

# UniFire

## September 2020

*Monthly Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Yakima*

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

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### How to 'ZOOM' to UUCY Sunday Services and Activities!

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.)

In order to maintain the security and sanctity of our online meetings, the '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](mailto:admin@uucyakima.org) and she will be happy to help.

### Sunday, September 6th: Labor Day, No Sunday Services

#### Sunday, September 13th, 10:00 am

#### **What Does It Mean To Be A People of RENEWAL?**

Renewal is central to the traditional theme of "homecoming" for our UU community in September. But what can renewal mean to us in this most unusual year? Covid-19 and its associated disruptions are reordering our world in a whole host of ways. The question is: Will we be renewed or unraveled? Join Susan Kaphammer to explore the theme of renewal.

#### Sunday, September 20th, 9:30 am:

#### *Tune-In Together\* (see inside for more info)*

#### **Live Stream of Sunday Service from University Unitarian Church**

Tune in to the live stream (not Zoom meeting) of the UUC Seattle Sunday Service at 9:30 am, then join fellow UUCYers for virtual coffee hour on Zoom! Watch your Weekly Update for more details about the service.

#### Sunday, September 27th, 10:00 am:

Join us today to learn about the Third Smooth Stone of liberal religion. Member Andrew Whitmont will share with us how UU theologian James Luther Adams has developed the next critical element, namely our moral obligation to build communities of love and justice.

# UUCY President's Report

Greetings friends!

“Freedom’s just another word for nothing left to lose...”

Kris Kristofferson, “Me and Bobby McGee”

So begins the refrain of a sad Country song (and no song is as sad as a sad Country song.) It was famously covered by Janis Joplin in 1970, becoming a big hit on the pop charts.

I was 24 years old, and although I was a big Janis Joplin fan, I didn’t really understand the lyrics to this song. Freedom is a good thing, right? Sure, breaking up with a girlfriend can be painful, but why would someone regret gaining more freedom?

It wasn’t until many years later, after I’d experienced real loss of my own, that I happened to hear the song again -- and finally understood what Kristofferson was talking about. When we eventually grow up, we realize that there are actually things that are more important to us – for example, the wellbeing of those we love -- than our freedom to do whatever we want.

Nowadays, I think of this song whenever I hear someone bemoan the loss of freedom because the “Gummint” says they have to wear a mask when they go to the grocery store. Give me a break!

I guess some people never do really grow up.

In faith,  
Bill

*Bill Jacobs is the President of the UUCY Board of Trustees for 2020-2022, and can be reached for discussion and comments at any time.  
Reach out to the office for his contact information.*

## Sunday, September 20th, 9:30 am: Tune-In Together

Join your UUCY family for our first ever Tune-In Together Sunday, a new idea wherein everyone is invited to 'tune-in' to the same live-streaming Sunday Service from another UU church. Our first selection is the [University Unitarian Church in Seattle, at 9:30 am on Sunday, September 20th.](#)

This will be a live stream, not a Zoom meeting, and you will not be able to see other participants. However, following the service, all UUCYers are invited to meet up on Zoom for a virtual coffee hour, hosted by Linda King.

Watch your Weekly Update for more details and a Zoom link, and we hope to 'see' you there!

### Children's Faith Formation on Zoom— Sunday, September 13th, 5:00 pm

Join the Holy Troublemakers in the spirit of John Lewis' "good trouble." Children's Faith Formation gatherings begin Sunday, September 13th at 5:00 p.m., weaving Unitarian Universalist values with social justice traditions of many lands, times, and religious traditions.

Watch the Weekly Update for your Zoom invitation.

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

Virtual UUQG carries on, with a different Zoom link than previous meetings! Watch your Weekly Update email for the Zoom link prior to the meeting, and they look forward to seeing you there!

*Next Meeting: Saturday, September 26th*

### 'ZOOM' To UUCY Wednesday Coffee!

YES, Wednesday morning coffee is still on, you'll just have to provide your own beverage and chair! Join via Zoom— the link is in every Weekly Update, and all are welcome to join.

## UUCY Book Club Seeks Varied Stories

Meeting by Zoom has not inhibited lively discussions of an eclectic selection of books. As always, everyone is invited to tune in and offer your thoughts, or just listen even if you have not read the current title. Books selected are available from Yakima Valley Libraries, often in hardcopy and electronic versions. They are also out in paperback and available through Inklings Bookshop at a “Book Club Member” discount. For instructions to connect to our Zoom gathering, watch your email for the UUCY Weekly Update sent the Thursday prior to our discussion.

### September 8, 2020; *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend* by Katarina Bivald.

This heartwarming story in which books play a role in changing lives introduces Sara, a quiet, dependable bookstore clerk in Sweden. Her store closes and she determines to do something a little daring. So Sara travels to a small town in Iowa to visit Amy, with whom she shares a love of books but who she has only met through correspondence.

Sara arrives in Broken Wheel, Iowa, to find that Amy, beloved in her town, had been ill and has recently died. The town’s quirky residents are determined to fulfill the visit and scoop Sara up into the life of the town. Both Sara and the town are changed.

Funny and sometimes familiar to those who have lived in a close-knit community, our own visit to Broken Wheel is a quick-read adventure. (If you don’t find a copy through the library or bookstore, I have one you can borrow.).

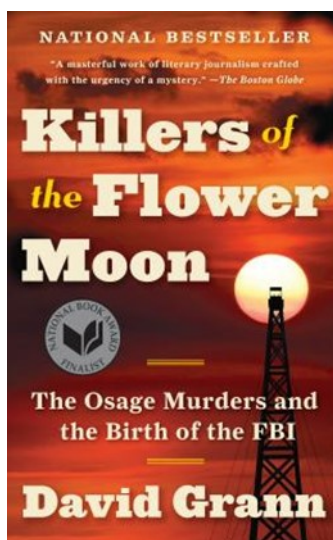


### November 10, 2020; *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann.

Reading like a twisting, haunting, murder mystery, this true account relates the early twentieth-century murders of dozens of wealthy Osage and law-enforcement officials, citing the contributions and missteps of a fledgling FBI that eventually uncovered one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history.

In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Indian Nation in Oklahoma, after oil was discovered beneath their land. Then one Osage woman, Mollie Burkhart, watched as her family was murdered. It was just the beginning, as more Osage began to die under mysterious circumstances. When virtually anyone who dared to investigate the killings were themselves murdered, the newly created F.B.I. took up the case, initially bungling the investigation.

Based on years of research and startling new evidence, the book is a masterpiece of narrative nonfiction, as each step in the investigation reveals a series of sinister secrets and reversals. What emerges is a searing indictment of the callousness and prejudice toward Native Americans that allowed the murderers to operate with impunity for so long.



(Book descriptions adapted from web pages for Yakima Valley Libraries.)

# UUCY TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP

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

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