



# Transcendentalism Comes West

REGISTER ONLINE:

[firstunitarianportland.org/registration](https://firstunitarianportland.org/registration)

**Saturday, January 28, 2023**

8:45 a.m. – 2:35 p.m.

First Unitarian Church, *Eliot Center*  
1226 SW Salmon St., Portland, OR 97205

Are you yearning for greater depth in your spiritual life?

Join us **in-person or virtually** and delve deeper with author and former UUA President, Rev. John Buehrens. All are welcome!

***ATTEND IN-PERSON  
OR VIRTUALLY!***



## Keynote Address

### ***Transcendentalism Comes West: Then and Now***

**Rev. John Buehrens**

The first Unitarian Transcendentalist on the Pacific Coast, as of early 1860, was the Rev. Thomas Starr King. He gave the first Unitarian lectures in Portland in 1862. He also exemplified key spiritual practices of the Transcendentalists that need renewal among us today: personal reflection (often in the form of keeping a journal), and deep interpersonal connections crossing conventional boundaries.

## WORKSHOP

### God Optional: Theologies Among Us Today

John Buehrens and Rebecca Ann Parker surveyed the hope-filled thought patterns in progressive religion today in their book, *A House for Hope: The Promise of Progressive Religion in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Beacon, 2010). While their framework borrows from a heritage of Judeo-Christian systematic theology, it also makes room for humanist, indigenous, and non-Western a/theologies. All such thinking, however, needs to meet some overriding and important tests to be effective. Tests which will be revealed in the workshop.

### Meet Rev. John Buehrens

John Buehrens served as UUA President, 1993-2001. A prolific author, his most recent one about our heritage is *CONFLAGRATION: How the Transcendentalists Sparked the American Struggle for Racial, Gender, and Social Justice* (Beacon, 2020). He now lives in San Francisco with his wife of fifty years, Gwen, a priest in the Episcopal Church. He was one of Rev. Alison Miller's ministers as she was growing up at All Souls Unitarian Church in New York City.

**Registration closes at 4 p.m.  
on Sunday, January 22nd**

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**In-Person Ticket:** \$70.00, includes buffet style Thai vegetarian and vegan lunch.

**Virtual Livestream Ticket:** \$35.00, you will receive a link to join via email on Monday, January 23rd.

Questions? Email [events@firstunitarianportland.org](mailto:events@firstunitarianportland.org)

8:45 a.m.	Check-In
9:30 a.m.	Keynote Address
10:30 a.m.	Response
10:45 a.m.	Q&A
11:30 a.m.	Break / Explore Books
12:00 p.m.	Lunch: Thai Buffet, Vegetarian and Vegan
12:45 p.m.	Workshop
2:30 p.m.	Closing