

# UNIFIRE

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF YAKIMA

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



**SEPTEMBER 2023**



### **September 3: No Service (Labor Day)**

### **September 10: Home Is Where The Heart Is**

*A service for all ages!*

What is 'home'? Can you describe it or otherwise call it into shape? Americans have a complex relationship with the idea of home. This includes churches, too. In tumultuous times such as now, is it possible to have a home where strangers are welcome and the unknown is right around the corner? Please bring something to this annual homecoming service that represents home to you. We will have a table up front that will have your examples.

#### **About Rev. Alex Holt:**

Rev. Alex Holt served the Yakima church for two years as a part time contract minister in 2008-10. He continued to train and became certified as an accredited transitional minister serving congregations in South Carolina, Oregon, Texas, Washington State and northwest Pennsylvania. His life partner Debra is a Buddhist chaplain in Eugene. Alex continues to do services on a part time basis while living in Eugene and studying bonsai and continuing his recovery of 20+ years sobriety from alcoholism.

### **September 17: Yoga: The Union of Mind, Body, & Soul with David Lynx & Barbejo Eberje-Sundari**

We often think of yoga as a fitness program, but there are many paths to the union of body, mind, and soul. Explore four of these paths including Raja (Royal), Bhakti (Devotion), Jnana (Knowledge), and Karma (Action.)

### **September 24: Welcome**

It is easy to say "Welcome" when someone new comes to church. It may be more challenging to wholeheartedly and soulfully mean, "Welcome" every time for everyone and for all a day may bring. Susan Kaphammer, prompted by the Soul Matters materials, explores the deeper meanings and challenges of being truly welcoming in our personal lives, the life of our congregation, and in our everyday world.

# Change in the Air

by Mike Gempler

The weather is changing, and that is fitting, because we are feeling like a new season is beginning for UUCY as we are now IN OUR NEW SPACE!!! Come join us on for a service this September. I feel like our church community is really rallying around this effort and around each other.

The big things are done, like placing speakers and pianos and setting up our little hospitality room, Kid's RE room, storage and office. Our Church Administrator Hannah Born has been doing a great job keeping everything and everyone organized, and our maintenance staffer, Scott Holman, has stepped up to do all kinds of installation, repair and cleaning to make this move-in work.

Now the fun of being creative begins as we focus on aesthetics like decorations, flowers and plants, photos, paintings, and prints; all of the stuff that speaks to our identity and history and makes a place a home.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our new space. We have a good thing going and I think it's going to keep getting better.

Mike Gempler, President

*Mike Gempler is the President of the UUCY Board of Trustees for 2022-2024, and can be reached for discussion and comments at any time. Reach out to the office for his contact information.*

## Game Night Returns!

Game Night will be back in play (ha!) in September. We're planning to meet the last Friday of every month, with a new time of 6:30–8:30 p.m. Bring a game you like, or take potluck—there will be plenty of choices on hand. Learn a new game(s)! Have a favorite game? Teach it to other folks! Maybe you'll start a whole new group of fans! Bring a treat to share if you like.



Photo by [FIGIST CO](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Photo by [Ilya Chunin](#) on [Unsplash](#)



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

***Knitters, crocheters, spinners, fiber artists of all stripes are welcome to join other makers Tuesday nights 7–9 at UUCY, 407 N. First St., Unit 3, starting September 19. Bring a project to work on or if you need help or inspiration, that will be available, too!***

## **Last Adopt-a-Highway Pickup September 9th**

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

The first day of Autumn rolls in this month on September 23rd. As we approach the change in seasons, we approach the last roadway pick-up of the 2023 season. **September 9th** is forecast to be a day with warm and sunny but not hot. Registered participants will receive an email with updates as the date draws nearer.

Contact Denise email [11denisis@gmail.com](mailto:11denisis@gmail.com) if you are not registered but would like to join us outdoors while we put into action our UU principles and support the state Adopt-a-Highway program. Your registration will remain intact for the 2024 season.



## **Chalice Circles**

Anyone interested in forming a Chalice Circle? These are a group of 8 to 10 people meeting once a week for six weeks, a two hours check-in sharing on a topic of spiritual or human interest (NOT political). Contact Gean Dindia if you're interested or for more information.

## **UUCY Coffee Gatherings**

Join us every Wednesday at 9 a.m. at **Catalyst Coffee (221 E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.)** for coffee, companionship and conversation!





## NEXT BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION: SEPTEMBER 14

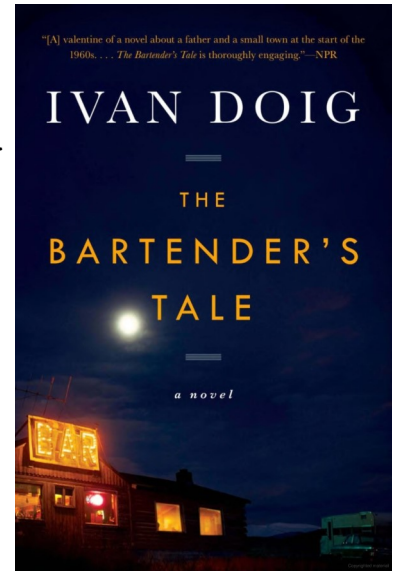
The second Thursday of every-other month our UUCY Book Club meets to review and discuss our experiences with the current chosen book. All readers and all opinions are welcome!

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.

# **Celebrating a Life Fully Lived**

## **Anthony T. “Tony” Long**

*July 16, 1955 — July 6, 2023*



Please consider either (or both) dates to celebrate Tony. So that we may provide refreshments, please RSVP.

**Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023 at Loyal Heights Community Center**  
**2101 NW 77<sup>th</sup> St., Seattle WA      1-3 PM (RSVP by Sept. 17)**

**Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023 at Yakima Area Arboretum**  
**1401 Arboretum Drive, Yakima WA   1-3 PM (RSVP by Oct. 1)**

You are welcome to share a special memory of Tony in the Memory Book and/or out loud if you wish.

I look forward to celebrating this special man together with you.

*- Rosemary Saul, [rosemarian59@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarian59@gmail.com)*

(or contact the office for the phone number)





## REMEMBERING DAN BARIS

*1923 — 2023*



Left and right bottom are photos from Dan & Jerry's 75th wedding anniversary.



# 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>
<i>Board Vice Pres.</i>	Carole Sahlstrand	<a href="mailto:cjsahls39@gmail.com">cjsahls39@gmail.com</a>
<i>Trustee</i>	Nancy Born	<a href="mailto:nancyjborn@gmail.com">nancyjborn@gmail.com</a>
<i>Trustee</i>	Mary Brunelle	<a href="mailto:almybrufam@gmail.com">almybrufam@gmail.com</a>
<i>Trustee</i>	Rosemary Saul	<a href="mailto:rosemarian59@gmail.com">rosemarian59@gmail.com</a>



**UUCY OFFICE:** 407 N. 1st St, Ste 3, 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.)