

ORDER OF SERVICE – “COMMITMENT SUNDAY”

MARCH 25, 2007

9:15 & 11:15 A.M.

Always you were the reason for my existence;
To adore you for me was religion ...

It is the story of a love
Like unto which there is no equal,
Which made me understand
All that is good, all that is bad;
That gave light to my life,
Extinguishing it afterwards ...
Oh! What a darkened life!
Without your love I cannot live.

(Carlos Almarain, “*Histora de un amor*”)

* **Gathering Song** “Here We Have Gathered” (#360)

Here we have gathered, gathered side by side;
circle of kinship, come and step inside!
May all who seek here find a kindly word;
may all who speak here feel they have been heard.
Sing now together this, our hearts’ own song.

* **Call to Worship**

* **Lighting the Chalice** (in unison)

We are travelers. We meet for a moment in this sacred place to love, to share, to serve.
Let us use compassion, curiosity, reverence, and respect while seeking our truths. In this
way we will support a just and joyful community, and this moment shall endure.

* **Musical Response** (#396 – sung by the congregation)

I know this rose will open. I know my fear will burn away.
I know my soul will unfurl its wings. I know this rose will open.

+++++Latecomers may be seated+++++

Ceremony for Receiving Financial Pledges

Introduction

Responsive Reading # 444 (in back of hymnal)

Gathering of Financial Pledges

Unison Statement

With these pledges we commit ourselves to the future of the Quimper Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship. May our financial contributions be used wisely for the
support of our Fellowship and the furthering of its wider purposes.

Singing Our Children Out

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.
May the spirit of love surround you
Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

Congregational Announcements

Offering & Offertory

Joys and Sorrows, Period of Silence, Musical Response

Reading

Special Music

Sermon

“The Psychology of Romantic Love”

* **Closing Hymn #89** “Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

* **Spoken Benediction & Extinguishing the Chalice**

* **Closing Song** “From You I Receive” (#402)

From you I receive, to you I give,
together we share, and from this we live.

* Please rise as willing and able

Hearing assistance devices are available to the left of the sanctuary door as you enter the building.

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR TODAY’S SERVICES

Special Music: Words by James Thomson, titled “Art, Part I”

What precious thing are you making fast
In all these silken lines?
And where and to whom will it go at last?
Such subtle knots and twines!

I am tying up all my love in this,
With all its hopes and fears,
With all its anguish and all its bliss,
And its hours as heavy as years.

I am going to send it afar, afar,
To I know not where above;
To that sphere beyond the highest star
Where dwells the soul of my Love.

But in vain, in vain, would I make it fast
With countless subtle twines;
Forever its fire breaks out at last,
And shrivels all the lines.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Week’s Service, April 1, 9:15 & 11:15 a.m. Rev. Bode.

“Levels of Consciousness” – This sermon, the sixth in a series on the ideas of author, Robert A. Johnson, explores three levels of consciousness represented by three figures from classical literature: Don Quixote, Hamlet, and Faust.

Special Congregational Meeting on Expanding and Equipping QUUF Facilities Sunday April 1, 2007 -- 12:30 PM in the Sanctuary

QUUF’s Board of Directors has called a special meeting to discuss and vote on: **1.** The Program Document for building and expansion authorizing architect Richard Berg to prepare a schematic drawings and, together with the contractor to prepare a budget, authorizing funds necessary to complete the schematic drawings and budget; **2.** Possible purchase of the concert grand piano that is currently in our sanct. See further details in the e-mail or hard-copy letter sent to you.

Card tables are needed for the **QUUF Coffee House** planned for Apr. 14, 7:30 p.m. “From Winter to Spring” is this year’s theme. It needs set up people at 4 p.m. and clean up people afterwards.

Registration is now open for GENERAL ASSEMBLY, the annual gathering of UUs from throughout North America. Join other QUUF-ers in traveling to **Portland, OR, June 20-24**, for a fabulous exploration of the wider UU world. Brochures in back of the Sanctuary; details online at www.uua.org/ga.

This morning our RE Program will be honoring our Jewish Heritage with an adapted Passover Seder led by Kathy Stevenson and Sorcha Ashling.

