

“FLOWER COMMUNION SUNDAY”

APRIL 13, 2008 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE

“Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could; some blunders and absurdities have crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; you shall begin it serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense.”

(Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Opening Chime (sounds three times to begin service)

Lighting the Chalice (in unison)

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

(Robert Frost, from “A Prayer in Spring”)

* **Gathering Song** “Morning Has Broken” (#38)

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

* **Opening Words**

* **Musical Response** (#398 – sung by the congregation)

To see the world in a grain of sand,
and a heaven in a wild flower,
hold infinity in the palm of your hand,
and eternity in an hour.

(William Blake)

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

Flower Communion Ceremony

Prayer for the Consecration of Flowers (in unison)

Infinite Spirit of Life, we ask thy blessing on these, thy messengers of fellowship and love. May they remind us, amid diversities of knowledge and of gifts, to be one in desire and affection and devotion to thy holy will. May they also remind us of the value of comradeship, of doing and sharing alike. May we cherish friendship as one of thy most precious gifts. May we not let

awareness of another's talents discourage us or sully our relationship, but may we realize that whatever we can do, great or small, the efforts of all of us are needed to do thy work in this world. Amen.

Flower Processional Vivace from Quartet in
d minor, written in 1733 by Georg Philip Telemann

Hymn #8 "Mother Spirit, Father Spirit"

Singing Out the Children "Go Now in Peace"

Congregational Announcements

Offering & Offertory Andante from Quartet in d minor
by Telemann

Joys & Sorrows

Period of Silence & Musical Response

Responsive Reading

MINISTER: Often I have heard you speak of those who commit a wrong as though they were not one of you, but a stranger to you and an intruder upon your world.

CONGREGATION: Yet, even as the righteous cannot rise beyond the highest in you, so the wicked can fall no lower than the lowest in you.

MINISTER: When some among you fall down, they fall for those behind them – a caution against the stumbling stone.

CONGREGATION: And they fall as well for those ahead of them, who though faster and surer of foot, yet did not remove the stumbling stone.

MINISTER: The righteous is not innocent of the deeds of the wicked; the guilty is often the victim of the injured; the condemned is often the burden-bearer for the unblamed.

CONGREGATION: You cannot separate the just from the unjust, nor the good from the wicked; they stand together before the face of the sun.

MINISTER: If any of you would punish in the name of righteousness, and lay axe to the evil tree, let them see through to its roots;

CONGREGATION: For they shall find the roots of the good and the evil, the fruitful and the fruitless, all entwined together, in the silent heart of the earth.

(Kahlil Gibran,

from The Prophet, adapted)

Special Music Allegro/Cantabile from Quartet in d minor
by Telemann

Sermon "The Principle of 'No Blame'"

* Closing Hymn #1011 "Return Again"

* Spoken Benediction & Extinguishing the Chalice

* Closing Song "May Your Life Be as a Song" (#1059)

May your life be as a song,
Resounding with the dawn to sing awake the light.
And softly serenade the stars,
Ever dancing circles in the night.

- Please rise as willing and able



EARTH DAY SERVICE and
BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
April 20, 2008 - Q.U.U.F. Sanctuary



This "inter-species" / intergenerational event will be held in the sanctuary, and leads off with a "Ritual of Gratitude for the Blessings of the Earth."

There will be a special memorial board for you to post names and photos of dearly departed pets, or those you could not bring.

The topic for "Ribbon Stories" this year is: "Training Tips". You will be invited to share one you think could help others.

Rev. Bode and Nancy Mann will be conducting the blessing and handing out certificates and pet biscuits. A grand parade of pets and ribbons will end the service with a flourish!



Please bring only pets that are "people friendly" and "other pet" compatible. For safety, dogs should be on leashes, cats in carriers, etc.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Week's Service, April 20, 9:15 & 11:15 a.m. – Blessing of Animals/Earth Day Service. Rev. Bode & Nancy Mann. This service, held two days before the 38th anniversary of Earth Day, brings together traditional “Blessing of Animal” services and the celebration of “Earth Day.” Children and adults are encouraged to bring their companion animals with them to the service.

Have to miss your neighborhood meeting? Don't despair. Fellowship meetings will be held after the first and second services today in RE3 to discuss this year's dual stewardship campaign. Bring your information packet and your questions.

Preparing for groundbreaking – Join the fun during July 19th and August 3rd. Several jobs need to be accomplished before groundbreaking for our new building. We will need 12-15 people per day to prepare our site, move the fountain, rocks and plants, and to move the shed and expand it. Please complete the summer survey today if you can help.

