



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

<p>Jan 5 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Love at the Center Our past UUA President, Susan Fredrick Gray’s sermon to the First UU Church of Houston comes to us via video. The passage of Article II last summer made significant changes to our UUA statement of purpose and principles that include a re-articulation of our core values, and stated “love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values.” What does it mean to understand Love at the Center of our faith and to live our values through the “spiritual discipline of Love?” Musician: Brian La Chance on CD "Gospel Guitars".</p>
<p>Jan 12 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Where do the Seven (Maybe Eight) Principles Fit in the Article II Flower? Come prepared to voice your opinion on adoption of the 8th principle and make suggestions for creating a symbol for PUUF that includes both the principles and the flower – or not as we come to consensus. Musicians: Tess and Mikael Barnes.</p>
<p>Jan 19 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>MLK Day of Service January 20, 2025 Robert Shegog, author of <u>Wrestling With the Truth</u> will tell us about the celebration and opportunities for service on January 20 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Robert is active in the Prescott MLK Peace and Justice Committee. Musician is Kathleen Hess.</p>
<p>Jan 26 Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>PUUF friend Marion Pack says, “I am often asked how did I meet local people in my travels and develop such close friendships? There are some quite funny stories behind those first meetings I will share. And, I will answer another question I am asked as to why I went to India in the first place.” Music: Morgan Cooper.</p>

Programs are held at the Fellowship, except as noted.

Caring Committee

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 Committee.

Shasta Guthrie at 678-206-7505

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 January 5 after the Sunday Service.

PUUF (go to) POINT PERSONS

Archives/Library: *Vacant*

Membership: Glenna Hudson

Building Maintenance: Dale Hudson

Music: Glenna Hudson

Grounds Maintenance: Al Schober

Caring: Shasta Guthrie

Programs: Eunice Ricklefs

Social Action: *Vacant*

Facilities Schedule: Mark Mathewson

UUSC: Eunice Ricklefs

Website: Mark Mathewson

PAWS/PASS: Eunice Ricklefs

Coming Up @ PUUF/Newsletter:
Mark Mathewson, Sue Tone

Hospitality: Debra Mathewson

PUUF NEWS

January 2025



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

Shasta Guthrie
678-206-7505



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

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 a series of newsletter feature articles about PUUF friends and 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 spent most of her childhood going to small schools on Indian reservations in Idaho, Montana and Oregon. She had a lot of freedom to explore and “run free,” playing games like Kick the Can and Run, Sheep, Run with two older brothers. Everybody knew everybody; it was a very caring community, a nice extended family, she said.

At age 11, she made friends with a boy whose family moved in next door. “We became sweethearts all through high school,” she said.

Alas, her family moved to the Klamath Indian Reservation in Oregon in her senior year and she and Joe were separated. Later that year, she heard Joe was with someone else, and soon enough she met and married Charlie, “a good thing,” she said. (More about Joe later.)

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2024 Annual Congregational Meeting

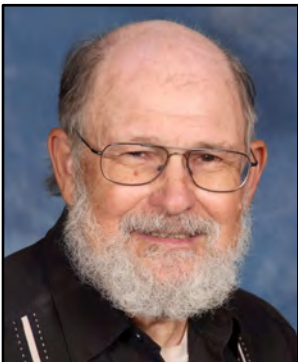
Eleven people stayed for the annual meeting after service on Dec. 15. A quorum was present. The Dec. 10, 2023, minutes were approved.

- Board President Al Schober provided an update on the building and garden.
- Treasurer Mark Mathewson spoke on the drip system and landscaping service.

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PUUF ACTIVITIES

President's Letter



Welcome everybody to 2025! I really have a hard time wrapping my mind around that date. How did we ever get here?

Well, we are here and we are looking forward to another year at PUUF. Last year the program committee did a masterful job of providing services for us, and I'm sure this year will be even better.

Our yearly congregational meeting was interesting and informative with committee heads giving reports of the past year and department heads letting us know how PUUF is doing.

A big thanks to Mark for the informative and insightful financial report that he breaks down so that even I can understand.

A special welcome to Shasta Guthrie as our new board member, and a big Thank You to Jerry Matiatos for his many years of service to PUUF. We wish him a successful journey as he continues to further his education.



2024 Ron Ricklefs Service Award

The Ron Ricklefs award was instituted by the board in order to honor those members who have greatly contributed to PUUF over the years.

This year's award honoree is Eunice Ricklefs. Ron and Eunice have been members of PUUF for about 20 years and both of them have worn many hats in their service to PUUF.

Eunice in her time at PUUF has been board secretary, head of the program committee, publishes the Mid Week Reminder, has coordinated many of our Sunday services as well as providing refreshments after the service.



