



# WY'EAST NEWS AND NOTES

WY'EAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION      JULY-AUGUST 2007

We are a Welcoming Congregation to all persons regardless of race, color, gender, affectional or sexual orientation, age, national or ethnic origin, or economic background.

## A MONTH OF SUNDAYS IN JULY

### July 1      **MAY THE SPIRIT OF LOVE SURROUND YOU**

In Cecilia's last service with us, she'll share her reflections on our time with her these last two years. What was this sacred path we walked together, and where will we – and she – go from here?

*Family Choir Rehearsal at 4:00 p.m.*

*Religious Education* – Children attend the beginning of the service, then go downstairs for Wy'Camp<sup>1</sup>, an informal activity for all ages. Nursery care is available for infants and pre-schoolers.

*Good-bye Reception for Cecilia* – Following the service, join us for refreshments and to wish Cecilia well. Note that our First Sunday Supper will resume in August.

### July 8      **SMALL GROUP MINISTRY IN A SMALL CONGREGATION**

Many congregations are using small groups to revolutionize their approach to adult religious education, faith development, and members ministering to each other. Can Wy'east do this, when we are already a small group? Member, Sean, will look at some ways we already do successful Small Group Ministry, and some ways we can improve.

*Hymn Sing at 4:45 p.m.*

*Religious Education* – Children attend the beginning of the service, then go downstairs for Wy'Camp<sup>1</sup>, an informal activity for all ages. Nursery care is available for infants and pre-schoolers.

*Second Sunday Salad* – Bring a vegetable for our communal salad. Bread or desserts are also welcome.

### July 15      **EXPLORING TRANSITIONS THROUGH POETRY AND PRAYERS**

Please bring a poem or prayer on the topic of transitions to share during this participatory service, led by member, Karl. We'll draw on the wisdom of poets and sages during this time of change at Wy'east.

*Religious Education* – Children attend the beginning of the service, then go downstairs for Wy'Camp<sup>1</sup>, an informal activity for all ages. Nursery care is available for infants and pre-schoolers.

*Social Hour* – Join us for refreshments after the service.

*Restaurant Adventure* – 7:00 p.m. Location to be announced during social hour.

### July 22      **WHY WE ARE UU**

Jokes are often told about UUs lacking any clear beliefs. On the contrary, our movement has a long history of clear expressions of our beliefs, both in thoughts and actions. From time to time we need to pause and lift up that heritage, which can inspire us to new and continuing actions in support of our traditions and Principles. Our guest is Dennis Reynolds, Ministerial Student at Meadville Lombard Theological School.

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*Social Hour* – Join us for refreshments after the service.

### July 29      **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**

Sarah will be in the pulpit for her last week at Wy'east before leaving for her parish internship. She will reflect on transitions we face as people and as a congregation.

*Religious Education* – Children attend the beginning of the service, then go downstairs for Wy'Camp<sup>1</sup>, an informal activity for all ages. Nursery care is available for infants and pre-schoolers.

*Social Hour* – Join us for refreshments after the service.

<sup>1</sup>See Page 7 for Wy'Camp Highlights!

# A MONTH OF SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

## **August 5 HOPE AND HEALING FOR EARTH AND COMMUNITY**

In the face of a broken world, we find ourselves lamenting the twin disasters of the unraveling of Earth's natural systems and the breakdown of our human communities into war, addictions, and other dysfunctions. But what's a good UU to do? This sermon invites us to imagine our congregation as a healthy "Earth Community," where moral strength and spiritual sustenance can be found to support our quest for justice on an imperiled planet. Rev. Katherine Jesch will be in the pulpit.

***Religious Education** – Children attend the beginning of the service, then go downstairs for Wy'Camp<sup>1</sup>, an informal activity for all ages. Nursery care is available for infants and pre-schoolers.*

***First Sunday Supper** – Bring a potluck dish to share following the service.*

## **August 12 LAZY DAYS OF SUMMER**

The Siesta is a longstanding tradition in certain cultures. What can we learn from this daily time of respite? What would life look like if we spent more time embracing those things we say we value? Marcia Stanard is in the pulpit.

***Hymn Sing** at 4:45 p.m.*

***Religious Education** – Children attend the beginning of the service, then go downstairs for Wy'Camp<sup>1</sup>, an informal activity for all ages. Nursery care is available for infants and pre-schoolers.*

***Second Sunday Salad** – Bring a vegetable for our communal salad. Bread or desserts are also welcome.*

## **August 19 A MORE PERFECT UNION**

Wy'east member, Joanne, was a child when the Unitarians and Universalists joined together to become one denomination. She will share personal stories from this important time in our history.

