



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

Mar 2 Sunday 11 am	How Has the Unitarian Universalist Denomination Fared in Black History? We will see the video, “Wilderness Journey: The Struggle for Black Empowerment and Racial Justice within the UUA 1967 – 1970” and judge for ourselves. Coordinator: Glenna Hudson.
Mar 9 Sunday 11 am	A speaker from Prescott Indivisible will explain how the organization follows its mission of promoting social justice and political accountability through advocacy and activism while advancing humanitarian, inclusive and progressive values at all levels of civic engagement. Coordinator: Sue Tone.
Mar 16 Sunday 11 am	Henry and Maria Flurry of Sticks and Tones through music, made on, with, and about water will lead our exploration of water’s essential role in our lives. See and hear how engaging with it through play, cleansing, and cultivation transforms our journey from survival to thriving. Coordinator: Eunice Ricklefs.
Mar 23 Sunday 11 am	India – Is Like my Second Home. Marion Pack says, “I am often asked how did I meet the local people in my travels and develop such close friendships? There are some quite funny stories behind those first meetings that I will share...and, I will answer as to why I went to India in the first place.” Music: Tess & Mychael Barnes. Coordinator: Eunice Ricklefs.
Mar 30 Sunday 11 am	Fascism or Freedom. Mike Fogel will speak on his personal journey into the ways of fascist tyranny that brings us to our current moment. Suggestions will be offered as to how each of us can resist. Music: Robertson Sisters. Coordinator: Glenna Hudson.

Programs are held at the Fellowship, except as noted.

Prescott UU Fellowship
945 S Rancho Vista Dr
Prescott, AZ 86303

928-778-6672

padmin@puuf.net

Facebook: [https://
www.facebook.com/puufaz](https://www.facebook.com/puufaz)

PUUF Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 11685
Prescott, AZ 86304

PUUF (go to) POINT PERSONS

Building Maintenance:	Dale Hudson	928-636-4877
Music:	Glenna Hudson	928-636-4877
Grounds Maintenance:	Al Schober	928-925-1938
Hospitality:	Debra Mathewson	509-429-6421
Programs:	Eunice Ricklefs	928-771-9559
	Sue Tone	928-642-7867
	Glenna Hudson	928-636-4877
Membership:	Glenna Hudson	928-636-4877
	Shasta Guthrie	678-206-7505
Facilities Scheduling:	Mark Mathewson	509-429-8635
UUSC:	Eunice Ricklefs	928-771-9559
Website:	Mark Mathewson	509-429-8635
PAWS/PASS:	Eunice Ricklefs	
Coming Up @ PUUF/Newsletter:		
	Mark Mathewson	509-429-8635
	Sue Tone	928-642-7867

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 March 9 after the Sunday Service.

PUUF NEWS

March 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 friend

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.

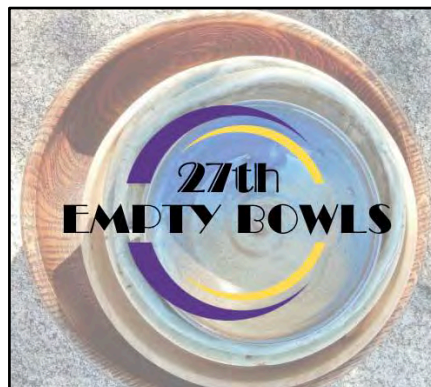
In case you missed the Feb. 23 program on Growing Up In Prescott, this presenter talked about her experiences as a child, teen and adult in early Prescott when it had a population of about 5,000 “mostly retired people,” she said.

Her family – mom, dad, sister and brother – arrived from New Jersey prior to her birth; her sister's asthma was the reason, and the intention was to stay for six months.



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Record Year for Empty Bowls Donations



The 2024 Empty Bowls event was a record breaker. The total bowls sold was 1,240!

Also more than \$6,000 in sponsor money and \$1,865 in raffle ticket sales, \$755 in merchandise sales, and \$720 in the silent auction. The total collected was \$33,432. Wow!

