

APRIL 2024

# UUF<sub>B</sub> NEWS

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman

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

### **April 7, 2024 • "A Ritual to Read to Each Other" with UUF<sub>B</sub> Members**

April is National Poetry Month! Because poetry matters, we take a Sunday about once a year to create a ritual in poetry. Please bring a short poem to read aloud. For copyright reasons, we do not post an audio recording of the poems on our website; instead, we post a list of the poems, poets, and readers. To compile that list, please use the sign-up form on our website to say what you plan to read, by Saturday evening, April 6. That link is here: [uufbozeman.org/poetry](https://uufbozeman.org/poetry).

### **April 14, 2024 • "The Palestinian Remembrance Day of Deir Yassin" with Rev. Margo Rinehart**

Deir Yassin was a Palestinian village caught in the conflict between the Arabs and Jews in 1948 during a blockade of Jerusalem. Was the reporting of the events at Deir Yassin propaganda or fact? And what about the lives of all that were impacted by the devastation of the village? In Geneva, New York, a bronze sculpture was installed in 2003, commemorating the loss of Palestinian lives at Deir Yassin, created by Arab American artist and pacifist, Khalil Bendib. In Israel, Palestinians continue to wait for a memorial to be established, amidst allegations that the destruction of the village and loss of lives was much exaggerated.

### **April 21, 2024 • To be Announced**

This service will most likely be Earth Day related. More information will be announced soon.

### **April 25, 2024 • To be Announced**

More information about this service will be announced soon.



## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF BOZEMAN

[uufbozeman.org](https://uufbozeman.org)  
406.586.1368

Rev. Margo Rinehart, Minister

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



UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
FELLOWSHIP  
of BOZEMAN



# REVEREND REFLECTIONS

## REV. MARGO RINEHART

### The Gift of Interdependence

Since the spring equinox, my late afternoon walks are longer and longer, and it is easy to see the interconnected web in nature. Whether at the bird sanctuary, up on Peet's Hill or walking in the neighborhoods, spring is everywhere. At UUFB you can see the daffodils stretching out and the crocuses are blooming. Ducks are dancing, the magpies are chattier than ever, and even the insects have returned. Thus far I have not seen a prairie dog pop up its head, but even this is coming soon. My food travels also reveal more of the interconnected web of people. People are out walking in greater numbers now that the ice has melted away. When we greet one another, people seem to stop more readily and for a longer time to share a bit of greeting or conversation. All of this energizes me to reach out further and more deeply, immersing myself in the interconnected web.

Albert Einstein called the concept of a separate self "an optical delusion of consciousness" that seemingly individual experiences, thoughts and feelings cannot truly be separate from all the rest of humanity and the universe. Martin Luther King taught that the universe is designed with interrelatedness and concluded "We aren't going to have peace on earth until we can recognize this basic fact of the interdependent structure of reality." Recently the idea that has caught my attention is a warning from author and activist, bell hooks. She reminds us that while we can concentrate on self-love and self-acceptance we must move beyond into interconnectedness. She warns "I am often struck by the dangerous narcissism fostered by spiritual rhetoric that pays so much attention to individual self-improvement and so little to the practice of love within the context of community. Packaged as a commodity, spirituality becomes no different from an exercise program. While it may lead the consumer to feel better about his or her life, its power to enhance our communion with ourselves with others in a sustained way is inhibited."

This month, I invite and challenge you to experience interconnectedness in as many ways as you can think of. Explore belonging to your neighborhood instead of just living in it. Consider becoming temporarily absorbed in the curiosity of understanding another person's life. Think about whether you are unwilling to share with others because you fear it might feel like a burden to them, whereas you would not experience the same sharing by another person as a burden to you. Stay with the advice of Albert Einstein for how to move from pretended individualism: "Our tasks must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty."

