

UniFire

March 2018

*We celebrate community and
promote spirituality,
justice, responsibility,
and compassion.*

UUCY · 225 N. 2nd St, Yakima, WA 98901
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UUCY SUNDAY SERVICES ~ Join Us at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 4th

First Sunday Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, March 11th

Communicating to Connect

This morning Rev. Jones continues his series on our Healthy Relations Covenant, highlighting both our promise to “listen deeply” and to “speak with courage and humility.” We’ll consider how the most important aspect of communication is not always to convey information, but to simply connect.

Greeter: Bill Jacobs

Host: The McPherson Family

Sunday, March 18th

God’s Art

Presented by UUCY Member Carole Sahlstrand

Greeter: Jason Laws

Host: Sonker Family

Sunday, March 25th

An Invitation

The fourth in the series on the sources of our UU faith, Rev. Jones presents ideas about our Christian heritage on this Palm Sunday.

Greeter: Volunteer Needed

Host: Emilee Solomon

SPECIAL EVENT:

“It’s a Spring Thing!” UUCY Auction 2018

Saturday, March 31st, 5:00 p.m. at UUCY

Beer, Wine, and Hors d’oeuvres; Live and Silent Auctions

Greetings from Rev. Ken Jones (a.k.a. “Ken’s Ken.”)

Mark Trahant, an independent journalist and member of the Shoshone-Bannock tribe, writes in the most recent issue of *Yes!* magazine about the imminent ending of the colonial era. He says what is necessary is a “disruption” of white supremacy.

“‘Disruption’ is an important word to add to a discussion of ending colonialism.” He writes, “It explains the sudden – and not-so-sudden – shifts in history, in a way that ‘decolonization’ alone does not. Disruption is what we need to free ourselves from the economic, racial, and cultural oppression that is colonialism’s legacy.”

I thought about this idea of “disruption” as I reflected on the services we held this past month utilizing the Unitarian Universalist Association’s “Promise and Practice” program. The program – and our services – focused on the stories of many African-American Unitarian Universalists who have joined the Black Lives of UU organizing collective to tell their stories of not always feeling welcome and included in UU communities. In some way, these stories are a disruption to those of us who felt as if our UU communities were immune to the legacy of white supremacy – or, in words more synchronous with Mr. Trahant’s – the legacy of colonialism.

Some people in our parts of the country think the “black” lives movement in Unitarian Universalism is not a relevant here in the inland Northwest, since there are a very small percentage of African-Americans living here. But I find these stories of black UUs to be very powerful in the sense that they disrupt the assumptions of white supremacy. And from my point of view (straight, white, cis-gendered, able-bodied, English-speaking male) I think that’s what the problem really is – white supremacy. Or, to put it in slightly broader terms: colonialism.

I think what we’re seeing with the #MeToo movement is also a disruption of the colonial mindset. It’s disrupting the colonialism of the body – primarily female bodies – that has been prevalent in our culture for a very long time.

Some say the colonial era ended after World War II. That is partly true, at least in a certain political sense. But I believe the mindset of colonialism is still very much alive in our culture, and we are experiencing tremendous disruption precisely because we’re in denial of that fact. The colonial mindset teaches us that we, as individuals, as families, or as neo-tribal groups, have dominion over other people and/or places – dominion that applies, in many minds, to legalized structures, such as employees who work for us or property over which we have legal control. To disrupt the assumptions that underlie many of our legal standards could be quite a disruption indeed.

Hold on. It could be a wild ride. I think we may need each other more than we thought.

In faith,
Ken



It's A Spring Thing!

UUCY Auction 2018
Saturday, March 31, 5 p.m.



REMINDER: Donation Deadline is March 23rd!

Have you submitted your auction donation yet? Our committee is seeing a slow trickle of items, and we are hoping that a tidal wave is coming! Contact Nancy Born if you need ideas, and thank you as always for your continued support.

Plan Those Dinners!

