Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse

UUCP News

January 2007

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January 7, 9:30 & 11:00 am *Viola Luizzo: Disparate Housewife*

Speaker: Rev. Kayle Rice **Celebrant: Laura Gust**

In honor of the upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, we will take a look at this fundamentally different civil rights worker. Viola, a Unitarian Universalist from Detroit, was passionate about the civil rights movement...and was killed for it.

January 14, 9:30 & 11:00 am *Islamic Pilgrimage—the Sacred Journey*

Speaker: Sayed Salih Daoud **Celebrant: Judy LaLonde**

Haj pilgrimmage is one of the five pillars of Islam, the other four being (1) witness to Unitarian God and belief in all Abrahamic Prophets, including Prophet Mohammad, (2) Five-times daily prayers, (3) Ramadan (month of fasting), and (4) Zakah (charity). All Muslims are required to undertake this pilgrimage once in their lifetime, provided it is economically feasible. The speaker will explain the meaning of this event and, having just returned from performing Haj, he will share his own sacred journey.

January 21, 9:30 & 11:00 am

Spiritual life in "the Land of the Lazy Lutherans"

Speaker: Jane Robertson **Celebrant: Ann Norton**

How does one practice liberal religion in a tradition-bound state church? I left the US at an early age partly to get away from the clutches of my childhood faith. I was certain that if this church and its teachings couldn't be found valid for my life, then neither could any other. Yet I missed this religious fellowship terribly. I yearned for Sunday services, singing hymns, listening to fortifying words, for social activities. My life on the other side of the Atlantic has for many years given me a sense of living in a religious vacuum. The UU church here in Moscow was a long sought for haven I discovered on my visits here. How could this newfound free relationship to a spiritual life be developed in a country where no such church could be found? And somehow, as startling to myself as to most of my friends and family, I have discovered a space in the least-common-denominator-officially-owned-by-everyone Norwegian state church.

January 28, 9:30 & 11:00 am *The Meaning of Membership*

Speaker: Rev. Kayle Rice **Celebrant: Joseph Erhard-Hudson**

On this Sunday we receive and welcome new members to our congregation. What does it mean to be a member in such a theologically and ideologically diverse congregation? What's the difference between us and a "social club"?

From the Pastor on the Palouse

The sound-track of one of my favorite movies, "Serendipity", has an upbeat song of hope for a new year by Chantal Kreviazuk:

This year, is gonna be incredible
This year, is gonna be the one
All the planets are lining up for me
This year, I'm gonna have fun...

And so, good friends, ever the optimist I would like to say to you that this year *is* going to be incredible!

Oh, oh...
This year, I'll reach the pinnacle
This year, I'll get to the top
People will ask where she get that energy
This year, I'm never gonna stop
This year, is gonna be incredible

Unfortunately I can't promise that I'll have super-energy or even "get to the top" but with your help our ministry will deepen.

This year on Sunday, May 20 during an evening installation service we will celebrate the covenantal relationship between you and I. The Rev. Carolyn Owen-Towle, Co-Minister Emeritus of the First Unitarian Universalist Church in San Diego will speak.

This year we'll be looking at developing a covenant of right relationship for our congregation. Many lay leaders in our UU societies are creating such a covenant to harmonize their relations and promote their visions and missions. We'll have more information on this in subsequent newsletters.

This year we will have new recommendations to the congregation from the Board in regards to our Sunday and summer services. We currently have two ad hoc committees: the SEC...Sunday Evaluation Committee (co-facilitated by Veronica Lassen and Linda Wilson) and SIC...Summer Integration Committee (facilitated by Eric Wegner) who are studying these issues.

This year we hope to re-establish our Long Range Planning Committee to help our congregation through a visioning process for the future of UUCP.

This year our new Board of Trustees president is John Pool and secretary is Tom Salsbury. Our VP will be selected at the January meeting. And this year the Committee on Ministry is being represented by Steve Cooke, Gail Adele, Terry Grieb and Rebecca Rod. I look forward to working with all these folks in various aspects of our UUCP ministries.

This year our congregation and many other community organizations will participate in a neutral, non-partisan CommUNITY Walk, Saturday, April 28, "emphasizing our common grounds, embracing our common humanity". Several of our UU folks are involved in planning this unique event.

This year, the annual UU General Assembly held on June 20-24 will be in Portland, OR. I would love to see the allowable number of delegates from UUCP (I think four) representing our congregation. I will also be "walking" in the Service of the Living Tradition in order to receive my certificate for Final Ministerial Fellowship.

This year.....(you fill in the blank)!

This year, is gonna be the one
All the planets are lining up for (us)
This year, (we're) gonna have fun
Just watch (us) now
This year...

With great love and respect,

Kayle

Caring Committee Regroups

Folks who have previously been part of our Caring Committee, or are on the "good-fer" list, or who are interested in being part of the greater UUCP caring network are invited to a potluck and meeting on Thursday, January 18 at 6 p.m. in the UUCP basement. Drinks provided.

