

APRIL 2026

UUF B NEWS

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman

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

April 5, 2026 • "Auroras of History and Possibilities for the Future" with Rev. Katie Michael

What stories from our history have been overshadowed, and what possibilities can they offer us for the future?

Rev. Katie Michael has lived in Bozeman for 14 years. She is an Interfaith Minister, Spiritual Director, and works as a chaplain at Bozeman Health, where she is on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging committee. Katie also serves on the Board of Directors for Queer Bozeman. Katie grew up in a UU congregation in western Massachusetts and still identifies with the UU faith. She enjoys weight lifting and traveling, as well as crocheting and curling up to read a cozy paranormal mystery.

April 12, 2026 • "Beauty in the HEART of the Beholder" with Rev. Roxy Klingensmith

Spring is a time of emerging beauty. With that in mind, we explore greater possibilities for what we think of as beautiful. It is often said that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. But isn't the beholder influenced by what is culturally acceptable and in vogue, by ideas about perfection? What if we look at the beauty in things that are so-called "imperfect"? What if we look into our hearts and allow for the beauty that is in the heart of the beholder? Then what we love is what is beautiful, and the more we love, the more beauty we see around us and the more we can embrace beautiful possibilities.

April 19, 2026 • To Be Announced

More information about this service will be announced soon.

April 26, 2026 • "12 Steps to Your Spiritual Facelift" with Orlinda Worthington

Can you imagine a world without laughter? Me either! However, challenges in the world today may have us feeling less like laughing, but humor is the thing that can help us through. Laughter can improve mental and physical health, reduce stress, strengthen the immune system and break down spiritual and social barriers according to founders of National Humor Month, celebrated in April (aath.org). If you find yourself needing a lift, but not knowing where to turn join us for Orlinda Worthington's inspiring presentation and rediscover the joy of laughter together.

Orlinda Worthington was a founding member of "Group Therapy," a comedy improvisation troupe in Denver, CO. The group performed on military bases throughout the world and prisons in the U.S. Humor definitely helped Orlinda through her 20 years as a Montana television public radio news anchor. Orlinda is an ordained interfaith Minister and a practitioner for Centers for Spiritual Living and routinely brings the power of humor to her presentations at spiritual centers around Montana.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF BOZEMAN



uufbozeman.org
406.586.1368

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



UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
of BOZEMAN

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Hello Kindred Spirits!

Wouldn't you believe it? We are already a quarter through this year and winter has come and gone. As spring begins to crawl out of the soil and blossom, we had our own new beginning in the classroom, we welcomed Jasmine onto the RE team as our new substitute teacher. We are very grateful to have her on board.

If you recall, the theme for March was "Paying Attention." We talked about being mindful of how our actions impact others, looking out for justice & inequality, listening to our bodies & our feelings, slowing down to pay attention to the magic that is all around us when we look for it, and, to wrap it all up, Sheldon taught a lesson on the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism.

As we start off the new season, our theme for April is "Embracing Possibilities." Much like a gardener, we must embrace the possibilities of growth in order to plant seeds.

The first week of April is Easter and Jasmine will be teaching about how Christian traditions have embraced the possibility that victory can lie beyond defeat. I also hear that the kids will be making terrariums that day.

The following week, the children will take to gardening themselves as Joy L. shows the children how to embrace the possibilities of a greener tomorrow.

For the third week of April, we are going to be celebrating Earth Day!! We are embracing the possibility that this beautiful planet can be healed by taking a walk to Kirk Park and picking up litter.

Finally, we will close out our theme by embracing the possibilities that lie within ourselves. Within each of are endless possibilities, and so we are going to learn to be intentional with those we embrace.

What possibilities are you going to be embracing this month?

Blessings, Asherah



BOARD REPORT

Hello from the Board!

At our March meeting we discussed the Ministerial Housing Task Force Report. The board was very impressed by this well-researched, thoughtful, and succinct report! We would like to express our gratitude to all who helped create it (including Neil S., Bruce D., Susan L., Laura M., and Peg W.). In addition, the board voted to share the report with the broader congregation and have a town hall to discuss the findings from this report. The town hall will be April 5.

