



Our Vision

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Idaho Falls is a vibrant and welcoming church home for everyone. With a tradition of thoughtful searching, we are a beacon of truth, love and justice.

Our Mission

Honor the individual's right to religious and spiritual freedom
Minister to each other and the community at large
Nurture the search for truth and meaning
Be a loving and intergenerational community welcoming to all beliefs, races, sexual orientations, ethnicities and gender identities
Improve the quality of life by living our values and working for local and universal justice

Our Covenant

Love is the spirit of this community and service its law. This is our great covenant:
To dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

Horizons Newsletter

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH IN IDAHO FALLS

April 2019

April Worship

Sunday Services 10:30am

April 7

“Regrets, I Have a Few. How About You?” (Tentative)

Interim Minister the Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler speaking. Vic Allen is the Worship Associate. June Cannon is the pianist.

Do you have regrets? Regrets about petty crimes toward life, or toward those you love, or about the insensitive things you did or said as well as the kindnesses you failed to perform? In the privacy of your mind do you indict yourself? Beyond owning them, I'll reflect on what else we can do about or with our regrets. And we'll hear a special song to lift our spirits.

April 14

“Spirituality: The Extraordinary in the Ordinary”

The Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler speaking. Molly Brinkerhoff is the Worship Associate. The talented recorder group Musica Solanum will be performing.

For many people the concept of spirituality is difficult to get a hold on, to explain, or to even completely understand. It's sort of like trying to hold onto a bag of water. Is spirituality something you possess, something you do, or something that occurs outside of you? Through stories, this reflection offers various ways that spirituality can be discerned.

April 21

“Earth's Good Friday's Crucifixion but We're Not Waiting for a Resurrection Miracle”

The Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler speaking. Arthur Kull is the Worship Associate. Jessica Kuipers is the pianist and vocalist.

It's Easter Sunday and whether born-again or mainstream, hundreds of millions of Christians will hear about the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and celebrate his resurrection with supreme confidence in his saving power. However, Earth Day is the very next day, so echoing the metaphor of Christianity's crucifixion and resurrection, I'll lift up Earth's crucifixion because of climate change and how we Unitarian Universalists and others are not waiting for a miracle to resurrect or save Earth.

Instead and regardless of our ages, I'll go into how we Unitarian Universalists are called to join with others to halt practices that fuel climate change, to instigate sustainable alternatives, and to do everything we can to mitigate the impending effects of global warming/climate change for all beings living now and for future generations of all beings. We need responses that are just, ethical and ones that will benefit the whole of creation. I'll lift up how we as Unitarian Universalists can and must live out our 7th Principle and commit to a renewed reverence for life and respect for the interdependent web of all existence.

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Cindy Logan
Josh Cogliati
Lisa Christenson
Katharine Giovanna
Kerry Shirts

April 28 “Living in the Moment”

A service presented by Arthur Kull.

Life unfolds in the present. But so often, we let the present slip away, allowing time to rush past unobserved and unseized, and squandering the precious seconds of our lives as we worry about the future and ruminate about what's past... We're always doing something, and we allow little time to practice stillness and calm. But, as singer songwriter Judy Fjell put it in one of her songs: “One bright morning all of us will wake up to living in the now; no more waiting for the hereafter, we are living in the now”. Are we? Should we? Will we?

Looking For A Few Good Worship Associates

Worship Associates (WA) help lead our Sunday worship services, collaborating with the minister to reflect on meaning, purpose, and the life of the congregation. Members who are moved and inspired by worship and want to contribute to the congregation's depth of experience in a service are invited to become a Worship Associate. Worship Associates will serve for two years, beginning September 2019 through August 2021 and generally they serve as a Worship Associate once every 6 weeks. Worship Associates are not members of the Worship Team, although, they could apply to be a member of the Worship Team too.

If you're interested in being a Worship Associate please contact Rev. Ziegler at revziegler369@yahoo.com or 208-881-5539 for an application. The deadline to apply is April 25. When there are enough people interested in being a Worship Associate, mutually convenient dates for training will be decided upon. Rev. Ziegler will provide the training.

So what is this Mountain Desert District (MDD) anyway?

It is more than 50 UU congregations in eight states, grown in closeness 30 years of workshops, and other gatherings.

We are a district which measures distances in hours rather than in miles.

Until 1990, the Mountain Desert District was made up of two official bodies; the Rocky Mountain Area Conference and the Desert Conference.

