



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

March 2019

March Worship

Sunday Services 10:30am

March 3

“The Rainbow Only Comes After It Rains: Precious Grief”

Interim Minister the Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler speaking. Kerry Shirts is the Worship Associate. Jessica Kuipers is the pianist and she'll be singing her version of a well-known song.

The sage, Dolly Parton, once said, “The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.” I have found that pithy aphorism to be true in my personal life and as a minister pastoring to members of the congregations I've served over the years. So in this reflection, I'll share how I've found experiences of grief, sadness and failure can paradoxically deepen and broaden the joy in our lives—they can give us that rainbow! Perhaps, you'll find what I share is true in your experience of life too?

March 10

“An Interview with the Transcendentalist Margaret Fuller: An Unsung Hero”

Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler is the Interviewer. Molly Brinkerhoff performs as Margaret Fuller. Victoria McDonald is the Worship Associate. June Cannon is the pianist.

In honor of Women's History Month, through an interview this service introduces the little known yet incredible and dynamic Unitarian Transcendentalist leader, Margaret Fuller. Margaret will 'join' us to answer questions about her life and how she influenced the religious thinking of other Transcendentalists, such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau and she will share some of the experiences that led her to be called America's earliest feminist.

March 17

“The Heart of Unitarian Universalism for the 21st Century: Process Philosophy or Theology . . . Thought!”

Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler speaking. Board Member Josh Cogliati is the Worship Associate. Pianist TBD.

It's been my experience as a minister that Unitarian Universalist people become frightened when they hear the word 'theology' because it conjures in their minds a system of belief that is irrational. However, there is a theology that is anything but irrational. It is a theology that is grounded in quantum physics, systems theory, chaos theory and evolution. And, actually, it is a belief system that can be considered a theology *or* a philosophy, and

Our Home
555 E Street
Idaho Falls, ID

Our Mailing Address
PO Box 50376
Idaho Falls, ID
83405

Our Web Site
www.idahofallsuu.org

Facebook
Unitarian Universalist
Church in Idaho Falls

Our Phone
(208) 522-8269

Our e-mails
minister@idahofallsuu.org
dree.uucif@gmail.com
uucifoffice@gmail.com

Minister
Rev. Jackie Ziegler

**Director of Religious
Education and
Exploration**
Elizabeth Cogliati

Office Administrator
Vic Allen

Executive Board
Daniel Schwen
Molly Brinkerhoff
Cindy Logan
Josh Cogliati
Lisa Christenson
Katharine Giovanna
Kerry Shirts

because it can be understood from either perspective this belief system is often referred to as Process Thought. So it can resonate with a theist, agnostic, humanist or atheist. The beauty of this belief system is that most Unitarian Universalists already hold these beliefs but don't realize that what they believe in is embodied in a complete theology/philosophy.

My reflection is a quick tour through process theology. It will speak to people who have not yet encountered a belief system that satisfies their sense of what is real and possible. If you know someone who does not belong to a religious community because they believe there is not a religion that is grounded in science, or someone who is just interested in the intersection of science and religion, invite them to this service!

NOTE: Please see my invitation on page 6 to join me in a special evening gathering where I'll lead an in-depth discussion about process thought theology/philosophy based upon the 2011 movie *The Adjustment Bureau* starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt.

March 24 ““Science and Spirituality of Sight and Sound” ”

A service presented by Worship Team member Molly Brinkerhoff.

Sight and sound are an intimate part of the human experience. They are such a part of our everyday lives we seldom consider them spiritual. Molly will take us through how these basic human senses contain a spiritual aspect we all too often overlook.

March 31 “What Are the Purposes of Our Lives? Exploring Teleology”

The Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler speaking. Co-chair of the Worship Team, Annette Lovell, is the Worship Associate. Jessica Kuipers is the pianist.

In my reflection, I'll consider an answer to the ancient, perennial question: What is the purpose – or what are the purposes – of our lives? For what should we live? Or for what would we be willing to die? I suspect that what I suggest are not necessarily things you would have thought of as answers to those questions.

