

the Communicator

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the newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

January 15, 2005

Washington Interns' Gift Brings UUWF Clara Barton Internship Fund to Its Goal

A heartfelt gift from the three interns in the UUA Washington Office for Advocacy has brought the fundraising effort for the UUWF Clara Barton Internship for Women's Issues to its goal.

Hearing that contributions were within \$400 of that goal, Kierstin Homblette, Megan Joiner and Amelia Rose reached deep into their own pockets and came up with the dollars needed to bring the endowment fund to its \$400,000 objective.

"Our dream was to make a significant donation, but the financial means were just not there," said Kierstin, the first UUWF Clara Barton Intern. "So the opportunity to make the last pledge was to us the symbolic equivalent."

Part of their motivation, she explained, came from gratitude for the opportunities and experiences they have had as staff in the Washington Office, for the ways in which they have grown in their two years there, and for the generosity of the many people who have given their own time and money to the program.

"We pledged out of the knowledge of the importance of the Washington Office's work," Kierstin said.

(Continued on page 4)

**Margaret Fuller Awards
Focus on Peacemaking,
Healing Rituals**

See page 2



Photo courtesy of Kierstin Homblette

In a fitting tribute to their faith in the future, the social justice interns in the UUA Washington Office contributed the final amount to complete fundraising for the UUWF Clara Barton Internship for Women's Issues. Left to right, Megan Joiner, Kierstin Homblette and Amelia Rose stand in front of a plaque honoring donors of \$1000 or more to the internship endowment.

Fund for Unitarian Universalism Awards Challenge Grant to UUWF

UUWF has been awarded an \$8,000 challenge grant from the Fund from Unitarian Universalism. The grant comes in response to a proposal seeking financial support of the Federation's restructuring initiative, refocusing its resources on grants giving and advocacy.

"We are grateful for the grant and confident that our members, both current and potential, will help us meet the challenge," said UUWF President Nancy W. Van Dyke.

Donations that come to UUWF beginning with its fall 2004 fundraising appeal, sent to all current members in mid-November, are eligible for these matching funds.

"I know you have numerous organizations deserving your support, and that you have many choices to make," Nancy wrote in a letter to prospective donors. "I hope UUWF will remain a priority and that you will join me in being as generous as possible."

If you have not yet made a donation, send a check payable to UUWF to UUWF, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108 or call 617-948-4692 for more information. Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

For a list of those who have already contributed to the Fall Appeal, see page 3.

Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation Leadership

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- Kirstie Lewis, Ph.D., Bellevue, WA
- Phyllis Rickter, Arlington, MA

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2005 Margaret Fuller Projects Focus on Peacemaking, Healing Rituals

A design for an intergenerational, "questing" experience on peacemaking and a book of rituals for women with breast cancer are the topics of the two projects honored by UUWF's 2005 Margaret Fuller Awards. They are:

Pray for Peace Day May 7th, 2005

UU Church of Little Rock

This project will create a day-long, "questing" experience centering on women's contributions to peacemaking for families and/or friends to enjoy together. Peace Packets of information will guide participants on a Footprints of Peace journey around their community, where interactive games, personal dramatizations and other activities at each stop will educate them about the importance of women in developing a peaceful society.

The project will lift up the work of women on many levels – from households and neighborhoods to the wider world community. Provisions for outreach to the non-UU community are incorporated into the activity's design.

Grant funding provided by UUWF's Margaret Fuller Awards will help UUCLR develop a complete template and RE curriculum for this event, which can be used by congregations and other groups.

Seasons of Survival: Rituals for Women with Breast Cancer

Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual (WATER)

This project responds to the needs

expressed by women and their friends and families for liturgies, blessings, prayers and other rituals to support them spiritually during their experiences with breast cancer. In addition to developing a book containing these rituals, WATER will also hold a related, interfaith "Ceremony of Memory and Hope" at River Road UU Church, Bethesda, MD, during this year's Breast Cancer Awareness Month, to practice the rituals with many of those who have contributed to the book's development.

"We are focusing on funding those proposals that are forward-thinking and accessible to larger numbers of UUs and other interested in religious feminisms."

– Rev. Marti Keller

UUWF's grant will help toward funding development of both the book and the interfaith ceremony.

The Margaret Fuller Awards provide grant funds to projects that focus on any of the many thematic strands of

UU feminist theology. The program seeks to fund accessible projects – meaning products that can be used by local congregations or other groups to further an understanding of this subject area. The 2005 awards will be presented at the UUA General Assembly in Fort Worth, TX, in June.

This year's grants reaffirm the program's purpose, said the Rev. Marti Keller, chair of the Margaret Fuller Awards Committee and an adjunct faculty member at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, GA.

