

# SALISH SEA FELLOWSHIP

A Religious Community with Open Hearts and Open Minds

## COMMUNITY UPDATE



[WWW.SALISHSEAFELLOWSHIP.ORG](http://WWW.SALISHSEAFELLOWSHIP.ORG)

### »»» ABOUT US

The Salish Sea Fellowship is a center for liberal religion providing an independent educational, spiritual and liberal religious community of mutual support that embraces the traditional *seven principles* of Unitarian Universalism. This is our Community Update for our friends and members. If you have anything you would like to tell the community, please let us know at [salishseafellowship@gmail.com](mailto:salishseafellowship@gmail.com).



### HOW TO FIND US <<<

We meet in-person at the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) in Port Hadlock, 130 Church Lane.

**UPDATE: OUR ZOOM LINK HAS CHANGED AS OF 2/10/25**

Click [HERE](#) for our updated Zoom link for viewing our services, or go to Zoom and enter Meeting ID: 909 702 5487, Passcode: 338490.





## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In celebration of Black History Month, we honor the profound contributions of Black individuals to our shared history, culture, and society. This month offers a powerful opportunity to reflect on the leadership, creativity, and resiliency of the Black community, while acknowledging the ongoing work toward equality and justice, which is the responsibility of all. Our first principle is at the heart of our Salish Sea Fellowship, and we stand together in solidarity with Black communities as we continue to strive for a future where all humans are seen, heard, and respected. Let us not only celebrate Black history, but recommit ourselves to upholding the inherent worth and dignity of every person.



There is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it.  
If only we're brave enough to be it.

-Amanda Gorman

(watch Amanda recite her powerful poem, [The Hill We Climb](#), [HERE](#))

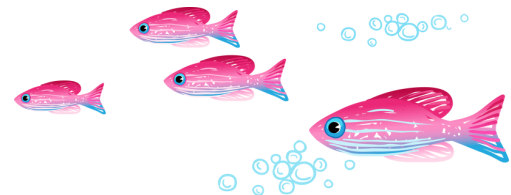
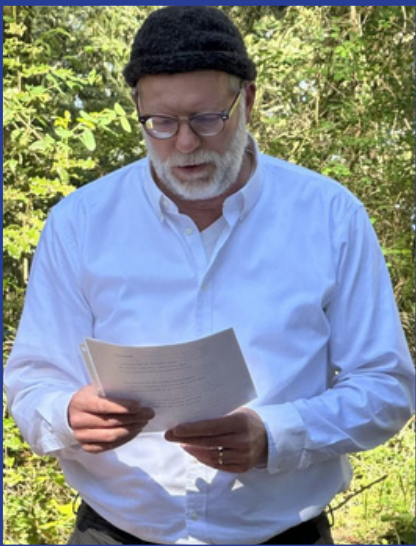
## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOTE:**  
Beginning in March  
Sunday Services will return to our  
4:00 start time

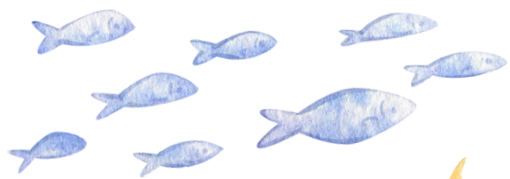
### JOSEPH BEDNARIK: WHAT, ME WORSHIP?

**SUNDAY SERVICE, MARCH 2, 4 PM AT CUMC**

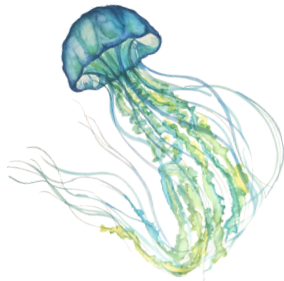
At a recent Unitarian Universalist service, the worship leader informed me, in no uncertain terms, "I don't worship anything." Ohhhhh, there's a message in there somewhere! This Sunday we explore the concept of worship, and see whether there is anything in the known Universe that might inspire us to bend our knees or bow our head... or both!



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## SALISH SEA COMMUNITY POTLUCK SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 5 PM AT CUMC

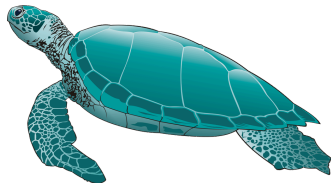


**Doors open at 4:30 to allow for more socializing.**  
As always, bring your own beverages and table settings,  
as well as a dish to share.



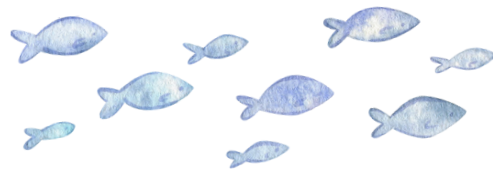
## DOUG BENECKE AND SALLIE SPIRIT SUNDAY SERVICE, MARCH 16, 4 PM AT CUMC

There are times of connection when we find an ever-flowing stream, a river of grace, and peace that surpasses our normal understanding. In those times we find change may occur – just like that. Thoughts on transcendent change through connection, by songwriter and speaker Doug Benecke, in musical collaboration with Sallie Spirit.

