



The Wy'east Beacon

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Whoever you are,
Wherever you come from
You are welcome here

Wy'east [*'Wy'east' — Ancient name for Mount Hood*]

October 2009

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*Wy'east is now at the
**Hollywood
Senior Center** at
1820 NE 40th,
Portland.*

*The **parking lot of
the U.S. Bank**
around the corner is
available for Wy'east
on Sundays. That's at
the corner of Northeast
41st Avenue and
Hancock Street. Please
make use of it!*



www.wyeastuu.org

*Rev. Susan work/cell:
503.867.7310*

Reveries ♦♦♦

By Rev. Susan Maginn

Here's the truth as I have found it.

I know that God lives wherever Love lives. When we are doing God's work, then we are standing on the side of Love.

Any act that is anti-loving has nothing to do with God. Limiting someone based on sexual orientation is just an attempt to limit Love and therefore has nothing to do with God. Nothing.

The DOMA (Defense of Marriage Act) has attempted to limit Love and equality. I celebrate Blumenauer's recent admission that he was wrong when he voted for DOMA in 1996. I also applaud his ability to do right by co-sponsoring legislation to repeal DOMA.

October 11 is National Coming Out Day. We will have a Full Equality Petition to sign and deliver to our elected officials, especially to Rep. Bluemenauer. Petitions are one thing, but let us look for other ways that we can be a part of the momentum to bring equality of marriage to all.

Let us be about the business of uncovering Love from the private corners of the world. Let us be about the business of uncovering Love as it gasps for breath under the waste of injustice. Is there anything else more worthy of our lifeblood?

Let us dig deep so that Love can come out into the open and finally bless us all.
—Susan

<http://rev-susan.blogspot.com>

Sunday Sermons

- October 4 **BODY AND SOUL**, Rev. Susan Maginn
- October 11 **DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE**, Brian Porter
- October 18 **IS THERE A GOD WORTHY OF YOUR WORSHIP?**
Rev. Susan Maginn
- October 25 **I DON'T BELIEVE IN, BUT EXPERIENCE, GOD**, Mark Alter

(For sermon details, see "A Month of Sundays" on Page 5)

Before & After Worship Programming in October

If you have a programming idea that you would like to facilitate in November or December, please contact Rev. Susan Maginn at susan.maginn@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 4

- **First Sunday Brunch** 11:30 a.m. Bring a potluck dish to share.

OCTOBER 11

- **Social Hour** 11:30 am.

OCTOBER 18

- **Social Hour** 11:30 am.

OCTOBER 25

- **Social Hour** 11:30 am
- **Restaurant Adventure** 11:40 am, location TBA

We will be having our announcements for upcoming events in our weekly **e-news**, which comes out every Thursday. To get that e-news, people need to sign up by emailing hanna.nelson@gmail.com.

Special Collection

Our Special Collection recipient for October will be the **UUA's Association Sunday initiative**. The information below about that initiative is adapted from the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) website.

Funds gathered from around the country during Association Sunday will: "Support congregations that are working to create a Unitarian Universalism that is racially, culturally, and economically diverse; a part of this support will be in the form of grants."

Also from that same page on the website is a statement by the Rev. Peter Morales, the new President of the UUA: "We can be the religion for our time and all time. This requires a constant effort to stay relevant in an ever-changing world. One way we can do this is by making sure our congregations and our ministry reflect the diversity of the world outside our doors. Join us on Association Sunday as we come together to Grow Our Faith and our diversity."

Cyber space discussion group for Wy'easters

I'm happy to announce that we now have a Google group called "Wy'east UU Congregation discussion group"! This is a cyber space salon where we can have discussions. Wy'easters can come here and listen to ongoing discussions and say your piece if so inclined.

To join, you can go to <http://groups.google.com/group/wyeast-discussion> and click "Apply for group membership" or simply talk to Mikio or Tim M.

First Unitarian Church has just received a grant to partner with **Goose Hollow Shelter**. Goose Hollow provides dinner and nighttime shelter for homeless families with children. First Church is going to start opening their doors, so that these families have a place to go with their children during the day. If you are free one weekday each month and would like to volunteer with other Wy'east friends and members, let Rev. Susan know. She'll be joining you and setting this up with First Church. minister@wyeastuu.org, 503.867.7310.

