



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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Sep 7</b><br/>Sunday 11 am</p>        | <p><b>Love Centered Poetry with Harp Music</b></p> <p>Love Centered Poetry Embodying Interdependence, Equity, Justice, Generosity, Transformation and Pluralism accompanied by the inimitable Harp Music of Adrienne Bridgewater. Poems from Elaine Murray, Jonathan Best and Kateri Alexander, among others.</p>   |
| <p><b>Sep 14</b><br/>Sunday 11 am</p>       | <p><b>EMPTY BOWLS - No Service at PUUF</b></p> <p>Attend the annual Empty Bowls event at the Prescott Courthouse Plaza (Yavapai County Courthouse Plaza) from 11am until 2pm. For more information, see <a href="https://prescott-empty-bowls.square.site/">https://prescott-empty-bowls.square.site/</a></p>   |
| <p><b>Sep 19</b><br/><u>Friday</u> 5 pm</p> | <p><b>PUUF Movie Night and Potluck - Mrs. Doubtfire</b></p> <p>Potluck at 5pm. Movie at 6pm. See page 9 for details.</p>  |
| <p><b>Sep 21</b><br/>Sunday 11 am</p>       | <p><b>Abolition</b></p> <p>UUA has selected Abolition as its 2025 Congregational Study Action Issue. Abolition includes slavery, cultures of violence, and the prison-industrial complex of retributive justice. How can PUUF engage in care and advocacy for current and previously incarcerated individuals? Music: Meg Bohrman.</p>  |
| <p><b>Sep 28</b><br/>Sunday 11 am</p>       | <p><b>Annual Blessing of the Animals</b></p> <p>Karen Crawford and Jerri Lewis, members of PAWS for Friendship along with their high level therapy dogs Emma and Higgins will speak to us about the Paws for Friendship Mission Statement as well as the difference between Service dogs and Therapy Dogs. They will join us in blessing our animal companions. Please bring your companion animal (properly contained) or a picture to receive a blessing. Music: Morgan Cooper.</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 |
|                                     | Shasta Guthrie  | 678-206-7505 |
| <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 |

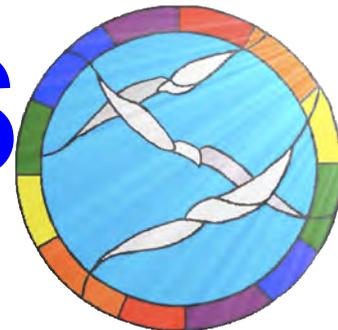
### **PUUF Facilities Available**

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 Sept. 21 after the Sunday Service.

# PUUF NEWS

September 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

### Trustee

Erica/Frank Ferguson  
602-980-7478



### 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 Arizona native was raised in Tucson as an only child to two late-in-life parents. Her father was a research scientist and University of Arizona professor. Her mother had many interests, and was instrumental with passing on her editing and proofreading skills to her daughter.



One year old.

As a youngster, this PUUF member was told by a classmate if she was not baptized, she was going to hell. This scared her away from organized religions until she reached college where she learned there were religions more open and with other options.



34 hours old already with a somber look.

She had thoughts of entering the realm of politics and was intrigued with what makes communities tick. She majored in Cultural Anthropology and then obtained her Master's degree in Social Work. This is a far reach from her 7-year-old self who decided after a family trip to New Zealand, Australia, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Tahiti, that she was going to study sea shells.

Erica / Frank Ferguson considers herself very lucky. She attended a small private high school whose cohorts came from more privileged backgrounds. Every

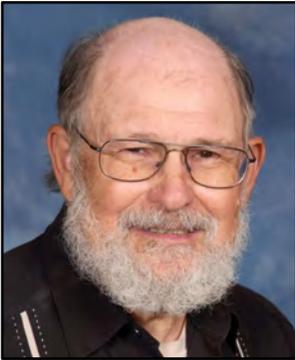


Hanging on by her shirttail.

continued on page 5

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## President's Letter



Hello everyone and welcome to “Hey, it's September!” What happened to the summer? We had an Arizona summer and that means that nothing was typical about it. More heat and less moisture to calm the heat. Oh well, this is Arizona. If you don't like the weather, just wait a minute.

