



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

September/October

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*Wy'east meets at the
Hollywood Senior Center
(HSC) at 1820 NE 40th,
Portland, Oregon. Services
begin at 10:30am.*

Service Animals Welcome

*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!*

Written Offerings ~ from Rev. Craig Moro

I should have been more careful after hearing what my friend had said. He's the local expert on where and how to fish, and I owe him for much of my success. He'd recently told me about several encounters with some pistol-strapping men who'd made hostile comments about "outsiders" fishing on "their" river. Watch out, he'd told me earlier this summer, and said he'd walked into some sharpened sticks embedded in the brush on the path to a fishing spot we both knew well, puncturing his waders. Returning to his car, he'd found two of his new tires slashed.

I went that way one morning just as it was getting light. Nearing the river, I bumped into some dark fishing line—very thin, very strong—stretched tight across the path. I cut it and proceeded, but look, here's another! I cut that one, too, then stepped over a fallen tree. Next came a slight twang, and something caught at my right leg. Moments later, it felt wet. Strange, I thought: even if my waders had been nicked, I hadn't been in the water yet. I found the hole, saw blood, then realized that my leg was soaked with it.

(Continued on page 2)

Sunday Sermons

9/4	Ox-Cart Man	Rev. Craig Moro
9/11	Water Communion	Alana H. and Justice T.
9/18	Game of Lines	Rev. Craig Moro
9/25	This is a Real Housing Emergency	Katrina Holland
10/2	Make That Left Turn Right This Time	Rev. Craig Moro
10/9	Count her in: Contributions, Challenges, and Change	Emily Evans
10/16	Both Chickens	Rev. Craig Moro
10/23	How Do We Live in Community in a Constantly Changing Global Landscape?	Sally Custer
10/30	The Border Crossed Over Me	Alberto Moreno

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

Written Offerings

(Continued from page 1)

The doctor on urgent care duty said I'd been cut by something very sharp that had gone through two layers of clothing, two layers of skin, and right through the muscle. She had to use two layers of stitches as well, in order to close both the outer wound and the slice in my thigh muscle sheath.

Rigging a booby trap with thin dark line is very clever, though it's nothing to admire. Closing a wound with thin, dark stitches is another matter. What an amazing, simple healing practice! Clean the wound, then draw the sides together with tight little circles of thread. Bring two sides close, and things begin to mend. Push them apart, and healing is unlikely. "Outsiders," insiders, us, and them: Do we want walls, words or weapons to keep us apart? Or bridges and stitches, so healing can happen? Let's choose wisely!

There is so much to ponder as we enter the fall together in this election year. I look forward to pondering it with you!

In fellowship,
Craig Moro

[Rev. Moro can be reached by email, cmoro@willamette.edu or by phone at 503-851-4757, 8 a.m.–6 p.m. most days, except in an emergency.]

UU History Class: "LONG STRANGE TRIP"

Let's go back to the beginning and work our way forward as we watch this new 6-film series by researcher and interviewer, Ron Kordes. *Long Strange Trip* takes us through 2000 years of Unitarian and Universalist history, with visits to historic sites, interviews, and a clear presentation of the key persons and documents underlying our present day religious movement.

This will be a great opportunity for both newer and long-time members of WUUC as we watch, listen to, discuss, and wrangle with the key ingredients of our unique UU "soup."

We'll be meeting on **Saturday mornings** from **10-11:30 am** at **Rose City Park Presbyterian Church** (1907 NE 45th Avenue, Portland) September 17th, October 1st, October 15th, November 5th, November 19th and December 3rd.

More details will follow soon.

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 on Sundays at church.

The **Wy'east Board meets** on the **third Tuesday** of each month. The next two meetings are on **September 20th** and **October 18th** at 7 pm in a board member's home. All Wy'east members and friends are welcome to attend our meetings. If you are interested in attending a meeting you can send an email to wyeast-board@googlegroups.org, call the Wy'east office at (503)777-3704 and leave a message, or talk to any board member at a Sunday service.

WY'EAST PET POLICY UPDATE

At its meeting on August 16th, the Wy'east Board adopted the following policy regarding (non human) animals at our activities. **Only service animals are welcome at our indoor activities.** Other animals are welcome at our outdoor activities, but please be mindful of people who may have pet allergies or who may be afraid of animals. Thank you for your adherence to this policy.

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, please contact Hank H.

