

Sunday, Sept 8, 9:15 & 11 AM PDT, UU Spokane Service: "An Atheist's Meanderings about the Nature of God" with Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof

I often jest, "Just because I'm an atheist doesn't mean I don't believe in God." I don't believe, that is, in a personal god, nor in a benevolent and mysterious force some call God. But there are certain qualities theologians sometimes attribute to "God," along with a few of my own, that I do believe in. In this sermon, I'll share some of my heretical ideas about God.

Zoom at 9:15 at <https://tinyurl.com/spokanezoom>, then stay for "coffee hour" discussion.

Stream at <https://uuspokane.org/find-meaning/watch-services/>

Tuesday, Sept 10, 4:30 PM PDT, Monthly NAUA Academy - "Humanism Evolving" with Dr. Mark Reimers

The roots of humanism lie in ancient wisdom literature, which reflected on justice, fate and the life well-lived. The Renaissance Humanists rediscovered that literature and advocated for the values of human life, especially clear thought, eloquence, and civic engagement. In the early twentieth century a group of Unitarian ministers advocated a liberal Christianity without a deity as the natural next stage of human evolution, and they claimed the name 'humanism' for their movement; but a century of wars and ongoing crises have undermined their confident dream of Progress.

In the twenty-first century a new humanism integrates biology and behavioral science into a more pragmatic appraisal of the possibilities and hopes of human life. How have these various humanisms addressed the perennial concerns of human life: love, meaning, morality, work, and death? What is humanism now? How will humanism evolve to address the challenges of our stone-age minds in a technological age?

Please note that you **Must Register** for the session to have the Zoom URL emailed to you. The presentation features a guest speaker, a question and answer and then a smart breakout group.

Sunday, Sept 15, 9:15 & 11 AM PDT, UU Spokane Service - "What to Make of Our Political Opponents: We Can't Just Shoot the Brown Shirts" with Joe King

Figuring out how to reunite our country is maybe the biggest issue we face. We can't solve climate change, income disparity homelessness without figuring out how to communicate with folks on the other side of the political divide.

In this sermon I'll discuss my thoughts and responses to social psychologist Jonathan Haidt's latest book, *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*. I believe it is an important book that is already having a positive and necessary impact, for which I am grateful. Yet, I also disagree with some of Haidt's inferences. In this sermon, I'll discuss both where I agree and disagree.

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Third Saturday, Sept 21, 10 AM PDT, Monthly NAUA Community Worship Service - "Healing the West" with Julian Adorney

Julian Adorney is the founder of Heal the West, a Substack movement dedicated to preserving and repairing our liberal social contract. <https://healthwest.substack.com/> . He is also a contributor to Reality's Last Stand. On his vision, he writes, "The North Star of my life is to heal the West. I perceive 3 existential threats: **left-wing illiberalism, right-wing illiberalism, and toxic polarization.**"

This service is hosted by the NAUA Hayward (CA) Fellowship, and Salish Sea Fellowship members provide the music.

Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/NAUAService>

4th Thursday, Sept 26, 5-6:30 PM PDT, Monthly NAUA Book Club will discuss *The End of Race Politics: Arguments for a Color-Blind America* by Coleman Hughes

The club is open to all so please invite a friend. For more details and to join the Book Club mailing list to receive the Zoom link, contact Ed Hudak at bookclub@naunitarians.org

Sunday, Sept 29, 9:15 & 11 AM, UU Spokane Service - "Prototopia: Moving Forward toward a Better Tomorrow" with Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof

I believe one of the greatest obstacles to happiness today is a pessimistic, cynical, or even hopeless feeling about the future. Let's call it a *dystopian* attitude The opposite is the naïve, impossible, and often destructive *utopian* attitude. But there is less extreme and realistic approach that transcends these apocalyptic and puritanical visions, which simply seeks to make tomorrow a little better than today by solving whatever problems and making whatever advancements we can.

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Thursday-Sunday, October 17-20, NAUA Summit in Spokane and Online.

For the schedule and to register, see <https://naunitarians.org/summit/>.

Grateful for the fellowship,
Joyce

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It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.

Audre Lorde in Sister Outsider