



The Voice of Our Fellowship

A Progressive Religious Tradition in Southeastern Idaho

“Search for truth and meaning. Connect in beloved community. Stand together on the side of love.”

Pocatello Unitarian Universalist Fellowship strives to be Southeast Idaho's welcoming, open-minded religious voice for all who value spiritual inquiry and reason, and all who act for compassion and social justice. Diverse beliefs; one dynamic faith.

**PUUF is a Welcoming
Congregation**

Everyone is Welcome

309 N. Garfield Avenue, Pocatello
(UCC Church, corner N. Garfield and Lander)
208-233-2602

Minister Rev. Duffy Peet

Office Hours: Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon
Thursdays from noon to 4 p.m.
Please call ahead for entry into the building.
Office: 208-233-2602. Rev. Duffy's cell: 603-305-4542

Worship Services with Rev. Peet

The first and third Sunday of each month at 4 p.m.
[September: the second and third Sundays]. Traditional potluck dinner follows the third Sunday service. Appetizer hour [linger longer] follows the first and fifth Sunday service.

Lay-led service takes place on fifth Sundays at 4 p.m.
Linger longer appetizer hour follows service.

Children's Religious Exploration

Mark Roberts leads Children's RE activities for aged 4 to 12. Child care for toddlers and infants offered during service with pre-arrangement.

President: Mark Neiwirth
Vice-President: Erika Kuhlman
Treasurer: Richard Feuerborn
Secretary: Erin Rasmussen
Directors-at-Large: Brian Attebery, Diane Michel and Ann Swanson
Past President: Kim Smith

Minister: minister@pocatellouu.org
President: president@pocatellouu.org
Newsletter/Update: churchlady@pocatellouu.org
PUUF Office: office@pocatellouu.org
Website: www.pocatellouu.org
Facebook: Pocatello Unitarian Universalist Fellowship/
PUUF

Our service theme for the year is UU Foundations: Our history, Principles and Purposes, and beloved ceremonies.

Sunday Worship, March 2, 4 p.m. “A Free and Responsible Search.”

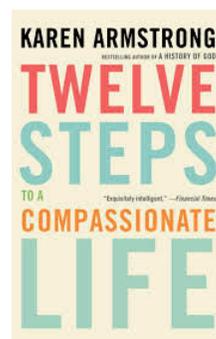
There is a saying that goes, “Life is a journey not a destination.” On the journey of life there is no map to follow, no established course that is clearly set. Each of us must search to discover the path we will follow. Our Fourth Principle establishes some qualities for our search. It should be both free and responsible. Some might ask how a search can be both free and responsible at the same time. We will consider this question and search for an answer as we journey together.



Children's Religious Exploration scheduled during service. Everyone is welcome for linger longer following service, which will be coordinated by Jim Mariani. Appetizer contributions welcome and appreciated.

Sunday, March 9, Religious Exploration

We continue March 9 with a session focusing on the Seventh Step: “How Little We Know” in *Twelve*



Steps to a Compassionate Life, by Karen Armstrong. Armstrong recommends three practices that “release us from the prison of selfhood” (see page 128 of her book). RE participants should begin to attempt these steps prior to the March 9 session and come ready to comment.

All RE sessions meet at 4 p.m., beginning with light refreshments. Chalice lighting and discussion begins 4:15, lasting until around 5:15 p.m. Donations of refreshments are always welcome.

Sunday Worship, March 16, 4 p.m. “The Search for Truth and Meaning”

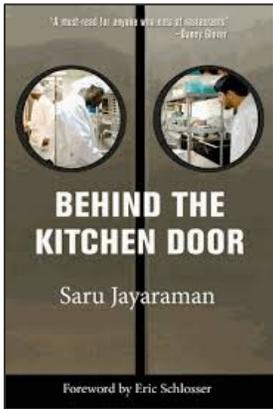
There are those who would assert that as human beings we must make meaning of what we encounter and experience if we are to thrive or, in some instances, survive.

In the process of making meaning we seek to discover what is true and what may not be true. Within Unitarian Universalism it is generally recognized that truth and meaning do not reside within any one area of knowledge, a single book or even one particular religion. Instead, within Unitarian Universalism it is generally accepted that each person must search and discover for themselves where truth and meaning may be found. We will consider the search and where it may take us as we seek to find truth and meaning.

Children’s RE scheduled during service. Potluck dinner to follow service.

Religious Exploration Sunday, March 23

Sandy Kindt leads us in three discussions--**March 23, April 13 and April 27, beginning at 4 p.m.**--delving



into the UUA Common Book Read, *Behind the Kitchen Door* by Saru Jayaraman. Jayaraman is Co-director of Restaurant Opportunities Center United, and her book reveals how restaurant workers live on some of the lowest wages in America and how poor working conditions --discriminatory labor practices, exploitation, and unsanitary kitchens--affect

the meals that arrive at our restaurant tables. The author explores the political, economic, and moral implications of eating out. UU congregations are being asked to read and discuss the book and take action.

We ask that you begin the discussion having read as much of *Behind the Kitchen Door* as possible. Copies are available for \$21.95 during PUUF office hours (see above) or at March 9 RE. The sessions will take place in the Chapel Room of the UCC Church Building. Snacks welcome.

