



Newsletter of the
Idaho Falls
Unitarian Universalist
Church



All Services
10:30 a.m.

Meeting Place
555 "E" Street

Address

P.O. Box 50376
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83405-0376
Web Site: www.idahofallsuu.org

Minister

Rev. Lyn Stangland Cameron

Office Administrator

Theresa Gerstner
522-8269 or by appointment
office @idahofallsuu.org

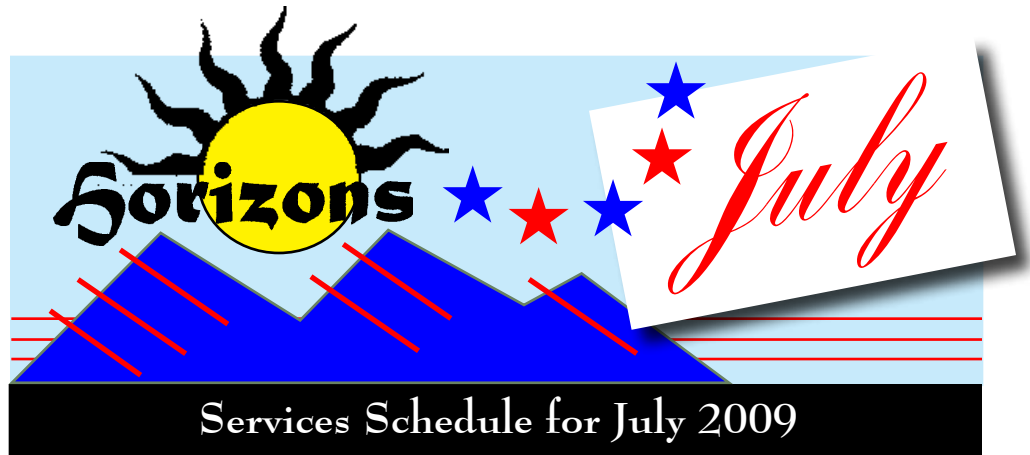
Religious Education &
Exploration Administrator

Diane Harding
709-4128 or by appointment
Rebuild4RChildren@gmail.com

Executive Board

President: Kristi Brower
Past President: Hank Boland
President Elect: Alan Jines
Treasurer: Kay Vahalik
Secretary: Karen Schaefer
Members-at-large:
Jeff Leuschen
Ronda Knudson

For more information,
leave a message at 522-8269
or contact us via e-mail at
minister@idahofallsuu.org



Sunday Services
10:30 am

July 5

Where Are We Going? Gathering and Sharing from GA!

A good number of us have spent time with Unitarian Universalists from all over the country. We have pondered at plenary and been moved by the spirit. Now how might we direct some of the energy and creativity from GA into this community?

July 12

Poetry's Influence on Our Everyday Lives

For the past several years a summertime favorite has been our "poetry" worship service. This year UUCIF Worship Associate Jeff Leuschen is inviting people to contact him before the service and to bring their favorite brief poems (2 minutes) of their own, or poetry written by others, to share on this topic. Please feel free to invite your friends.

July 19

Be Not Afraid by Susan Maginn

Worship associate Annette Lovell presents this classic sermon exploring the source of the courage to be and to be whole. There is really only one human fear: the fear that we will be unable to cope. Come explore this idea as many of us find ourselves in unclear waters as our country goes through the current economic up and downs.

July 26

Reflection on Right Speech

Worship Associate Tami Thatcher shares her reflections on the importance of our language choices as we endeavor to communicate clearly and caringly.

August 3

Building Bridges of Peace

In the midst of a world torn by conflict, hatred and despair, we are still being called to build bridges of peace and understanding, regardless of our differences and points of separation. What does this mean, and how can we do it? We are please to have our members the Reverend Dr. Rodney Romney, a retired American Baptist minister, and his wife Beverly, a retired home economics teacher, here with us as they now divide their time between three homes: Idaho Falls, Stanley, ID, and Portland, Oregon.