We will explore new approaches to "institutionalizing" our caring network to the members and friends of UUCP. For more information please contact Rev. Kayle or Krista Kramer (kkramer@moscow.com).

New Member Sunday on January 28

If you've been considering membership, please mark your calendar to officially join us during the church service on Sunday, January 28, 2007. If you haven't done so already we highly encourage you to sit in on a UU Lite course on Sunday, January 7. You may also visit with Rev. Kayle about membership.

UU Lite is a two hour gathering to share about our UU journeys, learn about UU and UUCP history and the responsibilities and benefits of membership. All are welcome. Please let Kayle know if you want to join!

From the President's Pen

Living On The Cusp

Little did I realize, when I was elected president of the board earlier in December, that I'd be able to write a column for the newsletter every month!! WOW!! I can rant away to my heart's content and it'll get published! Double Wow!!!

But before I use up a year's supply of exclamation marks, I think it's important to recognize, and thank, the members of the board who are leaving—Cathy Green, Nancy Nelson and Roger Wallins—for their fine work these past years. Board service is a three-year commitment, and a lot can happen in that time period. These last three years have been tumultuous ones, and these three people have been pillars of strength. When you see them next, thank them for their dedication.

Living on the cusp pretty much describes our UUCP church community. We're in transition; we have been for a number of years neither fish (a family church) nor fowl (a program church). We're somewhere in the middle.

The UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) defines a family church as one that has a membership of 150 souls or smaller. By the same token, they define a program church as one that has a membership of 250 or larger. As I write this, our UUCP membership hovers somewhere just under 200.

As the size of our congregation grows, albeit slowly, we need to grapple with the issues that attend changing from a church where everyone knows everyone else, to a church where our size precludes such easy-going familiarity with everyone we worship with.

One way to deal with growth was moving to two Sunday-morning services; that in turn has raised concerns about unequal religious education periods, a perception that there isn't enough time for coffee hour, a perception that some of our church-service traditions have had to be modified to keep us within time constraints. New committees have been formed to look at these issues, and others, and report back to the board in the spring.

The board, our staff and our committee chairs will have an opportunity to explore the future and chart the course we want to take when they meet in a workshop on Jan. 20. One of the benefits of gaining Kayle Rice as our settled minister is that the UUA is sending a trainer/facilitator to help with this visioning process. But while the half-day workshop will plant the seeds of change, it'll be up to all of us to nurture the crop and reap the harvest.

Also in January, on Sunday the 28th, we'll have a committee fair. This will be a prime opportunity to showcase what our various church committees are involved with, and, I hope, help attract new participants who want to be part of the process.

I think that 2007 will be an exciting time for our church community. There may be calls to change the way we do things, and it's true that change is not always welcomed and often is uncomfortable. But we are fortunate to have a church where members can voice their opinions and vote on substantive issues of church governance. This process, congregational polity, means that the democratic process is alive and well in our UUCP.

Have a Happy New Year, everyone!

John Pool

Small Group Ministry

Questions to ponder…What was the road you didn't take and where might it have led you? What road did you take that made all the difference in your life? What is money to you? Is it freedom? The root of all evil? Energy? Something you need but wish you didn't? Something you don't need? How have you learned from failure? What is sin? What have you learned from fear?

These and other questions are the kinds of topics explored in our Small Group Ministry program. We currently have nine different groups meeting at various times and locations. If you'd like to find out more about Small Group Ministry at UUCP contact Laurie Gardes or Rev. Kayle Rice.

What Is This Thing Called "Vespers"?

Vespers is a place and time for you to calm and nourish your soul for one half hour. We will sing/chant, have guided meditations, quiet time, and readings of inspiration to help us on our journey.

Donna Bradberry and Fred Toerne are starting Vespers again, and it will be every Friday, starting January 5th 2007 from 5:30 to 6pm. In January we will focus on "Seeking and Celebrating the Joy of Living". We can use your help and ideas with this endeavor. We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity.

PNWD Annual General Meeting Boise, Feb. 16-18

This year's Pacific Northwest District's Annual General Meeting will be on our side of the mountain, in Boise, February 16-18, 2007 at the Grove Hotel. For complete information and registration see http://www.pnwd.org/pages/agm.php or the information sheet in the UUCP office. Both Ginger George and Kayle Rice will be attending; any other interested folks?

Our theme - Knowledge, Compassion, Commitment - focuses this year's workshops on the ways knowledge nurtures compassion and both strengthen commitment. Spiritual insight nurtures our most profound values, and both together result in practicing our faith. We gather to find solutions to our common concerns, and shape them to fit our individual congregations. There will also be many workshops on various topics of interest and ministry.

The Reverend William G. Sinkford, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association, will give the Keynote address on Saturday. Rev. Sinkford is renowned for inspiring UUs and many others who cherish values of knowledge, compassion and commitment and the desire to put those values into action to improve the world. He has raised the visibility of the UU faith across the country and overseas through ceaseless travel and pastoral work with ministers and congregations. He excels in speaking out on major issues in Washington, D.C., in visiting our brothers and sisters in the faith across the world, and in making our values known everywhere.

