

AUGUST 2021

UUFB NEWS

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY • 10:00 A.M. MDT
IN-PERSON & LIVE ON YOUTUBE

August 1, 2021 • "Seeking the Sacred in Nature" • Rev. Duffy Peet

For longer than we can know for certain, humans have been seeking to experience and connect with that which is sacred. In their quest to experience and connect with that which is sacred, well-known religious teachers and leaders of an array of different traditions, as well as common people, have sought out places in the natural world. You might say that nature has been and continues to be the common sanctuary for many, if not all, religious traditions. Where and how do you seek the sacred in nature?

August 8, 2021 • To be announced • Guest Speaker: Father D. Gregory Smith

Fr. Smith is originally from Twin Bridges, where he grew up on a ranch. He attended Carroll College and then moved to Rome to go to seminary. After five years in Rome (and two theology degrees later) he was parish priest at the Cathedral of Saint Helena for eight years before taking a leave of absence to get his master's in counseling psychology. He became an Episcopalian in 2014 and was received as a priest in 2015. He is now the assisting priest at Saint James and a practicing psychotherapist. He's the proud husband of Ken and they are the dads of their dogs, Laddy and Phyllis.

August 15, 2021 • "To Become Visible" • Guest Speaker: Brian Griffin

The poet David Whyte wrote, "To become human is to become visible." In our present time of withdrawal in the face of Covid, what does it mean to awaken? To see? To be seen? We did not choose Covid; it built its walls around us, and we have had little choice but to stay behind our own walls, longing for what seems lost. We isolate ourselves out of love – our love for life, our love for others. But is it possible that the walls that protect us mirror a darker story we have never quite grasped? This sermon will take us back to a time when some people lived behind walls of their own making, built not of love but of exclusion. It will be a story of the invisible becoming visible, of the blind suddenly seeing, of the "inhuman" suddenly showing itself to be more human than many had imagined. It's a story of race and renewal, of humanity growing and flowering, just a bit. It's a tale of a small flower blooming its way through a thick hard wall; of the people who saw its beauty and of those who chose not to; and of the work that remains to be done.

Continued on page 2



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF BOZEMAN

uufbozeman.org
406.586.1368

Rev. Duffy Peet, Minister

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



UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES CONTINUED...

August 15, 2021 • "To Become Visible" • Guest Speaker: Brian Griffin - *continued*

Brian Griffin grew up in Soddy Daisy, Tennessee, and is now a resident of Knoxville. He has taught English and creative writing at the University of Virginia, Pellissippi State Community College, and The University of Tennessee. He was Youth Programs Coordinator for Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church for several years before becoming Director of Lifespan Religious Education there. His collection of poems about the TVUUC shooting, *Single Lens Reflex*, will be published in the fall.

August 22, 2021 • "Roots and Wings" • UUFB Speakers

Our faith has some amazing people across a wide swath of history and talents. Come hear some highlights of admirable and famous Unitarian and/or Universalists as chosen by your fellow congregants. We will be meeting at Bozeman Pond. Stay afterward for a "Bring Your Own Everything" picnic.

August 29, 2021 • "Earth Has a Fever" • Rev. Duffy Peet

Here in Montana and throughout much of the western U.S., this summer has been incredibly hot and dry. Water levels are approaching or exceeding record lows. And fires have burned across immense areas of grasslands and forestlands. It seems that the Earth has a fever and the behavior of humans is a significant factor in causing that fever. Will we take the necessary action to change our ways for the benefit of the Earth and all living beings on it?



Save The Date! 2021 UUFB Retreat

You're invited to join us for the **2021 UUFB Retreat: A Refuge to Reconnect**. Block off **Sunday, September 12th** on your calendars for a day at the Lindley Center. Plan to spend the day exploring all we hold near and dear at UUFB, reconnecting and getting to know your fellow UUs, and spending time TOGETHER exploring the arts, music, service, faith, belonging, play and more. This day will have something for all UUs, young and old, newcomers and old-timers and we hope to see as many friends and members as possible.

