



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 OF THE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH IN IDAHO FALLS

AUGUST 2021

August Services

August 1
"Finding Our Place In A
Vast Evolving Universe"

How do we find meaning and continuity in the Cosmos-Earth-human relationship when everything around us is evolving?

August 8
"Doors - The Gateway of
Our Lives"

We humans are always opening and closing doors and we never know where they will lead us. Join Worship Associate Molly Brinkerhoff and her talk about doors and how they affect our lives.

August 15
"Ecclesiastes"
"Vanity of vanities. All is futile." (Ecclesiastes 1:2) So claims our narrator in the opening lines of the Old Testament book Ecclesiastes. But is that the real message?

Join Worship Associate Josh Cogliati in a talk about Qohelet's Old Testament book; Ecclesiastes.

August 22
"TBA"

August 29
"TBA"

A Message From Your Board

In-Person Services: We are excited at the prospect of being together again, but it will not be on August 1. The number of COVID cases is increasing in eastern Idaho and we want to make sure we are doing this safely. Please also put on your calendars our welcome-back celebration to be held on September 12, with the traditional water communion.

Installation Ceremony: Help us plan our official welcome ceremony for Rev. Kevin! Sometime in



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Minister
Rev. Kevin Carson

**Director of Lifespan
Faith Development**
Elizabeth Cogliati

Office Administrator
Vic Allen

Executive Board

Lisa Christensen
Amanda Logan
Larry Frank
Davette Chambers
Bill Kohn
Kerry Shrits
Cindy Logan

October we will have an installation ceremony for Rev. Kevin, finally! Please let Lisa Christenson (president@idahofallsuu.org) or Elizabeth Cogliati (dree@idahofallsuu.org) know if you are interested in helping to plan this exciting event.

Annual Fundraiser and Dinner:

We have some wonderful and generous donations for our fundraiser, and we're still looking for more donations and sponsors. Please contact Cindy Logan (spudnut@gmail.com) if you would like to help organize this event or if you have items, services, or experiences that you would like to offer for bidding at the fundraiser. We have space in the building for items; just let Cindy or Vic know and we will arrange to meet you there for drop-off.

Peace Garden: The Peace Garden, located on the east side of the lower parking lot, has been neglected for the past several years.

Many thanks to Molly Brinkerhoff; Michael, Jatuporn, and Blue Burns; Elizabeth and Clarissa Cogliati; Katharine Giovanna; Bob Goetsch; Ron Goin; Alison McCready; and John Tanner, who worked over the past month to try to get the Garden back in shape. It needs much more attention than this group can give. If you are interested in helping and are physically able, please contact

Elizabeth Cogliati (dree@idahofallsuu.org) and let her know.

If we cannot get enough people to work on the Garden, we will have to seek other options such as turning it into a lawn. All suggestions are welcome.

Religious Education: Elizabeth Cogliati is preparing a table in the sanctuary for accessibility items such as the allergy stickers and the hearing assist devices to help reduce clutter at the greeter table.

She is also preparing a table in the sanctuary with multi-sensory items for people of all ages to use during the service to keep their hands busy and experience the service in a different way. This table will include sensory jars and coloring pages.

Elizabeth has rearranged the classroom furniture and toys upstairs, and she and Clarissa are painting doorways and some walls, such as the red wall in the teen room. That wall will now be blue, which should be more peaceful and will match the theme of the whole room, which is peace.

Children's Religious Education & Exploration and Youth Group are scheduled to resume in-person on September 12. Please contact Elizabeth Cogliati (dree@idahofallsuu.org) for more information or to volunteer.

Elizabeth Cogliati and Bob Goetsch are building and stocking a **Little Free Library**, which will be located on the east side of the lower parking lot, near the Peace Garden.

Continued on pg. 3



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**“Message From Your Board”
continued from pg. 2**

Community Volunteering: We have a crew to help serve lunches to children for the Summer Food Service Program during the second week of August. Please let Elizabeth Cogliati (dree@idahofallsuu.org) know if you are also interested and we’ll get you on the waiting list.

Building and Grounds: Bill Kohn has replaced all of the emergency lighting in the basement. We think we are now all ready for the fire inspection (date to be determined.) He also cut down significant weeds in the Peace Garden and the parking strip, and has fixed the sprinkler that was not working. Bill has identified an appropriate freezer to replace the one that failed in April; he will purchase it and we will have it in time for our fall re-opening.

Endowment Committee: We currently have no members on the Endowment Committee. If you would like to volunteer for the committee, please send an email to the Board (board@idahofallsuu.org).

If the committee membership cannot be filled, the Board will propose changes to the Bylaws to remove the requirement for the Endowment Committee, with the associated responsibilities reverting to the Board, and largely the Treasurer. Any changes to the Bylaws will be discussed at an annual meeting to be called sometime in the fall.