UU Lite!

Are you interested in learning more about what it means to be a member at UUCP?

Then come to our First-Sunday UU Lite. We'll meet on Sunday, January 7 at 12:30 p.m. in the church basement. Even if you think you don't want to join…just come and learn more about UUCP and Unitarian Universalism. We will host UU Lite on the first Sunday of each month.

New members will be received into our congregation at a special ceremony on Sunday, Jan. 28, 2007. Questions? Contact Rev. Kayle.

UUCP SNOW RETREAT A TRADITION SINCE 1977 January 12-14

Where? Fields Spring State Park: The park is 1 1/2 hour drive from Pullman or Moscow, south of Clarkston, about 4 miles beyond Anatone, WA on Highway 129. Watch carefully for the State Park sign on the right, and then turn left off the highway at the winter entrance to the park. We will be at the Puffer Butte Lodge. A map is available if needed.

Accommodations: Huge rustic lodge with fireplace, central heat, bathrooms, showers, well-equipped kitchen and mattress pads for sleeping on the floor. Also available: 4 separate cabins that sleep 10 people each.

Bring: Equipment for snow play (sleds, tubes, saucers, cross-country skis), things for indoor recreation (musical instruments, music, games, tapes, books, puzzles, handicrafts etc.), personal comfort items (sleeping bags, flashlight, pillow, toiletry items, towels, warm clothes, extra gloves and socks etc.). **Please, no dogs per park rules!**

Music: Bring your instruments and lyrics for group singing.

Games: Bring your favorite games and puzzles.

Arrival: Anytime after 3:00 PM on Friday Jan. 12

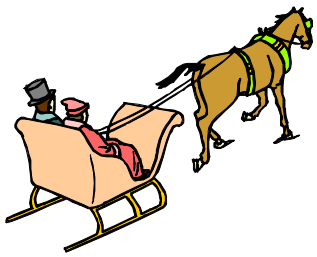
Departure: We will all need to clean up the lodge and have it ready for the next group by 2:00 PM Sunday. However, we can stay and recreate in the park.

Registration: A sign-up sheet will be posted on the church bulletin board in the basement. Space is limited (80 maximum), so sign up early.

Cost: $38.00 per adult, $25 per child under 10, or a maximum of $118.00 per family for two (2) days, meals and lodging.

Note: It is possible for a few people to come down to spend the day with us Saturday. Please let us know well in advance, so we can count on you for lunch, which will be $7.00 per person.

Policies: A responsible adult must accompany all children and youth. Quiet hours (after 11:00 PM) must be observed by all (we try to strike a compromise), so we can all get our needed rest. Again, no dogs.



Questions: Contact Ken or Karen Faunce (883-7604).

Committee Fair Rescheduled for Sunday, January 28.

All committees of UUCP are invited, yea...highly encouraged...to participate in the upcoming UUCP Committee Fair on Sunday, Jan. 28 between services.

The purpose of this is to help members and friends become acquainted with our various committees.

Newcomers to our congregation may be interested in finding ways to get involved. Would your committee a be a good fit? Then set up a card table in the church basement, get creative in showing off your committee and the ministry you do, and help those who seek to become involved. Questions? Contact Rev. Kayle.

Food First!

In 2007 let us reinforce our long standing UUCP commitment to social action. Let us continue our support of local food banks' growing needs for non-perishable food items, which we can donate in church on Sundays. Please invite our children to participate so that they may learn about others less fortunate. On Sundays, when the children come forward for the "story of all ages", those who have brought food will be invited to put the items they have brought into the food basket at the front of the sanctuary. Currently, as many as 28 households daily depend on the donated food provided through local food banks to feed their families.

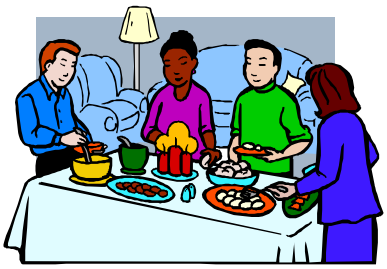
Many thanks for your continuing generosity and for your sustaining support of our local food banks. Please remember to bring non-perishable food to church on Sundays.

RE 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.

Have You Had A Guest At Your Table?

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee depends on congregations like us for its important social justice work in the U.S. and beyond – lets make this year count!



The **ingathering** for the Guest At Your Table Boxes full of caring and support will be Sunday, January 28, 2006. ***Please bring checks, written out to the UUSC, instead of bringing cash or change!***

Sunday Services Evaluation Committee (SSEC)

The Board voted to establish an ad hoc committee to study the current implementation of the two Sunday services and to make recommendations for any necessary changes. This request is in response to known issues and a mandate from the congregation to evaluate the two services within 3-5 years after they were implemented. The congregation will vote on the proposals in May.