I want to be with people who value compassion, justice, love and truth, though they have different thoughts and opinions about all sorts of things. I want to be with people who see me in my goodness and dignity, who also see my failings and foibles, and who still love me. I want to be with people who let church call them into a different way of being in the world. I want to be with people who covenant to be honest, engaged and kind, who strive to keep their promises and hold me to the promises I make. I want to be with people who know that community is often warm and generous, sometimes challenging and almost always a grand adventure. In short, I want to be with people like you. -Dana Worsnop

# RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION



## Religious Exploration (RE) April: Interdependence

In RE this month, we will explore the idea of how our health and well-being is deeply connected to the health of our community and the planet. We'll look at finding ways we nurture and support others and how our communities and the planet support us.

### April RE Classes:

- **Sunday, April 7** - Interdependence: What is it? And why we can't go it alone
- **Sunday, April 14** - The Web of Community: How do we pour ourselves into our communities and how does that sustain us?
- **Sunday, April 21** - Caring for the Web: Earth Day reminds us of the care our environment needs from us
- **Sunday, April 28** - How the Web Cares for Us: How does nature help us feel alive, connected and nurtured?

### Book Bingo!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Book Bingo. Lots of fun was had and all winners went home with a book from our book sale collection.

### Other Upcoming Events to Mark On Your Calendars!

- **Saturday, April 20th - Meet us at the Bozeman Earth Day Festival:** Celebrate Earth Day with us! Visit our booth at the Bozeman Earth Day Festival at the Gallatin Valley Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **(Tentative) Sunday, April 21st - Bowling and Chat -** Meet us at the MSU SUB for bowling and pizza from 3-5 p.m. More information is coming.



# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 • 4:30 Book group: The conflict between Israel and Gaza	2	3 • 12:00 Midweek Refuge	4	5	6
7 • 10:00 service with UUFB Members • 11:00 Monthly Birthday/Anniversary Party • 2:00 Under G-d short documentary showing	8	9 • 4:30 Board Meeting	10 • 12:00 Midweek Refuge	11 • 4:30 Fork & Spoon volunteers needed	12	13 • 2:00 Toward Right Relationships with Native People workshop at Pilgrim
14 • 10:00 service with Rev. Margo Rinehart • 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday to Sacajawea Audubon Society	15	16	17 • 12:00 Midweek Refuge • 5:30 Choir Rehearsal • 7:00 Men's Group	18	19	20 • 10:00 UUFB Table at Earth Day Festival at the Fairgrounds
21 • 10:00 Sunday Service • Food Bank Sunday • 3:00 RE Bowling & Chat (tentative)	22	23	24 • 12:00 Midweek Refuge • 5:30 Choir Rehearsal	25	26	27
28 • 10:00 Sunday Service • Glass Recycling	29 • 6:30 Social Activism from a Sufi Perspective	30				

## Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change Workshop - April 13

Join us for "Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change" workshop on April 13th, 2 p.m. at Pilgrim Church in Bozeman. Explore the impacts of the Doctrine of Discovery and the path towards right relationship with Native Peoples. Free for all adults and high school students. Donations appreciated. Get more details and register at [uufbozeman.org/right-relations](http://uufbozeman.org/right-relations). For inquiries, email [duffypeet@gmail.com](mailto:duffypeet@gmail.com).

Presented by Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association, Pilgrim Congregational, Bozeman Dharma Center, and UUFB.



# SETTLED MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Ministerial Search team is saddened and disappointed to let you know that we do not have a ministerial candidate. We believe we offer a great package, not only from our congregation but from our vibrant larger community. We recently spent an encouraging and positive weekend with our top candidate. However, we learned from the UUA this week that she did not name us as her choice. There were circumstances beyond our control. Following the weekend with us, her home church offered her a transitional ministry job and her partner's parents suffered health problems. So after much deliberation, she declined our offer. She loved UUFB and said we are doing all the right things.

We weren't alone - 7 congregations in search did not get a match with a candidate. We do have some options, which we and the Board are considering. We can enter a second round of the search or we can look at another Interim ministry or a contract ministry. We are exploring all of the possibilities to determine what will be best for our Fellowship. So, while we are disappointed, as we know you are too, we do have other avenues to explore, and we are moving ahead. We will keep you informed of the steps we're taking. Many thanks to all of you for the support you have given us in this past year.