Did you know that the biggest income source at Auction is from seats at dinners? Not only is this a great way to plan time with your UUCY friends and family, but a wonderful source of revenue for the church, as well! Consider hosting a dinner (or two!), or teaming up with a friend to host one as a team. Not sure what to serve? As always, your Auction Team stands ready to assist, contact us any time, or talk to Nancy Born after services!

TICKETS

Auction Tickets will be available for sale after every service in March, act now to get yours at the Early Bird discount! "Bring a Friend for Ten" tickets are back this year, for the bargain price of just \$10 per person, and each UUCY Member is encouraged to bring at least one non-UUCY friend. This is a great way to introduce your liberal friends to our fun and friendly community, and a great way for UUCY to bring in additional income!

Let's welcome spring with open hearts (and wallets)!

UUCY Auction 2018: Donation Form

Donation Deadline: Friday, March 23

Donor Name (will be listed in catalog): _____

Donor Email and Phone # _____

Item or Service Name and Description (please include date, time, and number of people, etcetera. Minimum suggested price for each seat at hosted dinners is \$40)

MINIMUM BID (required) \$ _____ **Fair Market Value** \$ _____

Please note: If reserve (minimum bid) is not met, the item will be returned to the donor.

Items can be dropped off on Sundays during church, or you can contact Genevieve in the office to make arrangements during the week. 509-453-8448 / admin@uucyakima.org

UUCY News and Events

All In The Family: Passing of Gene Rupel

Gene Rupel, former UUCY Member and local peace advocate, has passed away. Though he spent his last years living on the other side of the mountains, many here knew and loved Gene, and there will be a memorial service at the Yakima Valley Museum on Saturday, March 24th, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Photos of Gene and more details can be found in his obituary, [available by clicking on this link](#).



All In The Family: Lillian Froese-Raihl Serves as Senate Page

(From the Yakima Herald-Republic) A Sunnyside High School sophomore recently spent a week as a page in the Washington State Senate.

Lillian Froese-Raihl was sponsored by Sen. Jim Honeyford, R-Sunnyside. She served during the week of Feb. 5.

Pages carry documents between offices, deliver messages and mail and attend page school to learn about the legislative process. As part of their time at the capitol, they also participate in a mock legislative session. Lillian, 15, is the daughter of UUCY Member Ted Raihl and Lori Froese.



A Note from the Office:

I Promise, Ken Is Not Too Busy For You!

(Genevieve here [UUCY Office Manager], and today I am going to share my personal experience, in the hopes that it will help at least one person reading this.)

Have you felt overwhelmed lately, with everything going on politically and socially? Or, are you struggling with your health (mental, physical, or both), or with the health of a loved one? Maybe there's an issue at work or home that's just getting under your skin, and you feel helpless and don't know how to cope.... whatever is happening with your life, I PROMISE you that our own Rev. Ken Jones is not too busy to talk to you!

I speak from personal experience- I myself have walked into Ken's office for some impromptu 'pastoral listening' many times over the years, and have always been greeted with understanding, a listening ear, and uniquely 'pastoral' advice and feedback. However, when I suggest this to others, the most common response is, "Well, I know Ken is busy." I know this comes from a place of love, but I am here to tell you that yes, Ken is busy, but he is definitely NOT too busy for you! He is ready, willing, and available- whether it's an office visit, a phone call, an email exchange, or just a cup of coffee and a quick chat. There is no issue too small- if it matters to you, it will matter to Ken. Please feel free to come by during his regular office hours (9 am to 12 noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays), drop him an email at minister@uucyakima.org, or call the church at 509-453-8448 to schedule something at a time that works for you. We are not alone in this world; we must reach out to each other now more than ever, and we here at UUCY stand ready to listen to you and support you.

UUCY News and Events

Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM): Call for Input and Feedback!

Our UUCY mission:

**“We celebrate community and promote spirituality,
justice, responsibility, and compassion.”**

How are we doing with that? We'd love to hear from you about what we are doing that works, where we as a community are underperforming and your ideas or vision for how we may make change to more fully achieve our mission going forward.

