



UUUCP News

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse

August
2006

PO Box 9342 420 E. Second Street, Moscow, ID 83843 Issue Date: August 1, 2006 Volume #57, Issue #7 Issued Monthly

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August 6, 10:00 am

Songs from the Back of the Church

Speaker: Hugh Moffatt

Celebrant: TBA

Hugh is a local musician who has recently released a CD of songs celebrating the core values of the Christian faith while questioning some of the attitudes and actions of the church. Hugh will be giving his premier performance of his CD at the UUUCP in the evening at 7PM. (Donations will be accepted.)

August 13, 10:00 am

Humor Sunday

Speakers: Various wits & wags from the UUUCP

When the world seems at its most grim, it is time to remember to laugh. Join us for an opportunity to end the summer services with a chuckle. Bring your own favorite jokes to share as well.

August 20, 9:30 & 11:00 am

A Bucketful of Dreams

Speaker: Rev. Kayle Rice

Celebrant: Krista Kramer

The Water Communion is our traditional opening of the new church year. Please bring a small amount of water from your summer journeys to blend together the waters that form the collective 'us' and celebrate beginning again, as we look to the year ahead. This is an All Church Celebration, so there will be no RE classes this Sunday.

August 27, 9:30 & 11:00 am

Thresholds

Speaker: Rev. Kayle Rice

Celebrant: Steve Cooke

At the beginning of her ministry with the UUUCP, Rev. Kayle pauses on the threshold: the boundary between the known world of her past and the unknown existence of our congregational future; between the chaos of the outside world and the sacred space within. Reflections on the journey in life and ministry.

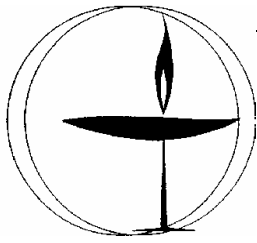
Religious Education Volunteers Needed!!

Everyone has a gift to share with our most precious resource: our children. No matter how much or how little time you have there is a place for you! From teaching this fall session to volunteering to make snack, provide snack, be a guest speaker, or just be present, there are countless ways to give to our children. **I give you the support, you bring your heart and spirit!** Contact Ginger George for more information: uucp-dre@moscow.com, (208) 882-4328.

Rev. Kayle's Office Hours

Beginning the week of August 21st, my office hours will be Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursdays in Pullman (location to be announced) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This is experimental and subject to change. Monday is my Sabbath Day and Friday is my writing/study day. I am happy to meet at other times by appointment.

As of August 4th my home telephone is 208-883-3205. Prior to the 3rd week of August, I will be happy to greet-n-meet as needed. Simply call me at home to make an appointment or send me an email. I prefer not to receive calls past 9 p.m. at night unless it's an emergency. For the month of August I can still be reached at uukaylerice@charter.net.



From the Pastor on the Palouse

Westward Ho! is the rallying cry as Brian and I head toward our new life in the great Pacific Northwest. I've also been reading about the wagon trains of the mid-

1800's, so as the wheels of our car whine along the highway, thoughts of pioneers and settlers come to mind.

There's a wonderful analogy called "Frontier Theology" which was developed by the late Wes Seeliger, an Episcopalian priest and founder of The Foundation for Contemporary Theology. Much of it is simplistic but it has fun metaphors to play with. And it is useful, I think, to use these metaphors in looking at ourselves in how we feel about UUCP and our place in the scheme of our new ministry together.

Seeliger notes there are two views of life in the church community: settler theology and pioneer theology. Settler theology is an attempt to answer all the questions, and establish the status quo. Pioneer theology is an attempt to talk about what it means to receive the strange gift of life, and live! The pioneer sees ministry as an adventure...and follows the haunting call of what is yet to be.

In Settler theology, the congregation is the courthouse. It is the center of town life. The old stone structure dominates the town square. Its windows are small, making this structure easy to defend, but quite dark inside. Its doors are solid oak. No one lives there except pigeons and they, of course, are most unwelcome. Within the thick, courthouse walls, records are kept, and taxes collected (perhaps I should say "tithes"?). The courthouse is the settler's symbol of law, order, and stability.

