



BUUF News

Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Volume 33 Issue 1

EVERGREENE

Rev. Elizabeth Greene

Auld lang syne. Literally, “old long since,” more idiomatically something like “long, long ago.” The famous New Year’s Eve song calls us to recall our old times and our old friends. At the same time—to me, anyway—it implies a look into what’s to come.

January 1, 2012, begins my last full year as your minister, since I am retiring in June, 2013. When you read this, I will have just moved to a new home (1012 East Strawberry Lane), undoubtedly still unpacking and making “nest” decisions. I feel like the Roman god Janus, who has one face looking toward the past and one looking toward the future. As god of transition and new beginnings, he reminds us to honor both past and present, thus living vigorously in the present.

I hope we conduct our new year like Janus. Looking back, we appreciate our long-long-agos. We are filled with gratitude for the water we drink from wells we did not dig, for the shade from trees we did not plant.

And we can create a wondrous future by staying luminously present to one another. Let us firmly turn away from any stray longings to end before our endings (“just get it over with!”), living and loving deeply until the moment of our parting. Let us turn to each other for anchor in the waters of uncertainty that transition laps around us.

This decades-long endeavor of ours is bigger than even a long-tenured ministry, even bigger than our friendships in the form we know them now. Let’s live this year genuinely and deeply, filled with forward-looking

excitement, acknowledged grief, bold plans—and lots and lots of faith and love.

Happy New Year to us all!

SUNDAYS

Jan. 1, 9:30 & 11:15 am

“The Creation of God” John Munson

Quite a number of Christians eagerly await the second coming of Christ. A much more interesting (and certainly more probable) event is the impending arrival of God. Many futurists now accept the fact that in the relatively near future we will create an intelligence that has the capability of recursive self-enhancement. This event is called the Singularity. At this point, the new intelligence will immediately have access to all of our knowledge in that all of this is stored in machinable form now. This new intelligence will have no restrictions on the rate that it can create new knowledge. Its ability to understand and control events in the universe will be unlimited. Very soon, then, we will unleash this new unbounded intelligence on the universe. We will have created God. The time has come to anticipate this event and to explore and understand our role with our new God. Mary Hester, Service Coordinator. Nancy Harms, Celebrant

Jan. 8, 9:30 & 11:15 am

“Celebrating Our Pioneers” Elton Hall & Rev. Elizabeth Greene

What does it mean to be a pioneer? Do we appreciate those “whose shoulders we stand on”? In what ways are we pioneers: historically, spiritually, socially? Bev Harley, service coordinator.

Jan. 15, 9:30 & 11:15 am

“Deserving & Undeserving” John Pevy, Aleta Sprague, Gary Wyke, Rick Groff

On this Martin Luther King Sunday, we welcome Emerson Hunger Fellows. John Pevy will be talking about giving individuals power and control over their lives and livelihood and Aleta Sprague will talk about how public discourse about recipients of government assistance tends to focus on drawing a line between those who are “deserving” and “undeserving,” instead of being guided by love and forgiveness. Gary Wyke and Rick Groff will talk about hunger related social justice work our congregation is doing. We will welcome social justice community partners during and after the second service. Susie Hardy/Val Duffy, Service Coordinators. Rev. Elizabeth Greene, Celebrant.

Jan 22, 9:30 & 11:15 am

“Musical Pilgrimage” Jeanette Ross & Tom von Alten

Last summer Tom von Alten and Jeanette Ross participated in a choir that sang through Transylvania and Hungary. Peace pilgrim advised “A pilgrim is a wanderer with purpose.” Jeanette and Tom will share stories and insights from their purposeful wanderings. Nancy Harms, Service Coordinator. Gwyn Reid, Celebrant.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Debra Smith, Board President

January. A new year. New beginnings. I marvel how many times in the Earth's course around the sun do we get to start over! Spring invites a fresh new start, with cleaned out closets, and aired out rooms. Or June! Baptism by lawn sprinklers and the neighborhood pool. We begin again. And here at BUUF, we begin a new fiscal year at this time. And then late August, with the scent of fresh waxy crayons and pencil shavings. A new year, new clothes, and perhaps a new personality. Anything is possible. In September, we usher in a new program year here at BUUF. We bring the water from our various travels, and combine them in a sacred vessel. Constant water, constantly refreshed. And then the Fall, with a new season of celebrations around the table and the hearth. And back to January, the official anniversary of new beginnings. What a richness of new chances! What promise of resurrections!

And the board is celebrating its new members. We welcome Debbie Johnson, who will be serving as treasurer until a new treasurer is elected by the Fellowship at its annual meeting in May. Debbie takes over to fulfill a term previously held by Victoria Owens, who has taken a very desirable position in Sacramento, where her aging parents live. Victoria, you may remember, took over when our previous treasurer, the very genial Blake Olson, took a job that left him very little time in Boise with which to carry out this important job. Debbie brings us her special gifts: she not only understands the accounting process, but as a former business owner, she understands what kind of data decision-makers need, and knows how to format reports for end-users. Debbie is one of those, like so many of you, who contributes in a variety of areas within our Fellowship. Thank you, Debbie.

