

Soundings

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR SHORELINE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, SHORELINE, WA



December 2011

Worship Services

Dec. 4

“AIDS in Africa,” Dennis Reynolds and Lindsey Reynolds 10:30 a.m.

While an HIV diagnosis is no longer a death sentence for those with access to treatment, the effects of the pandemic continues to reshape the lives of individuals and families across the globe in drastic ways. Despite these challenges, families and communities continue to strive to provide support and care for those most affected. The UU Global AIDS Alliance and many dedicated individuals have worked hard to support these communities in their efforts to fight the pandemic. Our principles call us to do what we can to make a difference. *♫ Spirit Hand will play.*

Dennis Reynolds is the consulting Minister to the UU congregations in Humboldt, California and Klamath Falls, Oregon. His daughter, Lindsey, is finishing her Ph.D. in public health and anthropology at Johns Hopkins University, and has spent the last several years working with children affected by HIV/AIDS in South Africa.

Following the service will be a bake sale and a sale of gifts, jewelry and crafts from the Zulu women’s “Thembanathi” (hope with us) crafts cooperative.

Dec. 11

“Difficult Gifts, Precious Gifts,” The Rev. Heather Lynn Hanson, Interim Minister 10:30 a.m.

In this season when many cultural traditions involve the exchange or expectation of gifts, you may have fretted about finding an “acceptable” gift for certain people. What are the obligations and strings? On the other hand, you’ve probably received one or two gifts that are priceless. What have they been? Why were they priceless?

♫ A musical gift by Joyce Allison.

Dec. 18

“Season of Gladness, Season of Sharing,” Intergenerational Service 10:30 a.m.

Stories and songs for the season. Judi Kalitzki will chant the Hanukkah prayer. We’ll reflect on the ancient pre-Christian celebration of Solstice. And we’ll sing lots of seasonal carols.

♫ Choir will sing.

Dec. 24

“Lights in the Dark,” Christmas Eve Service 8:30 p.m.

Readings and music to celebrate the magic, the myths and the mystery of this night. Our Christmas Eve offering is dedicated to replenish the Minister’s Discretionary Fund, which is used to help our members who are in financial straits, and to assist other people in need with groceries or bus fare throughout the year ahead.



Dec. 25

“Conversations and Contemplations of Christmas,” 10:30 a.m.

Gather together for community connection. No children’s program.

MINISTER'S REPORT

THE REV. HEATHER LYNN HANSON

The Interim Passage — A Month of Transitions



December — short days and long nights. Hours of darkness, fertile soil for dreams and memories, for fears and fantasies, for handiwork by the fire, quiet contemplation, and bright lights and parties, shopping and tinny Muzak.

In this season called Advent (*Latin: to come; to approach*), some of us anticipate the change of light at Solstice; some await the renewal of love and joy represented in Christmas. Some seek other changes, whether of celebration, or the healing of grief, or the shifting of our own plans and priorities. Winter is a time of gestation and formation without which spring cannot burst forth. Seeds need the dark and the time to germinate, to begin their transformation. Thoughts also need quiet solitude to develop. Both healing and growth occur as we sleep. Time allows new perspective. The darkness of subconscious contains the cauldron of creativity.

Poet Sophie Rosenberg in 1996 wrote:

I am learning by heart / what has never before been taught
Tracing hurt with a kissed finger I find the pattern
In a constellation of scars / And recognize myself there....
What was inconceivable is
Born like blossoms from the black soil...

Our culture tempts us to fill the dark with digitized light and noise, constant chatter, electric stars and projected excitement. Certainly, part of the charm of the season can be music and parties and colored lights shining on wet sidewalks. But too easily we can miss the grace of darkness by becoming too busy to allow reflection.

For three more weeks, sunrise will be later and sunset a little earlier. Then, something will shift and the earth will begin a new dance with the growing light of the “returning” sun.

In these few weeks of long winter nights, let us learn a quiet comfort in the presence of darkness. What is growing, working its way to the surface, needs this time of dimness, of solitude. May we trust that as the light returns,

What was inconceivable is
Born like blossoms from the black soil
As light pours warm honey
And something new learns to rise.....

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Some of us spend far too much time in solitude, and this season may hold memories of bitter pain, loss or loneliness. Others may be overwhelmed with family obligations and jam-packed schedules. We each need each other's thoughtful care. Extend an invitation, a phone call, a meal to someone you may not know well, if that is possible. It might be just a simple conversation in the local coffee shop after church. Whether they say yes or no, your offer may rank among the priceless gifts you give this year.