In Pioneer theology the congregation is a wagon train. It is always on the move over mountains and through dark valleys, in fair weather and storm. No place is its home. The wagon train is not comfortable or safe. It does not hesitate to move into new territory. Life can be hectic. There are rivers to ford, wagons to pull out of mud. There is the boredom of the plain and the excitement of danger. But, through it all, the pioneers are driven by the vision of what is yet to be. The wagon train is not where one goes; it is where one lives. Although they cherish the land already explored, the pioneers are still restless. They love the past because it has brought them to the present; but the future is always before them.

Settler or pioneer? Which one are you right now? Which want do you want to be?

Our UU movement is a unique movement. The one thing that really gets me jumping up and down with excitement is the history of Unitarian Universalism...our

story is *loaded* with pioneers! For example we have:

- Michael Servetus, honored as the father of Unitarianism, lived in the 1500's in the Protestant Reformer John Calvin's time. Servetus wrote a treatise called "On the Errors of the Trinity." He was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

- Those brave souls in early American Boston who were Congregationalists but could not believe in the Trinity and who had a problem with governance by church leaders, and thus broke away from the established church known as the "Standing Order". (Doesn't "standing order" have a nice settler sound to it?)

- One of these ministers, William Ellery Channing, with his 1819 sermon "Unitarian Christianity" officially blessed the once noxious term "Unitarian" thereby giving a name to a denomination of persons who believed in freedom, reason and tolerance in religion.

- John Murray, the father of Universalism, a preacher who came to America from England a broken man but was persuaded to preach his beliefs of universal salvation, a very liberal and provocative idea for the late 18th century. As a result the message of Universalism spread very quickly.

- Olympia Brown, a Universalist minister, was the first woman to be ecclesiastically ordained into the ministry.

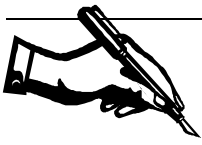
- Do you know about the "Iowa Sisterhood"? These were a group of ordained Unitarian women who traveled to the Midwest in the late 1800's and started churches, especially in Iowa. Amazing pioneer stories!

- The branch of Unitarians and some Universalists who declared themselves humanists and wrote the Humanist Manifesto, signed in 1933. Historically humanism evolved from the frontier of Transcendentalism, championed by Ralph Waldo Emerson, Theodore Parker, Margaret Fuller, and Louisa May Alcott.

We have a rich history of pioneers in our movement. And yes, we've had our share of settlers. Early Unitarians in America were not always open to early Universalists because of divisions in economic status, social class and education. Blacks and other ethnic and racial groups have had a difficult time in our movements. But it is clear that we've always been, and always will be, an evolving movement.

I'd like to think that the UUCP clearly fits into pioneer theology. You honor the past. I am grateful for trail bosses Rev. Joan and Rev. Patti for their ministry and guidance. The frontier still beckons. I know that if I were in your place in this present moment I would be asking questions like: where do we go from here? What does

<continued on page 3>



From the President's Pen

Welcome back to a new school and church year. I hope everyone is feeling revitalized and ready to get back into the regular swing of life on the Palouse. This promises to be an exciting year and our congregation has a number of challenges on the horizon.

First and foremost, we will be welcoming the Reverend Kayle Rice as our new settled minister. Kayle will bring a fresh, new perspective and a bundle of enthusiasm to our community. I'm looking forward to working with Kayle and enjoying the talents and gifts she will bring to our congregation.

This summer I had the occasion to drive through some newer neighborhoods in Moscow (road construction will do that) and I was amazed at the number of new homes and neighborhoods springing up around town. I believe the same is true of Pullman and the growth of our communities is marching onward. I can't help but wonder who will be buying all of these new homes?

And yet it stands to reason that as our communities grow, so too will our congregation. I know most of us love our 'small' church feeling and don't want to lose that sense of closeness. I don't want to lose it either but maintaining a

strong sense of community as our congregation grows is likely the biggest challenge we face as we head off into the new year and those beyond. As we grow here are some of the challenges the UUCP Board of Trustees has identified as requiring attention in the next couple of years. How our congregation addresses these issues will likely impact how well we are able to grow and still maintain our wonderful community.

Facilities use is on the rise and there have been times in the last year where there just hasn't been enough space for all of the activities and meetings on the schedule.

Lay Leadership is strong but as we grow will our lay leadership grow with us? Can we assume that it will or do the Board and staff need to take a more active role in strengthening our committees and creating opportunities for leadership development?