Here at PUUF our year is moving along just fine with interesting services and new members joining our group. Welcome to all you new members this year: Erica, Barry, Gayla, Susan, Michael and Elaine.

As for the garden, well, it's doing better than last year when the extreme heat did the plants no good. Lesley is gathering many tomatoes and some peppers and zucchini for the local food banks. Again this year, the rains have been sporadic, but overall better than last year. I hope for a wetter fall season to carry the garden

through to frost. We'll see.

As mentioned before our attendance is increasing throughout the summer so a big “thank you” to all who are attending on Sunday mornings. And don't forget the Saturday night potlucks and movie nights (Friday this month). I've been told that the audience is having a great time at the movies.



## 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Empty Bowls - Sept. 14



The 28th Annual Empty Bowls will take place at the Prescott Courthouse Plaza on Sunday, September 14th from 11am to 2pm. Event sponsored by Granite Peak UU Congregation and Prescott UU Fellowship and all proceeds go to local area food banks.

***You can Fight Hunger in the Prescott Quad Cities Region***

Attendees will line up to purchase tickets. Each ticket is \$25.00 and includes your choice of a handcrafted bowl created by local potters and wood turners, a choice of two gourmet soups from our participating local restaurants, locally made bread, and bottled water donated by Credit Union West.

See more information at <https://prescott-empty-bowls.square.site/>

Last year's recipient food banks received a record \$26,000. Come and be a part of this important community event to help our neighbors.

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

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

Saturday she rehearsed at a local Unitarian Universalist church with the youth orchestra where she played the violin and the viola.

When the senior prom came along, she bucked the traditional sleek modern dresses for a Jessica McClintock ruffley prairie-type dress and appeared with her childhood friend Randy who was gay. "We were a very striking couple," she said.



Senior prom with childhood friend Randy

Erica's father died around this time. Nevertheless, she traveled to Russia

on a six-week study tour, missing her high school graduation. The students were warned not to eat any certain foods – this was just a few months following the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant explosion. "I didn't see or eat any fresh fruit or vegetables," she said.

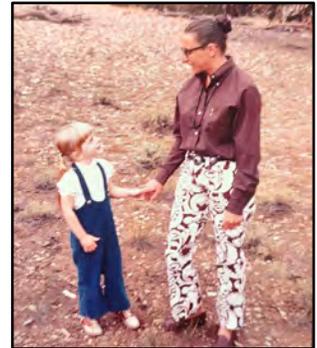
While attending a small liberal arts college, Grinnell College in Iowa, Erica had the opportunity to spend a semester in London where she studied old Roman settlements. It was in London where she joined an international AIDS awareness organization, ACT UP. She was part of the group that blocked the Tower Bridge on World AIDS Day. "It was a good education and I was so lucky."

Back in Arizona, she took gender and women's studies classes at Arizona State University, completed an internship in social work, and earned her Master's degree. In the early 1990s, she was given the nickname Frank. A friend

pointed out, "You have a lot of boy energy. How does the name Frank strike you?"

"I use it. I work in the HIV/AIDS community and feel it indicates an openness. I am Erica by default, but I don't mind either."

Her mother Eileen moved to Prescott in 1991 where she volunteered at the Prescott Public Library and the Highland Center – which led to becoming a Master Gardener at age 83 – and was friends with the Albert and Eunice Lovejoy. Eileen died in 2016, the day



Although older than most parents, Wes and Eileen Ferguson were up to date in current fashions.



Early 1980s with feathered hair and wearing an Izod polo shirt - in pink, no less!



Camping with Mom

continued on page 6

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

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

before Empty Bowls in which she was actively involved through Granite Peak UUC and PUUF.