The American Unitarian Association had a strong national office and divided the country into regions, several unwieldy in size. Colorado Unitarians, for instance, were members of the Western Unitarian Conference which covered most of the central United States from Western New York and Pennsylvania to Salt Lake City.

The Universalist Church of America was organized in state conventions. First Universalist Church in Denver, the only congregation of the denomination in the entire region, stood alone. Although there were many hundreds of Universalist churches in the 19th century Midwest, migration further west was not as intense.

Prior to 1960, the year of the Unitarian Universalist merger, the two denominations had quite different forms of institutional of the UUA.



“So, if you are starting to feel at home when you come to services and/or the other activities this congregation offers, consider becoming a member.”

So This Minister Walks into a Congregation and . . . Interim and Other Ministry Topics

Greetings,

Part I

Wow, there sure are a lot of WONDERFUL events and activities happening in this Congregation. I invite you to view this positively, not negatively. As an interim minister who has served many congregations, I can wholeheartedly say that all of this activity is a sure sign of this congregation's health and vitality.

Part II

As you know, after the March 31, Sunday service, there was a very important congregational meeting where two very significant actions took place: voting for a Ministerial Search Committee and voting on a small number of important By-law changes.

Being able to vote on these two items, to have a voice in shaping this congregation's future is one of the wonderful privileges of being a member. In relationship to being a member, I want to share an article that The Rev. Dr. Michael Schuler, newly retired minister at The First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wisconsin (FUS) wrote about the importance of Unitarian Universalism in the 21st century and, thus, why being a member of FUS was important. He wrote:

“At a time of so much rancor and personal animosity, we need an institution where ‘active’ toleration is practiced. It is not enough grudgingly to put up with our differences. True toleration means celebrating those differences for the opportunity they provide for broadening our perspective.

At a time when old and young people have become preoccupied with the affairs of their own peers, while those in the middle are consumed with careers, we need an institution that will draw the generations together and re-invent the spirit of community.

At a time when the word “spirituality” has been cheapened and degraded, and people desperate for meaning are either retreating to old platitudes or grasping at New Age straws, we need an institution which challenges us to question and reconsider the quality of our religious lives.

At a time when provincial boundaries and parochial attitudes are being resurrected, we need an institution that will keep us connected with a more global consciousness. To know and to cherish one's own religious tradition is indeed important, and that importance is not diminished by the cultivation of a universal, interfaith outlook.

Clearly, we need an institution like the First Unitarian Society.

If you have been thinking about signing our Membership Book, why not act upon it this month?”



“Becoming a member means being informed beyond a cursory level about Unitarian Universalism and about this congregation’s history, and its governance process.”

So, if you are starting to feel at home when you come to services and/or the other activities this congregation offers, consider becoming a member. It’s not that you necessarily need a religious community, it’s that this congregation . . . Unitarian Universalism . . . needs you to stand with us to promote and carry a much-needed liberal religious voice in a world where your participation will be welcomed because we believe you will enrich the ongoing life of our community as much as we hope we will enrich yours.

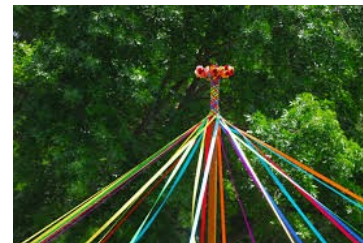
Becoming a member means being informed beyond a cursory level about Unitarian Universalism and about this congregation’s history, and its governance process. It means having a strong sense of the responsibilities and benefits of membership. Keep in mind, being a member does NOT mean you are subscribing to a particular understanding of the nature of the divine or the nature of reality! UUism is a NON-CREEDAL denomination. To help you with this, I am offering a two-session Pathway to Membership course in April. For date and time and other specifics about this course, please see the article on page 5

Please know that I am also available to personally meet with you (and others) to discuss Unitarian Universalism and UUCIF. Shoot me an email or call me to schedule a mutually convenient time to get together. As you no doubt know, I LOVE to talk about Unitarian Universalism!

I look forward to seeing you at a service, at a UUCIF event or around town!
Bright Blessings, Rev. Jackie

Early Notice Regarding a Maypole Event

Keeping with a tradition, after the May 5 Sunday service we’ll decorate and dance around a Maypole. Please plan to stay after the service and participate in this lovely tradition.



