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October 15, 2023

Dear Members and Friends:

I love our theme for this year's stewardship campaign: "Celebrating Our Community by Giving." What better way to celebrate our Fellowship and our common goals than by giving of our time, our talents, our resources, and our love?

Over the past few years, we have been through a lot together and I think we are better and stronger for the adversity that we have faced. Reverend Margo Rinehart, our interim minister for the past year, has helped us find new ways to be in fellowship and in the larger community, while taking precautions to prevent the spread of Covid. Some highlights are:

- A new hiking group has brought us together in the great outdoors every week since early summer.
- Our Lifespan Religious Education program is growing and engaging children and youth in activities such as educating the Fellowship about the importance of water.
- A grief group has helped members and friends grapple with losses of all kinds.
- Activities including monthly birthday parties, the over-80s brunch, and family game night frequently fill our social hall with love and laughter.
- We are supporting a community-wide effort to keep housing affordable in Bozeman.

Through a new partnership with Bridgercare, a nonprofit reproductive and sexual healthcare clinic, we look forward to offering teen-pregnancy prevention education for the community in the coming year. We hope to expand our music program with a choir director and more guest musicians for services. As always, we want to pay our staff fairly for their time and talents and plan to provide a cost-of-living increase for everyone. In August, we will be so excited to welcome our first full-time settled minister!

Please consider your commitment to the Fellowship and your ability to support our community in the coming year. You may return the pledge form in the provided envelope by US Mail or drop your envelope in the collection plate on Sunday. You may also pledge on our website at uufbozeman.org/pledge. Whether by paper or online, please complete your pledge by November 19th so we can finalize goals that match our financial means.

Yours in fellowship,

Jeanne M. Moe, UUFB President

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