

UniFire

June 2019

Services Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

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

UUCY · 225 N. 2nd St, Yakima, WA 98901
509-453-8448 · uucyakima.org
admin@uucyakima.org

Sunday, June 2nd

First Sunday Breakfast: Turning Gratitude Outwards

Presented by Merrill Thomsen

Greeter: Carole Sahlstrand

Sunday, June 9th

Flower Ceremony

This is the day of our annual “Flower Ceremony” in which all are invited to bring a flower to symbolize our unique character. We’ll exchange flowers in the service. Ken Jones speaking.

Greeter: Volunteer Needed Host: Gean Dindia

****SPECIAL EVENT FOLLOWING SERVICES: UUCY’s Annual Meeting****

Sunday, June 16th

UUism 101: A Sermon About My Father

“Although my father was not a UU, he taught me a lot about basic UU values — to wit, we care for each other, no matter what.” — Rev. Ken Jones

Greeter: Volunteer Needed Host: Volunteer Needed

Sunday, June 23rd

Coffee and Conversation

With so many of the UUCY members in Spokane at UUA General Assembly, we will forgo the service and just go straight for the coffee and conversation.

Greeter: Merrill Thomsen Host: Merrill Thomsen

Sunday, June 30th

The Spiritual Power of Money

The obtaining and spending of money is necessary in our lives but can function like something separate from our spiritual selves. This message will explore how we can engage with money in our lives so it supports rather than hinders our heartfelt and spiritual intentions for ourselves and our world.

Presented by Susan Kaphammer.

Greeter: Bill Jacobs Host: Volunteer Needed

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

Many of you know that in addition to my work here in the congregation, I am also involved in a number of wider groups in the community, including our local interfaith organization [Yakima Association of Faith Communities](#) and [Justice Housing Yakima](#), a new non-profit that is working on building a village of tiny homes for people transitioning out of homelessness.

I am grateful that this congregation supports my work in these many community groups, and am proud to share that we do so because of our commitment to justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.

One group I’m a part of that I’d like to highlight this month is the Washington [Faith Action Network](#), a Seattle-based non-profit that is made up of a Network of Advocating Faith Communities across the state. UUCY is one of them; we joined several years ago when some people who are no longer here were a part of our Social Justice Team. So, many of you may not be as familiar with FAN and its work as our status as an Advocating Congregation would suggest. Several other UU congregations around the state (such as ones in Edmonds and Spokane, to name two) are also part of this network, as are some other local, non-UU congregations, St. Michael’s Episcopal and Wesley Methodist. I serve on the Board of this amazing organization, and find in it some of the most fulfilling work I do as a Minister.

FAN evolved out of a merger less than ten years ago between two specifically Christian organizations, the Washington Association of Churches and the Lutheran Public Policy Office. But since that merger, it has grown to be truly interfaith, with Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist people sitting on our Board, as well as advisers and advocates from many other faith traditions.

We Unitarian Universalists do believe strongly that our religious voices in the public sphere are important, and we often advocate publicly as Unitarian Universalists for matters that matter to us. I believe that is a powerful way to put our faith into action and effect positive change in the world. But as a relatively small, “outlier” religious community, I believe it is also important (maybe more so) to join with other faith communities to advocate for humane and just policies. The voice representing many faiths carries much more weight than the voice representing just one.

Much of the work Faith Action Network does is advocating for humane and just legislation at the state level in Olympia. The session that just ended was particularly productive in terms of how many of FAN’s priorities we passed into law. I encourage you all to take a look at these accomplishments [here](#). Also consider attending the annual Spring Summit for Central Washington on Sunday, June 2 at 2-4 p.m. at Shalom United Church of Christ in Richland. If you can’t make that, or if Richland is too far, FAN holds three regional assemblies in Central Washington also in the fall and winter, and usually one or more is right here in Yakima. These are enlightening and encouraging events, to be with people from a variety of faith traditions, all working to make our world a better place.

In faith

Ken

Rev. Ken Jones (he/his/him) is a graduate of Starr King, and can be reached at 509-453-8448, or at minister@uucyakima.org. His office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 12 noon, and he is also available by appointment.

Housing Our Ministry

Members of UUCY have been working on two committees to identify concerns and options for our congregation to decide how we might best "House Our Ministry." These committees recently met and scheduled times to share and discuss their information with church members and friends.