Worship Odds & Ends

During worship, it is helpful for long-time Wy'easters to **sit up front, in the middle, or to the far left** in order to be more welcoming to newcomers, people with children, or people who want to discretely enter after the service begins. Thanks!

If your child wants to light the chalice during a worship service, please talk to the lay leader before the service begins.

The Wy'east worship committee is always dreaming up **new ideas** for services, speakers and activities. To share ideas or help bring services to life, contact us at wyeast-worship@googlegroups.com or talk to Tim M, Mark A, or Elizabeth S.

Rev. Susan has a **minister's discretionary fund** that is available to people who are going through a tough financial time. For more information, contact her directly at minister@wyeastuu.org.

Newsletter Changes

Beginning next month, the Wy'east Beacon will be published bi-monthly. The deadline for the **November/December** issue is **Friday, Oct. 23rd. I'll need dates and calendar items for both November and December.** The deadline for the Jan/Feb issue will be December 18th. Please send articles, meeting/event dates, poetry, artwork, book recommendations, favorite spiritual practices, etc. to: wyeast-news-editor@googlegroups.com.

We are attempting to save paper and printing costs by printing fewer copies of the newsletter each month. We encourage you to view the newsletter online, at <http://wyeastuu.org/newsletter.php>. Thanks!

—Sharai E.

More Tidbits for New Members and Others

Get your name in the **directory** and on the Wy'east **email list** (not heavy traffic but a great way to stay informed about all sorts of good stuff). Send a message to: Hanna.nelson@gmail.com.

Register your **children** in the **religious education** (RE) program. Talk to our Director of RE, Annie H, to get this process rolling.

From the DRE

Greetings! The geese are flying south, red, and orange spots of color have taken up residence in the tops of trees and the yellow school buses are back in business, carrying their precious cargo. A change is in the air; fall is here. And with that, a new church year has begun.



With regard to the children's RE program, there is also a change in the air. As I mentioned in last month's column, we have incorporated a new program, Children's Chapel, which we will celebrate the third Sunday of every month.

I would like to share with all of you what Children's Chapel means to me, and the vision I am trying to create to make it a success. First of all, Children's Chapel is about uniting all of the Wy'east children, once a month, regardless of age. We will meet in the HSC meeting room so that we can create a separate space aside from our typical meeting space.

First, I will share a story with the children, which (most times) coincides with Reverend Maginn's theme for that particular Sunday. The first Sunday was about creating a covenant. We shared our thoughts on covenants, wrote them on pieces of paper and made a paper chain, which we will expand on as the year progresses. Children's Chapel will incorporate traditions for entering and exiting our sacred space through a special chalice lighting poem, a Unitarian song and a beautiful prayer to leave with.

Another thing that I'd like to include is a monthly offering that the children can participate in. We will have a collection basket that will be specifically for the children's offering. Every Children's Chapel, I will announce where the offering will be going that particular Sunday (it coincides with our special collection Sunday) and the children can take pride in knowing that they have made a direct, personal contribution to a worthy cause.

The last thing I want to mention is that we will share a snack together, after service on this one Sunday a month. If there are food allergies or special instructions of any kind, please let me know.

Although there are many positive, refreshing changes in the air, there is a definite need for volunteers that cannot be understated. Currently there is one daycare provider for the toddlers, (Anne S.), one half-time teacher (Sonrisa), and myself for the Wee Works kids.

(Continued on page 4)

From the DRE *(continued from page 3)*

Fortunately, Alex and Anders are still here to run their magic for the middle school program, but the other age groups are lacking volunteer teachers.

My overall vision for this year's program is to thrive instead of survive, and I hope you will share that vision of community and success. As they say, "It takes a village." My invitation goes out to all members of the congregation-parents or not. Let us take this opportunity to be the best we can be and to show our children that we believe in them.

As always, it is an honor and a joy to work with your children.

In faith,

Annie H.

Not Us Nor You, My Brothers

Each culture has a unique perspective
Of the world where we live and we are.
Parallel minds, from isolated
And differing vantage points,
Have evolved the many interpretations.

