

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

| June 2 Sunday 11 am | New Principles Counterpoint. Glenna Hudson and Jerry Matiatos will present the final version of the new principles being voted on at this year's virtual GA. Part of the service will be a facilitated discussion of the new principles to help inform Glenna, our delegate to GA, on her vote. Music: Mark Mathewson. Coordinator: Jerry Matiatos and Glenna Hudson. |
|-----------------------------|---|
| June 9 Sunday 11 am | Finding your Center: Equanimity in Challenging Times through mindfulness meditation as a way of creating a sense of spaciousness, balance and peace in our heart and lives. Speaker: Lesley Schuler. Musician: Harpist, Adrienne Bridgewater. Coordinator: Eunice Ricklefs |
| June 16 Sunday 10 am @GPUUC | Rev Patty Willis: "Fathers Who Went to War" What can we learn from our fathers who made the great sacrifice of going to war? On the Courthouse Plaza of Prescott, we find the memorials to the loss of wars. How do we honor these losses as we hope to make peace? This program will be held at Granite Peak UUC at 10am and will be Rev Patti's last sermon at GPUCC, 882 Sunset Ave., Prescott. |
| June 23 Sunday 11 am | Sunday Service from UUA General Assembly. Details TBA. |
| June 30 Sunday 11 am | Green Guardians: Artists Standing Strong for the Verde River. This unique exhibit of diverse artworks that support the federal designation of the Upper Verde River as a Wild and Scenic River is available through July 12 at the Natural History Institute in Prescott. Bob Ellis from the institute will inform us about the institute and all the opportunities available there for connection to the natural world. Musician: Bev Worthman and Sue Daniel. Coordinator: Glenna Hudson. |

Programs are held at the Fellowship except for June 16, which will be at GPUCC.

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 <u>PUUF web site</u>, <u>https://puuf.net/facility-rentals</u> for rental information.

Board of Trustees meeting will be on June 18, 2024, at 3pm on zoom. Contact any board member for the zoom code.

PUUF (go to) POINT PERSONS

Archives/Library: *Vacant* Membership: Glenna Hudson

Building Maintenance: Dale Hudson Music: Glenna Hudson

Grounds Maintenance: Al Schober Caring Committee: Vacant

Programs: Eunice Ricklefs Social Action: Vacant

Facilities Schedule: Mark Mathewson UUSC: Eunice Ricklefs

Website: Mark Mathewson PAWS/PASS: Eunice Ricklefs

Coming Up @ PUUF/Newsletter: Hospitality: Debra Mathewson

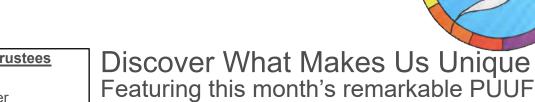
Mark Mathewson, Sue Tone

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

PUUF NEWS

member

June 2024



This is 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.



This PUUF member likes to see the world from many perspectives, perhaps using different ways of thinking that is outside our everyday awareness. How does he do this? Through a love of science fiction.

"It trains us to see there might be other things happening. I also think science fiction can be a vehicle for truths that

are not readily accessible to our conscious thoughts," he said.

This openness to other ways of thinking has guided him in his religious beliefs, too. Following a conversation with a restaurant co-worker years ago, he began looking at the possibility of reincarnation. This initial tete-a-tete offered a more spiritual way of thinking that differed from his Greek Orthodox upbringing. He said Greek Orthodoxy does not influence his life currently, but his views have evolved from that background. The conversation led him to allow something he considers more spiritual into his life, a connection to something outside ourselves that is not seen with our senses.

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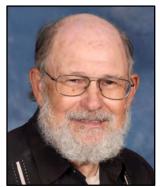
Jerry Matiatos 928-237-8033

Rev. Patti's Farewell Sermon at GPUUC

PUUF will not have a service on June 16; instead please attend Granite Peak UUC to hear Rev. Patti Willis's final sermon before she moves on to her next chapter. The topic will be "Fathers Who Went to War" for their Father's Day Service. GPUUC services start at 10am.



President's Letter



Hello, everybody. We've had a cool spring so the garden planting was put off a few weeks. But it's planted now with tomatoes, peppers, squash and beans. Take a look and see how it's progressing on Sunday mornings when you are at PUUF.