We also welcome Robyn Broyles! The board "tapped" Robyn when a vacancy occurred on the board. We were fortunate to gain a "two-fer" in Robyn: besides her enthusiasm and joie de vivre, Robyn brings a different generational perspective to our august body, and expertise in communication. She will be our point person on communicating with the congregation about the transition through the change of ministry process. Thank you, Robyn!

These new members join a board that, like the water in our ceremony, is constant, yet constantly refreshed. The board is evolving towards a policy board, meaning one that sets policy and criteria, and delegates decision-making to committees pursuing their missions. We are trying to carry out a broad, church-wide mission created by the members and articulated in a strategic plan. We have decided to focus on three initiatives, and a variety of tasks in support of those initiatives. First, we undertook to improve the credibility of our financial practices and communications. We wanted more accurate record keeping, and better controls. We have made some significant changes to procedures and personnel, and the board is pleased to report that these efforts have resulted in a marked reduction of errors on both individuals' statements and monthly fiscal reports.

Our second initiative involves an expanded notion of stewardship. We are trying to nurture a culture where each congregant recognizes that he or she is a steward—a caretaker: of the church's mission, of its children, of its building and beautiful grounds, of its staff, of the myriad seekers that enter our sanctuary, of its committees and their missions, of each other. We have new leadership in this area, and a new UUA model to guide us. We have faith that our more conscientious caretaking will manifest in increased financial security.

Our third and final initiative involves an expanded vision of social justice. We hope to reinvigorate our mission as a justice-seeking people by consolidating

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9 am - 12 noon, Thurs.

Director's of Religious Exploration

office hours:

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9am - Noon, Fri.

Bridge Event Center

Event Coordinators

Karen Raese & Cathy Carmen

891-8081

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the congregants' myriad and disparate social justice interests under a focused and unifying institutional identity. We are investigating a partnership with a secular Community Organizing agency (like Idaho Community Action Network, for example) to leverage our congregation's enthusiasm and aspiration with the leadership and experience of an existing social service entity. We have faith that our commitment to economic justice will manifest in deeper commitment to our own sense of ministry, to deeper connections with each other, and to a holier, more wholesome community.

There is so much satisfying work to do. Renew your spirit; refresh your commitment; resurrect your sense of purpose. Have a happy NEW year.



Unabashed Love Letter to all Religious Exploration Volunteers & Families

Emmie Schlobohm, Director of Religious Exploration

As the new year begins, many images of the past year bubble up in my mind and bring happiness beyond measure. So many of the joyous memories of last year are from our religious exploration community of families, friends and caring souls.

Smiling faces of children when an adult who's reading to them gets to the funny voice of some character in the story are precious. Those same faces beaming when the congregation reacts spontaneously in thunderous applause for a performance at Deck the Halls are a gift to all. The care and fulfillment shining from the eyes of a teacher as one of the members of their class answers a tough question or asks a tougher one. The delighted voices of children as they greet their friends and teachers and the

giggles at those aforementioned funny voices ring merrily in my ears.

The sights and sounds of our religious exploration community are a gift to behold and experience. Our children are wise beyond their years and full of the joy of life. Our youth give me hope for a bright future, while our older teacher/guides show me what is possible when you connect across the generations and lead with your heart.

I'm privileged to be able to be a part of the magic and wonder that is RE every week and I have you all to thank for a wondrous year past and for the eager anticipation of all the joys to come. May your new year be filled with the warmth of many hearts and the joy of life and its adventures. Thank you for the companionship and connections of the soul.

SUNDAYS

Jan. 29, 9:30 & 11:15

"Yearning to Breathe Free": the Immigration Issue" Rev. Elizabeth Greene

This June, the Unitarian Universalist Association is holding a Justice General Assembly (GA) in Phoenix, Arizona, hotbed of immigration abuses. Elizabeth will reflect on "the immigration issue," and will have information available on this potentially life-changing GA. Robyn Broyles, Service Coordinator.

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- **BEC's MVP for**
- **January**
- The Bridge Event Center would
- not exist without all the great
- people within the Fellowship that
- help make things run smoothly.
- This month we feature:
- Warren Bean – How do we count
- the ways – that Warren helps BEC
- and BUUF with many maintenance, building, and grounds
- activities. Always behind the
- scenes doing what needs to be
- done, our resident curmudgeon
- gets our new year gratitude.
- Thanks, Warren!
-

COMMITTEES

A View From The Bridge

Jolene Schow



Not only does the Bridge Event Center help outside groups with their events, we are here to assist BUUF members and Committees with events requiring more than simple meeting space. Because of the increase in BUUF events and the decrease in BUUF staff hours, BEC is the new "go to" group for getting started with your group activities.

So that you don't have to reinvent the wheel, you receive BEC's experience, research, and procedures. Your BEC Coordinator will help you:

Identify the services & logistics needed by your event.

Calculate costs & coordinate staff.

Reduce cost by training your volunteers as Event Monitors & Parking Attendants (if applicable).

Help you coordinate with all those within the Fellowship that are affected by your event (you'd be surprised how many people "need to know" so that mishaps don't occur.)

Follow Policies & Procedures which: clarify expectations & tasks, reduce impact and risk to BUUF, increase safety for all, and extend courtesy to our neighbors.

Assist with inventory of furniture and equipment.

Provide consistence and communication by using our clean-up and other checklists.