"We spent a good amount of time in September at a two day retreat reminding ourselves of our mission and goals of encouraging, funding, and promoting liberal religious feminisms," Marti said. "These awards are aimed at projects that

(Continued on page 3)

Contributors to the UUWF Fall 2004 Appeal

as of December 17, 2004

Gifts of \$1,000 or More

- Nancy W. Van Dyke, Sea Cliff, NY

Gifts from \$250 to \$999

- Marie Buckey, San Diego, CA
- Arlene M. D. Johnson, Tulsa, OK
- Phyllis C. Rickter, Arlington, MA

Gifts from \$100 to \$249

- Joanna Alling, Westport, CT
- Rhoda Amon, Port Washington, NY
- Letty Bergstrom, Cincinnati, OH
- Bonnie Brae, Santa Monica, CA
- Susan M. Buckholz, White River Junction, VT
- Marcia M. Bystrom, Muscle Shoals, AL
- The Rev. Barbara Child, Gainesville, FL
- Katherine C. Cox, Camp Hill, PA
- Mary Leonard, Boulder, CO
- Dorothy K. Powers, Atlanta, GA
- Marjorie Smith, Wilsonville, OR
- Ellen Spencer, Brookline, MA
- Alice Wallace, San Francisco, CA

Gifts from \$50 to \$99

- Sara Beard, Avondale Estates, GA
- Joan Becker, Pittsburgh, PA
- Eunice Boardman, Rock Island, IL
- Merilys Brown, Green Valley, AZ
- Ann Butler, North Haven, CT
- Carnzu Clark, Santa Barbara, CA
- Judith J. Clough, Schenectady, NY
- Diana Cottam, Madison, WI
- Kathy Drehmel, Louisville, KY
- Esther Duncan, Kent, OH
- Florence Furst, Roslyn Heights, NY

- Linda Godfrey-Bailey, Sharon, MA
- Ginny Guidotti, Peterborough, NH
- Margaret Kaye, Houston, TX
- Corinne LeBovit, Charlottesville, VA
- Irma Lederer, Lynbrook, NY
- Virginia M. Lutton, Cincinnati, OH
- Bea Miller, Wellesley Hills, MA
- The Rev. Melanie Morel-Ensminger, Cherry Hill, NJ
- Carol Palmer, Madison, WI
- Jerilyn Percy, Brookfield, WI
- Dorothy Prunhuber, Manhasset NY
- Kab Rabinowitz, Sherborn, MA
- Claudia Runge, Louisville, KY
- Violet E. Rutledge, Silver Spring, MD
- Ginny Schwartz, Manhattan Beach, CA
- Ruth M. Shaw, Collinsville, IL
- Adrienne J. Shuter, St. Louis, MO
- Nan Taller, Morris, IL
- The Rev. Audrey Vincent, Santa Paula, CA
- Justice and Maralee Waidner, Tulsa, OK
- Ruth Weber, Lacey, WA
- Alice Weeks, Longwood, FL
- Ellen Wehrle, Oak Park, IL
- Nancy S. Young, Honolulu, HI

Gifts from \$10 to \$49

- Ella Agnew, San Diego, CA
- Alberta Anderson, College Station, TX
- Beverly Arck, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
- Elizabeth Arnold, Wethersfield, CT
- Martha Baron, Glen Head, NY
- Louise Barrow, Santa Barbara, CA
- Margaret Beck, Grosse Point Farms, MI

- Eugenia Bialek, Providence, RI
- Betty Blu, Eugene, OR
- Diane Carmen, Lehigh Acres, FL
- Jean Danko, Bloomington, MN
- Anne DiBerdardo, Fayetteville, NC
- Shirley W. Feit, Port Washington, NY
- Eleanor Blossom Fisher, East Orleans, MA
- Lois Gilbert, El Sobrante, CA
- Marie Hammer, Bellingham, WA
- Barbara Hanneman, Turner, OR
- Mary Harris, Dunlap, IL
- Patty Jantho, Baltimore, MD
- Mildred Jones, Port Washington, NY
- Claire Karcher, Chicago, IL
- Carol Lanz, Woodcliff Lake, NJ
- Eleanor Manire-Gatti, Amherst, MA
- Andrea McAskill, Swampscott, MA
- Marilyn Mehr, PhD, East Hampton, NY
- Dr. Shelley Neiderbach, Brooklyn, NY
- Lynn Peterson, Racine, WI
- Joan Rawlins, Dallas, TX
- Nancy Rieser, West Kingston, RI
- Judith Rymer, Great Neck, NY
- Donna Schmader, Warwick, RI
- Evelyn Shepard, Honolulu, HI
- Claudine Thomas, Kansas City, MO
- Joan Tobin, Suffield, CT
- Helen Walther, Ft. Myers, FL
- Georgina W. Wandelmaier, Washington, NJ
- Mary Watts, Manhasset, NY
- Iantha Whittaker, Miami, FL
- Laura Zickgraf, Lansing, MI

Margaret Fuller Projects, cont. from p. 2

reflect new thinking and innovative programming, that model contextual, relational ways of finding and acting out issues of meaning and purpose."

