

# UniFire

## November 2021

*Monthly Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Yakima*

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

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**PLEASE NOTE:** Beginning Nov. 7, 2021, UUCY services will be held in person at 407 N. 1st St. on Sundays at 10 a.m. with the exception of Nov. 28 which will be a Tune in Together service via Zoom. Following CDC guidelines, proof of COVID vaccination and/or results of a COVID test will be required for entry to in person services.

### **November 7 – UU Highlights — General to Local, Past to Present**

During the past 65 years, the history of the UU community in Yakima has closely mirrored the history of the nation-wide UU Association -- both have evolved to accommodate changing ideas of what "liberal religion" means. This review of our history will suggest some ideas on what the future will bring, as our Yakima UU community continues to change to fit the needs of current *and future* members.

### **November 14 – Holding History**

This service focuses on remembering our pasts as individuals, as Unitarian Universalists in Yakima, as Americans and world citizens. This service will include the opening of a "time capsule" set aside by youth of our congregation upon moving into our former home on 2nd Street. But a true "remembering" is more than celebrating and telling tales. Let's prepare to remember, to grieve, to confess, to feel, to forgive. And perhaps to prepare to move forward. Susan Kaphammer shares thoughts and readings prompted by the *Soul Matters* series about the pain and rewards of history.

### **November 21 – Frayed at the Edges**

Are you feeling all cranky and anxious nowadays? Less than your loving and compassionate self? Merrill Thomsen will take a look at this all-too-ubiquitous state of our lives and will examine some ways to relieve the unrelenting discomfort and ongoing stress. Bring your ideas to share.

### **November 28 – Tune In Together: Source of the Larger Liberty**

Join in this online Zoom service by Dr. John Luopa, University UU Church from January 10, 2021. (Watch the weekly update or contact the office for link.)

Dr. Luopa addresses the three principal functions of religion, questions how they are functioning in our current reality, then segues to what he considers indispensable. Listen to this clear-thinking and passionate minister's presentation to understand his insights and how they can sharpen our focus re: the quest to find our collective mission.

# UUCY President's Report — Travel and Comfort Zones

On March 17, 2020, I returned home from a vacation in Hawaii with Jill and Abby, to a different world – a world that had been greatly altered by COVID.

Since then, I hadn't been away from home overnight, until mid-September of this year. Then I travelled 4 weeks out of five! The first trip was a combination family reunion/ beach vacation on the Outer Banks of North Carolina; the second a tour of the American Southwest, with an emphasis on Native American culture, past and present, accompanied by some old friends from Michigan.

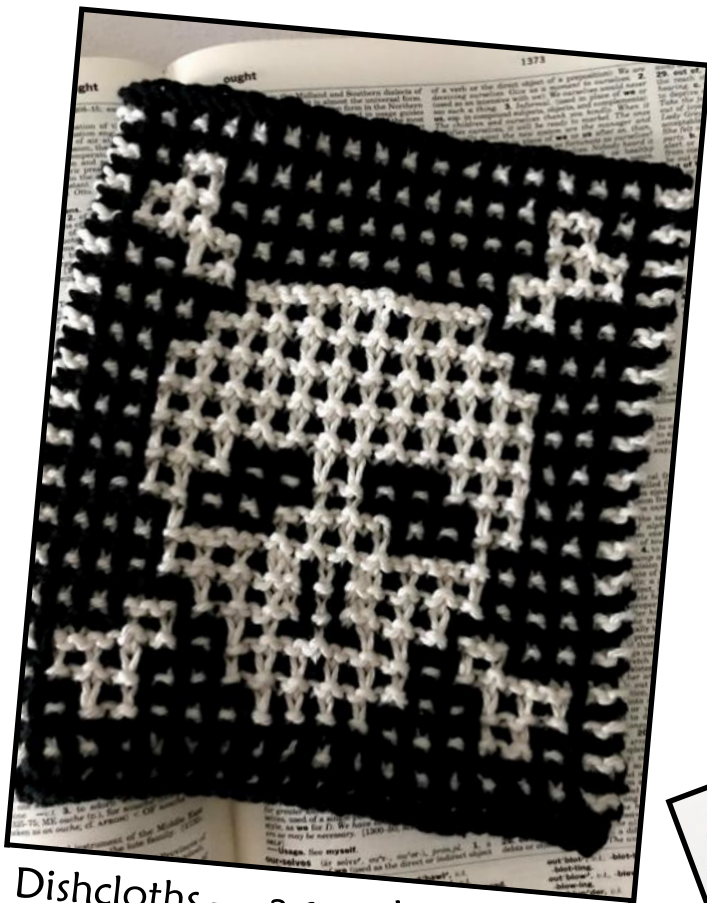
I was immediately reminded of one of the virtues of travel: the stimulation that results from being in alien terrain and human culture. (Yes, even the culture of eastern N.C. is alien to Yakima in many ways!) I had missed that without realizing it – another effect, relatively subtle, of the pandemic.

