

Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A Welcoming Congregation

July/August 2006

July Sunday Services

July 2, 10:00 A.M.

“The Call to Sustainable Action: Where does your greatest passion meet the world’s greatest need?”

Speaker: Don Berg. Don is the Chair of the Social Justice Committee at QUUF and the author of Attitude First: A Leadership Strategy for Educational Success (Trafford, 2005). As a teacherpreneur (entrepreneurial teacher), he worked with children for fifteen years and home schooled other people’s children for five years. His book, Attitude First, explains the value of approaching education as the mapping of experiences instead of the dominant classroom approach of accounting for the delivery of units of knowledge, skill and information.

July 9, 10:00 A.M.

“What Buddha Said: The Spirit of Nature and Nature of Spirit” Speaker: Val Hampson

What do an African Grey parrot, spiders, an Arabian horse named Ameer, and water crystals have in common? What do they and other members of our natural world have to teach us about life, intelligence, consciousness and the interconnected web of life? Could the bridge to our spirit be literally and figuratively right under our noses here in the natural world? Consider these and other questions about the nature of spirit. Poems included. Val is an author, poet, horsewoman, garden designer, and long time QUUF member. She's also the person of an unnervingly smart African Grey parrot and a wise old Scottish terrier.

July 16, 10:00 A. M.

“Waging Peace, Fighting Disease, Building Hope” Speaker: Don Dybeck

Based on a recent trip to Atlanta and THE CARTER CENTER by the Dybecks, this sermon, which will include a short video on the Center, will suggest concrete ways we can be involved in building a better community and world. Don Dybeck, a member of QUUF, is a retired financial advisor, Red Cross disaster volunteer, “tree hugger” and a serious fisherman. He is also very involved in the care and maintenance of the building and grounds of QUUF.

July 23, 10:00 A.M.

“Learning To Be Grateful” Speaker: David Rymph

Several years ago, Dr. David Reynolds, an American anthropologist, brought two styles of Japanese psychotherapy to the West: *Morita* and *Naikan*. David trained with one of Dr. Reynolds leading students, Greg Krech, focusing on *Naikan*, which is a meditative technique designed to create and nourish a sense of gratitude in daily life. In his talk, David will discuss the role of gratitude and present the simple (but challenging) set of meditations that form the foundation of *Naikan* practice. Framed as three questions, the meditations may help you reflect on your relationships, to people, places, and situations. You may find that these exercises help you to see your life more realistically and to find ways every day to say thanks.

David Rymph, Ph.D, retired to Port Townsend three years ago. Trained as a cultural anthropologist, he spent his career in public service working in local non-profit, state, national, and international agencies. From 1993 to 2003, he worked in various leadership positions with the Corporation for National and Community Service, the parent organization of Ameri-Corps and VISTA Volunteers, among other community service programs. In Port Townsend, David serves as a Commissioner for the Jefferson County Housing Authority and on the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity.

July 30, 10:00 A.M.

“Favorite Poem” Service Facilitator: Joseph Bednarik (see page 3)

The complete event calendar is available on our website: www.quuf.org.

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Universalist Fellowship**
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The Inconstant Gardener



By the time you read this, I expect to be in the middle of my summer vacation break in Michigan and wondering how my garden and yard are doing in PT. Taking my vacation from mid-June to mid-July is the best time in terms of the church year, but the worst time in terms of the garden-and-yard year. Just as the lettuces, peas, carrots, onions, strawberries, raspberries, artichokes, and cherries are ready to harvest or pick – and maybe even blueberries ... they're coming fast – I'm 2500 miles away.

