



**Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**  
**945 Rancho Vista Dr., Prescott, AZ 86303**  
**928-778-6672**

<b>Dec 3</b> Sunday 11 am	<b>Our Polarization Epidemic – What to Learn and Do?</b>  With today’s polarization, it’s become easier for us all to dismiss & demonize views other than our own. What might we consider, learn and do differently to move to better times? Rabbi Nina Perlmutter returns to speak at PUUF about this epidemic. Music by Morgan Cooper. Coordinator: Glenna Hudson
<b>Dec 10</b> Sunday 11 am	<b>PUUF Annual Congregational Meeting</b> followed by jokes and funny stories a la the late Melvin Hill. Holiday singalong with Mark Mathewson. Coordinator: Sue Tone.
<b>Dec 17</b> Sunday 11 am	<b>Celebrating Winter Solstice</b>  Why is it that we celebrate Winter Solstice – shortest day, longest night of the year? Karen Hagberg and Sukey Jones will share their stories, the history and the ceremony of honoring the longest night. Join us for this special service which will include drumming and ceremony. Coordinator: Eunice Ricklefs
<b>Dec 24</b> Sunday 11 am	<b>“Mr. Bear’s Christmas”</b>  A joyous Christmas Eve experience through song and story with the Agostinos. Music and Program: Christa & Tom Agostino. Coordinator: Eunice Ricklefs
<b>Dec 31</b> Sunday 11 am	<b>TBA.</b> Contact Program Committee with requests – Eunice, Glenna, or Sue.

**Programs are held in-person at the Fellowship unless otherwise stated.**

## Caring Network

If you have any needs, such as shopping, running errands, transportation needs, or other help, or if you just need to talk with someone, please call someone from the Caring Network.

Eunice Ricklefs at 928-771-9559

Jean Owen at 928-778-3784

Marion Pack at 928-642-6788

## PUUF Facilities Available

PUUF facilities are available for use for small gatherings. Refer to the PUUF web site for rental information.

**Board of Trustees meeting** will be on December 4, 2023, via Zoom. Contact any board member for the zoom codes.

### PUUF (go to) POINT PERSONS

<b>Archives/Library:</b> <i>Vacant</i>	<b>Membership:</b> Glenna Hudson
<b>Building Maintenance:</b> Dale Hudson	<b>Music:</b> Glenna Hudson
<b>Grounds Maintenance:</b> Al Schober	<b>Caring Committee:</b> <i>Vacant</i>
<b>Programs:</b> Eunice Ricklefs	<b>Social Action:</b> <i>Vacant</i>
<b>Facilities Schedule:</b> Mark Mathewson	<b>UUSC:</b> Eunice Ricklefs
<b>Website:</b> Mark Mathewson	<b>PAWS/PASS:</b> Eunice Ricklefs
<b>Coming Up @ PUUF:</b> Mark Mathewson	<b>Newsletter:</b> Sue Tone
<b>Hospitality:</b> Debra Mathewson	

**We have openings for “Point Person” positions if you are interested please contact a board member, thank you.**

# PUUF NEWS

December 2023



## Board of Trustees

### President

Al Schober  
928-925-1938

### Vice President

Sue Tone  
928-642-7867

### Treasurer

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

### Secretary

Debra Mathewson  
509-429-6421

### Trustee

Jerry Matiatos  
928-237-8033



### PUUF Office

928-778-6672

### Administration

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

### Coming Up at PUUF

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

### Newsletter

Sue Tone  
928-445-3162

### Facilities Scheduling

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

Jerry Matiatos  
928-237-8033

### Lay Ministers

Glenna Hudson  
928-636-4877

Jerry Matiatos  
928-237-8033

## Community Potluck

'Twas three days past Thanksgiving and all through PUUF, 11 people gathered to “break bread” together with leftovers and freshly baked dishes. We missed those who were out of town, with family, or recuperating from illness, and hope their holiday was just as enjoyable.

Mark Mathewson brought his book of Christmas holiday music and entertained the group with several songs while food and drink were set out on tables. Over dessert, Aggie Bostrom described what a traditional “potlatch” entailed in the Yup'ik /Inuit culture.

Wikipedia defines potlatch as “gift giving” originating in the Pacific Northwest and Canadian indigenous cultures. A potlatch brings together family and neighbors in a ceremony that involves the giving of gifts and food, music, dancing, and honoring spiritual values and beliefs.

The word “potluck” has its origins in “potlatch,” and we were fortunate to learn more about this custom while sharing food and friendship.

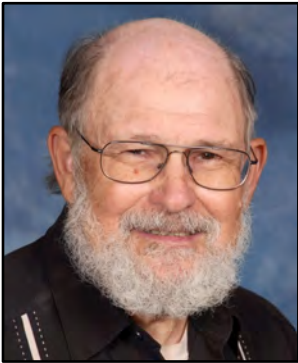


How much did Santa's sleigh cost?