Wishing you warm moments full of kindness and laughter,

Heather Lynn



As we near the end of our fiscal year, I would like to take this opportunity to look ahead to 2012. In January, the congregation will meet to review and vote on our budget for the 2012 fiscal (and calendar) year. In May, the congregation will meet to vote on a calling of a new minister. Both of these meetings are crucially important to setting the direction of SUUC in 2012 and beyond. I wanted to take a moment to remind us all of the responsibilities of membership at SUUC as outlined in our bylaws:

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 A. Any person in sympathy with the purpose of this church and who meets the following requirements may become a voting member and sustain that membership by:

- a. being at least 18 years of age;
- b. attending an orientation session as defined by the Board of Trustees;
- c. signing the membership roll;
- d. making an annual financial pledge of record each calendar year; and
- e. being recognized as a member by the Board of Trustees.

Section 6

There shall be a non-voting membership category for those persons satisfying the requirements of Article IV, Section 1A, a, b, c, and e, but not making a financial pledge for whatever reason.

If you have not made your financial pledge for 2012, please do so as soon as you can.

ARTICLE X. FINANCE

Section 1.

A primary responsibility of the voting members of SUUC and their elected representatives, the Board of Trustees (including the VP/Finance), and the Endowment Committee, will be to ensure the financial health and well-being of SUUC. Voting members are required to pledge to the financial support of the church and to fulfill that pledge.

If you have not fulfilled your pledge for 2011, please contact Laurie Radin or me as soon as you can. Please recall that pledge amounts can go up or down during the pledge year — depending on your circumstances — however, the church office should have the most recent pledge amount that you agree to fulfill during the pledge year and that pledge amount should be fulfilled by 12/31/2011.

Very early in the new year, we will meet to review the pledges for 2012 in order to determine our voting members for the January congregational meeting — as well as to submit our membership numbers to the PNWD and UUA. Please help us continue to ensure the financial health of SUUC by fulfilling your current year pledge and submitting your pledge for next year.

Pledging and making payments aren't necessarily the most uplifting of our interactions with SUUC — but they form the basis for our continued fellowship and much of the good work that we do.

Regards,

Laura McCarty

BOARD UPDATE

ELIZA SUTTON

Highlights from the Board of Trustees Meeting on November 8

1. Ministerial Search Committee size. The Board approved the following statement:
The SUUC Bylaws require that the congregation assemble a search committee of 7 members, which it did. It also gives the Board the discretion to appoint one or two replacements if vacancies occur. UUA guidelines suggest that if one or two vacancies occur it is usually best not to replace them. While the Board is permitted to fill vacancies, it considers the search process to be past the point where it is appropriate to add newcomers to the committee.
2. Budget adjustment & planning. Pledges through Stewardship are at about 74%. Discussed approaches to revising budget before January Board meeting. Congregational budget meeting will be held on January 22.
3. Membership adjustment. Changes to membership rolls should be finalized by the time we are required to submit a new count to the UUA in January. We held an extended discussion regarding pledge and payment expectations for membership, particularly given the economic downturn of the past 3 years, including discussion of a possible pledge waiver process. We have confirmed that the Bylaws specify that a person must make a pledge to be a member, and must pay that pledge to vote. The Bylaws do not specify a minimum pledge nor exclude adjusting one's pledge during the year.
4. Church sign. Discussed options for chalice design.
5. UU General Resolution on Justice for Indigenous Peoples: Bringing this to the congregation at the January 22 Congregational Meeting was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.
6. Financial update. PNWD dues have been paid at 100%. Discussed bequests.
7. Thank you to Tom Beeler, Bill Hayes, and Cal Spangler for their ongoing work on the old & new signs.
8. Next meeting: Tuesday December 13. May switch standing day to second Thursdays effective January 12 if all Board members can attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Eliza Sutton, Secretary

City Cantabile Choir's Free Winter Concert December 7



One of the groups that uses our beautiful, resonant space is the City Cantabile Choir directed by our own Fred West. This year the choir has been working on one of Fred's own compositions: the Balkan-styled "Christmas Cantata." Douglas McLennan of the Seattle PI described Fred's composition in this way: It is "...an imaginative and spirit-filled work that tells of Christmas through Eastern European and Middle Eastern ears." This is beautiful music performed by choir, soloists and string quartet. Just last week we got to hear one of the soloists, our very own Joyce Allison and, well, you'll just have to hear her sing this to believe a human being is singing because it sounds so incredibly otherworldly!! Joyce's singing often makes us feel there could be angels in heaven!

