

JANUARY 2023

UUFB NEWS

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M. MST IN PERSON & LIVE ON YOUTUBE

January 1, 2023 • "Good Where We've Been, Good Where We're Going To" • Lay Presenters: Stormi Oshun, Shaun Phoenix

Join us for a special New Year's Day service offered by Stormi Oshun and Shaun Phoenix. This highly participatory service invites us into a reflection on the year past and the year to come, while we create a musical landscape together using drums, other percussion instruments and voice.

Because of the improvisational flavor of this service, it will be held in-person only – there will not be a live stream.

January 8, 2023 • To be announced • Guest Speaker: Rev. Katie Michael-Sanchez

Join us as guest speaker Rev. Katie Michael-Sanchez gives the sermon this Sunday! More information about this service will be announced soon.

January 15, 2023 • To be announced • Guest Speaker: Dr. Jelani Mahiri

Dr. Jelani Mahiri will be the guest speaker at this service. Jelani came to Bozeman in 2007 and has been here as a Visiting Professor since 2009. He has developed a strong community both in and outside the University and enjoys spending time with his son. A truly multifaceted individual, Jelani has a wide range of life experiences. His undergraduate degrees are in Physics and Spanish, and his PhD is in Sociocultural Anthropology. A worldwide traveler, he has learned to speak, read and write in Brazilian Portuguese. When beginning his graduate work, he worked with pre-eminent folklorist Professor Alan Dundes, who was also Jelani's dissertation advisor before suddenly passing away in 2005. He is a photographer, has learned Afro-Cuban dance and taught salsa dancing, and has been learning to play Afro-Cuban percussion, mainly focused on congas.

January 22, 2023 • "Why Would We Change the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism?" • Rev. Margo Rinehart

First, find out who is the "we" behind the suggested changes and how we, at UUFB, participate in the process of studying and voting on the suggested changes. Don't miss the beginning of this important conversation.

January 29, 2023 • "Finding Our Center: Becoming Our Best Selves" • Rev. Margo Rinehart

Explore what we learn when we are placed in difficult situations and how these opportunities are a catalyst for spiritual and emotional growth and transformation.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF BOZEMAN

uufbozeman.org
406.586.1368

Rev. Margo Rinehart, Minister

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





REVEREND REFLECTIONS

REV. MARGO RINEHART

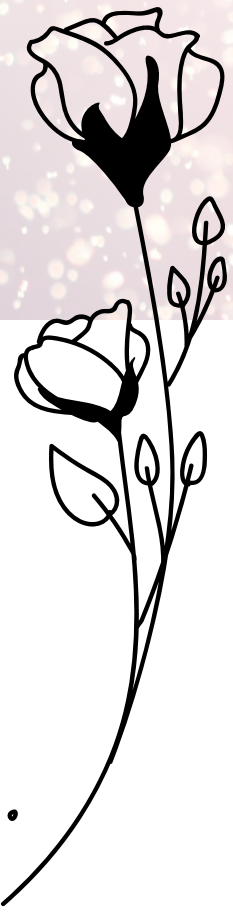
"The Heart of Our Faith" by Monica Jacobon-Tennessee

What is it that calls you here, that calls you onward,
That leads you inward, that leads you homeward?

What is it that gives you the power
To make that change, to ask that question,
To take that journey?

What is it that says you have done well,
That says you have done well, that asks you to learn more
That brings you to stillness, that holds you up in hard times?

It is relationship, the beating heart of our faith.
It begins when we share this time, our truths,
This air and our hearts.



The Reverend Howard Thurman wrote a piece about what should be done come January, after the fall and winter busyness has passed. He speaks about the real work just beginning to find the lost, heal the broken, feed the hungry, release the prisoner, rebuild the nations, bring peace among humanity, and make music in the heart. As we regroup after family gatherings of the winter solstice and other secular and religious holidays, where do we turn next? What do you hear calling you onward? What questions will you ask of yourself and others? What more do you want to learn in this time of turning the wheel into the new year?

UUFB will provide many opportunities for exploration. The Soul Matters theme for January is Finding Our Center. January worship will focus on change, intention, and recommitting to some things as we let go of others. On January 22nd I will provide a sermon on why we should consider voting for the changes to our Seven Principles and why such a change is even being proposed. Instead of the old language to "affirm and promote" we would "work," "cultivate," "adapt," "celebrate," "declare," and "honor." There will be a workshop offered at 3 different times in early February to study these proposed changes and become educated about the voting process.

