



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

Mar 1 Sunday 11 am	History, Love and Chocolate Explore the world of chocolate with Glenna Hudson. The congregation will experience a Chocolate Communion.
Mar 8 Sunday 11 am	Harriet Tubman Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Conductor, Nurse, Suffragette, and Union Army spy. A short video of her life may provide a few surprises about Harriet Tubman you didn't know.
Mar 15 Sunday 11 am	Pi Day and Mysteries of Math Join Kai Kennedy and Robyn Moreno as they unravel the compelling mysteries of math. You don't need to be a rocket scientist to enjoy this mathematical program! St. Paddy's Day music by Mark Mathewson.
Mar 21 Saturday 5 pm	PUUF Movie Night and Potluck - TrueLove. Potluck at 5pm. Movie at 6pm. See page 9 for details.
Mar 22 Sunday 11 am	Gurdjieff Foundation of Arizona Robert Ernst performs music saved by the Gurdjieff Foundation of Arizona and discusses the foundation's purpose and history in preserving this unique music.
Mar 29 Sunday 11 am	Dances of Universal Peace Lance Sandleben brings his Dances of Universal Peace to celebrate the Spring Equinox. Come experience the joy of music and dance with Lance/Yaqin and Sufi dance members.

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

928-778-6672

Email: padmin@puuf.net

PUUF website: puuf.net

Facebook: [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	928-445-3162
	Shasta Guthrie	678-206-7505
	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	928-771-9559
Coming Up @ PUUF/Newsletter:		
	Mark Mathewson	509-429-8635
	Sue Tone	928-445-3162

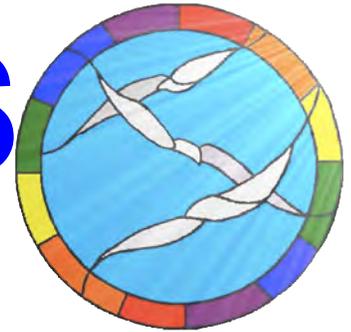
PUUF Facilities Available

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 March 8 after the Sunday Service.

PUUF NEWS

March 2026



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

Trustee

Erica/Frank Ferguson
602-980-7478

Associate Treasurer

Jerry Matiatos
928-237-8033



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.



This PUUF friend now lives in Chino Valley, but grew up in Brooklyn. He's been on a horse one time in his life – and doesn't remember the experience.

His religious upbringing was Roman Catholic and he was "really into it for quite a while," he said. He comes from a musical family, sang in the church choir, and played in a band in high school. "We called ourselves the Soakin' Wet." After high school, he dropped out of the church and moved to Detroit to go to college.

His whole family, including an older and a younger brother, shared anti-war beliefs. Soon enough, he crossed the border into Canada, a country that welcomed draft dodgers from the United States.

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Spring Equinox Dances of Universal Peace at PUUF



Prescott Peace Dances and Sufi Circle

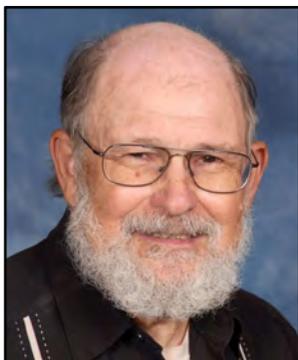
March 21st 1PM-4PM

Dances offered free. Donations accepted.

Contact Yaqin for info: 928-533-8846.

PUUF ACTIVITIES

President's Letter



Hello everybody. Well, as I am writing this, spring has sprung. The temperatures are in the 60's and 70's! But wait, let's not get too enthused about this news as we still must navigate March. Some Marches have been really brutal with their storms. Remember 1967? Four feet of snow in downtown Prescott!

Here at PUUF we are looking forward to lunches on the deck and the continuance of the great programs the committee is providing for us. I want to thank each and every one of you who have been attending and all the guests who are showing up over the past weeks. We are not just PUUFing along, we have our pedal to the metal these days.

