



Your Weekly Newsletter for Upcoming Events  
**the SUUNday Focus**  
 December 5, 2010

**Upcoming Services**

Sunday Services at 9:15 & 11 am

December 12	<i>Festivos: Why Religious Tolerance Isn't</i>	Hollis Bredeweg, Minister
December 19	9:15 am — <i>The Last Temptation</i>	Hollis Bredeweg, Minister
	11 am — <i>Children's Christmas Pageant</i>	Religious Education Dept
December 21	7 pm — <i>Winter Solstice Singing Ritual</i>	Solstice Singers & Readers

**Notices & Upcoming Events**

**Conversation with the Board Today**

There will be a Conversation with the Board of Trustees today, December 5, following the 11am worship service. We'd like to hear your perceptions of how things are going this year, and for you to hear an update from our Settled Minister Search Team.

**Did you get your invoice from the Community Marketplace?**



The Community Marketplace was a hit! Now we are just sorting out the paperwork—did you get your invoice? Are you still looking for your donation sheet with all the folks who signed up for your event? We thought that 99.9 % of our invoices and donation sheets actually got to the people we sent them to, but a few phone calls tell us that is a bit optimistic. So, if you have not yet received your invoice or donation sheet, please contact Marie Bjork or Lee Dominey and we will resend same. And for those who have already sent checks, many thanks!

**Sermons On-Line Update**



For those who want to listen to sermons on their mobile devices, have we got a deal for you! Sermons will now be published on our website in both WMA (PC) and MP3 (mobile device) formats. So now you can take it on the road!

**Pick Up Your Holiday Wreath Today!**



Did you order a Holiday Wreath? Wreaths can be picked up at the church today, December 5, before or after Sunday services.

**Donate Food Items To Help the Hungry**

Please, when shopping this week, think about picking up some extra staples for the 2nd Harvest food barrels in the lobby of the UUCS.

Below are the most needed food items by category.

**protein:** peanut butter, canned meat, hearty soups, chili stews, macaroni & cheese & beans

**fruits & vegetables:** canned fruits & vegetables, canned or boxed juices, boxed mashed potatoes, dried fruit

**grains:** pasta, rice, healthy cereals (low sugar & low fat), oatmeal.



Cash donations are also welcome! Each dollar you give turns into 6 pounds of food – about four meals. Checks made payable to Second Harvest can be mailed or dropped off at the UUCS office. Food and monetary donations go directly to Second Harvest Food Bank of Spokane. If you and/or your family need help, please contact our minister, Hollis Bredeweg, or Diane Huigen, Director of Religious Education.

**Celebrating Religious Education at UUCS**

✦ **Our Annual Pageant Needs You**



We still have some parts available if you are interested in being part of our Pageant. We need more animals, shepherds, camels and inn-keeper, kings, a servant and a donkey. The rehearsals are Fridays, December 10 & 17, from 6 – 8:30 p.m. The Pageant takes place Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, at 11a.m. during the service. If you are interested contact Diane Huigen ([re@uuspokane.org](mailto:re@uuspokane.org) or 325-6383 ext. 306). Come join in the fun!

✦ **Senior High UU Youth Group Reminder — Play Casting & Rehearsal & Props**

Tonight, December 5, at 7 pm in the Bartok Room we will rehearse "The Latke That Wouldn't Stop Screaming". We will perform this for the congregation as the Story for All Ages at both services on Sunday, December 12. After check in, we'll cast the parts, run through the staging and rehearse in the sanctuary. Also, we need to redesign the "Christmas lights" costume so it doesn't burn the actor this year. Come join us!

✦ **Please Donate One Hour and Enjoy Hugs, Smiles & Laughter**

Do you have one hour to donate to the future leaders of our church? Would you like to have fun with our children? We would love to have you volunteer in our Preschool through Fourth Grade classrooms. We're not asking for every week, just once in a while when it fits your schedule. It's fun! Our latest volunteer is Lee Dominey and she's working this Sunday. Thank you so much! Contact Diane Huigen if you are interested in hugs, smiles, and laughter.



✦ **"Up In Alms" – Our Offering**

This is a quote from Better Homes & Gardens, December 2010. "In a spend-happy world, how do you teach children the habit of giving to charity? Have your kids put a portion of their allowance or earnings in a jar or bank and at the end of the year let them choose where to send the funds. A foster care coordinator for the Love Without Boundaries Foundation in Oklahoma has a 4-year-old daughter who gets a weekly allowance of 75 cents. One quarter goes to savings, one to spending, and one to charity. 'In December, she chooses where she wants to send her money, and my husband and I match her savings.' Last year, her daughter picked from charities based on her passions: a local animal shelter, helping kids in China, and the Pennsylvania Ballet."



This is what we are doing with our Religious Education class offerings. Please remember to send your child with some change for our classroom offering.

