



uuufb
fellowship of Bozeman
March 2010

Calendar of Services & Events

March 7th, 2010: "3-D Morality", Rev. Lois Van Leer

March 14th: "Sense of Place", Lay Speakers
March 21st: "UU Utopian Communities", Rev. Lois Van Leer

March 28th: "Highlander Center", Mike Clark

From the Minister

Wednesday began the Christian season of Lent which literally means, "the lengthening of days." Those who observe the season's beginning receive ashes on their foreheads. Having served in a Christian church for 11 years, I remember the Ash Wednesday services well. We held them in our chapel that provided a level of intimacy and connection with those who came. My former colleague and I would burn a palm left over from the previous year's Palm Sunday and use those ashes to mark the sign of the cross on folk's foreheads when they came forward. As we did so, we would say, "Your sins are forgiven, go and sin no more." It was an occasion both solemn and liberating, a chance to take stock, let go, and begin again.

Lent is to be a time of reflection building up to the promise of renewal and new beginnings Easter. Though we as UU's do not observe Lent, I do know by the increasing of light both in the morning and evenings that we are in the midst of the lengthening of days. For many of us, the Winter Solstice was our observation of this lengthening. Winter itself takes on the quality of reflection as we move through days of cold and dark, awaiting the return of the sun.

Though I know we are a good ways from the emergence of green and bulbs and buds and flowers and the smell of the emerging of earth after winter's fallow, an awareness of that which lies waiting has risen in my consciousness. These have been days of reflection, of an inwardness, a waiting, a restlessness for that Spring season of return and new life. Each year, with the turning of the wheel of the seasons, we turn and return toward renewal.

Let us claim these lengthening of days with intention for our lives. What is calling to you? What are you called to do? What has lain fallow in you? What is rising up in you? What will you let go of? What will you claim? These questions are the gifts of the season of Lent. Live into them, live them well.

Namaste,

Lois

Services held August to June at
Bozeman Senior Center
807 N. Tracy,
Sundays 10:00am to 11:00am

Thoughts From the Chair....

Soon our Leadership Committee will begin tapping people for various positions to carry out the work of the Fellowship. There are many ways to serve, both small and large, and all are necessary to carry out the functions of our community. Several people have said to me that it was by serving on a committee or task force that they truly began to feel a part of UUFB.

The chair of something isn't responsible for doing all the work. He or she simply calls everyone together so the tasks can be shared. This model has worked well for several committees this year. If you have a particular interest, find out when that group is meeting and attend for information only. Hopefully, you'll find people and opportunities that interest you. (The chairs are listed on the back of this newsletter).

So please, consider your interests and talents and how UUFB has impacted your life. When someone from Leadership contacts you, say YES!

Amanda

Worship Workshop Sunday, March 7:
What is worship? What goes into planning a Sunday Service? What are the elements of a service? Why do we move through the service in the order that we do? What's in our hymnal and how do

Teacher of the Month

This month I am pleased to introduce Bar Turner. Bar found UU while in college, and earned her teaching degree in 1977. After college she taught preschool and then environmental education. She and Scott were married in 1983 in Yosemite, California. They moved to Big Sky in 1991 where they started a bookstore. Bar taught preschool again after they sold the bookstore. By this time their daughters were in elementary school, but UUFB did not have a children's program until Lily and Emma were a bit older.

Bar remembers attending services with her girls while the Fellowship met at Pilgrim Congregational. She began teaching the younger elementary group when her daughters were in high school. Since they still lived in Big Sky their attendance was somewhat sporadic. Her first more continuous teaching of RE was a few years ago when she co-taught with Susan Bianchini. Gradually Scott and Bar moved to Bozeman in 2008.

When asked how she got involved with teaching at the Fellowship Bar commented, "Teaching was something I could offer; that was the way it spoke to me." She deeply appreciated having a children's program after the time when there was none.