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read "M. Schuber".

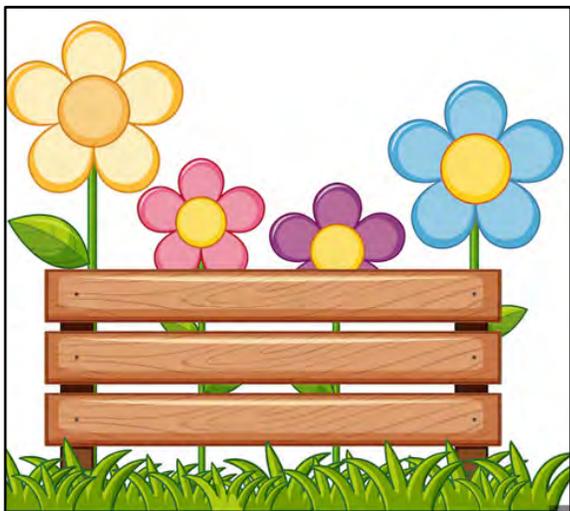
Caring For Our Landscape

PUUF's contract with its landscaping service is up in June. In order to help reduce costs, the board is **seeking volunteers and/or paid members** who wish to contribute their labor to keep the grounds looking welcoming and neat.

This involves four tasks performed as needed twice a month:

- Picking up pine cones and raking up pine needles.
- Trimming bushes and low branches of trees.
- Cutting grass front and back areas (string trimming).
- Weeding the yard.
- Bagging and removing the debris.

If interested, please speak with any PUUF board member.



PUUF ACTIVITIES

Let PUUF help you save on taxes



Do you pay ANY federal taxes?

Do you contribute money to PUUF?

If the answer to both questions is YES, then the new tax IRS rules for 2026 can save you some money!

From the Internal Revenue Service:

Taxpayers who take the standard deduction have not typically been able to deduct their charitable donations on their tax returns. A new law, however, creates a permanent deduction for charitable donations of \$1,000 per filer (\$2000 per married couple) who takes the standard deduction beginning in tax year 2026. This is an “above the line” deduction which reduces your Adjusted Gross Income for tax purposes.

The standard deduction for 2026 is \$16,000 for single individuals and \$32,200 for married couples. Most people no longer itemize as it is difficult to exceed the standard deduction’s high limits.

Example: A single person having a full-time job earning \$10/hour. Income for the year would be approximately \$20,000. Contributing \$5/week or around \$250/year saves you \$25 on taxes.

Income	\$20,000	\$20,000
Contributions	\$0	\$250
Adjusted Gross Income	\$20,000	\$19,750
Standard Deduction	\$16,100	\$16,100
Taxable Amount	\$3,900	\$3,650
Tax	\$390	\$365

Example: A single person having a full-time job earning \$30/hour. Income for the year would be approximately \$60,000. Contributing \$10/week or around \$500/year saves you \$60 on taxes.

Income	\$60,000	\$60,000
Contributions	\$0	\$500
Adjusted Gross Income	\$60,000	\$59,500
Standard Deduction	\$16,100	\$16,100
Taxable Amount	\$43,900	\$43,400
Tax	\$5,020	\$4,960

Example: A married couple earning \$100,000 contributing \$20/week or around \$1000/year saves them \$120 on taxes.

Income	\$100,000	\$100,000
Contributions	\$0	\$1,000
Adjusted Gross Income	\$100,000	\$99,000
Standard Deduction	\$32,200	\$32,200
Taxable Amount	\$67,800	\$66,800
Tax	\$7,640	\$7,520

What do you need to do to participate and help PUUF?

If you donate money to PUUF by check, then you don’t have to do anything different. The Treasurer will record your contribution and will send you a Statement of Contributions at the end of the year which is the proof you need that you contributed cash to PUUF.

If you donate money to PUUF using cash and just drop it in the collection basket, then the Treasurer doesn’t know who contributed the money, and thus you won’t get credit for the contribution. You also won’t get a Statement of Contributions from PUUF, and you won’t have proof for the IRS that you contributed.

