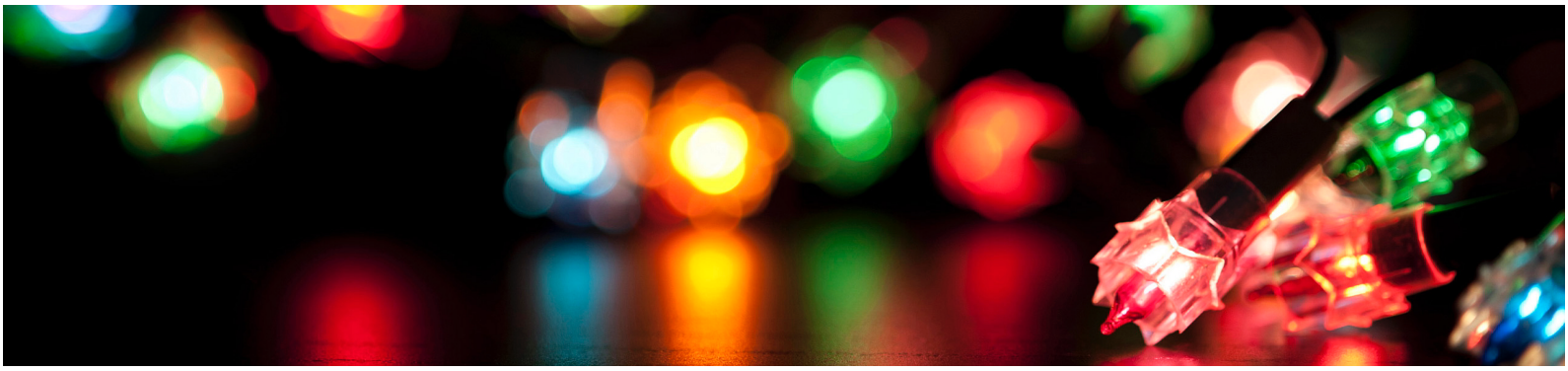
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2018

UUFB News

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman



December Sunday Services

December 2, 2018 • Rev. Duffy Peet • Revisiting Salvation
Salvation is an important theme of the holiday season—a theme that doesn't get talked about much in many UU congregations. The word "salvation" seems to have lost favor in our congregations today. We will consider salvation in light of three of the holidays of this season. We will also consider how salvation is a significant concept in Unitarian Universalism today.

December 9, 2018 • Fellowship Readers Theatre • Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas
Presented by the Fellowship Readers Theatre, seven-holiday stories from the internationally best-selling author and Unitarian Universalist Minister, Robert Fulghum, have been crafted into an engaging morning of storytelling and song. They take a funny, heartwarming and often poignant look at the struggle to find the spirit of the holidays amid the avalanche of commercialism, stress, and chaos that crashes down every December. Ending in a beautiful, deeply moving tribute to the winter solstice, celebrating nature's precious annual gift of rebirth, this charming event will rekindle the true spirit of the holidays.

December 16, 2018 • Rev. Duffy Peet • Happy Holidays!
These two words are a common greeting this time of year. The holiday season is commonly understood to begin with Thanksgiving and end with New Year's Day, with Christmas in between. But these are only a few of the holidays which are celebrated during this period. How many of the other holidays are there during the 2018 holiday season?

December 23, 2018 • Sunday Service: "Peace, Justice and the Wisdom to Know the Difference" by Susan Maginn - Lay Presenter: Hilary Parker
Join us as Lay Presenter, Hilary Parker, reads "Peace, Justice and the Wisdom to Know the Difference" by Susan Maginn, UU minister serving the Navy Chaplain Corps.

