



The Wy'east Beacon

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

'Wy'east' : Ancient name for Mount Hood

WWW.WYEASTUU.ORG

July/August 2012

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*Wy'east meets 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!*

Musings from Marcia...

Another church and school year is wrapped up. We've welcomed new board members (Hooray Kate M. and Robyn K.!), said grateful goodbyes to Liana and Hank for their service on our board over the last two years, and are moving into the season of Wy'camp, picnics and, hopefully, a slower schedule both at home and at church. Libby has graduated and is heading off to college in the fall. Changes abound.

It's been a busy spring for me personally. A new relationship bloomed into the commitment of a shared home, blended family, and a minivan, and my daughters graduated and are moving on to middle school and high school next year. I also started a new part-time ministry up in Blaine, Washington, and am now working more, and in two different locations.

Fortunately, all of my changes this year have been positive ones, but it's reminded me that change is ever-present in our lives. It is in mine, and I'm sure it is in yours. So, it seemed like a good time to remind you that when change happens in your lives, I'd love to hear about it.

(Continued on page 2)

Sunday Sermons

7/1	Annual Picnic	at Creston Park
7/8	UUA General Assembly Reflections	Amy O'Brien and Sonrisa Alter
7/15	A Pay It Forward Miracle	Ben Price
7/22	Taizé Service	Elizabeth Suh
7/29	The Guest House	Rev. Marcia Stanard
8/5	Lessons from Lugh: the story of Lughnasadh	Amy O'Brien
8/12	Resiliency in Nature - Mother and Mirror	Wy'east Poetry Circle
8/19	Learning to Sing	Kristen Dillon
8/26	TBA	Sarah Schurr

(For Sermon Details, See "2 Months Of Sundays", On Pages 6 & 7)

From the Minister *(Continued)*

One of the difficult aspects of renting space only on Sundays the way we do is that there isn't a physical church that I'm working in during the week. I do my writing at my home, and meet congregants over coffee or pizza, or in their homes. I've been able to use some space at Rose City Park Presbyterian Church for things like premarital counseling, but there hasn't been a place you could just pop by and see me.

Some people do call me, and I'm happy to visit with congregants. It's kind of a funny thing that many sermons come, indirectly of course, out of pastoral counseling. This is one of the most important jobs of a minister, but only rarely will I call you up to see how you're doing, I mostly wait for you to call me. And I hope you will.

As the pop hit of the summer says, "Here's my number, so call me maybe." 503-939-8965.

At a colleague's urging, I recently found a column called "When to call your minister." This copy is from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Augusta, Maine, but I'm not sure if it's original to them.

Warmly,
Marcia

Worship Odds & Ends

On Sundays, 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; it will make room for others who are new, people with children (who July need to make quick escapes), or people who want to discreetly enter after the service begins. Thanks!

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 weast-worship@googlegroups.com or talk to Mark A., Brooke C., Amy O., or Marcia S.

If your child wants to light the chalice during a worship service, please contact anyone from the worship committee.

Call the Minister When....

- *You just want to talk.*
- *When you don't know me, but would like to.*
- *When your child doesn't know me, but would like to or you would like them to.*
- *When your family doesn't know me, but would like to.*
- *When you are looking for a way to deepen your spiritual life.*
- *When your children have questions of faith and you would like me to visit with them.*
- *When you have religious or spiritual questions.*
- *When you are celebrating one of life's joys and want to share the good news.*
- *When your child has joys and accomplishments to share with their minister.*
- *When you or your child are feeling sad or lonely, or lost.*
- *When you have lost your job, found a new job, been promoted or demoted.*
- *When you or a family member is ill.*
- *When you are going to the hospital or know of someone else in the congregation who is.*
- *When someone close to you has died or is critically ill or you're dealing with a significant loss of some kind.*
- *When you would like to make plans for a memorial service.*
When you would like to make plans for your memorial service.
- *When you are planning to be married. When you are challenged by the demands of marriage. When you are separated or planning to get a divorce.*
- *When you are pregnant and glad you are or wish you weren't, also if you want to be pregnant but aren't.*
- *When you would like your child dedicated.*
- *When you are challenged by life's daily happenings.*
- *When you feel ready to join the congregation.*
- *When you want to share your experience of or appreciation for our beloved community. When you have concerns about the church or our faith community.*
- *When you have a good story to share.*
- *When you just want to talk.*

Getting Connected @ Wy'east

Join the Wy'east Google Groups

Wy'east has two community-wide email lists through Google: "Wyeast" (for news and announcements about church events) and "Wyeast-chat" (an informal way for members and friends to share thoughts or events that are not official church happenings).