Her biggest challenge has been not knowing how many and which children will show up, combined with a lack of continuity due to setting up and tearing down the kids' classrooms every week. The most fulfilling times teaching according to Bar are those precious "aha" moments. She has tried to encourage these while providing a global perspective, knowing the children will choose their own spiritual path later in life.

When Bar was teaching this Fall, the children were learning about Islam. As she described how some of her Muslim friends in Africa pray and the ritual they follow, she was surprised and pleased when one of the kids spoke up. This child added her own experience of living in a Muslim country and showed everyone the prayer ritual she had observed. After having taught the kids and then seeing them at different times, Bar feels a special connection with each of them, and that has been rewarding.

Sunday Service

The Sunday Service Committee is responsible for setting up a Story For All Ages for each service. This story is a special part of the service directed to our children, but meant to be enjoyed by the entire congregation. Elizabeth Rose has generously arranged a sound system set-up which makes it easy for the storyteller to be heard without having to wrestle with a mike or having someone hold it for you. This has made a great difference to the presenters and the audience, as well. We have had wonderful and thoughtful stories this year.

Although the time allotted for the story is only about five minutes, it does present some challenges. It is preferred that the stories be told, not read directly from a book, although the great children's literature available certainly means it can be used. It is important that the story or talk be prepared ahead of time, and often is related to the speaker's presentation. This is not always necessary, but often helps the storyteller to choose material. Another issue is the age of the children attending services at this point—they are for the most part, very young. So stories must be used that are understandable for these little ones, yet good for the rest of us to hear. Tam Miller's "Thankful Dogs" story is a great example, and Kristi Crawford's "White Envelope" story at Christmas. Both of these had great meaning for the kids, and were thought provoking for adults as well.

Stories are available from www.UUA.org/spiritualife/worshipweb/stories, as well as the public library. We have also had stories in the past that involved activity, like Nan Gregerson's on Community, or Elizabeth Rose's singing story. It is really fun to do, so if Sherrill Dolezilek approaches you with that look on her face that means she is going to ask you to do something, please think about trying this activity. It is an important part of our services.

Lifespan Education Teacher of the Month

Here's a short and sweet interview I recently conducted via e-mail with Laura Prindiville.

What is your background?

I grew up in a Irish Catholic household in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Moved out west when I married Kirk and never looked back. My professional background is in arts & cultural administration where I did lots of program development, community outreach and educational programming.

When did you begin teaching?

Shortly after joining the UU's in 2003.

How did you first get interested?

I enjoyed the camaraderie of the other teachers -- Ita Killeen and Susan Kollin -- in particular.

Which age groups have you taught?

Pretty much all of them, although the older elementary are my favorite.

Biggest challenge?

Helping kids stay focused in a program that changes a lot -- teachers, teaching styles, etc.

Most fulfilling situation?

When my son told his fundamentalist neighbor that he would not go to hell (as the neighbor suggested he might) because his church didn't believe in hell and he couldn't go there if he didn't believe in it. That's when we knew all the early Sunday mornings were worth it.

:)

Women's Group

Suzy Sterling writes, "Women's Group will meet at my house, 409 Park Place, on Thursday, February 25 at 6:30 PM. I will provide a main dish--please bring a dish to share.

Lois' recent sermon about the way society is becoming so polarized and "sorted" into opposing groups made me think it would be a good topic to discuss at Women's Group. What can we do to counteract this disturbing trend? Or should we?

Directions to 409 Park Place: At the intersection of Willson and Kagy, heading South, Willson becomes S. 3rd. Follow S 3rd until the 3-way stop just after Graf. Go straight after the stop and you will be on Wagon Wheel. From Wagon Wheel turn right on Oxford--there is an arrow and additional sign that says Park Place. Turn right again onto Park Place and we're the 3rd house on the right.