Be sure to give us a call when it's time to start your planning. We're here to work with you and make everything easier.

Check out www.bridgeeventcenter.com, become a friend on Facebook, or call 891-8081 (Cathy Carmen or Karen Raese, Event Coordinators) for more information.

Fundraising News

Claudia Fernsworth

*****Mark your calendars for our biggest fundraising event—the “Live and Silent Auction”. It will be held on Saturday February 4, 2011*****

The theme this year will be “The Silk Road.” Stay tuned to the Sunday Order of Service announcements for more details.

If you have a stay at your cabin or other item or service you would like to donate, or own or know of a business that would like to support this event, contact Gwyn Reid or Claudia Fernsworth.

*A huge “Thank You” to all who supported the Silent Auction with donations or purchases or time. If everybody pays their bills, we will have added over \$1300 to the BUUF general fund.

Please support these local businesses. They generously donated to our Silent Auction:

- New York Richie’s Pizza and Pasta (desserts, too)
- The Egg Factory (fabulous, unique breakfast selections)
- Northwood Reel Theater
- Stag Haircare for men
- 3-D Framing
- D & B Hardware (Animal Care, western wear, home needs, etc.)
- Wahooz
- Roaring Springs
- Wings Center
- Monkey Bizness
- Idaho Botanical Garden
- Shari’s
- Peregrine Fund’s World Center for Birds of Prey
- Planet Fitness at Strawberry Glen (just S-W of Glenwood and State)

*Pam Rouda and Bobby Angel were the winners of the Hot Air Balloon Ride Raffle. We only cleared \$15 on that endeavor.....

*The Poinsettia sale netted about \$100.

***Volunteer list lost! If you signed up to volunteer for Fundraising events, please contact Claudia Fernsworth. She will be sure to keep this new list in a safe place.....

JUSTICE OUTREACH

*January Social Justice Plate
Collection*

Boise/Mészko Annual Scholarship Fund

When the first lay representatives from the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship visited Mészko in 2001, we learned that the only college graduates in the village were the Unitarian minister and an engineer for the gypsum mine.

Households in the village of our partner church earn between \$250 and \$600 per month (based on the IMF exchange rate). Education is one long-term strategy to break out of the cycle of poverty, but going to college means paying tuition and room/board rates of approximately \$850 per year. This is beyond the reach of many families.

In 2011 the Boise Partner Church Committee and the board of the Mészko Unitarian church created the Boise/Mészko Annual Scholarship Fund to help make it more likely that the youth of the congregation will be able to complete their college education. We hope to be able to subsidize approximately half of each qualifying student’s expenses for four to six years.

Students receiving the scholarship will be responsible for maintaining passing grades and will provide a recap of the year. Every student will be expected to pay back to the fund 20% of the total scholarship amount.

For 2011/12 school year, the scholarship fund is helping to support four students: Julia Halmagyi (kindergarten and elementary education), EmQ’ke Novák (English and Spanish), Balázs Petho (Physical Education), Éva Szél (Library and Information Science).

Twenty-five percent of BUUF’s unpledged January plate offering will go to the Boise/Mészko Annual Scholarship Fund. If you write “Outreach” on the memo line of your check, 100% goes to Boise/Mészko Annual Scholarship Fund.

Hunger/Food Supply Task Force

Concerned about hunger in the Treasure Valley? So are we! Come to the Hunger/Food Supply Task Force meeting January 9 at 6:30 pm in the Balazs room and find out how BUUF members and friends are working to solve hunger problems. Questions? Contact Sheila at sheilaames@cablone.net.

Come Fill Backpacks for Hungry Children

Many Idaho school children depend upon free or reduced cost lunch and breakfast at school for their food. The Idaho Foodbank provides backpacks filled with nutritious, non-perishable food for children at risk of going hungry over the weekend. Someone has to fill those backpacks by hand. That’s where the intrepid BUUF volunteers come in!

BUUF volunteers are scheduled to help fill the backpacks.

DATE: January 16, 2012

TIME: Noon to 2 p.m.

PLACE: Idaho Foodbank, 3562 TK Ave, just off Federal Way

Many of you have done this before and know how fun and satisfying it is. We gather with volunteers from several organizations and form a production line to fill 1,000 plus backpacks in two hours. Young people are welcome and encouraged to participate. The minimum age (set by the Foodbank) is 8.

To join in this fun project or get more information, contact Gary Wyke at glwyke@cablone.net or 841-2304.

Voices from the Shelter

Rick Groff

I met Nate while volunteering at Interfaith Homeless Shelter. He was a resident volunteer so we worked together. He is outgoing, dependable, and works hard. Eventually, Nate became a personal friend to Becky and me.

Nate made some mistakes and violated his parole. He was sent to the North Idaho Correctional Institution (NICI) near Cottonwood for a training program instead of going to a regular prison. The program improved his decision making skills and his self-discipline.

He came back from the NICI to Boise with a goal of turning his life around. He was able to avoid slipping back into his problem drinking by attending AA, staying away from his old drinking buddies, standing by his resolution not to drink, and not giving up when he did. Nate is a skilled construction worker, but lack of construction in Boise and his prison record were huge barriers for him in getting a job in Boise. He patiently worked with his parole officer for nine months and had his probation transferred from Idaho to Louisiana where his mother lives. There are still many construction jobs in Louisiana due to Hurricane Katrina.