## UUFB Supports Amicus Brief on Climate Change

Montana was the site of an historic victory for climate change activism in 2023. In *Held v. State of Montana*, a district court decided in favor of 16 youth plaintiffs who sued the state for violating their rights under our state constitution by promoting fossil fuels. The state has appealed the decision to the Montana Supreme Court.

The UUFB Board of Directors voted to sign on to an amicus (friend of the court) brief along with other faith organizations urging that the lower court decision be upheld. UUFB is a member of Montana Interfaith Power & Light, which "mobilizes people of faith and conscience" to act to address climate change. MIFP&L offered UUFB and other faith communities the opportunity to live our values by signing onto this brief.

The 1972 Montana Constitution says that "a clean and healthful environment" is one of our "inalienable rights" and requires the state to "maintain and improve a clean and healthful environment in Montana for present and future generations." The film *Youth v Gov*, shown in our sanctuary in April 2022, discussed plaintiffs' claim that the state ignored environmental considerations when deciding oil and gas permits, and thus violated the right to a safe environment cited in Montana's constitution.



Friday, April 12 is the nationwide GLSEN Day of (No) Silence ([www.glsen.org/dayofnosilence](http://www.glsen.org/dayofnosilence)). The annual Day of Silence was started in the mid-1990s by two college students. Each April, students would go through the school day without speaking, ending the day with Breaking the Silence rallies to bring attention to ways their schools and communities can become more inclusive.

With more than 800 anti-LGBTQ+ bills introduced last year, GLSEN (the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network) now urges us Rise Up and Take Action. GLSEN's Day of NO Silence is a nationally recognized student-led demonstration where LGBTQ+ students and allies all around the country—and the world—protest the harmful effects of harassment and discrimination of LGBTQ+ people in schools.

To find out more about LGBTQ+ days of observance visit [uufbozeman.org/welcoming](http://uufbozeman.org/welcoming).

# BOARD REPORT

## Committee Charges/Empowering Committees

What is the role of a particular committee? What actions can it take without getting approval from the Board? A major goal of this year's Board has been to improve our organization and make everyone more effective. A big part of this is to be sure that each committee has a charge approved by the Board describing its function and expectations, aligned with UUFb's mission and vision.

Having a clear charge empowers committees to perform their functions without needing specific approvals from the Board. Lack of a clear committee charge hinders this goal. For example, committees have recently requested to hold fundraisers and social events, spend money within the committee's budget, and use the building for other activities. While there are situations where Board approval is needed - for example, if a committee seeks to spend money beyond its budget or use UUFb's name outside the congregation - committees are empowered through their charges to take action themselves.

A few committees now have approved charges. Other committees have been presented the Board's understanding of their charges and are asked to approve or revise them. We hope to have this completed before the end of the program year.

## Minister Search

The Settled Minister Search Committee asked the Board to approve changes to the prospective minister contract. The Board gave its strong support for the committee and approved the requests. The Board emphasized that we are committed to help the committee find the right individual to serve the Fellowship.

## Other topics:

- *Our Whole Lives* (OWL) - The Board previously approved working with Bridgcare to gain participation in our sexuality education program. However, their federal grant requires that they teach from materials that have data showing effectiveness, which OWL does not currently have. We are considering alternative curricula that will meet the need.
- Safety - We are considering steps to improve the safety of the congregation, including better security for doors and windows.
- Climate change - The Board approved having UUFb sign on to the amicus brief in the *Held vs. Montana*. See details elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Fellowship Meeting - We set May 19 for our fellowship meeting to vote on candidates for next year's Board.