The Grief Group that began in December will continue in January, as will the anti-racism book group. Women's Group and Men's Group are back to meeting regularly and the Humanist Group continues. Committees are starting to become revitalized and there is still room for you to join in. Consider a leadership position as a way of serving your community. The UUFB Annual Congregational Budget meeting will also be a place to support your UU values and fulfill the vision for the Fellowship's future. The Transition Team will continue looking at the overall functioning of the congregation, celebrating what is working well and helping UUFB to problem solve the areas that need strengthening or other change. The Board and Transition Team will be writing goals for the remainder of the Interim Ministry time and looking forward to the time of searching for a called minister.

Come and be in community to discover what calls upon your heart for the coming year.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION



The January RE Theme is **Living with Intention**. Here are our topics for upcoming Sundays:

Sunday, January 1st – It Takes Empathy

Sunday, January 8th – It Takes Passion

Sunday, January 15th – It Takes Persistence

Sunday, January 22nd – It Take Accepting Mistakes

Sunday, January 29th – It Takes Pausing



Welcome Back!

Excited news in RE! A huge welcome back to Faila Bianchini. Faila will be helping with RE classes again(after a break for COVID) and we are happy to have her. Please say hi when you get a chance.

THANK YOU - Cookies and Community Event

Thank you all for helping make this holiday event a wonderful success! We donated many bags of cookie making supplies to the food bank, delivered 30 soup jars to members in our community, and indulged in some yummy treats. We appreciate the sweetness and care from everyone that contributed to our community this season.



Our Whole Lives (OWL) - Sexuality Education Programs

Sign up is happening NOW for the 2023 sessions! Programs for K/1st grade and 5/6th grade start Sunday, January 8th and there is a parent meeting Thursday, January 5th from 6-7pm at UUFB.

Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a secular, age appropriate, comprehensive bodies and sexuality curriculum designed to teach lessons on self-worth, sexual health, responsibility, justice, and inclusivity.

More information about class topics and sign up forms check out our webpage at: uufbozeman.org/owl.

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 • 10:00 service with Stormi Oshun & Shaun Phoenix • 11:00 Monthly Birthday & Anniversary Party Social Time	2	3	4	5 • 6:00 OWL Parent Meeting	6	7
8 • 10:00 service with Rev. Katie Michael-Sanchez • 2 nd Sunday to OWL	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 • 10:00 service with Jelani Mahiri • Food Bank Sunday	16	17	18 • 7:00 Men's Group	19	20 • 6:30 Family Game Night	21
22 • 10:00 service with Rev. Rinehart • 11:00 Annual Meeting	23 • 4:00 Grief Group	24	25	26 • 4:30 Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed	27	28
29 • 10:00 service with Rev. Rinehart • 5 th Sunday to Western Alaska Disaster Recovery Fund	30	31				

January 2023 Events

- 1/1 Sunday Service with Stormi Oshun & Shaun Phoenix
- 1/1 Monthly Birthday & Anniversary Party Social Time
- 1/5 OWL Parent Meeting
- 1/8 Sunday Service with Rev. Katie Michael-Sanchez
- 1/8 2nd Sunday Offering to *Our Whole Lives* (OWL)
- 1/15 Sunday Service with Jelani Mahiri
- 1/15 Food Bank Sunday
- 1/18 Men's Group
- 1/20 Family Game Night
- 1/22 Sunday Service with Rev. Rinehart
- 1/22 Annual Meeting
- 1/23 Grief Group
- 1/26 Fork & Spoon volunteers needed
- 1/29 Sunday Service with Rev. Rinehart
- 1/29 5th Sunday Offering to Western Alaska Disaster Recovery Fund



"And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been."

— Rainer Maria Rilke

May the new year bring you peace, serenity and contentment.

From your Board of Directors

Neil S., Jeanne M., Bruce D., Mary M., Dick Y.,
Valley P., Rose T.

Small Decisions *by JD Stillwater*

I remember the moment. I shuffled out of my Plant Biology class feeling adrift, feeling deeply the dismal gray day outside. "What am I doing here?" I stopped at a drinking fountain and when I looked up, there it was: a simple sheet of paper with large plain text: "The Great Peace March."