The board also created and approved a document that provides guidance to committees about spending and funding requests. This document is available on our website (<https://uufbozeman.org/members-friends/committees/>) and is titled “Guidelines for Committee Spending and Board Approval.” Among other things, this document explains that the UUFB board empowers committees to conduct their own activities and manage their committee budgets. In addition, it describes how special funding requests to the board should be backed by the support of a committee rather than expressing desires of individual congregants.

Finally, we have started thinking about board elections. The board is essential for the functioning of the fellowship and we have a few board members that are finishing their terms. You (yes you!) could be a great board member if you care about the future of our fellowship and like teamwork. If you want to learn more about being on the board, please reach out to one of the current board members. We look forward to hearing from you.

In peace, Kaylin, Co-President of the UUFB Board



“Continuing the Story” *by Rachel Lonberg*



In the church that raised me, there was a woman named Gussie. Gussie was eighty-one years older than me. I considered her a special friend. Gussie was the kind of person who just about everyone considered a special friend. One of the wonderful things about Gussie was that she dressed for church. She emerged from the struggles of her life with a commitment to beauty and elegance. Her formal suit, hat, and gloves stood out in the congregation. Most people in this suburban Seattle congregation dressed in Polar fleece and sensible shoes, as if a hike might break out at any moment. On Easter, Gussie always outdid herself, wearing an Easter bonnet tastefully done up with flowers. Everyone looked forward to seeing the beauty and joy she embodied on Easter mornings.

Gussie died when she was in her late 90s after a long, meaningful life and a brief illness. She died in the early spring, a few weeks before Easter. We all mourned. People shared how sad they would be sad to not see Gussie in her beautiful Easter bonnet that year. It felt like the end of Gussie’s story.

Then someone had an idea: What if we wore Easter bonnets like Gussie did? The word spread. That Easter morning, the sanctuary was filled with Easter bonnets and other hats on the heads of dozens of people of all genders. It was beautiful.

The church has continued that tradition. People wear Easter bonnets and other hats every Easter morning. People who loved Gussie, people who never knew Gussie, and people who weren’t even born before her death have all been invited into Gussie’s story. Her commitment to beauty and joy lives on. While this Easter bonnet tradition has faded some over the years, it has continued.

This is my favorite resurrection story: people of all ages and all genders wearing Easter bonnets, year after year, in memory of someone that not all of them remember. It’s a triumph of love over death, which is the core of the Easter message. Death is never the end of the story. Gussie’s story continues on in the hearts—and on the heads—of the congregation that loved her.



April 2026

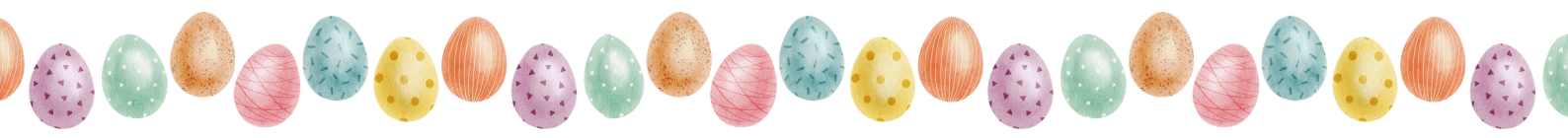


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 •7:00 Men's Group	3	4
5 •10:00 Service with Rev. Katie Michael •11:00 UUFB Town Hall Meeting •11:30 Monthly Birthday Party Social Time •11:30 Easter Potluck	6 •6:00 Women's Group	7	8	9	10	11 •11:00 Collages and Crafting
12 •8:30 Newcomer Breakfast •10:00 Service with Rev. Roxy Klingensmith •10:00 RE Event: flower planting •2 nd Sunday Offering to Gallatin Watershed Council •11:30 Board Meeting	13	14	15 •3:00 Banned Book Club	16	17 •11:30 GVIA Inter-religious Panel at Hope Lutheran	18
19 •10:00 Sunday Service •Food Bank Sunday	20	21	22	23 •4:30 Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed	24	25
26 •10:00 Service with Orlinda Worthington •Glass Recycling	27	28	29	30		



