UUFB NEWS December 2017

December Sunday Services

December 3 , 2017 — **Christina Barbachano**
The Benefits of Wallowing — **Lay Presenter**

Ft. Peck and Ft. Belknap Tribes are working hard to bring back the buffalo to the plains for spiritual, cultural, and economic reasons. The buffalo embodies the spirit of many plains Indians and with the revival of the buffalo, so too are their spiritual and cultural traditions being revived in surprisingly contemporary ways. "When the buffalo survives, so do our people."

December 10, 2017 — **Rev. Duffy Peet &**
Chalica — **Marie Lynn, CRE**

Chalica is a weeklong celebration that is unique to Unitarian Universalism. Each day beginning on Monday, December 4, those who choose to participate light a chalice while reflecting on the meaning of that day's Principle. Chalica will culminate with a multigenerational service on Sunday, December 10. This is a wonderful way to live into our Seven Principles. If you'd like to learn more about Chalica, please contact Marie at cre@uufbozeman.org.

November 17, 2017 — **Rev. Duffy Peet**
Acceptance of One Another

Acceptance of one another is how the Third Principle of the Unitarian Universalist Association begins. While one might initially think it only right and proper for a religious organization to promote and encourage acceptance of one another, in reality, the process of transforming this concept into lived action can be a significant challenge. What does acceptance of one another actually mean? Does it require that we accept everything another does without questioning, demonstrating concern, or even expressing disagreement? We will explore what acceptance of one another might mean and what it isn't intended to mean in our religious tradition.

December 24, 2017 — **Rev. Duffy Peet**
10:00 a.m. Morning Service: The Gifts of Giving and Receiving

For many people in our culture, Christmas is a time of celebrating with family and friends as well as a time of buying and giving gifts. The ability to offer a gift to another is, in itself, a gift. Often though we forget about the reciprocal gift that comes from receiving. On this Christmas Eve, we are invited to consider whether our gifts of giving to others and receiving from others are as balanced as they might be.

December 24, 2017 — **Rev. Duffy Peet**
6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service: Singing Songs of Christmas

Our evening service on Christmas Eve will be filled with singing. We will gather and raise our voices as we join together in singing many well known and favorite songs of the Christmas season.

December 31, 2017 — **Katie Michael**
Letting Go — **Lay Presenter**

Come share words and ritual as we move from one year to the next. What do we want to bring with us into the new year, and what is better left behind?

Mark Your Calendar for December...

3rd ~ UUFB Treasure Sale

4th-10th ~ Chalica

5th ~ Support Group for Caregivers

6th ~ Talking with Neighbors

10th ~Involvement/Information Fair

12th ~ Sharing the Journey

12th & 26th ~ UU Buddhism Group

13th ~ UU Men's Group

17th ~ Food Bank Sunday

17th ~ New Member Welcome

17th ~ UUFB Soup and Bread Potluck and White Elephant Gift Exchange

21st ~ UUFB Solstice Party

22nd ~ Holiday Caroling

28th ~ Fork & Spoon (formerly The Community Café)

Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.
325 N. 25th Ave.
Bozeman, Montana

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman
www.uufbozeman.org
406-586-1368
Rev. Duffy Peet
minister@uufbozeman.org

Ministerial Musings ~ December 2017

With the arrival of December, the final month of the year, we are in the midst of a period when there are a significant number of holidays. From late November through mid-January there are more holidays than at any other comparable time period. This period of time is often referred to in this country as the holiday season. Many believe the holiday season begins and ends with secular holidays, Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, with the Christian holidays of Advent and Christmas being celebrated in between.