Five thousand people were going to walk from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C. to end the nuclear arms race. I stared. Then I turned and continued down the hall, but the idea grew. I could do this.

That was 1985. I did walk across the U.S., joining a band along the way. After The March, the band toured, where I met my spouse; we moved to L.A. to become rock stars; our family grew and the band dispersed, so we moved back east to a deep-green tree farm where I became a science teacher... each thing leading to another, then another—not in a straight line, but still a massive avalanche of life changes triggered by a single snowflake that took the shape of a small poster.



Against a field of early evening stars, a path winds its way around a grassy hill and out of view. Many years later, I went back to school to study Physics and became excited by Complexity Theory, which tells us that complex systems are highly sensitive to imperceptibly small changes over time. This is sometimes called "the butterfly effect." Little changes can snowball into massive impacts.

I'm astounded to realize that a sheet of paper stuck on a wall in 1985 is directly responsible for everything in my life today, indirectly affecting countless other lives, too. I wonder about the person who stuck that paper there. Were they running late? Did they agonize about the spot? Were they paid? One thing I'm sure of: they could not have known how much their simple act would change my world, and—over time—the whole world. I wish I could tell them how grateful I am. How many other little things have had a similarly profound influence on me, that I didn't even notice? It lights up my imagination with wonder and astonishment.

Today I will make dozens of small decisions. I will never know their ultimate impact, though I suspect that some of them matter tremendously. If each one carries a snowflake's worth of the change I wish to see in the world, in time an avalanche of justice, equity, and compassion will follow. Am I willing to feel some gratitude flowing back from generations ahead?

TRANSITION TALK

At its December meeting, the Transition Team continued to discuss goals for the two-year transition period. We are approaching this task from the “systems” perspective introduced by Richard A. Nugent, a UUA leader. The introduction to his article begins thus:

Interim ministry is, first and foremost, ministry in the interim. It is about ministering to the whole of the congregation—the children, youth, and adults its programs serve—but it is also much more. Interim ministry is about inviting the present congregation to envision the congregation of tomorrow. It is about looking at the health of the congregation as a whole as well as each of its component parts.

Nugent outlines a dozen systems that make up a congregation, things like membership, caring, worship, religious education, staff, finances, etc. We are trying to sort these out into those systems we need to focus attention on and those that we feel are working well enough that we can spend more time on others. In other words, we are setting priorities.

Note that Nugent says interim ministry is about “inviting the present congregation to envision the congregation of tomorrow.” The present congregation is all of you! So let your minds roam in that direction and let us know your thoughts.

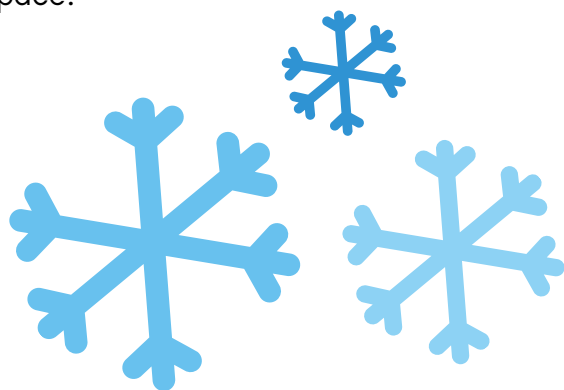
One way we hope to hear from you is through the QACC Box (pronounced “quack”). QACC stands for Questions, Appreciation, Comments, or Concerns (QACCs).

The Transition Team welcomes it all! The QACC box, with a slot in the lid and a yellow rubber ducky on top, is stationed somewhere in the Social Hall. There is also an online QACC form at uufbozeman.org/qacc. We will review submissions at our monthly meetings. Don’t forget to submit Questions AND Appreciations AND Comments, in addition to any Concerns.

The Transition Team will use a rotating chair and recorder, with Dave Rockafellow serving as our main point of contact. We’ll keep you posted monthly, so watch this space!

Transition Team

Cami Armijo-Grover
Linda Clark
Diane Knipfer
David Rockafellow
Peg Wherry
Rev. Margo Rinehart, ex officio



The mission of the UUFb Transition Team is to assist the Interim Minister and the congregation as they assess the need for changes before the arrival of the next called minister. They work with the Interim Minister, communicate and bear witness to transition as the work of the congregation, and are available to hear concerns of members of the Fellowship.

December Fun!