UUCIF Garden



It’s spring and the pic to the left is from our Peace Garden. Last fall UUCIF members and friends took responsibility for sections of the garden. Keep an eye out as the garden blooms and transforms as people plant, trim, rake, shovel, weed, and generally work to transform our little corner into a green retreat for birds, bees, and people.



**Care Team
is composed of:**

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Jackie Ziegler,
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UUCIF Care Team

Do you need a ride to a doctor's appointment? Is your family suffering from the flu and would appreciate a meal you don't have to prepare? The UUCIF Care Team is here to help. If you need a hand or know a member or friend who does please contact one of the Care Team.

The Care Team is composed of:

Lala Chambers, mlalas@cableone.net, 208.317.7515

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Magic Vally UU Building Dedication; An Invitation

I wanted to send out an invitation for you all to include in your April newsletters, so everyone is sure to know they're invited to attend our building dedication ceremony on Saturday, April 13th at 3pm! Please feel free to include this information in your newsletters, or to forward this information via email to your folks.

Magic Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Building Dedication – Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 3pm
160 9th Avenue East
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Please mark your calendars and join us to celebrate a great joy of owning our first home, something our fellowship members have dreamed of for 25 years. We'll begin with a building dedication ceremony and follow it up with food, beverages, and conversation. Child care will be provided during the ceremony. The more, the merrier! We look forward to celebrating with you!

Pathway to Membership Course Being Offered

If you or someone you have talked with is interested in becoming a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Idaho Falls, Rev. Ziegler is offering the very informative and interesting two-session free course called "Pathway to Membership." Everyone who has ever taken this course LOVED it!

The first class is Saturday, April 6, starting promptly at 10 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. at Rev. Ziegler's home. It covers our American Unitarian and Universalist historical roots and the ethics and morals that we covenant to affirm and promote.



**“We will have
our traditional
Easter egg hunt
on Easter,
Sunday, April
21”**

DREE Office Hours
Thursday: 8:30am—
11am

News From Upstairs

Elizabeth Cogliati

Spring is here and we're excited in REE!

We will have our traditional Easter egg hunt on Easter, Sunday, April 21. Children should wear clothing suitable to spending some time outdoors in the garden. The egg hunt is open to all children 12 and under. Nursery children can participate as well, but we may ask a parent to accompany them, depending on how many little ones we have. Children will be hunting for eggs that they exchange for prizes. The youth group will meet as usual on Easter.

Women's Study Group: First, the exciting news! Anita Carpenter and Elizabeth Cogliati wrote a grant application for a grant to write a sequel to *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven* and *Rise Up and Call Her Name*, and we received it!! Next, the Women's Study Group will meet next on Sunday, April 7 after coffee hour. Childcare will be provided.

Elizabeth will not be in church on Sunday, April 14, for a day of rest. She will be available via email and phone in the week prior.

Our Annual Auction Is Coming

The Annual Goods & Services Auction is Saturday, May 18, at 5:30 pm. Come have a delicious picnic dinner, and buy some awesome donations from our congregation's members and friends. Offerings include: home-baked bread, jewelry, and a dinner in a gazebo overlooking Palisades Lake, plus much, much more! Tickets are on sale now through April 28 for \$20 each. Tickets include free childcare.

Volunteers needed for the Auction! We need people to bake desserts, people to help put dinner together, and people to help roast turkey breast. Donations of goods and services are also still being accepted. Please see Elizabeth or Clarissa Cogliati to volunteer or donate.

Saturday, April 27, is the City of Idaho Falls Earth Day celebration in Tautphaus Park. We will have a booth there, and we need volunteers for set up and clean up, plus sitting in the booth from 10 am to 3 pm. See Elizabeth Cogliati to volunteer.

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The second class is Tuesday, April 16 from 7 p.m. to approximately 8:45 p.m. at the Church. It covers UUCIF's history, its governance processes, by-laws and policies, membership expectations and it will share the opportunities which exist to become involved in the life of the congregation.

However, whether or not you need to take both classes depends upon your history with Unitarian Universalism. If you are NEW to Unitarian Universalism (UU) it is important that you take BOTH classes. If you are a Unitarian Universalist from another UU congregation then you only need to take the Tuesday evening class, although you are more than welcome to participate in the Saturday class too. The Saturday class is a very rich introduction to our American roots and people who have taken the Saturday course enjoyed it!

If you're already a UUCIF member or someone who is just interested in knowing about Unitarian and Universalism but not interested yet in becoming a member of UUCIF, you can register for one or both classes.