Interested in becoming a member at QUUF or in learning more about this congregation and the Unitarian Universalist approach in religion? Our final **Newcomer Orientation Series** of the church year will be held on the Wednesday evenings of **April 23, 30, and May 7, 7-9 p.m.** This will be an opportunity to discuss religious and philosophical questions with Rev. Bode, learn a little of QUUF's history, and meet other staff members as well as Board and Committee representatives. Please sign-up in the back of the sanctuary.

Earth Day Challenge –100 pledgers! So far, 93 children and adults have signed to do at least one new thing for the earth this year from the list of 30 posted ideas. The sign up sheet and list of actions are located in the back of the sanctuary. Let's see if we can reach 100 pledgers by Earth Day.

FELLOWSHIP FAMILY CAMP!! We have enough people signed up to reserve the site with plenty room for many more. Camp is **Memorial Day weekend, May 23-26 (Fri. eve to Mon. noon)**, at Deception Pass State Park (Cornet Bay Environmental Learning Center, www.parks.wa.gov/elcs.asp) on Whidbey Island.

This is planned as a **family camp for everyone**, not only families with children. Facilities include: a lodge and recreation hall; fully equipped kitchen; various-sized cabins; restrooms and showers; amphitheater for group gatherings; ADA access. Recreational possibilities include: kayaking and canoeing; hiking; fishing; volleyball; softball; horseshoes; and much more.

The cost for the 3-day weekend is \$50 per person (includes food). No dogs. There will be some funds for partial scholarships. We hope to use email to organize ourselves into task groups such as food shopping, meal preparation, clean up, etc. For those who need to be at QUUF Sunday morning, we can arrange carpools to come back here, then return to Camp for the remainder of the weekend. Contact Jeff

Logan, jeff@insideout.com with questions. **Registration forms available at the back of the sanctuary this Sunday!**

QUUF women! Sign up now for the annual **Women's Retreat, April 25-27**, at beautiful Camp David Jr. on Lake Crescent. Sign up sheets and a description of the retreat can be found at the back of the church, on the website, or in your April bulletin. Please come – a great time will be had by all.

For our annual **Earth Day Celebration on April 20th** we need volunteers to carry the elements of the earth in the procession. Contact Kathy to sign up.

"Death with Dignity Initiative" – Members of the Social Action and Education Committee (SAEC) and others will be in the breezeway today collecting signatures for this Initiative.

A-HA! Group Starting – A-HA! (Agnostics, Humanists, Atheists) will have their first of twice-monthly get-togethers **next Sunday, April 20, 5 PM in the sanctuary**. A potluck will be followed by a short presentation and discussion. (Please bring a potluck dish to share, plus your own table service - plate, tableware, glass/cup, napkin - in order to minimize cleaning-up activities.)

The discussion topic title is: "Since I'm a Human, Doesn't That Automatically Make Me a Humanist?" Future topics will be selected from the book "What We Believe But Cannot Prove", edited by John Brockman.

Coffee and tea will be available for **your** cup. Child care will be offered. Please contact Judy or Jim Tough, A-HA! coordinators, if you have questions: 385-3065 or tough@olympus.net. Please let us know if you plan to attend (so we know how many tables/chairs to set up and how much coffee to perk).

QUUF has joined a community-wide Call to Action titled, **"Our Kids: Our Business."** April is National Child Abuse and Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. If you care to join the staff of QUUF in making 5 promises to children, you will find a pledge form on the social action bulletin board that is above the hymnal shelf.

A Candlelight Vigil will mark the end of the Social Awareness and Prevention Campaign in Jefferson County on Sunday, April 27 from 7:30-8:30 p.m., at the Haller Fountain in Port Townsend..

Supporters of the Port Townsend School District invite you to a rally on Sunday, April 27th at 1:00 p.m. Gather at 12:45 p.m. at the Community Center to create awareness and support for the school bond issue. We'll march from Uptown to Downtown with a grand finish at The Haller Fountain for a "brief" rally.

THIS WEEK'S DESIGNATED OFFERING

April 13: Northwind's Arts for the Elders is an ongoing program that serves three senior residences plus Kai Tai Care Facility by providing two-hour visits by arts and humanities professionals. Each visit is designed to stimulate participation with the senior audience.

NOTE: All cash goes to the designated organization unless you use a QUUF envelope found at the back of the sanctuary or carried by our ushers. Please make all checks payable to QUUF, using the memo line to indicate the recipients and amounts, e.g., designated organization, your QUUF pledge, or a QUUF contribution.