



# The Communitarian

June 2012

The *Communitarian* is the monthly newsletter of the  
Community Unitarian Universalist  
Church

2819 W. Sylvester Street  
Pasco, Washington 99301  
Services begin at 10:30 am

Joy and Service – Right Here! Right  
Now!

Web Page: [www.communityuu.org](http://www.communityuu.org)

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9:30 am – 12:30 pm

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The deadline for the July issue of *The  
Communitarian* is June 20th.  
Submit your input to  
[office@communityuu.org](mailto:office@communityuu.org)

June 3~

"Is Religion Good For Your Body?"

*Speaker: Rev. Craig Moro*

"...They shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." You may remember these lines from *Chariots of Fire*, that great movie about runners in the 1924 Olympic games. They describe the kind of religious experience that renews our sense of physical (as well as spiritual) vigor. Do they describe your own religious experience as well? I hope so! And I wonder if now is a good time for our UU movement to become more explicit in celebrating the body than it has been so far?

*Worship Associate: Vickie Fausz*

*Musician: Elisa Garrett, Bethany Dorian and Family, Ellen Fillion*

Today we will also have our Bridging Ceremony in honor of graduating seniors April Scheidegger and Bethany Dorian.

June 10~

"A Perspective on the Circle of Life!"

*Speaker: Dan McDonald*

Come, join us and see that we are connected: each one to our Source; each one to each other; and each one to community. Come, learn of this Circle, continuous and unbroken - this Circle of Life!

*Worship Associate: Mike Truex*

*Musician: Mike & Shannon Truex, Dan McDonald*

June 17~

"Skillful Means?"

*Speaker: Rev. Craig Moro*

Did you know that the Buddha is said to have been a husband and a father before he was a religious teacher? This morning I'll share a story of his that seems perfect for Father's Day.

*Worship Associate: Diane Reed*

*Musician: Ellen Fillion*

June 24~

"Nez Perce Stories and the Art of Creation"

*Speaker: Christy Thompson*

How oral traditions bring the world to life.

*Worship Associate: Alex Emig*

*Musician: Ellen Fillion*

## From Our Minister



### *Written Offerings*

*From Rev. Craig Moro*



I always notice pink magnolia trees—how could you not notice them when they're in bloom? First bred by an officer in Napoleon's army, they certainly command your attention! But I tend to notice them at almost any time of year. We had one in the front yard of our first family home when I was a child, and it was the first tree that I learned to climb. It was also the scene of Easter egg hunts where pink eggs could be especially hard to find. At Christmas time the silvery bark of its bare limbs blended well with the season, snow or no snow.

When we moved to a new house the tree came with us, transplanted to the backyard where it seemed subdued and weak for a year or two, but then it burst into new life and grew more vigorously than ever. Our family life had also been disrupted for many reasons and could not recover like the magnolia, but the tree provided a sense of continuity that was still comforting. So yes, I notice these trees.

Spring was very slow in coming to Salem this year. On March 21 there was a freak snowstorm that closed schools, knocked out power, and damaged many trees. One pink magnolia in a neighbor's yard lost a large limb with many branches. The flowers hadn't opened yet due to the lingering cold, but the tree had been heavy with buds. Our neighbors must have been busy because the limb stayed where it had fallen for several weeks.

Temperatures finally rose a little and our neighborhood glowed with its many flowering trees and shrubs—late, but very, very welcome! I passed the house with the broken magnolia and,

look! All the buds on the fallen limb had opened along with those on the standing tree. There must have been enough energy left in the limb to provide what the flowers needed to develop fully. Bees buzzed them, collecting pollen and spreading it around. Days grew still warmer, and soon the fallen limb's flowers began to droop and wither while those on the tree stayed fresh. Cut off from roots and bark, its blooming days were numbered. But see how long it had lasted on its own! Life is something. Dying can have its beauties—even a blossoming, sometimes.

Most institutions are as uncomfortable with living as with dying. They're focused on the task at hand—moving the materials, shifting the investments, maximizing gain and minimizing loss. A religious institution is different. How fortunate we are to have this community where we can honor and celebrate bud, branch, root, blossom, and even fallen limb!

Enjoy the summer. Travel safely. I look forward to joining you in honor and celebration when I see you in September.

In fellowship,



Craig

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Rev. Moro is usually in the Tri-cities on weekends of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month, September-June. He can be reached by email, [cmoro@willamette.edu](mailto:cmoro@willamette.edu), or by phone, 509-205-1871 (8 a.m.-8 p.m. only, except in an emergency).



## Board & Committee News

### *From the President!*

*Respectfully Submitted by Dave Comstock*



Happy Summer Solstice (June 20<sup>th</sup>) everyone,  
We had 12 church members engaged in a vibrant RE brainstorming meeting last Saturday. During the chalice lighting we went around and shared inspiring words like intergenerational, expanding awareness, diversity, excitement, strong bonds, thinking family's RE, fun for kids, touch divine, and empowerment. We came up with 8 pages of ideas to improve RE and we hope sharing these with the congregation will inspire more ideas. Our NEXT MEETING will be JUNE 16<sup>th</sup> and YOU ARE INVITED! A fresh, inviting and contemporary RE program is vital for our CUUC members and for families looking for an open minded spiritual program for their kids. I think a dynamic RE program will be a big part of our future congregation growth.