Darwin Day Service

UUCIF joined dozens of other UU churches across the country to celebrate Darwin Day. Our service included Vic Allen (pictured right) as Charles Darwin and Josh Cogliati as Darwin contemporary and ally Professor Asa Gray. The two read excerpts from correspondence between the Darwin and Gray about Darwin's theory and Gray's support of it. Gray was a devote Christian while by this point in his life, Darwin was an agnostic.





“I expect to have fully recovered around the middle of April. That means that I’ll be able to do everything I did before the surgery.”

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

Part I A Personal Message

As I write this column, I am delighted to say that my February 11, total hip replacement surgery was successful. Successful because “I am alive and kicking” – as the old saying goes! Seriously, I am doing quite well. Early into my physical therapy I was told that I was doing much better than most people at that stage. I know that is because when I was diagnosed with a completely worn-out right hip, I continued for at least three times a week to lift weights, walk on the treadmill, pedal on the recumbent bicycle and stretch; I worked to stay in shape as much as possible. Believe it or not, I exercised on Sunday, February 10!

I would not have been able to do as well as I am doing if it weren’t for the help of my wonderful husband Dan. He has been available 23/7! I want to publicly shout out “Daniel, my dear, thank you so much for everything you’ve done to help my recovery. Thanks too for putting up with me when I have been crabby – usually because I was in pain and needed to take my pain meds. When you go back to Laramie I will miss you. I’ll miss the delicious meals you made.”

There are a number of people who helped me prepare for the surgery and for coming home to recover and I want to publicly thank them too. They are Karen and Bob Schaefer, Sue Wilke and the members of UUCIF’s Caring Team: Lala Chambers, Karan Croft, Pam Lilburn, and Rhonda Wike! Good people, please know that I am very grateful for your help!

I expect to have fully recovered around the middle of April. That means that I’ll be able to do everything I did before the surgery. Right now, I am able to do just about everything involving my ministerial responsibilities and roles. As you know, I was back in the pulpit Sunday, February 24 when I offered the reflection “The Extraordinary Lives of Tables.” I have to admit that although I felt good while I was in the pulpit, after the service I was very tired and ready to put my legs up!

Part II

As part of my interim work responsibilities, towards the end of March, the Transition Team members, Bob Goetsch, Dennis Jorgenson, Henk Boland and Charlotte Shirts and I will make the History Wall available for everyone to go through. Please see more information about this in the article written by Bob Goetsch on page 7.

Part III

As you know, one of my interim ministry responsibilities is to help this congregation prepare for working with the new professional minister whom you will call sometime in late April or early May 2020. To that end I want to introduce you to the types or categories of sermons that Unitarian Universalist (UU) ministers offer. I offer this information for a variety of



“As a significant number of Unitarian Universalists (UUs) formerly were members of other religions or were never members of any religion and, more often than not, do not know any of the long history of this denomination ...”

reasons and here are some:

Compared to most, but not all Christian and Jewish denominations, UU ministers do not work with a lexicon or any mandated or prescribed topics and thus we choose our sermon topics free from the constraints of the lexicon, etc. With the possible exceptions of the High Holy Days, Christmas, Passover and Easter, on any given Sunday the sermon topic offered will most likely be different from one UU minister to another.

As we honor other wisdom traditions and their spiritual teachers, it is our responsibility to enlighten, so to speak, the congregation about a religion’s wisdom tradition and its teachers and put that into a UU context.

As a significant number of Unitarian Universalists (UUs) formerly were members of other religions or were never members of any religion and, more often than not, do not know any of the long history of this denomination or about our spiritual leaders, we teach members and friends through sermons on these topics.

Related to the above statement about UUs being former members of other religions or previously unchurched, UU ministers offer sermons that in respectful ways help congregants come to understand religious teachers like Buddha, Moses, Christ,

Mohammad, Confucius, Lao-tzu and their views on life, death, resurrection, grace, etc., within a UU context.

So those are some of the reasons. With those in mind, below is a list, with minimal descriptions, of some of the categories of sermons I offer. Note that my list will be different from another UU minister’s list but much in the list will be similar. I offer sermons about:

Unitarian, Universalist and Unitarian Universalist history and traditions.

Unitarian, Universalist and Unitarian Universalist religious and spiritual leaders and heroes.

Our Principles and Purposes and about the sources our “Living Tradition” draws upon.