CLIMATE ADVOCACY DAY 2023

January 20, 2023

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Join Montana Interfaith Power and Light, Families for a Livable Climate, the Sierra Club, and a coalition of environmental organizations for a day of collective climate action in Helena!

Events will begin at 11 a.m. at the Capitol with a rally, speakers, and opportunity to speak with legislators.

Advocacy Day 2023 will give us the opportunity to highlight our values of faith and spirituality, grounding in the interconnectedness of the sacred, and moral imperative to take care of the earth.

We have secured a bus to take 55 people from Gallatin Valley to the Montana State House. The cost for transportation will be \$40/per person. Our Social Justice Action Committee will be offering a discounted rate and seats on the bus for UUFB congregants to attend! Call or email Rev. Margo to make your reservations and for more details.



CONTACT
Rev. Margo Rinehart

PHONE
(406) 586-1368

EMAIL
minister@uufbozeman.org

MONTANA
INTERFAITH
POWER & LIGHT

Upcoming Events



Monthly Birthday & Anniversary Party Social Time - January 1

Join us for the monthly birthday and anniversary social time after service! Everyone celebrating a birthday or anniversary this month will be the guests of honor. For those watching online, join a virtual social time via Zoom after the service!



2nd Sunday Offering to *Our Whole Lives* (OWL) - January 8

The Social Justice Action Committee (SJAC) has specified that the 2nd Sunday offering will go to *Our Whole Lives* (OWL). Donate to this fund by giving online (uufbozeman.org/donate) and selecting "Give to 2nd Sunday charitable donation" or mail a check made out to UUFB & write "OWL" in the memo line. Mail contributions to UUFB, 325 N. 25th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59718.

Our Whole Lives is a comprehensive sexuality education program for youth and adults. OWL helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. UUFB is offering two upcoming OWL courses for grades K/1 and 5th/6th and we need your help to grow the program! **Two very generous donors have agreed to match UUFB donations to OWL up to \$2,000!** All donations indicating they are for "OWL" or "2nd Sunday" received now through April 1st will be matched (up to \$2,000). Please consider donating! For more information about UUFB's OWL program, visit uufbozeman.org/owl.



Food Bank Sunday - January 15

Non-perishable food donations and toiletries for the Gallatin Valley Food Bank will be collected at this UUFB service. Please bring your items and a UUFB member will bring them to the food bank.



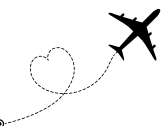
Men's Group - January 18

UUFB Men's Group will meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the UUFB Social Hall. All men are encouraged and invited to attend. For more information, please contact Jack D.



Family Game Night - January 20

Do you enjoy board games or card games? Join us for UUFB Friday Family Game Night! Bring your favorites or try popular strategy games like Ticket to Ride, Azul, and Dominion. We'll have family games like Clue and Aggravation, and classics like backgammon, Boggle, and Scrabble.



Minister on Vacation/Study Leave- December 26-January 18

Rev. Margo will be on vacation or paid staff holidays from December through January 3rd. Absent an emergency, she will not be responding to calls or email during this time. From January 4th-18th she will be on Study Leave designing workshops and other programming, working from the Seattle area. While email and phone calls will be returned during Study Leave, other than for emergencies, there is likely to be a short delay of 1-3 days before a reply. Rev. Margo will be back in the UUFB office January 19th. Rev. Margo will be out of the office on vacation from December 26 to January 18.

Upcoming Events

continued...



Annual Meeting – January 22

Save the date for the UUFB Annual Meeting! It will be held after service on January 22 and the 2023 budget will be voted on. More information will be announced soon.

Social Time

Join us after each Sunday service for social time! For those watching online, join a virtual social time via Zoom! To participate in the Zoom social time, connect to Zoom 5 minutes after the service ends where you will join in a half-hour of socializing. The link will be sent out on the listserv.

Grief Group – January 23

Grief Group continues in January, meeting on Monday, January 23rd, 2023 from 4:00–5:30 p.m. in the social hall. Your loss may be the death of a person dear to you or a change in your health or that of a loved one. We will not try to change or other fix one another, rather provide deep listening in a supportive, confidential environment.

Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed – January 26

2–3 Volunteers from UUFB are needed at Fork & Spoon from 4:30–7:30 p.m. To sign up, please fill out the form located at uufbozeman.org/fork-spoon. If you have questions, please contact Randy B.

