



The Communitarian

September 2011

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.communityuuu.org

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9:30 am – 12:30 pm

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The deadline for the October issue of
The Communitarian is September
20th. Submit your input to
office@communityuuu.org

September 4~
“Bloody Hands”

Speaker: Rev. Craig Moro

We are hardly aware of blood most of the time—our own blood or that of others. But when it’s spilled we can hardly take our eyes off of it, or think of anything else. Religions make a great deal of the significance of blood, especially when it is spilled by human hands. What should we do about it today, tomorrow, ten years from today? What do we do now, ten years since the events of September 11, 2001?

Worship Associate: Meryl Birn

Musician: Ellen Fillion

September 11~
“Since September 11, 2001”

Speaker: CUUC Members

The terrorist attacks of 9/11 changed America and the world. Since then, we have fought two wars at an untold cost of lives. We have enhanced security at airports and there have been encroachment of civil liberties on many fronts. There is an increased sense of patriotism in America. The Charter for Compassion was born out of the recognition that we must honor all faiths and all people. On the 10th anniversary, we will share how our lives and our thoughts have been shaped by these events. In the words of Alan Jackson “Where were you when the worlds stopped turnin’ that September day?”

Worship Associate: Mike Truex

Musician: Fran Handy

September 18~
“Hebrew Lessons”

Speaker: Rev. Craig Moro

Years after attending seminary, I finally took the time to study Biblical Hebrew. This morning I’ll share some ideas that can easily be lost in translation, whether it’s a problem of vocabulary or grammar.

Thanks to Cass Excell, who started this ball rolling over the summer!

Worship Associate: Diane Reed

Musician: Ellen Fillion

September 25~
“The Cost of Peace”

Speaker: Jim Stoffels

The seeds of peace are not sown by armies with weapons. They are sown by harmonious relationships with other nations based on policies that show concern for the welfare of their people. That requires a transformation of our country that begins with a personal transformation of ourselves.

Worship Associate: Mike Truex

Musician: Mike & Shannon Truex

From Our Minister



Written Offerings

From Rev. Craig Moro



I always title my computer files for these newsletter columns with “CUUC”, followed by two numbers separated by a dash. This month’s file heading is “CUUC 9-11”. 9-11 is a hyphenated number that everyone understands, a number that provokes an almost religious response in us. It’s a symbol that expresses a complex of changes to the world that we once knew, one that holds vast amounts of meaning and memory.

Ten years have passed since the events of September 11, 2001. It’s no surprise that tenth anniversaries are special times for ten-fingered creatures like us. There will be no lack of reminders of this particular anniversary these next two weeks, in case your fingers aren’t enough to jog your memory. *Memory*. If religion teaches anything, it trains us in memory. Remember this story. Remember those words. Remember that journey—the water, the blood. Teach your children to teach their children to teach theirs to remember, too. Remember—and what else?

Some voices (usually those of the more powerful) tell us to just let go of our losses and move on. Let go of the lost battles, the lost lands, lost sovereignty, lost lives. Dwelling on it just makes things worse. Other voices (usually those of the less powerful) say, no! Never forget! Never let go! Let each day that passes increase your sense of loss, the pain of your wounds and the pain of separation! At times of powerlessness, memory may seem to be the only power we have.

Animals may use certain *signals*, but human memory allows us to construct a world of *symbols* that can be recorded and shared and elaborated upon for generations. Animals shed blood out of

need—the need to respond to hunger or to danger, or in rivalry to mate. When they kill, it’s response to one of those needs. Only people kill in response to memories—including memories shared by parents or grandparents of things we ourselves never experienced directly. Memory fills the numbers 9-11 with smoke, fire, dust and blood. These loaded numbers might be used to rally us to violent action many generations from now, just as similar memories have been used for millennia. But we are capable of choosing a different kind of response. Thoughtful religious response can help us to manage memory for the greater good.

We will have two services this month in memory of the events of 9-11-2001. Given the power of that day’s events and the power of memory, I don’t think that this will be too much. I’m sure that similar services will be conducted all over this country and all around the world. I’m hopeful that a majority of those, like ours, will be dedicated to peace, love, understanding—and the greater good.

In fellowship,

Craig

Rev. Moro is usually in the Tri-cities on weekends of the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, September-June. He can be reached by email, 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 September everyone,
The Interfaith Peace Walk is coming right up on Saturday September 10, 2011 starting at Shalom UCC (registration between 8am – 9am). The United States of America has been at war in two different countries longer than my children have been alive. Please come and join us for this interfaith walk for world peace (Come be an instrument of peace).

