



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

<p><b>May 4</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Blood On The Ivories</p> <p>Jonathan Best will discuss the creative process in writing and producing his upcoming musical titled Blood on the Ivories, a genre-defying theatrical experience that invites audiences to confront the complexities of genius and trauma.</p>
<p><b>May 11</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Mother's Day - Harp and Poetry</p> <p>Mother's Day, Spring, Poetry and Music!! Come Celebrate Mother's Day with Adrienne Bridgewater's Harp and poetry from Adrienne and members of the PUUF congregation.</p>
<p><b>May 18</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Linking Dreams - "Link" Duarte</p> <p>Link, formally known as Chris Duarte, is the founder of Linking Dreams. Linking Dreams exists to inspire the world to be more inclusive of everyone, and has been committed to making the world a safer place for underrepresented populations since 2002.</p>
<p><b>May 25</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>The Joys of Summer – Rev. Roger Fritts</p> <p>In 1971 congress moved Memorial Day from its traditional May 30 date, to the last Monday in May. In this way they created a three-day holiday weekend. Because of this change, today, in the minds of most of us, Memorial Day Weekend marks the beginning of summer. And it is the joys of summer that Rev. Fritts wants to talk about May 25. If you have a story about a joyful summer experience, email it to Rev. Fritts and I will include it in the sermon at <a href="mailto:thomasrogerfritts@gmail.com">thomasrogerfritts@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Music by Christa &amp; Tom Agostino</p>

**Programs are held at the Fellowship, except as noted.**

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

928-778-6672

Email: [padmin@puuf.net](mailto:padmin@puuf.net)

PUUF website: [puuf.net](http://puuf.net)

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

PUUF Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 11685  
Prescott, AZ 86304

### **PUUF (go to) POINT PERSONS**

<b>Building Maintenance:</b>	Dale Hudson	928-636-4877
<b>Music:</b>	Glenna Hudson	928-636-4877
<b>Grounds Maintenance:</b>	Al Schober	928-925-1938
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Debra Mathewson	509-429-6421
<b>Programs:</b>	Eunice Ricklefs	928-771-9559
	Sue Tone	928-445-3162
	Glenna Hudson	928-636-4877
<b>Membership:</b>	Glenna Hudson	928-636-4877
	Shasta Guthrie	678-206-7505
<b>Facilities Scheduling:</b>	Mark Mathewson	509-429-8635
<b>UUSC:</b>	Eunice Ricklefs	928-771-9559
<b>Website:</b>	Mark Mathewson	509-429-8635
<b>PAWS/PASS:</b>	Eunice Ricklefs	928-771-9559
<b>Coming Up @ PUUF/Newsletter:</b>		
	Mark Mathewson	509-429-8635
	Sue Tone	928-445-3162

### **PUUF Facilities Available**

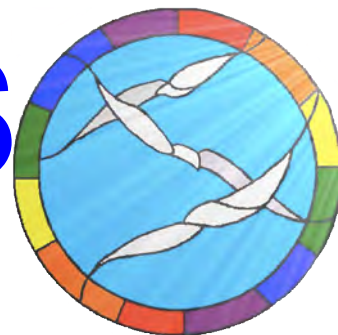
PUUF facilities are available for use for small gatherings.

Refer to the <https://puuf.net/facility-rentals> for rental information.

**Board of Trustees meeting** will be on May 18 after the Sunday Service.

# PUUF NEWS

May 2025



## Board of Trustees

### President

Al Schober  
928-925-1938

### Vice President

Sue Tone  
928-445-3162

### 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

## Immigration - Joy and Outrage

*This article describes PUUF's April 27 service with speaker Maria-Elena Dunn from Prescott Indivisible along with the lively music of Fernando Sanchez y los Extasis.*

The April 27, 2025, Sunday service brought pure joy and pure outrage to the attendees who numbered 49 at this last service of the month.

The cumbia music of Fernando Sanchez y los Extasis got people moving in their seats and on their feets, dancing in the aisles and at the back of the room. At one point, Maria-Elena Dunn (ME), the guest speaker, found herself leading a line of dancers around the sanctuary.



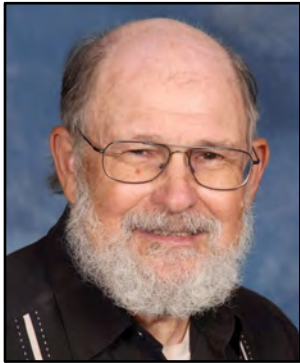
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# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## President's Letter



I can't believe it's May already. It's time for rototilling the garden! And planting can't be too far behind that. Let's hope this year's garden is better than last year. With the extreme heat and lack of rain, the garden had struggled. Also with the nice weather comes the opportunity for refreshments on the deck (hint hint to the refreshment people).