Neil Schwarzwald, UUFb Board Secretary

## Turn Clean Trash into Art for Earth Day!

**March 27–April 7**

The LRE Committee invites you to help us get trashy this spring! On Saturday, April 20th, the LRE Committee (on behalf of UUFb) will be tabling at the Emerson's Earth Day Event from 10 - 3 at the fairgrounds. Let's celebrate Earth Day by turning clean trash into art! We need your help to collect quality CLEAN trash. Check out our list of possible items here: [tinyurl.com/trash-art](https://tinyurl.com/trash-art). Remember to keep items small, safe, and clean. Drop off your collected trash and put it in the bin in the RE room between March 24 and April 7. Need inspiration? Google "trash art for kids." Questions? Call Cami. Thank you for helping us get trashed - litter-ally!





Here is a great way to help Family Promise.

Join Family Promise for their 3rd Annual Spring Into Action – Saturday, April 20th, 2024!

Spring Into Action is an annual day of service that Family Promise of Gallatin Valley hosts to provide household essentials to families directly in our programs, raise awareness of our mission, and complete volunteer projects at our various locations. Volunteers will be located at local grocery stores asking community members to donate supplies or they will be at one of their office locations sharing their times and talents.

Last year, Spring Into Action volunteers were able to raise almost \$900 and over 7,000 items that community members bought from their essential supplies shopping lists! Family Promise families benefitted from this amazing accomplishment for many months following Spring Into Action. With over 50 volunteers, FPGV was also able to complete upkeep and cleaning projects that were critical to our programs.

If you would like to join me in participating, please email [boydcar2@gmail.com](mailto:boydcar2@gmail.com) or text me (406-690-9145) and I will share our names with Family Promise!

**Coming Soon** – Family Promise hopes to set up dinners provided by churches to be served once a month at the A Journey Home campus. There are many details to be worked out, but our Social Justice Action Committee has agreed that we should participate, so wait for news about this project.

–Carolyn Boyd, UUFB Family Promise Coordinator

## Upcoming Events

- 4/1 Book group: Conflict between Israel and Gaza
- 4/3 Midweek Refuge
- 4/7 Sunday Service with UUFB Members
- 4/7 Monthly Birthday/Anniversary Party
- 4/7 *Under G-d* documentary showing
- 4/9 Board Meeting
- 4/10 Midweek Refuge
- 4/11 Fork & Spoon volunteers needed
- 4/13 Toward Right Relationships with Native People workshop at Pilgrim
- 4/14 Sunday Service with Rev. Margo Rinehart
- 4/14 2nd Sunday to Sacajawea Audobon Society
- 4/17 Midweek Refuge
- 4/17 Choir Rehearsal
- 4/17 Men's Group
- 4/20 UUFB Table at Earth Day Festival
- 4/21 Sunday Service
- 4/21 Food Bank Sunday
- 4/21 RE Bowling & Chat (*tentative*)
- 4/24 Midweek Refuge
- 4/24 Choir Rehearsal
- 4/28 Sunday Service
- 4/28 Glass Recycling
- 4/29 Social Activism from a Sufi Perspective

# What's New at UUFB? Office Hours!



Admin: Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 to noon.  
Minister: Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 to noon.

What? Why do our staff need office hours? Since when? What if I need to be in the building at other times? Does this mean I'm not welcome anymore? What if I can't come during office hours? That's just the beginning of the questions. Let's start with why.

The purpose of having office hours for drop-in visits is to serve your needs but also for staff to have concentrated work time. I have been your interim minister since August of 2022. As 2022 turned into 2023, more and more programs were added and happy social events as well. This comeback from Covid is a wonderful thing! More people dropped by at off sort of times of day. A few weeks ago, for a two-week period of time, I kept a tally of how many people came and went in the building. The tally showed that between 2 and 7 people stop by UUFB per day. Some have codes to let themselves in and others need us to open the door. It was always a joy to greet you and hear a little bit about what is happening in your lives. But Christy and I also need some concentrated, uninterrupted work time, especially when dealing with deadlines for the newsletter and Order of Service, as well as processing payroll, bill paying, and updating financial reports. And I'll add sermon writing as well.

