

UniFire

January 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, January 5th

First Sunday Breakfast: “I Am A Tiger”

Join us for a brief in-gathering, followed by pancakes and sausage for all!

Presented by Linda King with Susan Kaphammer

Greeter: Volunteer Needed

Sunday, January 12th

The Impacts of Racism on People of Color

Greeter: Volunteer Needed Host: Volunteer Needed

Sunday, January 19th

Intersections of Justice

On this weekend in which our community sees both a Womxn’s March and the Martin Luther King Peace March, we explore how to live in the intersectionality of justice.

Rev. Ken Jones speaking.

Greeter: Volunteer Needed Host: Volunteer Needed

Sunday, January 26th

State of the Congregation

In one on-again, off-again tradition — the UU kind! — our Minister reflects on where we are as a congregation and where we might be going.

Greeter: Phil Dindia Host: Gean Dindia

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

We welcomed a new year and (according to those whose memes are not dictated by mathematics) a new decade. We’ve survived the two awkward-sounding ones (the “oughts” and the “teens”) and can now simply say we’re living in the 20’s. Whether or not they’ll be “roaring” like the ones from the last century remains to be seen.

Some news suggests an omen. We welcomed this new year hearing about two horrific acts of violence at places of worship in this country – one at an Orthodox Hannukah celebration in New York, the other at a church in Texas. These kinds of tragedies have become all too common, and cut to the heart of a feeling of vulnerability for those who wish to claim peaceful spaces for worship and spiritual practice. If there be any sanctuary from the violence of the world, it is not unreasonable to hope that places of worship would be them. Tragically, that is not the case.

This news has also spurred conversation among many about what religious communities can or should do to insure a measure of safety for their practitioners. Specifically, some may wonder what we can do here at UUCY to either prevent such an atrocity or what to do if something like this happens in our own facility. More broadly, much of the debate centers on how to achieve safety, including the prospect of having armed guards or volunteers on hand to act as both a deterrent and an intervention. That the tragedy at the Texas church included a trained and armed volunteer who intervened to mitigate the tragedy has also spurred more debate about this, with some claiming that it is evidence that having more guns in the hands of “good people” makes us safer. (It is interesting to note, however, that the incident in New York in which there weren’t any armed guards but in which the assailant also yielded only a knife resulted in much less harm.)

It is good, of course, for us to have some conversation about this and to consider ways to help insure everyone’s safety. But I also encourage us to keep in mind that despite the horrific nature of the news and how it affects us, that churches and other places of worship are, by and large, very safe places to be – probably safer than the roads we drive on to get there. I hope and pray that fear of such violence never discourages anyone from seeking out or participating in religious community, for I believe that compassionate and brave religious communities help bring more peace and understanding to our world. Perhaps that is why they are sometimes targeted by those whose aim is to inflict more violence. The best thing we can do is to stay true to our principles, and to have faith in the healing power of justice and compassion that is foundational to our being.

See you 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')*

SOUL MATTERS Offers Discussion and Learning

Held the first Sunday of each month from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Ivy Room, our *Soul Matters* series offers UUCY members and friends the opportunity to reflect, discuss and learn together the meanings of spiritual concepts and how we might integrate them into our lives.

Upcoming Sessions:

January 5 Integrity: What is my path? Living from the inside out. Link to [Integrity Resource Packet](https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2020-01_sg_integrity.pdf): https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2020-01_sg_integrity.pdf

February 2 Resilience: The practice of trusting one step at a time. How can I move from “Why did this happen?” to “What can I do now? Look at what is left!” [Resilience Resource Packet](https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2020-02_sg_resilience.pdf): https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2020-02_sg_resilience.pdf

The links to online resources provide for the exploration of the monthly theme. 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. If you prefer a hard copy, please talk to or leave a message for Susan Kaphammer at the church office. Your engagement at our session may be enhanced by consideration of these materials before the session, but this is not required.

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

UUCY FAITH FORMATION*

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Faith In Action

The next 'Faith in Action' meeting will be Sunday, January 19th, see below for pictures of the fruits of previous labors being delivered!

Kaylee and Kaitlin delivered donations of menstrual bags and fleece scarves to a local donation drive- all items were made at UUCY 'Faith in Action'! The other half of the donations were delivered directly to staff member Suzi at Camp Hope, who sends their gratitude to UUCY, and everyone who helped, both physically and with your donations ♥



A Notice from Rev. Ken Jones: 'Phishing' Attacks

Some of you have seen weird-looking emails that appear to be from me asking for help of one sort or another. Hopefully you have all been cautious enough to refrain from responding directly to such emails, or complying with the request. This is happening, near as I can tell, in epic proportions at UU and other congregations all across the country. Most recently, I've heard it happening to people via text messages in addition to emails, so we all need to be on the lookout for anything suspicious.

What these events are is commonly called "phishing," which is different than "hacking," as no passwords or other security measures are breached. This is when a user gathers basic information such as names off our church website or other media, then creates a fake email address that looks like it is from me, the Minister. The most important thing to remember is if you ever receive an email or text from me or someone else in the congregation that in any way appears suspicious -- asking for money or gift cards, asking to reply, etc -- to be suspicious. Check with me or the church office to ask if I did indeed send this. Also, double-check the actual email address or phone number the email or text is received from (not just the name that appears on the screen) to see if it is my real email address (which would be either minister@uucyakima.org or revkbj86@yahoo.com).

