

Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A Welcoming Congregation

July/August 2008

July/August Sunday Services

July 6, 10:00 A.M.

“Theatre: More Than Entertainment”

Guest Speaker: David Hundhausen. Because of its characteristics as an art form, theatre offers us more than entertainment. Examples, both historical and personal, will illustrate this point.

David Hundhausen is a retired Associate Professor of Communication and Theatre, having taught classes and directed the Theatre Program at the University of Wisconsin Waukesha Campus for thirty years. He is an actor, director and playwright, the author or co-author of ten plays, most of them for children. David and his wife, Pat, moved to Port Townsend two years ago and have become actively involved in the community. David serves on the Board of Directors of the Key City Public Theatre and will be joining the Board of Trustees of QUUF this month.

July 13, 10:00 A. M.

“On Personal Reinvention”

Guest Speaker: Robin Ditzler. Experts tell us that beyond a certain young age, our personalities are mostly established and fixed, and that barring traumatic life-changing circumstances, we “are who we are.” Many of us set our own life course on a career trajectory that leads us to activities, habits, opinions, and attitudes that stay with us for life. But does that mean we must or should “stay the course” for life? When circumstances or other forces in the Universe intervene to alter our path, how do we navigate to find our way? One aging Baby Boomer shares her thoughts on changing course and her mind (so far)...

Born the same year as Disneyland, McDonald’s, and the Muppets, Robin Ditzler spent more than 25 years working for Fortune 500 corporations. After decades of life as a “successful” student, employee, and corporate manager, she found herself heading (careening) off in a completely new direction. At this point, she spends her time on several entirely new interests, activities, and questions. In her spare time, she is self-employed as a part-time marketing consultant. Robin moved to Port Ludlow with her husband, Dave, in April 2006, and they joined QUUF later that same year.

July 20, 10:00 A.M.

“Coke, Miracles, and the Meaning of life: A Biological Perspective.”

Speaker: Fred Weinmann

Fred is retired from a career in ecology and botany where he often sought obscure plants in obscure locations and his search continues. During this time he has never met a plant he didn’t like. Also, more recently, he has learned to enjoy a game of golf. When more sedentary activities are called for he pursues a long-standing interest in the history and purpose of living things as revealed through the miraculous process of Darwinian evolution.

(Continued on page 3)

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Too Much To Hope For?



I'm writing this column just before leaving for my summer break and just as the presidential campaign is starting in earnest. I've had some hope with both Barack Obama and John McCain that this presidential campaign might at least occasionally rise to a different level than what we've come to expect in politics. But just now I've watched the PBS News Hour with Jim Lehrer in which representatives from the two candidates are playing the same old oppositional tapes.

Must politics be so oppositional, I wonder? Robert Frost has a rhymed couplet that goes: "Nature within her inmost self divides/ To trouble men with having to take sides." But cannot we also honor the underlying unity and commonality (of which Frost also spoke) out of which the necessary division and diversity arises?

A model for a different kind of political conversation is that of "conservative" David Brooks and "liberal" Mark Shields, who are regularly featured on the PBS News Hour. These two men engage in "real conversation" with each other on the issues of the day. No gamesmanship, no seeking to make the other look bad, agreeing where they agree, disagreeing where they disagree, but listening to each other, learning from each other, honoring and respecting each other.

Imagine for a moment that for this upcoming presidential election we might have two candidates who would use the Brooks/Shields (not to be confused with Brook Shields) way of relating as a political model, that instead of constantly making oppositional debating points against the other, they would seek to enter into real conversation with each other about the very real problems that our nation and world face. Imagine for a moment that they could drop the debate mode, let go of the concern with winning and losing, and simply talk to each other and with each other about their concerns, ideas, and uncertainties while we as a nation listen in.

Are Obama and McCain individually up to such conversation? Could their advisors and parties handle this? Would the people of our country rejoice to see such a conversation? Or is this too much to hope for? In the upcoming months I'll be watching for signs of a real political conversation.

Bruce Bode
June 11, 2008

July/August Sunday Services

July 27, 10:00 A.M.

“Favorite Poem Service”

Facilitator: Joseph Bednarik. The event is modeled after the successful Favorite Poem Project launched by Robert Pinsky, former U.S. Poet Laureate, and follows a simple format: A person stands before the congregation, tells why a particular poem—not their own—is important in their life, and then reads or recites the poem.

This home-grown service is part performance art, part mini-anthology, and every Favorite Poem Service to date has been accented by laughter, tears, gasps, and audible moans. Even people who claim to not like poetry come away from this service as converts (at least for the day). Over the years, readers have ranged in age from 8 to 78 and the poetry featured has been wildly diverse in subject, form, and delivery. Poets who have been given voice include Galway Kinnell, Mary Oliver, Rumi, and Shel Silverstein.