Certainly our attempt at two services has been successful enough that I don't think we could go back to a single Sunday service but is it enough? Are there changes that need to be made to make two services better? What happens when we have 2 full services?

What do we do in the event of conflict within our congregation? I

suspect many of us may fear this more than any thing else and as our congregation grows there is increased opportunity for unresolved conflict. How we address this will be key to maintaining our strong sense of community. Do we need to start a process for building a "Covenant of Right Relations" to guide us in times of conflict? I've read that it is better to have something like this before it is needed rather than after it is needed.

As a board member, these are things I think about often and I hope each of you will consider some of these challenges as well. They represent exciting opportunities for the future of our church and they also represent opportunities for each of us to contribute in a meaningful way. If you have ideas and suggestions about any of these issues or others, I encourage you to talk to a board member about them. Talk to each other and communicate openly and honestly about those things that affect the quality of our congregational life.

And as summer draws to a close, kudos to Betty Smith and Eric Wegner for an incredibly successful series of Summer Sunday Services. Thank-you.

Cathy Green

<continued from page 2>

our pastor want to do? Are we going to lose our strong lay-led identity and leadership? What does her presence mean for our congregation? And what does her presence mean for our community? I certainly hope you'll share these thoughts with me as we get to know one other.

After a long hard day in the prairie of life, even pioneers must rest and be in community. They must feed and nurture and care for one another. They must indeed gather 'round the campfire, tell stories of their day and muster up for the 'morrow. This is our task as pioneers:

to engage in quality of relationship, carrying forward, being present with, celebrating the triumphs, witnessing, and believing in life in the presence of death...and all of these with love. May our pioneering spirit be ever present, may we always be evolving, and may be strengthened by the fellowship of one another. I truly look forward to pioneering with each and every one of you.

With great love and respect,

Rev. Kayle

New Member Biographies

It seems those quilts that the PPQ makes for new-borns warm more than the babies. **Marcie Gilliland** and **Richard King** got a warm fuzzy feeling when they first came to the UUCP to attend the presentation of a quilt to their friends and their baby. They've been coming back ever since.

Marcie and Richard arrived in Pullman in 2002 from Des Moines, Iowa for him to start a position as assistant professor in Comparative Ethnic Studies at WSU. Marcie is a psychological therapist at Funabiki and Associates Psychology in Pullman. They each have two degrees from the University of Kansas and Richard received his PhD at the University of Illinois.

They have two active girls. Abbey, who is ten, is an avid reader who likes soccer, bike riding, swimming and especially going to RE at church. She thinks Ginger is wonderful. Ellory, who is eight, likes to swim, run through the sprinkler and read.

They all enjoy animals and have a dog, two cats and two rabbits.

Richard and Marcie love the outdoors and enjoy hiking and gardening. They follow a vegetarian lifestyle and Richard is a gourmet cook. He does all the cooking, which leaves Marcie more time to spend outside in the garden which is her spiritual quiet time.

They are new to UUism and the UUCP is the first church they have officially joined. They feel comfortable with the philosophy and the people. Marcie says she's a "survivor" of the Catholic religion and attended parochial schools as a child. Richard attended the Presbyterian Church while growing up but they feel that true spirituality is found in nature, love of the earth and animals.

Genevra Sloan is an artist but she says she can't paint with oils in her apartment at Good Sam because she "throws paint around too much!" At eighty-one years old she is still enthusiastic about art as well as life. She came to Moscow with her husband William in 1954 and she lost him about a year ago. He taught architecture and she taught art at the U of I for a few years before she quit to raise her children.

She is a graduate of the University of Chicago and the Art Students League and in the early years she worked as a commercial artist for a greeting card company in Chicago.

She is very proud of her two daughters. Her oldest daughter, Genevra, is a medical social worker in Canada and her youngest daughter, Dana, is the chief book designer for Simon and Schuster in New York.

Besides her family, Genevra loves turtles! She had a

In the Family

Congratulations to Mary George's mother, who recently celebrated her 90th birthday; to Emalee Gruss Gillis, whose book has been accepted for publication; and to Marisa (Perdue) and Ryan Gibler on their marriage and the birth of their son, Avi Rhys Olin Gibler, who arrived on June 2. Best wishes to Dan Schmidt who is preparing to spend the coming year in Antarctica, beginning in October.

