



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

<p>Feb 4 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Love in Action</p> <p>Local activist and friend of PUUF Barbara Jacobsen spent last month at Tucson’s migrant center witnessing the amazing assistance given to the guests and how hundreds are helped and able to fly off to family or sponsors often within 24 hours. She will share her experience and also the many needs, some of which cannot be met by used clothing donations or the agency at this time. Music: Mark Mathewson. Coordinator: Eunice Ricklefs</p>
<p>Feb 11 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Valuing Questions: An Ancient Jewish Tradition</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px;">PUUF Service Canceled due to deep snow in parking lot.</p> <p>Music: Meg Bohrman. Coordinator: Glenna Hudson.</p>
<p>Feb 18 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Father Issac Hecker, the Hybrid Apostle</p> <p>James Olague, will speak of his research of Hecker and how that influenced his own spiritual journey. Father Hecker, and his relationship to the Transcendentalist Movement influenced Unitarianism in our Early American History. Music: Morgan Cooper. Coordinator: Glenna Hudson.</p>
<p>Feb 25 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Side With Love</p> <p>“Side With Love”, what is it? What does it mean for UU’s and for me? Glenna Hudson will share the four weekly topics which were the focus of Side With Love 2024 and some of the highlights, ideas and resources shared by the program and how we can support Side With Love. Music: Morgan Cooper. Coordinator: Dale Hudson.</p>

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

Marion Pack at 928-642-6788

PUUF Facilities Available

PUUF facilities are available for use for small gatherings. Refer to the [PUUF web site, https://puuf.net/facility-rentals](https://puuf.net/facility-rentals) for rental information.

Board of Trustees meeting will be on February 4, 2024, after the Sunday Service.

PUUF (go to) POINT PERSONS

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

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

PUUF NEWS

February 2024



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

Discover What Makes Us Unique

Featuring this month's remarkable PUUF member

This is the first in a series of newsletter feature articles about PUUF members so we can get to know each other on a deeper more expanded level – before we learn of all the interesting things we wished we knew about before reading the obituary.

Can you guess who this cute little boy is sitting on the left next to his



brothers? Yes, he is an important member of PUUF, and the youngest of three boys who grew up in Ohio. His mother was a school teacher and his father was a mechanical engineer for a power company.

But it was his grandfather who encouraged his love of music, which has remained with him all his life.

Continued on page 5...

Feeding a Need Six Times a Year

A big shout out of recognition to Eunice Ricklefs, Glenna Hudson, Debra Mathewson, and Marion Pack for their dedication and contributions over the years in providing one meal every other month to the women and children of Prescott Area Women's Shelter.

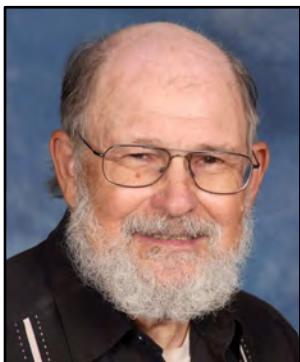


Two people provide the main dish, one provides salad or vegetable, and one provides a dessert.

April 8 (second Monday in April) is the next date members will deliver nourishing food to people in need. This is one of several PUUF community services. Should you feel called upon to offer assistance, these four faithful volunteers could use some extra help. Contact Eunice at leicgal237@gmail.com or 928-771-9559.

PUUF ACTIVITIES

President's Letter



Well, we are finally getting some winter weather with precipitation and colder temperatures. I hope everybody stays warm and dry. But I'm looking forward to springtime with the gardening and eating out on the deck again. Spring will be here soon, folks.

Also at this time I would like to thank the people who are working hard to make PUUF an interesting and pleasant place for our Sunday gatherings. The program committee members – Eunice, Sue and Glenna – it is their daunting task to arrange the speakers and musicians that we enjoy every Sunday. Great job, gang!

AC Schuster

Winter Weather at PUUF - Are We Open?

When winter weather conditions might be a challenge on Sunday mornings, please remember to check the PUUF website (puuf.net) for the latest update on whether or not services will be held.

REMINDER: PUUF does not perform snow removal in the parking lot. We do try to keep the deck and stairs clean, but they can be icy.

We should find out on February 2, Groundhog Day, whether the groundhog sees his shadow. If he does, that means six more weeks of Winter. If it doesn't, then spring will arrive early. Of course the groundhog is in Punxsutawney Pennsylvania so who knows what the weather will be here in Prescott!