Riverside Rev-flections

by Lyn Stangland Cameron



Minister's Hours

This is a general guideline. The nature of ministry means that I may be called away for meetings and pastoral visits and may not be in the office even during announced times. Please know that I can be reached by phone message or email and that I will respond as soon as possible. In event of an emergency you may call my home phone, 523-1531 or Richard Wilde of the Committee on Ministry who will nearly always know how to reach me.

Monday

no regular hours

Tuesday

by appointment

Wednesday

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Thursday

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday

Writing

Saturday

by appointment

Sunday

10:30 – 2:00

The IFUUF Website is:
www.idahofallsuu.org/
Take a look and
checkout the links!

General Assembly—A Spirited Celebration

Some of you might be growing tired of hearing about General Assembly, but for many years now GA, often including a spirited celebration of the summer solstice, has marked the beginning of true summer for me. This year I was surely not feeling very summery as I packed for Salt Lake. I was exhausted and feeling rather “gray” having had no time to prepare for this transition. However, on my late afternoon drive to Salt Lake our cool springtime and much more rain than usual revealed a lushly green landscape palette that heightened the dramatic beauty of the sky and earth and reminded me just how much I do love living here amidst the plains and the mountain vistas. I felt as I often did back when I was commuting to teach my early morning classes; that it was good to have those minutes alone in my auto. Driving amidst the wonders of nature can provide a kind of meditative buffer between the frantic day to day of family life and the classroom, or the reality of church life and the week-long energy filled fantasy-world of General Assembly.

For a minister or a religious professional General Assembly provides an opportunity to gather for support and reconnection as well as a time to share ideas and to access resources. It is hard not to “over extend” – not to stay up too late, to become too busy, to make too many plans. When we gather we also create a cushion around all those many times when we are reminded that we are such a small denomination; when we are together we feel the power of the many. Ours is hardly a “big” convention, not like the various trade or home shows filled with high tech and flash, luring one into a frenzy of consumption. UU GA is rather an opportunity to connect with others who share a devotion to the causes of spiritual, religious and social freedoms. We enjoy a variety of worship experiences and music and stories, and the opportunity to feel connected across the miles and distinct ways of understanding our Free Church tradition.

Each year our denomination discusses the wisdom of spending so much time and energy on what almost might be described as an enormous church family reunion, but listening to discussion during plenary when important differences are being ironed out, one realizes that we reflect a fully messy but democratic church community complete with complex relationships, triumphs and disappointments. General Assembly is also a time for reaffirming some of our most precious values and a time for experiencing deeply spirit-moving worship, and a time for singing familiar tunes with thousands of others. GA is a time for our own renewal and re-birth.


It is not perfect. We UU's are, after all, only and wholly human. This year's election revealed true rivalry and competition. Each year some programs are less interesting, or less worthwhile than we might have hoped. Sometimes programs we were looking forward to get cancelled! Some speakers who are dramatic and fun might lack gravitas and depth. However, those who work to make General Assembly happen, like those in our congregation here in Idaho Falls strive for authenticity and humility in the midst of the mystery that brings us together as living beings, the wonder of community and the power of commitment. Let us all anticipate the ways in

“GA—A time for reaffirming some of our most precious values and a time for experiencing deeply spirit-moving worship . . .”

