



# 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*] WWW.WYEASTUU.ORG

November/December 2010

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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!*

## From the Minister ♦ ♦ ♦

As I write this column we're in the midst of my favorite season. Fall is in the air with its chilly mornings and afternoon sunshine. We've had days of rain and will again, but *the sheer golden luminescence of the autumn is enough to brighten my spirits.*

We're in the season of remembering for me. I've forgotten the chill that settles over the house at night and need to remember to find the heavy comforters. I've forgotten how good homemade soup tastes, though I've also forgotten how much room the soup pot takes up in the refrigerator!

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## Sunday Sermons

11/7	Honoring Vets on Veterans Day	Travis Wright
11/14	Scarcity and Abundance, or Not Getting Married on the First Date	Marcia Stanard
11/21	Breaking Bread	Anders L.
11/28	From Cambodia to Hillsboro	Chom S.
12/5	A Sufi Speaks from the Soul	Paul Werder
12/12	Embracing the Darkness	Marcia Stanard
12/19	Celebration of Light	Wy'east Children
12/24	5pm Christmas Eve Service	Marcia Stanard
12/26	Taizé Song and Prayer	Elizabeth S.

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

## From the Minister *(continued)*

At church, it seems like a good time to remind ourselves of some things we may have forgotten as well. Wy'east has had some wonderful ministers in the 12 or so years you've been a congregation, but you've also done a wonderful job of creating your own services. Wy'east is, in some ways, a very DIY (Do It Yourself) congregation. We set it up and take it down each week, and that is work the congregation does. So I thought I'd take this time to remind you of some of the things a minister can do for you.

I'm available to talk with you when something big is happening in your life – whether it's good news or bad. Recently, a congregant said that a family member had shared a big secret – a secret too big for the congregant to carry alone. She sat with it for a day, wondering what she could do with it, and then she realized, she could talk with her minister! Joys and Sorrows are a beloved part of our worship services, and an important way to let the community know when we need extra help, but sometimes you don't wish to share with the whole congregation. Other times, emergencies may come up quickly that you need support around. Or perhaps you're experiencing some of those big questions of life that don't fit easily into a candle lighting ritual. Please, contact me.

I have also begun the process of meeting with people who are interested in membership and deepening their connection with Wy'east. Certain ministerial services, like weddings and memorials are provided free for members. Did you know that in the Unitarian homelands of Transylvania the fee for a memorial service is equal to 15 years of membership fees? Now that's certainly incentive to join!

But in the United States, we believe that membership in a congregation must be entered into freely. Sure, there are benefits that come with membership, but there are responsibilities as well. We ask that you have some sort of spiritual practice. We ask that you support Wy'east with your time and your resources. We ask that you welcome the stranger among us.

Perhaps most importantly, we ask that you take seriously the words of our covenant.

**We covenant together as a community of Love.**

**We will become our deepest and truest selves together.**

**We will be cared for, and will be called on to care for others.**

**We will stumble, but will restore one another and begin again in Love.**

Together, we are stronger than we are alone. Together, we care for our world, our neighbor, and ourselves. Together, we help each other become our deepest and truest selves. Call on me, call on each other, and ask yourself what you are called to do, be, and become in this intentional community.

May it be so.

Warmly,  
*Marcia*

## A Night of Great American Song!

**Saturday, Dec. 11th, 7-9pm**

Katie and Joseph TenEyck, consummate performers from Eastrose UU in Gresham, have put together an entertaining and edifying evening. We'll listen, laugh, and learn about the influences that have shaped popular American song into the 20th century.

There will also be delicious homemade desserts, a silent auction, and great company! Tickets sold by Wy'east members and friends starting in November.

## Wy'east Special Collections

On **November 21st**, our Special Collection will be in support of the work of **IRCO** – the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, here in Portland. In particular, our donations will go to IRCO's Diversity and Civic Leadership Program, of which our own Chom Sou is a graduate. Margaret Ormsbee from IRCO will be here with us. ([www.irco.org](http://www.irco.org))

On **December 19th**, our Special Collection will be on behalf of another organization working with immigrants and refugees – the **Reception and Placement Program** under the multicultural community services arm of **Lutheran Family Services**, currently working with families coming from as far away as Iraq and Myanmar. Stephani Bloch from LFS will be here with us. ([www.lcsnw.org/portland/mcsprograms.html](http://www.lcsnw.org/portland/mcsprograms.html))

The collection on **Christmas Eve** will be added to the **Minister's Discretionary Fund**. This is money set aside to help people at Wy'east who are struggling financially. If you are in need and would like to talk more about this, please contact Consulting Minister Marcia Stanard.

### Children's Holiday Fundraiser

Support our children in their holiday giving!