When she learned about the Seven Principles of UU, Erica thought, "Oh, that's me, too. That's my world view."

Her father Wes, a dendrologist, is listed on a Wikipedia page thusly: Wesley Ferguson was an American academic at the Tree-Ring Research Laboratory at the University of Arizona at Tucson who studied tree-rings. He built a tree-ring sequence from bristlecone pines which was used by Hans Suess to create a calibration curve for radiocarbon dating." Erica visited Methuselah, the oldest bristlecone pine tree at 4,856 years old, with her father in eastern California. Its location is not publicly known.



Riding bareback

Erica shared a little known fact about her faith – in Santa Claus, that is. She was six or seven and traveling in Australia and New Zealand over the holidays during her father's sabbatical. "I knew if Santa was real, he would find me on the opposite side of the world. And he did!" 🌍👶



February 1984 photo in Arizona Highways of Erica in her high school years when she volunteered at the planetarium in Tucson. Photograph by Jack Dykinga.



With Mom at Bill's Pizza



With friend Cameron

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## 3<sup>rd</sup> International Day of Peace Concert - Sept. 21

Prescott Peacebuilders are sponsoring the 3rd Peace Concert and Celebration at the Granite Creek Park Ramada.

Sept. 21 1245pm to 415pm

No charge for the music. Donations accepted.

Bring your own chairs and a picnic.

Information website: <https://www.prescottpeacebuilders.org/upcoming-events/3rd-annual-peace-concert-and-un-international-day-of-peace-recognition>

## Garden Harvest Continues to Feed Community

Each week, Lesley Schuler gathers our produce from our garden and delivers it to the food banks. Thank you, Lesley, for all of your hard work this year!



## Deer Sightings at PUUF



Deer sightings at PUUF are quite common. Several weeks ago we spotted a doe with two very young fawn with lots of spots. We didn't get that picture but we saw this deer just a few days ago.

Juniper Anna Flurry has reported seeing this very deer jump into the garden and having dinner. We feed the community and deer are part of that community too.

Please keep your eyes peeled for deer, javelina, quail crossing Copper Basin Road at all hours of the day and evening.

Photo by Juniper Anna Flurry.

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Birthdays!



During the Aug. 17 service, Mark Mathewson led the audience in two renditions of Happy Birthday to celebrate Al Schober, Sue Tone, and Kai Kennedy all having traveled the sun one full circuit. Happy Birthday!



## Our PUUF Board of Trustees at Work



Motley, but dedicated, board in action. Sue Tone behind camera.

As our membership is growing, the board felt the need to add an additional board member. We welcomed our sixth member of the board on Aug 17. Welcome to the board Erica/Frank!

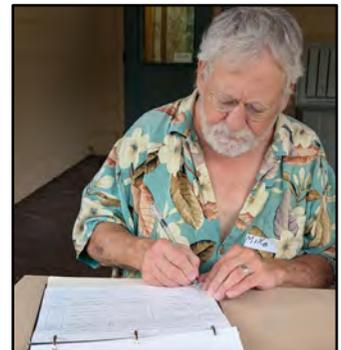


Erica/Frank Ferguson

## New PUUF Member



Many of you have seen **Mike Loken** attending PUUF recently. Mike has decided to become an official member by signing the membership book on Aug. 24. Welcome aboard!



## What a nice surprise

Kateri Alexander returns from Virginia where she has spent the last three years. She has said she missed our fellowship and community. Welcome back to Prescott and PUUF!

Kateri is wasting no time in stepping right back into contributing her talents at PUUF. She will be providing us with her poetry during the upcoming Sept. 7 service.



# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## PUUF Movie Night and Potluck - Sept. 19

**NOTE: Day Change to Friday due to conflict.**

Please plan to attend this month's movie night and potluck. Doors open 4:45 pm, potluck at 5 pm, and movie starts at 6 pm.