Your Board: Lisa Christenson (President); Amanda Logan (Vice President); Larry Frank (Treasurer); Davette Bogart (Secretary); Cindy Logan, Bill Kohn, Kerry Shirts (Members-at-Large)

**Double
Your
Dollar’s
Impact**



If you are a supporter of KISU and Public Radio you can double the impact of your donations. Just be sure to note your donation should also credit UUCIF. We get credit and you get a tax deduction. That credit goes toward airing UUCIF announcements during NPR/KISU programming.

Save the Date

Reflect, Rejoice, Renew:
Pacific Western Regional Assembly 2022 will gather UUs from across the west to hold space for multigenerational community, large and small, group worship, activities, discussion, and learning. Come celebrate our history and people and connect with each other, our faith, and our future

When: Friday, February 4 through Sunday, February 6, 2022
Where: Hyatt Regency Mission Bay, 1441 Quivira Road, San Diego, CA



“I entered the Lutheran church building for the first time on a Sunday in over a year and a half.”

Rejoicing, Grieving, and the Possibilities of Change



Dr. Melissa James
PWR Program Staff

I entered the Lutheran church building for the first time on a Sunday in over a year and a half. I was a guest preacher there last summer, too. Then, however, they were virtual so I led worship sitting alone at the Pastor’s desk. This time was different. The congregation had started gathering for worship in person slowly--first by reservation only and just in the last couple weeks by open invitation. Come masked and preferably vaccinated (though we would all be on our honor), do your best to respect social distancing, but come. It sounded inviting enough. Like so many UU congregations, careful thought and planning had gone into safety protocols that balanced the need to follow guidelines yet remain worshipful. They had done a really admirable job.

As I talked with the stalwart volunteers who were there an hour before the service (you know the ones I mean) and asked them about being back there was a resounding answer of "I LOVE it!" Sometimes this was emphasized with "It didn’t feel like I was going to church sitting at home he

ones who get to access it (and even then not fully) leaving many of us outside the boundaries. Our communities will not be the normal we knew before the pandemic. They can’t. We are changed just as the world around us has changed. And I, for one, find possibility in that reality.

There are so many examples of congregations doing multi-platform worship and programming well. Where I take heart are the examples where the change is adaptive and not just technical. All my gratitude and blessings on those staff and volunteers who have figured out the technical answers. The technical is very important. We have a real opportunity when those technical answers are linked to meaning-making. Where have we really seized the opportunity to ask ourselves how has the pandemic changed the way we understand ourselves? What opportunities has it opened up? What has it shown we can let go? How do we keep on the path of expanding accessibility? What is really important about living into Beloved Community together?

Save the date **COMPASS**
A Liberatory, Everyday
Theology for Changing Times
December 11 & 12, 2021
*A national virtual event that will include
workshops, networking, worship and more*
*It's a time to be with other congregational leaders
on the journey towards our shared future.*



BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE STAFF





“When the 8th Principle project began, it addressed something vital that had been missing in our UU movement, namely that anti-racism and anti-oppression must be central to congregational life and our community building. ”

Article II Study Commission on Adding 8th Principle

Commission Statement

Unitarian Universalism is no stranger to movements that call for racial justice both within and beyond our institutions. Over and over again, pockets of people have worked to say racism is a problem, racism is a problem *for us,* and that we are committed to fighting racism and other oppressions. In 1997, the General Assembly voted to commit to intentionally becoming an anti-racist, anti-oppressive, multicultural institution. Yet, almost 25 years later, we continue to fall short of our commitments and promises.

When the 8th Principle project began, it addressed something vital that had been missing in our UU movement, namely that anti-racism and anti-oppression must be central to congregational life and our community building. The mammoth project of fostering conversation within congregations and other communities, and then calling on those communities to make an explicit statement in the form of the "8th Principle" has become a true groundswell within Unitarian Universalism. The text of the 8th Principle says "We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse and

multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions." In this way, thousands of Unitarian Universalists have become part of the real, fundamental work of anti-racism and anti-oppression in our own communities.

The process of examining and possibly revising Article II of the UUA Bylaws is a scheduled effort of the UUA Board, demanded by the bylaws themselves. The Study Commission, who has been charged with making a proposal to the UUA Board in January of 2023, has tremendous respect for what the 8th Principle movement has accomplished—and is accomplishing within UU communities. More than the language of the 8th Principle itself, we are moved by the ongoing conversations about what it means to be accountable to each other, and how we must—through our actions—take on the work of anti-racism and anti-oppression as an inextricable part of our Unitarian Universalist faith.

And so, though the task we have been charged with is larger than the specifics of the 8th Principle, we understand these ideals to be at the very heart of our work and very much part of the direction we are journeying. We understand the work we are doing to be building on the strengths of the 8th Principle movement. Whatever flowers grow from the process of engaging UUs in this reimagining, the seeds sown by the 8th Principle project will surely bloom brightly.

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