All are encouraged to meet after services this Sunday, June 2.

Costs related to using and maintaining our building are a large portion of our annual budget. There is little leeway for significant upkeep or unforeseen emergency (i.e., painting the parapet, boiler failure or roof failure). In addition, there are concerns about a good "fit" for our congregation (i.e., the size of the sanctuary and difficult handicapped access.)

In after-church meetings last October and November, the Committee on Shared Ministry -- Chuck Forster, Emilee Solomon, and Susan Kaphammer -- encouraged members to consider how we experience and further our missions around community, spirituality, justice and learning. Additional interviews of church members and friends added perspectives. Meanwhile, the Board appointed Ray Gonzales, Nancy Born and Ray Yates to gather information about possibilities and expenses for options. Information from both of these efforts will be provided in the upcoming meetings so that the question of how to best "House Our Ministry" can be meaningfully discussed at our Annual Meeting on June 9.



There is no established deadline for this decision.

But all members and friends are encouraged to engage in the process. Come after church on June 2 to listen and share your thoughts and feelings. And come to the Annual Meeting on June 9. Feel free to contact members of the committees for a personal conversation.

SEE YOU JUNE 9th at UUCY's ANNUAL MEETING!

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS

Summer Greeters Needed!

Summer greeting is an easy volunteer opportunity. All you have to do is stand by the table in the Fellowship Hall and hand out Orders of Service, although you do have to keep a eye on the entry from the other end of the Hall, which is where most of our guests will arrive. Be sure they have a warm welcome and Orders of Service.

If you arrive and no one is greeting, please step up to do so. It makes for a nice entry into the Fellowship Hall for members and friends!

Thanks, Sunday Service Committee

And THANK YOU to our volunteer Hosts and Greeters from Winter and Spring!

thank you

HOSTS

- ♦ Susan Kaphammer
- ♦ Maleah McPherson
- ♦ Sora McPherson
- ♦ Emilee Solomon
- ♦ Gean Dindia
- ♦ David Weyeneth
- ♦ Diana Weyeneth
- ♦ Sunny and Monk Sonker
 - ♦ Jason Laws
 - ♦ Rosemary Saul
- ♦ Canvass Luncheon (Finance Team)
 - ♦ Liz Angland

GREETERS

- ♦ Susan Kaphammer
- ♦ Merrill Thomsen
- ♦ Emilee Solomon
 - ♦ Phil Dindia
 - ♦ Bill Jacobs
- ♦ Mary Brunelle
- ♦ Maleah McPherson
- ♦ Sora McPherson
 - ♦ Cindy Lamb
 - ♦ Liz Angland

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS

SHARE THE PLATE: NOMINEES

Be prepared to vote for two of the following choices at UUCY's Annual Meeting on June 9th! This will be a two-year commitment- the average donation has been approximately \$350 per year, per agency.

Please note: Nominees are listed in alphabetical order

Heritage University

Our donation would go into the emergency fund to help pay unexpected fees for graduate tests, and other unexpected bills.

La Casa Hogar

Our donation would provide (multiple) \$30 scholarships to enable people to attend classes on citizenship, and on English as a second language.

Planned Parenthood

Our donation would support the emergency contraception (EC) vending machine outside our local branch of Planned Parenthood. This machine enables the purchase of EC without a prescription.

Rod's House

Our donation would go towards the cost of daily meals served to homeless youth.

YMCA of Yakima (both locations)

Our donation would provide (multiple) \$55 scholarships for youths unable to pay for a yearly membership.

YWCA of Yakima

Our donation would go towards household needs such as shampoo and laundry soap, as well as clothing coupons upon transition from services.

BE READY TO VOTE

for your top two choices at UUCY's Annual Meeting on
Sunday, June 9, after the Flower Ceremony

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS



Next Highway Pick-up: Saturday, June 29th, 8 am

THANK YOU TO ALL TEN PEOPLE who participated in April. Great weather and a few flowers coming on. Participants need to have viewed and read the online information from volunteers and then sign a document (from me) saying that they did that. It doesn't take long but it is important for safety and liability. Gloves should be worn, work or garden type is best. Be mindful of footwear. The DOT provides safety vests and hard hats. Meet at the park and ride on the right, just past Y, at 8. a.m. Sat. June 29. Denise can be reached by email at 11denisis@gmail.com.