Attend RE's Bake and Craft Sale  
Gifts and Goodies for the Season

December 12th, 12:00 pm  
HSC large meeting room

## 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 may 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 [wyeast-worship@googlegroups.com](mailto:wyeast-worship@googlegroups.com) or talk to or talk to Mark A., Brooke C., Katy L., Mary P., or Elizabeth S.

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

## Getting Connected @ Wy'east

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) by contacting [Hanna.nelson@gmail.com](mailto:Hanna.nelson@gmail.com).

### Join the Wy'east Google Groups...

Wy'east has two Google groups: "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:

<http://www.wyeastuu.org/contact> and enter your email for the subscriptions you would like to receive.

## Newsletter News

The Wy'east Beacon is published bi-monthly. The deadline for the **January/February** issue submissions will be **Thursday, Dec. 16th**. Please send articles, meeting/event dates, poetry, artwork, book recommendations, favorite spiritual practices, etc. to: [wyeast-news-editor@googlegroups.com](mailto:wyeast-news-editor@googlegroups.com). If you have any questions, contact Sharai E. or send an email to the above address. Thanks!

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

## Contacting RE & the Board of Trustees

Contact Liana A., the Religious Education Committee Chair if you have questions about our children's programming at Wy'east: [wyeast-re@googlegroups.com](mailto: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](mailto:wyeast-board@googlegroups.com) or talk to any board member (David Tode O., Karl A., Dan E., Hank H., and Liana A.) on Sundays at church.

## From the RE Committee

Dear Wy'east,

What a glorious season this autumn has been! It outshines the memory of a drab summer, and makes me excited about what the end of 2010 has in store for us.

We as a congregation have had the joy of welcoming a new minister, while our children have had the pleasure of welcoming a new teacher in the RE program. Rose T. began teaching in September, alongside our returning teacher, Ashley M. Together they are presenting a Tapestry of Faith program titled, "Love Will Guide Us". This is a program all about examining life's big questions, such as "Where did we come from?" "What is our relationship to the Earth and other creatures?" "How can we respond with love, even in bad situations?" and "What happens when you die?"

This program is guided by the belief that we as a faith are fortunate to embrace inspiration and guidance from every branch of human history. We are encouraged to examine and honor the sources of our beliefs and knowledge – sources such as Jewish and Christian Teachings, our innate sense of wonder, and our Unitarian Universalist Faith Heritage. Look for the "night sky" board at our RE Table for more sources of inspiration.

Meanwhile our "middle school" group continues to meet under the guidance of our faithful RE volunteer, Anders L. He has been discussing with his children each of the seven principles, asking questions, and listening about how we can actually embody and take guidance from ideas that could easily become something abstract. Anders will also be leading the children in their Winter Celebration of Light.

We are honored to continue to have childcare provided by Anne S., who had been serving Wy'east week in and week out for so long now.

Finally, our RE Committee continues to work to bring all children and all adults together in service and worship. We'll have many opportunities to work together across the generations as our children invite Wy'east to support them in their Children's Holiday

Fundraiser and as we plan more and more intergenerational services. Some things you can do to get involved, even as a non-parent, are: visit our RE Calendar (online and available to the public), visit our table, speak to a teacher or a child. As a parent, make sure your child is registered and ready to be a part of the season of bounty and giving we are entering. You can also look for our invitation to the next RE planning meeting, or simply walk over to our beautiful space at Wee Works any Sunday to say hello.

**"Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand."**-

Chinese Proverb

*Liana A.*

## RE Calendar

Oct. 31st: Beginning our Season of Bounty and Giving by making baskets and voting on a charity to support

Nov. 7th: Speaking of Charity: Discussing our Season of Bounty and Giving

Nov. 14: Preparing to host Thanksgiving at HSC

Nov. 21st: NO RE. Inter-generational Service. Childcare provided

Nov. 28th: Preparing for our Bake & Craft Sale

Dec. 5th: Preparing for our Bake & Craft Sale, rehearse for Winter Celebration of Light

Dec. 12th: Preparing for our Bake & Craft Sale after service.

Dec. 19th: Celebration of Light: Loykratongzhiwali Chrismahannukwanzikah pageant

Dec. 26th: Special Holiday Program

## WEB LINKS

### RE Calendar:

[http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=n92vkas-kptdq6gh02d7f8oj1r8%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Los\\_Angeles](http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=n92vkas-kptdq6gh02d7f8oj1r8%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Los_Angeles)

### Tapestry of Faith program:

<http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/lovewill/index.shtml>

# Before & After Worship Programming in November & December

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

## NOVEMBER 7

- **Social Hour** 11:30 am
- **Social Justice Small Group Meeting** 12:00 pm

## NOVEMBER 14

- **Potluck Brunch** - bring a dish to share right after the service.

## NOVEMBER 21

- **Social Hour** 11:30 am

## NOVEMBER 28

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



## DECEMBER 5

- **Social Hour** 11:30 am – Join us for Chanukah treats and dreidel games!