Successful Margaret Fuller grant proposals reflect those models, Marti noted. "While UU women's history is important to capture, and single events rich and significant,"

she said. "We are focusing on funding those proposals that are forward-thinking and accessible to larger numbers of UUs and others interested in religious feminisms."

Other members of the Margaret Fuller Awards Committee are: the Rev. Dr. Glenda Gray, Marietta, GA; Kirstie Lewis, Ph.D., Bellevue, WA; and Phyllis Rickter, Arlington,

MA. UUWF board liaison to the committee is Linda Lu Burciaga.

Additional information about this UUWF grant program is available at our website – uua.org/UUWF – or from the UUWF Office. The deadline for applying for the 2006 awards is October 1, 2005.

Interns' Gift, cont. from p. 1



*Megan Joiner, Civil
& Human Rights Intern*

"Of the voice we can be to Congress and the White House for UUs everywhere, and of the unique place we hold in the interfaith community.

"But most of all, we pledged because we want to help continue the work of justice into perpetuity. We will soon pass the torch to a new set of interns, and it is important to know that they will have the resources they will need and the place to grow ever deeper in their UU faith, their

calling to social justice, and their voice as liberal religious people."

The UUWF Clara Barton Internship for Women's Issues was founded by a lead gift from the UUWF, which donated \$200,000 from the



*Kierstin Homblette,
UUWF Clara Barton
Intern for Women's Issues*

proceeds of the sale of the site of the Clara Barton Birthplace and Camp in North Oxford, MA. In a partnership effort with the UUA, UUWF also pledged to help raise a matching amount to complete the fund.



*Amelia Rose,
Economic Justice Intern*

UUWF gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the many individuals, women's groups, and congregations that have contributed to the endowment fund.

Donors to the UUWF Clara Barton Internship for Women's Issues

as of December 8, 2004

Gifts of \$50,000 or more

- Howard D. Watt, James E. Cogan, and Lory Cogan Utz in honor of Bernita Cogan Watt

Gifts from \$10,000 - \$49,999

- Women's Alliance of the UU Church of All Souls, New York, in memory of Florence H. McNeil
- Dr. Barbara W. Brown and Ms. Linda A. McAffrey in honor of the lives of our Mothers, Anne C. Miller and Betty Ann McAffrey
- Les and Sue Polgar in memory of Dr. Antonia Szilard
- Tom and Dee Stegman
- Margery T. and Robert S. Ware

Gifts from \$5,000 - \$9,999

- Lelia Wright

Gifts from \$1,000 - \$4,999

- Anonymous (2 donors)
- Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation in honor of the 1973-77 UUWF Boards for founding their Ministry to Women Award
- UUWF of the UU Church of Bloomington-Normal, Illinois
- UUWF of the Pacific Southwest District

- Women's Group of the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock, Manhasset, NY
- First Unitarian Church and the Alliance of the Orlando, Florida UU community in honor of Kierstin Homblette
- UUWF of the Central Midwest District
- Association of Universalist Women at First Universalist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota in honor of Dru Cummins, Sharon Bishop and in memory of Betty Benjamin
- Pennsylvania Universalist Convention
- The Congregation for the March for Women's Lives on April 25, 2004 at All Souls Church, Unitarian, Washington, D.C.
- The Community Church of New York, UU, in honor of Kay Aler-Maida
- First UU Church of San Diego, California
- June G. Barrett in memory of James H. Barrett
- Julia and Arnold Bradburd
- Bradford S. and Yvonne Brown in honor of Joan C. Moore
- Marie F. Buckley
- Susan H. Caravello
- Catherine and Victor Carpenter
- The Rev. Barbara Child in honor of the Rev. Barbara Pescan
- Denny and Jerry Davidoff
- The Elias Family – Albert J., Rea, Albert Louis, and William
- Tomas Firle and Joan Cudhea
- Jerry Gabert in honor of Susan DuBell Gabert
- Barbara Paton Gardner
- Natalie Webber Gulbrandsen
- Priscilla Baird Hinckley
- Lin Hinds and Judy Judy
- Kathy and Dan Homblette in honor of Kierstin Homblette
- Louise M. Huddleston
- Clare J. Fazackerley and James R. Iverson
- Clarise Jefferson
- Arlene Johnson
- Katherine Stone Kaufmann
- Mandy and Rob Keithan in memory of Margot Freund Jacobson
- Marjorie E. Kroll
- Polly Leonard
- Kirstie Lewis in honor of Adeline Lewis and in memory of Johanna Hustad and Betsy Larson
- Verna M. Livingston
- Patsy Sherrill Madden and B. Richard Madden

(Continued on page 5)

A New Year's Message from UUWF's President



As I sit writing to you in December, the Northeast is getting ever colder with the promise of snow. Christmas carols are playing, and the UU Women's Federation has much to be grateful for.