But there are many more holidays that occur during this time period. And since our Unitarian Universalist faith tradition draws from many sources, we are aware that there are other cultures and more religions than just Christianity that celebrate during this period of the year. While I won't attempt to list all of the holidays that are occurring during this season, I want to mention several from an array of religious traditions and cultures that are significant. This year the Bahá'í faith celebrates two important holidays during this period, the Day of the Covenant and the Ascension of Abdu'l-Bahá on November 26 and 28 respectively. Islam celebrates Mawlid an Nabi (the birth of the Prophet) on December 1. Bodhi Day, the day the Buddha supposedly was born, is an important holiday in the Buddhist tradition, which occurs on December 8. This year, from December 13-20, members of the Jewish faith celebrate Hanukkah, a holiday that commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt. The Winter Solstice, December 21, is when the Pagan and Wiccan holiday of Yule is celebrated. In the Zoroastrian faith tradition, Zarathosht Dino (the death of Prophet Zarathushtra), occurs on December 26. Kwanzaa, an African American and Pan-African holiday, begins on December 26 and lasts until January 1. And January 1, New Year's Day, is also the Shinto holiday of Gantan-sai, a time to visit shrines and to pray for the renewal of hearts, good health and prosperity during the year to come. A significant number of these holidays address two very important events in life, birth, and death.

This year, our Religious Education program has been focusing on holidays and holy days from a variety of cultures and traditions. So far this year we have held two events, one celebrating Samhain (the Celtic holiday that predates Halloween), and the other celebrating the 200th birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Bahá'í faith. These events offer all of us, and especially the children and youth, the opportunity to learn about holidays and holy days of religious traditions that we may not be familiar with. They are a way to not only increase our knowledge, but they also offer us an opportunity for spiritual growth. I would encourage you to watch for announcements about future events of this nature.

And I would be remiss if I didn't mention the relatively new UU holiday that occurs in December, Chalica. Chalica is a weeklong holiday where each day focuses on one of our Seven Principles. The holiday was first celebrated in 2005. Our Fellowship held its first Chalica service last year and it was well received. This year the holiday begins on December 4 and goes through December 10. We will be holding our Chalica service on December 10. If you would like more information about this holiday or how to celebrate it, you can find information on the UUA website or you can contact Marie Lynn, UUFB Coordinator of Religious Education, or myself. So as December begins, I wish you "Happy Holidays."

~ *Rev. Duffy Peet* (minister@uufbozeman.org)

The UUFB Caring Committee

The UUFB Caring Committee works in close coordination with Rev. Duffy Peet to respond to pastoral needs of UUFB Members and Friends in times of grief and loss, illness, changes in relationship or employment, and other transitions. Services include visitation, sending cards, maintaining supportive contact, and providing meals and rides. If you would like to request services, know of someone who could use services provided by the Caring Committee and/or want to serve on the committee, please contact Rev. Duffy Peet at minister@uufbozeman.org or Mattie Whitehouse at mattie.whitehouse@aol.com. A new Caring Committee brochure is available on the Foyer table and in the Social Hall.

~ *Beth D'Atri* (loveplants6@gmail.com), on behalf of the Caring Committee

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Hospitality Membership Committee

Upcoming Membership Ceremony

The Hospitality Membership Committee will be holding a New Members Ceremony on December 17. If you are contemplating membership and have completed an Orientation Session or have been a member of another UU Congregation, please let a member of this committee, or Rev. Duffy, know your intention so you can be included and welcomed in the ceremony. The ceremony is held at this time so all signing the membership book are eligible to vote in our January Annual Meeting. Members of the committee are: Susan Backer, Carolyn Boyd, Jennifer Fehr, Bunny Gaffney, Linda Clark, Sue Slade, and Tonya Stevens.

This committee continues to work on refining elements of the coffee hour, such as uses of the kitchen, placement of coffee and water pots for accessibility and space, and implementing a Food Policy so everyone will know what can be left or must be discarded after a service or an event. We are also refining procedures for an easy flow from the foyer into the main building on Sunday mornings, by looking at where nametags are placed and where the Order of Service is handed out. We want you to know as well that there is a Lost and Found Box on the clothing rack in the foyer. ***Please check often*****,** as items will be kept a few weeks, then given away.

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Involvement/Information Fair on December 10 and the Welcoming Ceremony for New Members on December 17.

~ *Susan Backer* (backersu100@gmail.com), for the Hospitality/Membership Committee

Fork and Spoon Volunteers Needed for December 28

We need 3-4 volunteers for December 28 at Fork and Spoon (formerly Community Café). The Fork and Spoon has been updated, so service is a bit different from past, including no host or drink server. Please contact Randy Babbitt (wrbabbitt@gmail.com) if you can serve or want to learn more about Fork and Spoon.

