



OUUF Weekly Update

An Inclusive Community

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

December 13 - 20, 2020



+++++

December 13, 2020

Rev. Bruce Bode



OUUF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President:

Dianne Whitaker

Vice President:

Joan Cotta

Finance Director

Don Hatler

Trustees-at-Large

Dave Large

Ren Garypie

Sandy Goodwick

OUUF STAFF

Elinor Tennyson

Administrative Coordinator

Admin@Olympicuuf.com

Children's Religious Education Staff

Julia Buggy

Juliafbuggy@gmail.com

Harmony Rutter

Izzy Flowers

Care Team

Chair: Jean Stratton

jeanmstratton@gmail.com

Jack Webber

Webmaster

webmaster@OlympicUUF.com

Sermon: What Child Is This?

Description: The Christmas season is the season of the heart, the season of the heart's deepest longings and highest hopes. These longings and hopes are expressed in the two main symbols of the Christmas season, the Christ-Child in the manger and Santa Claus on his sleigh. My sermon on this Sunday as we near Christmas Eve will explore the nature of these two symbols, at whom the two symbols are aimed, and how they relate to each other.

BIO: Bruce A. Bode is a Minister Emeritus at the Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (QUUF) in Port Townsend, Washington, from which he retired in 2018 as the Senior Minister after serving the congregation for fourteen years (2004-2018). Before coming to Port Townsend, Rev. Bode was the Interim Minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston, Texas (2002-2004) and the Hope Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma (2001-2002). Prior to that, he served for twenty-two years (1978-2001) as an Associate Minister at the Fountain Street Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, a large, independent, religiously liberal congregation.

+++++
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

+++++

ZOOM SECURITY: Sunday Service

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

+++++
***OUUF EVENT CALENDAR – open groups only**
 +++++

OUUF sponsored events are offered to members and friends as a way to provide increased spiritual, mental and physical health in a safe and caring environment. Groups have at their foundation the Seven Principles of Unitarian/Universalism, as well as our OUUF purpose and mission. They operate under the Washington State Covid-19 guidelines. Please contact Elinor Tennyson at admin@olympicuuf.com if you have questions or would like clarification.

| | | |
|------------|--|---|
| Wednesdays | The Evening Men's Group 7-9pm: Zoom | Contact: George Stratton (360) 808-4477 |
| | Fellowship open noon-1pm | Contact: Elinor Tennyson (360) 417-2665 or admin@olympicuuf.com |
| Thursdays | Reflections *2 nd & 4 th Thursdays 1:00pm Fellowship **1st and 3 rd Thursdays 1:00pm Zoom | Contacts: *Serena Mylchreest at serena@mylchreest.com ** Zoom link: Elaine Webber elainjwebber@hotmail.com |
| Fridays | Walking Meditation Group 11:00am Fellowship Zoom check-in | Contact: Sandy Goodwick (818) 489-8626 |
| Sundays | Zoom Sunday Service 11am Remote via Zoom | Contact: admin@olympicuuf.com for Zoom invite |
| | Zoom Sunday Service 11am Fellowship sanctuary – doors open 10:30am | Contact: Elinor Tennyson for reservation. (360) 417-2665 or admin@olympicuuf.com |
| | Zoom Children's Service 10:15am | Contact: Juliafbuggy@gmail.com for Zoom invite |

See [OUUF website](#) for complete calendar list by date click [OUUF WEBSITE](#)

+++++
UPCOMING SUNDAY SPEAKERS:
 +++++

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|
| Dec 20 | Joseph Bednarik | Jan 17 | Joe Rettenmaier |
| Dec 27 | Joe Rettenmaier | Jan 24 | Joseph Bednarik |
| | | Jan 31 | Amanda Aikman |
| 2021 | | | |
| Jan 3 | Luminescence | | |
| Jan 10 | Bruce Bode | | |

+++++

+++++

PERSONAL PRIVACY: (Sunday Service Community Sharing)

From: Dianne Whitaker

Although we attempt to control who attends our Zoom Sunday services, they are essentially open to the public. We therefore need to be careful in our sharing of information. If it is personal information, we should have that person's permission to share. If information needs to be given to a particular individual the Chat feature can be used with a "chat" to one person rather than the whole group.

+++++

ZOOM SUNDAY SERVICES AT OUUF: permitted under the recent Proclamation



We invite and welcome persons who would like to join our Zoom Sunday service at the Fellowship. The Zoom meeting will be projected onto the large TV screen for viewing and chairs set up spaced at least 6' apart. Seating will be limited to a small group so we need to know how many people will be attending.

