

## OUUIF Weekly Update

### **An Inclusive Community**

1033 N. Barr Road P O Box 576 Carlsborg, WA 98324 360-417-2665

August 2 - 9, 2020

## OUUF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Chair: Jean Stratton
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# **SUNDAY SERVICE SPEAKER August 2, 2020**



Guest Speaker: Jamal Rahman

**Sermon:** To be announced

**BIO:** Jamal Rahman is a popular speaker on Islam, Sufi spirituality, and interfaith relations. Along with his Interfaith Amigos, he has been featured in the *New York Times*, CBS News, BBC, and various NPR programs. Jamal is co-founder and Muslim Sufi minister at Interfaith Community Sanctuary and adjunct faculty at Seattle University. He is a former co-host of Interfaith Talk Radio and travels nationally and internationally, presenting at retreats and workshops.

An email with the Zoom invite information will be sent on Fridays. *If you do not receive the email please contact Elinor Tennyson at* admin@olympicuuf.com

Join the Sunday service at 10:30am to see Sara Johnson's Celebration of Life video

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For security reasons we use the Zoom waiting room for people wishing to join the meeting and the Zoom host grants permission to join. If you know anyone who would like to join the service please forward contact information to Elinor Tennyson or Sandy Goodwick and they can send the link. We ask you not to share a Zoom invite link.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS and THINGS OF INTEREST**

We reserve the right to edit your submission for length and grammar.

Announcements need to be submitted by Tuesday to admin@olympicuuf.com

#### **UPCOMING SUNDAY SPEAKERS:**

Aug 9	Bruce Bode	Aug 23	Joseph Bednarik
Aug 16	Joseph Bednarik	Aug 30	Joe Rettenmaier

Highlights from your Board of Trustees meeting Sunday, July 19th.

From: Dianne Whitaker, President

First, we appreciate all of your patience during these trying times when it looks like in-person services will not be available until some time in 2021. A special thanks goes to the Sunday Services Committee that is doing a bang-up job for us on Sundays and to all the other participants in these services.



Walt & Sara Johnson's garden

Here's what you need to know.

- We voted to continue paying staff salaries.
- Joel is giving back the organ that was donated to OUUF. We would like to find a new, permanent home for it. We will be advertising it, but if any of you want it, you may have it. Joel is willing to deliver it to your home. Please let Elinor know if you would like the organ or know someone who would like it. You can't beat free.
- The board voted to participate in the Little Free Pantry project. Florence will be giving you more information about this.

#### CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Children's RE will be meeting Sundays at 10:30 am for a half hour via Zoom (with or without their grown-ups). During this time of connection we will light our chalice, sing songs, hold a sharing circle and game/activity. Please email Julia Buggy by email for the Zoom link if you are interested, juliafbuggy@gmail.com. We hope this allows all people who would like to participate in the 11 am service to do so.



Walt & Sara Johnson's garden



#### **CARE CARDS:**

As a member of the OUUF Care Team Cynthia Green has mailed out handmade cards to many in our congregation. If you can think of someone you think would enjoy getting a card, please email Cynthia at cynthiagreen@outlook.com. If she has not already sent one to that person, she will make one for them and mail it. Cynthia has been using the OUUF roster for addresses

#### SUBMITTED BY: DIANNE WHITAKER

The Pacific Western Region has two new people for Congregational Life Staff— *Rev. Summer Albayati* and *Dr. Melissa James*! Summer will begin August 3 and Melissa September 8.

**Summer** is a UU Muslim of Iraqi descent who brings extensive experience in leadership development, strategic planning, multiculturalism, curriculum development/programming, outreach, organizational development, grant writing, interfaith dialogue, conflict resolution and mediation.

Walt & Sara Johnson's garden



Summer's focus has been on transformation by emphasizing that a mission-focused congregation increases vitality, membership, commitment to justice and love.

Summer's current podcast, "The Bayat Beat," a commentary on society and culture with an emphasis on social justice, has a global audience. She has served on the board of UU Mystics in Community, contributed to their quarterly newsletter, and written a chapter in the anthology *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity and Power in Ministry*, published by Skinner House.

*Melissa* brings nearly 20 years of experience in faith-based ministry to the UUA. She earned her Master of Arts from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC) with a focus was on faith and justice. Melissa holds a Ph.D. in Ethics and Social Theory from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. While working on her doctorate, she served at First Unitarian Universalist in Oakland, CA.

Based in Southern California, Melissa is an ordained Deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). When asked what she foresees bringing into her work as UUA Congregational Life staff from Lutheran tradition, she reflected on its deep history and theology of reformation. It is this deep resonance with Unitarian Universalism that has continually drawn Melissa to the UU world.