When I lived in Michigan I could never get a decent garden to grow because of the many shade trees in the yard. So it's wonderful now to have a place with enough sun where I can do some gardening – vegetables, flowers, and trees. Though I very much enjoy my garden and yard, I'm mostly a dabbler. I find I have, however, developed certain preferences, biases, and attitudes, to wit:

- The greatest interest and pleasure is going out each day – sometimes several times a day – to see what has taken place in my yard and garden. I haven't taken the time yet to watch long enough to see changes actually take place in front of my eyes, but sometimes in just an hour or two amazing changes can take place.
- For the most part I don't like trees and bushes that are strictly decorative, that is, without fruit or berries that humans can eat. Rather, I prefer trees and bushes that are both colorful and "fruitful."
- Rhododendrons, azaleas, and lilacs are an exception to the above bias, as well as some other bushes in my yard, whose names I can't seem to retain.
- I like a yard with continual color and am thus delighted with the pansies that bloom much of the year, as well as the bright orange calendula that seed themselves.
- Other plants and flowers that especially delight me are: trillium, wild roses, foxglove, red poppies, gold poppies, purple iris, pink ice plant, gladiolas, dahlias, daffodils – oh, and now that I have started where do I stop?! I also like a lot of those ground-cover plants, the names of which nearly always escape me.
- Having been back in the Northwest now nearly two years, I have acquired a proper hatred for the pushy Scotch Broom. This is an "acquired" hatred, however, and there are times, as when a roadside is lit in yellow, I forget I am supposed to hate them. (None allowed in my yard though.)
- Speaking of hatred: the slugs and colorful hard-shelled snails (as a youngster I was fascinated by them) that feast on my strawberries and other plants are now my sworn enemies, and in reincarnational terms I have by now probably guaranteed myself several lifetimes as a slug of some sort.

I could go on, but space for this column is coming to an end, and so is the time before I take off. Hope to see both you and my garden again in late July.

Bruce Bode
June 15, 2006

Office Offerings

I guess there is something to be said for leaving paradise in order to get a new perspective on where you live. However, as another beautiful Port Townsend summer unveils itself I find myself thinking "and I want to GO somewhere why??" Another good reason to stay in town is the outstanding lay-led services we have here at QUUF. They were very well attended last year--check the website for topics.

Whatever you decide to do--the staying and/or the going--enjoy paradise where you find it.

THANK YOU to the Newsletter assembly team for the June issue: Helen Oakland, Joyce O'Neal, and Mona Steffle.

August Sunday Services

August 6, 10:00 A.M.

"Four Faiths in a Modern World: Humanism"

Rev. Bode. Retired Unitarian Universalist minister, Fred Campbell, identified "four faiths" within the many Unitarian Universalist congregations he served, naming them: Humanism, Naturalism, Mysticism, and Theism. This four-part sermon series will attempt to describe each of these faiths, beginning with "Humanism." NOTE: The sermons in this series are "twice-told tales," being first delivered at QUUF by Rev. Bode in September and October of 2004.

August 13, 10:00 A.M.

"Four Faiths in a Modern World: Naturalism"

Rev. Bode. This sermon, the second in a series of four, explores the approach of "Naturalism."

August 20, 10:00 A.M.

"Four Faiths in a Modern World: Mysticism"

Rev. Bode. This sermon, the third in a series of four, explores the approach of "Mysticism."

August 27, 10:00 A.M.

"Four Faiths in a Modern World: Theism"

Rev. Bode. This sermon, the final in a series of four, explores the approach of "Theism."

July 30, 10:00 A.M. Favorite Poem Service

Giving voice and listening to poetry is one of the sublime pleasures of being alive. At the annual "Favorite Poem" service, members of the QUUF community stand before the congregation to read or recite a favorite poem—not their own—and share why this particular poem is important to them. The poems that emerge during this aural anthology range from solemn and serious to brilliantly funny—all presented within the context of why someone *loves* the poem. In one poetry service a devout humanist read Lewis Carroll's "Jabberwocky" with droll flair and in others there have been poems about dogs, blackbirds, the open road, and the afterlife—in short, many exquisite poems, presented from the heart, that speak directly to the subjects and concerns that touch our lives.

