

Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A Welcoming Congregation

February 2008

February Sunday Services

February 3, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

“Reverence for Life”: An Introduction

Rev. Bode. My late winter/early spring sermon series this year will grapple with the religious philosophy of Dr. Albert Schweitzer. Schweitzer, one of the twentieth century’s greatest thinkers and humanitarians, earned doctoral degrees in four fields – theology, philosophy, music, and medicine – and made important contributions in all four fields. As a theological student some thirty-five years ago, I was deeply influenced both by his historical studies of early Christianity as well as his personal religious philosophy, which he called “Reverence for Life.” My thesis toward a Master’s degree was on this subject, and I begin this series with an introduction to the same.

February 10, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

“The Sanctuary of Thought”

Rev. Bode. “Nothing but what is born of thought and addresses itself to thought can be a spiritual power affecting the whole of mankind,” wrote Albert Schweitzer. My second sermon in this series on the religious philosophy of Albert Schweitzer examines the importance of rational thought in his approach.

February 17, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

“Thinking Theology”

Guest Ministers: Barbara & Jaco ten Hove. People sometimes wonder if Unitarian Universalism, in its non-dogmatic mode, has a convincing religious message to offer 21st century people. UU “theology” is indeed diverse and demanding, but it’s also the best game in town, animated by deep heritage and great hope. In our vibrant imperfection we endeavor to embody both the transcendent within and vital community. It’s “both-andian”! The Revs. Barbara Wells ten Hove and Jaco B. ten Hove are a “clergy couple,” co-ministering at Paint Branch UU Church near College Park, MD. They are both “home-bred” UUs and were each ordained in the mid-1980s. Before coming to Maryland in 1999, they served separate churches in the Seattle area and together in an interim co-ministry in Golden, CO. They also co-authored the popular 2003 UUA curriculum, “Articulating Your UU Faith.”

February 24, 9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

“The Struggle for Truth”

Rev. Bode. Albert Schweitzer wrote, “The beginning of all spiritual life of any real value is courageous faith in truth and open confession of the same.” My third sermon in this series on the religious philosophy of Albert Schweitzer will explore what sense we can make of world process.

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 Mann
Office Phone: 379-0609
Office Fax: 385-9510
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
kstevenson@olympus.net

Choir Director
Marj Iuro
379-6623, mniuro@yahoo.com

QUUF Board of Trustees
Helen Kolff, *President*
379-4858, helenk@olympus.net

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

John Collins, *Acting Treasurer*
379-3299,
collinsj37@cablespeed.com

Betty Oppenheimer, *Secretary*
360-683-3441, bettyo@olympus.net

David Alvarez
385-5854, alvarez@olympus.net

Joanna Sanders
379-8973, sanders@waypt.com

Sheila Lauder
379-6434, onisland@mac.com

Jean Wallat
385-1105 jmwalat@yahoo.

Newsletter Editor:
Alice King, aking@olympus.net

Destinies



I'm tired just now, as I've been watching a black ant struggling to pull a huge rust-red colored seed across the concrete slab on which I'm sitting in a chair reading about Albert Schweitzer's philosophy of "Reverence for Life" in preparation for my upcoming sermon series. Actually, the seed isn't that large, only in relation to the ant.

I'm not certain how long this small creature has been working on this project, but in the time I've watched, it has crossed a crack in the concrete, the size of a river bed, and pushed the seed over a twig, the size of a log. I'm not certain where this journey is heading – whoops, and now where has the ant gone? While I was writing about this journey, the ant disappeared, maybe abandoning the project, or perhaps it has gone in search of reinforcements.

Whoosh, a gust of wind has just blown the seed about two feet from where it was left – I hope in the right direction! And now another ant has come, even smaller than the first, and is circling around the seed. This can't possibly be the reinforcements – body builders should have been sent! (And now I have to warn Flossie to watch where she is walking; there is a work-project going on here and lives in danger.) But, unbelievably, this smaller ant has taken over the mission and is about to pull the seed through a shaded area. Even the line of shade looks like it could be a barrier.