Let me assure you that you are still welcome to drop by, but please have your drop in visits be from 9-12 noon Tuesday through Friday. If you cannot come during those hours, just call or email and make an appointment time. If your committee or team has monthly meeting times in the afternoon, you are welcome to continue at those times, just use discretion and restraint for interacting with staff while you are here. If we aren't busy with a project that requires concentration, don't be surprised if we pause and say hello. If we are busy, our doors may be closed.

In reassurance, I love having people stop by. It is energizing, comforting and informative. It is your Fellowship building! I enjoy hearing what is going on in your lives and the small or large project you are working on at the Fellowship. Those moments of checking in give me spiritual and brain fuel about the needs here at UUFB. You are not unwelcome; I'm just trying to create ease in the day-to-day work of our staff. Please help me in that effort by being sensitive to office hours.

In gratitude, Reverend Margo

## Join Our New Choir!

Did you know that singing with others improves memory, reduces stress and depression, and provides us a sense of belonging? Come reap the benefits, spread peaceful messages, and share in the joy of communal singing with Megan Makeever! All experience levels are welcome. Don't read music? Not a problem! Have low confidence in your voice? Come anyway and build it! This is about connection and expression, NOT perfection. Song selections will span a wide range of styles, cover meaningful topics, and align with the inclusive and spiritual values of the UU community!

Practices will be the third and fourth Wednesday of every month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. We will sing for the congregation the last service of the month. Please e-mail [meganmakeever@gmail.com](mailto:meganmakeever@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the choir mailing list!



# TRANSITION TALK

**Midweek Refuge** has been in place for over a month now. It provides a response to the desire to have a place to sit quietly with one's thoughts. Of course, this is open to all UUFBozeman members and friends, but we also want to invite the larger community to share our place of peace. Our building is open from noon to 2:00 p.m. every Wednesday, for everyone. Please give it a try—mark some time on your calendar for any coming Wednesday to slip in and refresh for a few minutes. One of the best ways to “advertise” this opportunity to the rest of Bozeman is word of mouth, which happens when all of us share information with our friends and neighbors.

The Transition Team has June deadlines to complete **two assessments for the UUA**: one for Rev. Margo's progress to full ministerial fellowship (very roughly similar to tenure) and another for assessing our shared ministry during this interim period. (The Board also has input in these processes.) June will mark the end of this Interim/Transition period and our work, so we are thinking forward to how things might work with our new settled minister. The current Transition Team is working on a plan for creating the next Committee on Ministry and how communication will flow to Rev. X as they join our community.

Our quick **Communications Poll** in January had 103 responses. In general, we can report that the listserv and Sunday announcements are the most heavily used sources of information within the Fellowship, followed by the website and the online newsletter. Only 15% of respondents were younger than 55. The Communications Committee (which is looking for additional members) is using this information to consider how to improve internal communications. We send a hearty thanks to those who responded.

**Talk to us!** During this Interim time, the Transition Team also functions as the Committee on Ministry, charged to “perceive concerns” that may arise and to keep an eye on our shared ministry. We do that best by hearing from you. In a Sunday during coffee hour, you will find us by our green name tags. Another major way you can reach us is through the QACC Box. (QACC stands for Questions, Appreciation, Comments, or Concerns.) The wooden QACC box has a slot to insert cards and a yellow rubber ducky on top. It's usually in the Social Hall near the windows or on the credenza outside Rev. Margo's office. (There is also an online QACC form at [www.uufbozeman.org/qacc](http://www.uufbozeman.org/qacc).) We review all submissions at our meetings. If you put your name on your QACC, there can be follow-up, which cannot happen with anonymous items. Please remember that we want Questions AND Appreciations AND Comments, in addition to Concerns.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Transition Team: Linda Clark ([lyclark@gmail.com](mailto:lyclark@gmail.com)), Diane Knipfer ([dlknipfer@gmail.com](mailto:dlknipfer@gmail.com)), David Rockafellow ([dave.rockafellow@gmail.com](mailto:dave.rockafellow@gmail.com)), Peg Wherry ([pegwherry@bresnan.net](mailto:pegwherry@bresnan.net)), Rev. Margo Rinehart, ex officio ([minister@uufbozeman.org](mailto:minister@uufbozeman.org))

*Midweek  
Refuge*  
A time and space for reflection and renewal.