UUFB Social Justice/Action Committee

Refugee Information

During our collection of welcome kits for Soft Landing in Missoula, several of you asked me why we couldn't have refugees here in Bozeman.

In order to become a host city for refugees, a location has to be certified by one of nine different agencies such as Jewish Family Service, Lutheran Family Service, Catholic Relief Agencies, or the International Rescue Committee (which Missoula is working with). A site assessment committee from Gallatin Refugee Connections (GRC) has been working for the past year to gather information needed to apply as a host city. However, under the current administration, no new host cities are being designated.

A site assessment involves looking at all the various services and institutions in a community that would be available to help support refugees. This includes the school system, medical services, housing, employment, ESL programs, translators, and mentors.

Missoula was able to reactivate their status as a host city since they took in refugees from Vietnam and Cambodia in the 1970's. If you want to receive the GRC newsletter or have other questions or concerns, please contact me.

~ *Amanda Cater* (catera@mcn.net), Gallatin Refugee Connections

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UUFB Mailing Address

We are no longer using a P.O. Box address. Please send all mail addressed to the Fellowship to our street address:

UUFB
325 N. 25th Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59718-2688

Religious Education Corner

Chalica
This year, we celebrate Chalica, a uniquely UU holiday, from Monday, December 4 through Saturday, December 9. Our Sunday service on December 10 will be a multigenerational celebration of the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism, "Chalica." We hope you will join us for this gala event.

Infant-Toddler Nursery
Our new nursery is open for business! We cordially invite parents of children ages 3 months to 3 years to bring your little ones to services. Our Nursery Caregiver, Hannah Chawngte, is available to care for your infants and toddlers.

Children's RE Classes
All children from preschool to middle school are welcome to join our multi-age RE classes. We are currently offering Children's Chapel on the first Sunday of the month, Music Day on the second Sunday, a lesson from the *Miracles* curriculum on the third Sunday, and Art Day on the fourth Sunday. Whenever we have a fifth Sunday, the children will stay in the service with their parents. Marie will send out weekly e-mails to remind families.

Youth Group
Our youth continue to meet outside Fellowship time to explore social justice opportunities, participate in community service activities, and refine their own beliefs and character traits. The group meets twice a month during the school year—typically one of these times is focused on volunteering. This year the group is open to youth in grades 6 through 12. For further information please contact Ita Killeen at ikilleen@bridgergeoplan.com or Rebecca Spear at beccakayspear@gmail.com

Our Whole Lives
Our Whole Lives classes take place at our UCC partner church, Pilgrim Congregational Church. Please stay tuned for news about which grade level will be offered in the spring. For more information about Our Whole Lives please contact Laura Mentch at lauramentch@icloud.com

Children's Chapel
Children's Chapel is a participatory gathering for all ages that is held on the first Sunday of every month. It's a time for learning about leadership, UU rituals, and service etiquette. We look forward to seeing your children at Chapel; parents are always welcome.

Lifespan Religious Education Committee
Monthly meetings of the Lifespan Religious Education Committee (LREC) are held on the first Wednesday evening of each month at 6:30 p.m. Presently we are looking for someone to chair the Adult RE Subcommittee. If you have an interest in Adult or Children's Religious Education, please come and join us!

~ *Marie Lynn* (cre@uufbozeman.org), Coordinator of Religious Education

Adult Programming

The Support Group for Caregivers ~ December 5
The Support Group for Caregivers will meet on Tuesday, December 5, at 10:30 a.m. in the Large RE Classroom (2 & 3) at the UUFB. For more information, please contact Jennifer Haukebo: norsefreya3@gmail.com.

Sharing the Journey ~ December 12
The Sharing the Journey group will meet on Tuesday, December 12, 10:30 a.m., in the Large RE Classroom (2 & 3). Guest speaker, Cynthia Pipinich, will speak on the value and logistics of hospice care. Cindy is a Social Worker and Volunteer Coordinator for Compassus Hospice (formerly Rocky Mountain Hospice). For information, please contact Ken Pierce (kenlindapierce@gmail.com) or Edy Harrington (edyharrington@gmail.com).