Meanwhile, three helicopters, whose large rotating black blades now look to me like the whirling action of the ants' legs, have flown overhead. I wonder what mission they are on.

Oh, goodness, now this tiny creature has tumbled with its seed into a large crevice, at least a ¼ inch in size, between the slabs of poured concrete. How will it ever get out? Yet, somehow it has, and that quite easily. What do I know?!

Hooray! Three more ants have arrived on the scene, one quite large. No doubt, they are complimenting their companion on its accomplishments. And now, surely, all four of them will proceed with the project. But, no, only one of them carries on, though not the same one as before. And now this new ant, perhaps confused, has pulled the seed under a piece of firewood that I put on the concrete slab last evening. Don't park your treasure there! I have to use that wood tonight!

Oh, good, this new ant is backing up, going around the wood, over a stick ... and now I think I see the destination of this journey. It's at the end of the concrete slab, where there's a three-inch drop-off. It looks like there is a hole in the ground, which must serve as home.

Now, I've moved from my chair and will report what I hope is the conclusion of this drama. Only fifteen inches to go, now eight, now just a ½ inch away. Oh, a sudden sideways move, but now over! And this ant didn't just let go and drop the seed over the edge; no, it carried it over. And now it has disappeared, somewhere under the slab, so far as I can tell. Home, I suppose. I hope for a good rest. I know I need to. I'm exhausted from witnessing this adventure. Oh, the destinies that exist on this little planet of ours!

Reporting from the desert,

January 18, 2008 Bruce Bode

Office Offerings

February. Sigh. Roses, valentines, champagne glasses clinking. Romance is in the air, but love is, of course, far more than a box of chocolates. (Did I say that?!). Vincent Van Gogh created memorable thoughts as well as paintings. He said: "The best way to know life is to love many things". It is an ideal shared by so many of us here at QUUF who know and enjoy life, and love much. The homeless shelter project, Mystery Pal program, volunteering in the office-- so MANY ways to show our love right here in the fellowship!

And SPEAKING of "volunteering in the office", it would be great to have a few more names of people who would be willing to be a substitute for office duty. There are three shifts each Wednesday, and one on Friday from 3-5 p.m. We have a great existing team, but occasionally someone has to be away or is ill or I take a day off. This is easy and pleasant duty--and provides a valuable welcoming feeling to callers and visitors. Can anyone come in on Feb. 5th?

Thank you, and LOVE to Mona Steffire and Helen Oakland for the January Newsletter assembly and mailing.

Music Notes



QUUF Annual Coffee House, Saturday evening, April 12th at 7PM.

The theme this year is "Transitions". If you wish to be considered for the program with a reading or musical performance, please contact Carolyn Salmon: 2salmon@earthlink.net.

Our great Choir could use more voices!

New voices are welcome, especially sopranos, and you don't need to be able to read music. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 7PM. Come sing your heart out. Contact Marj: mniuro@gmail.com

Music Program Committee needs YOU!

Want to help oversee the music programs and help plan the fabulous spaghetti dinner and coffee house events at QUUF? We lost a few members. No musical talent required, only enthusiasm.

Meetings are usually the 3rd Friday at 3PM.
Contact Carolyn S.: 2salmon@earthlink.net

Green Sanctuary

"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." That's the opening of the UUA 2006 Statement of Conscience on climate change. QUUF is participating in the UU Ministry for Earth Green Sanctuary Program to help address this issue. We've already taken a number of "green" actions at QUUF including projects and changes in Religious Education, energy conservation, waste reduction, ride sharing, water conservation and worship services.

Now, you can personally join this effort. Our goal is to have fifty people in the congregation reduce their household CO2 output by 2% a year. Many of us have recently reduced our "carbon footprint" and now we can do more. There's a pledge form and a long list of actions you can take for your reductions on the QUUF Green Sanctuary Committee website at <http://www.quuf.org/opsmanual/admin/PersonalEnergyActions.pdf>. Copies are also at the back of the sanctuary. Please join us, complete a pledge and return it to the basket at the back of the sanctuary, or send it via email to mtmorrissey@cablespeed.com. Then measure your baseline on the Local 20/20 website (at <http://www.l2020.org/index.php?page=what-can-you-do>, click on 'Download Carbon Footprint Calculator'), or any other such calculator you want to use.