Special Collections for September and October



September: **PORTLAND
TENANTS UNITED**

Portland Tenants United (PTU) formed in response to our community's housing crisis. PTU is a nonprofit union working to address housing justice concerns in our city via informational workshops, public forums and direct actions. This year Portland apartment rents increased 14 percent between February and March - the biggest increase in the country. Since that rent spike was not matched with a similar rise in incomes, renters all over the Portland area are struggling to maintain their housing. As renters tend to already have lower incomes and wealth than landowners, the rent spike disproportionately affected low income individuals and families, a group already at risk for a variety of health-related struggles. Currently, PTU is advocating on behalf of Ash Street Tenants Association, comprised of residents who've received notice of a \$375 rent increase for their East Portland units, and it also recently hosted a Rent Control Pancake Breakfast to raise awareness about this policy option. (portlandtenantsunited.tumblr.com)



October: **WELCOME
HOME COALITION**

The Welcome Home Coalition is a gathering

of 143 community organizations led by a steering committee of 8 groups ranging from the Oregon Food Bank to the Native American Youth and Family Center, and the Community Alliance of Tenants. The coalition's goal is to build a movement to support affordable housing solutions in Portland. After two years of policy and public opinion research, community education, and leadership development, they have successfully launched the first ballot measure campaign for affordable homes, based on the view that, "Affordable Homes are like our schools, parks, libraries and fire stations... they make our community safe and accessible for all, they make our city better for everyone to enjoy." Measure 26-179, championed by the Coalition, would use General Obligation bonds to build permanently affordable homes for 3000 Portlanders who need them most. We will hear from Jes Larson, the Coalition's director. (welcomehomecoalition.org)

Social Justice Highlights

Wy'east as a congregation is active in several different aspects of social justice, but in this column our Social Justice Committee would like to highlight what's being done out in the community by some of our individual members on their own time. Each newsletter may include one or more write-ups, with a brief description of an organization that someone from Wy'east supports and how they are involved. If you want to know more about the organization, please contact the person that is highlighted.

Betty and Hank both volunteer with SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Association) which assists Medicare recipients, either by age or disability, to filter through Medicare information. Betty describes it as Medicare 101, basically. One issue they encounter is expensive drugs that may have little or no coverage, in which case Betty and Hank assist with the appeal process. They can help low income people who have reached the maximum Medicare drug coverage for the year (called the doughnut hole) enroll in the emergency prescription assistance program through Multnomah County. These include diabetics who have turned to Craig's List for their necessary medication. They also assist end stage renal disease patients get a supplemental plan through the American Kidney Association within a short 63 day window as well as advise low income patients.

Lana values all the Wy'east connections which allow her to participate in many social justice causes. When the Village Support Network team needed curtains for a child's room, she was happy to use her sewing skills. When she delivered the curtains, Lana felt a part of the transition team. If the monthly family homeless dinner needs a dish, she'll provide one. At the Clay Street Table, a homeless breakfast program which Unitarian Universalists participate in quarterly, she greets clients, prepares food, washes dishes, serves coffee and catches up with other UUs from various congregations. Lana feels that working as a greeter there allows interaction with the clients, showing the respect and dignity that every person deserves.



Oregon Unitarian Universalist Voices for Justice

Seventh Annual Meeting

October 15, 2016

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem

5090 Center St NE, Salem, OR

Oregon Unitarian Universalist Voices for Justice invites you to our Seventh Annual Meeting in Salem on Saturday, October 15. We gather together to celebrate our accomplishments, make plans for the coming year, and commit ourselves to supporting each other in our quest for a more just Oregon.

The ORUUVfJ board has suggested 4 broad campaigns for the coming year:

- ◆ Environmental Justice ◆ Deepening Democracy ◆ Human Rights ◆ and Income Inequality

Our meeting agenda includes choosing specific issues within each area and organizing to be effective advocates. The Oregon legislature will be meeting for a long session in 2017. Much will be on the table; much is already happening in Salem. Let us make sure UU voices are represented during the legislature's deliberations.

Come prepared to:

- Share what your congregation is doing for social, economic, and environmental justice in your community.
- Tell us how our statewide group might support those efforts.
- Join one of our four justice campaigns.
- Renew your membership in Oregon UU Voices for Justice.

Visit our web site at www.uuvoicesoregon.org to learn more about our campaigns and find out how to propose specific issues to address within a particular campaign. Then register on our web site and join us in Salem. Better yet, bring a team from your congregation.

Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required. Pre-register here: www.uuvoicesoregon.org/registration.html.

Oregon UU Voices for Justice is here for you. We are one of 18 state advocacy networks across the country working to amplify UU voices and values in public discourse.

Beverages and light snacks will be provided. We are working on having lunch available for a modest fee (maybe \$5). Please RSVP to oregonuuvoices@yahoo.com by Oct. 10 so we know how much food to have on hand.

BEFORE & AFTER Worship

Programming in September & October

If you have a programming idea that you would like to facilitate in the future, please contact Linda M., Larry B., Paul H., Paul S., or Mark A.

September 4

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

September 11

• **Social Hour** • 11:30 am

September 18

• **Social Hour** • 11:30 am • **Seniors Group** • 12:00 noon

September 25

• **Social Hour** • 11:30 am • **Poetry Group** • 12:00 noon



October 2

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

October 9

• **Social Hour** • 11:30 am

October 16

• **Social Hour** • 11:30 am • **Seniors Group** • 12:00 noon

October 23

• **Social Hour** • 11:30 am • **Poetry Group** • 12:00 noon

October 30

• **Social Hour** • 11:30 am

Sunday Potlucks

Our potlucks are now held on the first Sunday — that's **September 4th** and **October 2nd**. Bring a dish to share.