If you would like to join call Elinor Tennyson at (360) 417-2665 or email admin@olympicuuf.com

- Face masks must be worn – mouth and nose covered at all times
- Singing permitted with face masks on
- Exit doors will be open for air circulation **Wear warm clothing**
- No refreshments will be served.

+++++

CHILDREN'S R.E. NEWS:

By Harmony Rutter

To kick off December and get ourselves in the holiday spirit, we sang songs, danced, and made some beautiful ornaments to decorate our homes for the winter season. This week the snowflakes became three dimensional with pipe cleaners and sparkly beads. Then we made some shiny flaming chalice ornaments to bring some light into our winter holiday celebrations and learn about the symbol of Unitarian Universalism. Sharing our joys and sorrows we made great memories and spread some holiday cheer. Next week we will be learning all about Hanukkah... I hear there may be chocolate coins involved!



+++++

2021 PLEDGE



Traditionally fall is pledge drive time, but of course like everything else this fall is different. For the purpose of constructing a draft budget for 2021, it was assumed that we will have approximately the same number of pledges and that amounts will be similar, and we expect 2021 expenses to be approximately \$72,000.

Some of you signed a "continuous pledge" last year. If you did, we will assume that is your pledge for 2021. If you did not make a pledge last year and wish to pledge this year, or if you want to change your pledge amount please email Elinor at admin@olympicuuf.com and a 2021 form will be emailed or snail mailed to you. If you do not remember whether you checked continuous pledge last year or the amount, please email Don Hatler at donaldhatler1936@gmail.com.

Hopefully a year from now we will be getting together again for our fun pledge events. Thank you, Dianne Whitaker, President OUUF Board of Trustees

+++++

+++++

Special Message - Portion read at 12-6 Sunday Service

From UUA President, Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray

In this holiday season, may we simply be.

As we embark on this season of holidays and holy days, I hold you and our faith community in deep care. This season will be different than any we can remember. We cannot gather in our sanctuaries and sacred spaces, bedecked with greenery and poinsettias. We cannot gather close together in candlelight and song. Our dearly held traditions that bring so much joy to this season of magic and beautiful darkness will be pared down, virtual, even canceled altogether.

It's heartbreaking to think of going through this season without the company of extended family and friends. And for so many of us who have lost loved ones, our grief will be heavier during the holidays—especially in a year such as this.

Now is the time to lean in more to relationships of care and compassion, to lean in more to our interdependence. Gathering virtually, calling our friends, checking in on each other—it matters. One of the things keeping me rooted these days is remembering to take it one day at a time. It is so easy to focus on missing what cannot be or the difficult road still ahead in the pandemic. In staying attentive to the present, I am able to attend to my grief, while also being open to the affirmation of life that is still very much present.

My hope for each and every one of us, in the midst of a season so often marked by hectic to-do lists and the recreation of some “perfect holiday,” is that we give ourselves permission to rest, to simply be, rather than always doing. To tend to the grief and the joy that is a part of our lives. To make room in our days for our spiritual care and renewal.

Just as the earth takes time to rest in the winter, let us remember the gift of darkness that is part of this season—a reflective moment in the cycle of life. In the words of Buddhist teacher Stephanie Nobel:

“Dark is the rich fertile earth
that cradles the seed, nourishing growth.
Dark is the soft night that cradles us to rest.
Only in darkness
can stars shine across the vastness of space...
There is mystery woven in the dark quiet hours.
There is magic in the darkness...
We are born of this magic.”

link to the full reading of the poem [In Celebration of the Winter Solstice | WorshipWeb | UUA.org](https://www.worshipweb.org/In-Celebration-of-the-Winter-Solstice)

+++++



PHOTOS

From: Seri Mylchreest

The apple tree behind OUUF and the only Thanksgiving cooking I did-- from the apples I picked!



+++++

OOUF Pastoral Care Team



The Caring Team supports and reaches out to members and friends of OOUF who are experiencing life changes, challenges, loss, illness, death or loneliness. We also share in moments of joy.

Pastoral Caring Team members offer a special touch of human kindness and an open ear. We are a caring, listening presence, although we do not counsel, offer therapy or advice.

We recognize and respect the importance of confidentiality in all information imparted to the Pastoral Care Team members.