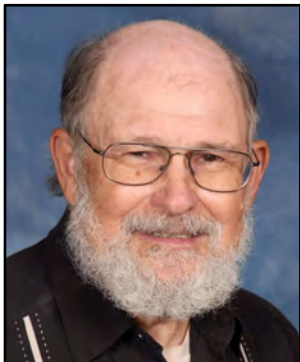
We hold back some funds for starter money for 2025, so \$26,000 will be distributed to the food banks – \$2,000 over 2023's total.

We donate to 11 food banks including ones in Paulden and Chino Valley. Prescott Valley and Prescott make up the rest of them.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make 2024 a record-breaking year.

PUUF ACTIVITIES

President's Letter



Hello everybody. Well, spring has sprung it seems. Winter? If you blinked, you missed it. Not terribly cold and certainly a huge deficit in moisture. Here at PUUF we are looking ahead to an interesting series of programs for this spring. It never ceases to amaze me how the program committee continually comes up with such interesting programs. And also a hearty thank you to the newsletter people, Sue and Mark, for producing such a professional newsletter. I certainly enjoy reading the human interest interviews and the recaps of past services.



This Month's PUUF Friend continued from page 3



Early Elementary School



4th Grade



Best Friends

Jessica Thomas explained that she grew up on the outskirts of town about one mile from where many of the Black community lived. Her parents, both high school graduates, made it clear that their children would attend college, and all three did.

Her father, William Thomas, worked at "Whipple," as the VA hospital was referred to, on the night shift. Her mother,

Bernice Thomas, started as a seamstress at the Morris Maler Shirt Factory on Arizona Street, and was a supervisor when the factory closed. The family attended church at Mt. Olive on Montezuma, now the place of Anthony's Furniture Restoration.



Easter Sunday at Mt. Olive

Jessica remembers how her father loved to drive – both cars and motorcycles – and took the family on trips to Cottonwood for ice cream. He would ride his motorcycle to Los Angeles to watch a Dodgers game and then ride home. Later, he worked security for Prescott High School, always dressed in a shirt and tie. He carried an aura of "Don't mess with me" as he monitored students in the respect from students, staff and teachers.



Daddy's new car

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PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Friend continued from page 4



Siblings on Granite St

Jessica graduated from Prescott High School, Yavapai College, and Arizona State University with a degree in Broadcasting. As a college student, she started working at KOOL Channel 10 News station first editing film, then behind the camera accompanying reporters on stories. The video recorders and battery pack belt weighed a lot, but that didn't hold her back. Some of her memorable stories include editing the car explosion that killed investigative reporter Don Bolles, covering a press conference of a man who murdered four people at Four Peaks campground – “Walking into the room, I felt the evil” – another press conference with Paul McCartney, and one with Mother Teresa.



Jessica working for KOOL News



Jessica's first car

Jessica is retired and living in the family home in Prescott after working in the broadcast industry and most recently in her “last great job” with the Prescott Public Library.



Jessica celebration receiving a tiny camera in 2012

PUUF ACTIVITIES

Our National Parks in Distress

With the recent rampant federal employee terminations, our national parks no longer have sufficient staffing for ensuring visitor safety and services. At Organ Pipe National Monument in Southern Arizona, the staff terminated are staying on with no pay through the season just to support the tourists. That is just one example of many of how our caring federal workforce are dedicated to the mission of the National Park Service and serving the public. Write to Congress to express your concerns.



US Flag indicating distress flying in Yosemite National Park.



Organ Pipe National Monument near the Arizona/Mexico border



Imagine this for your backyard view. There are Mexican homes on the other side of the wall.

Prescott Women's March 2025



Economic Blackout Tour

The [People's Union USA](#) is not a political party. We are not a protest. We are a movement of people, unionizing to take back control of our economy, government, and future of our country.

What we are building is not just about resisting corruption, it is about exposing it. For decades, corporations, politicians, and industries have worked together to rig the system against the American people. They have built an economy designed to exploit workers, suppress wages, and keep the majority of us in a constant state of struggle. These are the forces that have stolen our financial freedom, manipulated our government, and kept power in the hands of the wealthy elite.

