

Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A Welcoming Congregation

January 2007

January Sunday Services

January 7, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

Eight Considerations in Re-Making Yourself

Rev. Bode. In Marcia Lewton's recently published novel, *Hello Gorgeous*, one of the characters, Bess Kingman, is portrayed in the following way: "Despite the continual commercial touting of the notion that a person can make herself into whatever she wants, Bess knew a few important things." This opening sermon of the new calendar year will be a commentary on the "important things" that Bess had learned about re-making herself.

January 14, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

Become the change you wish to see in the world -- Mahatma Gandhi

Guest Speaker: Bernard Meyer. Over the past five years Mr. Meyer has immersed himself in Gandhi's life experiences and teachings. He was called the "American Gandhi" while visiting India and portraying Gandhi by invitation in 2005. Mr. Meyer's portrayal of Gandhi conveys messages of human dignity and non-violence and brings Gandhi's thoughts to our present time. Martin Luther King, Jr. based his nonviolent civil rights movement on Gandhi's model and considered him a great teacher and world citizen. Through stories of his life, we will experience the persona that was Gandhi.

Mr. Meyer has undergraduate degrees in philosophy and history, and graduate degrees in theology, social change, and urban studies. He has a varied background working with homeless and addressing health and community issues in urban and rural settings in several states.

January 21, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

A Visit from George Washington

Guest Speaker: Dr. James Hodges. James Hodges will be George Washington in today's service. The "Father of our Country" will talk to us about a number of his ideas and beliefs – some arrived at early in life – especially in regard to religious freedom. He will speak to us of his role in framing the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Tripoli Treaty. And he will review some of his speeches, including his Farewell Address, which may have some timely advice for us.

One of America's foremost authorities on Revolutionary War history and the life of George Washington, James Hodges is the recipient of the "George Washington National Honor Award" from the "Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge." He earned a BA and MA from University of Maryland (where he taught part-time), as well as a Ph.D. from Hamilton University, all in economics, but retired early as a VP of Merrill Lynch to devote full-time to bringing the ethical and moral principles of George Washington back to life. Since his retirement, he has spoken throughout the US, published a number of articles in national magazines, and is near completing a book on George Washington. Jim is a member of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston and is visiting Port Townsend with his wife, Bonnie.

January 28, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

In Quest of the Historical Jesus

Rev. Bode. What, if anything, can be known of the life and thought of Jesus? What were his ideals and goals and his sense of mission? What was his consciousness of himself? This sermon will be a distillation of a lot of research and personal study.

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

**Quimper Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship**
2333 San Juan Avenue
Port Townsend, Washington

Office Administrator:

Nancy Graham
Office Phone: 379-0609
Office Fax: 385-0086
Office E-mail: quuf@olympus.net
QUUF website: www.quuf.org

Office Hours: Closed Monday

Nancy: Tues. & Thurs. 10-5; Fri. 9-3

Minister

Rev. Bruce Bode
Office hrs: Tues-Thurs 9 am - 1 pm
Work: 379-0609
Email: bruce@olympus.net

Religious Education Director:

Kathy Stevenson
k Stevenson@olympus.net

Choir Director

Marj Iuro
379-6623, mniuro@yahoo.com

QUUF Board of Trustees

Kendra Golden, *President*
379-6904, jim-kendra@bigfoot.com

Al Thompson, *Vice-President*
379-1696 auntjelly@cablespeed.com

Carolyn Latteier, *Secretary*
385-0058, latteier@olympus.com

Lynn Taylor, *Treasurer*
385-3666, lynntaylor@olympus.net

Helen Kolff
379-4858, helenk@olympus.net

David Alvarez
385-5854, alvarez@olympus.net

Joanna Sanders
379-8973, rutenbeck@waypt.com

Sheila Lauder
379-6434, onisland@mac.com

John Collins 379-3299,
collinsj37@cablespeed.com

Newsletter Editor:

Alice King, aking@olympus.net

“Concrete” Reality & More



Greetings and all good wishes to each of you as we enter a new calendar year. There are three items I'd like to briefly touch on here at the beginning of this new year.