Linda Wilson and Veronica Lassen are excited to be co-chairing this committee. There is wide representation on the committee which will be gathering input from employees, committees and members for suggestions on how we could address these issues so that our Church will continue to flourish. The issues identified thus far include:

1. The first service is heavily attended leading to a lack of space in the sanctuary and overcrowding in the Yellow House during the first service with very light attendance for the second RE session.
2. The first service is shorter than the second service thus creating a shortage of time for the first RE session with little or no time for responses during the first service.
3. Often, there is not enough time in between services to have a full congregational meeting.

Your input will be requested soon! Please be thinking of how our Church affirms and enhances your life, and how we could function at an even higher level to best meet the needs of community, support, learning, and worship for most people, most of the time.

Social Action Committee News

Many UUCP members participated in social action in December. We provided gifts for 15 children in six families through the Christmas for kids program (two families by PPQ and four by Church Members). Church members also helped Christmas for Kids Organizers with last-minute wrapping and organizing presents for delivery. Our help was greatly appreciated by the Christmas for Kids organizers, and we should probably think about making it an annual event.

The Climate Change group has been meeting through December and working with the Social Action Committee on plans to coordinate a series of community forums on climate change and sustainability. **The meetings will take place February 1st, 8th and 15th and March 1 and 8th, 2007.** Mark your calendars and tell your friends!! If you'd like to get more involved, contact Mary Jo Hamilton or come to the next **climate change meeting on January 8th at 5:30** at One World Café.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 7 PM, Yellow House

In the Family

Congratulations to Pat Scott on her 80th birthday; Debbie Landon's parents, who celebrated their 49th anniversary; Chris Caudill's grandmother, who celebrated her 83rd birthday; John Landon's mother, who recently turned 70; and to Shirley Caldwell who celebrated her birthday on Christmas day.

Best wishes to Janice Willard, who is recovering from a broken foot; DeLyle Eastwood, who is in Massachusetts recovering from a broken hip; and Elisabeth Berlinger who is recovering from back surgery.

Please hold in your thoughts Fred Toerne, who has recently marked the first anniversary of his wife's death; Donna Bradberry's sister-in-law, Lois Bradberry, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer; Carolyn Birmingham, who has a breast mass; Michael Irvin's brother-in-law, who is having complications from esophageal cancer; Steve Cooke and Joanne Muneta, whose friend Jim Nelson recently died; Dave Huggins' father, who is struggling with liver cancer; Karen Flint, whose friend Alan died suddenly; and Sarah Weems, who is dealing with a brain tumor.

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

It's Almost Surprise Pal Time again!

This February we will once again be making new friends through our **Surprise Pals** program! This is a chance for an intergenerational connection for you and/or your children!

From Sunday, **February 4**- Sunday, **February 11**, children and adults can sign up for our annual Surprise Pal program. The Program begins on **February 25**, and ends with a potluck on **April 15.**

Remember the Memo Line!

To help keep our records as accurate as possible, please be sure that EVERY check you make out to UUCP has the memo line filled in with the purpose of the donation. For example: 06 pledge, 07 pledge, 06 Service Auction, Christmas for Kids, unrestricted donation, Guest at our table, etc. Thanks for your help!

—Louise Ashmun, Collection Treasurer

Small Group Ministry Open Chair Policy

UUCP's Small Group Ministry program is up and running. We have nine groups and about 65 people involved! If you think it's too late to join a group, you're wrong. If you think there's not a group meeting when you're available, you're probably wrong about that too.

Part of the SGM philosophy is to always have an empty chair at each group meeting to signify the openness and inclusiveness of this ministry. While the groups do tend to develop intimacy as ideas and beliefs are explored and shared, groups are committed to having space physically and metaphorically for new members. If a group seems to be too large to facilitate a lively, inclusive discussion, a new group would be formed so that there's opportunity for everyone's input.

So, if you're interested in exploring this interactive and caring community-building activity, contact Rev Kayle or Laurie Gardes for more information.

January 2007

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 PPQ will not meet today	**2**	**3**	**4** 12:00 Retirees Luncheon, University Inn Best Western 7:00 pm Choir, CS 7:00 Men's Group, YH2	**5** 5:30 pm Vespers, CS	**6**
7 **9:30 & 11:00 am Service** 12:30 pm RE Teachers' Orientation, YH 12:30 pm UU Lilte, CS 6:30 Pagan Soul, CS 6:30 pm Youth Group, YHB	**8** 5:30 Climate Change Group mtg, One World Cafe 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	**9** 7:00 Social Action Committee mtg, YH	**10** 7:00 Socrates Café mtg, Jack in the Box 7:30 pm Sunday Svcs Comm Mtg, CB	**11** 7:00 pm Choir, CS 7:00 Men's Group, YH2	**12** 5:30 pm Vespers, CS *Snow Retreat Begins*	**13** *Snow Retreat*
14 **9:30 & 11:00 am Service** 4:00 pm Exploration in Movement, CS 6:30 pm Youth Group, YHB *Snow Retreat Ends*	**15** 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	**16** 7:15 pm Board Meeting, YHM	**17**	**18** 11:45 am Women's Group mtg, Kayle's Office 6:00 pm Caring Committee Potluck & Mtg, CB 7:00 pm Choir, CS 7:00 Men's Group, YH2	**19** 11:45 am Lunch w/Kayle at Rico's in Pullman 5:30 pm Vespers, CS	**20** 8:30 am PNWD Start-Up Workshop
21 **9:30 & 11:00 am Service** 12:30 RE Committee Mtg, YH 6:30 pm Youth Group, YHB	**22** 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	**23**	**24** 7:00 Socrates Café mtg, Jack in the Box	**25** 11:45 am Women's Group mtg, Kayle's Office 7:00 pm Choir, CS 7:00 Men's Group, YH2	**26** 5:30 pm Vespers, CS	**27**
28 **9:30 & 11:00 am Service** New Member Sunday, Committee Fiar between services, Guest At Your Table Ingathering	**29** 7:30 pm PPQ, CB	**30**	**31** 7:30 pm Book Discussion Group mtg, at Judy LaLonde's home			