- March 7 - 14**
Amazon Boycott
- March 21 - 28**
Nestle Boycott
- April 7 - 14**
Walmart Boycott
- April 18th**
Economic Blackout 2

PUUF ACTIVITIES

Tom and Christa Agostino Upcoming Event

**Eric Ramsey, Rita Cantu
Tom & Christa Agostino**

**Pete and
Woody**
the story continues

Celebrating the music and
legacy of Pete Seeger and
Woody Guthrie on **May 3rd,**
Pete Seeger's Birthday!

Saturday, May 3rd 7pm
CSL Prescott, 3755 Willow Creek Rd
www.folksessions.com

CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING
PRESCOTT

the Folk
Sessions
Productions

Celebration of Life for Sparky



On February 1, PUUF held a Celebration of Life for Sparky. Sparky was a miniature horse that was well known around the Prescott area. Glenna and Dale Hudson performed the service. Mark Mathewson provided music ahead of the event on the piano and finished with "Happy Trails" by Roy Rogers. Joanne presented many photos of Sparky over the years and his visits to nursing homes, hardware stores, and parks.



PUUF ACTIVITIES

Juniper Anna Flurry Workshop

Hurry! This Social Justice Residency is this weekend. Don't delay, register now before the sessions fill up.




2025 Social Justice Residency
*Regenerating Hope through Connection:
Organizing, Mutual Aid, & Community Care*

Prescott College


Friday, 2/28 - 1pm-8pm
Saturday, 3/1 - 8am-7pm
Sunday, 3/2 - 9am-5pm

Prescott College invites AZ community organizers and aspiring change-makers to a grassroots community conference to share resources and information about organizing in these unprecedented times. Join us for organizer-led breakout sessions, and hear from keynote speaker Malik Holt! Rural and northern AZ community members are especially encouraged to register and connect with other local change-makers!

\$25 recommended donation for the full conference, or pay what you can



Register ASAP: info.prescott.edu/social-justice-residency/
Food and childcare will be provided.



Congratulations Kolton and Faith on baby Everest from all of us at PUUF.



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Feb. 2: Weaving the Threads of Connection

Maria and Henry Flurry presented the Sunday, Feb. 2, program and music at Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship titled “Weaving the Threads of Connection.”



Part of the program was an exercise that used a single thread to tie us together.

Maria challenged us with one job for the coming week:

Be the flame of resilience to connect with others.



Feb. 9: The Great Turning

Juniper Flurry spoke on **Letting Life and Our Divine Truths Guide Us Through the Great Turning**. She and Meg Bohrman ended the program with the song "Somewhere to Begin" by T.R. Ritchie where they sing:

People say to me, ‘What kind of fool believes
That songs/dreams/love will make a difference in the end?’
By way of reply I say, ‘A fool such as I
Who sees a song/dream/love as somewhere to begin.’



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Feb. 16: Presidential Rankings

Leading up to the Presidents Day holiday, Sue Tone presented several well-respected presidential rankings by political scientists and history professors that used up to 20 criteria in their decision-making process. She found little to indicate a certain former president ranked above 42nd out of 45 presidents, with the 45th spot considered the worst. She found only one podcaster's opinion that contradicted those findings. The congregation offered their own assessments of Best and Worst presidents in U.S. history. Tom and Christa Agostino provided original verses written by Woody Guthrie for This Land is Your Land, and some original songs of their own.



A number of people asked Tom for the words to his song he performed called **Far Star**

FAR STAR

By Tom Agostino

A far star, shining through a cold night
Casting off its small light, from so far away
Helping to guide us, through the darkness
So, we won't lose our way

And though it's just a small light, it's part of a rising
tide
An Angel's choir, echoing far and wide
And though it's just one note
It's so clear and pure
It's no wonder that I can feel it's

Warm glow, on this cold night
Casting light before me, through the
darkening
As I walk down this long road
I know I won't lose my way

And though it's just a small light, it's
part of a rising tide
An Angel's choir, echoing far and wide
And though it's just one note
It's so clear and pure
It's no wonder that we can feel
The far star, shining on a cold night
And we won't lose our way

PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Feb. 23: Black History Month

Jessica Thomas spoke on her experiences of growing up Black in Prescott in the 1950s to the present. She is the featured Friend of PUUF found in the article beginning on page 3 of this newsletter. Mark Mathewson brought his organ in and led the congregation in song playing “Georgia” and “Ebony and Ivory”.