It would be helpful to know how many people are coming to make sure we have enough chairs, etc., but please feel free to come at the last minute--and don't worry about bringing food if it's inconvenient. The important thing is getting together! Please call me at 586-4921 if you have questions--or reply to this e-mail. - Suzy Sterling"

Upcoming Social Activities

The new year will provide UUFB members and friends some great opportunities to share time together and to get to know others in the community. Listed below are activities that are currently being planned. There are more activities in the initial planning stages that will be announced at a later time.

Circle Suppers and Circle Brunches

A new round of Circle Suppers and Circle Brunches will be held throughout the winter and spring months. These activities are held in the homes of UUFB members and friends. Suppers are held in the evening and brunches are held after the Sunday service. The host determines the number of participants, the time and the menu for the event. If you would be willing to host one of these events or if you would like to attend one of these suppers or brunches, please sign up at the Activities table starting Sunday, January 3rd. Contact Beth at 209-3772 or at loveplants4@q.com if you have any questions.

Other Possible Activities for Winter and Spring

Some of the other activities being considered by the Activities committee are listed below. If you would be interested in hosting one of these events or if you would like to attend one of these events, please check the Activities table starting Sunday, January 3rd for sign up sheets.

- Game Nights
- Karaoke Night
- Video Nights
- Cross Country Skiing
- Hiking
- Ice Skating

Do you have other ideas? If so, contact a member of the Social Activities Committee which includes Marv Backer, Susie Cole, Janet Lewis, Bill Mallory or Beth D'Atri.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee depends on each member of the Fellowship to inform us of joys and concerns. We exist to do our best to assure that where there is injury or need--there will be help, where there is sadness--consolation. We are not professionals, but we are a group that wishes to share your news, good and bad. Our committee is by definition a group that chooses to perform a function for a larger group. The UUFB can be counted on to share your joy or concern. If you know of a need, please contact Leona Poritz, 586-5111 or Jim Dolezilek, 556-9818 or any member of the Caring Committee.

Service List March 2010

Date: March 7

Title: Rev. Lois Van Leer "3-D Morality"

Lay Leader: Deanna Dean

Music: Barry Pyle

SFAA: Rev. Lois Van Leer

Date: March 14

Title: Lay Speakers "Sense of Place"

Lay Leader: Sara Williams

Music: Dee Mast

SFAA: TBA

Date: March 21

Title: Rev. Lois Van Leer "UU Utopian Communities"

Lay Leader: Laura Mentch

Music: Laurel Yost

SFAA: TBA

Date: March 28

Title: Mike Clark "Highlander Center"

Lay Leader: Bill Mallory

Music: Edy Harrington

SFAA: TBA

The UUFB Directory - How To Make Changes Easily

The UUFB Directory for 2010 is out this Sunday - Yeah!! The membership committee and Trace have worked long and hard to be as accurate as possible. We know, however, that almost as soon as it comes out changes will occur.

Trace maintains a data base for the directory, so when you know there's a change in your information, please email those changes to her, not the membership committee. That way your information is always current for the fellowship and makes next year's directory work easier.

Because of privacy issues, we don't have the directory on our webpage. However, if you've lost your directory, or know there are changes for someone you know, email Trace (admin@uufbozeman.org). She can send you an updated version which you can just check or print out for yourself.

Susan Backer, for the Membership Committee

"A Lenten Diet"

Fast from criticism, and feast on praise;

Fast from self-pity, and feast on joy;

Fast from ill-temper, and feast on peace;

Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment;

Fast from jealousy, and feast on love;

Fast from pride, and feast on humility;

Fast from selfishness, and feast on service;

Fast from fear, and feast on faith.

- The Reverend John B. Wolf

UUFB Treasure Sale

It's that time of month again. The next UUFB Treasure Sale will be this Sunday 2/21. What a great way to recycle, get rid of, or find a new home for no longer needed or used treasures. Get a head start on spring cleaning by going through your closets, drawers, etc. Remember that all proceeds go to the fellowship. See you there!!