Dates to Remember

Mondays: PPQ, 7:30 pm, CB

Thursdays: Women's Group, 11:45 am, Kayle's office, starting Jan. 18
Choir, 7 pm, CS
Men's Group, 7:00 pm, YH2. Contact John Pool at 883-8409 for info.

Fridays: Vespers, 5:30-6:00

Sundays: Youth Group, 6:30 pm, CB

Thursday January 4 UU Retirees Luncheon, 12:00 noon, University Inn Best Western Appaloosa Room
Sunday January 7 RE Teacher's Orientation, 12:30 pm Yellow House
Sunday January 7 UU Lite, 12:30 pm, Sanctuary
Sunday January 7 Celebrating the Pagan Soul meeting, 6:30 pm, Sanctuary
Monday January 8 Climate Change meeting, 5:30 pm, One World Café (p. 6)
Tuesday, January 9 Social Action Committee meeting, 7:00 pm, Yellow House
Wednesday January 10 Socrates Café meeting, 7:00 pm, Jack in the Box on the Moscow-Pullman Hwy (p. 13)
Wednesday January 10 Sunday Services Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, CB
Friday January 12-14 UUCP Snow Retreat (p. 4)
Sunday January 14 Exploration in Movement, 4:00 pm, Sanctuary (p. 10)
Tuesday January 16 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm, YHM
Thursday January 18 Caring Committee Potluck & Meeting, 6:00 pm, CB (p. 2)
Friday January 19 Join Rev. Kayle for Lunch, 11:45 am at Rico's in downtown Pullman
Saturday January 20 PNWD Start-Up Workshop, 8:30 am Church Basement & Sanctuary
Sunday January 21 RE Committee Meeting, 12:30 pm Yellow House
Wednesday January 24 Socrates Café meeting, 7:00 pm, Jack in the Box on the Moscow-Pullman Hwy (p. 13)
Sunday January 28 New Member Sunday, during 9:30 & 11:00 services
Sunday January 28 Committee Fair, between services
Sunday January 28 Guest At Your Table ingathering
Wednesday January 31 Book Discussion Group meeting, 7:30 at Judy LaLonde's home (p. 9)

UU Retirees Luncheon

The retirees will meet for lunch in the Appaloosa Room at the Best Western at 12:00 noon on Thursday, **January 4.**

All are welcome!

Celebrating the Pagan Soul

We had a wonderful Solstice service last month and at press time we look forward to our New Year's drumming celebration. Join us at our next Pagan Soul gathering on Sunday, January 7 at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Pullman Folks:

Join Rev. Kayle for Lunch!

In order to connect with UUCP folks and friends in Pullman, come have lunch with Kayle at Rico's (downtown Pullman on Main Street) at 11:45 on Friday, January 19. Future dates are Feb. 23, March 16, April 20, and May 18.

January Birthdays

Veronica Amsbaugh	Persephone Williams
Caroline Campbell	Annie Sheneman
Liam Hill	Veronica Gross

UUCP Staff Information

Rev. Kayle Rice, Minister
Home Study: 208-883-3205
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Phone: 208-882-4328
Email: uucp-dre@moscow.com
Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday, 12:00-4:00
Summer Stevens
Administrative Secretary
Phone: 208-882-4328
Email: uuchurch@moscow.com
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10:30-2:30

Book Discussion Group

Our book for December is *Saving Fish from Drowning* by Amy Tan. From Publisher's From Publishers Weekly:

Tan (The Bonesetter's Daughter) delivers another highly entertaining novel, this one narrated from beyond the grave.

San Francisco socialite and art-world doyenne Bibi Chen has planned the vacation of a lifetime along the notorious Burma Road for 12 of her dearest friends. Violently murdered days before takeoff, she's reduced to watching her friends bumble through their travels from the remove of the spirit world. Making the best of it, the 11 friends who aren't hung over depart their Myanmar resort on Christmas morning to boat across a misty lake--and vanish. The tourists find themselves trapped in jungle-covered mountains, held by a refugee tribe that believes Rupert, the group's surly teenager, is the reincarnation of their god Younger White Brother, come to save them from the unstable, militaristic Myanmar government. Tan's travelers, who range from a neurotic hypochondriac to the debonair, self-involved host of a show called The Fido Files, fight and flirt among themselves. While ensemble casting precludes the intimacy that characterizes Tan's mother-daughter stories, the book branches out with a broad plot and dynamic digressions.