You're Invited: Kittitas Valley UU Fall Retreat at Lazy F!

The Kittitas Valley UU Congregation in Ellensburg holds a retreat every fall at the [Lazy F Retreat Center](#). This year it will begin on Saturday evening, September 28 and run until mid-day Sunday. The best news of all is they are inviting people from UUCY to attend this year! Many activities are available for people of all ages, including (depending on interest) Archery and a "Craft Cabin." A highlight of the weekend is a sing-a-long around the campfire on Saturday night. The accommodations are rustic cabins, and meals are included. The full adult price for the entire retreat (overnight + 3 meals) is only \$72.50, with reduced rates for teens and children, and a la carte options for those who can't stay for the whole time. Please let me know if you're interested at minister@uucyakima.org.



Roses blooming in the UUCY Garden

NEW UU Covenanting Community in Ocean Shores, WA!

Ready for some good news? We have a new UU community out at Ocean Shores, WA! The UU Community at Ocean Shores' Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2529771887038538> and you can reach them at OceanShoresUU@gmail.com. They are our newest Covenanting Community.

UUCY BOOK CLUBS

Gather to Talk Books!

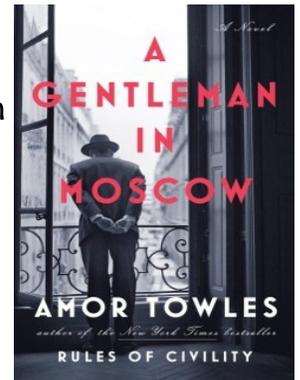
The UUCY Book Club meets the second Tuesday of alternate months at 6 PM at Taj Palace, 2710 West Nob Hill in Yakima. Everyone is invited to join for no-host dinner and to share thoughts on the current selection. If you haven't finished (or even started the book) you are welcome to sit in, listen to the conversation and share the good company!

All titles are available from the Yakima Valley Libraries, at a discount from Inklings Bookshop by mentioning our book club, and other book outlets.

July 9, 2019: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery.

Brimming with humor, a glittering cast of characters, and one beautifully rendered scene after another, this singular novel casts a spell as it relates the count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose. "And the intrigue! ... [*A Gentleman in Moscow*] is laced with sparkling threads (they will tie up) and tokens (they will matter)... - *The San Francisco Chronicle*



Join the 'Swashbuckling Heroine and Heroes Book Club'!

Member Tony Long is leading the 'Swashbuckling Heroine and Heroes Book Club', with meetings scheduled once per month. If you would like more information or to join the group, reach out to Tony directly at anthonyLong4111@gmail.com, all are welcome! Discussions every 10 chapters. Members can also communicate online via Goodreads. Meetings are one and a half hours with a brown bag lunch.

Participants must come prepared to participate, having read the text.

2019 SCHEDULE FOR

Swashbuckling Heroine and Heroes Book Club

Meets every 2nd Saturday of the Month at UUCY,
Brown Bag Lunch Meeting from 12 to 1:30

May 11th, June 8th, & July 13th: *The Count of Monte Cristo*

UUCY TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP

SUNDAY SERVICES

Chair: Merrill Thomsen
Linda King
Susan Kaphammer
Mike Gempler
Debra Kroon
Susan Gallegos

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Phil Dindia
Carole Sahlstrand

FINANCE

Chair: Janis Luvaas
Bill Jacobs
Merrill Thomsen

CIRCLE SUPPERS

Jean Gonzales

LRE: Lifetime Religious Education

Kathy Lambert
Jean Gonzales

COSM: Committee on Shared Ministry

Chuck Forster
Emilee Solomon
Susan Kaphammer
Ken Jones

Your 2018 to 2019 UUCY Board of Trustees is:

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Board President</i> | Mike Gempler | mikegempler@msn.com |
| <i>Board Vice Pres.</i> | Bill Jacobs | wsjacobs99@aol.com |
| <i>Trustee</i> | Phil Dindia | gpdindia@msn.com |
| <i>Trustee</i> | Jean Gonzales | hurlburt@aol.com |
| <i>Trustee</i> | Carole Sahlstrand | cjsahl@q.com |
| <i>Trustee</i> | Merrill Thomsen | methomsen1945@me.com |
| <i>Trustee</i> | Ray Yates | raycyates@gmail.com |

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