Take the pledge! Reduce your carbon output by just 2%. It's easy and our Earth really needs your help.



**The deadline for the
March newsletter is
Friday, February 22nd**

OTHER MEETINGS (irregular ones not listed)

Personnel Committee	3rd Tues.	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Building & Grounds	2 nd Thurs.	4:30 p.m. R.E. 2
Membership / Hosp. Comm.	3 rd Thurs.	4 p.m. R.E. 2
R.E. Committee	3rd Tues.	7-9 p.m. R.E. 3 & 5

Children & Youth Religious Education

DRE Kathy Stevenson kstevenson@olympus.net

RE Calendar

Feb 2	Newcomer Orientation
Feb 3, 10, 17	Mystery Pal exchanges
Feb 3	Teacher Appreciation High Tea
Feb 3	Polar Bear Plunge
Feb 9	QUUF Service Auction & childcare
Feb 29 - Mar 2	Annual General Meeting in Tacoma
Feb 24	Mystery Pal Find Out Sunday
Mar 7	SPAG Con for YRUU
Mar 29	Stewardship Dinner and Spring Fling

Not a Member?

Whether you are new to QUUF, or have been coming for a long time, you always have an open invitation to our Newcomer Orientation. The winter class is perfect for families who have difficulties getting out for evening meetings. We have childcare, and lunch is provided. Even if you have been coming as non-members for a while, I believe you will enjoy this class led by Bruce Bode and Barb Dyer. Call or email Kathy to sign up - 379-0609 or kstevenson@olympus.net. Membership is needed to cast a ballot on upcoming building proposals.

Neighboring Faiths - On January 20th, 18 youth and 5 adults visited the Idris Mosque in Seattle. Their understanding of Islam was enriched and deepened during their visit. Thank you to Gary Forbes for the pre-trip lessons on the religion, as well as coordinating the trip. In February, the unit is called, Celebrating a Culture - The Black Church: Baptist and African Methodist Episcopal. They will visit the Mt Zion Baptist Church.

Our Wisdom Seeker class is also learning about other religions. In January they also studied Islam. This month the focus will be on Buddhism.

Treasure Hunters (Kind-2nd grade) study religions from a different perspective. We learn about different ideas that religions have about God. Through stories and activities we explore Stories like: God has Many Names (Islam) Hide and Seek with God (Hinduism and others

including UU), God is like the Mother of All, (feminism, cosmology), God is Like a Father (Christianity, Judaism) God is like a Compassionate Deer (Buddhism). Through the stories the children are invited to see the diversity of thinking and explore the possibilities.

Chalice Children, our preschoolers, have made a puzzle of our church and families, made cards for our Cares and Concerns Committee to send to ailing church members, and played lots of games together.

Current special programs include K-2nd OWL sexuality program, Coming of Age, and this month, Mystery Pals. QUUF is not only about Sunday mornings!

YRUU

Despite our thwarted efforts to go ice skating in Bremerton, the youth remain in good spirits. We will make another attempt soon and hope that no mystery backpacks are left on the Hood Canal Bridge keeping it closed for most of Sunday.

There are potential plans to do a relief effort in Chehalis after the flooding there. Also, a mini-con in Seattle (SPAG, Social Political Action Group) is planned for March 7-9th. Let's see how many youth we can get there to represent us!

We also want to make sure you know that you are invited to come join the Youth for the ANNUAL POLAR BEAR PLUNGE on February 3rd. We will meet at the Fort Worden Kitchen Shelter just after the 2nd service. Come support our youth and advisors as they do the unthinkable and swim Mid-Winter in water that only ever gets up to my knees even in the Summer. Brrrrrrrr. This is a fundraiser for the YRUU program and your pledges are appreciated. Youth will be taking pledges after each service in the back of the sanctuary. Please join us!