Call or e-mail or grab us after a service. We are:

Susan Kaphammer: cell: 509-949-0127; email: susanlkap@gmail.com ;

Emilee Solomon: cell: 509-961-3521; email: emilees@aol.com ;

Chuck Forster: cell: 509-969-0409; email: bddirtpile@gmail.com .

We look forward to hearing from you!

INVITATION: Faith Over Fear: Standing with our Muslim Neighbors: 6:30 PM, March 22, 2018, Central Lutheran Church

Each year the Islamophobia industry spends over \$30 million dollars to make Americans afraid of Muslims and Islam. The websites, YouTube videos, books, white papers and media stars of the Islamophobia industry turn the hearts and minds of people against one another, paving the way for a more divided, fearful future.

We don't have to live in that future. Together we can build one based on our shared values and vision for America.

We are inviting the public, faith leaders from all churches, mosques, synagogues and temples as well as civic and community leaders to join Aneelah Afzali (MAPS-AMEN) and Pastor Terry Kylo (Neighbors in Faith) for an overview of the Islamophobia industry, the threat it poses to our nation and civil liberties, and what we can do about it together.

After a successful tour in western Washington, Afzali and Kylo are doing a ten-city tour in central and eastern Washington State. You can find an article about the western Washington tour here: <http://features.crosscut.com/muslim-christian-lutheran-pastor-fight-islamophobia-washington-rural>

For more information, contact Terry Kylo at (360) 770-2774 or email terry@neighborsinfaith.org

Have you picked up your
“Healthy Relations” magnet
yet? Pick one up today, available in both the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall!

We promise to:

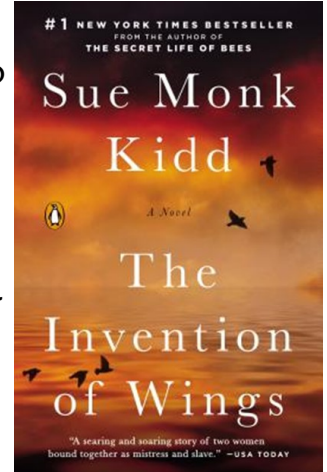
Treat each other with kindness
Celebrate each other's spiritual growth
Listen deeply to others
Speak with courage and humility
Share the ministry of this congregation

UUCY Book Club

Join our informal, facilitated discussions at 6:00 PM at Taj Palace Restaurant, 2710 W Nob Hill Blvd, Yakima. Enjoy your choice of no-host beverages, appetizers, or full dinners while sharing your impression of the current book. Or just enjoy listening in if you haven't read the book. All are welcome!

The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd: Tuesday, March 13th

Sue Monk Kidd's sweeping novel is set in motion on Sarah's eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership of ten year old Handful, who is to be her handmaid. We follow their remarkable journeys over the next thirty five years, as both strive for a life of their own, dramatically shaping each other's destinies and forming a complex relationship marked by guilt, defiance, estrangement and the uneasy ways of love. As the stories build to a riveting climax, Handful will endure loss and sorrow, finding courage and a sense of self in the process. Sarah will experience crushed hopes, betrayal, unrequited love, and ostracism before leaving Charleston to find her place alongside her fearless younger sister, Angelina, as one of the early pioneers in the abolition and women's rights movements.



UPCOMING TITLES

May 8, 2018: H is for Hawk by Helen MacDonald (memoir)

July 10, 2018: Beartown by Fredrik Backman (fiction)

September 11, 2018: White Trash: The 400-year Untold History of Class in America by Nancy Isenberg (nonfiction)



UUCY Building News: New Carpet– Yes, REALLY!

Have you noticed the new carpet on the stairs leading up to the Sanctuary? It's been there for a few weeks now, but many people haven't noticed the difference! The old carpet was coming loose and presented a possible tripping hazard, so this is an improvement in safety as well as aesthetics. The photo to the left shows the work in progress, come see the new color in person! Thanks go to Carole Sahlstrand for doing the leg-work on this project, and to Jean Gonzales for arranging the bids.