Nothing...it was on-the-house.

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## President's Letter



Hello everyone. Well, I think winter is finally making an appearance in Arizona. The nights are cold and the days are chilly. Here at PUUF, we are closing out another year with the congregational meeting on Dec. 10. So please plan to attend, as we need every warm body in attendance.

Everybody will be brought up to date on our achievements of this past year and the outlook for the coming year – 2024. You have got to be kidding! Also we are having a tribute to Melvin Hill in the form of a joke telling session. So if you have any favorite jokes, please bring them to share with everyone.

With another year past, I wish to thank the people who are working to maintain PUUF as an organization where we can all feel welcome. Thanks to the members of the Board of Trustees and the program committee for their tireless and sometimes tiring work on PUUF's behalf.

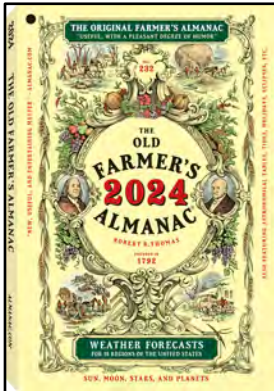


## Farmer's Almanac

Speaking of weather, want to know what to expect for this December and 2024? A chance of snow is in the forecast very soon – for Friday, Dec. 2!

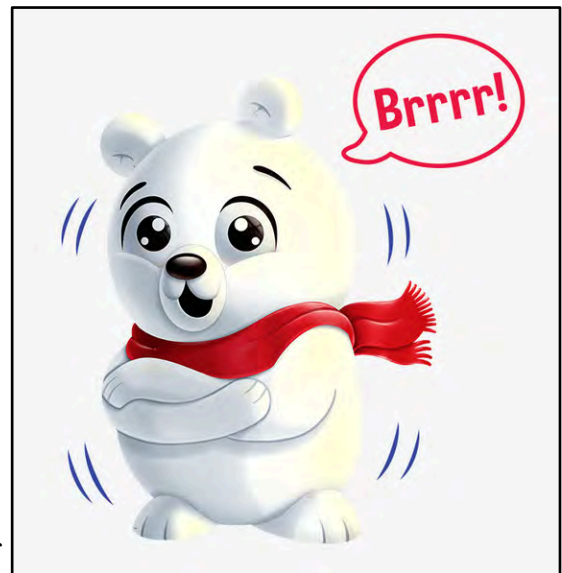
The Old Farmer's Almanac for our region states:

*Winter will be colder than normal, with the coldest periods in late November, early and late December, and late January. Precipitation will be above normal, as will be snowfall in most areas that normally receive snow, with the snowiest periods in mid- to late January and mid-February. Spring temperatures will be above normal in the west. Precipitation will be above normal. Summer will be hot, with rainfall below normal.*



Full Cold Moon arises Dec. 26, which means Santa will have plenty of moonlight to guide his travels by sleigh on Dec. 24.

Also from the Old Farmer's Almanac: December's full moon is most commonly known as the **Cold Moon**—a Mohawk name that conveys the frigid conditions of this time of year when cold weather truly begins to grip us. This full moon has also been called the **Long Night Moon** (Mohican), as it rises during the “longest” nights of the year near the December winter solstice. This name is doubly fitting because December's full moon shines above the horizon for a more extended period than most full moons.






# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Solstice Dances of Universal Peace

Prescott Peace Dancers and Sufi Circle come to PUUF on Saturday, Dec. 16 for an exciting activity. Everyone is welcome to participate in these warm and invigorating dances.



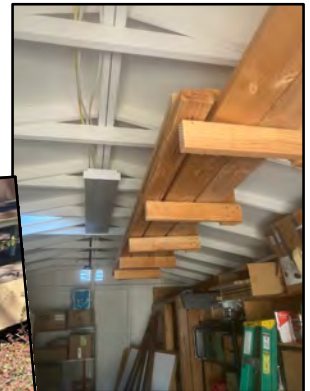
**Solstice Dances of Universal Peace**  
Dec. 16th 1-5PM

Prescott Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship  
945 Rancho Vista Dr  
Prescott, AZ

Contact: Yaqin 928-533-8846

## Meet Dan, PUUF's Handyman

PUUF has hired "Dan – the Handyman" to help with some of the projects we haven't been able to get to. He has repaired and painted the face boards on the patio, tightened up the railings for safety, and performed some cleanup. He painted the kitchen ceiling where we had had water leaks from the roof in the past. The kitchen ceiling is now looking very nice. Dan also has helped organize the shed and has created overhead storage for lumber and other items. He tackled the rotten mailbox post and built and installed a new door on the crawlspace



# IN MEMORIAM

Marriner Cardon  
5/17/1932 - 11/9/2023



A Celebration of Life for Marriner Cardon took place Nov. 18 at our sister congregation, Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation, with many friends and family in attendance.