It's based on a true story, and Tan seems to be having fun with it, indulging in the wry, witty voice of Bibi while still exploring her signature questions of fate, connection, identity and family.

The discussion of the book will be on Wednesday, January 31 at 7:30 PM at the home of Judy LaLonde, 2105 Lexington, Moscow. For more information call 882-3556.

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

Teacher Man by Frank McCourt

The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion

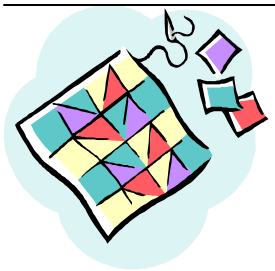
Empire Falls by Richard Russo

Our Endangered Values by Jimmy Carter

Our Mutual Friend by Charles Dickens

The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan

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



PPQ News

December was a busy month for quilters. Not only were we finishing up all those holiday gifts, we were also working on things for the PPQ Holiday bazaars. We did well this year, making over $1500. We are all looking forward to our annual meeting in January, when we will decide how we will distribute all that money. Thanks to all the UUs who made purchases from us.

We already have spent quite a bit from our coffers on Christmas for Kids. We provided Christmas for two families, five children. Four of those kids got bikes!

We took orders for the UUCP 2007 calendar for Jamie Nekich at the Holiday Bazaar in December. We got our photo taken not once, but twice, because of the workings of computer demons. We had a great time both sessions. I'm sure Jamie will get you a calendar if you didn't get one in December. They're cleverly done, have great pictures, and all profits benefit the church.

Louise Regelin stopped by to visit her quilt in December. She's still hoping we get it done in her lifetime. We pointed out that the T shirt fabric was actually quite difficult to quilt on, but that we were making progress. We offered to let her take the quilt-in-progress home for the holidays, and we would resume work in January, but she is waiting for a more permanent relationship with her quilt. Hang in there, Louise! We'll get it done!

Because of a calendar quirk, both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Mondays this year, so the quilters are taking off two Mondays in a row. See you all later in January.

Religious Education Grade Levels Changing

Beginning January 14th, the elementary grades will be meeting as follows in the Yellow House:

9:30 Service: Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten in the smaller basement room; Grades 1, 2 and 3 in the main room; Grades 4, 5 and 6 in the second floor room.

The 11:00 service will remain a welcoming all ages class. See the Director of Religious Education's article for more details!

Considering Ministry?

Meadville Lombard Theological School announces the Spencer and Susan Lavan Scholarship for Excellence--a full, merit-based scholarship for an incoming residential student in our Master of Divinity Program in the Fall of 2007. Application deadline for the scholarship is March 15, 2007.

Please see the Meadville Lombard Website (www.meadville.edu) for more information on the scholarship and the Master of Divinity Program. (more information on the scholarship can be found on the UU-World website.

Exploration in Movement

Beginning Sunday, January 14
4 p.m. in UUCP Sanctuary

New year. New resolutions. New ideas. Come explore the new you in the new year! A non-threatening environment to "play" with change! Structured but with lots of freedom (kind of like UUism), we will use movement to think, learn, try something new, and share. Come one, come all...all are invited; kids too! If you are interested, or just curious, you are invited.

* movement
* ideas without talking
* sharing without talking
* really meaningful communication
* explore concepts more deeply
* like playdough - if you don't like what you are making, you can start again
* look at things in a new way.
* structured exercises
* see what our bodies think
* explore how we feel
* think with our bodies
* exaggerate body movements
* meet your need to connect with others
* look at things in new ways
* walk together as equals, each with our own knowledge and experience
* exploring how we feel about things
* free to participate as much or as little as we want
* share what we've learned
* learn to communicate in a different way

For more information contact Melodie Rai at melodie@turbonet.com or 883-2668.

Are You a Juicy Crone?

Women are invited to join Kayle in a brown bag lunch discussion on the book *Crones Don't Whine*. A women's group will be held Thursdays at 11:45 a.m. in Rev. Kayle's office starting January 18th. Each week the group will read and discuss a chapter from the book *Crones Don't Whine* by Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D.

In this book Bolen states "Crones are juicy, and they trust their own instincts. They don't grovel. Crones are fierce about what matters most to them. They speak the truth with compassion. They listen to their bodies, reinvent themselves as needed, and savor the good in their lives. These qualities are not cultivated overnight. Crone years are growing years, when women can devote their time, energy, and creativity to what really matters to them."

Each chapter in the book is approximately four pages of playful humor and keen insight. You do not need to buy the book (although do feel free to do so!), we'll read the chapter aloud at the beginning each week. You can also come when able, come once, several times, or all thirteen chapters; you'll be able to step right into each week as each week is a different crone quality. Bring your friends from outside the church and come.