*To prepare for the Celebration of Light, **our children are invited to rehearse after worship** on Sunday, December 5, starting at 12:30 PM. Pizza will be provided. We will also be rehearsing during religious education on Sunday, December 12, so children who have their heart set on playing the role of Durga, Mary, Raven, or the Spirit of Water, etc., are strongly encouraged to come to worship that day.*

## DECEMBER 12

- **Potluck Brunch** - bring a dish to share right after the service.

## DECEMBER 19

- **Social Hour** 11:30 am

## DECEMBER 26

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

## UU Adventures in Eating

**SUNDAY POTLUCK** – Our potlucks will be held on **November 14th** at 11:30 am and **December 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.

### Considering Membership?

#### Want to know more?

Contact our Consulting Minister Marcia Stanard at [minister@wyeastuu.org](mailto:minister@wyeastuu.org) for information on Path to Membership classes!

## Thanksgiving Luncheon

For the second year in a row, Wy'east will be offering a traditional Thanksgiving Luncheon – turkey and all the fixings – for about thirty seniors from the Hollywood Senior Center. We make and serve the food, send people home with leftovers, set up and clean up. And also as in last year, music will be provided for an after luncheon sing-along, this time played by Ellen G. We already have twenty-five people signed up to bring a dish, and we could use more. Please see Mark about food sign up, as well as if you're interested in being one of the ten or so people we'll need to staff this great event. And thank you for all you contribute!

## TWO MONTHS OF SUNDAYS

### November

#### **November 7 HONORING VETS ON VETERANS DAY**

**Travis Wright**, who has been counseling veterans at the Portland Vet Center for more than a decade, will talk about his experiences working with vets, individually and in groups, from the Korean, Viet Nam, Iraq, and Afghanistan Wars. Travis speaks from the heart about this subject.

**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.

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

#### **November 14 SCARCITY AND ABUNDANCE, OR NOT GETTING MARRIED ON THE FIRST DATE**

Our Consulting Minister, **Marcia Stanard** will lead the service.

**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.

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

#### **November 21 BREAKING BREAD**

Each autumn, we pause to give thanks for the food we gather from the earth. In this intergenerational service, we'll hear a story from four of our members about the bread each has baked, has in hand, how it connects to their personal history, and the meaning it holds for them. Then, during social hour, they'll share these loaves with all of us.

**Service:** 10:30 a.m.

**Religious Education (Pre-K-8th Grade):** There will be no RE, as this is an intergenerational Service. Childcare will be provided for infants and toddlers.

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

#### **November 28 FROM CAMBODIA TO HILLSBORO**

**Chom S.** of Wy'east will talk about the Khmer Rouge genocide, his family living in a concentration camp in Cambodia, then a refugee camp in Thailand, and now in America, where he was born and raised bi-culturally, and has had to deal with acculturation issues. Chom is committed to serving individuals and families with histories like his own.

**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.

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

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

# December

## **December 5    A SUFI SPEAKS FROM THE SOUL**

Sufism is the mystical branch of Islam, and **Paul Werder** has been a practitioner of this religion for more than a decade. Hear how Paul inspirationally presences this path in his everyday living, and also in his work as an organizational consultant, about which he has written a great book called Building Unity.

**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.

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

**Celebration of Light Rehearsal:** To prepare for the Celebration of Light, our children are invited to rehearse after worship, starting at 12:30 p.m. Pizza will be provided.

## **December 12    EMBRACING THE DARKNESS**

Next week we welcome the return of the light with celebrations from many different traditions. But today, let's allow ourselves to go deep into the space of rest and reflection we are called to in this season of darkness. What lessons can we learn about ourselves in the stillness? Our Consulting Minister, **Marcia Stanard** will lead the service.

**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.

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

## **December 19    CELEBRATION OF LIGHT**

Our children will once again be presenting the Winter pageant, which features them in adorable costumes acting out the stories behind the solstice holidays of eight different religious traditions. This Wy'east creation celebrates how we all find meaning in the darkness of winter, no matter which stories are told, and which holidays we observe.

**Service:** 10:30 a.m.

**Religious Education (Pre-K-8th Grade):** There will be no RE, as this is an intergenerational Service. Childcare will be provided for infants and toddlers.

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

## **December 24    CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE    5:00 p.m.**

Our Consulting Minister, **Marcia Stanard** will be leading this special family service with carols and candle-lighting.

## **December 26    TAIZÉ SONG AND PRAYER**

More than a hundred brothers from Catholic and Protestant backgrounds from 30 countries live in a community in Taizé, France, dedicating themselves to love and service. Thousands of visitors flock to Taizé each year to join the brothers in a beautiful worship style of meditative song and prayer three times a day. Wy'east members who have visited Taizé bring the experience to us.

**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.

**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  
Mailing address: 1916 NE 38th Ave.  
Portland, OR 97212

**Return Service Requested**