Among those who shared about their connection and respect for Marriner were Dr. Sam Downing regarding Marriner's connection with Northland Cares, and Mary Jo Gregory, president of Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority Institute, of which Marriner was a board member. Marriner provided many years of service in the areas of law, finance and innovation with humility, integrity and wisdom.

Marriner also helped create Northland Cares and served on its board for many years. Northland Cares provides health care for communities affected by HIV, STIs and chronic hepatitis with dignity and compassion. Please consider donating in Marriner's memory to Northland Cares, 3112 Clearwater Drive, Suite A, Prescott, AZ 86305.

Marriner's son Jared spoke about the favorite road trips he took with his father and the lasting impact those trips made on him.

Jerry shared this remembrance during the Celebration of Life:

I (Jerry) learned years ago as an EMT to use humor to temporarily divert the patient's attention away from their issue at hand. I was doing this with Marriner after he had a stroke a couple of years ago. He was not responding much with laughter—which wasn't necessarily unusual for him. So I asked him, "You don't want me to be humorous?" He promptly replied, "You can be humorous...try harder."

Following the Celebration of Life, cookies and ice cream – a daily tradition for Marriner – was enjoyed as people mingled and shared memories.

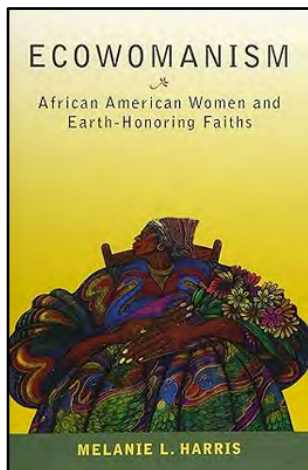
Marriner is survived by his six children, 15 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He and his husband Jerry Matiatos would have celebrated 20 years together this spring.





# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## November 5 - Ecowomanism



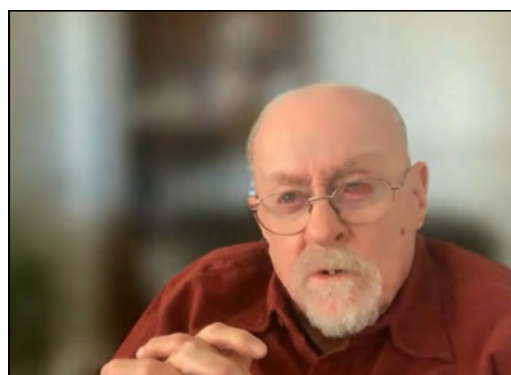
Glenna Hudson introduced PUUF to the concept of “Ecowomanism” through the Webinar presented by Melanie Harris, author of the book “*Ecowomanism*.” A discussion ensued after the video. The Robertson Sisters supplied their own original songs and others’ music that touched on the environment.



## November 12 - Supreme Court

Constitutional scholar Richard Shugrue joined PUUF on Zoom for his discussion about the Supreme Court. He spoke on a variety of topics, including “state’s rights” vs. “federal rights,” the newly created Justices’ Code of Ethics, and cases the Court will be hearing soon.

Attendees posed some interesting questions for Richard, who conveyed his thoughts effortlessly on the issues.



## November 19 - Duties of the Heart



Rabbi Nina Perlmutter shared an explanation of the Jewish tradition of Mussar (ethical discipline of mindful practice encompassing character traits) and her own experiences.

Conscientious examination of traits such as gratitude, anger, forgiveness, courage and fear leads to personal awareness and transformation. She said, “You are to learn something from everyone” and “Be open-minded but not so much that your brains fall out.”



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Talmud Reminder at the home of Rabbi Nina

# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

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Meg Bohrman offered her voice and music to the service and invited the congregation to a sing-a-long with the piano and her ukulele.



## November 26 - Friendsgiving Potluck

PUUF had an abbreviated service on Nov 26 to celebrate Thanksgiving and eat Thanksgiving leftovers. It was dubbed as Friendsgiving. What is Friendsgiving? It doesn't occur on a set date, but it close to Thanksgiving. Merriam-Webster describes it as a Thanksgiving dinner celebrated with friends. The term "Friendsgiving" has been around since 2007 and appears to have originated from a Twitter tweet.



We celebrated with friends and members alike and had a large variety of enchiladas, baked pies, brownie cubes, and casseroles.

We were pleased to have longtime friends Ed and Aggie Bostrom attend. They shared stories of their Alaska adventures along with describing some of the Alaskan Native traditions and spirituality.

More information about this event is on page 3, "*Community Potluck.*"