Our local JCHBA (Jefferson County Home Builder's Association) will present Built Green, a local, county, state and nationwide checklist and system for people who are concerned with the impact of construction on the environment and how to minimize it – Wednesday, April 18, 4:30-6:30 p.m. This brief seminar, given by Kevin Coker of Coker Design Works, LLC, is for everyone as it addresses hands-on issues and choices that need to be made in design and construction. You do not need to be a contractor, engineer or architect to understand what is involved in building green. Please come listen, learn, and ask your questions.

There will be a **Bay Saint Louis-Port Townsend Sister City Project public meeting on Monday, March 26th, 7 p. m.** at the First Presbyterian Church at 1111 Franklin St. The meeting will include a power point retrospective of many of the project components since the Sister City effort began just after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast on August 29th, 2005. It will also describe opportunities for future involvement in rebuilding and other recovery efforts for Bay St Louis.

Author and local columnist **Mary Lou Sanelli** will give a reading from her new book, Falling Awake: An American Woman Gets A Grip On The Whole Changing World One Essay At A Time, on April 6th in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. Come and share her satirical and poignant observations of life in the Northwest. ALPS sponsored.

WHEEL OF LIFE

Julie Duke was scheduled for elbow surgery at Harborview Hospital in Seattle on Friday, March 23. She expects to be there about 4 days.

Sandy Stewart begins the 2nd of 6 chemo treatments on April 3. She reports that her spirits are improved and wishes to express her thanks to the Fellowship for their support.

Helene Fatt-Everett continues to recuperate at the KahTai Care Center. She welcomes cards and visitors.

TODAY'S DESIGNATED OFFERING

March 25 – UUSC Tsunami Relief Fund – Two years after the tsunami in Sri Lanka and Thailand, recovery is far from complete, but survivors continue to rebuild their lives and find hope in the wake of tragedy. UUSC is working with marginalized groups – including women -- to rebuild their livelihoods.



On April 1 the Special Congregational Meeting will include a vote: Shall we purchase the Steinway piano in our sanctuary? For those of you who missed the Congregational Discussion on March 18, the following summarizes the presentation given about this proposed purchase.

For 3 years we have had use of Max Barnard's 9' Steinway Concert Grand Piano in return for his having access to the piano for practice. Max recently advised that he is moving to Arizona and plans to sell the piano. He is offering

it to QUUF for \$12,500. If we decline, he will place it on the open market, asking \$25,000. He is offering this special price because of the goodwill we have shared, his conviction that the piano is well suited to our church, and his interest in supporting the arts in Port Townsend.

Per Max, the piano was sold to the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, its first owner, in 1937. After 35 years, it was sold to an Austrian refurbishing house in LA, who completely reconditioned/refinished it from 1972-1974. Max bought the piano from them. It has had relatively little use since then.

The Board has sought opinions on the piano's condition and value. Michael Carter, local piano tuner says the piano is in good condition, he has not heard of any 9' concert grands selling for this price, believes we would certainly get our money out of it if we were to sell at some point and that new ones of this caliber sell for \$100,000.

Beatus Meier also says the piano is in good working condition, says that as a musician, he can confirm it is clearly superior to all others he has played or heard used for concerts in this area. He feels confident that, with proper care, it will maintain its condition and value for many years.

Sherman and Lacy, dealers of new Steinways in Seattle says pianos do not last forever; generally speaking they have a 75-100 year life span, that Steinways have wonderful reputations, pianists love to play them.

Steve Vanderwood, a piano technician from Whidbey recommended by Sherman and Lacy, confirmed that it is in good condition and that it had been reconditioned and refinished. Based on the serial number he found, he believes the piano was built in 1925. He had little concern about the age of the piano. The piano needs refinishing (cosmetic only but would enhance value of the piano) which would cost between \$3,000-6,000. He believes we could sell it at a profit if found not suitable for our purposes, and even if the insides were junk, we could sell the box for \$5,000-6,000. He valued it at \$30,000 to 45,000.

The Board's discussion of the piano on March 4 and 14 included pros (sound is excellent, price is more than fair, it would make QUUF a popular venue for concerts, there's no risk because we could sell it for a profit) and cons (the piano is old, we don't know how long it will last, we don't need a concert grand, the money could be better spent on something we really need, the piano takes up a large amount of space, we could get an adequate piano at a lower price). Also noted was that we have the money to buy the piano, without being fiscally irresponsible, and if we don't buy this piano we will need to find another piano this summer.

The Board and the Music Program Committee have both voted unanimously in favor of its purchase.

Kendra Golden,
President, Board of Trustees.

