

# Pathway to UUFB Membership

*adopted by the UUFB Board, September 16, 2014*

The **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman (UUFB)** is a congregation striving to ensure that all who participate in our services and activities feel a meaningful connection to our community. We intend to provide UUFB congregants many meaningful opportunities to grow personally, spiritually, and intellectually; to make significant contributions to building a fairer and more peaceful world for all; and to surround our children with a caring community in which they are appreciated and nurtured.

## **We encourage UUFB participants who wish to become UUFB Members to learn about:**

- UU principles and sources of knowledge, our appreciation for diversity, our lack of dogma
- UUFB and UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) history
- the nuts and bolts of how UUFB works, as indicated in by-laws, policies, the Board structure and functions, main activities, and the process for asking questions and giving suggestions, and
- the value of personal and communal commitments of time, talents, and financial contributions to UUFB.

## **Knowledge and understanding of UU and UUFB may be obtained through:**

- attending UU and UUFB orientation classes (a set of two, held twice a year)
- participating in UUFB services
- engaging in UUFB-related social, educational, social justice activities
- signing up for UUFB's Friday email, monthly newsletter, and general yahoo group emails
- exploring the UUFB and UUA websites
- utilizing UU-related books, DVD's and pamphlets,
- Attending children's, youth and adult religious education classes and
- arranging individual meetings with the minister and/or UUFB leaders.

**Persons who come to UUFB as members of other UU congregations** – and who are thus already knowledgeable about Unitarian Universalism – may wish to learn about the specific history and workings of UUFB by attending orientation classes or meeting with the minister or congregation leaders.

**When a participant decides to become a UUFB Member**, they notify the minister or a member of the Hospitality and Membership Committee. As soon as possible, a time is arranged for the participant to sign the UUFB Membership Book. Signing is a significant act and is acknowledged by the congregation in several ways, including announcing the new membership at a service as a joy during Joys and Concerns, and introducing and honoring the new member at a special Welcoming Ceremony during a future service.

**The UUFB Hospitality and Membership Committee, with the assistance of the minister, other UUFB committees and congregation members**, offers Orientation Classes, arranges the Welcoming Ceremony for new members, invites UUFB participants to become members, and encourages the integration of all participants into the life of the congregation.