A huge THANK YOU to Eunice for her many years of devoted service to PUUF, a well-deserved award for a highly valued member of this organization. Congratulations, Eunice!

The award announcement was followed by a luncheon.



PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Member continued from page 3



Bev in high school.



Bev, age 13 or 14, near the Flathead River in Montana



Bev's mother made this first formal Bev wore in high school.

Living on reservations brought Bev Worthman close to Native American culture. She went to many of the dances and some ceremonies where everyone was respectful.

“To this day, when I hear Indian drums, it just gets me,” she said.

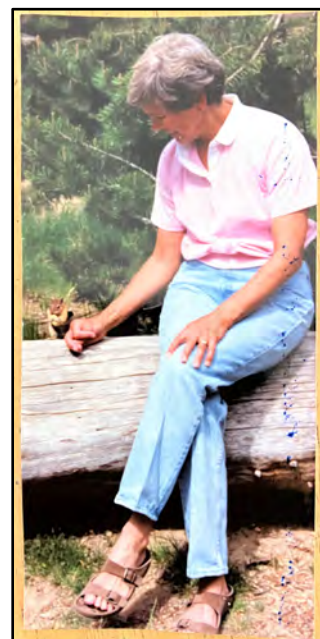
The family attended an Episcopalian church, although her father wasn't particularly interested and didn't take part in attending.

Charlie worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and after a promotion, was transferred to Washington, D.C. in 1960. “I went from someone who never lived east of New Mexico to Washington, D.C. It was quite a culture shock,” she said.

Yet it was thrilling to be so close to the center of what was going on in the country. She occasionally saw “Jackie and Jack” Kennedy come out of the White House in limousines. “It was very exciting. I had a crush on him.” She and Charlie attended the ballet, stage productions and took trips to New York City. She learned to drive.

Her family included a son and daughter, both adopted from different tribes. It was during this time she said they experienced some prejudice towards her daughter Judy – something she never expected. Some of the mothers were not welcoming of her daughter on the playground, for instance. “It's still so painful to think that a little child could be a threat to anybody because of the color of her skin,” Bev said.

They were still attending an Episcopal church, but Bev said, “I couldn't say the Creed and I knew I didn't believe in it.” A Jewish friend told her about the Unitarian Universalists, and “we loved it!”



Volunteer with Colorado State Parks

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PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Member continued from page 5

They left Arlington for Phoenix on Nov. 23, 1963, the day after President Kennedy was assassinated, driving across the country where everywhere flags were flying at half-mast.

From 1979 to 1986, they lived in Durango, Colorado. "My heart is there," Bev said.

The 7th UU Principle is what guides Bev: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. When she moved to Prescott, she first attended Granite Peak UUC, then came to PUUF when there were about 45 people at Sunday services. "It felt so friendly. It felt like we'd found a



Bev with a family friend on Mt. Sneffles, at 14,000 feet.



Bev, bottom left, played recorder with three others in the Pastyme Wythe Goode Companye, 1993.

home," she said.

Music has always been an important part of her life. She started on the piano with Sister Marie who told her music had to be played the way it was written. She played clarinet in high school until she became "crazy about guitar. It opened up a whole new world. It was hard to overcome that feeling of doing it 'right,' but it was not like that with the guitar."

Later Bev and three others formed a quartet with their recorders. She said she had horrible performance anxiety as she was – and still is – terribly shy. She took up the folk harp, a thing of beauty, she said. "It was hard to hold my thumbs up, and I wouldn't give myself permission to play it the way I wanted. I let the harp go. I wish I still had it."

Drumming with a drum circle and the native flute came next. "I love doing it. I can really lose myself. When Sue (Daniel) and I play, it's improvising. That's the most fun," she said.



Sue Daniel with Bev providing music at the Dec 15, 2024 service.

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PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Member continued from page 6

Charlie died in 2013. Joe's wife died too. "He called and we got back together. Neither of us wanted to move, but he would come here in the summers," Bev said. That lasted three years until Joe died a year ago. "We both had happy marriages. I guess first loves really stick with you."

"Suddenly – it seems sudden – I have no parents or brothers, and my two children have passed away." Bev has a granddaughter who lives about 15 minutes away and is very helpful, a grandson in Alaska, and a grandson in Flagstaff who plans to move in with Bev. Her home is filled with photos, music, cats, quilts, and all things knitted. She's given up a lot of her paper crafting, and has taken up Zentangles. She still loves to read.



Bev and Charlie on their 55th wedding anniversary.

PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Dec. 1: Rev. Roger Fritts

Rev. Roger Fritts spoke on "My Need for Spiritual Community." Roger talked about his parents – his father grew up in the Southern Baptist Church in Kentucky, and his mother was a Mennonite and social worker – who later moved the family to Phoenix and joined a Unitarian Universalist church. His mother died when he was 14; the support he experienced from UU members was a big part of deciding to become a minister. Singer/Songwriter Jonathan Best provided the music.



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PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Dec. 1: continued from page 7

We also celebrated Ron Ricklefs' 90th birthday and his immediate family came into town!



Dec. 8: Who or What is PUUF?



Glenna Hudson led the members in a thought-provoking discussion on “Who or What is PUUF?” She presented six questions to ponder and answer: how to be more inclusive and diverse, what is a Higher Power, how to understand Life and Death, sacred texts we may want to learn more about, do we want prayer or spiritual practices, and how is “spiritual community” important in our lives. She will continue with a follow-up program next month.

Tess and Mychael Barnes provided the music.



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Dec. 15: People Who Care

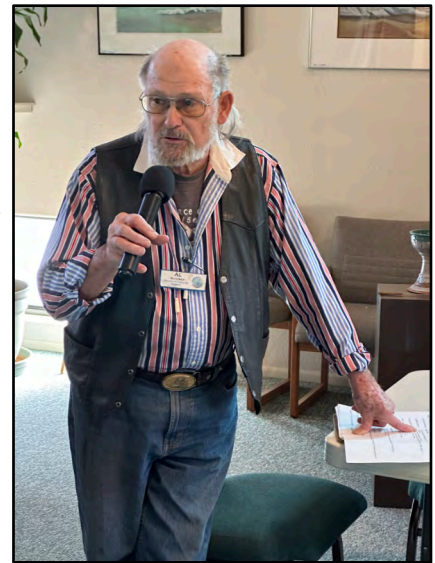


Jane Harrison, executive director of People Who Care, explained ways to volunteer with this program that helps people live independently in their own homes as they age. It began 32 years ago and has expanded into Chino Valley, Prescott Valley and Dewey-Humboldt. Drivers are needed to take people to medical and legal appointments, banks, grocery stores, pharmacies, etc. Thanks to an ADOT (Arizona Department of Transportation) grant, drivers are reimbursed. They have partnered with the VA and are also working with people with low vision.



Sue Daniel and Bev Worthman provided the music with native flutes and piano.

Al Schober announced the recipient of the 2024 Ron Ricklefs Service Award.



Dec. 22: Chanukah - Beyond Hallmark

Rabbi Nina Perlmutter returned with a program on Chanukah – Beyond Hallmark. This year Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa occur on or close to the same day. Chanukah, the Festival of Light, is a celebration whose date is based on the Hebrew calendar with the first night being the new moon closest to the winter solstice. It originated from a battle for religious freedom in 170 BCE. As a Jew, Jesus celebrated Chanukah, which is not a major holiday except in the U.S. It brings a sense of the divine, as our job is to increase light in the world. Chanukah is a time to reflect on our own life knowing that light always follows dark – if we do our part.



Mark Mathewson introduced many of us to new Chanukah songs he played on the organ to celebrate the holidays.



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Dec. 29: Auld Lang Syne

Mark Mathewson played holiday music on the organ prior to the service. Eunice Ricklefs presented an informative talk about Auld Lang Syne. She then opened it up for members to talk about their memories. Several members talked about other members who had died and the contributions they had made to PUUF. Then we all toasted the coming new year with apple juice. Words had been handed out for Auld Lang Syne and Mark played it while we all sang.



PUUF ACTIVITIES

2024 Congregational Meeting continued from page 3

- Mark also gave an overview of how the Coming Up at PUUF, monthly newsletter, website and Facebook page are put together.
- Eunice Ricklefs provided a report on the program committee, participation in PASS (Prescott Area Shelter Services) meals, and audit services.
- Debra Mathewson submitted a report on the Hospitality and Nomination committees.
- Mark summarized technical provisions, and gave a comprehensive financial and budget overview.

Those present voted on the nominations for auditor (Eunice Ricklefs), nominating committee (Debra Mathewson), Board members (new – Shasta Guthrie, and incumbents – Al Schober and Debra Mathewson). The Board of Trustees serve a two-year term. Two Board members (Mark Mathewson and Sue Tone) were not on the ballot as they are just starting their second year of the term. The congregation voted on the proposed 2025 budget. Debra tabulated the votes, which were unanimous for each category.

After the holiday service on Dec 22, the Board decided to commemorate our election with a holiday photo.



Wishing you the best in 2025

- 2025 PUUF Board of Trustees