Sunday Services continued on next page…

Upcoming Events

2nd	New Member Welcome
4th	Support Group for Caregivers
5th	Talking with Neighbors: Music and Religion
9th	2nd Sunday Offering to Haven
9th	Holiday Treasure Sale
12th	Men's Group
14th	Neighborhood Listening Session on Parking
16th	Food Bank Sunday
16th	Soup & Bread Potluck & Gift Exchange
16th	Family Service
19th	Women's Group
21st	Community Celebration: "A Cosmic Solstice Spiral"
23rd	Christmas Caroling
27th	Fork & Spoon
30th	5th Sunday Offering

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman

406-586-1368
www.uufbozeman.org
Rev. Duffy Peet, Minister
minister@uufbozeman.org

Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.
325 N. 25th Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59718-2688

December Sunday Services continued…

December 24, 2018 • Rev. Duffy Peet • Christmas Eve
The Christmas Eve service is typically filled with meaning and significance for those who attend. Our evening service will include readings and music that are symbolic of this holiday season. We will join in singing familiar Christmas hymns. And we will contemplate the meaning of Christmas, that divine love offers good will to all, and the hope of Christmas, that there will be peace on Earth.

December 30, 2018 • Chaplain Katie Michael-Sanchez • Begin Again in Love
How do we move into the new year? A reflection on beginnings and endings.

Minister Musings

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

With Thanksgiving 2018 a memory, and December now upon us, we are immersed in the holiday season. As we drive or walk about town, it is hard to miss the decorations and other indicators that this is a festive time of year. The holiday season, as it is commonly called, is a very special time of year for many people in our community who are actively engaged in a religious faith community. For people of the Christian faith, December 25 is the most important holiday of the year. Members of other faith traditions also have important holidays during this season. Those of you who read my article in the Bozeman Chronicle on November 25 are familiar with some of these holidays. For those of you who don't get the paper, here are some of the holidays that get less attention and recognition in our culture yet are important for us, as Unitarian Universalists, to be aware of. There is Guru Nanak Dev Sahib's birthday (Sikh) on Nov. 23 , Day of the Covenant on Nov. 26 as well as Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha on Nov. 28 (Baha'i), Hanukkah on Dec. 3-10 (Jewish), Bodhi Day or Rohatsu on Dec. 8 (Buddhist), Yule on Dec. 21 (Christian & Pagan), Zarothosht Diso (Zoroastrian) on Dec. 26 and Gantan-sai (Shinto) on Jan. 1. And if we expand the timeframe of the holiday season just a bit, some members of the Islamic faith celebrate Mawlid al-Nabi beginning on the evening of Nov. 20 through the evening of Nov. 21. There is also Kwanzaa which has its origins in cultures from the African continent that goes from Dec. 26 - Jan. 1. This is not an exhaustive list, just a sample of the diversity of holidays that occur during the holiday season this year.

I believe it is important for us to be aware of these holidays since, as our Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes state, "the living tradition we share draws from many sources…." As Unitarian Universalists, we respect and seek to honor "wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life." Holidays can be a time for us to learn about the important events and/or celebrations of religious traditions we may have no experience with or know little about.

When we realize how many holidays there are during this time of year, and the array of religious traditions these holidays represent, it seems quite obvious that this truly is the holiday season. It is quite likely that we will encounter someone over the course of this holiday season who celebrates a holiday that we ourselves do not. Yet while there are some people who advocate for greetings to others which identify just one holiday, it seems to me that a salutation of "happy holiday" is both appropriate and respectful to the diversity of important holidays that occur. So whether I am celebrating one, two, three or more of these holidays this year, my greeting will be the same. Happy holidays. May this holiday season bring you the best gifts that life can offer, peace, joy, love, compassion and wisdom.

Religious Exploration Corner

Welcome to the world of Religious Exploration at UUFB! The Lifespan Religious Exploration Committee believes in nurturing spiritual growth in people of all ages and stages of life, whether they be toddlers, elders, or somewhere in-between. Religious exploration is exactly what it sounds like: exploring various facets of religious thought and practice through visual, auditory and kinesthetic pathways.

- **The next Family Service is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 16th from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m.** We will have a very special Aboriginal creation story from Australia. We especially welcome families with young children who may have difficulty keeping still. Family Services are designed for folks of all ages who like to move! I hope to see some you there.

- **Thank you** to all who participated in our Giving House project. Your generosity will surely help the homeless high school students stay in school and get the education they deserve! Thank you, Suzy Sterling, for your help in organizing this project. And a special thank you to the children who participated by making all those tree tags.