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***Social Hour** – Join us for refreshments after the service.*

***Restaurant Adventure** – 7:00 p.m. Location to be announced during social hour.*

## **August 26 SALVATION FOR UUs**

What saves us from devastation and returns us to wholeness? This question of salvation has shaped the thoughts and actions of religious believers for centuries. Given that we are a religious people who focus on the here and now, rather than the hereafter, what does salvation mean to us? What in the world are we saving and what are we saving it for? Today we welcome our new minister, Rev. Susan Maginn, to the pulpit.

***Religious Education** – Children attend the beginning of the service, then go downstairs for Wy'Camp<sup>1</sup>, an informal activity for all ages. Nursery care is available for infants and pre-schoolers.*

***Social Hour** – Join us for refreshments after the service.*

<sup>1</sup> See page 7 for Wy'Camp Highlights!

## September : Take note

**September 2:** Labor Day Picnic.

**September 9:** Intergenerational Water Communion Service.

**September 16:** Regular Religious Education Classes Start Again.

## Minister's Corner



I remember the first Unitarian Universalist worship service I ever attended. I was in my early 20s, living in New York City. Through a couple twists of fate, I decided to visit a Unitarian Universalist congregation. I had attended many worship services in my youth. I grew up in a Catholic family with a Jewish step-father and had friends of many faiths. But I had never experienced anything like this Unitarian Universalist congregation. The authenticity of this community amazed me. The people from the pulpit were not afraid to talk about how challenging and yet how beautiful and sacred life can be. I left the congregation that day in tears. I did not even know that this authenticity was what I had been yearning for. Now, as a minister, I still remember that day and I am always aspiring to bring that same spirit of authenticity to whatever I do.

For many years I have worked in the fields of non-profit administration and psychiatric social work, working for homeless shelters, serving on regional advisory boards and the Mental Health Association. I have worked as a chaplain at a level-one trauma center. For the past four years, I have served Eliot Unitarian Chapel

in St. Louis, Missouri as their student minister, youth director and membership development coordinator. It is with profound delight that I accept the call to serve the adults and children of Wy'east Unitarian Universalist Congregation. My husband, Peter Campbell, and I have dreamed for many years that we would be able to return to Portland and raise our children here.

I believe that Unitarian Universalist ministry is about inspiring transformation in our homes, our congregations, our local community and our world, and I am ever mindful that this list starts at home. I know that my life as a wife and mother of two small children is greatly enhanced by what I learn as a minister and that my life as a minister is greatly enhanced by what I learn at home. All the great spiritual lessons are meaningless if they are not real in the simplest moments of our daily life.

See you in church!

*Susan*



## From the Board

We say goodbye to Cecilia Kingman Miller at our service on July 1. Thank you, Cecilia, for all that you have done for us in the past 2 years. We wouldn't be where we are today without your cheering, nudging, cajoling, and wise counsel. We will miss you!

Summer is upon us and things have slowed down a bit at Wy'east as we catch our breath before another busy church year. Of course, we have services all summer long, and Wy'camp for the children, but July is a time for enjoying our beautiful Pacific Northwest, maybe taking a trip, maybe spending time with family. Then, on August 1 our new minister, Susan Maginn, will join us as we plan for a new church year.

The board met at the end of May and selected our officers for the coming year: I am staying on as Board Moderator; Karl is the Vice Moderator; Jill is our new Secretary, and Joanne has agreed to continue as our Treasurer. Mark is now a Trustee at Large. Marcia Stanard is continuing as our Religious Education Coordinator; Linda Jo will again serve as Music Director; and Rich will stay on as Office Administrator. The next time you see these folks, please thank them for their many contributions to the life of Wy'east.

From time to time people suggest that Wy'east should do more in the way of social justice work. We are a small congregation, so the amount of direct, hands on, social justice work we can do is limited. But I think we can congratulate ourselves on what we have done. Our special collections have generated \$2,554.71 so far this year for programs ranging from social services and hunger prevention, to rebuilding burned churches, to relief for refugees in Darfur. In addition, I was pleased to read in a recent report from the

*From the Board cont.*

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) that 50% of Wy'east members are also members of the UUSC. For those who want to contribute to social justice work and have not joined the UUSC, I recommend them to you. Right now they are working on sweatshop issues in Mexico and Kenya, fair trade coffee in Guatemala, putting political and economic pressure on The Sudan to stop the genocide in Darfur, and post-Katrina rebuilding on the Gulf Coast. The UUSC has a long history of social justice work, starting with rescuing probable victims of the Nazi death camps. I am going to try to get enough UUSC brochures at General Assembly to include one with each copy of this newsletter. For more information you can go to [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org).