UU Principles for Children (and those who love them)

**INDIGO: INSIST on peace, freedom and justice for all.**

✦ Our Sharing Tree is Waiting for You



Our Sharing Tree is now in the Friendship Hall, waiting for you to help put gifts under the tree for people in need. This year's Sharing Tree has **58 individual mittens from 16 families**. The families are mainly comprised of women attending EWU or SFCC and their children.

If you are willing and able to help, please choose a single mitten or a family of mittens. If you choose a family, be sure they all have the same family letter, like "Family Z". A group of people could take on a family. Please make sure you check in with the person working the Sharing Tree table and tell them what number(s) you have chosen. *Please don't take a mitten without checking in.*

Important things to remember about your gifts:

- ✦ Please wrap your gift(s)!
- ✦ Include a gift receipt in case the family needs to make an exchange.
- ✦ Put the person's name & number on the gift.
- ✦ Return the mitten(s) to the Sharing Tree table when you bring in your gifts.
- ✦ Gifts must be back at the church no later than Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, unless you are willing to deliver them to the family.

If you are willing to help deliver, contact Diane Huigen for the address. Thank you so much for your help! Your generosity will surely make someone's winter holiday sparkle.

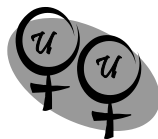
✦ Church Directory On-Line



If you want to access the Church Directory and other contact information via our website ([www.uuspokane.org](http://www.uuspokane.org)), just fill out an On-Line Policy and Access Agreement located on the table by the sound booth and leave it in the folder. You will be snail-mailed the Directory user name and password. Questions? Contact Jet Tilley, Business Administrator, at 325-6383 ext 302/[admin@uuspokane.org](mailto:admin@uuspokane.org).

✦ Upcoming UU Women Events

Wednesday • December 8 • 11:30 am — Lunch at the MAC.  
12:30 pm — Gallery talk and tour of the exhibit, "Women's Voices, Women's Votes" with Marsha Rooney, Senior Curator of History at the MAC. UUCS member Marion Moos is recognized in the exhibit!  
There is a "group rate" (reduced) admission fee.



Sunday, December 12 at 12:30 pm — Monthly meeting in the Thoreau Room. Bring your "brown bag" lunch and take some time to socialize after the morning service.

UU Women is a chapter of the UU Women's Federation and welcomes all the women of the church to its events. We hope you will join us. Questions? Please call Judy Gammon at 363-0535.

✦ Winter Solstice Volunteers Needed

Our annual Winter Solstice Singing Ritual (Tuesday, December 21) is fast approaching and we need your help to turn the Wheel of the Year from Dark to Light. Below is a list of volunteer opportunities and what they entail. If you are willing and able to lend a hand, please contact Jet Tilley at [admin@uuspokane.org](mailto:admin@uuspokane.org) or Deborah Jacquemin at [uumusic@uuspokane.org](mailto:uumusic@uuspokane.org), or contact the church office at 325-6383. Many thanks in advance to all the volunteers for helping make this a magical evening.



Graces & Dragons

Greet people at the door; collect the offerings; assist with the candle lighting ceremony; control access in/out of the sanctuary. Training will be provided. G&Ds need to be able to attend at least one planning session (time TBA), part of the dress rehearsal (Monday, Dec 20 at 7 pm), and arriving early on Solstice Eve (Dec 21).

Moving Crew

Arrange the sanctuary before the dress rehearsal (Mon, Dec 20 at 5:30-ish) and put things back after the ritual on Dec 21.

Kitchen Witches

Assist our master kitchen witch, Scott Fitzgerald, with after the ritual hospitality gathering. Tasks include setting out treats and clean-up.

Treat Providers

Bring finger-food treats (from fruits to nuts, cookies to quick breads) for the hospitality gathering after the service.

✦ Get Your UUSC "Guest at Your Table" Box Today

We are launching our Guest at Your Table project today, December 5. **Each family may take home a Guest at Your Table box to put on your dinner table.** Each time you sit down to eat you add your change to the box. You may also put a check in your box or just turn in a check to Diane Huigen in the RE Office. On Sunday, January 9, you return your box to the RE Office and the monies collected will be sent to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC).

An annual tradition since 1975, the Guest at Your Table program collects money to help the UUSC advance human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. This comprehensive program nurtures lasting connections to UU principles, builds awareness about social justice and human rights, and strengthens UUSC's work.

The UUSC works to advance: **Environmental Justice** – focusing on the human right to water; **Defending Civil Liberties** – supporting creative ways to uphold civil liberties in the USA and throughout the world; **Protecting Rights in Humanitarian Crises** – focusing on the rights of marginalized populations, this program responds to major disasters and long-term humanitarian crises like Haiti, Darfur, Northern Uganda, & Myanmar; and **Education and Outreach** – engaging and motivating activists to achieve positive social change. UUSC envisions a world free from oppression and injustice, where all can realize their full human rights.

**Please support these important efforts by having a Guest at Your Table throughout the Winter Holiday season.**