

UniFire

May 2020

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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How to 'ZOOM' to UUCY Sunday Services!

Anyone with a computer, tablet, smart phone or regular phone can join for free (except with regular phone you won't see everyone, but you can hear and speak.) You need to download the Zoom app first for either PC or phone at <http://www.zoom.us>, or however you download your apps.

See inside for some Zoom guidelines and handy tips!

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ZOOM LINK POLICY: In order to maintain the security and sanctity of our online meetings, the specific 'Zoom' links will only be available via our Weekly Update email. If you are not already on our email list, please contact Genevieve at admin@uucyakima.org and she will be happy to help.

Sunday, May 3rd

Sunday Services on Zoom: Expectations

Even in "normal" times, expectations can be double-edged -- both a helpful part of preparing for the next day or the next year, but also a restriction on our present experience. What can we learn about living more fully by examining our expectations?

Presented by Susan Kaphammer

Sunday, May 10th

Sunday Services on Zoom

Sunday, May 17th

Sunday Services on Zoom: Living with Uncertainty

Presented by Rev. Ken Jones

Sunday, May 24th

Sunday Services on Zoom

Sunday, May 31st

Sunday Services on Zoom: Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Decides

Presented by Bill Jacobs

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

One of the unfortunate, if minor, consequences of our staying at home this spring was we missed the annual UUCY auction. As most of you know, not only is the auction a major annual fundraiser for the church, it is also a well-loved “fun-raiser” as it is a big social event itself, and also spawns many smaller social events all year long. I’m sure that many of you are sad that we missed this opportunity.

I have to admit though, that personally I didn’t shed too many tears. As some of you may have suspected before, I’m not a big fan of auctions. That’s just a reflection of my personal taste, not about the UUCY auction itself. While I do recognize the benefits of both the fundraising activity and the many social engagements all year long, I still admit that I’m just one of those people who doesn’t enjoy the experience of live auctions. And I suspect I’m not the only one. I also worry that our auction has grown into one of – perhaps the only – major social events the congregation offers outside of Sunday mornings, and that can leave people with limited means or who don’t enjoy these kinds of activities feeling left out.

Be that as it may, this year, in light of our having to cancel our auction, I want to make a suggestion for you all – two suggestions, actually – if you’re concerned about what skipping our auction might mean for UUCY.

First, I’ll ask all of you who do participate in the auction regularly to think about how much money you usually spend at the auction (I’m sure our church office can help get that information for you if you’re not sure) and simply make a commitment to make an extra donation for that amount to the church, or prorate it and add it to your regular pledge.

Second, for those of you who usually do donate some type of social activity (a meal, a party, a hike, etc.) I’ll ask that you commit now to plan to organize that activity at some point in the next year, and send out a first-come, first-served or lottery-style invitation to that activity via an email announcement or something. That way we’ll continue to have various social engagements all year long that won’t be contingent upon people attending the auction and making financial commitments. Win-win!

The only thing missing, then, is the fun time of the auction itself. Maybe when this quarantine is all over we can have a homecoming party and dinner, similar in scope to our auction event, but without all the necessary organizing around donations, bids, collections, etc. We can have a social event in which the only objective would be to celebrate and enjoy each other’s company.

That sounds like more fun, to a curmudgeon like me, than an auction. But that’s just me!

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.

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS

Zoom, Zoom, Zoom! Tips for Success from a Zoom Pro!

All of a sudden, this app is everywhere! With large groups of people in a Zoom meeting, a single un-muted sneezer can throw off the whole affair.

Here's how to make the most of UUCY's Zoom meetings:

When you're not talking, please keep it on MUTE! Our modern microphones pick up every little noise, so the safest bet is to keep it on MUTE unless you are speaking.

If you wouldn't wear it to church, please don't wear it to a Zoom meeting. We are by no means a formal group and don't expect tails and top hats, but **please wear something.**

If you wouldn't do it in a public meeting, please don't do it on Zoom. Think... stuffing your face with a Denver omelet, filing your nails, or laying on a couch while doing both.

Show that gorgeous face of yours by having a light at the front of your computer, instead of having a light behind you and only being visible as a vaguely familiar outline.

And finally, the TOP TIPS for those dialing in with phones-
***6 to toggle MUTE on and off, and *9 to RAISE YOUR HAND!**

And if you still have questions, please reach out to Debra Kroon or Rev. Ken Jones, and they can arrange a mini practice meeting so you can get familiar with the app. Thank you for your flexibility in these trying times, and we'll see you at church!

BOLO*: Canvass Letters and Postage Paid Cards!

(*Be On the Look Out)

Watch your mailboxes, UUCY Members and Friends!

*Note to UUCY Members: You should have received a letter with a bright green 'Search Survey' card enclosed— please return it this week if you have not already done so! If you did not receive your letter, please contact Genevieve as soon as possible.

UUCY NEWS AND EVENTS

UUCY Book Club– Meeting On Zoom!

Our UUCY Book Club is back on schedule for Tuesday, May 12, at 6:00 PM.

(In order to preserve the security and sanctity of our events, the Zoom link is only available via the UUCY Weekly Update email, or by joining the UUCY Book Club emailing list. Contact Genevieve at admin@uucyakima.org to join the list!)

May 12: *Scythe*, by Neal Shusterman

We are considering the novel, *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman, selected for our discussion long before coronavirus entered our lexicon. (Sorry if the theme is too grim for our current world situation. On the other hand, maybe we can distract ourselves with the view of a society unlike our own.)

This novel is set in the far future when disease, war and hunger are eliminated; even death itself has been conquered. The story centers on two teens apprenticed as Scythes, those who are chosen as the only ones who can end life and are charged to do so to control population. The reader may consider questions about the value of life and the role of death in society.

The book club will continue meeting every-other month, either in person or via Zoom. Watch the June UniFire for titles to be discussed in July, September and November, typically at 6:00 PM the second Tuesday of the month. Happy Reading!



Join the UU Quilting and Crafting Group for Virtual Show & Tell!

UPDATE: Virtual UUQG was a hit, and has been set as a recurring event for the fourth Saturday of the month. The Zoom information will be the same for future meetings, please see the front of the UniFire for our new policy regarding Zoom links.

Next Meeting: Saturday, May 24th

Swashbuckler's Book Club: Retired

The Swashbuckler's Book Club has unanimously decided to hang up their proverbial swords for good, and retire the club. They thank you for your support, and wish you happy reading!

'ZOOM' To UUCY Wednesday Coffee!

During this time of crisis, it is still possible to connect to your UUCY community! Debra Kroon is coordinating our (successful and universally enjoyed) online coffee visits, every Wednesday (of course!) at 9 a.m. They take place via Zoom, an online meeting platform widely used by UU congregations. You will need to have Zoom installed on your computer, phone, or tablet prior to the meeting time, which you can get at or the App Store or Google Play. See front of UniFire for our policy on Zoom links.

UUCY TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP

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

Minutes from the most recent UUCY Board Meeting are posted for public viewing in the hallway outside the UUCY Office. If you have any questions or would like to request a copy, ask any Board Member.

**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**