

UniFire

November 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
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admin@uucyakima.org

Sunday, November 3rd

First Sunday Breakfast: Calico Cat Café and Barkery

Presented by Linda Fox, of Community Seeds. With Debra Kroon.

Greeter: Emilee Solomon

Sunday, November 10th

What Does It Mean To Be A People of JOURNEY?

A look at journeys—big and small... long and short... those where we can imagine not one path, but many! Presented by Merrill Thomsen.

Greeter: Volunteer Needed Host: Volunteer Needed

Sunday, November 17th

Justice and Mercy

Drawing from the book “Just Mercy” by Bryan Stevenson, Rev. Jones explores how to hold up the latter in a system dominated by oppressive forms of “justice.”

Greeter: Volunteer Needed Host: Nancy Born

Sunday, November 24th

An “Artful” Café

This morning our Minister will read from the classic book for young people, “The Van Gogh Cafe” by Cynthia Rylant. All ages might appreciate the whimsy and humor, and the message about the magic of community and memory.

Greeter: Phil Dindia Host: Gean Dindia

*All services are followed by coffee and community,
downstairs in the Fellowship Hall*

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

Pop quiz for today: who is familiar with the phrase “OK, boomer”?

I wasn’t until I read a recent [article in the New York Times](#) featuring the phrase in its headline. Turns out it’s a thing. (As another popular slang phrase would put it.)

The crux of this “thing” is a movement among those referred to as “Gen Z” against the “Baby Boomers” who are often their parents or grandparents. Turns out they are kinda teed off at their elders. As one 19-year-old woman they interviewed for the article said:

“The older generations grew up with a certain mind-set, and we have a different perspective,” Ms. O’Connor said. “A lot of them don’t believe in climate change or don’t believe people can get jobs with dyed hair, and a lot of them are stubborn in that view. Teenagers just respond, ‘Ok, boomer.’ It’s like, we’ll prove you wrong, we’re still going to be successful because the world is changing.”

Before I go on, I want to comment that I usually find these articles or memes about generational differences to be problematic, in that they are usually focused, without acknowledging so, on white, middle-class people, and this article was no exception to that. I’m not at all sure that people of color or other traditionally marginalized communities would find these generalizations useful. So I reflect on this article with that in mind, and ask us all to remember that it is written through that limited lens.

That said, I found some resonance with my experience in the article (born in 1962, I’ve long considered myself as either at the tail end of the boomer generation or a nascent GenXer.) But it also made me wonder about a common theme I hear people talking about here at UUCY: how do we attract more young people? It doesn’t take long to notice, when one comes to one of our services or events, that the majority of us here probably fall into the boomer category. I wonder how often a young person has visited us only to walk away with an invisible eye roll and a sigh of “Ok, boomers.” If that’s a trend in our wider culture, then that kind of stacks the deck against us in our efforts.

Even if this is the case, we need not despair. According to the article, it is possible for people to transcend their inherited generation if they develop a different state of mind:

In the end, boomer is just a state of mind. Mr. Williams (20, author of what is called the “anthem of the movement”) said anyone can be a boomer — with the right attitude. “You don’t like change, you don’t understand new things especially related to technology, you don’t understand equality,” he said. “Being a boomer is just having that attitude, it can apply to whoever is bitter toward change.”

Or, as it was put in a song from another movement that may be familiar to many of us, “The times, they are a-chaaaangin’...”

See y’all in church!

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.

UUCY FAITH FORMATION*

**The designator 'Religious Education' ('RE') has been changed to 'Faith Formation' ('FF')*

Faith in Action!

Faith in Action is the chosen name for the third Sunday Children's Faith Formation multi-age social action project. Children, youth, and adults met on October 20th for a short in-gathering and then packaged menstrual products for homeless women. Thanks to the generous donations of church members and friends, the group was able to assemble 80 packs of supplies. The children and their parents will take the bins of packets to Camp Hope for distribution. Everyone from youngest to oldest helped sort, count, and squeeze items into quart bags. Children and adults considered how this project relates to the first Unitarian Universalist Principle, which is that "We covenant to affirm to promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person." The children's version of this principle is, "We believe each and every person is important."



"Faith in Action" indeed- Phil lobs a completed pack to Kaitlin



Group Effort!