Besides a Sunday service, we are planning to host the following activities and would love about 30 minutes of your leadership/help!

We are looking for people to lead:

- pre-service gatherings (think Peets hill hike/walk, yoga, coffee) before the service.
- co-lead a session with an art/craft or a musical/singalong session
- co-lead a workshop on topics such as "Creating a Caring Community", "Radical Belonging", "Social Action" or "Congregational Involvement"
- lead a group or picnic game
- or something else we haven't dreamed up yet! Throw us your ideas of what you might be willing to host/lead before August 10th!

Look for more details and RSVP instructions, schedule and more in the next few weeks!

Email/call Heather Watson or Sandra Oldendorf if you are willing to help in one of the above ways!



MINISTER MUSINGS

REV. DUFFY PEET



News of the recent discoveries of hundreds of unmarked graves at former residential schools for indigenous children in Canada disturbed and saddened me. It has taken decades and even centuries for this news to become public knowledge. Native people have known for generations what many of us are just becoming aware of. They have known that many of the children of their families and tribes who were sent to these residential schools and never returned home died at the schools and were buried with little or no recognition of their worth and dignity.

I was not surprised by the news accounts of the unmarked graves that were found. Since the early 1980's I have known about the devastating impacts of what are often referred to as "Indian boarding schools" in this country. When I was in my 30's a few Native people I knew trusted me enough to share their own experiences in such boarding schools. Just hearing their stories was painful. I can't imagine how incredibly painful and difficult it must have been to endure the experiences these people shared with me. As the news of the unmarked graves indicates, some did not survive the boarding school experience.

While the news of the unmarked graves disturbs and saddens me, I also feel encouraged that this information is finally getting the attention it both deserves and demands. Until quite recently, the history of the Indian boarding schools in this country has not been provided to the general public. And the history of these boarding schools has not been taught in our public schools. While the history of slavery has been getting significantly more attention since the Civil Rights movement of the last century, the plight of Native Peoples, and particularly Native children who were often forced to attend boarding schools, has been at the least neglected, and at the worst, denied and covered up.

The neglect, the denial and the cover-up is beginning to break down. In 2013 Maine became the first State in the U.S. to establish a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to explore the impacts that policies and practices of State agencies had on Native Peoples who live there. And on June 22 of this year Deb Haaland, U.S. Secretary of the Interior, announced the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative. The purpose of this Initiative is to engage in a comprehensive review of the troubled legacy of federal boarding school policies. The Initiative will serve as an investigation about the loss of human life and the lasting consequences of residential Indian boarding schools in the United States. This Initiative is long overdue.

While many of the boarding schools in this country were funded by the Federal Government, the vast majority were established and managed by religious organizations. One example is the Montana Industrial School for Indians which was established by the American Unitarian Association in 1886 on what is now the Crow reservation. As the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative does its work of exploring and documenting the impacts of the boarding school issue nationwide, I hope we, as Unitarian Universalists in Montana, do our own work to learn about how our Unitarian forebears were involved in the tragic Indian boarding school movement that had as a core purpose the forced assimilation of Native children into the Euro-American culture.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION



This month our topic is Creativity! We will explore how to find (and create) art wherever you are! We'll try participating in collaborative art, making art with our bodies, creating art with a message for others to learn from, finding art that already exists in nature, and last but not least, playing with art and food! Come join us as we play and find expression in creativity.



Sunday, August 1st – Art with Friends

Sunday, August 8th – Art with our Bodies

Sunday, August 15th – Art for a Cause

Sunday, August 22nd – (@ Bozeman Pond) – Art in Nature

Sunday, August 29th – Art with Food

Religious Exploration (RE) is back in-person and outside at 10 a.m. at the UUFBo (unless noted otherwise). To help us plan and keep class sizes small, we do ask that you register ahead of time. Register at <https://uufbozeman.org/rvsp/>. When you arrive, please check-in your children outside at the back of the church. We will be outside for the entire service so make sure everyone dresses accordingly. If there is severe weather, we will cancel RE for that day.