I also recommend to you the Pacific Northwest District's Chalice Lighter program. Chalice Lighters agree to contribute \$10 or more three times a year to selected UU congregations in our area so they can take advantage of an opportunity that requires extra financial resources, like buying a new piano or exploring options for making a building accessible. Becoming a Chalice Lighter is an easy way to support the larger UU community. As Wy'east continues to grow, so will our capacity to take on additional social justice projects, but until then, these are some great ways to put our beliefs into action.

Barbara  
Board Moderator ◆

## Don't Miss the Farewell Reception for Cecilia!

Cecelia's last day in our pulpit will be Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Following this special service, we will hold a reception in her honor in Hyde Hall at Waverly.

## Music Matters



"Many hands make light work." I remember the first time I heard this phrase. I was about seven years old, standing at a picnic table behind the red New England barn that served as home for my grandparents, shelling peas from the garden into a colander with my family. A neighbor walking by on the dirt road called out to us, and commented on all the helping hands. My grandmother answered back with that magical phrase.

Indeed, sharing work does lighten the load, and it builds community. If music at Wy'east is important to you, you may want to consider joining our expanding Music Committee. The Music Committee serves to support and advocate for our music program. Although there are many ways that you can make a difference in this role, I recommend that you choose one that speaks to you personally.

Do you like to share musical ideas, discover new resources,

create posters, talk on the phone, plan social gatherings, organize papers, people or ideas, dream up community outreach events, make lists, take notes, create advertisements, talk to visitors about the musical offerings at our church, write articles, lead meetings, eat cookies with other interesting folks? No, you don't have to do *all* of these things. Remember the part about many hands? The more the merrier! The Music Committee is looking to embrace more friends and members of Wy'east. I invite you to consider how you might lend a hand. All you need is a love of music and a desire to support our music program in your own special way. Together we will keep the music program running smoothly and shape a vision for the future of music at Wy'east.

With many hands and hearts coming together with a common focus, we can share the magic of community in the name of music. Please talk to me if you would like to take part!

Yours in Harmony,

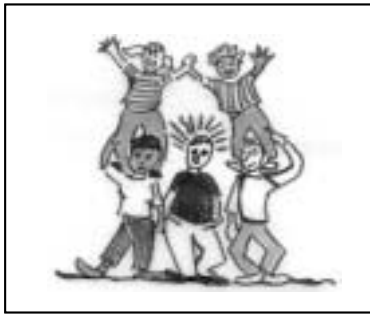
Linda Jo  
Music Director ◆

## Update on the Note- by-Note Fundraiser

Together, note by note, we have collected enough funds to repair the Kawai digital piano that was generously donated to our congregation. Many thanks to everyone who bought a key. Be looking (and listening) for the new addition to our congregational family later this summer!◆

## LRE

### Lifespan Religious Education



#### Looking Forward, Looking Back

The church year has come to a close. In a few months, we look forward to welcoming our new minister, Susan Maginn. Several teachers are in place for the fall for our anticipated three classes, plus the youth group. We will have more offerings of adult religious education classes to look forward to as well. Between now and then, we have the ever-popular Wy'camp. In true Wy'east fashion, adults or families step up to teach a skill or simply share an activity they enjoy with our children and youth, as the adults enjoy services. As of this writing, we still have a few slots available, so be sure to sign up. (See page 7 for open dates.) You won't want to miss this fun opportunity to serve our community.

But as we look to the future, we also reflect back over the course of this last year. Having had the pleasure of working with many of your kids, I'd like to share some special moments with you. Celebration of Light was a joyful tribute to many winter holidays from different traditions. I remember the backstage quick

costume changes as girls and boys added African cloth and removed angel garments. Listening to Lou Lou shout out the lines of the Angel Gabriel from the high window above the sanctuary brought a smile to many faces. Remember the pre-Thanksgiving service on gratitude? Seeing adults and children walk around writing nice things on each other's backs brought Wy'easters together, appreciating each other for all the good things we do. At the Palm Sunday intergenerational service Morgan loved playing Jesus and the children got a sense of what it would have been like being a Hebrew slave during the time of the Exodus.

Moments that you may have missed, but your children enjoyed, included making cat face puppets with Katy for the canvass dinner show, singing songs with Mabel each week as an opening chalice lighting activity, or playing games to illustrate fairness and other UU principles.