First, a big word of thanks and congratulations to all those who worked on and contributed to the capital campaign for our anticipated building expansion! It has been wonderful to witness the enthusiasm, concern, and competence involved. Now we come to that part of this project where very real decisions are to be made. These decisions relate to clearly determining what our congregational building dream is and, secondly and simultaneously, what part of that dream can be made into concrete (or some other building material) reality at this time. Please carefully read the update from the Building Steering Committee in this newsletter under “Growth News – January 2007” (see page 8). This will give you the latest projections as well as the upcoming dates for your input and involvement.

While all of this interest in our own building expansion is going on, our high school youth are making plans to assist in the building needs of those in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, who are trying to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. This is part of the Port Townsend/Bay St. Louis Sister City Project. For a week – February 13-20 – fourteen of our high school youth plus three young adults are scheduled to be in Bay St. Louis, staying at the same camp that earlier housed two groups from the First Presbyterian Church of Port Townsend. These youth will be joined in their task by seventeen adults, most of them from QUUF, and several with considerable building skill. In advance of this trip, a training session is planned to better prepare these young people for their time in Bay St. Louis. The special offering of \$1700 gathered during the service on Sunday, December 10, almost exactly covered the scholarship needs of the youth and is very much appreciated!

As I have for the last two years, I will be taking a reading and study break during early and mid-January. And, also as they have for the last two years, the Sunday Services Committee has put together a most interesting series of guest speakers in “THE JANUARY SERIES.” On January 14, Bernard Meyer will appear as Mahatma Gandhi, and on January 21, James Hodges will appear as George Washington. Then, skipping a week to February 4, Robert Fulghum (still part of The January Series though in February), will appear as himself. Rev. Fulghum will also be speaking the evening before, February 3, at the Wheeler Theatre – “An Evening with Robert Fulghum.” Advance tickets are available at QUUF for \$5. (Please see the January Sunday Services’ Schedule in this newsletter for more detail.)

December 22, 2006
Bruce Bode

Office Offerings

"The gift came as silence,
encircling all that we are,
softly settling over
memories of Christmas past..."

and so "The Gift" begins. Perhaps you are enjoying a post-holiday "soft silence", or have "hit the deck running" with new resolutions and enthusiasm? Things don't stay quiet for long here at QUUF. Plans are being made for the coming auction, lots of new Adult Education (ALPs) classes, the stewardship dinner, plus much more. HAPPY NEW YEAR everyone.

THANKS go to a December Newsletter assembly COUPLE this time. Because of a copier malfunction Helen and Jim Oakland very kindly took the newsletters HOME to prepare them for mailing. Thanks you two--you saved the day! The Wednesday office volunteers are now doing the stapling and folding. Next time you read your newsletter think of the host of people it took to get it to you--especially Alice King who so capably executes her duties as Editor!

Thank you to the very nice person who left a lovely red and blue heart decoration on my desk. It hangs where I can see it every day.

News from the Greening Kitchen

- **Retiring Volunteers appreciated** - Thank you for washing RE napkins, designated rags, and / or napkins from the kitchen for November through January: Barb Boelling, Donna Logan, Deb Hammond, Kate Madson, Kathy Stevenson, Karen Forbes, and Karen Page.
- **Help us reduce toxic spray use** - When "Oxiclean" doesn't take out the stain in a colored tea towel, we reluctantly use "Shout". Please use the white designated rags for stove, counter, floor, and furniture clean ups. A small amount of chlorine bleach or oxygen bleach will remove stains from these rags.
- **Leftover Blues** - It is greatly appreciated that you remove all leftover foods after an event. They can be donated to Gatheringplace or Boiler Room upon notification. If you intend them for RE, please ask Kathy Stevenson before donating.
- **Northwest Earth Institute Class** - Barb Boelling and Donna Logan will be hosting an Eco Party again in the spring as part of the ALPS Program. It will feature sound eco choices for reducing, reusing and recycling in the home and fellowship. We'll also look at cleaning products and their safety.

Lost & Found - Please check the kitchen for plates, water bottles etc. They will next be donated to the Free Store on February 15.
Thank you all for helping us keep Green.
Kitchen Witch

Designated Offerings

Our offerings continue to do valuable work in the larger community. When you have a chance, you might enjoy reading some of the letters posted in the sanctuary that we have received from recipients of our designated offerings.