Please hold in your thoughts Marguerite Thoreson, who is recovering from a stroke; Sara Foster, whose great-uncle died, and Sara's grandfather, who was injured in an accident; Gayle Newman, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer; Albert Konen, whose father has died; and Martha Schmidt, whose brother has died.

Please notify the Office, uuchurch@moscow.com or 882-4328, of any family news to be included in this section.

couple of tortoises for eight or ten years and has always been fascinated by them.

Formerly an Episcopalian, she started attending UUCP about three years ago and seldom misses a service. She was originally invited by a friend and just loves it. She has numerous friends here and looks forward to every Sunday. She says everyone in the congregation is great, especially Jennie Rod who gives her a ride and her doctor, Janice Boughton.

DeLyle Eastwood arrived in Moscow from California about two years ago to take a job in her field as a research professor in chemistry. She is interested in nanotechnology and is currently writing proposals for research to develop a method to improve sensitivity to detect explosive vapors.

Since she received her PhD at the University of Chicago in 1964 she has traveled and lived across the country pursuing her career and has been listed for several years in Who's Who in America.

She likes Moscow, especially its small town peaceful atmosphere, the people, bookstores and coffeehouses. She has joined the League of Women Voters and is interested in art, ballet and theater. She has no family here but has numerous nieces and nephews across the country.

Raised in the Disciples of Christ Church, she discovered the Unitarian Universalist Church during graduate school. A UU Church was near the Disciples Church and she was attracted by the good programs and speakers. She enjoys the UUCP and especially appreciates the Book Discussion Group and the Social Action Committee.

-Pat Cary Peek

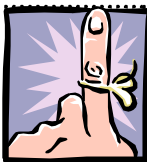
August 2006



YHM Yellow House, Main Floor
 YHB — Yellow House, Basement
 YH2 — Yellow House, Second Floor
 CS — Church Sanctuary
 CB — Church Basement

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 12:00 Retirees' Luncheon, Best Western Appaloosa Rm.	4	5
6 10:00 am Service 12:15 pm RE Committee Mtg, YHB 6:30 pm Youth Group, YHB 7:00 pm Hugh Moffat concert, Songs from the Back of the Church, CS	7 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	8	9 7:30 pm Sunday Services Committee Mtg, CB	10	11	12
13 10:00 am Service Humor Sunday 6:30 pm Youth Group, YHB 7:00 pm Bridge Group, CB	14 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	15 7:15 pm Board Mtg, YHM	16	17 7:00 pm Choir, CS	18	19
20 9:30 & 11:00 am Service Water Communion 6:30 pm Youth Group, YHB	21 6:00 pm Fall Teachers' Orientation, YHM 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	22	23	24 7:00 pm Choir, CS	25	26
27 9:30 & 11:00 am Service 6:30 pm Youth Group, YHB	28 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	29	30	31 7:00 pm Choir, CS		

Dates to Remember



Mondays:

PPQ, 7:30 pm, CB

Thursdays:

Choir, 7 pm, CS (resumes Aug. 17)

Men's Group, 7:00 pm, YH2. Contact John Pool at 883-8409 for info.

Sundays:

Youth Group, 6:30 pm, CB

August 1-8 *Help Kayle & Brian* unload and move in, see article on this page.

Wednesday August 2 *Book Discussion Group* meeting, see article on page 7 for details.

Thursday August 3 *Retirees' Luncheon*, 12:00 in the Appaloosa Room at the Best Western.

Sunday August 6 Hugh Moffat *Songs from the Back of the Church* concert, 7:00 pm, Church Sanctuary.

Wednesday August 9 *Sunday Services Committee Meeting*, 7:30 pm, Church Basement.

Tuesday August 15 *Board Meeting*, 7:15 pm, YH Main.

Sunday August 20 *Water Communion*, and return to two services at 9:30 am and 11:00 am.

Monday August 21 *Rev. Kayle's office hours* start (see below for details).

Monday August 21 *Fall Teachers' Orientation*, 6:00 pm, Yellow House Main.

Sunday August 30 *Book Discussion Group* meeting, see article on page 7 for details.