RE class will be mixed ages. Any child 24 months and older is welcome to join us. Please know, due to limited staffing, we will not be able to change diapers. Masks and social distancing are encouraged. If you have any questions, please contact Beth at cre@uufbozeman.org.

FAMILY & YOUTH FUN NIGHT - Saturday, August 14th, 5-7 p.m. at UUFBo

Everyone is welcome to come to the family & youth fun night Saturday, August 14th, 5-7 p.m. at UUFBo! We will have games and activities to entertain all ages. A great time for returning families to reconnect and new members and friends to meet others. We will provide sandwiches and drinks. Please bring anything else you'd like for yourself. Watch the listserv for more information.

We're Hiring!

RE is looking to hire a Nursery Aid. This position will help supervise RE/Nursery classes on Sunday mornings from 10-11 a.m. Applicants need to be 18 years or older, have experience working with children, and be able to pass a background check. If interested, please email Beth at cre@uufbozeman.org.

Looking for RE help!

If you have been attending services for at least 6 months, are willing to undergo a background check, and enjoy kids, please consider signing up! Our youth love to meet members of the congregation and enjoy sharing about what they are learning. For more information, you can contact Beth Witte at cre@uufbozeman.org. We appreciate the support!



A New Orientation

By Mariela Pérez-Simons

During my high school years in Cuba, every student needed to pick a sport. I decided to take Orienteering instead of the traditional options because I preferred being outdoors instead of inside loud and smelly gymnasiums.

Taking Orienteering was the best decision I made as a teenager. That training has served me well: it taught me to depend on both my trusty outer compass and my own inner compass. In high school, when I lost myself in the woods (on purpose), I was trained to find my way out. Similarly, every time I've lost myself in the whirlwind that is the patriarchal white-supremacist culture of our society, I've been able to find my way out.

A hand with red nail polish cups a compass, above the mossy floor of a forest, and the other hand points to moss or another object on the ground.



I'm ashamed to count the ways I've gotten completely lost in the vortex that is the white-patriarchal culture of this society. It says: "Faster! More! Bigger!!!" and it goes on abusing people and the planet along the way, with its hunger for more money, more profit; extracting resources; sucking the life out of living things.

This way is not sustainable. Our nervous system can't sustain that speed, that greed. Our immune system can't handle it. Our Earth can't handle it. It's self-destructive.

Every time I get lost in it, I find my way out. My inner compass shows me the way, because it has a different voice. It says, "This is the way: slower, gentler, more nurturing." I know this in my bones.

I don't know where this inner compass comes from. Maybe from my ancestral pool? Yes, and I also think it's from being human, from being a living organism on this planet that knows about the conditions that are life-giving and the conditions that suck our life force. It comes from something within that has learned to recognize self-destructive systems and to return to the Earth for healing.

My inner compass points towards this new North, reminding me of this power we've been given to create a new future. I move in this direction now. A new orientation in life, a new direction, beckons to all of us: one that is life-giving.



About the Author

Rev. Mariela Pérez-Simons (she/her) is a Cuban-American UU minister focusing on eco-spirituality, ecofeminism, and religious naturalism. She's the producer of the weekly show "The Seed, The Soil, & The Soul." She can be found online @RevMariela.



Submit a QACC!

Do you have Questions, Appreciations, Comments, or Concerns (QACCs)? The Committee on Ministry welcomes it all! To submit your QACC look for the box with the yellow rubber duck on top in the social hall or submit online at uufbozeman.org/qacc. The Committee on Ministry reviews submissions at their monthly meetings.



Upcoming Events


 A graphic showing a piece of torn paper with the word "RSVP" written on it in a bold, serif font.

