

UNIFIRE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF YAKIMA

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



OCTOBER 2023



October 1: We Are A Story

informed by what we were to embrace what we can become

Join Susan Kaphammer and Linda King as we journey through the memorable stories of UUCY – from “back in the day” to the “here and now.”

October 8: Unmentionables

Today's theme will be UNMENTIONABLES. Two weeks ago we explored the theme of Welcome. Today we will stretch ourselves to see if we can find, if not a welcome, maybe a gracious acquiescence to the effects time brings to all of us. Gean Dindia will draw from her experience and lead an interactive focus on unmentionables.

October 15: Tune in Together - Heaven for Everyone

Our service today will be streamed from YouTube with Rev. Randy Lewis of All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa, OK discussing reconciliation and redemption. Rev. Lewis states "Unitarian Universalists posit that we are all from one source and we return to that one source in the end. The details are left up to us to figure out." Join us as we Tune in Together from our UUCY home at 407 N First Street.

October 22: Harvest Festival/Apple Brunch Potluck

Decorate pumpkins! Share finger food snacks made of apples or that go with apples. Listen and comment on a story of the season in this service for all ages. Bill Jacobs and Linda King will act as celebrants, coordinators and speakers. Plan to bring a finger food snack. UUCY will be providing disposable products for our potluck. Feel free to bring your own utensils and plates if you like. Pumpkins and markers will be provided.

October 29: Homo Sapiens: Past, Present and Future

Lucy Valderhaug will be sharing some insights learned from her life-long interest in history and archeology; where we "Homo sapiens" come from, who we are, and maybe a look into our future.

November 5: UU Purposes and Principles Revisited!

Save the date! Join Bill Jacobs, who will share proposed revisions of our purposes and principles that are the very foundation of our faith. There will be time for discussion. See the [Article II Study Commission](#) section of UUA.org 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!

Circle Suppers Make a Comeback!

The first one will be held Sunday, November 12, at 4 p.m. Sign up at UUCY in person—just note your name, how many will attend with you, whether you can be a host, and if so, how many guests you can host.

November 12 is Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, celebrating the spiritual “victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.” This might be a perfect opportunity to celebrate a festival of flavors, too! There are lots of links online to Indian dishes traditionally eaten during Diwali. Culinary adventures are completely optional, of course! The host decides the menu.

Any questions? Call the office at 453-8448 or contact Nancy Born.

Game Night Returns!

Game Night is back! We 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.

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 5:30-7:30 p.m. 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!

Celebrating a Life Fully Lived

Anthony T. "Tony" Long: July 16, 1955 — July 6, 2023

So that we may provide refreshments, please RSVP. You are welcome to share a special memory of Tony in the Memory Book and/or out loud if you wish.

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

RSVP to Rosemary Saul at rosemarian59@gmail.com or contact the office for the phone number.

UUCY Adopt-a-Highway Project: 2023 Summary

By Denise Edwards, Adopt-a-Highway Coordinator

Many thanks to the active participants this year: Chuck Forster, Ken Tolenen, Hannah Born, Janis Luvaas, Scott Holman, and Denise Edwards. Our UUCY-WSDOT contract was fulfilled with outings starting in April this season near Earth Day. We continued by completing a pickup day on the weekends following Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day. We efficiently filled many bags, improving the roadside appearance. In addition to the highway sign that names UUCY, rewards included drivers honking in support, feeling good about making a difference, and enjoying the out-of-doors. This program is planned to continue in 2024 starting again around Earth Day. Look for the information in your April 2024 UniFire. Have a winter filled with the comforts of warm fires, hot cocoa, and shared stories.



Chalice Circles

Chalice circles are a way to explore topics in a small group (8 - 10) for six weeks in a comfortable setting. No experience needed though repeat participation is encouraged. One person has expressed an interest. We need four or five more to contact either Emilee or Gean before we can schedule a circle.

TAKE A TRIP TO CHINATOWN WITH NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB SELECTION

Join fellow readers the second Thursday of every-other month as the UUCY Book Club meets to review and discuss the current title. Lively conversation, thoughtful reactions, and a smattering of laughter are guaranteed. All readers and all opinions are welcome!

Interior Chinatown by Charles Yu, will be the topic for the next meeting of our UUCY Book Club at **6:00 PM on Thursday, November 9, 2023, at our church home, 407 N 1st Street, #3.** Optional: bring a snack to share.

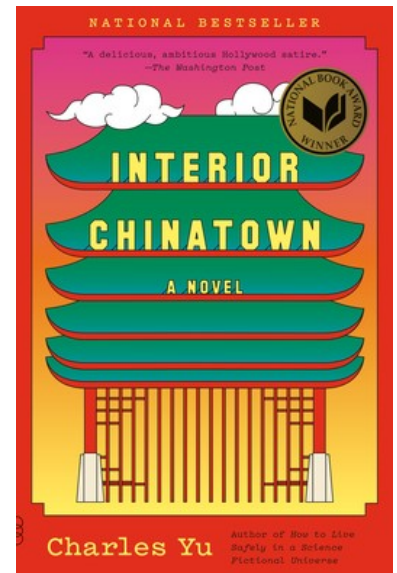
November 9, 2023: *Interior Chinatown* by Charles Yu. 2020. 288 pages.

• *NATIONAL BOOK AWARD WINNER* •

“A shattering and darkly comic send-up of racial stereotyping in Hollywood” (Vanity Fair) and a deeply personal novel about race, pop culture, immigration, assimilation, and escaping the roles we are forced to play.”

Every day, Willis Wu leaves his tiny room in a Chinatown SRO and enters the Golden Palace restaurant, where *Black and White*, a procedural cop show, is in perpetual production. He’s a bit player, but he dreams of being Kung Fu Guy—the most respected role that anyone who looks like him can attain. Or is it?

After stumbling into the spotlight, Willis finds himself launched into a wider world than he’s ever known, discovering not only the secret history of Chinatown, but the buried legacy of his own family. Infinitely inventive and deeply personal, exploring the themes of pop culture, assimilation, and immigration.



“Meticulously crafted. . . . Yu tells us about ourselves with his haunting depictions of the immigrant experience, familial relationships, and the abiding desire to break from the pressures of conformity and live an authentic life.”—*Los Angeles Review of Books*

“Conflates history, sociology, and ethnography with the timeless evils of racism, sexism, and elitism in a multigenerational epic that’s both rollicking entertainment and scathing commentary.”—*Booklist* (starred review)

Want to read this book? Borrow it!

Susan Kaphammer will have eight copies from the Yakima Libraries Book Club set to distribute early in October at Wednesday Coffee and Sunday Services. The title is also available in electronic format, audiobook, and hard copy from Yakima Libraries as well as from Inklings Bookshop at a book club discount.

(Book information adapted from web pages for Inklings Bookshop and Yakima Valley 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	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
<i>Trustee</i>	Rosemary Saul	rosemarian59@gmail.com



UUCY OFFICE: 407 N. 1st St, Ste 3, Yakima, WA 98901 • uucyakima.org
509-453-8448 • admin@uucyakima.org

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