The choir offers to you, our gracious Shoreline UUC hosts, a free holiday concert of this beautiful Christmas Cantata and holiday carols. We'll even throw in some punch and cookies. Chances are you'll love this evening. Please come on December 7, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary...and bring friends and the whole family!

If you need a ride, or can offer a ride, please let Heather Lynn know by Monday December 5. We'll do what we can to create car pools. We don't want the dark to prevent you from enjoying the concert by Cantabile.

Welcome to winter! While it's gotten a lot colder in the last three days, I am working on staying warm by way of a strict regimen of potlucks and pie making. Thank you for giving me and the youth group cause to keep the oven on longer – we made and sold **47 pies** for this year's pie sale! Making the pies was a lot of fun for youth and advisors alike and the money raised will help the youth group do fun activities and attend district events and trainings. Thanks also to Lex, Marjon, and Bill & Kim H. for their generous donations of many dozens of apples and the use of their apple peelers, as well as all of the youth advisors and youth for making this possible!



In case you haven't heard, I started a blog in November entitled "**Shoreline UU Families.**" On it, you can find information on what's going on in the children's and youth programs, food for thought for UU families, links to relevant content, updates about upcoming events in our church and the district, and more. One of the most useful features on the blog is a handy little calendar of upcoming events, such as potlucks, Food Lifeline visits, and more. If there's something you'd like to see on the blog or something you'd like to contribute, please get in touch – I envision it being something that all who care about the young people in our church can help to create so that it reflects and strengthens the values of our community. Please do bookmark the page and check back as I'll be updating it more than once each month. The address of the blog is <drum roll> :

<http://shorelineuufamilies.wordpress.com>

Speaking of family related events, this month's family potluck takes place on December 9. This time around there will be a luminaria making station in addition to the usual opportunities to draw, play board games, eat together, and so on. In the future, the family potlucks will be on the second Friday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Hope you all are finding light and warmth in your lives as we approach the darkest days of the year, and see you on a Sunday soon!

Upcoming Events

Friday, December 9 – Family Potluck, 6-8:30 p.m., Chrysalis

If you were one of the 25 or so people that had enjoyed the first family potluck in October, thank you for making it a great time and I hope that in the busy holiday season you'll have time to make it again!

Sunday, December 11 – RE Committee Meeting, 12-1:30 p.m., East Portable (2nd Sundays)

Stop in to learn about what's going on in RE now, in the future, and to let us know what you'd like to see happen in the future of the RE program. Teachers and parents are especially encouraged to attend one or more meetings a year. Childcare is available – please contact me a week or more in advance if you plan to attend with children in tow.

Sunday, December 25 – No RE program (Christmas)

Sunday, January 1 – No RE program (New Year's Day)

Sunday, January 8 – Teacher's Breakfast, 9-10 a.m., Chrysalis

This is a great chance to get back in the swing of things after the holidays and talk with your fellow teachers about how classes are going or whatever you like. I hope you can all make it! Please contact me ASAP if you plan to attend and would like childcare.

— Chris Pollina shorelinedre@gmail.com 206-240-5500

MEMBERSHIP

KRISTA TENNEY — MEMBER ACTIVITY COORDINATOR



“To open deeply as genuine spiritual life requires, we need tremendous courage and strength, a kind of warrior spirit. But the place for this warrior strength is in the heart.” Jack Kornfield, *A Path with Heart*

During Heather Lynn’s sermon on November 20, “Thinking Globally, Acting Locally,” we read together the SUUC Mission and Vision statements. This was followed by a discussion about what SUUC members are doing make the world a better place, through their actions and the organizations they belong to. As members shared their stories, it became apparent that SUUC members are dedicated, passionate folks who give their time and energy to causes they believe in. Now it is time to focus on how to connect members with others within our congregation to make our UU voices heard in a meaningful way that will not overburden any one. I think we can do this!

At the potluck that followed the sermon, I saw many of you talking with each other, and do hope that some ideas for how to do this have been taking shape.

December is upon us, and for many of us it will be a busy month. Checklists and preparations for holiday traditions, planning travel arrangements and family get-togethers have begun. Houses and, perhaps, yards will be decorated, trees and candles lit, gifts selected, wrapped and given, and the hustle and bustle of it all can be a bit overwhelming. I hope that each of you, regardless of how you do or do not celebrate the holidays, can take a moment to reflect on the deeper meaning behind all of the “pomp and circumstance.” How do we connect with a deeper spiritual source beyond the holidays?