Due to the great work of the program committee, we have had an increase of attendance at Sunday services! Yea! Folks, please thank the people on the committee (Eunice, Sue and Glenna) for their hard work in finding interesting and thought-provoking speakers and musicians for our Sunday services.

See you on Sundays at PUUF,



## Jonathan Best Musical



Jonathan Best will star in his new musical production ***Blood on the Ivories***, a genre-defying theatrical experience that blurs the line between play, musical, and collective ritual. This takes place at 7 p.m. on **Friday and Saturday, May 23 and May 24, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 25, at the Cosmos Theatre, 222 N. Marina St. in Prescott.** Directed by Delisa Myles and Keaton Snyder, starring Jonathan as Rock and Loring Snyder as Doc. Who is the Doctor? Who is the Patient? Who is the Audience?

Use the QR code to learn more and purchase tickets or go to <https://bloodontheivories.com>. Watch for more info in the PUUF Mid-Week Reminder.

**An Early Opportunity for you: Jonathan Best will discuss more about this musical for our Sunday Service May 4.**



# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Immigration continued from page 3



Large PUUF Attendance to listen to Maria-Elena Dunn's talk on immigration and listen to the exciting music of Fernando Sanchez y los Extasis

In contrast, the information in ME's presentation on immigration history and policies was infuriating and a disgrace to the universal concept of welcoming refugees fleeing for their lives and immigrants escaping poverty.

She said, "Present-day immigrants, like many who came before them, are principally interested in improving the lot of their families, in peace and safety, especially to give their children opportunities they did not have. But immigration in the recent past is also fueled by instability, wars, persecution (both officially-sanctioned and gang-related), as well as due to the effects of the climate crisis in the country of origin."

ME's story begins in Cuba where she had a "charmed existence" until the age of 11. The regime change from the repression and killings of President Batista to that of Fidel Castro's did not bring about the better conditions as promised. Within two years, parents were sending their children to the United States through a program called Peter Pan. ME, however, was sent to live with relatives in Miami. It would be five years before she was reunited with her mother.

Like many of today's immigrants, she arrived not knowing English, being mocked at the girls boarding school she attended in New York, and having to work in the mess hall to help pay her way. "I am not resentful or bitter. That experience made me who I am, and I am grateful," she said, adding "That which doesn't kill you, makes you stronger."

Cubans, when they arrived in the U.S. whether with green cards or not, were treated as political refugees or exiles, and handed all sorts of benefits that present-day immigrants do not receive, ME said. Seeking asylum or refuge no longer means what it is supposed to, as prescribed by the Geneva Convention.

***The 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees and its 1967 Protocol define the right of asylum and establish the responsibilities of nations towards refugees. It ensures that individuals fleeing persecution or war have the right to seek asylum in another country and be protected from being returned to situations where their lives or freedoms are at risk.***

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# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Immigration continued from page 5

Such protection requires a process by which each case is examined for its validity, ME states. “The numbers have overwhelmed the system, but that right has been unevenly and unfairly applied. Our current immigration system is broken – a fact that sometimes makes good people act badly.”

Applying for legal entry into the U.S. is burdensome and nearly impossible. One must access the online system to make an appointment with a U.S. Embassy or Consulate, and then go in person to apply. Obtaining a permanent resident card (“green card”) and then becoming a citizen can take a minimum of five years. It is very expensive and sometimes requires exiting the country sometimes for years as one awaits their turn.



Dreamers (those brought to the country as infants or small children and protected under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Act) are allowed to obtain work permits and protection from deportation. DACA status does not provide a pathway to a green card, citizenship or any type of permanent residency.

Most immigrants want to – and do – live in peace and work hard to provide for their families. Contrary to the dog whistle speech that they are rapists, murderers, and gang-bangers, many immigrants are seeking protection from gang violence, drug and gun cartels, and government persecution. They work all sorts of jobs – the kind that support and maintain businesses like health care facilities, construction, farming, landscapers, poultry farms. Immigrant contributions open up job opportunities for others.

In fact, foreign-born immigrants start new businesses at higher rates than U.S.-born individuals. More than 40 percent of Fortune 500 companies were founded by immigrants. In Arizona, immigrants account for about 23 percent of entrepreneurs; 19 percent of science, technology, engineering and math workers; and 12 percent of nurses.

Undocumented workers paid nearly \$650 million in taxes in 2021 in Arizona; refugees paid \$380 million; DACA workers paid more than \$207 million. These workers contribute to payroll deductions, yet have no access to any federal or state benefits. According to the 2020 Census, 15 percent of residents in the Quad-cities (plus Paulden) identify as Hispanic. They own 58 businesses.