Nate has worked doing construction through the summer and this fall in Louisiana. He currently is foreman of a construction crew, has obtained his driver's license and has been assigned his own truck. I have admired his courage and hard work as he has turned his life around.

Financial Corner

Financial Committee

Welcome to the BUUF Financial Corner. Thank you for your responses to appeal for pledge payments in November. At the end of October we were at 95% of expected pledge payments. In November we collected enough to get back to 100% of a linear plan. As the US tax year comes to an end, it is worth considering further pledge payments in December so that they can be deducted in 2011. Expenses for the year are at 98% of our income so they are tracking nicely. Looking forward, we are working on the budget proposals for 2012-2013 year. It is worth noting that while we are on track this year for pledges and spend this year, the budget was supplemented by \$26,000 from the Jo Douglas fund and other one-time, non-renewable money so that our employees could be returned to full hours. So we will need to find a way to raise this additional money next year. More on next year's budget and the annual giving drive in February.

Also we would like to highlight the contributions to social justice programs : total of \$5,206.98 and thank the congregation for their generosity: July-Family Advocate Program \$585.83, August-Idaho Foodbank \$1,366.00, Sept-Learning Lab \$893.62, Oct-BUUF Pay-It-Forward \$1,534.93, Nov-UUSC \$826.60.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

January 14 is Fellowship Fun Night

On January 14 we'll have our Second Saturday Potluck Fellowship Fun! Join us at 6:00 for a potluck followed by an exciting evening of BUNCO. This is a dice game that everyone can play. Prizes will be awarded.

There will be activities for children so come and join the fun! In order to address the diversity of dietary needs, think about bringing a vegetarian or vegan dish and labeling it as such. Bring a dish and your own utensils and plates. Contact Wanda Jennings @ 362-7563 or desertfox4@cableone.net.

Time for the Coffeehouse Again!

Here's an opportunity for members and friends to share their talents in a popular "potpourri" format of entertainment, and for listeners to enjoy an intimate evening of music, poetry, dance, comedy, or storytelling. You provide the entertainment. If you have



any questions, please contact Nancy Harms at either nancy@boiseuu.org or 658-1710. This will be the second Saturday Fellowship Fun Night, February 11, 6 pm.

Listeners, mark your calendars now and plan to bring friends along with a potluck dish to share at the beginning of the evening. We'll have a movie for the younger crowd. The only bread you'll need is donation for drinks. We'll have music by members and friends. This will be held in the North Wing.

Regaining Free Will

Jeanette Ross

Humanism is built upon an assumption that we are each capable of knowing our best choices and then acting appropriately. A similar attitude lies at the center of Idaho law and thus the funding for mental health programs. The assumption: everyone has a choice to be mentally healthy; personal crises or other difficulties are a failure of will power or courage.

Contemporary behavioral research and the experiences of health professionals lead to a very different conclusion. Jean Gonzales shared her experiences as a counselor, suggesting how a combination of professional guidance and medication can help many of us reduce distress and live more productive lives.

Jean also responded to questions about the ethics of prescribing medications with serious side effects. Even experts don't agree about this; it's a balance between reducing sometimes devastating symptoms and unpleasant, even dangerous effects of treatment. We don't have guaranteed outcomes for any particular drug and a particular patient. There's some experimentation and use of judgment in every case.

Next month our guest will be Krispen Hartung, who will describe Praxis Lodge, a part of the Masonic Order than returns to Enlightenment principles. We will meet in the library of BUUF at 11:15am, Sunday January 8. Those with questions may query Rick Groff or Jeanette.

Start Your New Year Right With a Ministerial Lunch!

Looking for a chance to chat informally with fellow BUUFers and our minister? Ministerial lunches are where it's at, held twice a month, no host and no restrictions on topics you might want to bring up.

Tuesday, January 10, Miss Tami's Cottage and Tea Room, 1031 North Main Street, Meridian, 11:30. (It's always possible just to have coffee here, too.)

Friday, January 27, the cafeteria in the URS Building (formerly Washington Mutual, even more formerly M-K) on Park, across Broadway on the inbound Extender, 11:30. Go in the double doors behind the big fountain. (Be sure to look at the wintry sculpture of the icy fountain!)

Come join our little lunch parties!

Sage New Year

Tom von Alten

The BUUF Sages saunter into 2012 with our regular 2nd and 4th Thursday gatherings for lively presentations and friendly discussion. We'll start the year on January 12 with another act of Dr. Chuck Lauterbach's history of theater, now to the 18th century when the middle class took over. Paul Taylor will have words and images about the art of "Drums" on January 26. Newcomers are warmly welcomed! We meet at the Kopper Kitchen, 2661 Airport Way, breakfast order as you like it, and we're underway at 9:30am. Contact Tom (378-1217 or tva@fortboise.org) for more information.

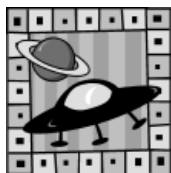
Travel Bugs

The UU Partner Church Council organized a pick-up choir from the U.S. and Kolozsvár this past summer, for a tour from Bucharest to Budapest. Tom von Alten and Jeanette Ross have stories, souvenirs and photos from Romania, Transylvania and Hungary for show and tell, on Friday,

January 27, 7pm, in the Balazs Room. Exploring Pagan/Nature Spirituality Meets the Second Thursday of each month and is open to anyone, the curious, the seeker, or the confirmed Pagan.