If you are interested in participating in this program, take a small brown envelope from the collection basket and put your name on it. Insert your cash. That is all the Treasurer needs to track your contributions. We recycle the envelopes so you will see it taped to your name tag the next week for reuse.

PUUF and the Treasurer does NOT need your social security number. Your contributions are held confidential by the Treasurer and are not shared with ANYONE. Ask the Treasurer if you have questions.

PUUF ACTIVITIES

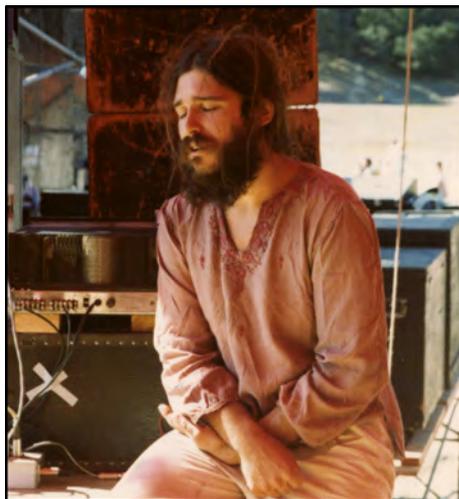
This Month's PUUF Friend continued from page3



In Toronto, Tom Agostino joined a satyagraha communal ashram called The Strange Land, a nonviolent community that followed the teachings of Ghandi. “One day a week I was silent and did service, service, service, service, like Ghandi.”

He lived in the “Hippie Highrise,” a 16-floor building where he bought one-half of the 14th floor. He ran a natural foods bakery, then moved into a house he shared with several others for a couple years.

Moving to the west coast of Vancouver Island, he studied Hindu and Buddhist religions and became a musician. “I called myself a Christian Buddhist. I still follow Buddhist teachings more than anything,” Tom said.



“In British Columbia, I was a minstrel. I was never without my guitar. I moved to a little island called Gabriel Island. It was beautiful,” he said. There he created

a community group called The Medicine Wheel with 6-7 solo musicians. They would go around the wheel and play for each other.

Several bands started from this group. “In fact, one band, Wild Blue Yonder – I was the bass player for a while – had a song in a movie. I still receive royalties from the movie that used my song, *The Wife*, with Glenn Close and Christian Slater.”



In Toronto Tom ran a coffee house called Sunday School, and he would open shows with his songs. Many famous Canadian musicians frequented the place, and he got to meet Bruce Cockburn, Gordon Lightfoot, and Buffy Sainte-Marie. He began producing concerts, the first of which was Josh White, Jr., son of the famous folk/jazz musician, Josh White, a Black anti-segregationist activist. “After the show, we talked all night. He told me stories about Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie, people he met.”

After Jimmy Carter became president, Tom was allowed back into the United States. “And that’s how I came to California. Our band was asked to come play at a festival in Santa Cruz that was over two weekends. I fell in love with Santa Cruz. The festival failed and couldn’t pay us for the second weekend, so we got a gig at Esalen Institute and played there. Then we played at a Battle of the Bands, won second place, \$50, to get us home.”

Three weeks later, Tom moved to Santa Cruz, playing his guitar out on the street “doing my minstrel thing.” He joined a cult led by John Panama

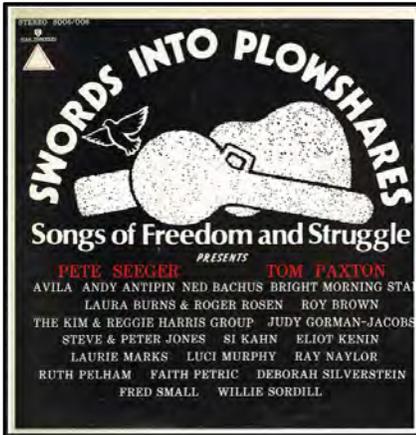
where he lived off the grid for several years. “I made some good friends there. Being a part of that was a big part of how I see the universe. That was part of my spiritual journey,” he said. This is also where he met Christa. She moved to LA, and soon after, so did Tom, and they got together.

