

# UniFire

## January 2022

*Monthly Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Yakima*

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

407 N 1st St, Ste 1, Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 453-8448 · uucyakima.org  
admin@uucyakima.org

Unless otherwise noted, UUCY services will be held **in person** at 407 N. 1st St. on Sundays at 10 a.m. Following CDC guidelines, proof of COVID vaccination will be required for entry to in person services, and masks must be worn at all times within the building.

### January 2 – Ring In The New Year With Poetry

Plan to listen, learn and look to the future in this presentation of original poetry from poets old and new, by Cindy Lamb and Ed Stover.

### January 9 – The Justice Housing Project

Guest speaker David Helseth will present the message about local efforts to provide low income housing development for people currently experiencing homelessness in our Yakima community.

### January 16 – Living With Intention

All around us this first month of the year, we are often reminded to create goals and imagine who we might become. But there is, perhaps, a big difference between becoming better and becoming ourselves. Today's service, by Susan Kaphammer from the *Soul Matters* materials, asks us to consider whether we are really excited about the New Year's work of striving to create a brand new self. Or might it be better to notice an internal whisper that says, "I long to be pulled in more deeply to the self I already am"? Maybe our real New Year's work is not about pushing forward into self-improvement, but about pausing, stepping back and asking, "What hunger has my heart?"

### January 23 – Tune In Together

**(This service will be on Zoom; watch your weekly update or contact the office for the link.)**

Originally presented in 2021 at All Souls Church in NYC by Galen Guengerich, this service looks at the climate crisis as a religious challenge. Discussion led by Andrew Whitmont.

### January 30 – 5th Sunday Conversation - What is God?

**(This service will be on Zoom; watch your weekly update or contact the office for the link.)**

"...and a little child shall lead them." Isaiah 11:6 (KJV)

UU children's ideas of God will set the stage for this consideration and sharing of ideas.

Attendees of all ages are invited to join in the conversation.

Facilitator: Linda King. Story for All Ages: Lizzie Lamb and Josie

# UUCY President's Report

Nearly 3 months ago I received a letter from a member of the UUA Congregational Life staff suggesting that small congregations that do not currently have professional leadership (such as UUCY) consider taking a sabbatical from Sunday services. The reason for doing so was to avoid burnout among the volunteers who put together the Sunday service programs, considering the challenges they face due to the pandemic.

Although I share this staff member's concerns about the possibility of burnout, I think it would be a big mistake for us to consider reducing our Sunday service schedule.

Our Sunday Services Committee has done a great job of scheduling services, both on Zoom and in person. I have tried to support their efforts as much as possible, because I believe that Sunday services are the bedrock upon which our UUCY community is built. And that we can best survive the COVID challenge by continuing to meet as a community, whether online or in person.

Do you agree? I (and the Sunday Services Committee) would love to hear your thoughts. And, if you do agree, any ideas you have for services!

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.*

## UUCY Mini Mercado: An Update

Everything offered in the November and December editions of the Mini Mercado is SOLD OUT! Yay! Thanks, everyone! We're taking January off, but are welcoming donations for a February edition.

How about a Soup (or One-Pot Meal) a Month, for a year or a half? Lessons in tying flies or cheesemaking or selling things on eBay? Computer or smartphone tech help? A clutter-clearing intervention?

Let us know what you have to offer at [uucyauction@gmail.com](mailto:uucyauction@gmail.com) or call the office at 453-8448. Thank you!

- Your UUCY Auction Team

## UUA Regional Assembly

PWR Regional Assembly is that inspirational, radically inclusive, beyond-the-congregation UU community we've missed. February 4-6, 2022, we can engage fully, wherever we are. Whether onsite in San Diego, or online in the comfort of our own homes, we will have opportunities for connection in small groups, inspirational worship, transformative learning, and just plain community fun.

Join in the community!



## 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 @rocknwool (Unsplash)

### Knit Night at UUCY

The Eweknits group meets 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. Proof of vaccination and masks are required. All crafty types are welcome! Contact Rosemary Saul for more information.