"Best" Book Sale Brings In It's Best Ever Earnings

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of our Book Sale Team - those who donated books, helped set up for the sale, priced the "special books", sold the books, and those who cleaned up after the books were sold - our annual book sale brought in \$2,222.50 for QUUF. And many thanks to all the QUUF members who braved the cold and stormy weather to come buy the books. It certainly was a job well-done and we sincerely appreciate all those who made it happen.

From Book Sale Co-Chairs: Barb Dyer and Alta Crawford

QUUF Events

Women's Retreat

QUUF women, have faith. Winter will end. Spring will come. And we will once again spend a weekend away from husbands, kids, phones, email, meetings, work, and all the ordinary dull stuff of our daily lives. Instead, join the women of QUUF as we car pool our way to beautiful Camp David Jr. on Lake Crescent for the 11th annual WOMEN'S RETREAT.

Mark your calendars-- Friday - Sunday, April 25-27 -- a time for relaxing, reflecting, laughing, enjoying, hiking, hot springs soaking, dancing, truth-telling (or lying), and just being with the wonderful women of QUUF.

Retreat co-chairs Carolyn Salmon, Jacque McInvale, and Jan Forrest have just started planning the retreat. If you can help with food, or a workshop, or organizing activities, please give one of us a call. Carolyn (379-9392); Jacque (379-2867); Jan (385-2994).

Coming Soon

Stewardship Dinner: Saturday, March 29, 2008.

Erickson Building, Jefferson County Fairgrounds

Friendship Dinner

The February Friendship Dinner will be hosted by Anne Virtue and Pat Roach. The dinner is scheduled for **February 16, 2008**. If you are interested in attending the February dinner, please contact Anne Virtue by calling (360)379-0459 or emailing her at annevirtue@yahoo.com.

If you would be interested in hosting a Friendship Dinner, please contact Kate McDaniel at kandkmcdaniel@msn.com.

Reminder: WINTER ORIENTATION
Saturday, February 2, 9:30 AM, RE 2 & 3

For anyone wanting to know more about Unitarian Universalism and Quimper UU Fellowship. To register, call the office—379-0609 or Barb Dyer—379-0353.

Child care and lunch are provided.

ALPs (Adult Learning Programs) WINTER & SPRING, 2008

SPECIAL EVENTS:

FRED HUTCHINSON SPEAKER NINA SALAMA, Saturday, March 15, 7pm, QUUF sanc. *Dr. Nina Salama, a microbiologist, at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, will give a presentation about her work on a bacterium linked to gastric cancer, the second leading cause of cancer death worldwide. Dr Salama and her colleagues are picking apart the genes of this bacterium to better understand how it functions and how it stimulates the human immune system to sometimes cause gastric cancer. She wants to understand the decades of molecular cross-talk between the host and the bacteria that causes some people to have stomach pains while others wind up with cancer. This is an opportunity for you to see how cutting edge scientific research is conducted and learn more about the interaction of genetics, the immune system and cancer. Dr. Salama has given many talks as a part of the Fred Hutchinson community outreach program and is sensitive to an audience with widely varied scientific backgrounds. For further information, contact Rod Mitchell, 385-3277.*

COURSES: (Those yet to begin or still open)

SPIRIT OF LIFE: A TAPESTRY OF FAITH PROGRAM, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, Mar. 9, Apr. 20, May 18, June 15: one Sunday per month, 2-4pm, RE2-3, Karen Frank, workshop leader. This six-workshop series is based on a UU Tapestry of Faith Program for Adults curriculum developed in 2007, using concepts from the song, "Spirit of Life." Each session is based on a concept in the song and on specific UU principles and sources. *The workshops "stand-alone" - you can attend one or the whole series, although we'll have greater continuity and depth if people attend most of the workshops. For more info, call Karen at 385-4255.*

THE POETRY OF ROBERT FROST,

>> ONE CLASS TIME STILL OPEN:

Wednesdays, 10am-12noon, Feb. 6-Mar. 19 (skip 2/27)

(Tuesday and Friday classes filled)