*Midweek Refuge is a time to sit silently in sanctuary. To rest, mourn, plan, meditate, pray, remember, give thanks . . . your quiet time for any reason. Come and go as you please, noon to 2:00 p.m. every Wednesday (Note: on 3/13 the time will be 11:30-12:30). There will be hosts to welcome you and answer questions. All are welcome.*





Thank you to everyone who helped with our clean up day! UUFNB is now looking sparkling and clean. A special **THANK YOU** to **BARB LANTZ** for installing new coat racks in the entry and putting up a new hanging picture rail to display our Minister photos!



Another thank you to Barb Lantz for providing the art in our entry!

# Upcoming Events



## Monthly Birthday/Anniversary Party Social Time - April 7

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. **We need people to bring cupcakes to this event! Sign up at [uufbozeman.org/birthday](https://uufbozeman.org/birthday).**



## Board Meeting - April 9

The UUFNB Board meets at UUFNB and on Zoom monthly on the second Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. If you are interested in attending a Board meeting, please let a Board member or Rev. Margo know.



## Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed - April 11 and May 9

2-3 Volunteers from UUFNB are needed at Fork & Spoon from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Please sign up at least a week before the scheduled date by filling out the form located at [uufbozeman.org/fork-spoon](https://uufbozeman.org/fork-spoon). If you have questions, please contact Randy B.



## 2nd Sunday Offering to Sacajawea Audubon Society - April 14

The Social Justice Action Committee (SJAC) has specified that the 2nd Sunday offering will go to the Sacajawea Audubon Society (SAS). Donate to this fund online ([uufbozeman.org/donate](https://uufbozeman.org/donate)) and select "Give to 2nd Sunday charitable donation" or mail a check made out to UUFNB & write "SAS" in the memo line. Mail contributions to UUFNB, 325 N. 25th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59718.

Sacajawea Audubon Society champions wetland conservation in Gallatin County, recognizing their pivotal role in sustainability. Through the Indreland Audubon Wetland Mitigation Bank, SAS incentivizes local restoration efforts, preserving economic value and ecological resilience within the community. This initiative embodies a commitment to environmental stewardship and a thriving future for Gallatin Valley.



## Men's Group - April 17

UUFNB Men's Group will meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the UUFNB Social Hall. All men are encouraged and invited to attend. If you would like to be added to the Men's Group email list, please send a message to the Office Admin.



## UUFNB Table at Earth Day Festival - April 20

Celebrate Earth Day with us! Visit our booth at the Bozeman Earth Day Festival at the Gallatin Valley Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



## Food Bank Sunday - April 21

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



## Glass Recycling - April 28

On the 4th Sunday of each month, UUFNB has a glass recycling service for our members. There will be a volunteer in our parking lot accepting clean glass in boxes or bags to recycle. If you wish to offer a small payment for gas and time, feel free! Thank you to Neil & Nan G. for being our glass recycle volunteers this month. Please do not leave the glass on other Sundays at the fellowship, as we have no room to store it.



## UNDER G-D - DOCUMENTARY

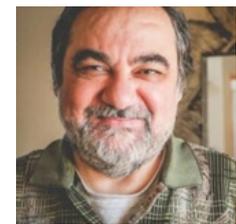
SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2 P.M. AT UUFB

The Social Justice Action Committee will show the award-winning documentary *Under G-d* at 2 p.m. at UUFB on April 7th. *Under G-d* weaves together the stories of a Jewish mother and activist in Indiana, a rabbi in Florida and lawyers throughout the country who are seeking to fight abortion bans by placing them in the legal and cultural context of religious freedom. In an ironic twist, the

very laws that might support this work are the Religious Freedom Restoration Acts (RFRA), which previously have been used to allow faith believers to make an end-run around civil rights protections, as in the notorious *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.* or gay wedding cake cases at the U.S. Supreme Court. *Under G-d* introduces us to characters that are now flipping the script used effectively by Christian nationalists. In taking on these public protests and cases, Jewish leaders around the country are asking the United States to protect women, and protect democracy, by preserving the constitutionally enshrined separation of church and state.