If you are interested in taking part in this service by sharing a poem with the congregation, please contact Joseph Bednarik at 379-9658 or joseph@coppercanyonpress.org. Preference will be given to readers who have yet to participate in a "Favorite Poem" service.

Music Notes



The choir is on summer vacation.

The UUA has [just](http://www.uua.org/news/gulfcoastrelief/pdf/StewardshipReport2006-06.pdf) announced that "Generosity, Compassion and Faith in the Face of Tragedy" a Stewardship Report on the UUA-UUSC Gulf Coast Relief Fund has been posted on the UUA website. It's in pdf format, and you can view it or download a copy at this address: <http://www.uua.org/news/gulfcoastrelief/pdf/StewardshipReport2006-06.pdf> Print copies will be available at GA, and individuals who donated will receive individual letters.

OTHER MEETINGS (irregular ones not listed)

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Building & Grounds | 2 nd Thurs. | 4:30 p.m. R.E. 2 |
| Membership / Hosp. Comm. | 3 rd Thurs. | 3:30-5:30 p.m. R.E. 2 |
| C.Y.R.E. | 2 nd Tues. | 7-9 p.m. R.E. 3 & 5 |
| Y.R.U.U. | 2 nd & 4 th Sun. | 7-8:30 p.m. R.E. 2 |

Children & Youth Religious Education

DRE Kathy Stevenson kstevenson@olympus.net

CYRE Calendar

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|----------------|------------------|
| June 18-Aug 27 | Summer RE, 10:00 |
|----------------|------------------|

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| Summer-Collect water for the Sept 3 Water Ceremony | |
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Thank you Karmen:

As you have probably heard, Karmen Meier is stepping down as RE Assistant after 4 years. She has accepted a job with the Port Townsend School District. We will miss her in her staff role, but she and her family will remain vital members of our religious community.

We will be hiring a new RE Assistant to begin work mid August. Please find the information on page 7 of this newsletter.

Summer RE:

Summer Sundays are enjoyable here at QUUF. The children begin in the sanctuary, as usual, and are sung to the RE building where we have a multi-age program for K-5th graders. 3-5 year olds can choose between the playroom and the RE Program. Older children may join us as assistants or remain in the sanctuary. If you are interested in leading a Summer RE session, please let Kathy know. There is childcare for children under 3.

Watch your email for the following information:

Puget Sound Middle School Conference at Camp Sealth September 29 - October 1. 5th/6th graders: OWL sexuality program. Orientation is Fri Sept 15 for parent and child.

8-12th graders:

UU Drug Education Program (UUEP) Parent Night September 25th, class begins October 2nd and continues three Mondays/month until March. 3rd/4th graders: Sunday nights January 21 - March 4th. Worship recognition March 11.

Water Ceremony is the last 10:00 service of summer, Labor Day weekend. Remember to bottle up some water from a luscious summer adventure!!

From the Board

BOD – New Members, New Roles

The Board of Directors met June 11 to say goodbye to departing members Neil Liden and Candy Drollinger. Thanks to both for their leadership in past years. The Board also welcomed two new members: Sheila Lauder and John Collins. Last year's officers will stay in the same positions for another year. They are Kendra Golden, president; Al Thompson, Vice President; Carolyn Latteier, Secretary; and Lynn Taylor, Treasurer. There will be some reshuffling of committee liaison duties. Check the website for updates on this.

The Board of Directors Needs You

As we approach a particularly challenging new year, the BOD wants to make sure we have strong committees with full membership. Several new committees will likely be formed this year. That means we need you to volunteer. Please call or email Board President Kendra Golden: (379-6904) or jim_kendra@bigfoot.com. Let Kendra know which committee you would like to help out. New members are particularly encouraged. This is a great way to meet new friends and have an impact on QUUF.