On January 14 we will receive an offering for the **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee**. We will collect Guest At Your Table boxes and checks as part of this offering. Any donation to UUSC of \$75 or more is matched by Shelter Rock Congregation in New York.

On January 28 we will contribute to **Northwind Arts Alliance**, which is dedicated to supporting, educating and encouraging all the arts - visual, literary, music and dance - in our community. In addition to the many activities they currently sponsor, they are developing an Arts to Elders Project that will take the arts to elder facilities in the community.

Members of the Designated Offering Committee are Pam Daly, Don Berg, Sue Estes, Jan Forrest, Gayle Kaune, Rod Mitchell, and Bruce Bode, staff liaison. They welcome and encourage your suggestions of organizations to whom to designate these twice-monthly offerings.

Music Notes



The Music Committee wishes to thank the five musicians who played with the choir on November 19th. If you missed this performance, there's a rumor that they may return. Three of the players donated their stipend to the Building Fund. A special thanks for this.

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

Children & Youth Religious Education

DRE Kathy Stevenson kstevenson@olympus.net

CYRE Calendar

Every Sunday: RE at 9:15 and 11:15

YRUU 6:00-8:00 (High School Youth)

Jan 5 6-9pm	5th/6th OWL orientation children and parents
Jan 7-13	Church hosting the homeless
Jan 5,12,19, 26	5th/6th OWL 4:00-5:15
Jan 8, 15,22	UU Drug Ed Program
Jan 14	Guest At Your Table Collection
Jan 21	Chalice Journey (3rd/4th) begins
Jan 27	QUUF Auction
Jan 28	YRUU Polar Bear Plunge
Feb 3	Newcomer Orientation
Feb 3,4	Robert Fulghum

Middle School Survey Results: More than 150 of us were able to record our favorite 3 statements about our Ideas of God. The results follow:

- 88 I find God in nature.
- 73 There is a spark of divinity in each of us.
- 62 We can use science and reason to understand our Universe.
- 57 God and the Universe are the same - God is in everything and everyone.
- 48 God is present in the relationships among people
- 38 Creation is on-going, and we are co-creators with God.
- 36 There are probably as many ideas about God as there are people.
- 33 God is my conscience calling me to make the world a better place.
- 33 There is no way we can know whether or not there is a God
- 17 There is no such thing as God, and even the word is meaningless.
- 10 God cares for us and listens to our prayers.
- 9 God is like a loving mother who sustains us and all life.
- 5 God created the universe and then left it to run itself.
- 2 My beliefs about Jesus make me feel closer to God.

Winter/Spring Curriculum: Each fall we focus specifically on Unitarian Universalist Identity. We use the 7 Principles, 6 Sources and Unitarian Universalists from history to help us define and experience UUism. In our Kindergarten-5th grade classes we follow a 3 year rotation for our January - June classes. This is our year to highlight our Jewish and Christian Heritage. The younger classes will use a new curriculum called UU Super Heroes, Bible People. The older group returns to a favorite called Timeless Themes, Stories from the Hebrew and Christian Bible. I love this opportunity to help children understand the beauty of these 2 religions, and develop a healthy, positive attitude towards our roots. Many UU adults have negativity towards Christianity that takes years to settle with. I want our children to respect and honor our heritage and embrace the parts of it that serve them.

Annual YRUU Polar Bear Plunge Sunday the 28th! Ft. Worden Kitchen Shelter, 1pm following the 2nd service. We've bumped the date up because the water was just way too balmy in mid-February! Oh, and 90% of YRUU youth will be in Bay St Louis in Feb, anyway. Don't miss YRUU's main Fund Raiser of the year--proceeds help with Con scholarships, special outings, van rentals and other YRUU functions. YRUU has also made donations to local causes, and we'll be doing so again this year. Keep an eye out for our vibrant youth following both services on the 21st and 28th- Suggested donations are: \$5 to the knees; \$10 to the neck; \$20 all the way underwater. Bonfire to follow!!!