The programs for the month of May were interesting to say the least. The visitors were Tom and Christa, Thatcher and Sue, and of course, Satan. Well, not the real guy but Nectaire, a minister of The Satanic Temple, who explained the workings and the work TST does for social justice. Very interesting and thought provoking with a lot of dialogue and questions all around.

So here at PUUF, we are Puffing along with fascinating and inspiring programs and a growing garden. If you haven't been here in a while, please come and enjoy a relaxing Sunday morning with refreshments on the deck after the program.

ac Scholer

Farewell Gathering at Granite Peak

Farewell Gathering for Rev. Patty Willis and Mary Lou Prince, Saturday, June 15, 2024, "Mountains We Have Climbed Together." Please come and celebrate Patty and Mary Lou's six years of ministry at Granite Peak UU Congregation. If you would like to come and say goodbye and share a memory, please come. Of course, their marvelous choir will sing. Program from 5 - 5:45 pm in the Sanctuary. Potluck at 6 pm in Davis Hall. Dancing and music from 6:45 pm or until everyone gets tired. Please RSVP for planning to (928) 541-0000 or granitepeakuu@gmail.com.



PRIDE Picnic - June 29



This year's PRIDE picnic will take place June 29. Last year PUUF shared a table with Granite Peak UUC. PUUF is looking once again for volunteers to participate at a table to showcase our fellowship. If you are interested, please contact any board member.



Exciting Updates from Meg and Thatcher



Thatcher Bohrman announced the location of his new studio in Prescott. He can be found at Studio 22 at the Art Hive, 203 N. Cortez St.

Meg announced that the Galactogogues plan for a release of their second CD on the Winter Solstice, Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024.



Any Food Requests?

Glenna, Debra, Eunice and Marion keep our Sunday repasts festive with a variety of good food to share with members, friends and guests. What is your favorite after-service refreshment at PUUF? Let them know and maybe it will become one of our standard, standout offerings. (Sue says the Thin Mint Girl Scout cookies – or Oreos, or anything Debra bakes – are her favs. Mark's go-to choice is tasty sandwiches and Mango juice, and Debra says she especially likes Dale's gingerbread and Glenna's brownies.)



Natural History Institute



Bob Ellis, Executive Directory of the Natural History Institute, will be coming to PUUF on June 30 to present **Green Guardians: Artists Standing Strong for the Verde River**. The National History Institute currently (through July 12) is featuring an art exhibit on protecting the Upper Verde River. The gallery is open Monday through Friday, 9am - 5pm, and is located at 126 N Marina Street in Prescott. More information is available by emailing info@naturalhistoryinstitute.org, phoning 928-863-3232, or visiting their web site at https://naturalhistoryinstitute.org.

The exhibition showcases a diverse array of artworks, each a visual manifesto in support of the federal designation of the Upper Verde River as a Wild and Scenic River. Through paintings, sculptures, and other installations, artists lend their voices to the chorus, calling for responsible conservation measures. This exhibition aims to bring together influential voices in the realms of art, conservation, and policy.

This Month's PUUF Member continued from page 3



Jerry Matiatos grew up a child of Greek immigrants, the youngest son with two brothers who are 13 and 15 years older than he is. "I call it being an only child without the shortcomings," he said. The bond between the siblings is still strong.

"We know if any of the three of us need something, we'll be there. We have each other's back. In terms of being Greek, he fit into the family very well. In terms of being gay, "not so much." I guess I'm the spice in their life. I'm part of the dish, I'm not an excluded part of the dish, but also not a cloned copy. I don't have a wife and two kids like both of my brothers."

Nevertheless, he said his family loved and cared for him. He describes his parents as intelligent but they lacked confidence in their new language, English. "My father had better pronunciation, but mother had a better grasp of English," he said. His mother earned a G.E.D in U.S. His father was an accountant for the Greek Army before coming to this country and becoming a chef. He owned his own restaurants, but he didn't want Jerry to learn the

cooking aspect of the work. Jerry did pick up some techniques from watching, but mainly worked the front of the house in customer service, as a server, and in bookkeeping.

One incident involving an angry patron became an important life lesson for Jerry. "The customer told my mother to go get back on the boat she came on. And I realized when things like that happen, it's not important what you say. It's important you say something. Don't let your voice be paralyzed because it's not the right thing to say."

Jerry has an affinity and talent for singing and theater, and he has used his technical computer savvy for theater work as he has for PUUF. He also regularly watches science fiction television. He is a big fan of Star Trek, Stargate SG-1, and The Matrix.