2nd Sunday Offering to Western Alaska Disaster Recovery Fund – January 29

The Social Justice Action Committee (SJAC) has specified that the 2nd Sunday offering will go to the Western Alaska Disaster Recovery Fund. Donate to this fund by giving online (uufbozeman.org/donate) and selecting “Give to 5th Sunday disaster relief fund” or mail a check made out to UUFB & write “Alaska” in the memo line. Mail contributions to UUFB, 325 N. 25th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59718.

Many of the communities in Western Alaska were affected by Typhoon Merbok. Homes in these areas were severely damaged, with high winds tearing off roofs and flood water ruining walls and flooring. The surge also destroyed food supplies, personal belongings, household goods, and appliances. The recovery funds will go a long way in the villages damaged by the storm.

Submit a QACC!

Do you have Questions, Appreciations, Comments, or Concerns (QACCs)? The Transitions Team 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 Transitions Team reviews submissions at their monthly meetings.



Other News

It's Fun to Run the Livestream!

We need more operators to run our Sunday service livestreams. No experience is necessary, and all training is provided. Running the livestream is easier than it sounds! It involves 1-2 hours on a Sunday once a month. If you are interested, please email admin@uufbozeman.org.

Join the Social Activities Committee!

Do you like to attend UUFB social events? Do you have some creative ideas for future gatherings? Then you should join the Social Activities committee! This super fun group plans, organizes and arranges get togethers for our Fellowship and would love more help. If you would like to join, please email the Office Admin (admin@uufbozeman.org).

Spiritual Pluralism Project Group

Our Fellowship has a Spiritual Pluralism group that 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** - This group explores Humanism and its role in Unitarian Universalism and usually meets monthly. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sara W.

Connections & Meaning Group

Looking for Connection and Meaning?

Are you someone who would like to get to know other people in our Fellowship on a deeper level than the handshake on Sunday morning? Do you find yourself pondering how to find more meaning in your life? Then Connections and Meaning may be the group for you!

The Adult RE Committee has approved the creation of small listening groups of 6-8 people who will meet weekly or bi-weekly from the end of Jan. through March or April. The format is based on the books, *Heart to Heart* and *Soul to Soul* by Christine Robinson and Alicia Hawkins.

One group will meet from 4-5:30 p.m. on a day TBD and the other one will likely meet earlier in the day. Amanda Cater will facilitate the late afternoon group and another facilitator (to be determined) will facilitate the other one. Participants will be asked to read short essays on the topic for the week and be ready to share their personal thoughts and experiences with it. Topics may include Gratitude, Forgiveness, Faith, Success, and Failure, Finding meaning or purpose in life, Boundaries, Trust, or others determined by the group.

Registration begins on Jan. 3rd and each group will be limited to 8 people. (Details to follow) Participants should be prepared to commit to attend each session of the group beginning the last week in January. Amanda's group will need to meet every week due to her travel plans in March.

If you have questions, please contact Amanda C. or Rev. Margo at minister@uufbozeman.org



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP of BOZEMAN

Staff

- **Minister:** Rev. Margo Rinehart
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- **Office Administrator:** Christy Huddleston
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Coordinator of Religious Exploration:** Beth Witte
- **Nursery Caregiver:** Christine Wilcox
- **Pianist:** Laurel Yost
- **Vocalist:** Erin Henke

Contact us!

uufbozeman.org/about-us/contact-us

UUFB News & Events

Calendar of Events

See our calendar of upcoming events at:
uufbozeman.org/news/events-page.

Friday E-News

Our weekly emails include details about upcoming events, announcements, and Sunday services. To join, please visit uufbozeman.org/news/e-news.

Email Discussion List

An email discussion list (listserv) has been established in order to communicate announcements and events of interest to the UUFB. To subscribe, send an email to our Office Administrator requesting to join.

Newsletter

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.

2022-2023 Board Members

- President: Neil Schwarzwald
- Vice President: Jeanne Moe
- Past President: Dick Young
- Secretary: Rose Toth
- Interim Treasurer: Bruce DePriester
- Member-at-Large: Mary Maifeld
- Member-at-Large: Valley Peters

Committees/Task Force Leaders

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

Contact Points

- Book Sales/Little Library: Leona Poritz
- 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 Leader

- UU Humanist Group: Sara Williams, Contact