Thanks to you all for understanding that we live in a complicated world!

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS

LOCAL SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENTS

Compiled by the UUCY Social Justice Team

MLK Day Service: Sunday, January 19th, 3 pm, St. Michael's

MLK March: Monday, January 20th

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.

January 2020 Circle Supper

Mark your calendar now for the next Circle Supper on **Saturday January 11th**. Circle Suppers are planned potlucks for small groups of members and friends. Hosts set the time to meet and suggest a menu. Sign-up in Fellowship Hall to host your own dinner or be a guest. You also can text or email Jean Gonzales or leave a message at the church office at 453-8448 by January 6th to let her know you want to attend.

She will contact hosts with a list of their guests.



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.

Swashbucklers will consider Captain Blood and his buccaneering ways on Saturday, January 11th from 12-1:30 p.m.

UUCY BOOK CLUBS

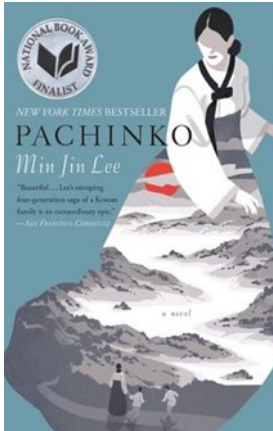
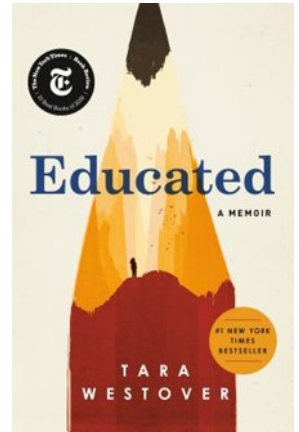
Stay Calm, and READ On!

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. 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.

January 14, 2020: *Educated* by Tara Westover

Raised largely 'off the grid' in rural Idaho - without school, doctor visits, a birth certificate, or even a family consensus on the date of her birth - Tara nevertheless decides she wants to go to college. This is a story in two parts: First, Tara's childhood working in a dangerous scrapyard alongside her six siblings, her survivalist father, and her mother, a conflicted but talented midwife and healer, while fearing Y2K and the influence of the secular world; then, her departure from her mountain home to receive an education.

Both halves of her story are equally fascinating. *Educated* is a testament to Tara's brilliance and tenacity, a bittersweet rendering of how family relationships can be cruel or life-saving, and a truly great read from the first page to the last.



March 10, 2020: *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

PACHINKO follows one Korean family through the generations, beginning in early 1900s Korea with Sunja, the prized daughter of a poor yet proud family, whose unplanned pregnancy threatens to shame them all. Deserted by her lover, Sunja is saved when a young tubercular minister offers to marry and bring her to Japan. So begins a sweeping saga of an exceptional family in exile from its homeland and caught in the indifferent arc of history. Through desperate struggles and hard-won triumphs, its members are bound together by deep roots as they face enduring questions of faith, family, and identity.

May 12, 2020: *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman

A world with no hunger, no disease, no war, no misery: Humanity has conquered all those things and has even conquered death. Now *Scythes* are the only ones who can end life, and they are commanded to do so in order to keep the size of the population under control. Citra and Rowan are chosen to apprentice to a *scythe*, a role that neither wants. These teens must master the "art" of taking life, knowing that the consequence of failure could mean losing their own.

"Elegant and elegiac, brooding but imbued with gallows humor, Shusterman's dark tale thrusts realistic, likeable teens into a surreal situation and raises deep philosophic questions. A thoughtful and thrilling story of life, death, and meaning." — Kirkus Reviews



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

WOMEN'S MARCH ON YAKIMA

Sponsored by UUCY– for the FOURTH year in a row!



WOMEN'S MARCH ON YAKIMA

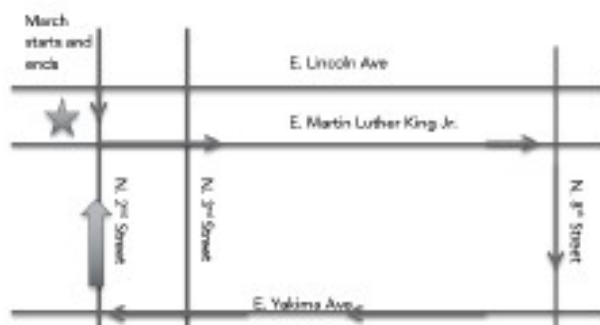
JANUARY 18TH, 2020
12PM TO 2PM

In 2020, the Women's March on Yakima invites all in our community to come together to amplify their activism for civil and human rights.

We recognize and honor the individuals and communities who continue to seek justice, fairness, and safety.

We march side by side, knowing that we are **stronger together**.

Please join us on January 18th at 12pm as we gather at the corner of 2nd Street and Lincoln Ave in front of the Unitarian Universalist Church to listen to speakers from our community. We will march together through Downtown Yakima and back to UUCY in action and solidarity.



Email organizers at
yakimawomensmarch@gmail.com
for questions or information
requests.

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

UUCY OFFICE: 225 N. 2nd St, Yakima, WA 98901 • uucyakima.org

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

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