"It forces a different perspective and view on the common ordinary things in our lives, and so, creates space for thinking differently," he said, adding that he's currently watching Stargate SG-1. One thing he

likes is that the series takes common history and adds a fictional back story that people don't know about. "It makes us see things from another perspective in a way we wouldn't have before. So by being broached in a fictional way, we are being exposed to different thoughts or concepts that could be true," he explained.

It was Jerry's relationship with Marriner that brought him into the UU and PUUF fold quite quickly after they met. "What attracted me to PUUF was Marriner. What kept me at PUUF is it's so not church it works for me. None of those others fit me," he said. "With PUUF, it's about our connection to people, not to spirituality. It's more about how we care for our fellow humans rather than what we believe. That's our binding element in PUUF – that we care about people."



Marriner and Jerry at Wasp Sister Ship Hornet - 2009

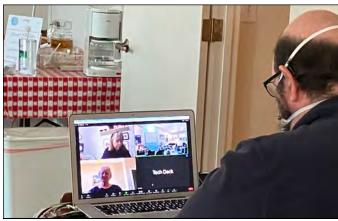
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This Month's PUUF Member continued from page 6

Although school is his main focus these days, Jerry plans on doing some traveling this summer to places within driving distance. He's not ruling out one other form of air travel – sky diving – he's done a solo jump once before and would love to again. "It was closest to flying like a bird, even though it was one direction – down!"



Marriner/Jerry Wedding - March 1, 2022



Jerry handling zoom services during COVID



Marriner and Jerry's Last Vacation. Palm Springs 2023



Glenna and Jerry Leading the service - 2023

PUUF Garden Update

Next time you are at PUUF, please visit the PUUF Community Garden. The three beds are fully planted with squash, tomatoes, peppers, and beans. Produce from the garden is donated to area food banks.

This year we are trying (once again) to keep the wildlife out of the garden in order to provide more food to our human neighbors. Recently Al has expanded the rabbit fencing along the bottom and has added more streamers to keep the deer out.



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

May 5: Folk Music Impact on Social Justice

Tom and Christa Agostino presented a program on Folk Music's impact on social justice during the 60s and 70s. They shared their own personal stories and how music influenced them, as well as influencing America. Tom weaved history surrounding the Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights March and Vietnam War protests with social justice music from Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Curtis Mayfield, Neil Young, and even played several of his own original songs from his repertoire.



Tom shared several personal anecdotes about his time playing the guitar and singing on



the streets for money in Canada, having been watched by the FBI while in Detroit due to his affiliation with the "White Panthers," his time in Greenwich Village in New York City, and meeting the many of the great musicians and social activists of that time.

May 12: Mother's Day



Glenna Hudson and Womansong led this program with tributes to mothers and in honoring Mother Earth. The video has our Earth asking: "I'm prepared to evolve, are you? Nature doesn't need people." Any woman was able to pick out a rose to take home.

We also helped Jerry Matatios celebrate his 50th birthday and his achievement of a 4.0 GPA in his first semester back in college.



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PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

May 12 continued from page 8

















May 19: The Satanic Temple (TST)

A minister from The Satanic Temple traveled to PUUF from southern Arizona and explained the history of Satan, which includes an entity who is a source of comfort and one who takes on an adversarial role. A Christian identity of Satan ("Satanic Panic") has historically embraced violence and subjugation against non-Christians. TST received its IRS status as an organized religion in 2019, and its ministry program was established in 2021. While TST members don't pray, they can give non-theistic invocations. Their rituals mostly are symbolic markings of rites of passage such as weddings.





Minister Nectaire responded to questions and comments from the audience, and the dialogue continued during fellowship and refreshments outside.

Adrienne Bridgewater provided a beautiful rendition of "Stairway to Heaven" by Jimmy Page and Robert Plant with her harp.





May 26: Joys and Thrills of Learning New Skills Sue Tone and Thatcher Bohrman spoke on the

Sue Tone and Thatcher Bohrman spoke on the challenges and rewards of creating artwork both for the person new to a particular creative endeavor and for the person who is taking his or her art to the next level. Both selected several of their paintings to display on the west wall of the sanctuary. They explained their inspirations, processes and experiences involved in calling themselves artists. Wendy and Nancy Robertson chose meaningful songs that perfectly matched the program.