Riverside Reflections continues on page 4



On the Calendar for July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Recorder Practice 3:00-5:00 pm Hatha Yoga 5:00-6:15 pm	2	1 Hatha Yoga 11:30-12:45 pm Med Group, 4-5 pm	2	3 Hatha Yoga 8:30-9:45 am	4 4th of July Potluck Picnic late afternoon stay & watch the fireworks
5 Service, 10:30 am Summer RE program begins	6 Recorder Practice 3:00-5:00 pm Hatha Yoga 5:00-6:15 pm	7	8 Hatha Yoga 11:30-12:45 pm Med Group, 4-5 pm	9	10 Hatha Yoga 8:30-9:45 am Men's & Women's Groups 5:30 pm	11
12 Service, 10:30 am	13 Recorder Practice 3:00-5:00 pm Hatha Yoga 5:00-6:15 pm Teen Coffee House 7:00 pm	14	15 Hatha Yoga 11:30-12:45 pm Med Group, 4-5 pm	16 	17 Hatha Yoga 8:30-9:45 am	18 Soup Kitchen, 11:30 am
19 Service, 10:30 am Forum, noon	20 Recorder Practice 3:00-5:00 pm Hatha Yoga 5:00-6:15 pm	21	22 Hatha Yoga 11:30-12:45 pm Med Group, 4-5 pm	23	24 Hatha Yoga 8:30-9:45 am	25
26 Service, 10:30 am	27 Recorder Practice 3:00-5:00 pm Hatha Yoga 5:00-6:15 pm	28	29 Hatha Yoga 11:30-12:45 pm Med Group, 4-5 pm	30	31 Hatha Yoga 8:30-9:45 am	

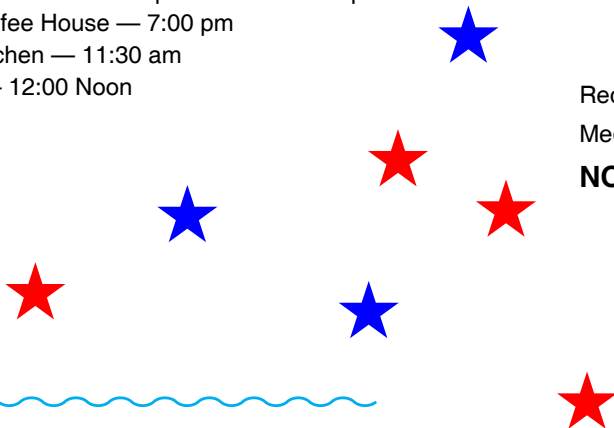
Calendar "Highlights" for July

- 10 Men's & Women's Groups meet at —5:30 pm
- 13 Teen Coffee House — 7:00 pm
- 18 Soup Kitchen — 11:30 am
- 19 Forum — 12:00 Noon

Ongoing — See Calendar for details

- Hatha Yoga
Mondays 5:00 - 6:15 pm
Wednesdays 11:30 am - 12:45 pm
Fridays 8:30-9:45 am
- Recorder Practice
Mondays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm
- Meditation Group
Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:00 pm

NOTE: "Wednesdays Together" will resume this fall



FEATHER REMINDER: When you see the "feather" displayed on the calendar, it is a reminder to send in your Horizon news by the end of the weekend.

The next newsletter deadline is
July 20th
Please send your items to
minister@idahofallsuu.org and to
kpschaef@datawav.net

Watch for changes or additions to this schedule in the Sunday Orders of Service



Board Notes

by Karen Schaefer, Secretary

We are preparing to celebrate 20 years in our present building. Hank will help to get the history written for the fall celebration.

Alan, Kay and Kristi will meet with Tom to look at finances and prepare a wellness report and decide if we need another canvass drive to carry us through this budget year. Kay proposed and we agreed to move all our bank accounts to Scenic Falls Credit Union where we have some accounts and have had good service. This will make it easy for Theresa to deposit money as it is right next door.

Summer schedules were discussed; Katie Metz and Roxanne Rohweder will cover Diane for some of summer. The upstairs has been sprayed for flies and a back basement hinge has been repaired. A no skate boarding sign still needs to be placed.

There will be a Sealander Park Camp-Out for members and friends August 21-22.

August 12th RE Teacher/Advisor/Guide Meeting is set.

Hank Boland was honored as a founder of the Southeast Idaho Chapter of P-Flag at the Second Annual "Loving Day Celebration" sponsored by The Snake River Freedom Coalition, and the Drinking and Thinking Liberally Group. She was honored along with several others who have furthered the causes of diversity in Idaho Falls. We also gave her a round of Congratulations.

August 5th is the next Board Meeting at 8pm. All are welcome.