Some of my favorite moments this year were spent with the youth group. Between the road trip to spring "con" (youth conference) with Anders, writing their credo statements, and their assistance with intergenerational services, I was privileged to share times that were both fun and meaningful. I remember the first meeting when I asked the group what they wanted from a youth group; they both really wanted to learn about Unitarian Universalism. I know I learned a lot from them, and trust that they learned from the process. I was so proud of Morgan and Stefan's

credo statements at the "Profession of Belief" service. It's been an honor to serve this congregation and I look forward to returning to work with the children and youth in September.

Teacher training and preparation will begin in August. Please consider finding a way to get involved with the RE program next year. Take an adult education class. Sign up to be a host for one of the children's classes for a Sunday or two, or more. This is our way of ensuring two adults in each class for safety purposes, while not overburdening our congregation. We understand not everyone wants to commit to teaching, so this is our way of allowing everyone to participate without committing to the entire year. We hope you will join us!

In faith,

Marcia Stanard  
LRE Coordinator  
and Karla  
Committee Chair ◆

## UU Adventures in Eating



On July 1, we will have a **Farewell Reception for Cecilia** in Hyde Hall immediately following the service. There will be no **First Sunday Supper** in July, but please join us for our **First Sunday Supper** on August 5,

*Adventures in Eating cont.*

after the service. Please bring a potluck dish to share. July 8 and August 12 are our **Second Sunday Salad Nights**. Bring a vegetable to church and drop it off in the basket by the entrance before the service starts. Mark will use it to prepare a tasty salad to be enjoyed after the service. Contributions of bread, side dishes, and dessert are also welcome. On July 22 and August 19 after church and social hour, we'll head out for another **Restaurant Adventure**, locations to be announced. If you'd like to join in, please tell Tode that day. Tode will get a count and call ahead so our table will be ready for us. ♦

## New Hospitality Committee

A new Hospitality Committee is forming, with Mark serving as its board liaison this year. Mark is looking for other Wy'easters to join him in working together on this important church responsibility. The committee's charge is to create a welcoming Sunday evening experience and foster social interactions among Wy'east members, friends, and guests by facilitating the First Sunday Potlucks and Second Sunday Soup or Salad Nights, coordinating social hours, maintaining kitchen supplies for all of the above functions, and organizing occasional social activities like picnics or special events. ♦

## Water Communion is Coming Soon

Many UU churches have a tradition that marks the end of summer and the beginning of a new church year. During the summer months as many of us travel or spend time relaxing close to home, we collect a small amount of water from our adventures and bring it to church in September, where the water is all combined. The water is then used for important rituals throughout the year. Our Water Communion falls on September 9 this year. Willow and Jon will work with the children on July 8 to create specially decorated jars for each family to use when collecting their water. Be sure to pick one up at the Second Sunday Salad right after the service. ♦

### Newsletter News

Articles and calendar items for the September newsletter are due by 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15. Send submissions to co-editors, Laura and Abbie at [wyeast-news-editor@holycow.portland.or.us](mailto:wyeast-news-editor@holycow.portland.or.us).

We encourage one and all (kids too!) to contribute – perhaps a recommendation for a book or movie, some original artwork or poetry, thoughts on an experience that was meaningful to you, or personal news and milestones.

## Summer Office Hours

Rich will be in the office from 1-3 p.m. on variable days in July: Thursday 7/5, Wednesday 7/11, Tuesday 7/17, and Thursday 7/26. In August, office hours will be back to every Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. If you have questions or church business, please call (503) 777-3704 during these hours. ♦