Committee to Hire New RE Assistant

Our excellent RE assistant Karmen Meier has accepted an exciting new position, and we are looking for a replacement. The Board approved the formation of a 3-member committee to interview applicants and make recommendations to the Board. The committee will consist of DRE Kathy Stevenson, Susan O'Brien representing CYRE, and Julie Russell representing the Personnel Committee. (see page 7)

Faith Works

The spring edition of *UU Faith Works*, a compilation of religious education resources, is now at www.uua.org/re/faithworks. Although intended primarily for religious educators, Faith Works is full of material for parents, too. This edition includes puzzles for children with themes of accessibility and inclusion, resource reviews and classic articles about social action and religious education as branches of the same tree. *Faith Works* is a project of the UUA's Lifespan Faith Development Staff Group.

UUA Moderator Wants Your Ideas

Do you have some thoughts about how our Association of Congregations could be organized more effectively to foster health and vitality in our congregations? The "Congregations Come First" Task Force, an initiative of Gini Courter (UUA Moderator), would welcome input on these issues, so don't be shy. You can find out more about the Task Force, and how to respond, at www.uua.org/administration/committees/ccf/.

The UUA Moderator's chief role is presiding at General Assemblies and at meetings of the Board of Trustees. It is the UUA's highest volunteer position. See more about Gini's background and hopes for our movement at www.uua.org/TRUS/moderator/.

Growth News

The Building Options Committee continues its work of planning the extension of QUUF's space. A second interview with one of the three architects under consideration took place in mid-June. Two more will occur by mid-July before the choice is made. All three architects have been given the same list of questions, some of which center around their fee structures, estimates of time required for the various phases of work, ideas about structure, aesthetic considerations, interest in working with volunteers, etc.

Building as green as possible is high on the list of priorities. To that end, the committee has gathered information from experts as well as from websites. One important question on the list for architects asks about their experience in this area.

The Capital Campaign Committee will meet with Aggie Sweeney in late June, when she begins her work on the Financial Feasibility Study. This should be completed by the end of August.

To keep up to date on expansion information, check the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary or visit the website at <http://www.quuf.org> and click on Growth News.

Marcia Lewton

FALL IN THE ALPS

Adult Learning Programs (ALPs) September to December

FALL CLASSES:

'Great Turning' Seminar, Bob Schultz, facilitator. Bainbridge Island author David Korten has published a new book, *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community?* in which he considers the sobering prospect that humankind is now facing a "great unraveling" of the ties that have made our earthly existence possible, even good (sometimes). To avoid the potentially tragic consequences of peak oil, global warming, destructive militarism, and other forces pressing in on us, he argues that we must forsake "dominating hierarchies" and turn to an "earth community", i.e., one that is localized, feminized, bottom-up, earth-friendly, with community-based leadership, new stories and a new spiritual orientation. We'll discuss 2 or 3 of his chapters each **Thursday, 3-5 PM, Sept. 14 to Dec. 14**. Bob is a retired professor of philosophy, Univ. of Washington, Bothel and University of Denver. For an overview of Korten's book, visit www.greatturning.org and click on the book title, or get a copy of *Yes! magazine*, Summer '06. To enroll and to obtain the book (\$19, at a group discount), call or email Jim Oakland (jhoakland@olympus.net, 379-6561). Enrollment maximum: 20. Questions? email or call Bob Schultz at rschultz@olympus.net or 379-3397.

Origins of Life, Jim Oakland, facilitator. Four billion years ago, the infant Earth was a seething cauldron of erupting volcanoes, raining meteors, and hot noxious gases, totally devoid of life. Yet after only 100 million more years, the planet was teeming with primitive organisms. What happened? *Audio lectures* by Prof. Robert Hazen, (George Washington University, and leader of a NASA team that is studying the origins of life in the universe) describe how scientists are actively seeking--and finding--answers. This is not your usual science course, which traditionally presents a consensus view of known facts about the world. Instead, it's a mystery story in the truest sense--one in which the clues are slowly adding up in our understanding of how life began, but the solution is not yet in hand. Dr. Hazen is an excellent lecturer who can make science very understandable. **Thursdays, 5:15-6:45 PM, Sept. 21 to Dec. 14**. Questions? call or email Jim Oakland, 379-6561, jhoakland@olympus.net.