Spiritual Assets such as love, compassion, hope, peace, prayer, humility, humor, grace, charity, forgiveness, faith, etc.

Unitarian, Universalist and Unitarian Universalist understandings of God, death, the after-life, resurrection, goodness, evil, what is the purpose of living/life, reality, etc.

Unitarian, Universalist and Unitarian Universalist understandings and approaches to social and ecological justice concerns.

Unitarian, Universalist and Unitarian Universalist understandings and approaches to rites of passage.

Prophetic calls to justice work and why (which members might not agree with).

Contemporary secular topics considered through UU religious ethic lens.

These are some of the categories of sermon topics I work from. In regard to my sermons, which as you know, I call reflections, I share the sentiment of the Rev. David E. Bumbaugh, retired Associate Professor of Ministry at Meadville Lombard Theological School,



“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!”

one of our Unitarian Universalist seminaries, who was fond of ending his sermons with this thought: “This sermon is not the last word on a topic but is an invitation to further discussion.”

I am excited about the programs and activities being offered and planned for the rest of the church year. I hope you’re excited too.

Good people, I look forward to seeing you at our services or some other UUCIF event or around town. In the spirit of love, Rev. Jackie

Pathway to Membership Course

If you or someone you have talked with is interested in becoming a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Idaho, 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, 2177 Bodily St, Idaho Falls, 83401. It covers our American Unitarian and Universalist historical roots and the ethics and morals that we covenant to affirm and promote.

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 Tuesday evening, April 2. You can register through Rev. Ziegler.

“I confidently expect that the present generation will see Unitarianism become the general religion of the United States.”

Thomas Jefferson - 1822



“(Women’s study group) will meet after the (March 17) service. Childcare will be provided. Be sure and read all about the Women's History Month activities planned by Rev. Jackie -- they should be very interesting and fun.”

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

News From Upstairs

Elizabeth Cogliati

Elizabeth will be out of town at a professional retreat March 5-10. The Mountain Desert District Liberal Religious Educators Association will hold its annual retreat at the Peaceful Meadows Retreat Center outside Boulder, Colorado. It's a chance to relax, rest, and connect with colleagues while working to dismantle white supremacy -- this year, the retreat topic is white fragility.

The Women's Study Group is moved to March 17 due to Elizabeth's trip. We will meet after the service. Childcare will be provided. Be sure and read all about the Women's History Month activities planned by Rev. Jackie -- they should be very interesting and fun.

Youth group continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month during the service.

The older elementary class continues to learn about the 6 UU sources through puzzles, riddles, and Legos. In March, they will be learning about the 3rd and 4th sources.

Safety Policies for REE

The work we have been doing in this interim minister time to get ready for having a new minister prompted me to look at the safety policies in REE. We have very few written policies. Best practices for safety policies is to have them codified and written and placed with the church bylaws. I have done a safety assessment on our REE policies, and found them lacking, mostly because the policies are not written down. I will prepare a final rough draft of comprehensive safety policies for REE for the March board meeting.

Yoga Truths I Learned From Sue

Micheal Fryer

1. Keep your back straight. Good advice for all especially those with strange kinks like me.
2. Breathe when holding difficult poses. Something to do besides gritting your teeth.
3. If you are sore after a week you have done too much. Being sore the next day is expected.
4. Doing moving poses to the breath is a good thing, when you remember.
5. Sun salutes are great exercises. However they become less necessary as you get older.
6. Floor exercises become more necessary as you age. Especially those that are done lying on your back.
7. All sorts of props like: walls, blocks, foam pads, tables, and chairs are essential yoga equipment.
8. Yoga partners make great friends.



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

Past Presidents Gathering

Past UUCIF's Presidents gathered last Dec. 4th at the home of Molly Brinkerhoff to review church history and to give Rev. Ziegler a glimpse of how we came to be where we are today.

The group included (back row left to right) Arthur Kull, Liz Marsden, Daniel Schwen, Josh Cogliati, Molly Brinkerhoff, Marilyn Watts, (front row left to right) Katharine Giovanna, Vic Allen, Hank Boland and Kristi Brower.