If you have not already made your 2012 resolutions, consider making one, or possibly more, that helps SUUC achieve its mission as a caring community that celebrates the growth of mind and spirit and inspires us to create a more just world, and to help guide SUUC to become a leading voice of liberal religion in the Northwest, by continuing to act locally, while thinking regionally, nationally, globally. One of my goals is to help each of you find the right place for you to grow and thrive, spiritually, at Shoreline UUC. Your ideas are always welcome and I look forward to hearing from you!

—Krista Tenney, Membership Activity Coordinator tenney@shorelineuu.org

Tuesday Women’s Group Moves to Wednesdays and Invites You to Join

We are a group of Shoreline UU women who get together once a month to share what is going on in our lives. Our simple agenda is that, after a brief check-in, each person has 10 minutes or so to talk about whatever is important to her at that time. Sometimes we choose a discussion topic to help us focus. We end with a group hug and an important word.

Starting on December 7, we will be meeting in the East Chrysalis room on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

We’d love to have you join us! If you are interested, please contact any one of us:

Marjon Riekerk, 206-706-1009, lemar@w-link.net

Nola Beeler, 425-774-3297, njbeeler@yahoo.com

Sue Leisy, 206-313-7721, suell85@comcast.net

Cindy Lyons, 206-282-5623, lyonscindy@gmail.com

Nancy Slocum, 206-794-5885, anyslocum@gmail.com

Laura Westbrook, 206-695-2005, wildveeder@yahoo.com

Ministerial Search Committee Update for Dec.

For the last months, we have mostly been writing and collecting information to accurately describe our congregation. First we created the Congregational Record, and more recently, we've been working on the Congregational Packet. The Congregational Packet, in the "olden days," was a huge folder of information including pictures, financial statements, samples of Orders of Worship and newsletters, history of the congregation, information about the cities of Shoreline and Seattle, etc. Nowadays, most churches use the technology of the web to create the packet. Our packet is a beautiful web site, full of interesting information. We had some wonderful help creating our packet from Gina Colón, an intern in web design from Cascadia Community College and from Laurie Radin, our church web master. If you are interested in seeing the packet, let us know and we will send you the link. It is not a public web site at present, but eventually, many of these new web pages could possibly be incorporated to enhance our regular church web site.

So, what happens next? We start looking at potential candidates online!!! It's funny, but it seems like the closest analogy to this process is internet dating. The UUA administers a secure transitions website where congregations and ministers post their profiles. Our congregational record is now posted there and interested ministers can read it, and "click on us" to indicate interest. We've already received several clicks and can now start evaluating these candidates! The candidates have posted their own profiles so we can learn about them. We will next send those candidates (if we think they might be a match for Shoreline) the link to our Congregational Packet and ask them for more information as well. After evaluating all this information, we will be ready to create a list of candidates to interview by phone during December/January. We will follow up with reference checking. By the end of January, if all goes well, we will have a short list of pre-candidates.

We realize that a lot has happened since our last newsletter article, including the fact that Nancy Macdonald is no longer serving on the committee (as announced in church and in the eBulletin last month). We value your questions and concerns, so don't hesitate to share them with us. At any time during this search process, we encourage you to speak with us about your ideas or questions (by mail, phone, fax, text, email or in person).

Search Committee Members:

Rick Wilson, rickwilson7863@msn.com

Lauren Harris, lbhrosie@comcast.net

Catherine Crain, catherine_crain@comcast.net

Tom Beeler, thomas.e.beeler@gmail.com

Noel Bain, nbain@u.washington.edu

Paul Borrermann, kdonn55@comcast.net



Winter Solstice Celebration

Wednesday, December 21, 2011

7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

A group of members are preparing a special service to celebrate the shortest day of the year and the return of the sun. A time for reflection, resolution, and renewal, we will appreciate the balance of dark and light, bid adieu to the darkness and welcome the light that warms our spirits, rejuvenates our bodies, and illuminates our journeys. Questions? please contact the event coordinator, Peggy Williams Scott at pegwilliams3@aol.com or 206-331-2729.