UUCP Staff Information

Rev. Kayle Rice, Minister

Rev. Kayle's regular office hours will start Aug. 21.

Home Study: 208-883-3205

Email: uukaylerice@charter.net

Office Hours: Tuesday 11:00-3:00

Wednesday 1:00-7:00

Thursday 11:30-1:30 in Pullman, location to be announced

Ginger George, Director of Religious Education

Phone: 208-882-4328

Email: uucp-dre@moscow.com

Office Hours: TBA

Summer Stevens, Administrative Secretary

Phone: 208-882-4328

Email: uuchurch@moscow.com

Office Hours: 10:30-2:30 Monday-Thursday

Moving Matters!



Are you anxious to flex those biceps you've been working on? Show off your strength? Do we have an opportunity for you! The movers of our worldly possessions are due to arrive at the apartment between the dates of August 1 and 8th. Extra help in unloading the van would be gratefully appreciated. It is hoped that we'll have a 48-hour notice. An email will go out with the specific date and time. Our address is 319 E. Sixth Street, Apt. 5 in Moscow. Many thanks in advance!

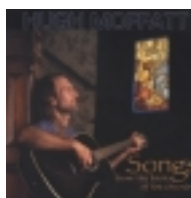
-Kayle & Brian

UU Retirees Luncheon

The retirees will meet for lunch in the Appaloosa Room at the Best Western at 12:00 noon on Thursday, **August 3**. All are welcome!



Songs from the Back of the Church



On Sunday August 6 at 7:00 pm, Hugh Moffat will give his premier performance of his new CD *Songs from the Back of the Church* in the UUCP Sanctuary. *Songs from the Back of the Church* celebrates the core values of the Christian faith while questioning some of the attitudes and actions of the church. Donations will be accepted.

Fall Teachers' Orientation

RE Teachers' Orientation for the fall session will be held on Monday August 21st, 6:30 pm in the Yellow House. Dinner and childcare provided!



August Birthdays

Forest DePhelps
Zoe Pallen-Richard
Diane Norton
Michael Taylor
Riley Tinney
Eliason Mendenhall
Ray Gillis
Reed Ellsworth





Book Discussion Group



Our book for July has evolved into a book for August, due to people's summer travel plans. We will be discussing *The Mysterious Flame of Queen Loana* by Umberto Eco on Wednesday, August 2 at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be at the home of Dean Weisenstein, 631 Eisenhower, Moscow. Ken Marcy will be leading the discussion. He has promised us a Power Point show of some of the works of art that are mentioned in the book - should be an interesting evening. I'm enjoying the book, although perhaps some of the literary allusions go right over my head.

In August we will also read *Don't Let's Go To The Dogs Tonight* by Alexandra Fuller; Judy LaLonde will lead the discussion. The August meeting will be at Judy's home, 2105 Lexington Avenue, Moscow, at 7:30 PM on August 30. From Amazon.com:

"A classic is born in this tender, intensely moving and even delightful journey through a white African girl's childhood. Born in England and now living in Wyoming, Fuller was conceived and bred on African soil during the Rhodesian civil war (1971-1979), a world where children over five "learn[ed] how to load an FN rifle magazine, strip and clean all the guns in the house, and ultimately, shoot-to-kill." With a unique and subtle sensitivity to racial issues, Fuller describes her parents' racism and the wartime relationships between blacks and whites through a child's watchful eyes. Curfews and war, mosquitoes, land mines, ambushes and "an abundance of leopards" are the stuff of this childhood. "Dad has to go out into the bush... and find terrorists and fight them"; Mum saves the family from an Egyptian spitting cobra; they both fight "to keep one country in Africa white-run." The "A" schools ("with the best teachers and facilities") are for white children; "B" schools serve "children who are neither black nor white"; and "C" schools are for black children. Fuller's world is marked by sudden, drastic changes: the farm is taken away for "land redistribution"; one term at school, five white students are "left in the boarding house...among two hundred African students"; three of her four siblings die in infancy; the family constantly sets up house in hostile, desolate environments as they move from Rhodesia to Zambia to Malawi and back to Zambia. But Fuller's remarkable affection for her parents (who are racists)

and her homeland (brutal under white and black rule) shines

through. This affection, in spite of its subjects' prominent flaws, reveals their humanity and allows the reader direct entry into her world. Fuller's book has the promise of being widely read and remaining of interest for years to come.