An Invitation to an Evening Exploring Process Theology/Philosophy

In my March 17, Sunday service, I offered a quick tour through process theology. I hope my reflection gave you a basic understanding of the subject. However, it has been my experience that people appreciate and understand process theology even more if they see three fine movies, movies that speak to devotees of process thought. These movies are *MindWalk*, *Ground Hog Day* and *The Adjustment Bureau*.

I invite you to gather at my home on Friday, March 22, starting at 6 p.m. when I will lead an in-depth discussion about process thought. People who have participated in such meetings said they provided them with some of the best discussions on the intersection of theology and science that they had ever been involved in. For this evening's discussion, participants need to watch the movie *The Adjustment Bureau* starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt at least one week BEFORE the gathering. The gathering involves a potluck dinner to be eaten during the discussion. People with last names from A through J, please bring a hot main dish; K through R, a vegetable dish; and S through Z, a dessert. Everyone is also asked to bring a beverage to share. My home can seat 8-10 people so pre-registration is needed. To register call me at 208-881-5539 or email me at revziegler369@yahoo.com



Around UUCIF

Transition Team Update “The History Wall is coming”

One of our congregational interim tasks to prepare for a new permanent minister is to create and annotate a history wall. This is a graphic and written representation of everything that has made us at the UUCIF what we are. Near the end of March, the Transition Team will put up the materials for the wall in the front lobby (the room fronting on E Street). Instructions, markers, and specific dates will be provided as March progresses.

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

Nominating Recipients for “Change for Change”

Every month UUCIF donates a Sunday “plate” to a local non-profit organization. If you are aware of a local non-profit that would benefit from a donation from us please let us know. You can find a Change for Change sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

UUCIF Couples Renew Vows



(left to right: Robert and Karen Schafer, Arthur and Annelies Kull, Rhonda and Steve Wike, and Robie Cartmell and Bob Goetsch



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

Around UUCIF

Notes from Your Board

Cindy Logan

We realized that many of our members and friends felt like they didn't know what the UUCIF Board was up to besides holding meetings. So we will begin submitting monthly summaries to the newsletter and posting our minutes on a bulletin board in a convenient location for everyone to review and comment on.

Our 2019 Service Auction is scheduled for May 18th with Elizabeth and Clarissa Cogliati Chairpersons for the event. We need assistance and support from the congregation for our largest fundraising event of the year.

Takeaways from the Ministerial Search Workshop included reminders to canvass our congregation for their suggestions on who they would like to serve on the Search Committee for our next Settled Minister. Please make your considerations known to the Board members or Rev. Ziegler so the elected group will be made up of members carefully chosen to represent our mission and values with the utmost of mutual trust and respect for all.

After the March 3rd service, proposed drafts of changes to our Bylaws will be presented to the congregation with thorough explanations and the reasoning behind the proposed changes this month. Daniel has made it possible for everyone to view the proposals on the big screen monitors in the sanctuary during the discussion. Of course, a vote will be conducted so our congregation's voice will be heard. The proposed bylaws revisions and, importantly, members of the Ministerial Search Committee will be voted on in a separate meeting after the March 31st service.

Look around the building for a new History Wall that tells our story beginning in March! Our Interim Minister, Rev. Jacqueline Ziegler and several dedicated members and friends have been researching and gathering stories, photographs and artifacts for months in preparation for this project.

Katharine Giovanna has graciously offered her labor and talents to tame the overgrown plants in our front foyer. Look out for beautification at our formal entryway in the coming weeks.

Habitat for Humanity has graciously offered to paint the exterior of our building this season. The only cost will be for paint and supplies. We expressed our thanks and gratitude to the Habitat Board for choosing us.

Two years ago, we launched a capital campaign to raise funds to do major upgrades and repairs to the church. Many of these projects, the replacement of the single-pane windows and the resurfacing of the parking lot for example, have been completed. This year, we will try to finish off the list of remaining projects. We would like to have the church in as good a state of repair as funds and time allow when the new minister arrives.

We're already thinking about our annual canvass program and considering making changes to the program itself as well as moving the period of active canvassing. Stay tuned for more information.

Unitarian Universalist
Church in Idaho Falls
PO Box 50376
Idaho Falls, ID 83405