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PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Friend continued from page 6

In Los Angeles, he had a circus and put on concerts. A friend had connections with some Chinese people, which led to sending performers to China, and also bringing a song and dance troupe that toured all over the United States. "That grossed \$2.2 million. I was the producer of that. That's what I did in LA, put on huge events." His circus included a trained elephant. "Then I got overthrown by a coup de clowns," he said with a laugh.



While in LA, Tom wrote a song that was included on an album, "Swords Into Plowshares," that was given to Mikhail Gorbachev. He also had a part in a Clint Eastwood movie, Sudden Impact. "I played a mafia bodyguard with a speaking line: 'What happened?'"



Clint advised him, "Don't overact." He replied, "You don't understand my motivation." "That was probably one of the most embarrassing moments in my life. He laughed and was so kind, told me to get away, go back."

After the Northridge earthquake, Tom visited a friend living in Williamson Valley. Christa's brother lived in Prescott Valley, and a good friend lived in Flagstaff. The friend in Williamson Valley asked him to stay and live in the house. Later, when he took in his daughter and grandkids, they moved into their own place.



"I felt very embraced here. I became part of the Sharlot Hall Folk Festival," he said. This led to Christa's brother asking him to do a radio show. He worked with Coyote Radio Theater for a while, then cohosted his own



Tom performs at a fundraiser circa 2014 for People Who Care where the theme was USO Tour.

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PUUF ACTIVITIES

This Month's PUUF Friend continued from page 7

show, Folk Sessions, with Alexis McDonald, and produced folk concerts at the Highland Center and other venues.

Local media dubbed Tom "The Godfather of Folk," and his radio show, The Folk Sessions, includes the subtitle, "Where the finest folk and Americana musicians come to play."

Tom and Christa have one daughter, Auraly, and three grandchildren: Nya, 16, Griffen, 24, and Savannah who lives in Glendale.



Commemorative Bench Honoring Ron and Betsy Barnes

March 11, 1:00 PM

Highlands Center for Natural History 1375 Walker Road, Prescott, AZ

Our lives are shaped by the dreams we nurture—dreams that give us purpose, invite connection, and create ripples of good in our communities and the world around us. Often, these dreams grow stronger when others are inspired to join in and help carry them forward.

You are warmly invited to join us for the dedication of a bench honoring my parents, Ron and Betsy Barnes, in the entry garden of the Highlands Center for Natural History.

Though their paths and communities differed, both Ron and Betsy were deeply inspired by the Prescott community and dreamed of ways they could make it a better place.

Please join us on March 11 at 1:00 PM in the entry garden near the Highlands Center parking lot for an afternoon of storytelling and listening—sharing dreams, yours and others'. May Mom's and Dad's dreams and activism continue to guide and inspire us as we gather to celebrate the power of dreams.