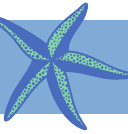


**UPDATE:** We will be moving our post-sermon discussion to the Library at CUMC beginning with our next service on March 2nd. The coffee hour and the post-sermon discussion tend to impinge on each other a bit, so we will give this a try. Please go to the library (down the ramp from foyer and hang a u-turn) about 15 minutes after the service ends. That way socializing can continue unabated without impinging on the discussion.

# UPCOMING NAUA EVENTS



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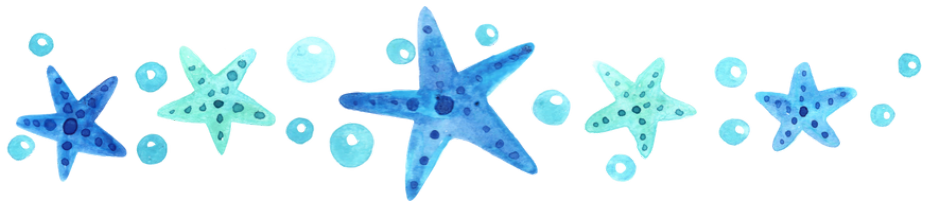


## February NAUA Academy Recording: "Boom or Doom: Is Unleashing Artificial Intelligence Wise?" with Ken Ing

February's NAUA Academy session shared reasons we could very well regret ever opening this Pandora's box. Ken Ing, session leader, created a five-page document with "**Points to Ponder**" – thought questions and references for further review. If you missed the session, feel free to click on the image to view the recording, or click **HERE**.



If you're curious about NAUA community opportunities, visit the Items of Community Interest page on our Salish Sea Fellowship webpage **HERE**. Upcoming events are updated regularly.

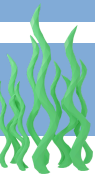


### Attention!

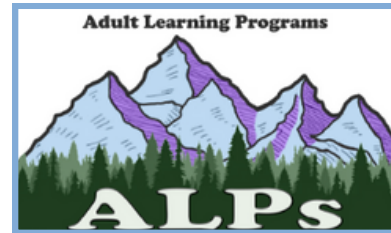
Our Zoom link has changed!  
Please Bookmark our new Zoom link **HERE**  
for your convenience!



Services you missed, are available **HERE**. Sunday services that are available include the sermon and readings. Also, we now have 20 subscribers to our YouTube channel! You may access our YouTube channel **HERE**. Finally, you may also click **HERE** to access our Sunday services live on Zoom. **(Please note that our Zoom link has changed, bookmark this new link!)**



## ALPs (Adult Learning Programs)



Kate Madson shared this quote from *The New Yorker* that speaks to the value of our ALPs program: *“Non-compulsory education, as it turns out, is one of adult life's great pleasures. The most stylish people I know are perpetual students who pursue their interests with vigor.”* The author, Rachel Syme, goes on to list many opportunities available in NYC, which range from \$80 to \$449!

**ALPs is FREE, so, don't miss the great pleasure of these programs coming in March:**

- **March 3-24: Great Decisions at JC Library with Joyce Francis**
- **March 8: Rose Care & Spring Pruning with Rob Wamstad**
- **March 12 & 19: Exploring the Energy Transition Story with Gary Nelson & David Blessing**
- **March 23: The Living Legacies of the 7 Principles with Gail Sandlin**

See the ALPs Brochure with full descriptions of these programs, as well as signup information, at <https://salishseafellowship.org/other-activities-and-events/>.

## Jefferson County Immigrant Rights Advocates



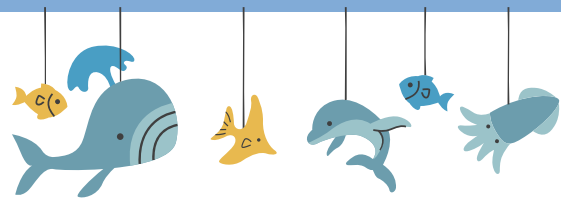
### A FOLLOWUP MESSAGE FROM JCIRA:

If you were moved to action by Jean Walat's presentation last week, there is an opportunity to become "involved and contribute to the thinking, assess feasibility, etc." You may access the JCIRA website [HERE](#) for more information about this important organization.

**Join the 2nd organizational meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, February 25, at 12:15 at QUUF.**



# CARING AND CONCERNS TEAM



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## Breakfast Club:

Breakfast Club meetings are back on after the bustle of the holidays!

Sarah and Karen will hang out on Wednesdays (**ALL Wednesdays of the month**) at **9:30 AM** at the **Bay View Restaurant**. Join together for coffee, tea, breakfast or even pie! You could add ice cream (in the dairy group)!

## Community Potluck:

Please join us to chase away the cold and gloom with lots of laughter, chatter, and yummy food! Community fills up our hearts during unsure times.