Introduction to Sufism

"Come, come, whoever you are
Wanderer, worshiper, lover of leaving. It doesn't matter.
Ours is not a caravan of despair" J. Rumi

A 6 week class on principles and practices
And the study of Love, Harmony, and Beauty

Saturdays, 1:00PM- 2/3/24 through 3/9/24
Elsea Room, Prescott Public Library
With Barakat Bryan and Yaqin Sandleben

No charge for class, donations accepted
Info- contact Yaqin 928-533-8846

Introduction to Sufism

Lance Yaqin Sandleben and his friend Barakat are offering a six week class on sufism at the Public Library starting Saturday, February 3. The class is free, but donations are accepted and appreciated. For further information, please contact Yaqin at 928-533-8846.

PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Member *continued from page 3*

Every weekend until college, Mark Mathewson spent time with his maternal grandparents. "Grandpa was a huge influence on my music, morals, activities, and hobbies. Grandpa came from a large family and all of the family was very musical," he said.



Practicing with brothers Scott and Gregg with Grandpa. 1973

Mark started on piano with the classics and switched to the jazz organ around fifth grade. He played trumpet in the junior high and high school band, and wrote and entered his original compositions into competition. He and his brothers had a band called the TriTones and performed at weddings and retirement homes.

After college, he played less – especially when his Farfisa organ could no longer be repaired. "PUUF gave me the opportunity to play once again – I am grateful for that – and I purchased a new organ."

Music isn't Mark's only hobby. "When I was in fourth grade, I knew I wanted to be one of three things: airplane pilot, weatherman, or astronomer. Two of these were realized and the third I'm still interested in."

He earned his private pilot's license in college, then his instrument rating, and mainly flew Cessna Skyhawks and Skylanes. He has flown cross country and back, often landing among large jets at the bigger airports including Washington National, Chicago Midway, Denver Stapleton, Las Vegas, and Salt Lake City. He remembers one flight from Cape Cod to fly over New York City at 8500 feet at night and marveling at the expanse of the city lights. Many flights utilized his instrument skills, taking off and flying for hours in clouds and never seeing anything until popping out of the clouds on approach to land at an airport.

"Flying has changed in the past 30 years; many of the airports I landed at are now off limits to small aircraft. I gave up flying in 1991, but I still miss it and dream about it from time to time."



Mark and Family with Piper Archer - 1990



2023 Granny Smith Apple Harvest

Other hobbies include riding a motorcycle which he sold in 1982 in order to buy a rototiller after he married Debra and started another hobby he continues to this day – gardening, which is a bit safer, he says. He still uses the rototiller to grow strawberries, raspberries, squash, melons, grapes, fruit trees, tomatoes, and other crops.

continued on page 6...

PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Member *continued from page 5*

After earning a B.S and M.S. in Meteorology from The Pennsylvania State University, Mark worked with the National Weather Service in Salt Lake City, initially integrating radar systems with the meteorological workstations used by forecasters. He also met Debra and they had William, the first of two children. They moved to Boulder, Colorado, where he continued work on forecast systems with NOAA and the National Weather Service.



Radar Interface designed by Mark - 1979

The largest and longest project he worked on lasted over 20 years. This project unified individual forecast products while improving accuracy and details. That system is still in use today in the U.S. Retiring early from the government, Debra and Mark moved to the mountains outside of Tonasket, Washington, where they settled on 32 acres of forested land. Mark continued as a consultant as he adapted the system for Spain's State Meteorological Agency and Australia's Bureau of Meteorology.

A highlight of his career, Mark said, "I made 13 trips to Melbourne and Sydney in the course of six years to work with their forecasters and computer engineers. Debra accompanied me on some of the trips and we would tour other parts of Australia and New Zealand."



In Tonasket, as volunteers, they earned their Wildland Firefighter Certification and fought wildfires for the Okanogan County Fire District 12. Mark became the fire chief his last year in Washington.

Mark and Debra also love camping and traveling. They began with tents and progressed to travel trailers, and made two trips to Canada and Alaska; the 2022 trip took three months.

After traveling over 160,000 miles throughout the U.S. and Canada in travel trailers, Mark still feels that Utah is his favorite state for dispersed camping, scenery, and activities.

When a young child, Mark and his family attended the United Church of Christ. After primary school, he and his brothers rebelled and stopped going. "Religion was never a big part of my growing up, although my grandfather always talked about it," he said. "I never thought about religion until I got married and had kids. When you raise a family, you begin to ponder your beliefs and how you want to raise your children."



Camping Trip to Canada with Family - 1987

continued on page 7...

PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Member *continued from page 6*



Mark demonstrating dipping Oreos with a fork!

Currently, Mark describes himself as an atheist. “I respect others who have differing thoughts and beliefs, and if that works for them, that is great.”