"AN OPEN LETTER TO MY SECRET FRIEND"

It was a difficult year, running the range of pain and joy. Friends held my hand, kept me from going under. A special friend emerged in my darkness, whose name I do not know. I only know they are connected to our fellowship in some way. This person sent me a beautiful card every month, and loving words of encouragement and hope. More than once I wept with gratitude when I read one. There were various sums of money that allowed me to indulge in something, and an especially generous one at the end. It was uncanny how the messages and monetary gifts arrived just when most needed--like an angel landing on my shoulder. With all my heart I THANK this person--know that your months of loving attention meant more to me than I can express.
Nancy

QUUF Events

Quid Pro Quo Saturday, January 27th

(Something For Something)

QUUF Service and Stuff Auction



Quid Pro Quo will take place on **Saturday, January 27, 2007, at 6 PM** at the Erickson Building at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds with food, drink and merriment. It will be your chance to deepen relationships with others in our fellowship and to donate in a painless way to replenish our **QUUF General Fund** and to build our **New Building Fund**.

We need volunteers to help make **Quid Pro Quo** a fabulous, fun, and profitable event for everyone involved – members, friends and others from the community.

We need your donation of services and/or stuff to get the event rolling... for example: weekend at your cabin; pet sitting; dinner at your home; art/art or music lessons; your favorite painting; homemade desserts; even your mother's old bathrobe. Any **"stuff"** that you think would be of value for an auction or anything wild and crazy. Donation forms can be found in back of the church.

To help with **Quid Pro Quo**, please contact Celeste Dybeck at 385-2590 or e-mail: buckwheat@cablespeed.com.

Winter Orientation Is February 3

To learn more about this church and Unitarian Universalism, come to this Saturday program, 9:30 to 1:30. Bring questions and be prepared to hear about UU history and philosophy and this church's story. Attending an orientation is encouraged if you are interested in becoming a member. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Please sign up at the greeter's table or phone the office.

Book Sale Coming February 10

Set aside books, videos, DVDs, and compact disks in good condition for our annual Media Sale. Please, no old textbooks, computers, computer manuals, or magazines. Bring items to the church on Thursday, February 8, and Friday morning. Rod Mitchell (385-3277) is available to pick up your items. Signups to help with this sale will begin January 15. Call Barb Dyer for further information.

Save the date!

Stewardship Celebration Dinner. **Friday, March 23rd**. Erickson Building at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

QUUF tackles Global Climate Change

"Earth is our home. We are part of this world and its destiny is our own. Life on this planet will be gravely affected unless we embrace new practices, ethics, and values to guide our lives on a warming planet. As Unitarian Universalists, how can our faith inform our actions to remedy and mitigate global warming/climate change? We declare by this Statement of Conscience that we will not acquiesce to the ongoing degradation and destruction of life that human actions are leaving to our children and grandchildren. We as Unitarian Universalists are called to join with others to halt practices that fuel global warming/climate change, to instigate sustainable alternatives, and to mitigate the impending effects of global warming/climate change with just and ethical responses. As a people of faith, we commit to a renewed reverence for life and 'respect for the interdependent web of all existence.'" (Our seventh principle) 2006 Statement of Conscience, unanimously adopted at the annual convention of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

The QUUF Board has just created the Green Sanctuary Committee with the mandate to facilitate our congregation becoming accredited as a Green Sanctuary by the UU Ministry for Earth. This program is designed to

- To build awareness of societal environmental issues among UUs.
- To generate commitment for personal lifestyle changes.
- To motivate UUs to community action on environmental issues.
- To build a connection between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness.
- To build awareness of and rectify environmental injustices.

Making our new building as green as possible is the focus of another group, the Green Building Task Force. The Green Sanctuary committee will undertake projects during the next year or two. Our first meeting is Wednesday, January 3, 4-6pm in the RE building. For more information contact Kees Kolff, come to the meeting, and/or check out these resources:

An excellent website: www.uuministryforearth.org

"UU congregations take on the environment", UU World, p. 18, Winter 2006

Also the 2006 Statement of Conscience: Threat of Global Warming/Climate Change

<http://www.uua.org/actions/ecology/06global-warming.html>

Adult Learning Programs (ALPs) WINTER 2007

CLASSES:

DARWINIAN EVOLUTION: Jan. 11 to Feb. 1, four Thursdays, 7-9 PM, Fred Weinmann, facilitator. We hear about it every day. Where did the concept come from? How long has it been with us, and how has our understanding of it changed over time? We will select materials from among the millions of words and billions of electrons devoted to explanation and argument about Darwin and evolution to gain an understanding of its history, essential features, current issues and unpredictable future. The story will begin nearly 300 years ago with pre-Darwinian concepts of evolution, then the pivotal years of 1858-59, through the age of the modern synthesis (encompassing the period of modern genetics and the discovery of the structure of DNA), and end with an introduction to the current hot topic, evolutionary development (or evo-devo as it is called). The material will be tailored for those who are curious to learn about something they may not fully understand, rather than for those who are already well versed in Darwinian history and concepts. Hopefully some experts will attend to fill in my knowledge voids and buoy the discussion. Both video and written material will be used as a basis for discussion. There will be a \$3.00 photocopy fee. Questions? call Fred Weinmann 379-0986.

HEALTHY CHILDREN, HEALTHY PLANET: Jan, 18 to Mar. 15, nine Thursdays, 7-9 PM, Helen Kolff, organizer. This is an 8-week course created by the Northwest Earth Institute for parents and anyone concerned about the welfare of children. The purposes of the course are (1) to understand how the pervasive effects of advertising, media, and our consumer culture can influence a child's view of the world, (2) to discover ways to create meaningful family times and healthful environments for children and (3) to explore ways to develop a child's connection to nature, and to foster creativity. The cost of the course is \$17 per course book. An introductory meeting on 1/18/07 will provide an overview and the opportunity to buy the book. The course is limited to 12 people. For more info call Helen Kolff at 379-4858 or email at helenk@olympus.net or see the website nwei.org.

THE POETRY OF EMILY DICKENSON: Feb. 2 to Mar. 30, eight Fridays, 10 AM -12 N, except 2/16, >OR< eight Tuesdays, 7-9pm, Feb. 6 to April 2, except 2/20, Bruce Bode, facilitator. Here's an opportunity in a small group setting to take in the thoughts of one of America's greatest poets - some say, the greatest. Emily Dickinson visits interior places like no one else. Her poems, so very condensed in form, are often tough nuts to crack. The small fruits, once harvested, however, are extremely nourishing. And it helps to have a group of gleaners, chiselers, and borers -that's what we do in our classes. Please don't be put off from this class with thoughts of inadequate poetic background, etc. If you have ever been attracted by a Dickinson poem, then this is a class for you.

The book we will use is a recently prepared one-volume edition of Dickinson's complete poems titled, *The Poems of Emily Dickinson, Reading Edition*, edited by Ralph W. Franklin (paperback published by the Belknap Press of Harvard University Press - \$16.95). Franklin is the current foremost scholar of Dickinson's manuscripts. His work updates the fine earlier work of Thomas A. Johnson, the scholar who, finally, 70 years after the poet's death in 1886, gave us Dickinson's poems in the form in which she wrote them. If you wish to order a copy of this book, please indicate such on the sign-up sheet. Questions? E-mail at bruce@olympus.net or call the church office, 379-0709.

OUR AMERICAN ROOTS—A HISTORY of UNITARIANS and UNIVERSALISTS in AMERICA: Feb. 3 to Mar. 31, five Saturdays, 2-3:30 PM, biweekly, Jan Forrest, facilitator. This five-session course looks at the history of Unitarians and Universalists in America. The first session deals with our colonial and revolutionary past, asking the question, "Who is our forefather? Michael Servetes, or the man who had him burned, John Calvin?" Session two deals with Transcendentalism -- Emerson, Thoreau, et al. and their impact on America. Session three traces the history of the Universalists in America and why the two groups merged. Session four looks at the evolution of UU theology from non-Trinitarian Christianity to what Bruce likes to call Christian Plus. It asks the question, can you believe just about anything you want to and be a UU? And, finally, session five deals with challenges to our liberalism. In the 19th century, Unitarians and Universalists were known for their leadership in liberal causes. What has happened to us since then? Why are there so few of us? Are we still in the forefront of change? Jan Forrest, Ph.D. in History, can be reached for questions at 385-2994.