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## Social Activism from a Sufi Perspective



On April 29th from 6:30-8 p.m. UUFB is hosting Moji Agha, a Sufi monk and Iranian American who will be speaking about social justice activism through a Sufi lens. On behalf of Peace and Truth Heals (PATH), Moji Agha will be touring in Montana and Wyoming in late April and early May. As a member of PATH, he is speaking about the critical role indigenous nonviolence is playing in the struggle in Iran, especially among the youth and in the Iranian civil society.

Brother Moji will cover the deep need for a genuine and comprehensive approach to Truth and Reconciliation as part of a nonviolence process of healing for indigenous peoples in various regions of the globe, especially the United States. Brother Moji's presentation is recommended by Debra Cruz, President of JUJustice Washington.

Brother Moji is a member of Historians for Peace and Democracy, and an Iranian American (Sufi) Muslim member of the Jewish Voice for Peace. An associate member of Veterans for Peace, he is a retired (now former) member of Psychologists for Social Responsibility.

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### Spiritual Pluralism Project Group

Our Fellowship has a Spiritual Pluralism group that has 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.



## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP of BOZEMAN

### Staff

- **Minister:** Rev. Margo Rinehart  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Thursday 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- **Office Administrator:** Christy Huddleston  
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- **Coordinator of Religious Exploration:** Beth Witte
- **Childcare Lead:** Christine Wilcox
- **Childcare Assistant:** Faila Bianchini
- **Pianist:** Laurel Yost

### Contact us!

[uufbozeman.org/about-us/contact-us](http://uufbozeman.org/about-us/contact-us)

### UUFB News & Events

#### Calendar of Events

See our calendar of upcoming events at:  
[uufbozeman.org/news/events-page](http://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](http://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.

### 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](http://uufbozeman.org/qacc). The Transitions Team reviews submissions at their monthly meetings.

### 2023-2024 Board Members

- President: Jeanne Moe
- Vice President: Barbara Tylka
- Past President: Elizabeth Rose
- Secretary: Neil Schwarzwald
- Treasurer: Bruce DePriester
- Member-at-Large: Barb Lantz
- Member-at-Large: Mary Maifeld

### Committees/Task Force Leaders

- Building & Grounds Committee: Tonya Stevens, Contact
- Building Coordinator: Tonya Stevens, Contact
- Caring Committee, Meals, Rides: Mary Maifeld, Contact
- Communications Committee: Peg Wherry, Contact
- Finance Committee: Bruce DePriester, Chair
- Fundraising: Leona Poritz, Contact
- Governance/Leadership: Susan Backer, Contact
- Hospitality/Membership: Tonya Stevens, Chair
- Interfaith *Our Whole Lives*: Beth Witte, Contact
- Interior Design: Diane Knipfer & Jan Young, Contacts
- Investment Committee: Paul Stouffer, Chair
- Legacy Giving: Peg Wherry, Contact
- Lifespan Religious Exploration: Heather Watson, Chair
- Leadership Council: Jeanne Moe, Contact
- Safety Task Force: Neil Schwarzwald, Contact
- Social Activities: Open
- Social Justice Action Committee: Randy Babbitt, Contact
- Stewardship: Paula Nielsen-Milano, Contact
- Sunday Services Committee: Paul Stouffer, Contact
- Transition Team: Dave Rockafellow, Contact

### Contact Points

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

### Spiritual Pluralism Group Leader

- UU Humanist Group: Sara Williams, Contact