Foremost among these is reaching our fundraising goal for the UUWF Clara Barton Internship for Women's Issues, located in the UUA Washington Office for Advocacy. Our thanks go out to all who worked so hard to make this dream come true and to all who contributed so generously.

It is fitting that the donation needed

to complete the endowment was contributed by this year's three social justice interns, Kierstin Homblette, Amelia Rose and Megan Joiner. They are our future, and their gift dramatically highlights the philosophy behind the endowment and the internships. Much thanks are also due to immediate past UUWF

(Continued on page 6)

Internship Donors, cont. from p. 4

- Gladys and Isaac McNatt
- The Rev. Deborah Mero
- Janet and Marlowe Nortrom in honor of daughters Gina and Kristin
- Shirley L. Odegaard in memory of Gertrude Gibbens Jones
- Stephen and Muriel Osder in honor of UUWF services to the Unitarian Universalist Association
- Janet Prince and Peter Bergh
- The Rev. Meg A. Riley in honor of Jie and all of our daughters
- Jan and Stu Sendell
- Edward A. Simmons
- Sherry Smith
- Carol Stahl
- Lee and John Sullivan
- Lynn Thomas
- Janet Linda Tyler
- Nancy W. and Reinhardt Van Dyke
- The Rev. Dr. Farley W. Wheelwright in honor of Virginia B. Wheelwright
- Priscilla A. Ledbury and Rhoda L. Whitney in memory of Dorothy Ledbury
- Charles W. Wilson III in honor and memory of Marty Ann Moore Wilson

Gifts from \$500 - \$999

- Women's Alliance of Arlington Street Church, Boston, MA
- UUWA - Metropolitan District NY
- Cedar Lane UU Church, Bethesda, MD
- Honolulu Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation
- Marcy Bailey-Adams
- Mary and Dave Leonard
- Jana Leslie

- Elizabeth F. Perkins in honor of Ellen Fuller Forbes
- Phyllis Rickter & Donald O. Rickter
- Marjory Smith

Gifts from \$10 - \$499

- Anonymous
- Amelia Rose, Kierstin Homblette, and Megan Joiner, the 2003-2005 Legislative Assistants, UUA Washington Office
- First Unitarian Church of Honolulu, HI
- UUWF Womanspirit/Emerson Guild, Shorewood, WI
- UU Church of Athens & Sheshequin, Athens, PA
- UUWF of Riverside, CA
- Main Line Unitarian Church Women's Alliance, Devon, PA
- UU Society in Stamford, CT
- Unitarian Women's Alliance of Hartford, CT
- UU Church of Akron, OH
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- Pearl Samples
- Evelyn Shepard
- Kenneth A. Small
- David D. Smith
- Victoria Spielman
- E. Hope Stege
- The Rev. Rachel G. Tedesco
- Dr. Joella Vreeland
- Justice and Maralee Waidner
- Anne Wardell
- Gary and Kay Witt
- Peggy and Galen Wolf



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President's New Year Message, cont. from p. 5

President Linda McAffrey and the members of the 2001-04 Board, whose leadership and foresight gave birth to the UUWF internship project.

Another affirmation of our efforts is the challenge grant give to UUWF by the Fund for Unitarian Universalism, which will partially underwrite expansion of our development and fundraising capabilities and to development of a brand identity for our organization.

We have hired two consultants, Jan Miner and Emily Mitchell, whose work is well known in UUA circles, to assist in those efforts and they have begun their work.

When you read this report, we will be well into these efforts and

looking forward to making a huge splash with our new direction at General Assembly in Fort Worth.

“Much thanks are also due to immediate past UUWF president Linda McAffrey and the members of the 2001-04 Board, whose leadership and foresight gave birth to the UUWF internship project.”

Part of our excitement in Fort Worth will be the featuring of this year's recipients of our Margaret Fuller Awards: the Women's Alliance for

Theology, Ethics and Ritual (WATER) and the UU Church of Little Rock (see page 2 for information about their projects). We will also feature our new grants program, which will focus on social justice projects that affect women and girls.

Our fundraising capability and our ability to produce results are at the heart of our future as we shift the focus of our organization and membership. We are excited about planning a wonderful party in Fort Worth for donors and potential members. They are crucial to that success and to the relevance of the UUWF into the future. Please watch for announcements – we'd love to have you join us at this celebration!

Nancy W. Van Dyke
UUWF President