Upcoming Events

- 4/2 Men's Group
- 4/5 Sunday Service with Rev. Katie Michael
- 4/5 UUFB Town Hall Meeting
- 4/5 Monthly Birthday/Anniversary Social Time
- 4/5 Easter Potluck
- 4/6 Women's Group
- 4/11 Collages and Crafting
- 4/12 Newcomer Breakfast
- 4/12 Sunday Service with Rev. Roxy Klingensmith
- 4/12 RE Class Event: flower planting
- 4/12 2nd Sunday to Gallatin Watershed Council
- 4/12 Board Meeting
- 4/15 Banned Book Club
- 4/17 GVIA Inter-religious Panel at Hope Lutheran
- 4/19 Sunday Service
- 4/19 Food Bank Sunday
- 4/23 Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed
- 4/26 Sunday Service with Orlinda Worthington
- 4/26 Glass Recycling



Upcoming Events



UUFBo Men's Group - April 2

All men are invited to join the UUFBo Men's Group for their monthly meeting 7 p.m. at UUFBo. This is a great opportunity to connect with other men in the community, engage in meaningful discussions, and explore topics of shared interest. Whether you're a long-time member or new to the group, your presence and participation are valued. If you would like to be added to the Men's Group email list to stay informed about upcoming gatherings, please [contact our Office Admin](#).



Town Hall Hosted by Ministerial Search Committee & Housing Task Force - April 5 after service

UUFBo members and friends are invited to a Town Hall on Sunday, April 5, after the service and before the Easter meal, to discuss minister housing and hear an update on the minister search. With Bozeman's high housing costs and limited availability presenting challenges in attracting a minister, a Minister Housing Task Force was formed and has completed a report outlining possible solutions, including a parsonage, financial assistance, and rental options. The report was emailed out on the listserv. Please join us and take part in this important conversation.



Easter Potluck - April 5

UUFBo will host an Easter Sunday Ham Dinner Potluck on April 5th after service following the Town Hall. It promises to be a wonderful meal shared in great company. Please RSVP and sign up to bring a dish and/or help with cleanup at uufbozeman.org/easter. You can also sign up to help with setup (on 4/4) at uufbozeman.org/easter-setup. All are invited!



Monthly Birthday & Anniversary Party Social Time - April 5

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.



Women's Group - April 6

Women's Group will meet on the date listed above at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall at UUFBo. This will be a snacks and finger-food gathering—feel free to bring something to share or simply come as you are. All who identify as women are warmly invited to join this time of sharing and joy.



Collages and Crafting - April 11

Lynn F. is hosting a creative play shop at UUFBo on Saturday, April 11 from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., featuring collage-making and crafting. All are welcome! Inspired by vision boards, Soul Collage, and Creativity Matters, this play shop has grown in true UU fashion. Feel free to invite others!



Newcomer Breakfast - April 12

The UUFBo Hospitality and Membership Committee warmly invites you to the Newcomers' Breakfast on Sunday, April 12 at 8:30 a.m. in the UUFBo Social Hall. All who are curious are welcome. We will have an engaging hour of discussion about our spiritual journeys to Unitarian Universalism, UU origins, and the many activities at UUFBo. All who are curious are welcome. Whether you're new to our Fellowship or have been attending for a while and want to learn more about our beliefs and practices, this gathering is for you!



RE Flower Planting Day - April 12

On Sunday, April 12th, our Religious Education program will be hosting a special flower planting event during RE. Children will have the chance to plant flowers and help make our outdoor spaces more beautiful for spring. Please make sure your kids attend that day so they can take part in this fun and hands-on activity!

Upcoming Events



2nd Sunday Offering to the Gallatin Watershed Council - April 12

The Social Justice Action Committee (SJAC) has specified that this offering will go to the Gallatin Watershed Council. Donate online (uufbozeman.org/donate) and select "Give to 2nd Sunday charitable donation" or write a check payable to UUFB with "watershed" in the memo line.