We filmed our CUUC U-tube video last Sunday. The backbone of the short film will be the service. Each transition in the service will be filled with still photos from around the church, with one of our seven principles (read by church members) and with some interviews with members. We also filmed a little in K-5 as they planted seeds and talked about the interdependent web of life. Thanks to all that participated in the filming. Mike with Tri-Cities Media has agreed to do our video for free. They have another project to edit ahead of our video but in June we should get a first look at our video.

We had a great turnout for the CUUC 2012 Annual Meeting. All of the items up for vote were approved. Please pick up a copy of the 2012 Annual Report if you missed the meeting. We affirmed the need for additional RE space and we will start a RE addition fund for those who want to

start donating to support this important effort. I am amazed and grateful for how much time everyone puts in. For example we found out that Mike Truex has served on the Worship committee for 15 years. WOW! Thank you Mike! During the annual meeting we recognized Chrissie Noonan, Denise Pitts, and John Dorian for their service on the CUUC board. We also recognized Alex Emig, Sandra Rosenau and Frank Anderson for their wonderful service. I hope that each of you find JOY in your service. To that end, remember to develop (or renew) relationships with your committee members, not just cross off items on your to-do list. In each meeting, please make time to get to know each other better and encourage each- others spiritual growth.

I believe in the power of prayer. Please find a few quite minutes to sit calmly in meditation, and give thanks for your health and happiness, the health and happiness of your family, our congregation, this community and especially focus your prayer of health for Terry Terrass as he recovers from his surgery and for Heidi Newsome's friend who is in a coma. Thank you.

David Comstock

Peace and Blessings to each of you

## Religious Education Children & Youth

**RE**

### *Children's Program*

#### *Upcoming Events*



#### **Summer "World Travelers" Program:**

Join us this summer for an imaginary tour of the world. If you have visited or always wanted to

visit a particular country, come share your knowledge with our kids! Sign up in the back of the sanctuary for whatever Sunday you like. Summer classes are smaller and shorter than during the church school year. It's a great opportunity to get to know our kids in a fun and relaxed setting.

The Religious Education Committee and I can help you plan a simple class session. We have a handout on the basic lesson plan. We can do the shopping for any supplies you need, and suggest activities -- or you can plan a game, craft, music-making or other activity from your country.

The program is for Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Older preschool kids are also welcome to participate. They will get their "passports" stamped in each country they visit. Let's have fun as we learn about the world together! If you have any questions, please contact Gail Taff or Jennifer Comstock.

### **Kindergarten-5th Grade Class:**



This spring we have been exploring topics related to the natural world. The kids have enjoyed classes on shadows, water, air and earth. All of these natural elements are related to the UU principle of the interconnected web of life. We invite parents to tie these concepts into your everyday interactions with your children. We also used our imagination to create paintings inspired by "blobs of ink" on paper, discovering how an accidental paint spill can turn into a work of art.

The last class before the summer curriculum begins will be a "teddy bear party" on June 3. We invite your children to bring their favorite stuffed animal, which we will take on a great adventure. This party will help kick off our summer program.

### **Middle School Class:**

Our church school year will end with an outing on June 3. We are going on a picnic to Sacajawea State Park from 10:30-Noon. The kids should plan to play and learn a bit about rivers, wildlife, and cultural exchanges -- and be OUTSIDE eating junk food! Parent's, please sign a permission

form and turn it in so your middle school student can participate.

### **YUuth Group:**

The group was looking forward to the last Overnight of the year at the end of May. They are planning our Bridging Service on June 3. Bethany Dorian and April Scheidegger will be bridging from childhood to adulthood, and will share their plans for the future with the congregation. All kids moving up to a higher grade will also be honored at this service. Cass Excell has written a responsive reading for the occasion.

### **OWL:**

The Our Whole Live (OWL) programs for 4th-6th grade and 10th-12th grade will be wrapping up in June. We hope to offer junior high OWL (7th-9th grade), and possibly early elementary OWL (Kindergarten-2nd grade), next year.

### **Interfaith Youth Group:**

The group is working on plans for a new service to the community.

The Interfaith Youth Group will also be participating in the Interfaith Picnic this summer on July 8.

### **Religious Education Calendar:**

June 3 - Bridging Service - come congratulate April and Bethany!

June 10 - No classes - Church Picnic after service

June 14 - Religious Education Committee meets at 6 pm

June 17 - Summer program begins (Kindergarten-3rd grade World Travelers)



## *A Letter from Rev. Moro to our Bridging Seniors*



Dear April and Bethany,

How could we think about someone “bridging” from one time of life to another without recalling the story of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*? Do you remember it? Three goats want to cross a bridge in order to reach a new stage of life. It’s a good bridge, and an important one. The problem is that it comes with a **troll**. The most important bridges are sure to have a troll (or even more than one!)