Adapted from the Prayer of Saint Francis
Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring love;
Where there is injury, let me bring pardon;
Where there is doubt, let me bring faith;
Where there is despair, let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, let me bring light;
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.

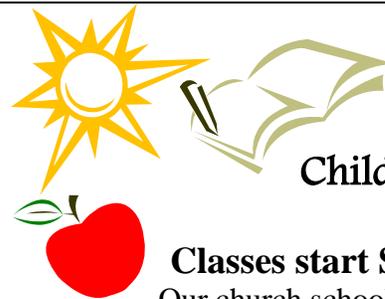
O Divine One, give me strength to console
instead of the need to be consoled;
The wisdom to understand
instead of the need to be understood;
The capacity to love instead of the need to be
loved.

For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

I believe in the power of prayer. Please find a few quite minutes to read this prayer (or another that speaks to you). Sitting calmly in meditation, please read the prayer several times to saturate yourself with the message of this prayer. Then rest and heal in the feel the prayer brings forth. Finally, from this sacred place give thanks for your health and happiness, the health and happiness of your family, our congregation, community and especially focus your prayer of health for Frank Anderson.

Thank you
David Comstock
Peace and Blessings to each of you

Religious Education Children & Youth



RE
Children's Program

Classes start September 11

Our church school year is starting!
The High School YUUth, Middle School, and Kindergarten-5th Grade will all start on Sunday, September 11. Be there to kick off the new year and get news about what your class will be doing this year.

Parents, please register your kids and youth for classes. If you registered last year, it just takes a minute to check over, update and initial the registration form. We need up-to-date medical and contact information. We also track enrollment for important reasons like. . . applying for grants!

Our summer program for kids aged 5-8 was great and achieved its name (Answering Kids' Questions). Parents, we have a display on the bulletin board in the K-5 classroom if you've been wondering what your kids have been learning about Unitarian Universalism, Social Justice and my favorite, our last summer lesson on the Golden Rule.

The Interfaith Youth Group will be starting up meetings soon too. They meet on the first and third Sunday of the month from 6-8 P.M. during the school year.

Interfaith Peace Walk

The Interfaith Youth Group is sponsoring a Peace Walk on Saturday, September 10 (the day before the 10th anniversary of September 11). This walk is for youth, kids and adults who want to support interfaith action for social justice. You can collect donations for Handicap International or Charity Water, make a donation yourself, or simply join the walk to show your support for interfaith peace work. You may register online at www.ifyg.org or between 8-9 A.M. at Shalom UCC on the morning of the walk. See event flier or contact Vickie Fausz for more information.

Social Justice - Kids Helping Kids

As part of our summer program, we talked about "How can I change the world?" Kids took home a tiny box, symbolic of what they can do locally, which is to collect school supplies for Rowena Chess Elementary School (just down the street from our church).

We collected school supplies all summer and plan to deliver them around the time school starts. Teri Robertson's niece teaches there and they are always running short.

If you would like to buy something extra when you're shopping, they specifically requested pencils (#2 with eraser), paper (regular 3-hole-punch or wide-ruled), tissues (such as Kleenex brand) and children's books. However, any and all school supplies will be welcome! Your kids can sort through and donate any extra supplies they may have from last year, too.

There will be other opportunities for kids and youth to work toward social justice this year, especially since this is our theme for religious education this year.

High School OWL (Our Whole Lives)

Plans are underway to offer an OWL class to high school students either this fall (starting in late October) or winter (starting in January). This is a comprehensive sexuality education class, separate from our Sunday YUuth Group meetings. Parents

will be contacted as soon as our plans are firmed up. This will be a great opportunity for youth to get honest answers to their questions, build decision-making skills, clarify values and learn about age-appropriate, healthy relationships.

Nuts!

It's time for our semi-annual reminder that peanuts and peanut products are to be left outside our church building. Please don't bring anything that may contain peanuts or peanut oil, or that may have been in contact with peanuts during processing. Check the label, pick up a list of recommended snacks (on the refrigerator), or just bring some fresh fruit. Thanks for keeping our kids and youth safe!

Upcoming Events

- 9/4 Children's Chapel - may include outdoor games and drumming for grades K-12**
- 9/10 Interfaith Peace Walk - contact Vickie Fausz**
- 9/11 Classes start!**
- 9/11 Nursery staff meeting after church**
- 9/18 Teacher/Youth Advisor Planning Meeting after church**

Hospitality

*Souper Sunday will resume
in October!*



There will be no Souper Sunday during the summer, we will continue in the Fall.