RSVP for Upcoming Services & Children's Religious Exploration (RE)

UUFb is now open for in-person services! To be responsible and not be part of yet another Covid wave, services in the building will continue to require masks, and there will be no singing but music will be provided, and you are certainly invited to hum along. We will maintain social distancing, which means we will have limited seating inside. **Registration for the limited seating is required.** Please visit tinyurl.com/uufb-rsvp to RSVP for service and Children's RE. The page will be updated each Sunday with a link to the upcoming service. We will also stream the service live through YouTube for those unable to attend, or if you aren't ready just yet. To view other special guidelines, please visit our website.


 A graphic showing two smartphones. The left one displays a man's face, and the right one displays a woman's face, both with red speech bubbles, representing virtual communication.

Virtual Social Time

Join us for a virtual social time via Zoom after the Service! To participate in this social time, connect to Zoom at 11:15 a.m. MDT where you will be split into groups with other congregants for a half-hour of socializing. The link will be sent out on the listserv.


 A graphic showing a hand holding a globe with green leaves growing from the top, symbolizing environmental care and social justice.

2nd Sunday Offering to the Barrelnaker Productions – August 8

The Social Justice Action Committee has specified that the August 8th offering will go to Barrelnaker Productions in honor of Youth v Gov. You can donate to this fund by giving online (uufbozeman.org/donate) and selecting "Give to 2nd Sunday charitable donation" or you can mail in a check made out to UUFb and write "Barrelnaker" in the memo line. Mail your contributions to UUFb, 325 N. 25th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59718.

Barrelnaker Productions, run by Christi Cooper (Bozeman resident), uses the power of storytelling to galvanize environmental justice, conservation, human rights, and science. Their current project, YOUTH v GOV, is the story of America's youth taking on the world's most powerful government. Since 2015, twenty-one plaintiffs, now ages 13 to 24, have been suing the U.S. government for violating their constitutional rights to life, liberty, personal safety, and property through willful actions, creating the climate crisis America's youth will inherit. Christi Cooper is the filmmaker for Youth v Gov and advocates behind the scenes for environmental justice. She is currently working on a grant to Interfaith Power & Light so churches can hold screenings of the film. Your donation will help aid Christi & Barrelnaker Productions in their efforts. Find out more at youthvgovfilm.com.


 A graphic showing four people (two men and two women) sitting around a table, engaged in a meeting or discussion.

Program Council – August 8

Program Council will meet via Zoom on Sunday, August 8 at 11:45 a.m. All committees, task forces, and working groups should send a representative to this meeting. Questions? Contact Jeanne Moe.


 A graphic showing a family (a man, a woman, and two children) sitting on the floor around a table, playing a board game.

Family & Youth Fun Night – August 14

Everyone is welcome to come to the family & youth fun night Saturday, August 14th, 5-7 p.m. at UUFb! We will have games and activities to entertain all ages. A great time for returning families to reconnect and new members and friends to meet others. We will provide sandwiches and drinks. Please bring anything else you'd like for yourself. Watch the listserv for more information.

Continued on next page...

Upcoming Events



Food Bank Sunday – August 15

Non-perishable food donations and toiletries for the Gallatin Valley Food Bank will be collected at this UUFB service. For more information about donating to the Food Bank, contact Norm Eggert.



Women's Group – August 17

All UUFB women are invited for August's women's group in Heather W.'s backyard on August 17th at 6:30 p.m. We will explore the theme of Sonder, the realization that each random passerby is living a life as vivid and complex as your own. In that spirit, please bring an artifact, picture or story to share with the group that gives us a glimpse of some aspect of your life's complexities you're willing to share. For the address and to RSVP, please check the listserv or contact the Office Admin.



Bring Your Own Everything Picnic – August 22

After the August 22, 2021 service at Bozeman Pond Park join us for a "Bring Your Own Everything" picnic. Childcare will be provided. Bring an extra chair if you have one.