Note: More details can be found on the PWR website.



FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS 12 noon – 1:00 (starting August 5th) ...

No access to the kitchen and please take your trash with you as we have no trash pick up service. Contact Sandy Goodwick at sgoodwick@aol.com or Elinor Tennyson at admin@olympicuuf.com

Jack Mulligan fell on July 3rd and, after brief stints in the emergency room and the hospital, has moved to Crestwood where he is receiving therapy. He really appreciates the cards he has received. His mailing address is:

Crestwood Health and Rehabilitation, 1116 East Laurisden Blvd., Port Angeles, WA 98362

#### LEARN TO ZOOM AT THE FELLOWSHIP: FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS

Would you like to join us for Zoom Sunday Service but need help with Zoom? Bring the device you would use to the Fellowship and meet after our Brown Bag Lunch. Sandy will help you get set up on Zoom, just let her know you will be coming at socialmedia@olympicuuf.com) - and include your phone number

Don't forget to bring your face mask!

FREE Classically Voiced Electronic Organ, delivered to your home.



Our church has been gifted with a beautiful, self-contained Allen "Protégé" model organ that unfortunately does not meet our current musical needs. This compact full two-manual-plus pedalboard organ conforms to AGO playing dimensions and would be well-suited as a personal, practice, or teaching instrument. Specification available on request. Contact David Large 408-710-8041 for more information. We <u>must</u> place this organ by the first week in August.





Walt & Sara Johnson's garden

Share photos, stories or other on how you are spending your time during the Covid-19 restrictions.

Submit to Elinor Tennyson at admin@olympicuuf.com

Sassy enjoying her bowl of grass on a warm afternoon.



Cynthia's new Cherry Parfait rose is doing well. Loves all the sun in her backyard!



SUNDAY SERVICE JULY 26, 2020

#### TRIBUTE TO SARA JOHNSON BY HER CHILDREN

Read by Margie, Dan and Laurie

Hello everyone! We are Walt and Sara Johnson's children, Margie, Dan, and Laurie. As you are probably all aware, our dad, Walt, passed away about a year ago and our mom, Sara, passed away this February. We'd like to share with you about Mom and Dad's long involvement with the Unitarian church.

From as far back as we can remember, Mom and Dad would pile us into the car on Sunday morning and head to the Birmingham Unitarian church. (In Birmingham, a suburb of Detroit, MI, not the Alabama Birminham) They'd



drop us off at Sunday School, where we could never get a straight answer on whether or not God exists, and Mom and Dad would attend the service, which was often about the political issues of the day: the Vietnam War, feminism, abortion rights...you know the drill. Mom and Dad would have heated discussions about the issue of the week all the way home. Through these discussions, they solidified their positions on these issues and focused their mutual drive to make a positive contribution to the community around them.

The first time I can remember Dad translating this to action was when I was 14 years old and he decided Richard Nixon should not have a second term. It was 1972 and Dad established a campaign headquarters and ran the George McGovern campaign for an area in Michigan. He found an unoccupied home, which he rented and personally mowed the 2 ft of grass out front, and got to work. We didn't see much of him for a while. I think he personally talked to every person in the district!

While McGovern lost in almost every state, amazingly, he won in Dad's district. Apparently, this and their financial contributions to the McGovern campaign, did not go unnoticed, because both Walt and Sara ended up on Nixon's infamous enemies list. They were both so proud and the envy of their ACLU and Unitarian friends.

Walt went on to serve for many years on the Southfield school board and the board of the ACLU. He had a patient attitude and was happy to slowly make whatever change he could.

Mom's commitment to contributing to the community had its basis in her love of humanity and all things living. My first memory of Mom translating this to action was when she taught Lamaze natural childbirth classes and coached mothers delivering babies. It was a very personal approach to advocating for childbirth to be treated as a mother-centric natural process rather than a medical intervention structured for the convenience of doctors.

Sara went on to get her Masters in public health nursing and work at a well-baby clinic in Hamtramck, one



of the most impoverished districts in the country. She was always reaching out to people in need and took helping others as a way of life.

Throughout all this, the Birmingham Unitarian Church provided a community that shared their ideals and commitment to service. It was a place to discuss practical ways to transform the world into a better place and a group willing to join with them to take collective action for change. They formed many friendships there. My wife and I were married at the Birmingham Unitarian Church 41 years ago.

When Walt and Sara decided to leave Michigan and move to Sequim one of Sara's conditions was that they could find a Unitarian church to be a part of. They quickly found a new home with the Sequim fellowship. You welcomed them and they became part of the OUUF family. Through this partnership, they continued to find ways to serve the community and made many lasting friendships.

