

UNIFIRE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF YAKIMA

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



May 2023



IMPORTANT NOTE:

Due to renovations at our physical location we are still meeting in public spaces.

Where will we be next? Keep an eye on your weekly update (also the website & Facebook) to find out where UUCY will be meeting each Sunday.

May 7: Intro to Chalice Circles — What Age Do You Want to Be?

Chalice Circles, also known as "covenant groups" is a vital part of many Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations. Groups of 10-12 people meet regularly, usually monthly, to reflect on and discuss significant life topics. Small groups are great places to get to know other people and to get to know yourself. Over time, participants build deep connections with one another, with the congregation, and with the sacred.

Whether the topic is "good and evil," "mindful living," "parenting," or "letting go," the conversation is respectful and caring and leads to greater understanding. In each session, facilitated by a member of the congregation, all participants have the opportunity to share their perspectives, tell their stories, and listen deeply. The time together is structured: Groups begin and end with centering readings and often include times for quiet reflection as well as sharing. Many small groups also put their faith into action through service projects.

This Sunday's Chalice Circle will be abbreviated, which allows attendees to get the idea of Chalice Circles and allow future formation of Chalice Circles at UUCY.

May 14: Creativity

Creativity brings us joy, beauty and play, but may also tap into insecurity, loneliness and self-doubt. This discussion is not just about imagination, artistry and self-expression, but also courage. We'll consider the role of community in creation. Those sacred sources of inspiration inside us – our imagination, unique voice and inner muses – are like wild animals. They want to come out and play, but will only do so when coaxed and cared for by the inspiration and support of others. Susan Kaphammer leads this service with resources from Soul Matters.

May 21: Dumb Luck

Telling our own stories and listening to those of our fellow UU's builds and strengthens our community. Please come prepared to share a story about when 'dumb luck' played an interesting part in your life. April is also National Poetry Month so if you prefer to use poetry to tell us about your dumb luck, all the better.

May 28: No Service (Memorial Day)

First 2023 Adopt-a-Highway Pickup Was in April; Next Date To Be Announced

by Denise Edwards

I am writing this one day before our kickoff Adopt-A-Highway pickup day on April 29th, so all I can report is that I am thankful for veteran participants as well as new ones. The weather has been spectacular this week so it should be a great day to see the scenery on Highway 12. (Report from a participant: it was!)

We are aiming for four dates this season. The next date will be announced in the weekly update and the UniFire as soon as I know it. Join the list of registered participants anytime by contacting Denise 11denisis@gmail.com. Enjoy Spring, summer is near.

Haiku Will Be Rescheduled

Tony Long has agreed to offer his haiku writing workshop a second time; however, due to the uncertainty surrounding our physical space, it will be rescheduled from the original date chosen for May. If you're interested, please keep any eye out in future UniFires and weekly updates- we'll advertise when we have a new date chosen!

UUCY Meetings in April

All members welcome to attend!

Board Meeting: Monday, May 8th, 1:00 p.m. Contact the office if interested in attending (via Zoom).



UUCY Game Night

NEXT GAME NIGHT IS MAY 26TH!

You missed the April game night (too bad, so sad), but you can put May 26 on your calendar now! It has been suggested we meet at a pub for May game night, which might affect the date/time/place. Watch your weekly update for updates (ha)! If you have an idea for a great place to meet up, please shoot an email to the UU office pronto.



Photo by [Ryan Quintal](#)
on [Unsplash](#)

UUCY Wednesday Coffee

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. These gatherings are in-person and indoors at North Town Coffeehouse (32 N. Front Street).

Both the quilting group (usually the fourth Saturday of the month) and Tuesday knit nights will be **postponed until June** unless & until we are moved into our new space.

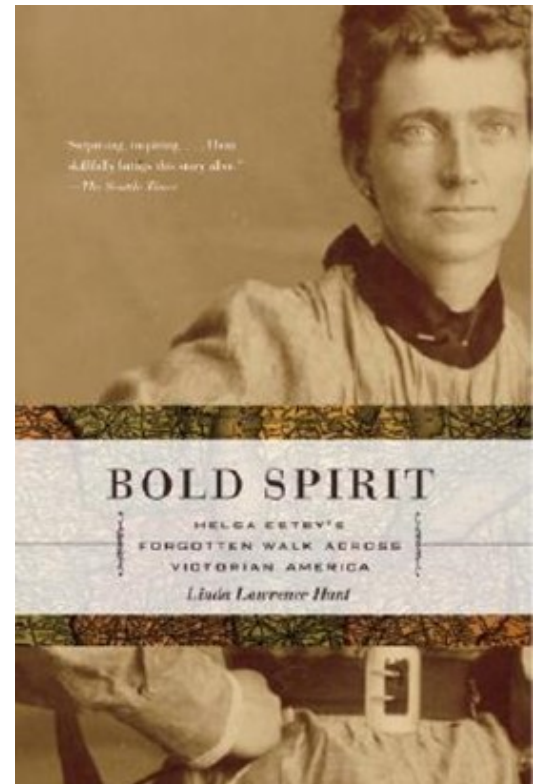
BOOK CLUBBERS TO DISCUSS *BOLD SPIRIT*

The UUCY Book Club (Everyone Welcome!) will meet at **6:00 PM on Thursday, May 11**, at Susan Kaphammer's home. Bring a snack if you wish, and we will be sharing reactions to *Bold Spirit: Helga Estby's Forgotten Walk Across Victorian America*.

The author, Linda Hunt, discovered hints of this story of a Norwegian immigrant mother and her daughter who in 1896 trekked across the United States from Washington state to New York in hopes of prize money to save the family farm. The details of their journey and of turn-of-the-century America they encountered was nearly lost. Through diligent research involving interviews, newspaper archives and trips across the country, Ms. Hunt has pieced together the compelling tale of these women who defied the conventions of the time to act beyond their household roles.

Passing through 14 states, visiting Indian reservations, Western boomtowns, remote ranches, Helga Estby and her daughter Clara confronted natural and human dangers as well as finding kindness across the country.

In addition to capturing the story of their remarkable journey, Linda Hunt considers the forces that can cause such episodes to be hidden.



UUCY TEAMS AND LEADERSHIP

SUNDAY SERVICES

Chair: Debra Kroon

Denise Edwards

Bill Jacobs

Susan Kaphammer

Linda King

Sunny Sonker

AUCTION

Nancy Born

FAITH FORMATION

Susan Kaphammer

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Phil Dindia

Carole Sahlstrand

FINANCE

Chair: Janis Luvaas

Bill Jacobs

Your 2022 to 2023 UUCY Board of Trustees is:

<i>Board President</i>	Mike Gempler	mikegempler@msn.com
<i>Board Vice Pres.</i>	Carole Sahlstrand	cjsahls39@gmail.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Nancy Born	nancyjborn@gmail.com
<i>Trustee</i>	Mary Brunelle	almybrufam@gmail.com
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UUCY Administrator – Hannah Born (hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tues., Thurs., & Fri.)