## Carpooling to Events:

If you are interested in carpooling to events, please send an email to [salishseafellowship@gmail.com](mailto:salishseafellowship@gmail.com). Tell us your preferred pickup location and phone number, and we will figure out a plan.

## FROM YOUR BOARD:



BRIAN ROGERS, RON STRANGE, GARY NELSON, JUDY KING, ROB WAMSTAD, & NILS PEDERSEN

## A Community Offering

Beginning with our last service, we have decided to change the offering to a Community Offering in support of organizations doing good work in our community, and the entire offering not designated otherwise was donated to JCIRA ([jcira.org](http://jcira.org)). We have done so because we can, because you, our Membership, readily pledged beyond our goal for 2025. Thank you! This brings up a couple of things.

First, as we want our donations to go to groups that we the Membership believe are doing good work in our community, please send us your suggestions for such organizations by email to [salishseafellowship@gmail.com](mailto:salishseafellowship@gmail.com). Please make sure that these groups are local non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status.

Second, if you want to put money in the collection plate for any reason other than the Community Offering being supported on a particular Sunday (e.g. your pledge) you can do so by: 1. write a check including instructions on where the money should go, or 2. If you want to give cash, place it in one of the provided envelopes and write your name and instructions on the envelope. This allows us to credit you in our records.

## FROM YOUR BOARD:



BRIAN ROGERS, RON STRANGE, GARY NELSON, JUDY KING, ROB WAMSTAD, & NILS PEDERSEN



### North American Unitarian Association:

At a recent meeting, your Board of Directors began to consider the idea of joining the North American Unitarian Association (NAUA, [naunitarians.org](http://naunitarians.org)). Given our history, some of us may be hesitant to join any association; at this point it seems we value our independence. The NAUA states on its homepage that it is there to help liberal religion thrive, and that it 'is a member service organization dedicated to supporting and promoting the practice of liberal religion by embracing freedom, reason, and tolerance—rooted in our commitment to the inherent worth and dignity of every person and all peoples.' We also realize that the SSF is the largest 'breakaway' congregation, and our joining the NAUA, beyond making a statement, would also put us in a position to help other smaller congregations deal with the various issues and complexities involved in running a congregation. In any case, we as a board feel that any decision in this regard should be made by the membership as a whole, and so we would ask you to begin learning about the NAUA.

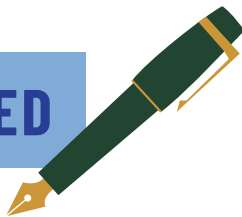
Feel free to take a look at their website, [naunitarians.org](http://naunitarians.org), or ask some of our Fellowship members that are individual members of NAUA, like Joyce Francis, Ron Strange and Ken Ing.

## COMMUNITY REQUEST



The jar for CUMC donations will now be located on the same table as our treats. If you choose to make a contribution to the Methodist's deserving local ministries, please do so by the end of coffee "hour," before the discussion with our speaker begins. This will allow your donations to be tallied and deposited without requiring the recorder to be the last one out the door!

## CALLIGRAPHER WANTED



### Looking for a Calligrapher!

We now have a membership book thanks to the efforts of Elaine and Gary Nelson, thank you! We are hoping to have it beautifully inscribed - are you, or do you know a calligrapher willing to help us out? Please let Lily or Gary know. Thanks!



## Want to help our neighbors be warm and fed?

### HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS



»»» Our hosts, the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) staff a free foodpantry and clothes closet on Saturdays from 10 to 1:00. With winter upon us, donations of individual pull-tab cans of chili, stew, hash and spam are exceptionally helpful, along with packets of hot chocolate, coffee and pasta with sauce. Warm coats, shirts, pants, scarves, gloves and blankets are also needed, but for now no lightweight clothing due to limited storage space. Please give nothing that is not clean, in good condition and something you would wear yourself.



»»» CUMC also runs a weekly soup kitchen, and Salish Sea provides the soup (a gallon of vegie and a gallon with meat) on the third Saturday of the month. We are set through February, but if you would like to join the list of folks who provide soup and/or assist with set-up and clean-up in the future, please contact Kate Madson at [kmadson3of9@gmail.com](mailto:kmadson3of9@gmail.com) or Kendra Golden at [kendrajgolden@gmail.com](mailto:kendrajgolden@gmail.com).



### MEMBERSHIP



## Membership Status: Consider Becoming a Member in 2025!


As you may know, you become a member of the Salish Sea Fellowship by filling out the application form (available [HERE](#)), and then being approved by the Board. All membership applications we have received have been approved by the Board. However, we have not had any formal, or even informal, welcome ceremony to the Fellowship. We do think, though, that we should have an open recognition and welcome of our new members, and we will figure out how to put this in place. We value and welcome all our members, and we certainly hope no one has felt neglected.






## THE GOOD OF THE ORDER



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If you have announcements you'd like to make, suggestions for this Community Update, or anything else on your mind about our community, let us know at [SalishSeaFellowship@gmail.com](mailto:SalishSeaFellowship@gmail.com).

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My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.

-Maya Angelou