SUUC Mental Health Ministry

We were honored to welcome Rev. Craig Rennebohm to our pulpit on November 6. Craig serves as the Seattle Mental Health Chaplain and is the author of *Souls in the Hands of a Tender God*, copies of which are available for sale at church (\$18). We had a good turnout for the after-service conversation with Craig, who has offered to lead a training on Companioning for members who are interested. In January, we will begin planning our first year of educational activities. Watch for more information in the weekly announcements. Contact Chris Poole, 446-0980 or Barbara Cornell, 367-9485 if you have questions on Mental Health Ministry or the Addictions and Recovery Ministries at SUUC.

Welcome to our Community Activities

Mystery Dinner Theater: "Trouble in the Gallery!"



The mystery dinner theater, previously scheduled for the end of October, has been moved to Saturday, February 4, 6 p.m. This will be a fundraiser for the church, so mark your calendars now!

The Sanctuary will be transformed into a fictional setting: an art gallery in Pratt Falls, WA, somewhere on the Olympic Peninsula. The occasion: a dinner reception, hosted by the gallery board of trustees, for their first one-man show featuring local-boy-made-good, artist Rockwell Norman. Fictional characters will interact with guests throughout the evening.

There will be a crime. There will be accusations made and aspersions cast. Guests will have the opportunity to solve the mystery. Who dunnit? Come and help us find out!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS! There are still opportunities to get involved as cast and crew. Contact Peggy Williams Scott at pegwilliams3@aol.com or 206-331-2729 to become a part of this fun event.

Plate Share in 2012

Another season of Plate Sharing is upon us, as the congregation will choose nonprofit organizations to be recipients of a portion of Sunday offerings, one Sunday per month from February through October, 2012.

SUUC members across committee lines are presently discussing revised procedures for administering the program, considering potential recipients and confirming their qualified status. A list of Plate Share candidates will be presented to the congregation on January 8 and 15, to be voted upon those two Sundays. We are, as per norm, stressing local groups, though those of a broader base can be considered.

Anyone with further insight or input into this most worthy program is encouraged to contact Lew Witham at 206-366-9262 or Loois7@msn.com

Thinking About Joining SUUC?

THINK AHEAD to January!

The SUUC Membership committee would like to invite you to the next SUUC New Member Orientation classes in January.

They will be held on Saturday mornings, January 7 and 14 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Coffee, tea and refreshments will be served along with answers to your questions about Unitarian Universalism. If you will need childcare, we will need to know at least a week before the classes. We look forward to seeing you!

—Jennifer Brock, SUUC Membership
Committee Chair

Questions? Please contact any us at 363-7994 or

Rev. Heather Lynn, hlluumin@sprynet.com

Krista Tenney, Membership Activity
Coordinator, tenney@shorelineuu.org

Laurie Radin, Administrator,
office@shorelineuu.org

Sunday Dream Group

Meets second Sunday of the month, facilitated by Tricia Davis. We will be meeting December 11 right after the service, 12 to 2 p.m. in the East Chrysalis Room. New members are welcome.

Please come to share your own dreams or simply participate in the group, searching cooperatively for the meanings in the dreams shared by others. Sharing dreams in a group this way strengthens the fabric of community and helps to meet our desire for belonging and connection. For information please contact Tricia at pmdavis500@aol.com.

Welcome to our Community Activities

Notes from the Interim Ministry Support Team

From the work you all did last year, several proposals came forward to help SUUC realize the mission you have adopted. One proposition in particular has been singled out for continuing work: Developing Lay Leadership. Preliminary planning discussions are underway. We want whatever solutions may be proposed to be relevant to the experiences and expectations of SUUC members. So, before we decide “What to do and how to do it” in terms of developing leadership at SUUC, we want to ask – what really seems to be needed? What is needed by current leaders, as they do their jobs now, to be more effective in their responsibilities? What is needed by members who may be potential leaders to be willing to step forward? What is needed to help long-term leaders step back, for new people to step forward?

We will be interviewing some of our past leaders to find out what they think. However, we welcome suggestions from all members. If you have ideas about what is needed to help our leaders become more effective in serving SUUC – from recruiting and supporting to recognition and transitions, we welcome your thoughts, by email, or a phone call, or a note in Heather Lynn’s mail box.

The Interim Ministry Support Team:

Chair: Chris Poole; Tracy Monaghan, Joyce Allison, Darrel Udd, Laura Banks, Will Main; Staff: Krista Tenney and Heather Lynn Hanson

December SUUC Women’s Circle News

The December SUUC Women’s Circle will host our annual Holiday Brunch which was such a success last year. We are moving the venue to the cozy fire-place space of Patty Zeitlin’s Clubhouse. The address for the clubhouse is 12233 Ashworth Ave. North, Seattle, WA.