I've been thinking that one of the worst aspects of the pandemic is that it has kept us locked up in our own little worlds, insulated from fresh experiences and, by extension, fresh ideas.

Being the eternal optimist, I'm looking forward to the explosion of creativity that will result from "opening" back up! I'm hoping that will happen soon...

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.*



Dishcloths — a spooky skull for Halloween, a turkey for Thanksgiving, a tree for Christmas...

## Mini Mercado Reboot

Wanted: contributions for the Mini Mercado (monthly virtual bazaar, all proceeds go to the church)! Houseplants were a big hit in the last one; so were the Lambs's delivered dinners. Offer an item, a service, a meal, a social get-together... Please call the office or email [uucyauction@gmail.com](mailto:uucyauction@gmail.com) with your ideas!



## Growing the Flame: Chalice Lighters

Being a Chalice Lighter brings you the joy of watching your modest \$20 contribution multiply to a grant of \$12,000 or more. Each grant supports a specific project enabling the growth of our liberal religion in the Pacific Northwest. By being a Chalice Lighter, you will also help your own congregation qualify for a Chalice Lighter grant. Find out more in the [brochure](#) or visit the page at [pnwduua.org](http://pnwduua.org).

## UUCY Wednesday Coffee On Zoom

What is the UUCY Coffee Chat? For some time, members of our UUCY community and friends have enjoyed getting together on Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. at a local coffee shop to drink coffee liberally. They are currently meeting on Zoom; check the weekly update or reach out to the office for a link.



Photo by John Anvik (@redviking509 / Unsplash)

### Knit Night at UUCY

The Eweknits group has begun meeting weekly to knit at UUCY on Tuesday nights from 5-7 p.m. Proof of vaccination and masks are required.

All are welcome! Contact Nancy Born for more information.

### UU Quilting & Crafting Group

The quilting group gathers in person at the church on the fourth Saturday of every month at 9 a.m. Bring your latest masterpiece and materials to make your next; all crafty types are welcome! Contact Rosemary Saul for more information.

*Next Meeting: November 27th*

## UUCY BOOK CLUB: ON ZOOM!

“BOOKS ARE A UNIQUELY PORTABLE MAGIC.” – Stephen King

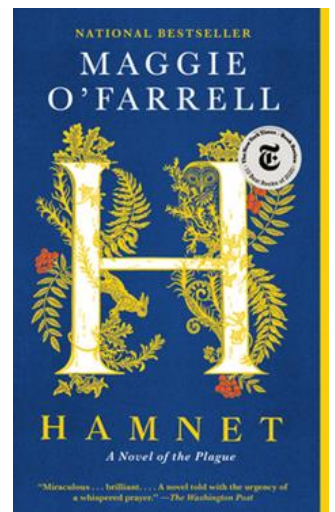
Drop in at 6:00 PM on the second Tuesday of every other month as the UUCY Book Club gathers members, friends and guests to celebrate and discuss books. We will meet online; check your Thursday update the week before for the Zoom link!

Titles 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.

### November 9, 2021: *Hamnet* by Maggie O’Farrell

England, 1580: The Black Death creeps across the land, and a young Latin tutor—penniless and bullied by a violent father—falls in love with an extraordinary, eccentric young woman. Agnes is a wild creature who walks her family's land with a falcon on her glove and is known throughout the countryside for her unusual gifts as a healer, understanding plants and potions better than she does people. Once she settles with her husband on in Stratford-upon-Avon she becomes a fiercely protective mother and a steadfast, centrifugal force in the life of her young husband, whose career on the London stage is taking off when his beloved young son succumbs to sudden fever.

A luminous portrait of a marriage, a shattering evocation of a family ravaged by grief and loss, and a tender and unforgettable re-imagining of a boy whose life has been all but forgotten.



(Book information adapted from web pages for Inklings Bookshop and Yakima Valley Libraries.)

# UUCY TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP

## SUNDAY SERVICES

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Susan Gallegos  
Susan Kaphammer  
Debra Kroon  
Sunny Sonker  
Merrill Thomsen

## AUCTION

Nancy Born

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

Phil Dindia  
Carole Sahlstrand

## FAITH FORMATION

Susan Kaphammer

## FINANCE

Chair: Janis Luvaas  
Bill Jacobs

### Your 2021 to 2022 UUCY Board of Trustees is:

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*Interim Office Administrator – Hannah Born (hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tues., Thurs., & Fri.)*