Family Promise Training

The next FAMILY PROMISE training will be this Monday, Feb. 22, not the 23rd as in our last announcement. It will be held at First Baptist church (120 S. Grand). There will be a light supper from 5:30 - 6. The training will be from 6 - 8.

Please RSVP to Bridget Pittman, volunteer coordinator, at 582-7388, so she knows how many to plan for.

Contact Sara Williams, 587-9636, or Susan Backer, 586-9132 if you have any questions.

Moon Auction 2010

It is time for preparations for the annual Moon Auction to swing into a higher gear. The auction will take place at 6:30 on April 10 at Pilgrim Congregational. We hope to have friends from Temple Beth Shalom and Pilgrim join us this year, which will increase the liveliness, allow us to make or strengthen connections with our "sister" congregations, and maybe even increase our revenue. A sign-up poster for donations and volunteering will be at the back of the sanctuary after each service, so please be thinking of ways in which you would like to contribute. We will also have a sign-up for items / services you would like to see others contribute, and that you would be interested in bidding on. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Cathy Cooper at rastahorse@q.com or 586-9628; or Elizabeth Rose at erose@montanadsl.net or 582-9518.

WE'RE HAVING A BABY!!

(Well, Sarah Weis and Scott Corbusier are having a BABY!)

JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER!

Saturday, March 6, 2010

2 pm

At Bunny & Jim Gaffney's house

24 Columbine Ct.

(From Kagy and Sourdough, go south 2.9 miles, turn left into Triple Tree, go 1.2 mi. up the hill to Columbine Ct. - house on left)

Need gift ideas? Sarah and Scott have registered at Target and The Natural Baby Company (on Rouse). They would also appreciate gently used equivalents of items on their registry or gently used clothes, books or toys. Still don't know what to give? Contact Susie Cole at 624-6762 or scole100@msn.com to go in on a group gift.

RSVP appreciated, but not necessary (we'd like to have enough chairs ready) to:

Susie Cole, 624-6762, scole100@msn.com / Bunny Gaffney, 522-0065, jimandbunny1@msn.com / Leona Poritz, 586-5111, bugs@bio-control.com

2009/2010 Board Members:

The UUFB Board generally meets on the third Monday of each month.

Amanda Cater, Chair
Rose Toth, Vice Chair
Rachel Rockafellow, Ex Officio Chair
David Andes, Treasurer
Sarah Weis, Secretary
Dean Littlepage, Member-at-large
Stuart Challendar, Member-at-large
Jim Gaffney, Member-at-large

Committees:

Sunday Service: Rose Toth and Edy Harrington, Chairs
Membership: Dave Crawford and Deanna Dean, Chairs
Lifespan Education: Lori Ragona, Chair
Hospitality: Linda and Mike Clark, Chairs
Caring: Jim Dolezilek / Leona Poritz, Chairs
Leadership: Jack Fisher
Family Promise: Susan Backer, Sara Williams, Bill Platte, Coordinators
Ministry: Dick Corbin, Chair
Social: Beth D'Atri
Historian: Bunny Gaffney

The UUFB newsletter is published monthly from September to June. Send

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UUFB Online

The UUFB maintains several online resources. An email list has been established in order to communicate announcements and events of interest to the UUFB. To make an announcement to the group, please send email to "uufb@yahoogroups.com" (you must be subscribed to the list in order to send mail to the list). Mail sent to this address will be delivered to all members of the list, and will also be archived. This is not an appropriate forum for political commentary or jokes (see uufb-discuss below), so please use discretion when sending email to this address.

To Subscribe: uufb-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To Unsubscribe: uufb-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

Email address: uufb@yahoogroups.com

Web page: <http://www.uufbozeman.org/>

In addition to the announcement list, we also run a discussion list in which all manner of concerns can be discussed:

To Subscribe: uufb-discuss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To Unsubscribe: uufb-discuss-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

Questions or problems? Email cfaehl@cs.unm.edu