



Horizons Newsletter

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH IN IDAHO FALLS

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.

February 2019

February Worship

Sunday Services 10:30am

February 3 "Searching the Future"

Guest speaker Rev. Judy Zimmerman, Regional Transitions Coach with the Pacific Western Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association, offers this service. Interim Minister Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler is the service's Worship Facilitator.

When human relationships are guided by a quest for the greater common good, creativity and synergy are unleashed. What might this mean for this congregation as it peers into the future in the hope of calling a minister? Join Rev. Judy Zimmerman in an exploration of laying groundwork for a successful ministerial search.

A time for questions and answers will also be provided.

February 10 "Men with Scientific Minds and Religious Souls: Charles Darwin and Asa Gray"

Interim Minister Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler offers this service along with UUCIF members Josh Cogliati and Vic Allen.

This service celebrates and honors the birthday of the Unitarian Charles Darwin, who was born February 12, 1809. On November 24, 1859, Darwin's book "The Origin of Species" was published. This scientific piece of literature is considered to be the foundation of evolutionary biology, that is, the theory of evolution through natural selection. In this service, Josh Cogliati and Vic Allen will offer a dramatic reading based on the actual correspondence between Charles Darwin and Asa Gray. Asa Gray was a Harvard professor of botany who was also an orthodox Christian, yet he was Darwin's strongest and most vocal scientific supporter in the United States and encouraged Darwin to set his theory of evolution forward. Their correspondence helps shed light on the personal religious struggle Darwin had about publishing his book.

A short time after our second Sunday potluck luncheon begins, the DVD "Paradise Lost: The Religious Life of Charles Darwin" will be shown. After the showing, a facilitated discussion will be held about Darwin, evolution and religion, and the continuous controversial debates in the United States between the scientific theory of evolution and the Creationism and Intelligent Design theories.

February 17 "Sunlight and the Raven"

A service led by Worship Committee member Victoria McDonald.

All cultures have stories about how the things that are came to be. In the indigenous cultures of what is now the American Northwest have numerous stories about the role of Raven. These tales aren't just entertaining. They are windows and mirrors. They tell of the people who have told these stories for countless generations. And in doing that they hold a mirror up to our own ideas, beliefs, and stories. Join us as we hear some of these stories and how they have something to teach us today.

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Molly Brinkerhoff
Cindy Logan
Josh Cogliati
Lisa Christenson
Katharine Giovanna
Kerry Shirts

February 24 “The Extraordinary Lives of Tables”

Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler speaking. **NOTE:** Whether this service is offered depends upon the degree of Rev. Ziegler’s functionality after her February 11 surgery.

Since first invented, tables have been silent listeners and witnesses to conversations ranging from the mundane to the profoundly spiritual to the world-shaping. I’ve found that the table in a religious community often can represent a significant theological tenet. If I asked you to reflect on what your table has heard and witnessed, I suspect you’d be surprised by what you’d discover and what it can reveal about you or your family or your loved ones. In this reflection I’ll consider the value of the table in our lives over history and today.

Registration Deadline Coming Up Soon for Rev. Ziegler’s “Recommitment to Vows of Love” Ceremony Sunday February 10, 2019

BEFORE the Sunday, February 10 service, promptly at 9:15 a.m., I will offer a simple yet eloquently meaningful “Recommitment to Vows of Love” ceremony. This ceremony is offered to all couples (straight or gay) who want to reaffirm their vows of love whether they’ve been together for one or sixty years.

This is largely a group ceremony **BUT** the recommitment vows are shared privately between each couple. In past ceremonies, some couples wore the clothing they wore for their original ceremony and some couples repeated their original vows, while other couples offered new vows.

I have offered this ceremony for other congregations and as it is so well-received, I am making it available for UUCIF’s members and friends. **If you’re interested in participating, please let me know by Sunday evening, February 3** through my email: revziegler369@yahoo.com OR a telephone call, 208-881-5539, so I can plan how many roses and how much chocolate to purchase.

I invite you to participate and feel the joy of recommitting to that other special person!

~ Rev. Ziegler

From the Transition Team

Bob Goetsch

Your transition Team wants you to know that the History Wall is coming in March. All will be revealed – content, needs, process, confidentiality – as the time approaches. The Transition Team consists of Hank Boland, Bob Goetsch, Dennis Jorgenson, Char Shirts, and Rev. Jackie Ziegler.



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

Part I A Personal Message

As you know I am going to have complete hip replacement surgery early in the morning on Monday, February 11. I started experiencing some pain in late November and the pain became worse over the following weeks. I finally went to the doctor and was shocked to find out that my right hip had completely deteriorated -- it was bone on bone. I was surprised because up until November I did not have any signs that my hip had even started to deteriorate.

The surgery is going to be done at Mountain View Hospital by Dr. Gregory West of Summit Orthopedics. My husband Dan will be here to help me during my recovery period. I had my left hip completely replaced close to five years ago and physically recovered very quickly! Assuming that will be the case now, I expect to offer the Sunday, February 27 service.