UUFB Men's Group ~ December 13
The Men's Group will be hosted by Randy Babbitt at the UUFB Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. Randy will provide the main dish. Attendees are requested to bring appetizers, side dishes, desserts, and/or something to drink. This will be a neat way to kick off the Holiday Season. All planning on attending please let Jack Day know at jhoodday@gmail.com so that Randy will have some idea of how many he'll have to feed.

UU The World Discussion Group
For more information about the UU The World Discussion Group, please contact: Johanna Prindiville: (siobhan_prindiville@yahoo.com;) or Jane Blair (see Church Directory for Jane's phone number).

Adult Religious Education

Spiritual Pluralism Project Groups
Our Fellowship currently has four Spiritual Pluralism groups. Each group usually has a chalice lighting, a time for check-in, a covenant for how they will be together, and time for sharing on a topic or theme. The existing groups are:

UU Buddhist Group ~ The Buddhist Group continues to meet twice a month, usually the second and fourth Tuesday evening from 7:00-8:30 p.m. We meet in member's homes. The next meetings will be December 12 & 26. We are studying Jack Kornfield's wonderful book, *The Wise Heart.* If you have questions or are interested in joining us, please contact Edy Harrington: edyharrington@gmail.com.

UU Earth-Based Spirituality Group ~ If you are interested in attending or have questions, contact facilitators Jackie Evans-Shaw at tripletorches@gmail.com or Dean Littlepage at dljm@bresnan.net.

UU Humanist Group ~ The group explores Humanism and its role in Unitarian Universalism. For more information, please contact Sara Williams: sawilliams6@gmail.com.

UU Mysticism Group ~ The group explores various strands of mysticism within UUism, world religions, and other sources. For more information contact Sherrill Dolezilek at frameitmt@aol.com or Elizabeth Rose at erose@montanadsl.net.

UUFB Holiday Events

Treasure Sale ~ December 3
The TREASURE SALE of years past will take place this year *after* the service on December 3. Please bring your treasure to donate before the service. Gifts to donate are special items that you have received in the past and are now willing to re-gift or share with someone else. We will have tables marked at $1.00, $2.00, $3.00, $5.00, and $10.00. Please put your donated items on the table you think best. People can add up the value of what they purchase and give a check or cash to the check out desk. We will have giftwrapping available.

This is a special way to share in the gifts of Christmas past and send them to the future! If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Andes: bonnieandes@gmail.com.

Christmas Bread and Soup Social ~ December 17
Our Christmas Bread and Soup Social will take place on December 17, after the service. We will share soup and bread together. Signups will be in December. Please wear your holiday sweater. No contest, just Christmas cheer. After soup and bread, we will do a white elephant exchange. Please bring a wrapped item to share. We will do a game to pass them out and laugh at the treasure we have received. Please join us to share in our holiday cheer. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Andes at: bonnieandes@gmail.com. Happy Holidays!

Annual Solstice Celebration! December 21, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Everyone invited—members, friends, families, children. Come early to help make decorations. Making decorations at 6:00 p.m. Program starts at 6:30 p.m. Sharing of good food at 7:20 p.m. or so. For information or questions, please contact Elizabeth Rose: erose@montanadsl.net.

Holiday Caroling ~ December 22, 2:00 p.m.
Come make a joyful noise as we visit UU friends and area rest homes this holiday season. Even if you aren't into singing, we will have shakers to play and the folks we visit would LOVE to see your smiling faces. Details TBA. Please contact Jane Blair (phone number in the UUFB Directory or Adrianne Wallace at avwallace@gmail.com with questions.

Talking With Neighbors ~ December 6

Talking With Neighbors meets on the first Wednesdays of the month at noon, Temple Beth Shalom, 2010 W. Koch St. Monthly presenters include Rabbi Ed Stafman, Dr. Ruhul Amin, The Rev. Jody McDevitt, The Rev. Leo Proxell, and invited guest panelists. December's topic is *Civil Religion: How Do Our Faith Traditions Interact with American Civil Religion?* with Rev. Joel Seifert (WELS).

Feel free to bring your lunch, and please respect the Temple and do not bring pork or shellfish products. Everyone is welcome to attend, listen, and ask questions. For more information visit https://bethshalombozeman.org/ or call 406-556-0528.