Our Services include:

- Hospital, Nursing home and Home visits—listening and companionship
 - Transportation—arranging rides as needed
- Temporary Meals –arrange to have meals delivered during illness or need
 - Mailing greeting cards for illness or other needs

If you or someone you care about needs a listening ear or a helping hand, please contact our Team Leader:

Jean Stratton Pastoral Care Team Leader
360 452-6719
jeanmstratton@gmail.com

If you think you may be interested in volunteering for the team,, please contact Jean by email: jeanmstratton@gmail.com, or call 360 452 6719. It's not labor intensive. Just bring a caring heart and a willing to connect with others. Thanks so much.

+++++

CARE CARDS:

As a member of the OOUF 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 OOUF roster for addresses



+++++

VIEWPOINT - EMAIL DISCUSSION GROUP:

A group of of us have started a discussion group via email. We would like to invite others to join in. Anyone in the group can suggest a topic. Then the participants send a reply at their convenience. Here are some advantages of this discussion group:

- *Safety (no in person contact)*
- *Convenience - you don't have to schedule a fixed time, you just respond at your convenience*
- *Informal - say what's on your mind with a comfortable group of OOUF folks - none of the pitfalls of some social media forums*

New topics will be submitted on the 1st and 15th of each month. Any participant can submit a topic." Contact Cynthia at cythiagreen@outlook.com

+++++

+++++

LITTLE FREE PANTRY UPDATE

Sequim Gazette Article

Agnew Fellowship offers Little Free Pantry, hopes to grow effort in Sequim area

- By [Matthew Nash](#)
- Wednesday, November 25, 2020 1:30am
-

FOR FULL ARTICLE CLICK HERE **[SEQUIM-GAZETTE-11-25-2020. article](#)**



Rotating teams from the Olympic Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, like Sequim couple Greg and Vicki Sensiba, take turns stocking the Little Free Pantry each day. The project started two months ago, and organizers hope it's the first of many across Sequim. Sequim Gazette photo by Matthew Nash



The Little Free Library now has a new neighbor, the Little Free Pantry, in front of the Olympic Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1033 Barr Road. Organizers said since the pantry went in, the library has seen an uptick in usage. Sequim Gazette photo by Matthew Nash

+++++



Please join us for a time of Walking Meditation. **Fridays, from 11 AM – noon**

Our intention is to find and hold a calming space within (so necessary in this stressful times), while joining with others in listening to a brief reading, then some alone time for walking (or sitting or ???) and then finishing up with another shared reading, and “check in”. **BRING A FRIEND AND A MASK!**

If you cannot attend but would like to participate via Zoom for check-in and shared reading (about 15 minutes), please call/email Sandy Goodwick at (818) 489-8626 or sgoodwick@aol.com to get the Zoom link.

QUESTIONS? Call Sandy Goodwick (818) 489-8626

+++++

+++++



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

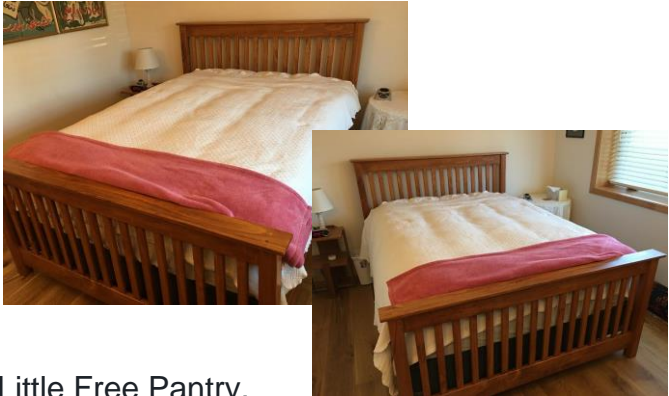
Zoom meetings will be hosted on the first and third Thursday at 1:00PM by Elaine Webber. Contact Elaine at elainejwebber@hotmail.com for the link.

+++++

OUUF FRIENDS AND MEMBERS BULLETIN BOARD:

For sale: \$500

Queen bed, frame plus mattress and box spring. Two-year-old guest room bed needs another home. Changing how the room is used. Bed's been used a total of about two months...maybe. Three slats with center supports. Clean. Smoke, kid, and pet free home. Bring a truck and muscle. We have a furniture dolly. Proceeds to be donated to food purchasing for the Little Free Pantry. Please contact Dave Large. 408-710-8041



+++++

**December 6, 2020
Sunday Speaker
Rev. Amanda Aikman**

Sermon: A Menorah for All of Us"

Copy of sermon available by request to:

revaikman@gmail.com