The November Faith in Action project will continue with this theme as the group makes fleece scarves (and possibly fleece hats) for those in need. Please join us on **November 17th at 5:30 in Fellowship Hall** for a short in-gathering followed by communal work on the project. Check your stash of fabric for suitable lengths of fleece you might be able to contribute, check with Jean Gonzales for specific measurements.



Many hands make light work! And many voices make the work fun.
From left; Miles; Yalisha and Maren; Kaylee; Rufus and Aaron

UUCY FAITH FORMATION

Soul Matters: Adult RE Begins November 3

Adult Religious Education at UUCY continues to bring people together to support one another in spiritual growth and faith development in a way that is both challenging and joyful! In keeping with changing terminology, Religious Education at UUCY is now being termed, Faith Formation.

This year's Adult Faith Formation Program offers adult UUCY members and friends the opportunity for reflection, discussion and learning, based on the UU program titled *Soul Matters*. Sessions begin **November 3 and continue the first Sunday of each month from 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the Ivy Room**. A simple soup and bread supper will be provided. Tea will be available, or bring your preferred beverage.

The November 3 session will focus on: **JOURNEY: What does it mean to be a people of JOURNEY?** As Unitarian Universalists, we bind ourselves to each other not by sharing the same journey, but by offering each other room to discover the unique journey that fits us. For many of us, our spiritual journeys did not begin with a blank slate; they began with the hunger to wipe the slate clean and begin anew. Such untangling from our old selves for new spiritual journeys means leaving, separation, deciding to walk away – not easy work. This isn't a one-time effort. We find ourselves routinely tangled up in all kinds of identities and journeys that are not truly ours. What does this mean for you this month? Where are you in your journeys of leaving and moving forward? How can our church community provide the kindness and encouragement to help us on our way?

The resources of "Soul Matters" provides each month for the exploration of a theme our UU faith has historically honored. Readings and questions will introduce the theme and prompt reflection and discussion. We will be challenged to think about how the topic applies to our daily living. Because efforts to embody spiritual values in our lives requires more than intellectual engagement, "spiritual exercises" will guide experiential engagement with the theme.

Monthly Themes for 2019-2020:

November	Journey: What does it mean to be a people of Journey?
December	Awe: What is sacred? Traveling through the world with amazement.
January	Integrity: What is my path? Living from the inside out
February	Resilience: Can I believe in a Love that will not let me go? Trusting one step at a time.
March	Wisdom: Is this all there is? Wedding cleverness with compassion.
April	Liberation: How is my freedom tied up with the freedom of others? Accepting that we are already enough.
May	Thresholds: Where do I find the courage to step into the new? Calling forth the gifts that get us through.
June	Play: How do we shape our reality with the stories we tell? Remembering that we were made for joy.

Related materials for each session will be provided in a link in the *Uni-Fire* and our Weekly Update emails. If you prefer a hard copy, please talk to or leave a message for Susan Kaphammer at 949-0127. Your engagement at our session may be enhanced by consideration of these materials before the session, but this is not required.

Click here to link to resource packet for November 3 session – [SOUL MATTERS: What does it mean to be a people of JOURNEY?](https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2019-03_sg_journey.pdf) (https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2019-03_sg_journey.pdf)

While consistent participation is encouraged, each session can stand alone and anyone interested is encouraged to attend any session.

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS

Sunday, November 24 -- the Sunday before Thanksgiving -- is the day UUCY has traditionally had a "Soup and Bread" luncheon after service. If you are interested in helping out with that -- by bringing a pot of soup or some bread, or helping with setup or cleanup -- please let Ken know at minister@uucyakima.org.

November 2019 Circle Supper

Gather in the warmth of a circle of friends old and new to take the chill off early winter. Volunteer to be Circle Supper host for **Saturday, November 16th** or come as a guest. Sign-up sheets are available in Fellowship Hall or contact Jean Gonzales. Hosts set the time for dinner and the number of guests they can accommodate. Please sign-up by 11/12 so Jean can let the hosts know who will attend their dinners.

Each host will contact their guests with the meal time and suggest menu item.