RE2-3, Bruce Bode, facilitator. This class, similar in structure to other poetry classes I've led, will be an op-

portunity to read and discuss the poems of one of America's most well-known (and deservedly so) poets. The class will include the showing of an excellent one-hour video on Frost, as well as an opportunity to hear Frost read a number of his own poems. The text we will use is a popular and easily available edition of his collected poems compiled by Edward Lathem titled, *The Poetry of Robert Frost*; or, if you would like Frost's prose and plays as well, you may wish to purchase, *Frost: Collected Poems, Prose, & Plays*, published by The Library of America. Min: 7, max: 20. Please purchase text for class on your own. Questions? E-mail at bruce@olympus.net, or call the church office, 379-0609.

UNDERSTANDING THE MIDDLE EAST, Mar. 3, 17, 31, Apr. 14, Four Mondays: BIWEEKLY, 7-9pm, RE2-3, Hyatt Barnes, facilitator. What do General "Chinese" Gordon (played by Charlton Heston in "Khartoum"), Winston Churchill, Osama Bin Laden, and the genocide in Darfur (that has occupied recent headlines) all have in common? What 20th-Century book and movie propaganda campaign of 50 years ago still constitutes one of today's major challenges to U.S. foreign policy by its effect on American sympathies? When and where did the second "Cold War" start, and why is it hugely more complicated and challenging than the first? A buzz word used at the highest U.S. levels is considered extremely antagonistic by Muslims - what is it and why is it?

These questions (and their answers which will form the crux of discussion) give you some idea why Americans find the whole subject of the Middle East complex and even confusing. This discussion program will hopefully help participants draw connections between seemingly unrelated events, times, and places which will reduce the complexity and clarify the confusion. Hyatt Barnes: 437-4120; hcbarnes@tscnet.com.

"GETTING TO YES:" PRACTICAL TIPS FOR BUILDING CONSENSUS, March 22, Saturday, 10am-12n, RE2-3; Earll Murman, facilitator. Effective group work often involves building consensus, yet this can be a difficult challenge at times. In this session we will share experiences we have had – successful and unsuccessful – and develop practical tips for building consensus. Our starting point will be to discuss the short and easy to read book *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement*. Earll Murman, 379-5372.

* * *

ONGOING EVENTS:

EARLY BIRD BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Every Sunday to June 8, 7:50-8:50am, RE 2; Bruce Bode, facilitator. An ongoing reading group that discusses non-fiction books chosen by the group on a variety of subjects. Typically, the group will read a chapter or two of the chosen book per week. Please see updates in the Sunday bulletin for current book being discussed, or contact Rev. Bode with questions: office phone, 379-0609; bruce@olympus.net.

SCIENCE NIGHT: ASTRONOMY, 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month to March 2, 6-8pm, sanc., Jim Oakland, facilitator. The wonder of the night sky tells us that our world is part of a vastly larger cosmos. But how large is it, where do we fit in, how did it all begin? These questions and many others are the subject of video lectures (from a DVD, projected on screen) by Dr. Alex Filippenko of the University of California, Berkeley, and are part of an astronomy course from *The Teaching Company*. Prof. Filippenko has a very relaxed lecturing style, and an abundance of animations, graphics, and beautiful photos mostly taken from telescopes (including Hubble), which makes watching a pleasure! Everyone welcome - you do not need to have attended the first lectures to be able to enjoy these videos! Jim Oakland (379-6561);

Making an arch for the children to go to their classes.



Designated Offerings

February 10th: The **Resident Councils of Washington** (RCW) is an education and service organization and serving residents in long-term care in the state of Washington.

RCW is the only independent, consumer-based membership, non-profit organization in Washington State committed to:

- Promote and enhance quality of life for all residents of residential care settings in Washington State.
- Educate residents, families and service providers regarding quality of life issues and needs of those living in residential care communities.

RCW's mission is to empower residents to live life to the fullest and remain contributing members to society. Many, although limited by their physical abilities, still desire and need the opportunity to actively contribute to their quality of living. Many would like to expand their leisure time choices to be an advocate for themselves and peers. Many are looking to attain their highest level of life satisfaction. Many simply would like the opportunity to make a difference inside and outside their residential care setting.