The Gallatin Watershed Council works to guide collaborative stewardship of the Gallatin Valley, supporting a healthy and productive landscape. Through partnerships, community education, restoration efforts, and individual action, they promote the sustainability of the Lower Gallatin Watershed—fostering a shared commitment to protecting ecosystems, supporting agriculture, and strengthening vibrant local communities.



Board Meeting - April 12

The UUFB Board meets at UUFB and on Zoom monthly at 11:30 a.m. the date listed above. Please let a Board member know if you are interested in attending.



Banned Book Group - April 15

The Banned Book Group will meet on April 15th from 3:00–4:30 p.m. We'll be discussing *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston. All are welcome—whether you've read the whole book or just want to listen in!

Cycles of Life: GVIA Interreligious Panel - PASSING IT ON: EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION - April 17

Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association (GVIA) is relaunching its Interreligious Panel in 2025–2026 with the theme "Cycles of Life." Clergy and spiritual leaders from across the valley will share their traditions, followed by audience Q&A. The Friday, April 17, 2026, panel runs 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church in Bozeman (2152 W Graf St). *As long as there has been learning, we have had to decide which parts of our learning to pass on to the next generation. Which parts of our tradition will be meaningful for the next chapter of humanity? For the next chapter of Americans? For the next chapter of Montanans?*

Food Bank Sunday - April 19

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 member will deliver them to the food bank.



Fork & Spoon Volunteers Needed - April 23

2–3 Volunteers from UUFB 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. If you have questions, please contact Randy B.



Glass Recycling - April 26

On the 4th Sunday of each month, UUFB 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! We need a glass recycling volunteer! Sign up at uufbozeman.org/glass-recycling! Please do not leave the glass on other Sundays at the fellowship, as we have no room to store it.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP of BOZEMAN

Staff

- **Pastoral Care:** Rev. Roxy K.
- **Office Administrator:** Christy H.

In-office hours: Tuesday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Remote hours: Tuesday–Friday, 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Out of the office on Monday

- **Coordinator of Religious Exploration:** Asherah B.
- **Religious Exploration Co-Teacher:** Sheldon W.
- **Religious Exploration Sub Co-Teacher:** Jasmine A.
- **Pianist:** Laurel Y.
- **Choir Director:** Megan M.

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.

2025–2026 Board Members

- Presidents: Kaylin G. and Sandra O.
- Vice President: Lisa B.
- Past President: Barbara T.
- Secretary: Joy L.
- Treasurer: Janine R.
- Member-at-Large: May V.
- Member-at-Large: Rene K.

Committees/Task Force Leaders

- Building & Grounds Committee: Tonya S., Contact
- Building Coordinator: Tonya S., Contact
- Caring Committee, Meals, Rides: Mary M., Contact
- Communications Committee: Neil S., Contact
- Finance Committee: Bruce D., Chair
- Fundraising: Open
- Governance/Leadership: Tonya S., Contact
- Hospitality/Membership: Tonya S., Chair
- Interfaith *Our Whole Lives*: Asherah B., CRE
- Interior Design: Barbara L., Contact
- Investment Committee: Paul S., Chair
- Leadership Council: Lisa B., Contact
- Legacy Giving: Pam P., Contact
- Lifespan Religious Exploration: Warren K., Contact
- Minister Search: Carolyn B., Contact
- Safety Task Force: Neil S., Contact
- Social Activities: Diane K., Contact
- Social Justice Action Committee: Randy B., Contact
- Stewardship: Open
- Sunday Services Committee: Jeanne M., Chair

Contact Points

- Book Sales/Little Library: Leona P.
- Family Promise Task Force: Carolyn B.
- Food Bank: Susan A., Norm E., Sandy K.
- Fork & Spoon: Randy B.
- Hiking Group: Dick C.
- Humanist Group: Sara W.
- Historian: Susan B.
- Kitchen/Bath Supplier: Suzy S.
- Men's Group: Warren K.
- Soul Matters Groups: Lynn F., Leona P., Rachel R.
- UUFB Choir: Megan M.
- Women's Group: Diane K., Contact
- Youth Group: Asherah B., CRE