

UniFire

February 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, February 2nd

First Sunday Breakfast: Adversity Builds Character: On the Road to Resilience

Join us for a brief in-gathering, followed by pancakes and sausage for all!
Presented by UUCY Member Merrill Thomsen

Sunday, February 9th

Another Take on Sin

The concept of "sin" is part of the dogma and structure of many religions, including Christian sects that heavily influence our American culture. In this service, Susan Kaphammer takes another look at the concept of "sin," seeking meaning for us as Unitarian Universalists.

Greeter: Merrill Thomsen Host: Sunny Sonker

Sunday, February 16th

People Moving

Whether its across continents over centuries, or across town every day, humans do tend to move around a lot. Rev. Jones has been serving on the City of Yakima's Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee for the last several years, and has noticed some things.

Greeter: Ted Raihl Host: Rosemary Saul

Sunday, February 23rd

A 100 Year Old Building

2020 marks the 100th Anniversary of the beautiful old church at 225 N. 2nd St, which UUCY has made as its home for the last few decades.

Greeter: Phil Dindia Host: Gean Dindia

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

There’s an old song I like, by Michelle Shocked, that goes:

*The secret to a long life
is knowing when it’s time to go.*

I thought of that song, in a sort of humorous way, after the recent UUCY Board retreat at which I informed the board that I’m not planning to renew my contract again when it expires at the end of June, making this my last year as your half-time Minister. I’ve thought long and hard about this decision, and it is not an easy one to make, yet I feel it is the right decision.

Ms. Shocked’s song is about an outlaw named Billy who always stays one step ahead of the law, so in that sense the song is not very relevant at all – for I don’t feel like I’m on the lam. I’m completing my tenth year here at UUCY, which is a good tenure for a part-time Minister, and represents only the second time in our congregation’s history (as I understand it) that we’ve had a Minister serving for a whole decade. That is, I think, something to celebrate! It’s been a good decade.

For family reasons I’m not planning to leave Yakima in the near future, so I will be looking for work here and will, on some level, continue to be involved in the greater Yakima community. Some of you know that for the last few months I’ve been doing contract work for the nonprofit Justice Housing Yakima, and my hope is to continue and broaden my work in the nonprofit field in the future. Some of you also know that I’m also contracted ¼ time with the Kittitas Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Ellensburg, and for the time being I hope to continue in that role. I have professional obligations that stipulate that as a departing Minister I will not be involved in any way in the congregation for some time, and will not have any “pastoral” contact with people at UUCY. So when I inevitably bump into some of you around town, I won’t engage in any conversation about the church or engage with anything that may fall into the realm of a Ministerial role. But I’ll sure enjoy saying “hi” and hearing and sharing how things are going!

I will say more in the coming months about why I’ve made this decision and what I believe will be good next steps for the congregation to take. I also plan to continue, for the next five months, to be involved in the congregation and to do my best to fulfill my duties as your Minister. It’s not time to say good-bye just yet – we still have work to do and mystery and wonder to take in together. I hope we can have some fun doing so.

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.

UUCY FAITH FORMATION*

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

Reflect, Discuss, and Learn About SOUL MATTERS

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:

- 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)
- March 1** **Wisdom:** Is this all there is? Wedding cleverness with compassion. Link to [Wisdom Resource Packet: https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2020-03_sg_wisdom.pdf](https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/uploads/9/4/5/0/94501751/sm_2020-03_sg_wisdom.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.

Faith In Action

UUCY's Faith In Action is for all ages, with a special invitation extended to those between ages three and eighteen.

Faith In Action is taking a break for February, and invites everyone to join at the next meeting, scheduled for Sunday, March 15th at 5:30 pm.