Trolls ask us “Who’s that tripping over my bridge?” *Who are you?* Trolls make us think about who we are, where we’re going, and what it’s worth to us. In this way, some can become our allies. Others may always act like trolls, trying to gobble up our time and energy. We may need to push our way past those, or knock them off the bridge, but we should also be grateful for their questions.

We can gain both depth and distance by facing the trolls on our journeys. Best wishes to you as you encounter yours! As a half-time minister, I haven’t had a chance to get to know you as well as I should. But from what I’ve seen in passing, I would hate to be the troll that gets in your way. It won’t be there for long!

Thanks for your frequent help in our Sunday services, and for adding your voices and your presence to the CUUC community. Even if you travel far over very distant bridges, I hope you will return whenever you can.

Safe crossings to you both,

Craig



## *Hospitality*

*Souper Sunday is on summer  
break.*

*Will resume in the fall ☺*

## *Green Sanctuary*



Dear Supporter:

Everyone knows recycling is good for the environment, but did you know that recycling is also good for Community Unitarian Universalist Church? We have just partnered with Planet Green, a printer cartridge and cell phone remanufacturing and recycling company, to start an exciting new fundraiser that recycles mobile phones and used printer cartridges and we want you to be part of it!

If you use a printer, each spent cartridge could earn Community Unitarian Universalist Church up to five dollars! Any old cell phones in your drawer? Those can make up to \$40.00. One phone may not seem like much, but if you get your family, friends and members of the church involved- recycling is a great way for everyone to go green, while raising money for a cause.

Taking part is easy~ simply drop off your used inkjet cartridges and old cell phones with us~ you can include cell phone batteries and even cell phone chargers. The drop~off location is **2819 W. Sylvester St, Pasco WA 99301**

Your participation in this recycling campaign will raise greatly needed funds for Community UU Church. Let’s work together, one cartridge and cell phone at a time, to clean up the planet and raise money for a worthwhile cause!

Thank You for your continued support!

## Finance Committee

### FINANCE COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Hello friends. CUUC has an opportunity for you to let your light shine! This church community is vitally important to all of us and it requires the support of everyone, in some way. A part of that support is financial but equally important is the gift of your time. Right now CUUC needs your time. We are seeking volunteers to serve on the Finance Committee. We meet monthly as needed but primarily in the months of February through June. We look at church expenses, dreams for the future and growth plans, and then we determine how much money is required to meet these needs. In March Craig will kick off our Annual Canvass. This is the time when we ask our CUUC community to pledge their time and/or make a financial contribution to support the church throughout the year. We use the input from this fund raiser to set the budget for the coming year. We need a strong Finance Committee so that we can have a successful fund raising event and in turn a successful church community. Please contact Denise Pitts at 509-521-4372 or [denapit@hotmail.com](mailto:denapit@hotmail.com) and volunteer your time. Thank you. Peace.

keep on trying other numbers). If you know of somebody who needs looked in on, or if you want to discuss your own situation, please give us a ring. Bev is our card person, if you know someone who needs to receive a Get-Well Card, Sympathy card, etc. please contact her.

Alice Strumski (509) 488-2527  
 Jennifer Comstock 628-8638  
 Vickie Fausz 783-7797  
 531-8469  
 Jo Lindenmeier 586-3451  
 366-3953  
 Marla Marvin 545-1919  
 Jenny Rieke 545-0659  
 Bev Schroeder 371-1572  
 Gail Taff 375-3293  
 Denise Pitts 375-6130

### Women's Luncheon!

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

@12:00p.m.

Submitted by Sharon Faletti



Women's luncheon will be in the meeting room at The CUUC Church. Hope to see you there!!

## Hands & Heart



The Hands and Hearts Committee would like to remind you that we are here to help, not just for big events where we all cry or laugh, but also for the little things as well. We are here to help you out in any way we can. You can seek us out at church (our name tags have the heart stickers) or call us up at home. (If one of us doesn't answer,

## CUUC Bulletin Board



### Annual Pot Luck Picnic

#### Announcement

June 10<sup>th</sup> 2012 after services at Chiawana Park Shelter # 3, Pasco (New Location)

Please sign up on the sheets on the back table so we'll know how many to plan for. Bring a large dish to share and your own chairs and beverages (no alcohol) and we'll provide water and iced tea and plates, utensils, etc. See you there!



### Clean~ up Crew

The Hospitality Committee is so grateful to the wonderful clean up job in the kitchen. Thanks to all of you who cleaned, scrubbed and tossed. The rest of the Church looks terrific, too.

### Membership New Members

Meeting @ 12:00-2:00p.m.

## Interfaith News & Updates



*Interfaith  
Alliance Website*

Keep up to date on interfaith activities by checking out the Tri-cities Interfaith Alliance on our new website: <http://tri-citiesinterfaith.weebly.com/#/>, or on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TCIAlliance](http://www.facebook.com/TCIAlliance)