Part II

I want to life-up that during the weekend of February 8-10 religious leaders from many diverse faith traditions and locations around the world will celebrate Charles Darwin's birthday by participating in the 14th annual Evolution Weekend. Evolution Weekend is sponsored by the Clergy Letter Project, an endeavor of which I am a longtime member. Evolution Weekend offers an opportunity for serious discussion and reflection on the relationship between religion and science. The ongoing goal of the weekend has been to elevate the quality of the discussion on this critical topic, and to show that religion and science are not adversaries. Rather, they look at the natural world from quite different perspectives and ask, and answer, different questions. Many people, including myself and other Unitarian Universalist ministers and lay people, understand that evolution is quite simply sound science; for us, it does not in any way threaten, demean, or diminish their faith in God. In fact, for many, the wonders of science often enhance and deepen their awe and gratitude towards God.

Indeed, evolution has showed us that religion and science, each working through their specific lens, have come to the same conclusion: racial divisions are neither meaningful nor productive. Religion teaches us that we are of “one family” and that we need to care for each other, while evolutionary biology and genetics teach us that race is a human rather than a natural construct. As members of a single species, we can move past the superficial differences that have divided us and create a healthier, more equitable environment for all. The genetic testing services of companies such as Ancestry, Family Tree DNA, 23 and Me and Living DNA are distinctly demonstrating just how much humanity is “one family.”

I hope you'll join Josh Cogliati, Vic Allen and me for the February 10 service where we'll celebrate Darwin's birthday and his foundational contribution to the development of



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the science of evolution. I encourage you to plan to stay after the service for the traditional 2nd Sunday Potluck lunch which will be followed by the showing of an enlightening DVD of Darwin’s religious beliefs and life. There is a lot of misinformation about his religious life and this DVD sets the record straight! This gained knowledge will help you in conversations with people who have inaccurate information about Charles Robert Darwin.

Part III

One of the five interim minister’s tasks I work on is to help the congregation “claim and honor its past and heal its griefs and conflicts.” In relation to that task, one of the first steps I took was to have a meeting with all of UUCIF’s past presidents who were in the area, as well as UUCIF’s current president. With the help of my Transition Team, on December 4 a “Past Presidents’ Gathering” was organized. Eleven (11) past UUCIF Presidents and the current President participated! Before the gathering, the Presidents were sent questions to reflect on and asked to be ready to answer them at the gathering. During our get-together, the Presidents shared the challenges, successes and stories from their times as President. We heard comments such as “Oh my goodness!” and “You’ve got to be kidding” and “I didn’t know that happened” and “that’s wonderful to hear” and “something similar happened during my time too” and “I wish I would have had more support on this” and “I am so glad I had the rest of the Board’s support” and “sometimes I just wanted to quit.” Everyone found the gathering to be very enlightening, meaningful and joyful.

The next step in completing this task will be the creation of a “History Wall” at the church. **Briefly**, the History Wall is where members share stories, events, challenges, successes and feelings they experienced since joining or participating in the life of the congregation by posting them on the wall so others can read them. The Transition Team and I will be working on putting this together during February with the goal of having it ready in the early part of March. The Transition Team will be writing and talking about this during February. Watch for information from them in the February Wednesdays E-Updates and the March Newsletter.

Good people, I look forward to seeing you at our services or some other UUCIF event or around town. ~ Rev. Jackie

UUA Announces Ware Lecturer for 2019

Selected by President Obama as the fifth inaugural poet in U.S. history, Richard Blanco is the youngest and the first Latino, immigrant, and gay person to serve in such a role. Born in Madrid to Cuban exile parents and raised in Miami, the negotiation of cultural identity characterizes his three collections of poetry.

Blanco has written occasional poems for the re-opening of the U.S. Embassy in Cuba, Freedom to Marry, the Tech Awards of Silicon Valley, and the Boston Strong benefit concert following the Boston Marathon bombings. He is a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and has received numerous honorary doctorates. He has taught at Georgetown University, American University, and Wesleyan University. He serves as the first Education Ambassador for The Academy of American Poets.

The 2019 Ware Lecture is Friday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. PDT at the Spokane Convention Center. General Assembly registration is required to attend the lecture in Spokane. The Ware Lecture will be streamed live on uua.org/ga.



“Anita Carpenter and I are working on a grant application to turn the lessons I am writing for the women's study group into a real curriculum.”

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

News From Upstairs

In the 3-6 year-old class, they are learning about love and its manifestations through the 7 principles. They are using the Tapestry of Faith (ToF) curriculum, Love Surrounds Us. ToF curricula are free, online lessons developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association for use in UU congregations.

In the 7-12 class, they are exploring the 6 UU Sources through riddles, puzzles, and Legos, with custom lesson plans written by me. They are finding these to be very enjoyable. Riddle from January 6th's lesson: What carries itself within itself, even as it comes from itself? (Answer at the bottom of this column)

The youth group is using Popcorn Theology, a curriculum that teaches UU values and ideas through movies.