***The next meeting will be  
January 22.***

## BOOK CLUB INVITES YOU TO READ & TALK (AND WHO DOESN'T LIKE THAT!)

"I have always imagined paradise will be a kind of library." – Jorge Luis Borges

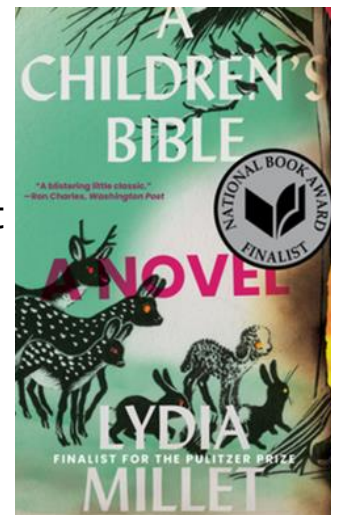
Share the "paradise" of reading with the UUCY Book Club! Drop in by Zoom at 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every other month to join the chat about our current read. Check your Thursday update for the Zoom link.

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.

### January 11, 2022: *A Children's Bible: A Novel* by Lydia Millet

*A Children's Bible* follows a group of twelve eerily mature children on a forced vacation with their families at a sprawling lakeside mansion. The age-old war between kids and their parents, children and adults, is reimagined through the lens of Biblical devastation. The result is harrowing and, in unexpected moments, hilarious. Millet has created a story that feels both folkloric and brand new, a tale as much about environmental cataclysm as it is about fighting for the people, things, and ideas that remain right and true, no matter how high the water gets.

*"With this slim yet potent book, [Millet] shows it is even possible to coax pleasure and beauty from the uncomfortable work of highlighting unfortunate truths."* — Emily Bobrow - Wall Street Journal

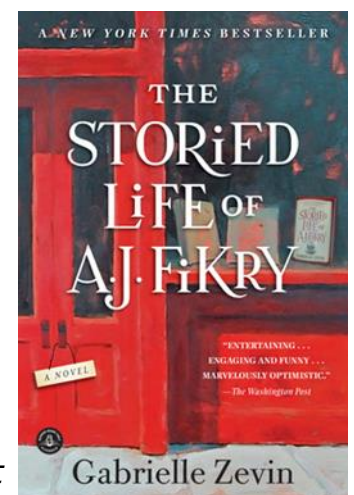


### March 8, 2022: *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin

We are not quite novels. We are not quite short stories. In the end, we are collected works.

A.J. Fikry's life is not at all what he expected it to be. His wife has died; his bookstore is experiencing the worst sales in its history; and now his prized possession, a rare collection of Poe poems, has been stolen. Slowly but surely, he is isolating himself. Even the books in his store have stopped holding pleasure for him. These days, he can only see them as a sign of a world that is changing too rapidly. But then a mysterious package appears at the bookstore.

*"This novel has humor, romance, a touch of suspense, but most of all love— love of books and bookish people and, really, all of humanity in its imperfect glory."* —Eowyn Ivey, author of *The Snow Child*



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

# UUCY TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP

## SUNDAY SERVICES

Chair: Linda King  
 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  
 Merrill Thomsen

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

<b><i>Board President</i></b>	Bill Jacobs	wsjacobs99@aol.com
<b><i>Board Vice Pres.</i></b>	Ray Yates	raycyates@gmail.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Rosemary Saul	rosemarian59@gmail.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Carole Sahlstrand	cjsahl@q.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Mary Brunelle	brufam@q.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Nancy Born	nancyjborn@gmail.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Ulla Whitmont	ullawhi@gmail.com

**UUCY OFFICE: 407 N. 1st St, Ste 1, Yakima, WA 98901 • [uucyakima.org](http://uucyakima.org)  
 509-453-8448 • [admin@uucyakima.org](mailto:admin@uucyakima.org)**

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