And just what or who is a crone? This is the definition Jean Shinoda Bolen gives: "A crone is a woman who has wisdom, compassion, humor, courage, and vitality. She has a sense of truly being herself, can express what she knows and feels, and takes action when need be. She does not avert her eyes or numb her mind from reality. She can see the flaws and imperfections in herself and others, but the light in which she sees is not harsh and judgmental. She has learned to trust herself to know what she knows." Are you a crone? Then join us!

RE News

Greetings!

Wow, have we been growing! I have added 15 new children to our registration list this fall alone!

With so many new families and friends joining our program we have a great opportunity to review our yellow house needs and wishes. The RE Committee and Director of Religious Education have decided to change the grade distribution for the 9:30 service Religious Education program. Beginning January 14th, the elementary grades will be meeting as follows in the Yellow House: 9:30 Service: Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten in the smaller basement room; Grades 1, 2 and 3 in the main room; Grades 4, 5 and 6 in the second floor room. The 11:00 service will remain a welcoming all ages class.

We feel this age arrangement will be more developmentally appropriate for our children as well as help to distribute the number of children in each class evenly. We will be discussing this in our RE classes. To further help this transition, please talk to your children about it as well.

This next session in RE will also hold a completely new curriculum written by our own member, Steve Dodgen. Being presented in our two older classes, they will discover our personal and spiritual origins in the universe, explore our Seven Principles and our world, and journey through time itself.

Our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten class will be exploring their Unitarian Universalist Identities through concrete expressions of our UU Principles, our chalice as a symbol, our church as spiritual and community home.

Grounding our children in UUism is one of the most important gifts we can provide. Often we as adults stumble when asked, "So what is your church all about?" Imagine how hard it is for our children to articulate their living faith?

It is our job in RE to give our children these answers, to let them know they are apart of a larger movement bigger than themselves, bigger than our congregation. We must help them identify as Unitarian Universalists so when they leave us as young adults and move into the world they understand the faith tradition in which they were raised. Through sessions like the one we are about to embark on, I hope to thread each Sunday into a larger perception of what it means to be UU.

-In Our Living Faith,

Ginger George

Spring Elementary Curriculum: *An Exploration of Time,* Created by Steve Dodgen

Imagine drawing a time-line showing the entire history of the universe on a sheet of paper about six feet wide. How much of the paper would all of recorded human history occupy? About one micron (a millionth of a meter), you'd need a pretty good microscope to see it. To think of it another way, if you used a piece of paper that stretched from Pullman to Moscow, the 6000 years of recorded history would occupy about a quarter of an inch at the end!

In this curriculum we will try to visualize our place in the universe by exploring a series of time-lines. We will learn about how the stars created the elements from which our bodies are formed, we will zoom in on the history of life on Earth, then zoom in further to learn something about the evolution of our species and of Human thought.

Finally, we will draw our own map of the future: we will extend the time-line into both the near and far future, and ask ourselves what sort of a future we hope to see and how we might help to create it.

In the words of H.G. Wells: *"It is possible to believe that all the past is but the beginning of a beginning, and that all that is and has been is but the twilight of the dawn."*

So, the next time somebody asks you how old you are, and you want to answer without answering, tell them "About 14 billion years, give or take".

Sound Exciting? There is still time to volunteer in the Yellow House! Contact Ginger George at 882-4328

Who's Who, Religious Education Info:

Ginger George, Director of Religious Education:
Phone: 882-4238
Email: uucp-dre@moscow.com
Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday, 12:00 – 4:00 pm

Michael LeBeau, RE Assistant:
Email: lebe6398@yahoo.com

Al Poplawsky, RECommittee Chair
Email: dial@moscow.com

Communicating with Compassion

The new year is filled with abundant opportunities for learning Compassionate Communication! First, two one-night workshops explore this life-enriching process. These workshops are service action items with all proceeds donated to UUCP. (See sidebar for details).

Second, a new offering is the 10-week *Peace-filled Parenting Class*. It will explore strategies that increase mutual respect and cooperation by honoring both children's *and* parents needs. Required text: *Respectful Parents, Respectful Kids*,* by Sura Hart and Victoria Kindle-Hodson.

And now in its 6th year, the 12-week *Compassionate Communication* Class will teach skills for valuing feelings, identifying needs, and translating any message one hears into deep connection no matter how it is delivered. Express your anger in a way that fosters compassion. Make peace while maintaining your power. Veronica Lassen has taught Compassionate Communication for six years and attended numerous workshops. Required texts: *Nonviolent Communication: A: Language of Life**, by Marshall Rosenberg, and *Nonviolent Communication Companion Workbook**, by Lucy Leu.

* Can be purchased from Debbie Grieb (882-3460) or your local bookstore.