INTENTIONAL COMMUNITIES, Condos, Co-Housing, EcoVillages and Communes: Feb. 6 - 27, four Tuesdays, 7-9 PM, Kees Kolff, facilitator. "Do you share?" asked my niece when her grandfather received a large chocolate Easter bunny. Perhaps you have shared a home with a partner and your children, or a lawn mower with a neighbor. Or perhaps you have shared a house, a car, a boat, a cabin or a condo with another family? Did it work well or was it a disaster? Let's examine why sharing did or did not work. Learn about intentional communities, from those that share very little to those that share everything including personal income. How are they structured to facilitate sharing? We'll discuss why sharing will become increasingly important if we are to thrive as a just and sustainable community now that the "inconvenient truth" of global climate change is undeniable. We'll explore together ways in which each of us will be able to share more of the precious resources of this small planet so we can leave the Earth a better place for future generations. Questions? You can reach Kees Kolff at 379-4858.

BRAIN & MIND: Feb. 8 to Mar. 15, six Thursdays, 3-5 PM, Jim Oakland, facilitator. "An amateur athlete lost his arm in a motorcycle accident but continues to feel a 'phantom arm' with vivid sensations of movement." A nurse with a large visual blindspot "sees Bugs Bunny in [the doctor's] lap." A man who suffered a head injury "claimed that his father and mother had been replaced by duplicates who looked exactly like his real parents." These and many other clinical vignettes are the heart of a very readable book *Phantoms In The Brain*, by V. S. Ramachandran, M.D., Ph.D., (a neuroscientist at U.C., San Diego), which is the focus of this seminar. The goal is to broaden and deepen our understanding of what the brain is like and how it works. We'll read two chapters for each session. I'll bring additional material and aids. Together with group discussion (sometimes small groups) we'll come to understand the material and the larger issues. The book is required, and can be purchased for \$8-16. Because the content tends to build on itself, please sign up only if you can attend all or almost all meetings and are able to read the assigned chapters. Minimum enrollment: 8, maximum: 15. For more information, call Jim at 379-6561.

AT THE ROOT OF THIS LONGING, Reconciling a Spiritual Hunger and a Feminist Thirst: Feb. 8 - 22, three Thursdays, 7-9 PM, Robin Stemen, facilitator. This class is a three-session discussion of the book: *At the Root of This Longing: Reconciling a Spiritual Hunger and a Feminist Thirst*, by Carol Lee Flinders. "Can

you be a feminist and lead a spiritually fulfilling life in today's world? Carol Lee Flinders answers this question and unveils her discovery that a life of meaning, self-knowledge, and freedom absolutely depends on the full realization that feminism and spirituality are more than just compatible---they are mutually necessary. "Please read this book before the first discussion and note a few topics you'd like to discuss. The group will be limited to eight, so be sure to sign up as soon as you can. Robin Stemen can be reached at 385-5854 or robin@olympus.net

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS:

SCIENCE AND RELIGION Discussion Group, meets monthly, the next meeting on Sunday, **Jan. 7**, 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. We will continue discussion of the book *Breaking the Spell* by Daniel Dennett. Anyone interested in this topic is welcome to attend. Contact Jim Tough for further details (385-3065).

QUUF BOOK CLUB meets monthly, the next meeting on Monday, **Jan. 15**, 7 PM at the Discovery View Apartments Lounge, 1051 Hancock Street, Marilyn Muller, coordinator, 379-9553, mmuller@cablespeed.com. The book for this month is: *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts.

EARLY BIRD SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION, meets every Sunday, 7:50-8:50 AM, RE 2, Bruce Bode, facilitator. Contact Rev. Bode at bruce@olympus.net or Elaine Nelson, 379-9949, elaine@zynrgy.com for information. The book for the next several meetings is *The End of Faith* by Sam Harris.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

MEDITATION: Mondays, 7-8:30 PM. 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.

KNITTING: Tuesdays, 3-5 PM. Conversation, friendship, advice on knitting projects. Beginners welcome! Contact Nancy Shipley, 385-9024 or Jackie Barr, 385-3657.

THURSDAY BREAKFAST CLUB: Thursdays, 8:30 AM. Enjoy breakfast, support and friendship. Call Nancy Shipley, 385-9024 or Lars Watson, 385-5577.

CONTRACT BRIDGE: Call Barbara Jensen, 379-0556 for information.