Like Anne Frank's diary, this work captures the tone of a very young person caught up in her own small world as she witnesses a far larger historical event. It will appeal to those looking for a good story as well as anyone seeking firsthand reportage of white southern Africa. The quirky title and jacket will propel curious shoppers to pick it up."

Other upcoming books:

The Solitude of the Open Sea by Greg Smith
An Imperfect God: George Washington, His Slaves, and the Creation of America by Henry Wiencek.
The Killer Angels by Michael Shaara
Mountains beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder
Housekeeping by Marilynne Robinson
Teacher Man by Frank McCourt
The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion
Gilead by Marilynne Robinson
Empire Falls by Richard Russo
Our Endangered Values by Jimmy Carter
Our Mutual Friend by Charles Dickens

The UUCP book group is open to everyone who enjoys reading books and discussing them. To receive notices of meetings and reviews of books, e mail mhamilto@vetmed.wsu.edu or call 882-0443. If you would like a ride to the discussion, call or e mail Mary Jo Hamilton (882-0443; mhamilto@vetmed.wsu.edu).



Missing Book!

Did you pick up a book from the Church Basement called *Delights and Shadows* by Ted Koosier, after a previous Book Discussion Group meeting?

If so, please return it to the church office, to Judy LaLonde, or to the library it was originally borrowed from. Thanks!!

Small Group Ministry

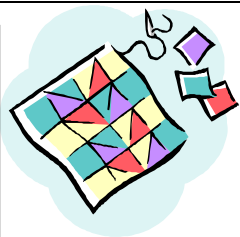
Do you want to get to know more about your fellow UUCPers? Do you long for conversations deeper than "Hi - are you new here?" or "Do you work at one of the universities?"?

If you'd like to engage in discussions and sharing on topics such as, "How do you carry your religion or spirituality into your everyday life?" or "Does EVERYONE really have inherent worth and dignity?" or "Is UUism a 'country club' religion?" or "What role does money play in your spirituality and your life?" or other topics of concern to you, consider joining the UUCP Small Group Ministry program.

SGM is an opportunity for us to get to know each other, share our lives and our stories, and minister to each other in small groups. SGM consists of covenanted groups that agree to support each other and the UUCP community by meeting on a regular basis, with a facilitator, often in someone's home, to discuss topics selected by the group.

We started this concept 2 years ago and are hoping to reinvigorate and rearrange the groups this fall. We'll start up new groups as dictated by schedules of those interested, and recruit and train new facilitators and assistants.

If you're interested or want more information on Small Group Ministry, contact Laurie Gardes at 883-3017 or gardes@adelphia.net, or Rev. Kayle in the church office.



PPQ News

It's been a busy summer for the PPQ, starting right out at Stone Soup Sunday, where we presented Rev. Patti Pomerantz with a hand pieced, hand embellished crazy quilt stole to remind her of all of us. She was truly surprised and very pleased, and put it on right away. She was sufficiently dazzled by the stole that she consented to be re-surprised at the second service, so we did it all over then. We told her that we chose the crazy quilt pattern because we think someone has to be a little crazy to be a UU minister. We hope she has fond memories of UUCP every time she wears it.

We will be losing one of our members this summer. Maria Opie will be moving with her family to Portland. Actually, they are moving back to Portland, so are looking forward to resuming their life there, but we will miss them here. Hazel came to PPQ a couple of years ago and made a very nice quilt which she gave as a gift to her cousin - a very talented young lady, and gracious as well.

PPQ member Nancy Nelson wasted no time getting busy with quilting when school ended for her. She finished up a long term project, a blue and rust Wild Goose Chase quilt, with a blue border. She did a beautiful job. She plans to have it machine quilted, after which it will reside on her and David's bed.

Marisa Perdue's baby boy, Ari, took his own sweet time deciding when to be born, and was sufficiently late that he missed the regular church year entirely and got his quilt at a summer Sunday service. It was a time when many of the PPQ were out of town, so Donna Holmes

Parks bestowed the quilt, ably assisted by PPQ member Margaret Dibble. The quilt featured many fabrics depicting bugs, a perfect summer quilt, and was well received by both mother and son.