If you’re interested in reading, please contact Joseph Bednarik at 379-9658 or lieslmarie526@msn.com. Preference will be given to people who have not participated before.

August 3, 10:00 A.M.

“Our Most Persistent Human Need”

Rev. Bode. An exploration of our most basic, non-physical human need.

NOTE: The summer sermons given by Rev. Bode are revisions of sermons previously delivered at QUUF, selected especially for those relatively new to the Fellowship, but hopefully also worth a second hearing for others.

August 10, 10:00 A.M.

The “No” in Every “Yes”

Rev. Bode. There’s a resistance to whatever we are and to whatever we intend, another side to any belief we hold, any goal we seek, any object we desire, any form we seek to maintain.

August 17, 10:00 A.M.

“Religious Liberalism and Political Liberalism”

Rev. Bode. Are there principles in the religiously liberal approach that would tend to steer one toward political liberalism? And, conversely, are there principles in religious liberalism that might push one toward political conservatism?

August 24, 10:00 A.M.

“Seeds of Memory”

Rev. Bode. Why do we remember what we remember, and what might this mean for us?

August 31, 10:00 A.M.

“Gathering of the Waters Ceremony”

Peggy Albers. We celebrate coming together in the fall and learn a little about each other in this annual celebration. Please bring a sample of water from your summer travels (or your own backyard) to mingle with our water from the past thirteen years and tell us a little bit about your journey. This will be an inter-generational service with families encouraged to share their stories together.

Children & Youth Religious Education

DRE Kathy Stevenson kstevenson@olympus.net

RE News July/August 2008

Summer Sundays at QUUF are precious. If the weather is warm and dry we take our carpet squares outside for worship and activities. We take time to get to know each other in new ways. We can individualize the morning depending on who is present and what the mood is. We enjoy this special time with your children. This year, most Sundays, it will be either Kathy or Sorcha, leading the session. We both look forward to seeing who comes, what interests they bring with them and what will engage the group. We have a lesson plan for the morning, but the relationships we build are the most important element. 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. There is childcare for children under 3. Some days we will walk up to the Swan School playground.

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

Summer RE office work involves preparing for the upcoming year: recruiting teachers, choosing and developing curriculum and planning OWL and other special programs. Feel free to stop by with ideas, suggestions or just to say hello. You can also call or email to make a specific appointment. Look for the registration mailing mid August.

Middle School Conference

September 26-28, 2008 at Camp Sealth on Vashon Island, Join 80 other UU 6th, 7th and 8th graders from around the Sound as they enjoy a weekend of fun, sharing and living our UU Principles. Sponsored by the Liberal Religious Educators Association's Puget sound Cluster. Cost \$110 includes meals all day Saturday, breakfast & lunch Sunday, lodging, and all camp activities. For more information please contact Kathy.
















QUUF Events

































Rummage Sale

Just a reminder, while you are cleaning out your garage or house this summer keep in mind that we are going to have a QUUF Rummage Sale on **September 27th** and we will need your donations. Last year we could have used a few more donations to make it a bigger success so we're counting on you to stash your treasures until September. If you must get rid of it sooner, we have some limited storage space. No computers, electronics, or clothes please.

Summer is here! (So they say)

In an effort to camp in warmer weather, it has been suggested that we wait until August. Most of the lakes around here aren't suitable for swimming, so let's plan on the National Forest or a County Park, in August. We can't reserve those sites but some of us would be willing to go save some sites. The exact place and time will be posted at the Fellowship. I will email or call anyone who is interested if you tell me you want to be notified. Jenifer Taylor 385-3666 or jentaylor@olympus.net

 Our appreciation to the following people who 
 contributed flowers for the Sunday services 
 in June: 
 
 Nancy Shipley 
 Nan Toby Tyrrell 
 Janelle Goldhammer 
 Carolyn Lattier 
 Jeanette Richoux 
 
 If you would like to contribute flowers, 
 plants or art pieces, or if you have a special 
 occasion to celebrate, please contact Nancy 
 Richards at 385-2797 or Julie Duke at 385- 
 4771. 
 

the Music Program Committee presents

Summer BBQ & Dance

August 9, BBQ at 5:30, Dancing starts at 7:30

This is an all ages event



Come for the BBQ
Come for the Dance
Come for both!!

Lee Goldhammer & Marj Iuro are
putting together a great set of
musicians for your dancing
pleasure.

Bring your choice of
grillable and bring a
pot luck dish to
share.

Iced tea, lemonade &
coffee provided.



Bring outdoor chairs. Do you have a grill you can
bring? Please contact Carolyn Salmon 379-9392.
Call to volunteer for set up and clean up also.