We will have a catered brunch and the opportunity to eat and chat which is always such a pleasure.

If you plan to join us or hope to join us, please RSVP as soon as possible. We need a count for our caterer.

Every woman is invited to join us whenever you have time.

Saturday, December 3, 10 a.m. to 12 noon; \$12 for brunch at The Halcyon Clubhouse.

Bring your friends, your daughters, and granddaughters.

To RSVP or have questions, call Sharon Maynard at 425-774-1142.

Holiday Bake Sales Coming December 4 and 11!

After our service on the first two Sundays in December we will hold our annual bake sales and we sincerely appreciate your support by the donation and purchase of homemade goodies. We are looking for donations of sweet and savory baked goods, jams and jellies, favorite recipes galore! Last year we sold an amazing \$1,000 worth of these items in support of your UU Community.



Hint #1: make your favorite cookie dough and freeze it to be baked the day before the sale.

Hint #2: Use seasonal fruit to make jams and jellies.

Hint #3: Rainy days are great for baking!

We Care!!

Are you going through a tough time in your life when a little help could ease your burden? You are part of our caring community, so don’t hesitate to ask for help! Our Care Team is ready to provide support services, including transportation, brief respite care, support for caregivers, light housecleaning, and meals during a crisis. If you need assistance, you may call the monthly Care Team Coordinator directly or contact the church: 206-363-7994 / office@shorelineuu.org. You will be referred to a Care Team Coordinator who will listen to you and match your needs to someone who will provide the appropriate help. Your request is confidential. The Care Team Contact for December is Joyce Allison, 425-424-8711; the backup is Clint McMahan 206-363-1226.

Welcome to our Community Activities

SUUC Service Project at Food Lifeline



Wow, 2011 is almost over and it went by so fast! I can't imagine how slowly time goes for someone who is struggling to put food on the table. Although this is for the December Soundings, I am writing it just before Thanksgiving and I want to express my deep gratitude to everyone who has taken time out of their third Tuesdays to repack food to help make sure people have nutritious food in the face of financial hardship. Thanks also to everyone who has donated food to the Food Lifeline box and money to the Food Lifeline plate shares. It truly takes a village.

On a housekeeping note, November and December are Food Lifeline's two biggest months for volunteers, so they want me to be more accurate than usual about the number of people coming. They count on us for 8 and it is wonderful that we had 17 people in November! I would appreciate being able to give them a more accurate count for December, so please sign up on the sign-up sheet (thanks Kristina and Lukas) or email me if you can come on the 20th.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

December Date: Tuesday, December 20. The project begins promptly at 6 and ends at 8 p.m. (Please don't arrive after 6:05 because the doors lock and we won't be able to hear you knock.) Everyone welcome, please remember to wear closed-toe shoes.

Address: Food Lifeline at 1702 NE 150th Street (near the former Fircrest School area). Turn east on NE 150th off 15th Avenue NE in Shoreline. Drive a short distance and watch for the driveway into the Food Lifeline parking lot and warehouse on the left. There's a small Food Lifeline sign to mark the turn.

Next month's date is January 17, 2012.

Please sign up at the Welcome Table or by contacting Laura "FoodBanks" (laurabanks1@comcast.net or 206-235-3611).

Recent Plate Share Offerings

Last month's Plate Share on November 27, went to ANSWER, the American-Nepali Student's and Women's Educational Relief. Their share of the collection was \$492.

In October we raised \$520 for the Center for Human Services Shoreline, and in September we gave \$545 to Food Lifeline.

Thank you for your continuing generosity!

— Laurie Radin, Administrator



Holiday Gifts

On December 4, our guest speaker, Dennis Reynolds, will share his experience working in South Africa. We will have the opportunity to see and buy objects created by members of a South African non-profit group offering jewelry and crafts. The beautiful beaded jewelry, enchanting beaded animals and holiday ornaments, and superbly embroidered cards, bookmarks, and magnets were all hand-made by Zulu women in employment projects in an area of South Africa struggling with one of the highest HIV infection rates in the world, as well the long-standing effects of Apartheid, poverty, and unemployment. All of the proceeds from the purchases go to support programs for vulnerable children in the same area. You can read more about Thembanathi, which, in Zulu, means "Hope with Us" at www.thembanathi.org or at www.facebook.com/thembanathi.