UUCY Social News: 'Harriet' and Dinner, November 4th

Join a group of fun UUCYers for a (no-host) dinner and a movie! Interested folks will be gathering at The Majestic on Monday, November 4th for the 3:25 showing of 'Harriet', followed by dinner discussion at the Powerhouse Grill. Contact Tony Long with any questions, and they look forward to seeing you there!



Chalice Circle-- New Sessions Start November 6th

Following a successful initial run, Emilee Solomon and Gean Dindia have organized another six session series of Chalice Circle, and all are welcome. Chalice Circles are small group meetings with the goal of deepening and broadening person spiritual growth, so consistent participation is vital to group cohesion. If you would like to participate, call Emilee at 509.961-3521 or Gean at 206-459-9602.

Chalice Circle Dates

All meetings are on Wednesdays at 5 pm in the Ann Ingham Room at UUCY

**November 6th & 20th
December 4th & 18th
January 8th & 22nd**

UUCY BOOK CLUBS

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 our no-host dinner and good company, and to share thoughts on the current selection. If you haven't finished or even started the book, you are welcome to join us anyway and listen in.

Both of these books have been named one of the Best Books of the Year by NPR and others. They are available from the Yakima Valley Libraries in print and electronic versions, and at a discount from Inklings Bookshop by mentioning our book club.

November 12, 2019: *Manhattan Beach: A Novel* by Jennifer Egan

Set in Brooklyn in the 1940s, *Manhattan Beach* tells the story of Anna Kerrigan, a young woman who has dropped out of Brooklyn College to contribute what she can to the American war effort. Unsatisfied with her job of inspecting and measuring machine parts, she attempts to enter the male-only world of deep-sea diving.

Manhattan Beach is rich and atmospheric, highlighting a period when gangs controlled the waterfront, jazz streamed from the doors of nightclubs, and the future for everyone was far from certain. At once a suspenseful noir intrigue and a work of lyrical beauty and emotional heft, *Manhattan Beach* takes us into a world populated by gangsters, sailors, divers, bankers, and union men in an exploration of a transformative moment in the lives and identities of women and men, of America and the world.

(Book descriptions quoted or adapted from web pages for Yakima Valley Libraries and Inklings Bookshop.)



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! 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.

**For Saturday, November 9th at 12 noon:
Second half of 'Prince of Foxes' (from Chapter 34 to end)**

Saturday, December 14th: 'The Walking Drum'

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS



Auction in
Action!
'Game Day' at the
Born Home was a
great time for all
attendees, and all
funds go to
UUCY!

LOCAL SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENTS

Compiled by the UUCY Social Justice Team

- **YIRN Accompaniment Training at UUCY**, Thursday, November 14th, 6-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall at UUCY. Program of support and assistance to help immigrant families facing court hearings on immigration status of one of its members. Sponsored by the Yakima Immigrant Response Network (YIRN).
- **Homeless Network of Yakima Meeting**, Wednesday, November 13th, 3-5 pm at Yakima Neighborhood Health Services, 3rd floor Paddock Room.
- **Sex Trafficking Task Force Training at YWCA**, Tuesday, November 5th, 9 am to 3 pm.

Recurring Events:

Supportive Sign Waving for Planned Parenthood, on Tieton across from PP at corner of Tieton and Queen, every Wednesday from 10 am to 11 am. Signs available.

Citizens Climate Change Lobby Yakima, First Saturday of every month, 9-11 am at 1806 West Lincoln Ave. Discussion, presentations, advocacy.

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

FAITH FORMATION

Jean Gonzales
Susan Kaphammer

COSM: Committee on Shared Ministry

Chuck Forster
Emilee Solomon
Susan Kaphammer
Ken Jones

Your 2019 to 2020 UUCY Board of Trustees is:

Board President	Mike Gempler	mikegempler@msn.com
Board Vice Pres.	Bill Jacobs	wsjacobs99@aol.com
Trustee	Phil Dindia	gpdindia@msn.com
Trustee	Jack Lambert	johnmlam@msn.com
Trustee	Carole Sahlstrand	cjsahl@q.com
Trustee	Merrill Thomsen	methomsen1945@me.com
Trustee	Ray Yates	raycyates@gmail.com

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Office Manager– Genevieve Gonzales, 509-453-8448, admin@uucyakima.org

Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10:30 to 3:00