Other Cultures, Other Peoples, Jim Oakland, facilitator. Most of us are so deeply and unconsciously immersed in our own culture that we don't easily grasp how differently other cultures can perceive events, people, life and us, or how similar acts can have quite different meanings. Consider a few intriguing questions: Is there such a thing as progress? Are modern technological nations really happier and better off than "primitive" hunter-gatherer societies? What is the cultural significance of gift giving? What are the subtle social and psychological rules we follow when we give a gift, and which obligate us when we receive one? How common is cannibalism today? What are the different types of cannibalism, and the beliefs associated with them? Does our economic system make sense when viewed culturally? In a series of *video lectures* (two each evening), Prof. Edward F. Fischer (Vanderbilt University) will introduce us to the discipline of Cultural Anthropology (including looking at these and other questions). Discussion will follow each lecture. **Wednesdays, 5-6:45 PM, Sept. 20 to Dec. 13.** Questions? call or email Jim Oakland, 379-6561, jhoakland@olympus.net.

Owning Your Religious Past, Bruce Bode, facilitator. This five-week class is geared for you who have been raised in a religious tradition other than that of the Unitarian Universalist tradition (though all are welcome). It provides an opportunity, in a small group setting, to examine your religious past: to see what you've left behind, what you've brought with you, what you might yet need to let go of, and what you might want to consider bringing forward, viz., how you might re-shape, re-configure, re-image, and re-imagine your religious past. Each session will use an exercise aimed at exploring different aspects of your religious past, such as: important places, special persons, and major changes and developments in regard to beliefs, values, behaviors, and understandings. **Tuesdays, 7-9 PM, Oct. 17-Nov. 14, >OR< Fridays, 10 AM-12 N, Oct. 13-Nov.10.** Feel free to invite friends or neighbors, though note that registration is limited to 20. I will lead as many classes as there is interest. Questions? call or email Bruce Bode, 379-0609, bruce@olympus.net.

Voluntary Simplicity, Helen Kolff, facilitator. The NW Earth Institute discussion course, "Voluntary Simplicity," delves into the meaning and practice of simplicity, the material and psychological distractions that prevent us from caring for the earth. It helps us see the connection between our lifestyle choices and the condi-

tion of the earth. Topics covered are: The meaning of simplicity, Living more with less, Your money or your life, Do you have time, How much is enough, Swimming against the tide, The practice of simplicity, and A potluck celebration. There will be an introductory presentation on **Thursday, Sept. 14, 7 PM**, where you can decide whether to take the course and order your book of readings for \$16. The course will meet **Thursdays, 7-9 PM, Sept. 21- Nov. 9.** Questions? email or call Helen Kolff at 379-4858 or helenk@olympus.net.

Work: Drudgery or Bliss? Marcia Lewton & Karen Page, facilitators. Folks who remember the classes on Family, House, and Money that Karen Page and Marcia Lewton facilitated a few years ago will want to attend their new offering on the subject of work. This class, too, will be composed of three discussion periods and one for undertaking a simple hands-on project that can be taken home to rest upon your coffee table – or hidden in your closet. For the workaholics among you there are many volumes dedicated to toning your productivity. For the lazy there's a new book available by Tom Lutz called "Doing Nothing: A History of Loafers, Loungers, Slackers, and Bums in America." Industrious Karen and Indolent Marcia promise to make this class fun. **Tuesday mornings, 10AM–12N, October 3, 10, 17, and 24, RE 2.** Class size limited to ten. Questions? email or call Karen, 385-4389, rpage@olympus.net, or Marcia, 385-4560, mlewton@olympus.net.