Compassionate Communication Classes

* *Compassion-Tea in Community*
Facilitators: Rachel Caudill and Debbie Grieb, with Veronica Lassen
01/19 Friday, 7-9m p.m.
UUCP, 420 E. 2nd St., Moscow
Cost: $5-15 sliding scale

* *Parenting in Peace*
Facilitators: Rachel Caudill and Debbie Grieb
01/26 Friday, 7-9 p.m.
UUCP, 420 E. 2nd St., Moscow
Cost: $5-15 sliding scale

* *Peace-filled Parenting* class (10 weeks)
Facilitators: Rachel Caudill and Debbie Grieb
Wednesdays, starting January 31, 7-9 p.m.
Community Action Agency, 428 W. 3rd, Moscow
Cost: $150 (no one turned away for lack of funds)
Registration: Contact Debbie Grieb, (882-3460, griebd@msn.com)

* *Compassionate Communication* class (12 weeks)
Facilitator: Veronica Lassen
Tuesdays, starting January 30, 7-9m p.m.
Basement, 414 E. 2nd St., Moscow
Cost: $150 (no one turned away for lack of funds)
Registration: Contact Veronica Lassen (882-2562, class@veronicalassen.com)

New Member Biographies

Ami and Carey Scott were both in the Idaho National Guard when they met in Boise and became a team. Married now for five years, Carey called Moscow home for many years but Ami was born in Germany in a military family and grew up in Fernwood, Idaho where her parents still live.

Carey works at U of I in the maintenance department while attending classes toward a degree in accounting. Ami is a stay-at-home mom who also takes classes through Distance Learning. Her classes focus on Animal Care, but her major focus is on their four young children, James, age four, Charles age three, Meradydd, age twenty months and baby Kathrynn, age five months.

Their home right now does not harbor pets, since Student Housing does not allow pets, but they do have a small frog belonging to James (don't croak a word to the authorities!) and they do have a "moose of a dog" named Max who resides in Fernwood with Ami's parents.

When time allows, Ami likes to read, cook, make her own soaps and lip balms, and she is learning how to knit. Carey enjoys the role playing game Dungeons and Dragons and the Mechanical Warriors games. The boys like sledding, building with blocks and watching videos, especially one called Veggie Tales, which is a cartoon with "all these little vegetables running around!"

The couple started attending church last August and they enjoy the UUCP community where they can speak openly, meet interesting people and "don't have religion shoved down their throats".

By Pat Cary Peek

Socrates Café—Update

Several UUCPers were among the founding participants at the first meeting of the Moscow - Pullman Socrates Cafe. Eight persons met at Jack In The Box restaurant in Moscow in the evening of December 13. Brian Leekley facilitated.

Out of eleven philosophical questions suggested by those attending, the group voted to discuss a question suggested by Scott Cardell: "Is it human nature for adults to be intellectually curious?" This was basically a nature versus nurture question. In the process of exploring it, the group considered kinds of intelligence, individual ways of being curious, philosophies and techniques of education, experiences with adults with little if any apparent curiosity, curiosity as a threat to dogmatism -- to mention just a few of the topics touched upon in the discussion.

Everyone there was very happy with the Jack In The Box private meeting room. There was no requirement or expectation that those attending would buy anything, and only those two or three who happened to be hungry or thirsty did so. The chairs were comfortable.

Socrates Cafe meets at Jack In The Box, 710 Pullman Road (Idaho Highway 8), Moscow, Idaho, at 7 p.m. for up to two hours on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

The group agreed to skip the December 27 meeting, because it is so close to Christmas. The next meeting will be January 10, 2007. Marguerite Thoreson will facilitate. Persons of all ages from the teens up and of divergent worldviews and belief systems are welcome and encouraged to participate. The only requirements are the curiosity and the civility needed to participate in philosophical discourse.

The December 13 group agreed that they would like the question discussed at the January 10 meeting (subject to the wishes of the January 10 group) to be: Is there a god, and does it make any sense to argue about whether or not God exists, and can personal experience prove the existence of God?

The answer to each of the three parts of this question of course is: Pray for the answer. Isn't it? Come join the discussion January 10 and say what you think. Bring your neighbor who has a different perspective.

Brian Leekley

UU’re Home Directory Available

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 27 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. Contact us at 828-281-3253 or at info@uurehome.com, and we will gladly send you information about listing your accommodations.

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 every year in April (and has many listings different from those on the website). For a copy of the 2007 directory, please send a check for $20 (or $25 and your e-mail address for both the book and a year’s access to the website) to UU’re Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.

UUCP Services Archived on Tape

UUCP Sunday services have been recorded on cassette tapes for almost 20 years. This wonderful resource is available in the church office for anyone who would like to check out the tapes.

Unfortunately, the archive is full of gaps. Some tapes have been checked out and never returned, while others have vanished without ever being officially checked out. Though there are duplicate copies of some tapes, many services are completely lost when the tapes disappear.

If you have borrowed tapes of UUCP Sunday services and no longer need them, please return them to the office. They can be brought in during office hours, or put through the drop slot in the office wall. Their return will be greatly appreciated!

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Jack Keller, Treasurer: 509-432-3712
Ginger George, RE Director: 208-883-0150

http://www.palouseuu.org

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