- **Our December Community Celebration, "A Cosmic Solstice Spiral," will take place on Friday, Dec. 21st from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** All are welcome to this gala event, which includes activities for all ages, an interactive Cosmic Solstice presentation, and a Spiral procession. Light desserts and beverages will be provided.

- **Our next Community Celebration will take place in March.** Stay tuned for further details on the listserve, in the e-news and in next month's newsletter.

As always, our Fellowship will continue to offer nursery care and RE classes during Sunday morning services. However, in order for us to continue to do so, **we need volunteers--every week**! I have created a RE bulletin board in the Social Hall, which contains information about the curriculum we are working with, as well as a week by week sign-up for nursery care and for our multi-age RE class. Together, let's make Sunday mornings a wonderful experience for our children.

The Lifespan Religious Exploration Committee is dedicated to providing learning opportunities for all ages, both structured and nonstructured, within an inquiring religious community. These opportunities are designed to foster spiritual growth while developing and strengthening healthy values in a safe, nurturing environment.

Marie Lynn, Coordinator of Religious Exploration
cre@uufbozeman.org

Adult Programming

The Giving House - Tags Due December 2

Dec. 2nd is the final day to turn in your Giving House tags. Thanks to all who are participating in helping homeless high school students stay in school!

~

Welcoming Ceremony for New Members - December 2

On December 2, the Hospitality/Membership Committee will be holding a Welcoming Ceremony during the Sunday Service for those who wish to join UUFB. We know that membership is a very personal decision. If you are considering membership, please contact Susan Backer (backersu100@gmail.com) or Rev. Duffy Peet (minister@uufbozeman.org).

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Support Group for Caregivers - December 4

The Support Group for Caregivers will meet on Tuesday, December 4 at 10:30 a.m., in the UUFB large classroom. For more information, contact Jennifer Haukebo (frozenthumb.89@gmail.com).

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Talking with Neighbors - December 5

How does religion intersect with other areas of human endeavor and inquiry? Each month this year, we will be joined by a faculty member from MSU. Together, panelists will examine the intersection of our religions with the fields of study represented by these scholars. Join us December 5 at Resurrection Parish (1725 S. 11th Ave) from 12 to 1 p.m. Eric Funk, Composer, Performer, & Faculty Member in the School of Music, will speak on music and religion. Please feel free to bring a sack lunch, if you would like. For more information, visit www.resurrectionbozeman.org.

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2nd Sunday Offering: Haven - December 9

The 2nd Sunday Offering on December 9 will go to Haven. Haven is committed to reducing the incidence and minimizing the impact of domestic abuse on families and communities. They provide emergency shelter, crisis intervention, on-going support, referrals, and education.

Adult Religious Exploration

Spiritual Pluralism Project Groups

Our Fellowship currently has three 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 Earth-Based Spirituality Group - We explore the spiritual and moral dimensions of our experience of the wonders of Earth, and our relationships within the web of all life. For more information, please contact Dean Littlepage (dljm@bresnan.net).

UU Humanist Group -
The UU Humanist Group explores Humanism and its role in Unitarian Universalism. The next meeting will be December 17, 6:30 p.m. at UUFB. The group is currently reading and discussing the book, "Brief Answers to the Big Questions" by Stephen Hawking. For more information, please contact Sara Williams (sawilliams6@gmail.com).

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

Adult Programming

continued…

Men's Group - December 12

Mike Clark will be hosting the Men's Group meeting at the Fellowship Hall, Wed. December 12, 6:30 p.m. All men are invited and encouraged to attend. Mike will be serving the main dish and lead the discussion. Attendees can bring an appetizer, side dish, dessert, and/or something to drink. Please let Jack Day at jhoodday@gmail.com know if you plan to attend so Mike will have an idea of how much food to prepare.

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Food Bank Sunday - December 16

Non-perishable food donations and toiletries for the Gallatin Valley Food Bank will be collected at the UUFB service on December 16. For more information about donating to the Food Bank, please contact Norm Eggert (jandneggert@gmail.com).