To subscribe to these groups, go to www.wyeastuu.org/contact or groups.google.com/group/wyeast and groups.google.com/group/wyeast-chat

Wy'east Directory

Wy'east has a directory of contact information for lots of people in the community. If you don't know where to find the directory, you're probably not in it; emails are sent periodically to everyone in the directory with instructions on how to access it. If you'd like to be added to our directory, contact Betty H. or anyone on the Connections Committee.

Newsletter News

The Wy'east Beacon is published bimonthly. The deadline for the September/October issue submissions is Thursday, August 16th. Please put this date on your calendar, and send articles, meeting/event dates, poetry, artwork, book recommendations, favorite spiritual practices, etc. to: wyeast-news-editor@googlegroups.com. If you have any questions, contact Sharai E. or send an email to the above address.

To save paper and printing costs, we are printing fewer copies of the newsletter. We encourage you to view it online, at: <http://wyeastuu.org/newsletter>.

Contacting RE & the Board of Trustees

Contact the Religious Education Committee Chair if you have questions about our children's programming at Wy'east: wyeast-re@googlegroups.com.

If you have questions for the Wy'east Board of Trustees, you can send an email to wyeast-board@googlegroups.com or talk to any board member (David Tode O., Nancy D., Dan E., Kate M., and Robin K.) on Sundays at church.

Wy'east Special Collections

July: HOUSE OF DREAMS



House of Dreams is a free roam, no-kill cat shelter providing care for abandoned and homeless cats, with the goal of finding them permanent

homes or providing them a lifetime home at the facility. It is 100% volunteer run and is one of the only area shelters with facilities for Feline Leukemia positive cats. Wy'east member Marie Haviland has volunteered with House of Dreams for about 10 years. She's inspired by the compassion and respect for life she sees demonstrated every day by her fellow volunteers.

August: UU MILITARY CHAPLAINS



Currently, there are 9 UU military chaplains serving in the Navy, Air Force, and Army. UU military ministry dates back to the Revolutionary War, when George Washington commissioned the first

15 military chaplains in 1776 to attend to the spiritual needs of the troops. Universalist John Murray was one of the chaplains. The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is dedicated to supporting UU military chaplains in a number of ways, including:

- providing *Bless All Who Serve*, a meditation manual, to service members and their families for free.
- The UUA Committee on military ministry supports chaplains and candidates. They recently hosted the very first retreat for UU military chaplains.

Wy'east at the Pride Parade



Pride Celebrations

*From the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
website: www.uua.org/*

For decades, Unitarian Universalists (UUs) have actively supported full equality for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender (LGBT), and have affirmed and celebrated LGBT members of our congregations and communities. One powerful way to stand on the side of love with LGBT people is to join Unitarian Universalists everywhere in celebrating Pride.

History of Pride

Alternately known as “gay pride,” “LGBT pride,” or just “pride,” this celebration offers a space to affirm,



celebrate, and be proud of sexual diversity and gender variance.

The origins of today’s Pride celebrations are generally credited to the Stonewall Rebellion of June 28, 1969. One year later marches were held in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, and within a few years they had spread to cities beyond the United States. In the 1980s Pride celebrations expanded beyond the march format and started to become weekend-long festivals in many cities. In the 1990s, more and more Pride celebrations began making transgender inclusion a priority. In 2000 President Bill Clinton made history when he declared June “Gay & Lesbian Pride Month.” President Barack Obama has declared June “LGBT Pride Month” each year he has been in office.

Today there are Pride celebrations in cities throughout the world, and there are many variations on the theme, such as youth pride, black pride, transgender pride, Latino/a pride, bear pride, and many more. Many (but not all) Pride celebrations happen in June.

BEFORE & AFTER Worship

Programming in July and August

If you have a programming idea that you would like to facilitate in the future, please contact Amy O., Brooke C., or Mark A.