We emphasize the Seventh Source of UUism: Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of Nature.

The next meeting is Jan 12 at 7 PM at BUUF in the Channing Room in the south wing.



Ever seen a UFO?

Come tell your UFO story in a safe no-pot-down environment at the Fringe Topics Discussion, Third Thursday (Jan.19) 7pm, BUUF south wing Channing Room. We will hear each others stories, as well as discuss possible interpretations and implications for us. Should be interesting!

Human Rights in the Holy Land

It's a new year. Could this be the year that justice, equal rights and peace can finally come to the nations of Israel and Palestine? What do we need to know to understand the issues and why is it important? Come to a meeting to examine the roots of the conflict, the connection between Occupation, Human Rights and US tax dollars, and issues, obstacles, and looking to the future, presented in a film by Linda Bevis and Edward Mast.

Presented by UUs for Justice in the Middle East (UUJME*) at 4pm on the Second Saturday, Jan. 14, at BUUF, South Wing, Channing Room.

*UUJME is headquartered in Massachusetts, is not affiliated with BUUF or the UUA, but is recognized by the

UUA as a related organization. The Boise chapter is composed of UUs, BUUFers and guests.

The Other Book Club

Come join us for a lively discussion on books and other topics. We meet on the second Sunday of the month from 7-8:30pm.

Our January 8 book is *Five Quarters of an Orange* by Joanne Harris. We will meet at the home of Erin Logan, 2116 N. 17th St., Boise. 83702 336.4960.

Our February 12 book is *Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter* by Mario Varga Llosa. We will meet at the home of Dorothy Vanderpool, 5129 N. Riverfront Dr, Garden City, ID 83714.

Our March 11 book is *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson. We will meet at the home of Eric Wallace, 1387 E. Monterey Dr., Boise, ID 83706.

Our April 8 book is *Moon Tiger* by Penelope Lively. We will meet at the home of Carol Wilke.

If you would like to be on our email list send your address to erins4960@msn.com. Happy Reading in 2012!

History Keeper's Note

Elaine Durbin

September 19, 1974, BUUF opened its first Sunday morning "program" in its newly acquired home on Pierce Park Lane with Nell Tregaskis, senior member from the old 1905-12 Unitarian Church, smashing a carafe of coffee on its front door. The Rev. Rudy Gilbert of the Spokane Unitarian Church, environmentalist, civil rights and peace activist, followed with a "talk" on "The Church and Future Shock."

The decision to buy a plot of ground with a de-consecrated church building on it for a spiritual home was a serious one, and was seriously considered. There had been talk of a developing "edifice complex." Shifting from the mindset of renting month-to-month to owning a home was major. It had been years since BUUF had affiliated in 1958 with the American Unitarian

Association, and there was still a rather wavering commitment to ownership as well as the strong desire for stability and spiritual growth.

The summer 1974 newsletter shows the total operating budget for 1974 as \$6,672. That includes \$2,087 as building payments, \$500 program (Sunday services), \$300 religious education (children), \$600 salaries. Near the budget item, there is this item, perhaps by President Catherine Hopper:

“Help wanted! A temporary committee has been set up to recruit and select a half-time paid administrative assistant/coordinator/typist/person Friday or whatever! The salary for nine months work, approximately 20 hours per week, will be around a thousand dollars....Along with the ability to type, this person needs the ability to organize out of chaos, work amidst total confusion, help set up their own job, and take directions from various and sundry free-thinkers. Some knowledge of the function and dysfunctions of the Boise fellowship would be helpful. Tact, diplomacy, and a thick skin are absolutely essential. A list of proposed

duties is available upon request.”

On April 27, 1975, the first mortgage on the property was paid in full.

Mary Schwartzman was teaching folks to sing “I’d Like to Teach the World to Sing”.

Rental AVAILABLE

Garden Cottage on private Chelan Lane behind the BUUF grove. Peaceful and private. Three bedrooms, two baths, hardwood floors in kitchen, dining area and large living room. Kitchen appliances included. Fenced yard, Patio and mature landscaping. First consideration given to BUUF members and referrals. \$735.00 per month. Contact Judy Holcombe at 383-0022 or Bob Wallace at 440-9147.

ITEM OF INTEREST

Help Defend UU Climate Activist

Tim DeChristopher, a member of First Unitarian Church in Salt Lake City, currently is serving a two-year sentence in a Federal prison in California for a courageous act of civil disobedience that prevented the sale of large tracts of public land in Utah – many adjacent to our National Parks – to oil and gas companies.

It was in 2008 – at the end of the Bush administration – that Tim went to the BLM land auction that was taking place in spite of efforts by environmental groups and individuals such as Robert Redford to delay or block the sale. Upon entering the auction, Tim registered as a bidder. At first, he simply observed. Then, he began to bid up the price of the parcels, some of which were selling for as little as \$2 per acre. Finally, he began purchasing them. When he was identified as an outlier, the auction erupted in chaos and had to be stopped. Fortunately, this caused a delay that allowed the Obama administration to take over, and Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar dismissed the auction, declaring that the BLM had taken shortcuts and even broken its own rules.