The Women's Study Group is learning each month about 3 different women, one from ancient history, one from history, and one from modern times. January's women were: Saint Hildegard of Bingen <https://www.franciscanmedia>.

Ray Frank <https://jwa.org/womenofvalor/>

Wilma Mankiller <https://www>.

Anita Carpenter and I are working on a grant application to turn the lessons I am writing for the women's study group into a real curriculum.

I recently read an article on the Psychology Today website, entitled Why We Should Stop Segregating Children by Age: Part 1, and participated in a discussion about it on a Facebook group for religious educators. The author made an interesting point, about how children of different ages can learn from each other. I think that the children need to know and trust each other before such learning can take place. The question becomes: How can we as adults help build that trust between children? I'd love to hear your thoughts.

Riddle Answer: A Flower

The Unitarian Universalist Church Celebrates Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month and members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Idaho Falls are invited to participate in three events celebrating women.

The first event will mark International Women's Day, which is Friday, March 8, 2019. Rev. Ziegler and others will offer a presentation at the Church at 6:30 p.m. on the famous art piece *The Dinner Party* which was conceived by the artist Judy Chicago and collaborated on by many other women artists.

For the second event, at the March 10 Sunday service we'll learn about Margaret Fuller, a little known but highly influential Unitarian Transcendentalist and early feminist. For this service Margaret is coming back to life, so-to-speak, to be interviewed by Rev. Ziegler.

The third event is described in a separate article inviting people to attend a special gathering honoring the 40th anniversary of Judy Chicago's famous art installation *The Dinner Party*. (see page 6 for the article)



An Invitation to an Activity and Event Honoring the 40th Anniversary of Judy Chicago's Famous Art Installation *The Dinner Party*

Plans are moving forward now on this event. All women, men and older children are invited to participate in an exciting activity, which will be a part of the Unitarian Universalist Church's celebration of Women's History Month in March 2019. The plan is for each person to paint a ceramic dinner plate and/or setting honoring a woman of her or his choice. That woman could be living or deceased and could be a wife, partner, mother, sister, daughter, grandmother, aunt, friend, teacher, scientist, etc; a woman who has made a difference in your life had an impact on your life. All of the plates will be shown at an elegant potluck dinner party which is tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 29.

We'll design and paint the plates through one of Idaho Falls pottery studios. I'll send out more information about this in our weekly Wednesday E-Updates and our March newsletter.

This activity is an homage to the famous artwork *The Dinner Party*, an installation art piece of dinner plate place settings for 39 mythical and historical famous women. It was first exhibited in 1979. Judy Chicago, the instigator and coordinator of the project, stated that its purpose was to "end the ongoing cycle of omission in which women were written out of the historical record." The piece was so controversial that it took a **long** time to even find an art museum to show it and then find a permanent home for it. The *Dinner Party* took six years and \$250,000 to complete.

I organized this activity for the first time in March of 2012 while I served Prairie Circle Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Grayslake, Illinois. All of the participants raved about the activity and about the dinner party where they showed off their plates and shared why they chose the women they honored.

Watch for more information about this activity in weekly Wednesday E-updates and the March newsletter. Want more information sooner than later, talk to me. Want more information now about *The Dinner Party*, the phenomenal installation artwork that elevates women's achievement in Western history to a heroic scale traditionally reserved for men, go to: http://www.brooklynmuseum.org/eascfa/dinner_party/home.php **OR** google "Judy Chicago Dinner Party" **OR** go to http://throughtheflower.org/page.php?p=10&n=2_

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Thursday: 8:30am—
11am

**Office Administrator
Hours**

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



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Around UUCIF

Ministerial Search

It's a very exciting time here at UUCIF. We are beginning our journey to find a new settled minister through the ministerial search process.

There's a lot of questions. "What's my role in this?" "How does this process work?" "Is everything going to change?" A lot of questions can be answered by visiting the UUA website (<https://www.uua.org/careers/ministers/transitions/search>). Rev. Ziegler has been through this process several times and can answer questions too!

The most important part members of the congregation play is to stay engaged and ask questions when you have them. The more we are willing to work the process the better our results will be.

Nominating Recipients for "Change for Change"

The Board of Trustees invites members and friends to share nonprofit agencies in Idaho Falls and Bonneville County they would like to see be a recipient of UUCIF's new outreach program "Change for Change." The Board voted to begin this program at its September 2018 Board meeting. Briefly, "Change for Change" happens once a month during a service by members and friends giving a monetary contribution to the designated nonprofit agency during the offering time.

A sign-up sheet is available in the downstairs social hall. Please let the Board know who you'd like to see be a recipient of this program.

UUCIF, You, and KISU

KISU – FM is our local "ear to the world" and is a popular source for news, music, and information to many in the UUCIF congregation. So it should come as no surprise that members of our congregation are big supporters of KISU, writing a check (or checks) to ensure KISU FM stays on the air. But did you know you can double the impact of those dollars? Simply note with your check that you would like your donation credited to UUCIF's account. You get the tax deduction and the satisfaction of supporting a worthy cause, UUCIF gets on air recognition and KISU stays on the air. What could be better?

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