Gallatin Valley Interfaith News

Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association is undertaking a training in how to dialogue with people of opposing viewpoints under the direction of Deidre Combs, a local conflict management teacher. In November the discussion centered on the assumptions we make about others, even though we have very little actual information.

We also spent some time discussing how to listen to viewpoints to which we are opposed. The key is to maintain an attitude of curiosity about the other viewpoint and refrain from making judgments about it.

We will continue the training in January and February.

~*Amanda Cater* (catera@mcn.net)

2017-2018 Board Members
The UUFB Board generally meets on the third Thursday of each month at the UUFB Office.

President: Dick Young
Vice-President: Tonya Stevens
Secretary: Janet Lewis
Treasurer: David Andes
Member-at-Large: Deanna Dean
Member-at-Large: Diane Knipfer
Member-at-Large: Susan Slade

Committees/Task Force Leaders/Contacts
Adult Religious Education: Currently Open
Building & Grounds Committee: Dan Sweeney, Chair
Building Use Committee: Carolyn Boyd, Chair
Caregivers Support Group: Jennifer Haukebo, Contact
Caring Committee, Contact: Mattie Whitehouse
Meals and Rides: Mattie Whitehouse
Committee on Ministry: Jack Fisher, Chair
Communications Committee: Peg Wherry, Convener
Fork & Spoon: Randy Babbitt, Chair
Environmental Justice Task Force: Currently Open
Family Promise Task Force: Tonya Stevens, Chair
Finance Committee: Bruce DePriester, Chair
Food Bank: Norm Eggert, Contact
Historian: Currently Open
Hospitality/Membership: Carolyn Boyd, Contact
Interior Design Working Group: Cathy Cooper, Chair
Kitchen/Bath Supplier: Suzy Sterling, Contact
Librarian: Jean Moe, Contact
Lifespan Religious Education: Mandy Jore, Chair
Men's Group: Jack Day, Contact
Our Whole Lives Interfaith Committee: Laura Mentch, Chair
Personnel Committee: Currently Open
Program Council: Diane Knipfer & Dick Young, Co-Chairs
Safety Task Force Committee: Marie Lynn, Contact
Sharing The Journey: Ken Pierce, Contact
Social Activities: Bonnie Andes, Chair
Social Justice/Action Committee: Jesse Eide, Chair
Sunday Services Committee: Jan Young, Chair
UU the World Discussion Group: Johanna Prindiville, Contact
Women's Group: Daphne Fox, Interim Contact

Spiritual Pluralism Group Leaders
UU Buddhist Group: Edy Harrington, Contact
UU Humanist Group: Sara Williams, Contact
UU Mysticism Group: Sherrill Dolezilek & Elizabeth Rose, Contacts
UU Earth-Based Spirituality Group: Jackie Evans-Shaw & Dean Littlepage, Contacts

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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 an 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, so please use discretion when sending email to this address.

Email the following:
To Subscribe: uufb-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
To Unsubscribe: uufb-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
Email address: admin@uufbozeman.org

In addition to the email group, you can sign up to receive our weekly emails (from late August-June) with announcements about upcoming services and UUFB related events by visiting our website at uufbozeman.org and filling out the subscription form on the UUFB Home page.

The UUFB Newsletter is published monthly from September to June. The deadline to submit articles is the third Thursday of the month. Articles can be submitted to our Administrative Coordinator, Rilla Esbjornson at admin@uufbozeman.org.

Minister:
Rev. Duffy Peet
minister@uufbozeman.org
406-586-1368 (UUFB Office)
Office Hours:
Tuesdays, 1:30-5:30 p.m.
Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon
And by appointment

Coordinator of Religious Education:
Marie Lynn
cre@uufbozeman.org
406-586-1368
Sunday: 9:30-11:30 a.m. (UUFB Service)
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Saturday: 10:30 a.m.-Noon (Home Office)
Friday: 10:30 a.m.-Noon (UUFB Office)

Administrative Coordinator:
Rilla Esbjornson
admin@uufbozeman.org
406-586-1368
Office Hours:
Tuesday-Friday: 10:00 a.m-2:30 p.m.