From the Board

To all Committee Chairs and other leaders:
Mondays are Bruce's day off.

To Bruce's credit, he loves to stay in touch with everything that's going on at QUUF, and if asked, will (and often does) work on a Monday. But we also all know that he, like the rest of us mortals, needs and deserves a day off.

His Covenant for Ministry (his contract with QUUF) gives him Mondays (all day and evening) off, and a second day (usually Friday) as a writing and reading day. In Board discussions with Bruce, it was apparent that he has trouble pulling himself away from meetings that he feels compelled to attend.

Therefore, the Board agreed to advise all committees and other groups that Mondays are Bruce's day off, and if you want him to attend your meeting, you should not schedule it on a Monday.

We encourage all members of QUUF to help Bruce take his well-earned day off...please don't tempt him to work on Mondays!!!

Thank you.

SAEC

Next time you're in the neighborhood of 21st and Sheridan, stop by Cara Leckenby's Habitat for Humanity house. It is progressing rapidly! Cara has expressed overwhelming gratitude to all the volunteers making this happen.

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, November 1!!

We on the social justice committee believe that our UUA principles call us to action, that our actions are an expression of our commitment to create a more just society. However, for years the members have struggled with how to involve the larger membership in setting the direction QUUF takes in making our local and global community more just. We know that most of us are involved in other organizations that work for similar goals, but how can we, as a fellowship, come together so that we can be an effective body of change? The UUA offers a "Social Justice Empowerment" workshop to help "members of a congregation to assess the quality of their social justice program. It is an opportunity for members of a congregation to consider what they are doing as an institution to create a more just and caring world. During the workshop participants reflect upon what they can do as a religious community to put their faith into practice." The workshop will consist of an evening meeting of the church leadership on Friday, Oct. 31st (should we require Halloween costumes?), and an all-day workshop for the membership on **Saturday, November 1st**. As we prepare for this, we invite you to be thinking of the role social justice plays in your life, and share that in writing or with drawings, photos, etc., on the wall of paper at the stairwell in the church.

OTHER MEETINGS (irregular ones not listed)

Personnel Committee	1st 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

Growth News

Following the vote to proceed with building plans, the Building Steering Committee acquired people from the Finance Committee and took on the new role of overseeing the financial arrangements. The opportunity for QUUF members to loan money in \$5000 increments is being taken with enthusiasm and will help reduce the amount of construction loan we will need from a bank. The contract with builder Malcolm Dorn is being worked out, and the city has set an early July date for the permit hearing. All this means that the process is moving along smoothly.

Our neighbors were invited to attend an open house recently to let us know of any concerns they have. Parking issues continue, and they hope a second parking lot off 22nd Street will ease things. Thus far the neighbors are not mounting any protest about our plans.

Volunteers will rearrange the landscaping in late July and early August. If you want to help with this, speak to Barb Dyer.

Marcia Lewton

2 Good Men Needed: Our high school youth group seeks 2 male advisors. Stephanie Anderson and Celeste Archambault need team members to share Sunday night leadership and overall facilitation of YRUU. Please speak to Stephanie, Celeste or Kathy if you are interested. It is a rewarding experience, and a tremendous gift to QUUF and society.

Bullitin Board

Room Wanted: Inexpensive room, RV, or liveable shed to rent for a few months (up to a year) starting September 1st within a bikable distance from PT. I need access to a fast internet connection and I'm mildly allergic to some pets. I have furniture or I can use what's already there. Call me for more information, Don Berg 360-774-1159 or attitutor@gmail.com.

PNWD Annual General Meeting

Save the date\\Next year's AGM "Gathering in Peace" will be held in Salem, Oregon, on February 20-22, 2009. Watch the PNWD website for details: www.pnw.org, click News & Events, then Annual Meeting.

Don't Reinvent the Wheel

Experiences from UU congregation to UU congregation are often quite parallel, whether they concern growth or music or education or fundraising. The UU website offers a wealth of information on how congregations across the country are dealing with all kinds of issues. We are not alone!

Learn from other congregations, or offer your own expertise to others by visiting www.uua.org, and clicking on "Leaders." There, you will find many options. Along the right side of the page under Related Content, here are just a few items of interest:

- Click on Directory of Leadership Resources for a wealth of information about many topics. A person could spend hours just perusing all that's available - we don't have to do this all from scratch!
- Click on Email lists to sign up for any of dozens of interest-related email groups, where you can communicate with other UUs who are working in your realm of congregational life. Whether its OWL or GLBT issues or how to get more people to sign up to make coffee, you'll find compatriots here.

QUUF Newsletter
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Get Your Newsletter by email

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The subscription rate for non-members is \$25 per year.

First Class