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

From the Board

A Big Thank you to the Capital Campaign Committee

The Capital Campaign Committee has done a fantastic job of soliciting pledges for our building expansion. During the summer they laid the important groundwork to set a goal for the campaign. This fall they put together a tremendous kick-off event. The committee made sure that every member of the congregation had the opportunity to sit down with a steward and pledge their hopes for QUUF in monetary form. Their upbeat, energetic approach and hard work has produced great results. **At this writing, we are only about \$12,000 away from achieving \$700,000 total!** A big thank you to committee chair Beth Wilmart and members Carol Collins, Aaron Tinling, Marcia Lewton, Alta Crawford, Carolyn Salmon, Bill Kaune, Robin Stemen, Betty Oppenheimer, Kees Kolff, and Board Liaison, Lynn Taylor.

Envisioning QUUF's Future

Last year the Long Range Plan Committee put together a Five Year Plan for the fellowship. The Board of Trustees wants to continue envisioning the future for QUUF. The more we imagine, the more likely we are to grow in exciting directions. To that end, a subcommittee of the Board crafted a vision narrative based largely on the Five Year Plan. We hope this vision narrative will inspire you to think about QUUF's future, to write your own vision, and submit it to us. Any QUUF member or friend is invited to vision with us. We will publish submitted vision narratives in the newsletter. Keep your vision narrative to about 250 words and email to Board Secretary Carolyn Latteier, latteier@olympus.net or put it in her box at the Fellowship.

A Vision: QUUF in Ten Years Time

It is the year 2016. As a congregation, we aspire to religious and spiritual growth and strive for social, economic, and environmental justice. On Sundays, visitors flock here, attracted by the inspiring services, the warmth of community, the lovely building, and the stunning music. The new sanctuary is truly a sacred space, a place for spiritual renewal and contemplation, where one can sit quietly and find peace. Pastoral counseling and spiritual direction are readily available; we now have an assistant minister to help the minister take care of everybody. Despite membership approaching 400, the fellowship retains its intimacy and sense of community. Together in small groups and as a full congregation, we discuss; we grieve; we celebrate. Liberal religious youth meet at the fellowship to share their issues and dream their future. From here, they go out

into the world for youth-oriented social action. QUUF remains a model for responsible and inclusive self-governance. Our beautiful green-built church, constructed with our money, our hearts and our sweat, is truly an expression of our values. On weekdays and evenings, QUUF is humming with activity because our fellowship is a center, not just for UUs and other religious liberals, but also for community-wide celebrations, the arts, and activism. The ALPs program has expanded, with a full slate of lay-led classes as well as provocative speakers, artists, and poets. Along with its community partners, QUUF is deeply involved in issues such as peace, global warming, social equality, and the interaction between religion and science. Welcome, everybody – enter, rejoice, and come in.

Growth News - January 2007

Important meetings are coming up soon. Mark your calendars. On Monday, January 8th at 7 p.m. four task forces will present their findings. On two Sundays, January 21st and February 4th, there will be opportunities for discussion after both services. To keep informed about the building process, be sure to attend these meetings.

Our successful Capital Campaign is nearing \$700,000. With the planned \$400,000 mortgage, we will have about \$1,100,000 to cover both direct construction costs of about \$850,000 and about \$250,000 for so-called "soft" costs, including all design fees, permitting, furnishings, land acquisition, and contingency. Volunteer labor will add value.

From the beginning of this process, we did not know if we could build everything we want in a single phase. Thus we have asked everyone to dream widely. We are now at a point where we can see that our dream is bigger than our financial means for this first phase, and we need to plan both for it and for subsequent phases. In the weeks ahead the Steering Committee will put together a master plan of what our full dream might look like to help the whole congregation make the hard decisions about what to build during phase one and what must be left for later.

In the past month the Steering Committee has been assembling a wealth of information. Input from congregational members, via the task force presentations and other venues, continues to inform the process. Input from experts is helping the committee evaluate and prioritize items on our wish lists.

On December 18th five task forces (RE, ALPS, Library, Landscape/ Outdoors, and Green) presented their findings to an audience of about 60 congregants. On January 8th another four (Worship/Music Space, Acoustics, Indoor Aesthetics and Kitchen) will do the same.