July 1

- **Annual Picnic** (see details next page)

July 8

- **Potluck Brunch** • 11:30 am. Bring a dish to share.

July 15

- **Social Hour** • 11:30 am

July 22

- **Social Hour** • 11:30 am
- **Restaurant Adventure** • 11:40 am

July 29

- **Social Hour** • 11:30 am



August 5

- **Social Hour** • 11:30 am

August 12

- **Potluck Brunch** • 11:30 am. Bring a dish to share.

August 19

- **Social Hour** • 11:30 am

August 26

- **Social Hour** • 11:30 am
- **Restaurant Adventure** • 11:40 am

LOOKING TO GET MORE INVOLVED WITH WY'EAST? We are in need of a Restaurant Adventure coordinator and Religious Education volunteers. Other opportunities also exist; talk to Marcia!

UU Adventures in Eating

Sunday Potluck

Our potlucks are held on the second Sunday of each month, **July 8th** and **August 12th** at 11:30 am. Bring a dish to share.



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, gather a list of interested congregants, and then 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.

July

TWO MONTHS OF *Sundays*

July 1 ANNUAL PICNIC!

In lieu of service, we will meet at **Creston Park** on 43rd and Powell at 10:30am for a potluck picnic and fellowship. Bring food and/or drinks, games or other activities you'd like to share. There is a parking lot on SE 43rd Ave, and we have picnic area F reserved. See you there!

July 8 UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY REFLECTIONS

Amy O'Brien and **Sonrisa Alter** will share some of their experiences and thoughts about the UUA General Assembly (GA) held in Phoenix, AZ. This year's GA has been dubbed "Justice GA" because the main focus of the workshops, public witness opportunities, and speakers will be on Immigration Justice.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Wy'east Potluck Brunch: 11:30 a.m. Bring a potluck dish to share.

July 15 A PAY IT FORWARD MIRACLE

Hear first-hand the moving story of how one person, **Ben Price**, took his background as a young man in trouble, and transformed that twenty plus years later into changing an Oregon law, to benefit not only himself, but others like him in similar circumstances. There are even some UU connections to this inspiring tale; it is one of hope and promise.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

July 22 TAIZÉ SERVICE, INCLUDING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SONGS

Led by **Elizabeth Suh**. We carry on the tradition of this meditative service with UU and Taizé favorites, such as "Meditation on Breathing" and "Nada te Turbe." Join us for this beautiful tradition, which one of our fellow congregants describes as "so deeply peaceful" and "wonderful spiritually." Bring your seat cushion if you'd like to sit on the floor!

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

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

July 29 THE GUEST HOUSE

This being human is a guest house. Every morning a new arrival, says the poet Rumi. During this season of traveling, who do we come home to? Who do we always carry with us, and what gifts arrive unexpectedly? Service by our minister, **Rev. Marcia Stanard**.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

August

TWO MONTHS OF *Sundays*

August 5 **LESSONS FROM LUGH: THE STORY OF LUGHNASADH**

Amy O'Brien will share the Celtic Pagan story of Lughnasadh (loo-na-sa) and the personal meaning it has for her family, as well as how Pagan storytelling can inform and influence modern Pagan lives.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

August 12 **RESILIENCY IN NATURE - MOTHER AND MIRROR**

Among the sources Unitarian Universalism draws from are spiritual teachings which instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature. Poetry enthusiasts who form Wy'east's Poetry Circle, have "staged" our worship service so that participants, seated among the congregants, will be joined in reflecting on the awe and beauty of the natural world; exploring through the eyes of poets Nature's gifts of wisdom, solace, and joy; and discovering how it informs us about our own human nature.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Wy'east Potluck Brunch: 11:30 a.m. Bring a potluck dish to share.

August 19 **LEARNING TO SING**

Our speaker today, **Kristen Dillon**, says: "Sometimes our best laid plans go hopelessly awry, and sometimes it's for the best." Kristen is a member of the Mid-Columbia UU Fellowship in Hood River, and comes to us as the latest in a several years long series of speaker exchanges between our two congregations.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

August 26 **TBA**

Wy'east member **Rev. Sarah Schurr** will be speaking.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

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