THE SENIORS GROUP at Wy'east is very much a going concern, and meets after the service on the third Sunday of every month at the home of Barbara R., close by the Senior Center. Barbara always makes something good to eat, and others bring things to go with it. The monthly topic is engaging — be it past, present, or future. And the definition of senior is flexible — your choice.

THE WY'EAST POETRY GROUP welcomes anyone who is interested in poetry, whether or not they are a member of the congregation, to meet with us at noon on the 4th Sunday of every month. This is not a class nor is it a writing group. Anyone who comes is welcome to share in reading poems aloud — either poems which they wrote themselves or those of favorite authors. If you prefer, you can just sit and listen! Whoever you are, wherever you come from, you are welcome here.

SHARPS' WAR DOCUMENTARY AIRS SEPTEMBER 20 ON PBS

You'll be fascinated by Ken Burn's latest documentary about two Unitarian heroes, Waitstill and Martha Sharp. Here's a description from the film's website (www.defyingthenazis.org):

"*Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War* is an account of a daring rescue mission that occurred on the precipice of World War II. It tells the previously untold story of Waitstill and Martha Sharp, an American minister and his wife from Wellesley, Massachusetts, who left their children behind in the care of their parish and boldly committed to a life-threatening mission in Europe. Over two dangerous years they helped to save scores of imperiled Jews and refugees fleeing Nazi occupation across Europe.... With narration taken completely from the couple's journals, *Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War* combines the intrigue of a spy novel with an intimate look into the lives of a husband and wife who were willing to put the well-being of strangers before that of themselves and their family.

In 2006, the Sharps were recognized at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem as 'Righteous Among the Nations,' the highest honor given by the State of Israel to non-Jews. They are two of only four Americans so honored."

September 4 OX-CART MAN

How do your work, your family life, and your community fit together and support each other—or do they? Donald Hall's poem *Ox-Cart Man* (and his children's story by the same name) will guide us this Labor Day weekend. Sermon by **Rev. Craig Moro**.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

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

September 11 WATER COMMUNION

This service is our annual ingathering as we start the beginning of the new church year. Please bring a small amount of water from somewhere you traveled or even your own backyard that represents water that was important to you this summer. Join us for this annual service that celebrates the blessings of clean and safe water! This will be an All Ages Service! Lead by **Alana H.** and **Justice T.**

Service: 10:30 a.m.

There will be no R.E., as this is an intergenerational service. Childcare will be available.

Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers.

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

September 18 GAME OF LINES

What we celebrate may say as much about us as what we believe or what we achieve. What do celebrations like political rallies and conventions say about who we are and who we want to be? Sermon by **Rev. Craig Moro**.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education (Pre-K – 8th Grade): Children attend the beginning of the service, and then go to RE.

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

September 25 THIS IS A REAL HOUSING EMERGENCY

Katrina Holland, the Interim Director of the Community Alliance of Tenants, speaks on “some of the things that are important to us as an organization addressing this hot issue in Portland; as we continue this journey together as a community, it is so pertinent that we work together in whatever capacity our lives allow - sharing time, solutions, leadership, labor and resources.”

Service: 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education (Pre-K – 8th Grade): Children attend the beginning of the service, and then go to RE.

Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers.

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

October 2 MAKE THAT LEFT TURN RIGHT THIS TIME

The Bible tells many tall tales of wandering and pondering, begettings and battles, towers and floods. There's even a cartoon that's loads of fun. Fun, yes, but that's not all, folks! Let's enjoy it together this morning. Sermon by **Rev. Craig Moro**.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

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

October 9 COUNT HER IN: CONTRIBUTIONS, CHALLENGES, and CHANGE

Emily Evans, the first Executive Director of the Women's Foundation of Oregon, will speak on the current realities for women and girls in Oregon, based on the Foundation's recent comprehensive report. Emily will share data, stories, and a set of simple things every Oregonian can do to make the state a better place for women and girls.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

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

October 16 BOTH CHICKENS

This sermon has two of everything: two churches, two friends, and of course two chickens. That should be enough for everybody. But what happens when you are called on to deliver what you only seem to have? (This sermon, by **Rev. Craig Moro**, is the first of a 3-part series that continues in November.)

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

October 23 HOW DO WE LIVE IN COMMUNITY IN A CONSTANTLY CHANGING GLOBAL LANDSCAPE?

"As we move in an ever expanding world wide communications system, we're losing our capacity to connect with one another person to person and the intimacy that comes from relying on community for our needs. Connection and community lead us to more happiness and joy in our lives. Why don't we just design a world where that is how it is?" Service by **Sally Custer**, communications consultant.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.

October 30 THE BORDER CROSSED OVER ME

Alberto Moreno, the Executive Director of the Oregon Latino Health Coalition and the Chair of the Commission on Hispanic Affairs for the State of Oregon, will speak on his experience of being a person of Mexican-American heritage here. Alberto is also a poet and photographer, so this talk will not be textbook or dry.

Service: 10:30 a.m.

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

Social Hour: Join us for refreshments after the service.