## Denominational Doings

**Pilgrimage to the Unitarian Homelands of Transylvania**  
*Early October 2007*

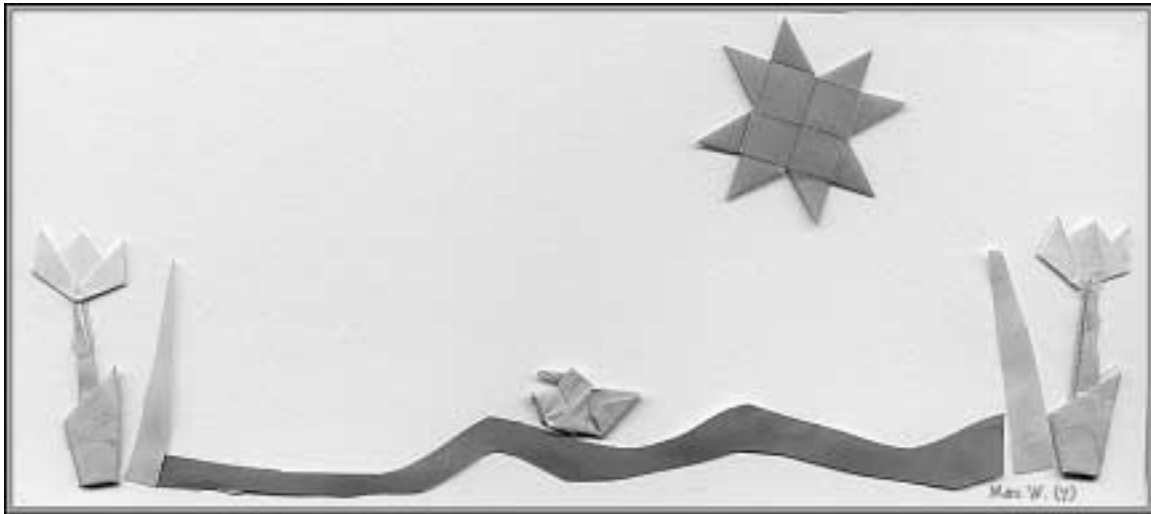
It's not too late to sign up for this incredible opportunity to experience village life in Romania, while getting to know our brothers and sisters in faith and working with them to preserve their traditional way of life. You'll travel with UUs from all over the country, with Cecelia Kingman Miller as trip leader, accompanied by local guides and Project Harvest Hope staff. Seminars led by local experts will include religious and cultural history, sustainable agriculture and globalization, post-communist economics and development, and women's and children's issues. Worship and reflection, feasting, singing and dancing—all are shared on this transformative journey. All proceeds benefit Project Harvest Hope's efforts to protect the Unitarian homelands in Transylvania. For more details and a trip application, visit [www.projectharvesthope.org](http://www.projectharvesthope.org). ♦

## July 2007 — Calendar of Events

\* Unless noted by an asterisk, all events are at the church.

Sunday	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 <b>4pm</b> Family Choir Rehearsal <b>5pm</b> Service <b>6pm</b> Farewell Reception for Cecelia	2	3	4	5 <b>10am</b> OofS Deadline <b>1-3pm</b> Office Hours	6	7
8 <b>4:45pm</b> Hymn Sing <b>5pm</b> Service <b>6pm</b> Salad Supper	9	10	11 <b>10am</b> OofS Deadline <b>1-3pm</b> Office Hours <b>7pm</b> Newsletter Deadline <b>7 pm</b> Board Meeting	12	13	14
15 <b>5pm</b> Service <b>6pm</b> Social Hour <b>7pm</b> Restaurant Adventure	16	17 <b>10am</b> OofS Deadline <b>1-3pm</b> Office Hours	18	19	20	21
22 <b>5pm</b> Service <b>6pm</b> Social Hour	23	24	25	26 <b>10am</b> OofS Deadline <b>1-3pm</b> Office Hours	27	28
29 <b>5pm</b> Service <b>6pm</b> Social Hour	30	31				

*Note: See the bottom of page 2 for some important September dates!*



### Wy'Camp Highlights

*Children's Activities During the Service in July and August*

**July 1:** Game Night (Linda and Elena)  
**July 8:** Decorating Jars for Water Communion (Willow and Jon)  
**July 15:** TBD (Mabel)  
**July 22:** Ice Cream Making and Soccer (Linda, Bruce, Claudia, Gavin, and NoraJane)  
**July 29:** TBD

**August 5:** Juggling Demo and Lessons (Anders)  
**August 12:** TBD (Laura, Karl, and Anna)  
**August 19:** TBD (Katy)  
**August 26:** TBD, Last Day of Wy'Camp!

OofS=order of service

## August 2007 — Calendar of Events

\* Unless noted by an asterisk, all events are at the church.

Sunday	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			<b>1</b> 10am OofS Deadline 1-3pm Office Hours 7:15pm Board Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 5pm Service 6pm First Sunday Potluck	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7pm Worship Committee	<b>8</b> 10am OofS Deadline 1-3pm Office Hours	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 4:45pm Hymn Sing 5pm Service 6pm Salad Supper	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10am OofS Deadline 1-3pm Office Hours 7pm Newsletter Deadline 7:15pm Board Meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 5pm Service 6pm Social Hour 7pm Restaurant Adventure	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10am OofS Deadline 1-3pm Office Hours	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 5pm Service 6pm Social Hour	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10am OofS Deadline 1-3pm Office Hours	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

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**Return Service Requested**