(Continued on page 9)

On December 2nd about 25 people attended the Aesthetics Task Force meeting, where they were divided into five small groups to speak and listen to ideas about how the sanctuary and foyer aspects of the new building should look and feel. Richard Berg made his way to each group, taking notes.

On December 6th an especially informative meeting was set up by Richard and the Steering Committee with a consulting architect who has significant experience in church building issues. Dennis Chivers works out of Marysville for a large architectural firm specializing in church design and has been involved with the design and construction of over 100 church buildings in his career. He gave us enlightening answers to a detailed set of questions about design possibilities and current costs. For instance:

1. He recommended *against* creating a smaller building at first and expanding it outward later. It costs significantly less to build the main outer shell from the beginning.
2. A sanctuary seating 250 (our maximum) with a flat floor would not create sight-line problems because the chancel (stage area) is elevated 18 to 24 inches. Sloped floors are useful in sanctuaries seating more than 350 people. Balconies are expensive structurally, can create acoustic and accessibility problems and are more useful in very large sanctuaries.

As answers came to these questions, however, a whole new set appeared:

1. Just how big do we want our fellowship to get? This bears heavily on how much we build.
2. How much creative use can be made of reconfigured existing spaces?
3. How should we plan for the later phases of expansion?
4. What are our top priorities for the new spaces we can afford to build and the existing spaces we might reconfigure?

The discussion meetings on January 21st and February 4th will address these questions and help the Steering Committee create a Program Document to put to a congregational vote and give to the architect in early spring.

These are the occasions for all of us to give our input. A time will come soon when decisions must be made and new ideas cannot be incorporated.

One sometimes hears people say, "No point giving my input. It won't be used anyway." If you don't give it, you can be certain it won't be used. If you do give it, it *might* be. Which is the better bet? But do it soon. No whining after the fact. Attend the discussions. Contact task force personnel. This isn't somebody else's church, it's ours.

Marcia Lewton

Remembering QUUF in Your Will



In addition to our families, many of us want to provide generously for the organizations we cherish. And that includes our church. Consider one of the simplest and most rewarding gifts you can make to QUUF -- a bequest in your will or other estate plans.

Your bequest can be "specific," for a particular dollar amount, or "residual," for a percentage of your estate after other obligations have been met. It also can differ in terms of how the money may be used. An "unrestricted" bequest may be used for any purpose of the congregation, while "restricted" gifts are limited in scope -- for example for Religious Education or the congregation's Endowment Fund.

Whatever you decide, your bequest of any size can shape the future of this congregation and ensure its vitality for generations to come. For more information, please contact Betty Oppenheimer at 360 683-3441.

Who Gets to Wear a QUUF Badge?

New members receive a badge--if they do not already have one--on the day they sign the Membership Book. Members receive the quarterly UU publication, *World*, and are entitled to vote and serve on the board. Our treasurer pays annual dues of approximately \$70 per member to the UUA and the Northwest UU, associations that provide many resources to our church. Further, members can know that they have joined a liberal religious group that is one of more than a thousand with a heritage of hundreds of years.

The membership committee will also provide a badge if you attend regularly. We want to know you and make you feel at home here. We hope that you will keep coming, contribute your talents and perhaps become a member and receive the benefits listed above. Make your request for a badge at the greeters' table on Sunday or phone the office. You may also receive the newsletter in the mail or by email for three months. After this time you may subscribe to it for \$25. (It is also available on our website.)

QUUF Newsletter
2333 San Juan Avenue
Port Townsend, Washington 98368

Get Your Newsletter by email

The QUUF newsletter is an emailed pdf file. To be added to the newsletter e-distribution list, email the QUUF office at: quuf@olympus.net. You can also download a copy from our website at www.quuf.org.

The QUUF Newsletter is mailed or e-mailed free to members.
The subscription rate for non-members is \$25 per year.

First Class Mail



The deadline for the
February newsletter is
Monday, January 22nd.



Sanctuary Flowers

Thank you for our lovely winter florals:

Jeanette Richoux
Libby Urner
Donna Logan

Please contact Donna when you have dried florals, plants, or florist bouquets for January.
385-0164 drlogan@olypen.com