Reader's Theater Group

Creative Planning Meeting: Sunday, December 4, 12:15-1:15 p.m. in Chrysalis. Please bring your creative ideas for two Sunday morning services, March 4 and July 8. If you are unable to attend this meeting and would still like to be involved in one or both services, please contact Peggy Williams Scott at pegwilliams3@aol.com or 206-331-2729.

Welcome to our Community Activities

Fruit Cakes? Yes, Fruit Cakes!

We know everyone sniggers (or groans) when the idea of holiday fruitcakes comes up, especially considering the quality of what is passed off as fruitcakes in most stores and mail-orders. HOWEVER, did you ever wonder why they were so popular for so long? Not only did they provide a sweet, fruit-filled treat in the dark of winter, but they were also truly delicious!



Ok, so what? Well, Rick Wilson discovered the Seattle Times' best fruitcake recipe EVER! It is a recipe from 1948, and it is absolutely WONDERFUL!!! We made some for friends and the cakes were universally acclaimed! Yes, indeed they were.

Again, so what? Well, Rick is offering these scrumptious cakes for your enjoyment and as gifts for your hard-to-buy-for (or discriminating!) friends and relatives. The price is \$15 per loaf and all profits go to the SUUC operating fund. **All orders must be received by December 4.** Cakes will be delivered to you at church on December 11. All cakes may be easily shipped.

You may purchase your fruitcake on December 4 at church or email me at rickwilson7863@msn.com.

*** Mmm - mmm, good!***

P.S. Every year, we have sold out and people wanted even more, so order early and enough!



The SUUC book group meets Tuesday, December 20, 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. This month's selection is *Honolulu* by Alan Brennert. The January selection is non-fiction: *Pandora's Seed: the Unforeseen Cost of Civilization* by Spencer Wells.

Annual Seabeck Retreat

**April 27-29, 2012 at
Seabeck Conference Center in
Seabeck, WA**

Theme: "Spirituality and the Arts"

Please mark your calendars for our Annual Retreat at Seabeck, April 27-29, 2012 at Seabeck Conference Center in Seabeck WA. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other people in our congregations on a deeper level.

Our program this year, "Spirituality and the Arts," will focus on some of the many ways to participate in the arts as spiritual enhancement and expression. We are asking members of our congregations to lead hands-on experiences with the arts and spirituality. These could include everything from worship planning to music to dance to writing, etc. All ages are encouraged to participate. We'll also have programs for children ages 3-12 and youth.

Shoreline UU Church and Evergreen UU Fellowship join together for fellowship each spring at the Seabeck Retreat. Watch for the registration form in the January 2012 newsletter and on the SUUC website: www.shorelineuu.org Questions?

Call Chris Poole (SUUC) 206-542-9271, Karen Totten (EUUF) 425-971-6292, or Pam Gerke (EUUF) 425-347-9065.



Welcome to our Community Activities

WA State Unitarian Universalist Voices for Justice Legislative Priorities Named

At its annual Legislative Conference on November 12, WA UU Voices, our statewide legislative advocacy organization, named the four top issues it will address during the 2012 state legislative session — a session that will be focused on budget constraints and needs to preserve life-giving services for Washington residents.

The four WA UU Voices 2012 advocacy priorities are:

Raise revenue, protect services for low-income persons, economic reform, and restore the democratic process.

Read more about the conference at: <http://www.uuvoiceswa.org/6thLegConfNotes.pdf>

Addressing these critical justice priorities will take all of us working together. WA UU Voices needs your help more than ever. Subscribe to our email newsletter at www.uuvoiceswa.org. Throughout the session, we'll keep you posted on justice advocacy days, let you know when your phone call or email to our legislators is essential. Help us bring a hopeful, justice-inspired UU presence to the 2012 legislature!

December Schedule of Sunday Volunteers

	Greeters:	Ushers:	Coffee Servers:
Dec. 4:	Sallianne Davis & Jan Soderling	Barbara Stilson & Marge Hampton	Marilyn Thompson & Sharon Maynard
Dec. 11:	Barbara Stilson & Marilyn Thompson	Homer Henderson & Nancy Curtis	Carolyn Brenner & Bill Hayes
Dec. 18:	Lex Voorhoeve, Catherine & David McCarty	Molly Holmes & Paul Borrmann	Julie Houff & Mel Habel
Dec. 25:	Lex Voorhoeve & Marjon Riekerk	Tracy Monaghan & Christina Horst	Carrie Cameron & Jerome Lutge

Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church

14724 First Avenue NE, Shoreline, WA 98155-6806 206-363-7994 www.shorelineuu.org office@shorelineuu.org

Soundings

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Laurie Radin

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Webmaster: Laurie Radin

Submission deadline for **Soundings** is usually the 20th of the preceding month by 10 a.m. Include your name with submitted materials. Articles are accepted in any readable format, but PC-compatible electronic copies are appreciated. Email articles to office@shorelineuu.org OR place hard copy in the Administrator's mailbox inside the conference room.