Riverside Reflections continued from page 2

which we might grow in depth and diversity in the months ahead.

At least twenty UUCIF members and friends gathered in Salt Lake for some part of General Assembly 2009 and/or worked to create decorative items under the theme The Elemental West, for "General Assembly Ambiance!" Doing this work was quite a project in our community's church-life.

Jennifer Ruskey and her wonderful crew fashioned for the Salt Palace a lovely sense of the beauty, diversity and character present in our beloved, geographically expansive, and geologically varied, "Mountain Desert District." The "Element" pillars on either side of the stage and the four "Season and Vistas" canvases in the lobby were echoed on the dining tables in the Exhibit Hall by lovely symbolic wire-sculptures, and ceramic-mountain pots filled with live grasses, and surrounded by shimmering and meandering fabric-rivers (complete with shiny pebbles and paper fishes!) All throughout the Salt Palace charming graphic images on paper cones reminded us that this GA was right here in the mountain-desert west.

The "Ambiance" people put in many hours of work before the session, and were active during the opening ceremony hanging the over-three hundred banners. During the days of assembly they were busy rearranging furnishings, and then on Sunday taking the banners down and making certain that each went home with the correct church family before the closing ceremony. At the conclusion everything needed to be packed for the trip back home! Theirs was a herculean task and they completed everything with sensitivity, care and good humor.

Please remember to thank these folks for the good will they engendered and the reputation for quality they have set for this district and congregation. Thank those who created, and grew, those who carried and assembled, those who organized, sorted, and packed their cars and carried trees, rocks, grasses, and sculpture, and all the many ways they participated.

Special thanks to Jennifer Ruskey for her magnificent and creative artistic oversight and outstanding organizing, and to: Molly Brinkerhoff, Diane Harding, Bob Gehrke, Mary Gehrke, Evelyn Huot, Ruth Barnes Kunze, Annelies Kull, Arthur Kull, Jeff Leuschen, Catherine Nelson, Kate Robertson, Karen Schaefer, Richard Wilde, Sue Wilde, Sidney Smith and Rev. Lyn. And "thanks" to all those "other" UU's and non-UU's who pitched in to help as well, (Glen Elder, Diane Harding's dad, and Dave Morgan, Jennifer's husband.) Once the muscles recover, and the dust has settled, let us hope that we will remember that our UUCIF contribution to "GA 2009 Ambiance" reflected our love of our Mountain Desert District's natural beauty and our devotion to the principles of our faith and provided visual joy and respite for those who attended this year's GA. Oh, we are blessed!



Around the Church, the Community, and the World

Fall MDD Conference

Dear friends,

This year's fall conference of the Mountain Desert District of our Church will meet in Fort Collins, Colorado, October 16-18.

There will be lots of good music with Holly Near and Emma's Revolution (Pat Humphries).

The registration form is on page 7 of this newsletter.

In faith,

—Arthur Kull

Soup Kitchen

Ham Hodge Podge was enjoyed by 88 patrons, including 15 children, and 16 helpers on Sat. June 20th. Thanks to Karen and Bob Schaefer, Heidi Baker, Bill and Alex Kohn, Joe and Ruth Plum, Richard Wilde, Tom Eddy and 5 helpers from the Drinking Liberally organization who were there for orientation. They are going to do the first Sun. of every month and the Sunday openings will start the first Sunday in August. The Unitarians will do the third Sunday along with their Saturday. Getting Sunday teams organized has been a difficult process but it is really appreciated by the other help organizations i.e. Salvation Army, Fish, St. Vincent's de Paul, Men's Shelter to name a few. They all like knowing there is a place for people to eat 7 days a week.

Now I am in need of a person who is willing to be a cook every other month on the 3rd Sunday. I will do Sunday when I do Sat. but would like someone for the Sunday when Robin Hunt does Sat. All that is required is to take a simple test on the internet and to be oriented to the tasks involved. Please contact me if you have any interest so I don't have to contact you.