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Soup & Bread Potluck, White Elephant Gift Exchange - December 16

Let us join together for a fun winter gathering. Join us on Sunday, December 16, at 11:00 a.m. for a Soup & Bread Potluck! Sign up on the Social Activities bulletin board in the Social Hall to bring a favorite soup or bread to share. There will also be a White Elephant Gift Exchange. If you would like to participate, bring a wrapped gift. If you have questions, please contact Rene Keating (renekirt@aol.com).

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Family Service - December 16

The next Family Service is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 16th from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. We will have a very special Aboriginal creation story from Australia. We especially welcome families with young children who may have difficulty keeping still. Family Services are designed for folks of all ages who like to move!

UUFB Holiday Treasure Sale!

Sunday, December 9, 2018, after the service in UUFB Social Hall

WHAT'S A TREASURE SALE?
A Treasure Sale is a perfect opportunity to find a holiday gift! We ask members & friends to donate gently used/almost new children's games/toys, handmade items, holiday decorations, jewelry, art, and small household items for sale. It's a bit like regifting!

After our Sunday morning service, we will open the sale for shopping. Please bring a healthy finger food to share, and feel free to invite a friend to this event.

You can drop off your donations Saturday, December 8 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. or before the service Sunday morning. Save your books for the January 2019 sale, please. No electronics or clothes this time, please.

Questions? Contact a member of the Fundraising Committee: Janet Lewis (jananddan345@gmail.com), Leona Poritz (bugs@bio-control.com), Peg Wherry (pegwherry@bresnan.net).

Adult Programming

continued…

Women's Group - December 19

All women in the Fellowship are invited to the December Women's Group, held on Wednesday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the social hall. Hosts Barbara Graham, Janet Lewis, and Beth D'Atri will provide the main dish. As a participant, please bring a salad, dessert or bread. Coffee, tea, and juice will be provided and additional beverages are welcome. If for some reason you cannot bring a dish to the potluck, please come anyway. Your presence is what's important.

After dinner, a topic chosen by the hosts will be discussed. In addition, the group will discuss and vote on whether to move Women's Group to the fourth Wednesday of the month starting in January. The Montana Women's Chorus has asked if we would be willing to make that change. Currently, they are practicing the fourth Wednesday and the first Wednesday of each month. With a change, they would be able to meet every other week. Contact Beth D'Atri at 209-3772 or loveplants6@gmail.com with questions or comments.

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Community Celebration: "A Cosmic Solstice Spiral" - December 21

Our December Community Celebration, "A Cosmic Solstice Spiral," will take place on Friday, Dec. 21st from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. All are welcome to this gala event, which includes activities for all ages, an interactive Cosmic Solstice presentation and a Spiral procession. Light desserts and beverages will be provided.

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Christmas Caroling - December 23

Meet at the UUFB at 1:45 p.m. on Sunday, December 23rd to join us in the fun of Christmas Caroling! If you have questions, please contact Jane Blair at 451-3890.

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Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed - December 27

We need 3-4 volunteers from UUFB for dinner service on December 27th at Fork and Spoon, 4:30-7:30 p.m. If you can volunteer, please sign up on volunteer board. For more information, please contact Randy Babbitt (wrbabbitt@gmail.com).

Reminder from the Parking Lot Task Force

SAFETY FIRST -- if you feel you need a parking space in the lot over the winter, please put your name on the list in the social hall, or tell a member of the Parking Lot Task Force. Don't be shy about this.

We still need volunteers to join Bill Goold (j.william.goold@gmail.com) for the valet parking service. Strap-on cleats will be available if you need them.

The map of our neighborhood with 'parking' and 'no parking' streets clearly delineated will be digitized and made available on the website (thank you Lee McGill). Please be thoughtful of our neighbors when choosing where to park each week.