And that profusion of viewpoints
When, if we accord to compare them,
Only render us, earthlings, a rounder vision
Of our complex common ground.

Our languages are but the simple
And coarse systems of delivering
Our human clusters have, for roughly rendering
Our diverse and discordant explications.

And yet, those many cultures with their innate differences
Are absolutely needed, for us, in the end to grasp
The immensity of our divine formation.

For, neither us nor you, my brothers far beyond,
Have the ultimate version of that wonder.

Raul Martinez, Portland, June 17, 2005

A note for parents...

Please remember to pick up your children from Wee Works right after the service and then come back for social hour. This way our hardworking volunteers and teachers can finish up their tasks and join us for social hour before all the food and company have gone for the day.

Thank you!

Contacting the Minister and Board of Trustees

Would you like to talk with Rev. Susan Maginn? Contact her at 503.867.7310 or minister@weeastuu.org

If you have questions for the Wy'east Board of Trustees, you can send an email to weeast-board@googlegroups.com or talk to any Board member (David Tode O, Karl A, Mark A, Elizabeth S, or Alex R) on Sundays at church.

UU Adventures in Eating



First Sunday Potluck –
This month our potluck will
be October 4th, at 11:30 am.

Restaurant Adventure – After our service on the fourth Sunday of each month, those who are interested gather for lunch at a local restaurant. It is an opportunity for lively and topical conversation, and for enjoying the bounty of wonderful restaurant food available in Portland.

Our group varies in size from as few as four to as many as 15, and often includes both adults and children. We announce the month's destination during the service, then gather a list of interested congregants, and call ahead to make reservations.

We try to find places with a variety of moderately priced vegetarian and omnivorous menu items. We have some regular stops on the rotation, and we're always on the lookout for new restaurants to try.

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

October 2009

October 4 BODY AND SOUL

It has been said that ministry is something that promotes healing, wholeness and awakening. Can someone find spiritual healing if they do not have access to physical healing? Today will be a Chalice Circle Sunday led by **Rev. Susan Maginn**. We will listen to one another as we reflect on health care and consider how we are called to respond.

Meditation: 9:30 a.m.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education (Pre-K-8th Grade): Children attend the beginning of the service, and then go to class. Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers.

Youth Group (High School Age): 11:30 a.m.

First Sunday Brunch: 11:30 a.m. Bring a potluck dish to share.

October 11 DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

Dances of Universal Peace, sacred dances from around the world, are a dynamic opportunity to lift the Spirit among us. **Brian Porter**, a longtime student of the dances, returns to teach and lead us in the simple, participatory dances. This service is intergenerational and suited to all skill levels. Take the chance to worship joyfully in a supportive environment.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education (Pre-K-8th Grade): Children attend the beginning of the service, and then go to class. Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers.

Youth Group (High School Age): 11:30 a.m.

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

October 18 IS THERE A GOD WORTHY OF YOUR WORSHIP?

Classical theology, with its heaven, hell, sin and salvation, can be pretty troubling for most UUs. Yet some of us still yearn for a nuanced understanding of God that fits with who we are as people who care for the environment, equal rights for women, the GLBT community and modern science. Process theology is an interpretation of God that has emerged in recent years, capturing the imagination and faith of many liberal religious people. Service led by **Rev. Susan Maginn**.

Meditation: 9:30 a.m.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education (Pre-K-8th Grade): Children attend the beginning of the service, and then go to class. Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers.

Youth Group (High School Age): 11:30 a.m.

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

October 25 I DON'T BELIEVE IN BUT EXPERIENCE GOD

As part of our ongoing series of This I Believe sermons given by members of Wy'east, this Sunday's service will be led by **Mark Alter**, a ten-year member of this congregation, and on the Board for the last four. Mark is, among other things, a poet and in love with words. This service will include, in addition to poetry and prose, an invitation for all of us to reflect on what we believe and what brings each of us to Wy'east on Sunday mornings.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education (Pre-K-8th Grade): Children attend the beginning of the service, and then go to class. Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers.

Youth Group (High School Age): 11:30 a.m.

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

Restaurant Adventure: 11:40 a.m. Location to be announced during social hour.



Wy'east Unitarian Universalist Congregation
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Return Service Requested