This month's movie is Mrs. Doubtfire featuring Robin Williams. Enjoy this movie with our community. Please bring drinks or dishes to share. No alcohol please.

Free - no admission charge.



## Fall Equinox Dances of Universal Peace - Sept. 20

Sufi dancing comes to PUUF on September 20 from 1 to 5 pm to celebrate the fall equinox. Contact Yaqin for information: 928-533-8846.



“Every leaf speaks bliss to me  
Falling from the Autumn Tree”

Emily Bronte

### *Fall Equinox Dances of Universal Peace!*

Sept 20th 1-5PM

Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
945 Rancho Vista Dr Prescott AZ. 86303

Dances offered free Donations accepted

Contact Yaqin for info: 928-533-8846

As this is an indoors/in person dance, Please do not come feeling or ill Or recently exposed to illness



## Movie Night Potluck

NOW SHOWING

### Mrs. Doubtfire

Slapstick film about a divorced actor who is willing to go to any lengths to get his children back, even posing as a matronly Scottish housekeeper. His family, taken in by the disguise, decide to employ the eccentric but apparently capable widow, and everyone is happy with the arrangement - until the mother's old flame reappears and tries to become a father figure to the children.



Friday, September 19th  
5pm: potluck & 6pm: movie  
PUUF

945 S Rancho Vista Dr  
Prescott, AZ 86303

Free & family friendly!  
bring food or drink to share!

contact: 928-778-6672  
padmin@puuf.net

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Sharon McFeely Storytelling - Aug. 23

Storyteller Sharon McFeely presented Greek Myths with Twists and Turns on Aug. 23 to a large audience of rapt listeners. Lots of conversation took place over refreshments afterward. Sharon is interested in expanding storytelling into the community. If you are interested in hosting a performance or participating in a class or storytelling group, contact Sharon at 928-713-6888 (text) or by email at [sharmc17@yahoo.com](mailto:sharmc17@yahoo.com)



## Student Music Show - Sept. 6



Come to Gypsy's Bakery to listen to student's music event. Hosted by **Kathleen Hess** (one of our regular musicians at PUUF).

The Bakery is in the Old Firehouse Plaza at 220 Goodwin St., in Prescott.

Our very own **Sue Tone's Family Ukulele Band** will be among the performers. It is a can't-miss event!



Join Us!  
**Student Performance**  
Support Our Kids & Live Music!

**Gypsy's Bakery**  
Saturday, Sept. 6 from 12-2pm  
(Old Firehouse Plaza - 220 Goodwin St., Prescott)

— **FEATURING** —

**First Act**

**Sue Tone's Family Ukulele Band**  
(Becca, Adalida & Harris)

**Sam Tischeafer - Cellist**  
(Embry Riddle Student & Prescott Pops Player)

**"The Fiddle Doctor" Doug Fulker's Students**  
(Harris Nymar - Mandolin & Clairee Myers - Fiddle)

**Second Act**

**Return Performance By Mark & Judy Calderhead!**

Free Event, Great Bakery, Food & Drinks

Contact: Kathleen (928)772-8838 Message-No Text  
kathleenhesspratt@gmail.com

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# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Barbara's Walk for the Cure

This year marks the fourth time – in nearly 15 years – that Barbara Jacobsen has participated in the three-day Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure. The Komen Foundation fundraising event assists with research as well as care for those with breast cancer.

“They also promote the need for medical care assistance - something I truly believe in,” Jacobsen said.

The walk took place Aug. 1-3, and brings together people of all sizes and shapes to accomplish what they can, and raise as much money as they are able for the effort. It's a team effort, she said.

“I joined a team, but they were much younger women who were always ahead of me. But we met up at the end of each day. We were supported each step of the way by sweep vans, cheering and yelling, and people on the corners cheering and handing out extra water, as well as the regular pit stops every three miles.”