With a view toward being good neighbors, the Parking Task Force will be hosting two listening sessions with our neighbors who own homes or other properties near our UU Fellowship Hall. We will leaflet the neighborhood to invite them to a listening session to be held in our building during which our neighbors can share their concerns/ideas/preferences about the current parking situation for our better understanding and possible redress. The dates for the upcoming Friday evening gatherings will be from 6:30-8:00 p.m. are listed below and cider/coffee/snack will be provided. Please join us, to listen and better understand options for improving upon the current dilemma.

The next meeting of the Task Force will be Thursday, January 3rd, at 11 a.m. Feel free to join us if you have ideas or problems you believe are not being addressed. We need all the input we can get.

CAREFUL LISTENING MAKES GOOD NEIGHBORS!

As Members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman (UUFB), we are hosting and inviting you to listening sessions to be held from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the UUFB Social Hall on Friday, December 14th, and Friday, January 11th. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

In addition to getting better acquainted with you, we want to listen to your concerns, preferences, and ideas about the current parking situation surrounding the UUFB building for our better understanding and possible redress.

Please join us, if you wish, so we can listen, more fully understand, and be better informed about options for improving the situation.

If you have any questions about this gathering in advance, please contact Bill Goold by phone (703-606-2531) or by email at j.william.goold@gmail.com. Alternatively, if you cannot attend on either/both of those two evenings, please feel free to email or phone Bill or send us a letter at UUFB (Parking Task Force); 325 N. 25th Street; Bozeman, Montana 59718.

2018-2019 Board Members

- President: Tonya Stevens
- Vice President: Currently Open
- Past President: Dick Young
- Secretary: Janet Lewis
- Treasurer: Bruce DePriester, Interim
- Member-at-Large: Deanna Dean
- Member-at-Large: Lee McGill

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, Meals, Rides: Mattie Whitehouse, Contact
- Committee on Ministry: Elizabeth Rose, Contact
- Communications Committee: Peg Wherry, Convener
- Fork & Spoon: Randy Babbitt, Chair
- Fundraising: Janet Lewis, Contact
- Environmental Justice Task Force: Currently Open
- Family Promise Task Force: Tonya Stevens, Chair
- Finance Committee: Bruce DePriester, Chair
- Food Bank: Norm Eggert, Contact
- Historian: Susan Backer, Chair
- Hospitality/Membership: Carolyn Boyd, Contact
- Interior Design: Diane Knipfer & Jan Young, Contacts
- Kitchen/Bath Supplier: Suzy Sterling, Contact
- Librarian: Jeanne Moe, Contact
- Lifespan Religious Education: Currently Open
- Men's Group: Jack Day, Contact
- Our Whole Lives Interfaith Committee: Laura Mentch, Chair
- Personnel Committee: Position Open
- Program Council: Dick Young, Chair
- Safety Task Force Committee: Marie Lynn, Contact
- Social Activities: Bonnie Andes, Chair
- Social Justice/Action Committee: Jesse Eide, Chair
- Sunday Services Committee: Jan Young, Chair
- Women's Group: Beth D'Atri, Contact

Spiritual Pluralism Group Leaders

- UU Humanist Group: Sara Williams, Contact
- UU Mysticism Group: Sherrill Dolezilek & Elizabeth Rose, Contacts
- UU Earth-Based Spirituality Group: Dean Littlepage, Contact

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 with announcements about upcoming services and UUFB related events by visiting our website at uufbozeman.org and filling out the subscription form at the bottom of the UUFB Home page.

The UUFB Newsletter is published monthly. The deadline to submit articles is the third Thursday of the month. Announcements & news for the Sunday Service bulletin and Friday e-news are due in by 9 a.m. every Tuesday. Articles, announcements & news can be submitted to our Office Administrator at admin@uufbozeman.org.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman
325 N. 25th Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59718-2688

Minister:
Rev. Duffy Peet
minister@uufbozeman.org
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
Office Hours:
Sunday: 9:30-11:30 a.m. (UUFB Service)
Mon., Fri.: 9:30-10:30 a.m. (UUFB Office)
Tue., Wed., Thurs.: 8:30-10:00 a.m. (Home Office)

Office Administrator:
Christy Huddleston
admin@uufbozeman.org
Office Hours:
Tue. - Fri.: 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.