FORK & SPOON
HOMESTYLE KITCHEN

Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed – August 26

Fork & Spoon is back, and volunteers are needed! Every month on the fourth Thursday from 4:30–7:30 p.m. UUFB needs 2 volunteers and 2 backup volunteers to help at Fork & Spoon (backups will only be called if the 2 main volunteers cannot attend). Please make sure to bring a mask. Sign up on the UUFB bulletin board or send an email to admin@uufbozeman with your name and phone number. If you have questions about volunteering for Fork & Spoon, please contact Randy Babbitt.



5th Sunday Offering to Emergency Fire Relief – August 29

The Social Justice Action Committee (SJAC) has specified that the August 29th offering will be saved and used for emergency fire relief. Once SJAC chooses a recipient, the funds will be sent. You can donate to this fund by giving online (uufbozeman.org/donate) and selecting "Give to 5th Sunday disaster relief fund" or you can mail in a check made out to UUFB and write "5th Sunday" in the memo line. Mail your contributions to UUFB, 325 N. 25th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59718. If you have questions, please contact Randy Babbitt.



Spiritual Pluralism Project Group

Our Fellowship currently has a Spiritual Pluralism group. The 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.

- **UU Humanist Group** – The UU Humanist Group explores Humanism and its role in Unitarian Universalism and usually meets monthly. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sara Williams.



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman

325 N. 25th Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59718-2688
406.586.1368
uufbozeman.org

Staff

- **Minister:** Rev. Duffy Peet
E-mail: minister@uufbozeman.org
Office Hours: Tue. 1:30-5:30 p.m.; Thurs. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., also by appointment
- **Office Administrator:** Christy Huddleston
E-mail: admin@uufbozeman.org
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- **Coordinator of Religious Exploration:** Beth Witte
E-mail: cre@uufbozeman.org
Office Hours: Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - noon
- **Nursery Caregiver:** Christine Wilcox
- **Pianist:** Laurel Yost
- **Vocalist:** Erin Henke

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@googlegroups.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.

To subscribe send an email to admin@uufbozeman.org requesting to join.

To unsubscribe: uufb+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com

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.

2021-2022 Board Members

- President: Neil Schwarzwald
- Vice President: Jeanne Moe
- Past President: Peg Wherry
- Secretary: Sally Russell
- Treasurer: Janine Roberts
- Member-at-Large: Mary Maifeld
- Member-at-Large: Valley Peters

Committees/Task Force Leaders

- Adult Religious Exploration: Neil Schwarzwald, Contact
- Building & Grounds Committee: Carolyn Boyd, Contact
- Building Coordinator: Tonya Stevens, Contact
- Caring Committee, Meals, Rides: Open
- Committee on Ministry: Dave Rockafellow, Chair
- Communications Committee: Open
- Finance Committee: Bruce DePriester, Chair
- Fundraising: Leona Poritz, Contact
- Governance/Leadership: Pam Poon, Contact
- Hospitality/Membership: Tonya Stevens, Contact
- Interfaith *Our Whole Lives*: Laura Mentch, Chair
- Interior Design: Diane Knipfer & Jan Young, Contacts
- Investment Committee: Paul Stouffer, Chair
- Lifespan Religious Exploration: Dana Murray, Chair
- Personnel Committee: Dick Young, Contact
- Program Council: Jeanne Moe, Contact
- Safety Task Force Committee: Beth Witte, Contact
- Social Activities: Rene Keating, Chair
- Social Justice Action Committee: Randy Babbitt, Contact
- Stewardship: Open
- Sunday Services Committee: Lisa Trankley, Chair

Contact Points

- Book Sales/Little Library: Leona Poritz
- Caregivers Support Group: Carolyn Boyd
- Family Promise Task Force: Tonya Stevens
- Food Bank: Norm Eggert
- Fork & Spoon: Randy Babbitt
- Historian: Susan Backer
- Kitchen/Bath Supplier: Suzy Sterling
- Men's Group: Jack Day
- Women's Group: Open
- Youth Group: Beth Witte

Spiritual Pluralism Group Leaders

- UU Buddhist Group: Paul McVey, Contact
- UU Humanist Group: Sara Williams, Contact