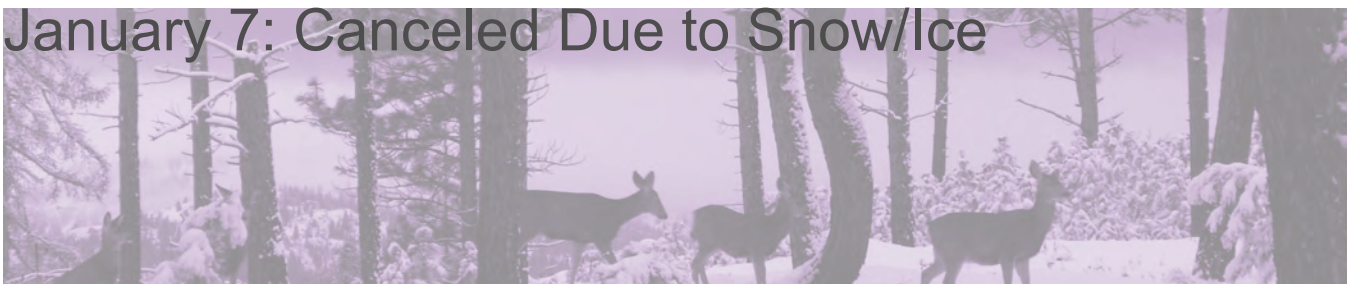
When he and Debra moved to Prescott in 2016, they were attracted to the openness of PUUF congregants and the lack of religious doctrine in the services. “I didn’t want a church that preached, nor one with a formal minister,” Mark explained, adding that he likes the wide variety of subjects and speakers at PUUF, and enjoys the various musicians. He contributes his own musical talents for services, and he is serving his 7th year as treasurer for the PUUF Board of Trustees.

Mark said he is aware of PUUF’s diminishing congregation and finds it upsetting. Regarding PUUF’s future, he says he would like to see “more butts in the seats.”



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

January 7: Canceled Due to Snow/Ice



January 14: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Organizers of the Aug. 28, 1963, March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom hoped 100,000 people would turn out for the event. A crowd of nearly 250,000 came to the National Mall in Washington, DC. One of the ten speakers, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., gave a seventeen-and-a-half minute speech that has become one of the most celebrated and unforgettable addresses in U.S. history – after which the FBI designated him as “the most dangerous Negro of the future in this Nation.”

We listened to the speech in its entirety, and afterward discussed whether anything has changed during the 60 years since Dr. King gave his speech.



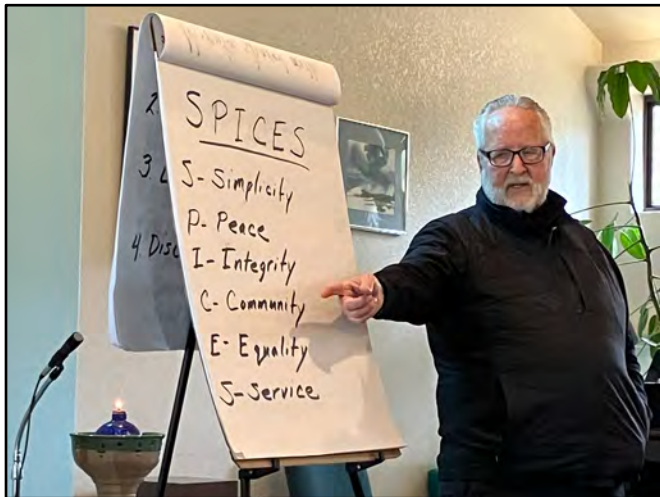
PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

January 21: Dr. Will Fisher

Dr. Will Fisher, whose ancestor crossed the Atlantic with William Penn, a Quaker, in 1682, said he considers himself an “unprogrammed liberal Quaker” and speaks from his own perspective. He explained how Quakers gather on Sunday mornings. They sit in silence for an hour while reflecting on Concerns with Expectant Waiting, Leading, and Discernment.

Quakers believe we are all connected equally, and we can all find the light (truth) inside ourselves. “We work hard at doing no evil, and that makes us happy.” Over the past 400 years, Quakers developed a set of “beliefs” that include Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality and Service (SPICES).

Maria and Henry Flurry provided music selections that dovetailed with the Quaker program.



January 28: Anna Flurry

Anna Flurry shared her story of struggle and healing over the past year in her talk on “**Suffering & Despair**” - **How to Dance When the World is Ending**. Anna said she found comfort and recovery through an understanding of trees and their connectivity to the land, the air, and with each other. She gave everyone a juniper berry to hold as she guided us through movement of the life span of that tree. Dance is movement with intent, and life moves toward life. The congregation shared strategies on what things make our community a better place: music, smiles, sharing space, offer food, wave to each other, patience (don’t honk your horn). Womansong provided uplifting and melodious music.