With gratitude,

Lisa Barnes

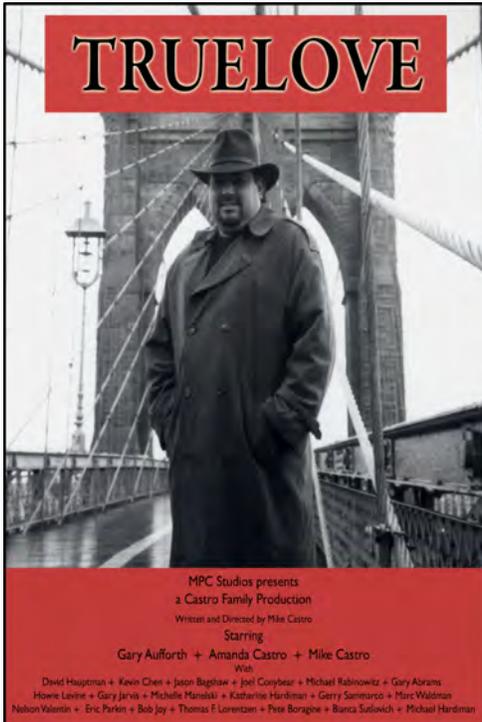
lisabarneslcsw@gmail.com

970-286-5814



PUUF ACTIVITIES

PUUF Movie Night and Potluck - March 21



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, Truelove, was written and directed by PUUF member Mike Castro. The film is a satirical film-noir detective story wherein Detective Tony Dagger attempts to track down escaped criminal Mike Truelove as he exacts revenge on his enemies using the Twelve Days of Christmas as his vengeance theme. Truelove was filmed on location in and around New York City and was featured at the 2009 Silver City Film Festival in New Mexico. Note: There is no violence or bad language in this movie. It's a comedy/satire.



This movie is a real special treat for PUUF as it is created by PUUF Member Mike Castro. Please support him by attending.

Enjoy this movie with our community. Please bring drinks or dishes to share. No alcohol please.

Free - no admission charge.

Movie night is nearly always scheduled for the third Saturday of each month.



Before each movie we have a potluck dinner. They give participants a great place to socialize and munch on some unique and tasty dishes. February's movie night potluck had spaghetti, cookies, bean soup, chips, and more. Many of the dishes are homemade. We also allow pets to come to movie night. Juniper is seen in this photo with her new puppy Luna taking advantage of the soup while Juniper snaps the picture.

PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Feb. 1 - Spunky Old Broads Day

Sue Tone introduced several previously ignored, famous, and infamous girls and women in history in celebration of Spunky Old Broads Day. They worked toward making the world a better place for all, and included in part Claudette Colvin, Jane Goodall, Julia Child, Pippi Longstocking, Greta Thunberg, and Beulah Henry. Glenna read a letter written by UUA Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt after her arrest at U.S. Capitol Complex while protesting the Homeland Security budget. Erica/Frank Ferguson read the poem *Warning* by Jenny Joseph that begins: When I am an old woman I shall wear purple. Andy Reti and Jonathan Best paid tribute to their mothers. Christa Agostino provided music with a tribute to a late songwriter friend.



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Feb. 8 - Relationships



Mike Castro introduced us to different types of relationships through his songwriting and singing talents. He also talked about the loss of his father at age 5 and his search for the inner life and character of this man as he paid tribute to his father. He remembers his dad every time he watches a Mets baseball game. Several people in the audience also shared their experiences.



Feb. 15 - Side with Love



Glenna Hudson shared the history of the UUA's Standing on the Side of Love, which began in 2004 and since 2017 is known as Side with Love. The campaign addresses exclusion and oppression of LGBTQ+ issues, immigration, racial and religious freedom. Glenna asked that we think about those in our community we wish to acknowledge for their work. She handed out hearts to write a message and pass on to someone as part of the Kind Notes Project. Kathleen Hess had the choruses printed out to her songs and we all joined in.



PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

Feb. 22 - Lent as it applies to the UUA



Sue Tone described what Christianity's Lent has in common with other religious, cultural and spring observations that fall within the 2026 calendar of the 40 days of Lent. For anyone who wanted to participate, she posed questions to consider how one can better oneself through sacrifice and/or add to one's life in order to improve it and perhaps the lives of others. Jonathan Best offered his music, including songs he wrote especially for the day's program.

10 popular ideas for what to give up for Lent



1. Social media
2. Sweets/Sugar
3. Caffeine
4. Alcohol
5. Shopping
6. TV
7. Eating out
8. Resentments
9. Single-use plastics.
10. Swearing

What will you replace your sacrifice with?

- Give to charity what you would have spent.
- Use your time to meditate or for prayer.
- Spend time daily in nature.
- Connect with family and friends in meaningful ways.
- Volunteer.
- Journal / create.
- Random acts of kindness / compliments.