RCW sponsors conferences for residents to have a fun day out of their facility to meet with residents from other facilities and share ideas and learn new things.

February 24th: JC MASH is an organization to help Jefferson County residents who are falling through the cracks of the current medical system. It is Jefferson County's first and only free clinic and it operates every Tuesday evening from 7-8:30 pm. Volunteers treat a patient's immediate needs to the best of the doctor's ability (sometimes patients must be referred to the hospital's emergency room or urgent care) and then work to guide patients toward a long-term health care solution.

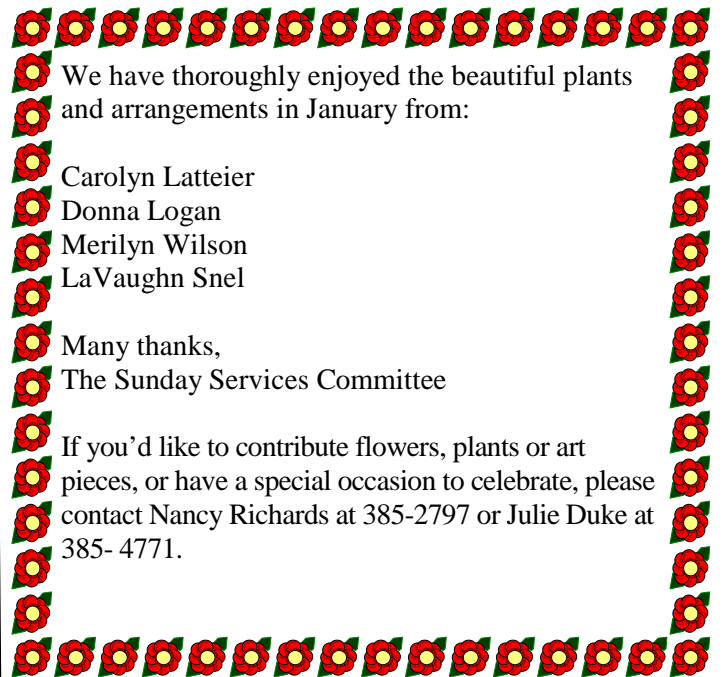
Volunteers come after work to treat ailments, make referrals and educate patients about health care options. Funding comes from the local United Good Neighbors, Rotary Club and other private sources of donations.

Stewardship Committee

Paying for Our Dream

Soon the Stewardship Campaign will be gearing up and we are anticipating a very successful effort on everyone's part. This year, in place of the individual "face-to-face" solicitations we will be employing a technique called neighborhood meetings. During the last week of March and the first week of April you will be invited to get together with QUUF members and friends who live in your neighborhood for breakfast coffee, afternoon tea, or evening dessert – whichever is most convenient for your host and your group.

These meetings will be a very important vehicle to provide you with information regarding the 2008/09 budget. The vote on the building has been deferred until the completion of the stewardship campaign. The mortgage ramp-up will be included in the budget and this year we must reach our budget goal in order to proceed with the building. These meetings will provide you with the opportunity to discuss the budget, the building and strategies for "Paying for our Dream." Please plan to be there.



We have thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful plants and arrangements in January from:

Carolyn Latteier
 Donna Logan
 Marilyn Wilson
 LaVaughn Snel

Many thanks,
 The Sunday Services Committee

If you'd like to contribute flowers, plants or art pieces, or have a special occasion to celebrate, please contact Nancy Richards at 385-2797 or Julie Duke at 385- 4771.

Growth News

Folks who attended the congregational discussion on January 20 were brought up to date regarding the projected costs involved in the building expansion. You can view the presentation at www.quuf.org under Growth News.

Although questions remain, we have a bid from Wallyworks (Malcolm Dorn) for the materials and labor that will be required to construct the building, and these figures were presented at the discussion. We also have estimates on the soft costs (land purchase, 22nd St. improvements, parking lot, landscaping, etc). Even after careful attention to keeping costs down, in order to build what we want, additional funding will be needed, \$130K for the sanctuary/foyer/bathrooms/kitchen. Adding office space and remodeling the back of the present building brings the need to \$225K.