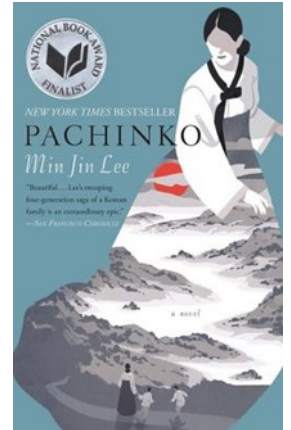
UUCY BOOK CLUBS

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.

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

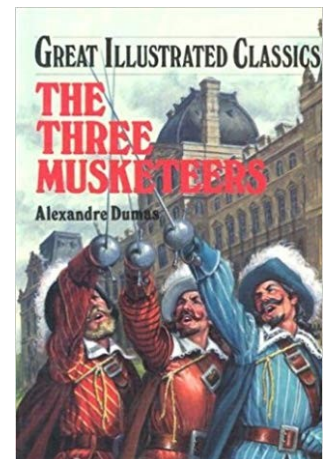
(Book descriptions quoted or adapted from web pages for Yakima Valley Libraries and Inklings Bookshop.)

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.

Up Next: The Three Musketeers
February 8th: Part 1, Chapters 1-22
March 14th: Part 2, Chapters 23-55
April 11th: Part 3, Chapters 56-78



UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS

You're Invited: UUCY Movie Date, Tuesday, February 25th, 'Call of the Wild'

Join your UUCY friends for a casual movie date to see Harrison Ford in 'Call of the Wild', followed by a no-host dinner, venue to be determined as the date grows closer. Watch this space for updates, or reach out to Tony Long any time with questions.



Our Local and Global Community

YAFC and FANWA Invite You to the Annual Yakima/Tri-Cities Advocacy Day, Saturday, February 8th, 9 am to 2 pm

Join folk from the Yakima Association of Faith Communities and the WA Faith Action Network for the Annual Yakima/Tri-Cities Advocacy Day on Saturday, Feb 8 at St. Michael's Episcopal Mission (5 S. Naches Ave) from 9 am to 2 pm. There will be presentations and workshops looking at "Everyone Counts: Exploring Justice Issues in this Election Year." Lunch is provided and translation available. For more information see fanwa.org/interfaith-advocacy-day/

Black History Program at Greater Faith Baptist Church, Saturday, February 8th, 6pm

All are invited to the Annual Black History program at Greater Faith Baptist Church (816 S. 6th St.) on Saturday, Feb 8 at 6pm. There will be inspirational readings, musical performances, and a short play. Also featuring Jazz/Gospel singer Josephine Howell and guest speaker Jordan Jerome Harrison. For more information contact Eric at esilvers1@aol.com

UUCY TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP

<p>SUNDAY SERVICES</p> <p>Chair: Merrill Thomsen</p> <p>Linda King</p> <p>Susan Kaphammer</p> <p>Mike Gempler</p> <p>Debra Kroon</p> <p>Susan Gallegos</p>	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>Chair: Janis Luvaas</p> <p>Bill Jacobs</p> <p>Merrill Thomsen</p>	<p>PERSONNEL</p> <p>Linda King</p> <p>Jack Lambert</p> <p>Mike Gempler</p>
<p>FAITH FORMATION</p> <p>Jean Gonzales</p> <p>Susan Kaphammer</p>	<p>COSM: Committee on Shared Ministry</p> <p>Chuck Forster</p> <p>Emilee Solomon</p> <p>Nancy Born</p> <p>Ken Jones</p>	<p>SOCIAL JUSTICE</p> <p>Phil Dindia</p> <p>Carole Sahlstrand</p> <p>CIRCLE SUPPERS</p> <p>Jean Gonzales</p>

Your 2019 to 2020 UUCY Board of Trustees is:

<i>Board President</i>	Mike Gempler	mikegempler@msn.com
<i>Board Vice Pres.</i>	Bill Jacobs	wsjacobs99@aol.com
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<i>Trustee</i>	Jack Lambert	johnmlam@msn.com
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<i>Trustee</i>	Merrill Thomsen	methomsen1945@me.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Ray Yates	raycyates@gmail.com

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