Pre-registration is necessary and the deadline to register is Thursday evening, April 4. Register by calling Rev. Ziegler at 208-881-5539 or at revziegler369@yahoo.com



DREE Office Hours
Thursday: 8:30am—
11am

Office Administrator Hours

Mon. 2:30p – 5:30p
Wed. 2:30 - 5:30pm
Thu. 2:30p – 5:30p

A Message From Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice

During its first two years in office, the Trump administration worked to dismantle major aspects of the U.S. immigration system. Of particular note are its attempts to terminate the legal protections relied upon by multiple groups of immigrants who have lived in the U.S. for decades. This includes Dreamers (undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. years ago as children that are recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); those who hold Temporary Protected Status (TPS); and beneficiaries of Deferred Enforced Departure (DED).

While challenges to the Trump administration’s actions are making their way through the courts, the House of Representatives has the opportunity to pass legislation addressing these programs. H.R.6, the American Dream and Promise Act of 2019, was introduced in the House on March 12 by Rep. Roybal-Allard (D-CA-40) and would create a path to conditional permanent residency, lawful permanent residency, and eventual citizenship for DACA recipients and DED and TPS holders. An estimated 2.5 million immigrants could be permanently protected under the bill.

Despite multiple Congressional attempts to pass the Dream Act since its first introduction in 2001, such a bill has never been signed into law. UUSJ’s Immigration Task Group has shared with Congressional offices a statement of our positions on various immigration and refugee issues, including advocating for permanent protections for DACA, TPS and DED holders. The UUSJ Advocacy Corps has visited Congressional offices on the Dream Act and DACA several times.

UU Grounding: In 2013 our UU General Assembly passed a Statement of Conscience on “Immigration as a Moral Issue” which states: “Our UU Principles and Sources compel us to affirm that all immigrants, regardless of legal status, should be treated justly and humanely.”

No one is illegal. As people of faith and conscience, grounded in UU principles, we affirm the inherent worth and dignity of all people. For years UUs have fought for compassionate immigration reform and an end to mass detention and deportation. We strongly support a just and equitable reform of our nation’s immigration laws. While the reform process is pending, we ask Congress to take action that can immediately alleviate the suffering of thousands of immigrants.

Talking Points:

- Most DACA recipients and DED and TPS holders have been in the U.S. for years, even decades, and are well-embedded in our communities and economy. They contribute greatly to our society, culture and economy. Many now form part of mixed-status families with U.S. citizens (usually youth or young adults).
- Deporting these persons is inhumane, short-sighted and not in line with our UU values (or American values). We have historically welcomed immigrants when they were needed to build the nation and keep its economy functioning, or uniting families. Studies show 4 out of 5 Americans think the Dreamers should be allowed to stay. Poll after poll shows that Americans are united in support of legislation that would offer a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers.

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Unitarian Universalist
Church in Idaho Falls
PO Box 50376
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- Dreamers contribute to our economy. Annually, households that include Dreamers generate \$15.5 billion in federal taxes and \$8.5 billion in state and local taxes, and they hold \$66.4 billion in spending power. Collectively, Dreamers own 144,000 homes and pay \$1.5 billion each year in mortgage payments.
- TPS and DED holders have long-established lives in the U.S. On average, Salvadorans with TPS have lived here for 22 years, Hondurans for 23 years, and Haitians for 17 years. Approximately 620,000 individuals live in a household with a family member that TPS protects. That number includes 448,000 U.S. citizens, 279,000 of whom are U.S.-citizen children under the age of 18. Studies show that our economy would lose billions (\$4.5 billion) a year if just the TPS status individuals were deported.

Suggestions for Writing Your Letters:

- Focus on the topic – Co-sponsor and support passage of a clean H.R.6, the American Dream and Promise Act of 2019. Link to names of co-sponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6/cosponsors>
- Be brief, be courteous, be specific - clearly state the issue and your position.
- Be original and speak from the heart. If possible, describe a personal experience or story, or select 1-2 provided talking points, in your own words, to support the main message. Include a clear and specific action request . “I urge you to...” Focus on the topic - pass a clean American Dream and Promise Act to provide a path to citizenship for Dreamers, and those with protected status. And, if not already a co-sponsor, become a co-sponsor of the bill.
- Include your name and complete address - to be counted it proves that you are a constituent.