In spite of this, the government indicted Tim, and July 26 he was sentenced to two years in prison, three years of probation and a \$10,000 fine. You can help Tim in two ways: by donating to help pay for his appeal and by writing to him. For information about making a donation, go to <http://www.bidder70.org/>

If you want to write to Tim, letters must include a full return address and no enclosures (just plain paper). His address is:

Tim DeChristopher
#16156-081
FCI Herlong, SATELLITE CAMP
Federal Correctional Institution
PO Box 800
Herlong, CA 96113

Celebration with Refugees

Thanks to Sue and Mike Philley for a wonderful celebration with our refugee friends. Refugee families sharing in small groups with American families, interpreters helping communication. A violin plays Christmas music. Food is shared and games are played. Laughter’s in the air.

Comments heard throughout the evening:

You can have fun even if you can’t speak the same language.

We learn English in classes and watching TV. The language is slower and easier to learn on cartoons.

Everyone needs a job. It’s hard to get a job if you don’t speak English. It’s easy to get a job in Thailand. Whoever is ready to work has a job. Not here.

There is a good Burmese community here in Boise.

If you go to Burma, visit a refugee camp. They have a visitor center and you can learn about refugee life.

Working in gold in Iraq was passed down for three generations.

They are not Muslim but they do celebrate Ramadan.

Emmanual spent 16 of his 19 years in a refugee camp in Rwanda.

When asked what she likes about school Karina answered, “Everything!”

It doesn’t matter what culture you are, everyone is the same.



**Boise Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship**

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THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2012 is sure to be an interesting one filled with lots to do! See EverGreene (**page 1**) and the President's Message (**page 2**) for thoughts about the coming year.

ADULT RE SPRING CLASSES

It's here! The Adult RE Spring Class listing is included in this newsletter. See the **insert** in the middle of the newsletter for more information. Sign up for your favorites now! Classes fill up quick.

SECOND SATURDAY POTLUCKS

Feeling the need to reconnect with folks from the Fellowship? Look no further than the Second Saturday Potlucks! see **page 5** for details about this month's event plus, get ready for the February event -- the Coffeehouse!

SOCIAL JUSTICE OUTREACH

There are several ways to reach out to those who are struggling this year. On **page 4** there are several ways to give back to our community. Check it out!

NEXT Newsletter Deadline...TUESDAY, January 17, 2012 at NOON

Hunger/Food Supply Task Force

Concerned about hunger in the Treasure Valley? So are we! Come to the Hunger/Food Supply Task Force meeting January 9 at 6:30 pm in the Balazs room and find out how BUUF members and friends are working to solve hunger problems. Questions? Contact Sheila at sheilaames@cableone.net.

Whittier Hygiene Kits

We still need travel-size toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner as well as children's books (in good condition)

that will fit into a gallon-size Ziploc bag. Donated items can be placed in the Whittier School barrel in the north vestibule. Thank you!

Thank you!

To everyone who donated to the Whittier school clothing drive. The response was overwhelming. The day after I dropped off a load of coats, Nurse Adde saw a boy wearing his uncle's coat that was too big and had a broken zipper. Because of the coat donation, she was able to offer the boy a warm coat that fit and had a working zipper.

To the people who volunteered at the

Boys and Girls Club during the holidays. The staff was impressed with our willingness to help.

To Susie Hardy, Carol Sevier, Sherry Hamilton, Becky Groff and Nancy Harms for sewing the mini backpacks used in our Foodbank donation program. As of the January newsletter deadline, the Hunger/Food Supply Task Force raised \$1,227.80 for the backpack program and still has one more Sunday to go. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy cause.