Chanting, Toning, and Movement: Opening Yourself to Spirit, Karen Frank, facilitator. This is a participatory, experiential group with a minimum of didactic material (maybe 10%). We'll check in briefly then use chants from various religious traditions, toning (nonverbal sounding), and movement prayer. We'll talk about our experience with these before we leave each gathering. Group members are encouraged to bring chants they know and share them with the rest of us. Try something new (or familiar) as we expand our connection to each other and to the Transcendent. I welcome anyone over about 12 or 13 years old. The time is tentative, but I'm thinking about Tuesday afternoon. This will be a **weekly, 8-week group starting the first week of October.** Call me up and let's talk about it. Karen Frank, 385-4255.

SUMMER ONGOING GROUPS:

CONTRACT BRIDGE: Contact Barbara Jensen, 379-0556.

KNITTING: Tuesdays, 3-5pm. Conversation, friendship, advice on knitting projects. Beginners welcome! Contact Nancy Shipley 385-9024.

MEDITATION: Monday evenings 7-8:30pm. An ongoing meditation group meeting at the home of Clara Klug, 5515 Hendricks. Meditation for 45 minutes, then selected readings and discussion. Call Clara at 385-1084 for current information.

WIDOW/WIDOWER BREAKFAST CLUB: Thursdays, 8:30am. Enjoy breakfast, support and friendship at Castagno's, 2123 Sims Way. Call Nancy Shipley, 385-9024 or Lars Watson, 385-5577.

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUPS: Confidential peer support groups for women. Six are already in existence. For information call Lee Faulkner, 379-3612.

If you are one of our thirty-seven congregations with fewer than 150 members, this next bit is for you. Anne Heller has asked that this be passed along to small lay-led congregations and those small congregations with Consulting Ministers:

Announcing SmallTalk: An email support list for small congregations (less than 150 members) - where ministers, religious educators, lay leaders and members can discuss the joys and challenges of life in the small congregation. To subscribe, please visit: <http://www.uua.org/mailman/listinfo/SmallTalk>

The Spring issue of the PNWD newspaper, Changes, is available online. You can read it at <http://www.pnwd.org/pdfs/changesApr04.pdf>. Do you have news about your congregation to share? Submissions for the Fall issue can be sent by July 15 to editor Judy Finholm at pnwdchanges@aol.com.

Religious Education Assistant**Job Opening**

QUUF is seeking applications for a Religious Education Assistant. Letters of interest and resumes should be sent to: Quimper UU Fellowship, 2333 San Juan Ave., Port Townsend, WA 98368. Attn: Kathy Stevenson. Deadline for applications is July 26.

Job Description for QUUF Religious Education Assistant

40 hours/month Aug 15 - June 15
Compensation follows UUA guidelines

Administrative Responsibilities:

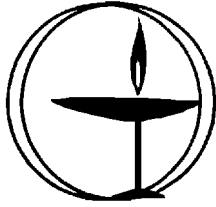
- Work closely with Director of Religious Education (DRE) and Children and Youth RE (CYRE) Committee, attend monthly meeting
- Assist DRE in administrative work: mailings, RE bulletin board, filing, copying
- Prepare materials for Sunday morning classes
- Maintain and purchase supplies and materials
- Keep rooms organized
- Assist CYRE Committee in coordination of Intergenerational Events and social justice projects

Sunday morning duties, one Sunday/month

- Arrive early to be certain the rooms are in order
- Greet and assist the teachers with set up
- Greet families
- Identify visitors and make them feel welcome
- Be available to all classes for last minute needs
- Help with any child who is having difficulty in class
- Stay late and close up

Skills Needed:

- Ability to work with volunteers, comfortable asking for help
- Positive interpersonal skills
- Computer skills
- Good written and verbal communication abilities
- Ability to work independently, problem solve
- Patience, good humor, ease with children & parents
- Education degree or experience preferred



The deadline for the
September newsletter is
Tuesday, August 22nd.

Get Your Newsletter by email

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