Several committees are working on different aspects of the project. One, a sub-group of the Building Steering Committee and the Building Design/Construction Committee, is evaluating the relative importance and desirability of all aspects of the plan. This will help the congregation decide what we want to include and what to postpone if/when this becomes necessary.

Another task force is working on matching costs with funding. We will need to get a mortgage of about \$400,000, and our ability to do so will depend on how much pledged income we'll have next year. That is, a lending institution will base its willingness to lend on its evaluation of our ability to make the monthly payments. Thus, we won't know how this works out until the end of the pledging period in April. It's going to be important for us to make our pledges as generous as we can. If one has to choose between an increased pledge and an additional donation to the building fund, the pledge is the more important.

That said, an exciting new development has occurred. An anonymous donor has offered a matching challenge grant of \$50,000 to the building fund. More information about this will be coming soon.

Marcia Lewton

Money Matters

Some increases in expenses have been projected for the operating budget in the 2008-2009 church year. The largest increase would be for the payment on the building expansion loan, which is estimated to be about \$40,000 per year. A line item has been included in the current and the previous years' operating budget that covers approximately 25 percent of the estimated annual payment. The dollar amount put into the 2008-2009 budget has been "ramped up" to \$30,000, or 75 percent of the estimated annual expense. This increase more closely approximates the amount needed to repay the loan. To cover this expense, however, about \$18,600 in income would be needed above what is budgeted for the current operating budget, based on last spring's Stewardship Campaign results. The work that has begun on the building expansion has been funded by money received during the Capital Campaign, but repayment of the loan must come from pledges obtained during the annual Stewardship Campaigns.

Some of the other increases projected for the 2008-2009 budget include pay increases for QUUF staff, full-time equivalent health insurance for staff, additional funds for technology improvements, and additional funding for contingencies.

To cover the projected increases in expenses, additional income from pledges must be collected. A copy of the current budget is posted in the back of the church. More detailed budget sheets and a copy of the proposed budget for the 2008-2009 church year can be obtained from the Treasurer.

NEW CONFLICT RESOLUTION TEAM!

As of January, the Fellowship now has a Conflict Resolution Team (Paul Becker, Lisa Crosby, Diane Haas, Helen Kolff, Sheila Lauder, and Linda Little). The team has put some thought into who is able to help with what type of problems at QUUF. The QUUF Board supported their vision by adopting as policy a description of how to get help with a conflict. If you wish, you can visit <http://www.quuf.org/opsmanual/policies/ConflictResolution.html> to see what insights they had.

More simply, if you would like some help resolving a conflict within QUUF, you now have the option of contacting a member of the Conflict Resolution Team (CRT). The appropriate person on the team will either personally help with a resolution process, or will work with you to find someone who can be of help.

From the Board

Highlights of the 1/9/08 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

- Building:** The Board approved a proposal from the Building Steering Committee that the Building Steering and Design/Construction Committees retain responsibility for the *expense* side of the equation, and that the Board form a sub-committee to make a recommendation on the final structure of the *income* side of the equation. In addition, because the financing of the building (the mortgage in particular) is so integrally tied to the Stewardship Campaign's success, the Board voted to delay the vote on the final design and go-ahead to build until after the results of the Stewardship Campaign are known, in early May.
- Survey of QUUF's Ministries:** The Committee on Ministry is charged by the Covenant for Ministry to create a survey through which we can evaluate the effectiveness of the overall ministries of QUUF during Bruce's third year of ministry (2007-2008). After researching, writing, gaining approval from the Board, implementing the mailing, receiving and interpreting the survey results, the committee will report back to the Board and the congregation. They plan to submit the draft to the Board at its April meeting, and hope to mail the surveys before the end of April. Results should be in, tallied and interpreted in time for the Annual Meeting on June 8.
- Conflict Resolution Policy:** The Board approved QUUF's new Conflict Resolution Policy. It will be added to the Operations Manual, and Helen will send it to all committee chairs. It will also be posted in the sanctuary.
- Email guidelines:** The Board approved new Email guidelines for inclusion in the Operations Manual. The Board noted that the new Bylaws state that any electronic voting by the Board must include all of its members.
- AGM 2/29-3/2/08 in Tacoma:** QUUF will be allowed 4 voting delegates at AGM. The form appointing them must be submitted by 2/22/08. Those who plan to attend AGM should advise Denominational Connections Committee Chair Robin Ditzler, who will coordinate the effort.