Please let Robin Hunt know you will volunteer for July 19th.

—Marilyn Watts 523-0488

Charter Member

Idaho Falls was fortunate to have an impressive but small band of Unitarians gather to form the Unitarian Fellowship in 1954, (under the influence and inspiration of Munroe Husbands, advocate from UUA.) Jim and Serene Rein were Charter members of the Fellowship that has expanded into our present Church.

We have received word that Jim has passed away in New Mexico. His wife Serene, and their two daughters, Terry and Gail and family survive him. Jim and Serene's vision continue in our growing Church, as we benefit from their independence, foresight, and determination to establish a thoughtful and welcoming association in Idaho Falls.

There are few Charter Members still living. Let us be grateful that their influences, including Jim Rein's continue in our lives.

—Ruth Barnes (Kunze)

Soap and Soup

The Soap and Soup group met to assemble hygiene kits using the sample toiletries collected after vacation and business trips. We assembled a record breaking 620 kits this time. Every kit contains soap, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, and a disposable razor. As long as supplies last additional toothpaste, mouthwash and a toothbrush are added. This fits into a small ziploc bag.

The kits are distributed to Harbor House, The Haven, Ruth House, the Refuge, Domestic Violence Center, and any other needy social service organization willing to distribute them. Other groups in town also make hygiene kits. There is a ready need for such simple and necessary amenities for living.

The Soap and Soup group operates within FISH, a service offered by the Christian Ministries. I have been helping with this companionable group for many years. A marked box is kept in the Book Sale room at Church, ready to receive your donations. I then take them to a central collection until we assemble the next batch of kits.

We also accept donations to purchase toothbrushes and toothpaste. Your contributions and in-kind gifts are welcomed and appreciated for the needs in our Community are growing daily.

—Ruth Barnes (Kunze)

Voluntary Simplicity Tip for July

“Ponder on this: Before you rush off to take care of those never-ending and demanding errands, take a moment to breath and consider how your actions impact our air, soil, water, other people, and yourself.”



Religious Education

Upcoming Events in RE

We are having a **campout at Sealander Park** August 21st! Plan to join us for conversation, singing, playing and just being together in nature. It is only about 8 miles out of town so we can all come for a little while. Sealander Park is in New Sweden, west end of St. John Road Exit 113 on I-15. Bring your own main dish for the grill and a salad or dessert to share.

The summer program will begin July 5th. All children 3 and over will be together. (What a great opportunity for the younger kids to hang-out with the teenagers!) Katie Metz is running this program and it sounds like so much fun I wish I could be a student. If you aren't out enjoying beautiful Idaho you won't want to miss these lessons!

3rd Friday Family Fun Night will begin again September 18th

REE Committee meeting August 12th time to be announced

If you would like more information concerning our program or Volunteer opportunities please contact Diane Harding 528-8779, Rebuild4RChildren@gmail.com

TEEN COFFEEHOUSE

The teen coffeehouse will be held on **Monday, July 20th at 7:00 pm**



We hope to see all teens there.

UUCIF and PUUF Youth-Adult Hindu Temple Visit

In one word the trip to the Hindu Temple in Spanish Fork Utah on June 20-21 was fabulous! Our community will hear about the details during the weeks to come from all of those who visited.

They enjoyed a great lunch in Salt Lake City at the Star of India, a good visit of Salt Lake's new Ganesh temple, and an intimate stay with the priest

and his wife in Hare Krishna temple in Spanish Fork. The Hindu priest (an American) and his wife (a British) accommodated all of us (7 from IF and 6 from Pocatello) inside a house! At



night we saw a documentary movie of visits to several cities on the Ganges River. It was so good that Sanju is eager to get a copy of the DVD.

There was food in the evening if anyone was hungry, and we cooked in the morning. Then there was a cooking lesson. All got crazy in buying gifts from the souvenir shop. Even Debu bought something for himself (a very rare event). The sun came out on Sunday! What more could the group expect?