December 2011

Thursday, December 1

9:30-11 a.m. Food for Soul, Forster Residence
6-7:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary
7:30-9 p.m. Sine Nomine Chalice Circle, N. Portable

Friday, December 2

10:15-11:30 a.m. Friday Meditation, Nursery
3-5 p.m. Search Committee, off site

Saturday, December 3

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ... Women's Circle Brunch, off site

Sunday, December 4

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
12-12:30 p.m. Jewelry Sale, Sanctuary
12-12:30 p.m. Bake Sale, Hallway/Sanctuary
12:15-1:45 p.m. Readers' Theater Meeting, Chrysalis

Tuesday, December 6

1-3 p.m. Worship Planning, Conference Room

Wednesday, December 7

6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday Potluck, Nursery
7:30-8:30 p.m. Christmas Cantata Concert, Sanctuary
7-9 p.m. Women's Group, East Chrysalis

Thursday, December 8

6:30-7:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary

Friday, December 9

10:15-11:30 a.m. Meditation, Nursery
3-5 p.m. Search Committee, off site
6-8:30 p.m. Family Potluck, Chrysalis

Sunday, December 11

9:15-10:15 a.m. Membership Committee, Conference Room
10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
12-12:30 p.m. Bake Sale, Hallway/Sanctuary
12-2 p.m. Dream Group, East Chrysalis
12-1:30 p.m. RE Committee, East Portable

Monday, December 12

1:30—3 p.m. Monday Chalice Circle, Nursery

Tuesday, December 13

7-9 p.m. Board Meeting, Conference Room

Wednesday, December 14

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ... Music Committee, Conference Room

Thursday, December 15

9:30-11 a.m. Food for Soul, Forster Residence
6-7:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary
7:30-9 p.m. Sine Nomine Chalice Circle, N. Portable

Friday, December 16

10:15-11:30 a.m. Meditation, Nursery
12-1 p.m. Senior Brown Bag Lunch, Conference Room
3-5 p.m. Search Committee, off site

Sunday, December 18

10:30-11:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 20

10 a.m. Soundings Deadline
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. ... Book Group, Conference Room

Wednesday, December 21

6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday Potluck, Nursery
7-9 p.m. Winter Solstice Celebration, Sanctuary

Friday, December 23

10:15-11:30 a.m. Meditation, Nursery

Saturday, December 24

8:30-10 p.m. Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 26

1:30-3 p.m. Monday Chalice Circle, Nursery

Wednesday, December 28

6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday Potluck, Nursery

Friday, December 30

10:15-11:30 a.m. Meditation, Nursery

TO RECEIVE OUR WEEKLY UPDATES IN THE EBULLETIN, CONTACT THE OFFICE, OFFICE@SHORELINEUU.ORG



**SHORELINE UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

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Shoreline, WA 98155
206-363-7994
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Website: www.shorelineuu.org

Rev. Heather Lynn Hanson, *Interim Minister*
Chris Pollina, *Director of Religious Education*
Frederick N. West, *Music Director*
Krista Tenney, *Member Activities Coordinator*
Laurie Radin, *Administrator*

Board of Trustees:

Ben Tompkins, President
Karen Thompson Vice President
Laura McCarty, Vice President Finance
Eliza Sutton, Secretary
Peggy Williams Scott
Quanah Spencer
Julie Houff

Vision:

*To become a leading voice of liberal religion in
the Northwest,
by continuing to act locally, while thinking
regionally, nationally, and globally.*

Mission:

***SUUC is a caring community
that celebrates the growth of mind
and spirit and inspires us to create a
more just world.***

Values:

*Affirm and promote the UU Principles.
To grow our human and financial resources in
service of our mission and vision.*

**SHORELINE UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

has declared its buildings
and grounds a
Weapons-Free Zone

SUUC is a UUA-certified
Welcoming Congregation. We
welcome diversity of ability, age, class,
culture, ethnicity, gender, race,
religious and nonreligious back-
grounds, and sexual orientation.



OUR CONGREGATION is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Soundings

**Shoreline Unitarian
Universalist Church**

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Shoreline, WA 98155-6806

