

# UNIFIRE

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF YAKIMA

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

☀ August 2023 ☀

### **August 6: The Impact & Influence of Animals in Our Lives**

The seventh principle of Unitarian Universalism calls upon us to practice “respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” Animals live on the web all around us every day, seen or unseen. We may experience them in nature, at home, as livestock, or perhaps as a spirit. All ages are welcome to come to share and/or listen. Bring a picture or other representation if you wish.

### **August 13: Recreation for Re-Creation**

Recreation is about engaging in delightful activities that bring in glee. Join in a discussion around the necessity of recreation and giving some time for it. How does re-creating help us to create better in our lives?

### **August 20: Families of Blood and Choice**

Sometimes we are born into families that remain relevant all our lives, but sometimes not. Other ways to gain family is by choosing or even "happening into" a close group that functions as parents, siblings, and so on. This coffee and conversation gives us a chance to share the varieties and meanings of family in our lives.

### **August 27: We're All That, and Music Too!**

Join Sunny Sonker and Linda King for this coffee and conversation service exploring who and what we are, inspired by beautiful music & UU musings.



Denise and Janis in front of the UUCY road sign.

## July Pickup Went Well; Next Highway Pickup in September

*By Denise Edwards, Adopt-a-Highway Coordinator*

July's team, Scott H., Chuck F., Denise E. and Janis L. started early and were done by mid-morning leaving many full bags for WSDOT to take away. Another beautiful day. It was comfortable to start and heated up as we went along.

No outings are planned for August to avoid excessive heat and/or smoke from the wildfires that seem to be more probable the last few years. We will resume in September after Labor Day weekend. Enjoy the rest of summer and think of UUCY's contribution if you head up toward White Pass.



Beautiful berries and blooms along the roadside.

For now, the quilting group is on an indefinite hiatus.

Tuesday knit nights are also on hold but may be returning in September, keep an eye out for that if you've been craving some social knitting!

# Climate Change Unites Us

*By Phil Dindia*

As our climate changes, we see more clearly that we are one, and we must all change.

Our blue marble, with its land, sea and air so connected and dependent on each other, we see their interaction as never before

Our seas are rising as the ice melts and threatens all who live on it and at its edges.

Our water is becoming warmer becoming and less able to sustain the fish and creatures who live in it.

Our air is becoming hotter and more polluted, causing death and disease to all living things.

Our trees and land are being overwhelmed by fires, hurricanes, tornados, storms and heat.

Millions of human families are dying each year of disease and famine.

We are being asked to change our ways by our leaders, but they can only guide us. The land, sea, air, animals, plants and humans with whom we live- all that is on our planet- are calling us to change, calling loud and clear. Our leaders are relaying the message. Ultimately it is up to each one of us to sound the alarm, to act, for our lives and that of our children.

## UUCY Coffee Has Moved!

You may have noticed that in July our coffee gatherings kept changing location.

For various reasons these shops didn't work out, but we've finally settled on **Catalyst Coffee at 221 E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.**

Join us every Wednesday at 9 a.m.!



## NEXT BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION: SEPTEMBER 14

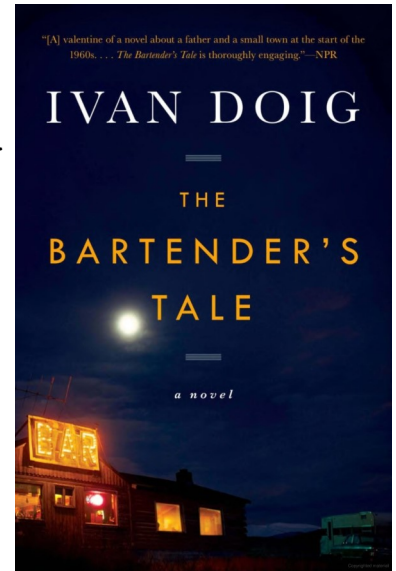
The second Thursday of every-other month our UUCY Book Club meets to review and discuss our experiences with the current chosen book. All readers and all opinions are welcome!

The next meeting of our UUCY Book Club will be at 6:00 PM on Thursday, September 14. We will gather at UUCY's new home at 407 N. 1st Street, Suite 3. Bring a snack if you wish, and be ready for varied reactions to *The Bartender's Tale*. The book is available in hard copy and electronic format from Yakima Libraries, and from Inklings Bookshop at book club discount.

### ***The Bartender's Tale* by Ivan Doig. 2013. 432 pages.**

By the same author of *The Last Bus to Wisdom*, a UUCY Book Club favorite from last year, this novel also focuses on a boy managing his life with an odd kind of family. Home for Rusty is the Medicine Lodge, a northern Montana small-town bar owned by his dad, Tom. Then Proxy, a taxi dancer Tom knew back when, and her beatnik daughter, Francine show up, upending every certainty in 12-year-old Rusty's life.

NOTE: This title is available in a Yakima Libraries Book Club Set. Susan Kaphammer will have eight copies to distribute after August 5. It is also available in electronic format, book on CD, and hard copy from Yakima Libraries.



"Always one of the West's best storytellers, Doig has achieved here the perfect fictional mix: winning, believable characters; an intricate, timely, and surprising plot; and a Montana setting that pivots between the early days of JFK in the 1960s and the 1930s of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.— Indies Next Booksellers Recommended.

### **Want to read this book? Borrow it!**

This title is available in a Yakima Libraries Book Club Set. Susan Kaphammer will have eight copies to distribute after August 5. It is also available in electronic format, book on CD, and hard copy from Yakima Libraries.



# 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 2023 to 2024 UUCY Board of Trustees is:

<i>Board President</i>	Mike Gempler	<a href="mailto:mikegempler@msn.com">mikegempler@msn.com</a>
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**UUCY Administrator – Hannah Born** (hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tues., Thurs., & Fri.)