We are deeply grateful for the support and community that you provided to both Walt and Sara. The OUUF was a big part of their lives here in Sequim.

Walt and Sara, typical of their kind and generous way of living, wanted to make a lasting contribution to the OUUF upon their death, so they left a percentage of their estate to the fellowship. We are here today to present you with a fake check. <hold up fake check>. The amount, in case you can't see it on the Zoom, is \$84,000. A real check for this amount has already found its way, with the help of Diane Whittaker, to the fellowship's treasurer, Don Hatler.

In closing, we want to thank you all again so much for the love and community you provided to our parents.

#### LINK TO VIDEO SARA'S LIFE CELEBRATION

Video is also available on the OUUF website and will be show at the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday service at 10:30am.

#### **OUUF GARDEN NEWS:**



Seri Says "thumbs up for broccoli"

Cyndi Ross suggested picking broccoli more often and using the little pieces rather than waiting for the big head to form.

Nancy and Kevin Duffy took home a bag of salad greens.

They needed a few extra vitamins after working on the landscape team for two hours in 80° temperatures.



### Calling all OUUF Gardeners.

How are your gardens growing? Please send us some pictures and description of what you are doing. Any tips or success stories would encourage us all. Thanks, Rose and Seri

#### FROM GEORGE AND JOLIE WILL:

I realize that people are locking their car doors at night, so they don't wake up to the notorious nocturnal rhubarb deposits. However, we do have this delicious vegetable available if anyone would like some.

Contact George & Jolie by phone or email: 360-683-4037 georgeandjolie@yahoo.com Thank you, George

NEED STORAGE SPACE FOR MATERIALS USED IN THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CONNECTION (FORMERLY HOMELESS CONNECT)

Thank you to Susan Skubinna who had been storing these materials, but she needs the space for another purpose. There are two wardrobe boxes, folded banker boxes, several other smaller boxes and 5 clothing racks. The materials are now in the church library.

Please contact me if you have a space we could use at florenceb@wavecable.com.
Thanks. Florence Bucierka



The Beginning .....

#### **REFLECTIONS WOMEN'S GROUP:**



Reflections Woman's Group is meeting at 1:00 pm outside of the OUUF building on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, weather permitting. Please bring a lawn chair. We will be spaced six feet apart. The meeting usually lasts one and a half to two hours. Contact: Serena Mylchreest at serena@mylchreest.com

On the first and third Thursday of each month the Reflections Women's group will hold a brief check-in Zoom meeting at 1:00 pm. This Zoom meeting will probably last about a half hour to one hour. Contact Cynthia Green at cynthiagreen@outlook.com

From the OUUF garden bed

#### **OUUF CARE TEAM:**

Just an update to let you know we do care about our members and friends during this time of distance. If you are home and have a need or a medical condition, please remember we can call you or send you cards or drop off groceries if need be. We care about all of you during this difficult time of no church live services and gatherings. Our team of Ren Garypie, Cynthia Green, George Stratton, Sandy Goodwick, Dianne Whitaker and myself as chair are here to help you. Please know you can contact me, Jean Stratton at 360 452-6719, or by email: jeanmstratton@gmail.com



You are part of our loving community

Our roadside sign

## LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE THERE IS NOT MUCH WE CAN DO? HELP PROVIDE BASIC NEEDS TO FOLKS IN NEED.

## LITTLE FREE PANTRY NEAR THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT OUUF!

OUUF was approached about sponsoring a Little Free Pantry on our property because we are known for our social justice efforts.

On Sunday, the OUUF Board voted to sponsor a Little Free Pantry. There are five pantries in Port Angeles but none out our way. They are a small unit that holds free packaged foods for anyone who needs it.

We would like to hold a Zoom meeting to discuss how to make this happen. There is a staff person at the Washington State University Extension who is in charge of this project who has provided lots of information and access to help in doing the pantry. We don't have to reinvent the wheel. If you are interested, please contact Florence Bucierka at florenceb@wavecable.com



#### **ZOOM EXERCISE CLASS:**

Since the ABC4PD exercise class (Aerobic, Balance, Coordination, program for those with Parkinson's Disease) can no longer meet in person, free classes are being offered on Zoom. These classes are available to anyone with Parkinson's disease or other neurological condition affecting balance or coordination and meet Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 AM. If you or someone you know is interested, please call Peggy Scheideler at 760-518-4181 for additional information and to register.

We have received grant funds from Olympic Area Agency on Aging (O3A) and anticipate resuming in person classes when Clallam County reaches phase 4 of recovery.

#### SUNDAY SERVICE SERMON

July 26, 2020

Guest speaker: Joseph Bednarik Sermon: Roots of Prejudice

A copy of this sermon is sent with the newsletter.