Interfaith Sanctuary CleanUp Team MLK Day 2010



Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

January 2012 Events at BUUF unless noted

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
01 9:30am» The Creation of God 10:45am» Welcome Chat 11:15am» The Creation of God 12:30pm» Welcome Chat 1pm» Cool Grp Chal Cir	02 4:30pm» Partner Church Comm Mtg 6pm» Interiors Comm Mtg	03 6:30pm» BEC class 7pm» Men's Chalice Circle	04 6:30pm» PMC Monthly Mtg 7:15pm» Choir Rehearsal	05 7pm» Thursday Night Chalice Circle	06 6pm» Idaho Friends of Jung Salon	07
08 9am» OWL Class 9:30am» Celebrating Our Pioneers 10:45am» Welcome Chat 11:15am» Celebrating Our Pioneers 11:15am» hUUmanists 12:30pm» Welcome Chat 12:45pm» Rainbow Outreach Discussion	09 6:30pm» Hunger Task Force 7pm» Memoirs Class	10 11:30am» Minister's Lunch 6:30pm» BEC class	11 10am» Stay-at-Home Parents Chalice Cir 5pm» Personnel Committee Meeting 7pm» Ministry Team 7pm» Refugee X-mas Debrief 7:15pm» Choir Rehearsal	12 9:30am» Senior Sages (Kopper Kitchen) 7pm» Pagan Chal Cir 7pm» Worship Services Comm Mtg	13	14 9:30am» Congregational Care Team 4pm» UUJME 6pm» 2nd Saturday Fellowship Fun Night
15 9:30am» Deserving & Undeserving 10:45am» Welcome Chat 11:15am» Deserving & Undeserving 12:30pm» Welcome Chat 12:45pm» Board Setting the Agenda 1pm» Cool Grp Chal Cir 1pm» ROC Business Mtg	16 4pm» Bridge Event Center Committee	17 12pm» BUUF News deadline 6pm» Finance Committee Mtg 6:30pm» BEC class 7pm» Men's Chalice Circle	18 6:30pm» BEC Event 7:15pm» Choir Rehearsal	19 10:30am» History Keepers 6:30pm» BUUF Board Mtg 7pm» "Fringe" Topics Discussion 7pm» Women on the Verge II	20	21 12:45pm» Board Planning/Vision Mtg
22 9am» OWL Class 9:30am» Musical Pilgrimage 10:45am» Welcome Chat 11:15am» Musical Pilgrimage 11:15am» UUs for Justice in the Middle East 12:30pm» Welcome Chat	23 7pm» Adult RE cmte 7pm» Memoirs Class	24 10:30am» Library Committee 6:30pm» BEC class 7pm» Art Religions Class 7pm» Fellowship Connections Team	25 9:30am» Newsletter assembly 10am» Stay-at-Home Parents Chal Cir 7:15pm» Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm» Small group ministry council	26 9:30am» Senior Sages (Kopper Kitchen)	27 10:30am» Minister's Lunch 7pm» Travel Bugs	28
29 9am» OWL Class 9:30am» 'Yearning to Breathe Free': the Immigration Issue 10:45am» Welcome Chat 11:15am» 'Yearning to Breathe Free': the Immigration Issue 12:30pm» Welcome Chat 2pm» IONS	30	31 6:30pm» BEC class 7pm» Art Religions Class				



BUUF ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM *SPRING 2012*

Life-long Learning ♦ Spiritual Growth ♦ Building Community

Due to space limitations on this paper copy, go to Adult Education page on the BUUF website boiseuu.org for expanded course descriptions, or contact the class leader for further details.

**** Please note classes are listed in order of start dates ****

The Art of World Religions

This class will be introduction to the art of 12 religions and Mark McGinnis' paintings to symbolize those faiths – "Designs of Faith." The format of the class will be power point presentations followed by group discussions about Western, Eastern and Tribal religions.

Leader: Mark McGinnis

Schedule and Location: Tuesdays, Jan 24, 31, Feb 7; 7-9 pm; Jr. High (Channing) room

Registration fee: \$10

Maximum enrollment: 15

Re-Reading Great Gatsby

Written in 1925, it is uncanny how this novel anticipates the inevitable stock market crash of 1929, while it chronicles the excess, corruption and graft on the part of the moneyed class, but also demonstrates how the envious middle class contributed to this perversion of "the American Dream."

Leader: Debra Smith

Schedule and Location: alternate Tuesdays, Jan 31, Feb 14, 28, Mar 13; 7-9 pm; Sr. High (Balazs) room

Registration fee: \$10

Maximum enrollment: 10

New to UU Class (1)

This class will offer you the opportunity to meet other newcomers, church leaders, and members. It will provide you with some history, an opportunity to explore your own spirituality, and give you a glimpse into the inner workings of the Unitarian Universalist Association and of BUUF in particular. New UU is the first step toward membership required in the Path to Membership approved by the board.

Coordinators: Jay Wechselberger and Miriam Woito

Schedule and Location: Saturdays, Feb 4, 11; 9:30 am to noon; Jr. High (Channing) room

Registration fee: none

Writing the Memoir

The memoir seeks meaning and applies a sorting and organizing system to the minutia of life. A journal asks only for time and a recording device; a memoir benefits from dedication, introspection, honesty. Both continuing and new participants are welcome.

Leader: Jeanette Ross

Schedule and location: alternate Mondays; Jan 9, 23, Feb 6, 20; Jr. High (Channing) room

Registration fee: \$10

Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life by Karen Armstrong

In 2008, religious writer Karen Armstrong was awarded a TED prize of \$100,000 to help make a wish of her choice come true. She worked with leaders of the major religious traditions to develop a Charter of Compassion which centers on the one theme found in all major spiritual traditions: treat others as you would like to be treated—the Golden Rule. We will read this short book and discuss what compassion is, how it is found in all spiritual traditions, and how individuals can become transformed through increasingly cultivating compassion.

Leaders: Rev. Elizabeth Greene and Prof. Elton Hall

Schedule and location: Tuesdays Feb 14, 21, 28, Mar 6; 7-9 pm; Jr. High (Channing) room

Registration fee: \$10

Maximum enrollment: 25

Listening So Others Will Talk and Talking So Others Will Listen

What does it mean to be a good listener? Learn to express your thoughts, feelings, and reactions so others are more likely to listen and to understand.

Leaders: Sheryl Dowlin and Sue Stadler

Schedule and location: Tuesdays; Mar 13, 20, 27, April 3; 7-9 pm; Jr. High (Channing) room

Registration fee: \$10

Maximum enrollment: 20

Writing Your Ethical Will

In your will the intent is to distribute personal assets: money, property, jewelry and other tangible treasures. But what of your wisdom, values, spiritual beliefs, and life lessons learned? Zevaoth (ethical will), the Jewish practice of handing down morals and values has been around for millennia. This class will discuss the merit of writing your own ethical will, provide a historical prospective of this practice, and help you get started on preserving the matters of most worth in your unique life for generations to come.