The scare of the summer came when Marguerite Thoreson had a stroke in June.

Fortunately, it was not the sort to affect brain function, and the other consequences of the stroke were efficiently dealt with by the excellent care at Gritman Hospital and St. Luke's Rehab Center in Spokane, and, of course, Marguerite's positive attitude. She celebrated her recovery by taking a cruise with her two daughters.

The PPQ managed to do a good deed and do themselves a favor at the same time this summer. Rendezvous in the Park for Children was looking for small scraps of colorful fabric for a children's weaving project. It gave us an excuse to go through all of our stash in bins and high grade it. Rendezvous got several shopping bags of fabric, and we got nice tidy bins and a feeling of a job well done.

Louise Regelin's T shirt quilt is back from the machine quilter, who quilted in the borders and the sashing. We are now adding touches of hand quilting to the T shirt blocks, and the whole thing should be done soon. We are also hand quilting the raffle quilt, and it is looking very good. People come and go a lot in the summer, what with visiting family and friends, and vacation trips, but there is usually a core of PPQ members there every Monday night.

The cool basement is a nice place to spend the evening and learn a new skill. Come join us!

Welcome!

As this warm summer continues I am eagerly awaiting August to begin another wonderful year with this congregation! This is an exciting year in Religious Education that brings two new curriculums, both written by members on our church; our OWL program for young teens; and the continuation of our high school youth group. Actually, there are so many Religious Education happenings this fall that the Religious Education Committee and I are sending out a separate RE Newsletter! Expect to receive this special edition about a week after the regular monthly newsletter and spend some time learning about the growth that is taking place in our Religious Education program.

We will kick the year off with our new minister the Rev. Kayle Rice leading our annual ingathering, Water Communion. This will also be our first All Church Celebration with Kayle, a special experience because our children will

RE News



be able to participate in the full service. I believe that periodically including our children in the whole of our services is an essential aspect of being in community with one another.

Our children bring unique perspective and insights into our community that enrich the experience for all of us. Further, they gain invaluable experiences in being apart of this congregation. We often speak of retaining our children as they grow older, and one of the best ways to do this is to keep them included in the heart of our congregation: our services and celebrations. How else will our children know what it means to be Unitarian Universalist? They must experience it.

This is why I encourage our church to be intentional in our gatherings and plan for several occasions a year that our children are participants in the full service. In the past these services have been called *intergenerational*, but I have come to prefer the phrase *All Church Celebrations*. I feel this more accurately reflects their place and purpose in our community.

Most of these services are planned for our major celebrations such as Water Communion, Stone Soup Sunday, Easter, Christmas Eve and so on. Further, they are more than several generations coming together; they are for *everyone* in our church community to enjoy. I hope we can all come to embrace All Church Celebrations as an fundamental part of our congregational life.

Have a wonderful end to the summer, and see you all soon!

Ginger George, DRE



A Note from our Music Director

Greetings from Tacoma - I hope all of you had a wonderful/restful/relaxing/exciting/adventurous/challenging summer. Hope this adequately covers everyone's experiences when you choose the appropriate adjective...

As I write this, I'm sitting in a lovely dormitory lounge (no, this is NOT a typo - the dorm is brand new and truly lovely) at the University of Puget Sound, where John and I are participating in the Washington Choral Director's Conference. We're busy singing through TONS of repertoire each day - a few of the pieces are going to be ordered for our UUCP choir. We're also making new friends and rekindling older friendships, while I learn more tricks of the conductor's trade from some very talented participants. All in all, a terrific working vacation.

Our first choir rehearsal will be Thursday, August 17th at 7pm in the sanctuary. Because it is so close to the first service on the 20th, we'll wade in gradually with a Water Communion piece to welcome the Rev. Kayle to our fold. As always, we welcome new members and look forward to all those returning to the choir.

I look forward to seeing everyone in a couple of weeks. As always, if you have any repertoire ideas or a desire to share your talents during a Sunday Call to Worship, please call or email me. Our talented congregation truly enhances our music program at the UUCP and I look forward to your participation this year. Yours in song -

Cheryl Weiss, Music Director

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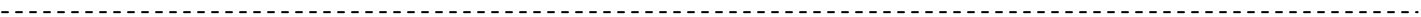
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