ME said so far, as of April 27, there have been no raids or round-ups in the area. “That does not mean that everything is fine and that the population is not fearful. The whole point of the propagation of these half-truth rumors, some of which is intentional misinformation, is to create chaos, instill fear.” She has learned of some individuals who have left the state or country, or who now live “under the radar,” while others go about their daily lives but are constantly looking over their shoulders.

In recent weeks, the current administration revoked 1,800 student visas, then reinstated them Friday after numerous lawsuits were filed. Several Embury Riddle students have had their lives disrupted.

The protected status of DACA individuals – 24,000 in Arizona – can change with one judge’s decision or even with the elimination of civil servants who process the renewals. “The stress, the fear is constant,” ME said. She calls this time in history an “inhumane reign of terror.”

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# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Immigration continued from page 6



Here are ME's suggestions for action we can take now.

- Educate ourselves to the real facts, then disseminate those facts to neighbors, social media, letters to the editor, and in emails to representatives.
- Support immigrants in the community by engaging them in conversation. Join a group that works with immigrants such as churches, food banks, Prescott Indivisible, raising funds for DACA renewals. Volunteer to teach English as a Second Language.
- Push members of Congress to work to establish a fair, enforceable, just immigration system.

## Tom and Christa Agostino Upcoming Event

Join Tom & Christa Agostino and others on May 3 at 7pm to celebrate the legacy of Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie.

**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](http://www.folksessions.com)**

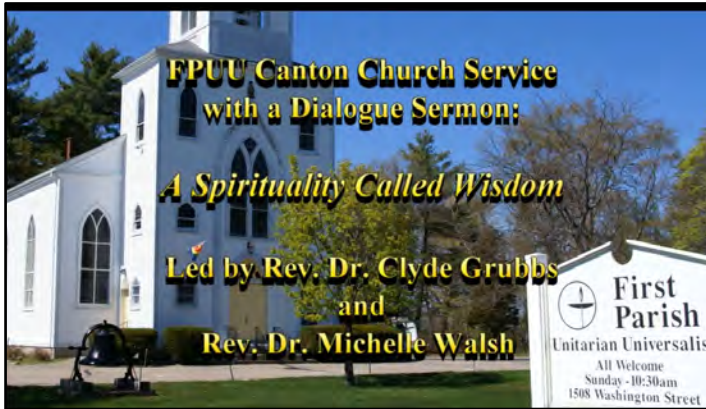
CENTER FOR  
SPIRITUAL LIVING  
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the Folk  
Sessions  
Productions



# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## April 6: What is Wisdom?



Through video, Rev. Clyde Gibbs and Rev. Michelle Walsh told/acted out the story of Spider who held all the wisdom and lauded over all creatures until one day wisdom fell out of his basket and all the creatures took a little bit. Spider learned that wisdom is to be shared. This is but one sacred legend of many in the world. Stories, myths and songs come from every religion and culture. Collective wisdom evolves into “genius” (generate, generosity) and is found by giving and sharing in community.

Adrienne Bridgewater wove her beautiful harp music throughout the service.



Rev. Clyde Gibbs



Rev. Michelle Walsh



Adrienne Bridgewater



“Spider”



# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## April 13: What Drag Means To Me

Members of the House of Hues drag troupe shared What Drag Means To Me with their personal stories. Drag can be entertainment, a challenge of rules, a political message, and an exaggeration of sexual identity in whatever it means to an individual. It gives an option for people to find expression and to break gender rules – which can threaten the rule-followers.



“Every bit of my outfit is an extension of myself and fulfills my soul in a way no other can. Drag is love.”



“House of Hues and drag changed my life forever.”

“I was in a dark place and drag pulled me out.”

“It helped me discover parts of myself I didn’t know existed. Drag gave me everything.”

“I think of drag as suicide prevention.”

“To denounce drag is to denounce trans people.”



Womansong, under the direction of Amy Van Winkle, provided music. Discussion afterward brought many people together in fellowship.





# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## April 20: Ostara

Trisha Pittman provided a celebration of Ostara, when the light returns and spring arrives, to PUUF. Ostara can be observed with symbols of fertility and growth such as eggs, seeds and nests. Trisha lit candles to each direction (air, earth, water, and fire), passed out flowers, and asked everyone to set their intentions of loving joy as they planted seeds and created small craft items to take home. Tess and Mychael Barnes brought in music of spring, including a singalong of the Beatles' *Here Comes the Sun*.



## April 27: Immigration

This Sunday service brought pure joy and pure outrage to the attendees who numbered 49 at this last service of the month. Fernando Sanchez y los Extasis's music got people moving in their seats and on their feet, dancing in the aisles and at the back of the room. More details of ME's talk are in the feature article on page 3. Click [HERE](#) to see a short video.