Leader: Val Duffy

Schedule and location: Tuesdays April 10, 17, 24; 7-9 pm; Jr. High (Channing) room

Registration fee: \$10

Maximum enrollment: 10

Harvest the Power II: Developing Lay Leadership

Co-sponsored with BUUF's Program Ministry Council, this UUA curriculum offers opportunities for both new and experienced leaders to enrich the skills they bring to their volunteerism and to experience their leadership development as a Unitarian Universalist faith journey. Three sessions will focus on the theme of Healthy Leadership, Presence and Quality: Power and Authority; Integrity and Keeping Distress Productive.

Leaders: TBA

Schedule and location: Wednesdays; Mar 7, 14, 21; 7-9 pm; Junior High (Channing) room

Registration fee: \$10

Maximum enrollment: 15

Dyeing Eggs Transylvania-style

Just in time for Easter, learn how to dye eggs using natural ingredients that are abundant in early spring. You'll also learn how to make and "bake" the traditional Székely Kürtőskalács (chimney bread) over an open fire.

Leaders: Gwyn Reid

Schedule and location: Sunday; April 1; 1 – 4:30 pm; Sr. High (Balazs) room and courtyard

Registration fee: \$15 includes materials and ingredients, families add \$2 per each additional person

Maximum enrollment: 15

New to UU Class (2)

See New to UU (1) class description above.

Schedule and location: Wednesdays, May 9, 16; 6:30-9 p.m.; Jr. High (Channing) room

Registration fee: none

Transylvanian Cooking

Join us as we prepare Hungarian and Romanian-inspired recipes from Transylvania. Participants will enjoy this lunch with dessert at the end of the class.

Leaders: Gwyn Reid

Schedule and location: Saturday; May 12; 10 am – 2 pm; Kitchen

Registration fee: \$20 includes ingredients and supplies

Maximum enrollment: 12

***** Idaho Friends of Jung Salons and Workshops *****

co-sponsored by the BUUF Adult Education Program

The Friday evening salons include refreshments served prior to the presentation. *No pre-registration is required.* A donation of \$10-20 is suggested and is accepted at the door, but no one will be turned away. Some events are followed the next morning by workshops (separate fee charged) on the same topic. *Pre-registration is recommended.* For more details regarding these and future programs, go to idahofriendsofjung.org.

The Jung-White Letters

A Film Presentation and discussion facilitated by **Dr. Heike Weis**

Friday, January 6, 6:30 – 9:30 pm

No charge for Idaho Friends of Jung members; suggested donation of \$5-10 from non-members.

The Tree of Life in Kabbala & Depth Psychology

The Ancient glyph of the Hermetic Tree of life contains a Jungian Map that illustrates the flow of energy between Archetypal world and the depths of instinctual knowledge that lives in the cells of our bodies.

Presenter: Jungian-oriented psychotherapist, **Eva Rider**, MA, MFT

Salon: Friday, February 24, 7 -9 pm

Workshop: Saturday, February 25, 10am – 1pm

Trauma & Healing in A Woman's Analytic Process

With reference to the cutting edge work in neuroscience, Dr. Weis, who comes to us from Zurich, will explore the dynamics and healing work of analysis using a case study of a woman from her own practice.

Presenter: Psychiatrist and Jungian analyst, **Dr. Heike Weis**, Diplomate, C. G. Jung Institute

Salon: Friday, April 6, 7 -9 pm

Workshop: Saturday, April 7, 10am – 1pm

The Call to Creativity and the Individuation Process

Ms. Leonard's book, The Call to Create explores the hopes, visions, and wisdom that foster a rich creative life by identifying and working with the insecurities, doubts, and fears that sabotage our efforts to create and to change our lives.

Presenter: Jungian analyst and author, **Linda Leonard**

Salon: Friday, May 18, 7 -9 pm

Workshop: Saturday, May 19, 10am – 1pm

office use _____

paid _____ date _____

BUUF ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM SPRING 2012 REGISTRATION

To register for classes and workshops, fill out this form, attach a check, and deposit in the “drop box” at the Adult Ed information table at Sunday services or the box at the front of the reception desk in the BUUF office. You may also mail registration forms and fees directly to the BUUF office:

Boise UU Fellowship (Attention: Adult Ed)
6200 N. Garrett
Boise, ID 83714

You may register for more than one class and pay fees with a single check (except for IFJ events: please submit a separate check made out to *Idaho Friends of Jung*). Your registration will be confirmed with a reminder of the start date for the classes or workshops you have selected. If the class is full or cancelled, we will contact you and refund the fee (classes filled by earliest paid dates).

NAME(s): _____ PHONE#: _____

EMAIL: _____

Course or Workshop	Fee
TOTAL FEES	

*****Registration fee will be waived for anyone in BUUF requesting financial assistance**

CHILDCARE REQUESTED? (please circle “yes” and fill out below) **YES**

Which class(es)? _____

Number, name and age of child(ren): _____