PPQ: And excellent coffee it is, too. Thank you for your insights, and for being a part of PPQ.

## Office Hours

<b>Minister's Office Hours</b>	Wednesday:	2 P.M.-5 P.M.
Rev. Joan Montagnes	Thursday:	2 P.M.-5 P.M.
	Friday:	11 A.M.-5 P.M.

*Joan is also available other times; either call  
and make an appointment or just drop by.*

***Joan will be on mini-sabbatical from March 2 - 15***

<b>RE Office Hours</b>	Wednesday:	1:30 P.M.-5 P.M.
Ginger George	Thursday:	1 P.M.-5 P.M.
	Friday:	1 P.M.-5 P.M.

<b>Main Office Hours</b>	Tuesday:	1 P.M.-5 P.M.
Becky Barnes	Wednesday:	1 P.M.-5 P.M.
	Thursday:	2 P.M.-5 P.M.

*We are in the process of updating our Church Directory. Please check to make sure your name, address, phone number, and email address are correct in the 2004 Directory (extra copies are on the table as you enter the sanctuary). If you wish to make changes, OR if you are not currently in our Directory and would like to be, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office by March 7.*



## Mark Your Calendars

### **Mondays:**

PPQ. 7:30 P.M. CB.  
Men's Group. 7 P.M. Various locations. Contact Bill Styer at 882-2113 for info.

### **Wednesdays:**

Choir. 6:30 - 8:00 P.M. CS

### **Thursdays:**

Palouse Harmony. 7:30 P.M. YHM

**Thursday, March 3:** Retirees Lunch. Noon. Best Western

### **Saturday, March 5:**

7-9 P.M. Service Auction

### **Tues., March 8:**

*No RE Committee Meeting this month*

**Tues., March 15:** Newsletter deadline

### **Tues., March 22:**

Board Meeting. 7:15 P.M. YHM

### **Wed., March 23**

Feed of Dreams. 6 P.M. CB

### **Thurs., March 24**

Repast with the Rev.  
Noon. Tam's Place.

### **Thurs., March 30**

Book Discussion Group.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or Partner: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Children: \_\_\_\_\_

UUCP  
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse  
PO Box 9342  
Moscow, ID 83843-0117

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
MOSCOW, IDAHO  
PERMIT #343

Return Service Requested

REFUSED

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter,  
please check the box above and return.  
We pay the postage. Thank you.

General Church Information  
UUCP Phone: 208-882-4328  
Minister, The Rev. Joan Montagnes  
Joan's email: monty@turbonet.com  
Office email: uuchurch@moscow.com  
Jack Keller, treasurer: 509-432-3712  
Ginger George, RE Director: 332-2540  
Rita Styer, Caring Team: 882-2113

<http://users.moscow.com/uuchurch/>

Mail Pledge Payments to:  
Louise Ashmun, collections treasurer  
PO Box 9342  
Moscow, ID 83843

---

Would you like to receive email updates from the UUCP?

Yes! Sign me up!

My current email address is \_\_\_\_\_.

(please print clearly)

I have a new email address.

My new email address is \_\_\_\_\_.

(please print clearly)

My old email address is \_\_\_\_\_.

(please print clearly)

Please print clearly. Place in drop box into church office, email  
uuchurch@moscow.com OR mail to UUCP, PO Box 9342, Moscow ID 83843.