Local police were often present and managing the stoplights at major intersections. The temperatures in Denver were just under 90 degrees. “So I lost a few hours walking due to heat late in the day. One afternoon in Boulder they took us in early due to lightning,” Jacobsen said. Although she planned to complete all 60 miles, she was able to accomplish 45 miles in three days.

The hardest part, she said, was probably the drive down to Albuquerque from Denver the day after the event.

By Aug. 13, Jacobsen said she was rested up, but noticing a post-walk slump in her routine. “I've got to get out walking more! I'm planning on doing one of these each year now until I am 80, so that's another five or six. One needs a plan to enjoy life. And to give back.”

Jacobsen has joined a breast cancer support group in Flagstaff where she spends time during the summer. The group consists of mostly newly diagnosed women. “If I can help in any way, I am grateful,” she said.



## Author Event - Dora Rodriguez - Sept. 13



Join Dora Rodriguez - an advocate, survivor, educator, and author - as she discusses her memoir *Dora: A Daughter of Unforgiving Terrain*.

Event is at the Peregrine Bookstore, 219A N. Cortez St, Prescott on Sept. 13 at 3pm.

In a life-saving attempt to flee El Salvador's civil war in 1980, Dora Rodriguez was one of thirteen survivors found near death after crossing the Sonoran Desert. By courageously sharing her story and standing in unwavering support of migrant rights, Dora became a leading voice in Tucson's Sanctuary movement.

This event is free, but registration is required at <https://peregrinebookcompany.com/event/2025-09-13/author-event-dora-rodriguez>.

# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## Aug. 3 - Meet the Moment Amplified and Electrified



Glenna presented a video from this year's General Assembly in Baltimore, Maryland. At the beginning we were invited to call out the names of our UU ancestors. Then Rev. Nicole Kirk's sermon encompassed the history of UU in this country, including how Henry Ware Sr. challenged the teachings of Calvin and other orthodox liberal ministers. "Unitarian" comes from the "unity of god" and rejects the trinity of Catholic and

other Protestant faiths. After the Berry St. conference in 1825 the Unitarian Association was born to share and expand the liberal stands of Congregationalism. Rev. Nicole asked us to follow in the footsteps of our ancestors and go forth with our liberal ideals. She reminded us that we will be the ancestors in 200 years. "Each generation must take up the torch and carry it."

## Aug. 10 - Lesley Schuler

Lesley Schuler led the program, *The Field of Becoming: Living Mindfully in These Times*, walking us through a meditative contemplation. One of her points: "We are the ones we've been waiting for." Adrienne Bridgewater provided soothing music in collaboration with the mindfulness experience.



## Aug. 17 - Sharon McFeely Storytelling



Sharon McFeely gave a brief history of storytelling - beginning with cave drawings - and describing how stories arose from humans' interactions with the land, animals, nature, spirit, and one another. A myth has no author, a story does. Storytelling is a skill one learns in order to bring one's internal pictures out into to the world. She ended the program by telling a Chinese folk tale. Mark Mathewson welcomed people with his cheery organ music and singing before and during the program.



# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## Aug 24. - Lessons from the Earth: Radical Allyship

Eunice led this topic off by giving us the definition of “allyship”. It is a condition of being an ally through action. It is to give active support for minority rights without being a member of that minority.

Juniper Flurry then discussed how unequal power harms all of us. She gave examples in nature of other organisms, such as a forest of trees, that live together and thrive by supporting one another. She used 9-11 as an example of how people in the US stepped up to support and help each other through a catastrophe. She stated allyship is about growing our roots to be more like the trees and that instances of people helping others in Prescott have increased over the past 8 months.

Kai Kennedy provided the music.



## Aug. 31 - Video featuring Imara Jones

A glitch in video plans to present Imara Jones as the 2025 Ware Lecturer substituted a 2022 interview of Imara with Laura Flanders on what is happening with the transgender community. Three years after this interview, we know state and federal actions have only worsened the conditions for the LGBTQ+ population in this country. Kai Kennedy sang powerful songs by and about trans people, accompanying herself on the piano.