Green Sanctuary

CUUC Green Sanctuary



Paper Project!

We have started with the electronic distribution of our monthly newsletter. Now it is time to continue reducing our paper use and use more recycled paper product. We plan to dive into the bathroom next.

We are working on re-usable towels for hand drying. Whites at our house are always the smallest loads so we will not have any extra loads to clean the hand towels each week. So we will not be increasing our water or electricity consumption to clean the hand towels. In addition, the detergents we use are environmentally friendly and super concentrated to reduce packaging.

We are also working on Seventh Generation 100% recycled tissue paper. If every household in the US used 12 rolls that would save 3.8 million trees, 1.3 billion gallons of water and 9.8 million cubic feet of landfill space.

Thanks

David Comstock

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

Women's Luncheon!

Tuesday, September 6, 2011
@12:00p.m.

Submitted by Sharon Faletti



The Women's Luncheon will be traveling this month to the Walla Walla area to Diane Reed's home on the pond at 919 SE Sentry Drive in College Place. Bring a dish to share. Carpooling is recommended; call Sharon Faletti 375-0467 or Jo Lindenmeier 586-3331 to coordinate. Please contact Diane if you need directions, either at ladybook@earthlink.net or on her cell (local call) 438-7304.

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, 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.

CUUC Bulletin Board

*Points East: Asian Religion Class
Resume's on Saturdays, 3:30-
5:30 led by Rev. Moro*

This month our class resumes its survey of the major religions of Asia, now exploring Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto. We are reading Considering the Asian Religions by UU minister (and former university professor of comparative religion) Wade Wheelock, which is readily available through online sources. If you would like to join us, now would be a good time. Just let Rev. Moro know (cmoro@willamette.edu or 509-205-1871). We meet at CUUC in the RE main room.

- September 17
- October 1 and 15
- November 5 and 19
- December 3 and 17

of a growing chorus of UUs who are courageously stepping forward so that our values of justice, equity and compassion ring out loudly in the public square.

Held 10-4p.m. at the UU Congregation of Salem, 5090 Center Street NE, Salem, OR 97317. For more information contact Barbara Dow bdowpdx@gmail.com 503-385-1686 or Judy Zimmerman jzimmerman15@yahoo.com. 503-324-9377.

Charity Bicycle Ride

There will be a charity bicycle ride for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation on September 24th. The ride will begin in the Tri-Cities Columbia Point Marina Park. There will be 23 and 65 mile fully supported rides. The entrance fee is \$35 and each entrant must commit to raising \$165. More information can be found at [http://www.cff.org/getinvolved/Cycle for Life](http://www.cff.org/getinvolved/Cycle%20for%20Life), or Amie Lerch@cff.org 509-430-0455. Let's have a CUUC team.

Directory Information

For anyone who would like to be in this year's 2011-2012 Fall Directory, please fill out the sheet below and return to Tonia in the office via email or at 2819 W. Sylvester St, Pasco WA 99301. Please get these to me by September 15th or you will not be in the new directory. For members, if I do not receive a new info sheet, I will use last year's info!

If anyone would like to take new pictures of everyone in directory, please coordinate with me the days you will be doing it, I will send email to everyone letting them know the picture days☺.



**Oregon UU
Voices for Justice
Annual Meeting
October 15, 2011**

Come and learn about issues affecting Oregon that will come before our state legislature in the 2012 session. Engage in dialogue about statewide issues that concern each of us and our congregations. We want your ideas and vision as we decide priorities for the coming year. Be part

Interfaith Peace Walk

September 10~ Registration will begin at 8:00a.m. or you can register at www.ifyg.org

Opening remarks begin at 9:00a.m. walk to follow opening remarks. Comfort stations along the 6 mile route to the Islamic Center of the Tri-Cities, in West Richland. Shuttle provided.

Directory Contact Information

A new directory will be coming out soon, with the changes in the committees and board! We need to start now with getting your contact information. Please complete the form below and mail to the church at CUUC, 2819 W. Sylvester St, Pasco, WA 99301. We would like to list ages of children, if you and they wish. Don't list anything you don't want everyone to know!

**Name* _____

Member _____ *Yes* _____ *No*

Email _____

Phones: Home _____

Work _____

Cell _____

**Name* _____

Member _____ *Yes* _____ *No*

Email _____

Phones: Home _____

Work _____

Cell _____

**Children:*

Name _____

Age _____

Name _____

Age _____

Name _____

Age _____

Name _____

Age _____

**Address* _____

**City* _____

**State* _____

**I'd like to have the above information in the Directory* _____ *Yes* _____ *No*