Forum, Sunday, June 21st, 12:00 noon

July's forum will be on the subject of Community Currency, a movement active in many communities around the nation. Community Currency is an aspect of creating a sustainable economy through local action. It is especially appropriate for periods of economic and financial unrest such as we are currently experiencing. Mike Aldana will be the presenter. Mike refers to himself as a social entrepreneur and is seeking like-minded people to help build a local coalition of individuals, service groups, and businesses.

Contact Richard Wilde (522-6910) or Karen Shropshire (552-1321) with questions or suggestions.

Men's Discussion Group

The Men's Group will meet at on Friday, July 10th, at Steve Watt's house, at 5:30 pm. Refreshments will be provided. Please come and bring a church friend who has not attended before. Call Richard Wilde at 522-6910 for information.

Women's Discussion Group

Annette Lovell in Ririe will host the July 10 Women's Meeting. Please bring a dish to share. 13925 North 115 East (Ririe area). Take Highway 26 toward Ririe, turn Left at 1st Ririe turnoff, cross canal; 1st Left is 115 East, go ¾ mile, the house is on West side, 2 story old rock house with large trees and white vinyl fence.



Spiritual Harmony: Celebrating the UU Religious Voice

MDD Annual Conference October 16-18, 2009

Fort Collins Marriott 350 E Horsetooth Road

Please print and complete a separate form for each individual.

First Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Last Name: _____ E-mail: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Congregational Affiliation: _____
 Emergency contact during conference: _____
 Your name & title as you wish it to appear on your name badge: _____

	Amount
If PAID or POSTMARKED by July 15, 2009	
*Two-Day - "sUUPER saver" Adult Rate (Sat/Sunday only)	\$99.00
Three-Day "sUUPER saver" Adult Rate (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)	\$125.00
If PAID or POSTMARKED by September 1, 2009	
Two-Day - "Early Bird" Adult Rate (Saturday/Sunday)	\$125.00
Three-Day - "Early Bird" Adult Rate (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)	\$150.00
If PAID or POSTMARKED by October 1, 2009	
Three day Adult - "Better Late Than Never!" Rate	\$175.00
<i>PLEASE NOTE: There is no 2-day Last Minute Rate Available!</i>	
Young Adult Rate (18-24): Saturday/Sunday only	\$99.00
Young Adult Rate (18-24): Friday/Saturday/Sunday	\$125.00
Pre-School Program: Ages 2-K (incl. 3 meals, all activities & caregivers)	\$75.00
Children's Program: 1st - 8th Grades (incl. 3 meals, all activities & supervision)	\$75.00
Youth Rate (9th-12th grade): Three day rate - includes all meals, activities, & sleeping accommodations at Foothills Church	\$75.00
Donation to help cover youth or young adult discount (\$10, \$20, \$50, \$100)	_____
Holly Near Concert on Thursday, October 15th (<i>Seating limited--respond early!</i>)	\$15.00
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED*/PAID** (checks payable to: Foothills UUA - MDD)	_____

Please describe needed accommodations and/or dietary requirements necessary for your participation in this conference: _____

Housing: Fort Collins Marriott 350 E Horsetooth Rd \$99/night Reservation Code = MDD
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel-guide/ftcco-fort-collins-marriott/> 1-970-226-5200

***MAIL completed form & payment to: Bobbie Poole 2318 Manchester Ct Fort Collins, CO 80526-1620**
or

****Mail Form & PAY ONLINE with Credit Card at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/69494>**
(PLEASE NOTE: This option does include a small convenience fee which covers credit card usage fees)

Vision/Mission Statement

“We are a loving and caring religious community
that affirms the sacredness of all life.

We provide a spiritually nourishing
and intellectually stimulating environment
with respect and acceptance for each individual.

We encourage exploration and growth in a spirit of fellowship
and love for seekers of all ages.

With an attitude of cooperation, we will be a catalyst for
religious freedom, social justice, peacemaking,
and responsible stewardship of the Earth.”



Idaho Falls Unitarian Universalist Church
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