- John presented the Board with its certification as an **Honor Congregation** (paying our fair share to the UUA and PNWD) for 2006-2007. Congratulations to us!

Upcoming Meetings:

- 1/30/08 Quarterly Financial Work Session of the Board
- 2/6/08 Regular February Board Meeting
- 2/13/08 Special Board Meeting to discuss Building Design/Budget Proposal

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Oppenheimer, Secretary

THANK YOU

Thank you to each of you for answering our plea this past fall to contact our federal legislators regarding Guatemalan adoption of infants and young children! We are happy to report that your response made a difference! (Many thanks to the Social Action Committee for organizing the postcard campaign.)

Many U.S. adoptive parents, including our daughter and son-in-law, feared that changes in Guatemalan law would leave their daughter Hazel, as well as thousands of other children already matched to prospective parents, in limbo with no way to complete the adoption process. The U.S. State Department and our senators responded to a flood of citizen concern. Personal letters from our senators were sent to the Guatemalan legislators as well as the Guatemalan president and in-coming president. In mid-December, the Guatemalan legislators approved a new law that complies with standards for adoptions set by the Hague Convention while allowing pending cases to go through. Our granddaughter Hazel, as well as the thousands of other Guatemalan children, received the best of all gifts, a family.

We have returned from a visit to our family in Guatemala and brought back, as a thank you, some wonderful Guatemalan coffee to share with you at a coffee hour this month. We hope you will savor the coffee as well as the satisfaction that our government responded to each of us and took action to divert a human tragedy.

Gratefully,
Judy and Jim Tough

QUUF Newsletter
2333 San Juan Avenue
Port Townsend, Washington 98368

First Class Mail

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.

Bulletin Board

We need an energy efficient home with 2-3 bedrooms, 1-2 bathrooms and a garage/storage shed. We would like it to be within walking distance of the transit center/bus lines, uptown, and QUUF. Other niceties would include less carpeting, a garden space, quiet neighbors, and a fenced yard. Our price range is \$850-\$1000, with the higher amount for a house that comes close to our ideal. If you know of any houses for rent that may meet our needs, please call Rob or Abby Roose at 385-2958 or e-mail roose35@hotmail.com

Gathering Place Benefit Concert **Sunday, February 10, 2008**

3pm in the QUUF Sanctuary
Nan Toby Tyrrell "Love Letter"
With Kristen & Otto Smith
Paula Lalisyh, Liz Lindstrom, Marj Iuro
and Raven.

Admission by donation

HELPFUL HANDS – I am available on weekends to help with your projects, moving, yard work, and odd jobs. Conner Roberts, a QUUF 9th grade youth, is raising money for the YMCA Thailand Expedition. Our team will be teaching English to Thai kids (grades K-8) in the remote northern village of PhaPang. Additional team members are available to assist with bigger jobs. Please call 385-5323 to schedule.

CAT CARE NEEDED Alan Johanson plans a six week cross-country trip, starting in the beginning of March, to visit all of his five kids and eight grandchildren. He is in need of a loving, temporary home for his indoor calico cat Jazzy, whose only quirk is a desire to cuddle with humans and friendly dogs. Call Alan at 385-9648 if you think you can help.

THINK SUMMER!

This summer, when the sun is shining and the forest is warm and friendly, let's go camping! Several of us are interested in a group experience, with children, grandparents, dogs, etc. That means we camp in National Forest rather than Olympic National Park which doesn't allow dogs on trails but we can discuss that issue later. For now, just think summer and think how much fun it would be to have a QUUF camping weekend! More later. Jenifer Taylor