Any questions may be directed to Sandy at sandy.kindt@gmail.com.

Sunday Worship, March 30, 4 p.m., “Justice is Planting a Seed” with Rita Butterfield



Rita is the Senior Associate for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) for the Western United States. Each spring, UU congregations around the country observe Justice Sunday by learning more about an issue in which the UU Service Committee is actively

engaged. This year’s Justice Sunday program invites congregations to learn about food security and sustainability. Rita will inspire us to join UUSC in their support of the growing resistance to the land grab by powerful multinational interests.

Rita was in Haiti recently learning about UUSC’s partnership with Papayae Peasant Movement, which leads Haitians to realize effective methods to grow their own healthy food and establish a sustainable livelihood. She will reflect on her experiences there and inspire us to learn more and get involved.

Child care available. Everyone is welcome for a linger longer, coordinated by Susan Lorenz, following service. Appetizer contributions welcome and appreciated.

March Offertory

The offering plate for the month of March goes to the UU Service Committee (UUSC), a non-sectarian organization that promotes human rights and social justice worldwide. UUSC advances human rights through grassroots collaboration. In 15 countries throughout the world, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. UUSC’s innovative approaches and measurable impact are grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power, dignity, and rights.

Potluck Dinner/Linger Longer Schedule

March 16: Potluck dinner

March 30: Linger longer

April 6: Linger longer

April 20: Potluck (Easter dinner)

May 4: Linger longer

May 18: Potluck dinner

June 1: Annual Meeting Dinner

(PUUF Board will handle this meal)

June 15: Potluck dinner

June 29: Linger longer

July - August: Linger longers

September 7: Potluck (Fall Welcome Dinner)

Annual Stewardship Canvass

This is always a special time of year for the congregation, a time in which we evaluate and re-evaluate what it means to be a member. Our plans to go forward into the next fiscal year will depend on our continued willingness to pledge, and we are updating the five-year plan to sustain the future solvency of the fellowship with continued professional ministry.

For the third year in a row, we are planning a series of Cottage Suppers, small groups where we can gather to share our insights and put into words what it means to be a member of PUUF. In the past, the suppers have been an enriching part of our membership, and a time when we intentionally gather to ground ourselves into a united path forward. Please plan to join us for one of these fun events.

If you are not available for an alphabetical supper date, please choose one that works into your schedule. Bear in mind that there are limits to the number each host can accommodate, so put in your RSVP reservation early. For more information, please contact Mark Neiwirth at neiwmark@isu.edu or call him at 251-8051.

March Cottage Suppers:

Wednesday, **March 5**, at **6:30 p.m.**: Hosted by Richard Feuerborn and Valez Bird for names ending in **L-O** (or for those who can't make other dates). RSVP by March 2 to richard.valez@gmail.com.

Thursday, **March 6**, at **7 p.m.**: **Desserts only**, hosted by Ann Swanson and Diane Michel for names ending in **P-S** (or for those who can't make other dates). RSVP by March 3 to 208-226-4261.

Saturday, **March 15**, at **6 p.m.**: **Kid-friendly**, hosted by Erika Kuhlman and Erin Rasmussen for names ending in **T-Z** (or for those who can't make other dates). RSVP by March 12 to kuhlerik@isu.edu.

No March Contra Dancing

Instead, Lava Meltdown Contra Dance Weekend will take place March 7-9. For further information:

<http://www.lavameltdown.info/>

Contra dancing will resume Saturday, April 12.

Dances of Universal Peace March 15

Welcoming all to join at the back of the UCC sanctuary at **7 p.m.** the third Saturday of the month through May. Call Carol Hanson for further details, 208-232-3464. Donations accepted. *"We welcome all to an experience of moving and singing together toward harmony and unity with other loving, compassionate hearts."*

Peace Village March 24-28

Registrations are being accepted for 2014 Peace Village to be held during spring break March 24-28 at



First Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC). **Please note:** although this is a church building, it is NOT a religious program. It is a week-long program for youth 3rd through 6th grade (ages 8-11) of all backgrounds.

The program runs **9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** daily and includes lunch and snacks. The cost is \$35.00 per child. There are partial and full scholarships available.

Deadline to register is March 14. You may call the UCC office Monday through Friday from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at 208-232-3056 to request registration forms. There is also an answering machine to leave your name and address. The forms will be mailed to you.

You can sponsor a scholarship through PUUF for just \$35. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Richard Feuerborn at rfeuerborn@gmail.com, or Mark Neiwirth at neiwmark@gmail.com.

March Board Meeting

Monday, March 31, 6:45 p.m. in the Small Chapel at UCC. Anyone may attend. If you have an agenda item, please let Mark Neiwirth know at neiwirth@isu.edu.

Western UU Life Festival (WUULF)

From Muriel Roberts:

WUULF is a UU family event at Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, New Mexico, from **June 16 to 22**. Having spent a beautiful week there some years ago, I can heartily recommend that PUUFers look into it as a summer adventure. There will be lectures, discussions, workshops, worship, crafts, hikes, river trips, dancing, singing, visiting Georgia O'Keefe's home, meeting other UUs, and just appreciating the inspiring New Mexico scenery.

"Frolicking in Mystery-The Revolution and UU's"

Further information at <http://wuulf.org/>

Russell Lockwood Leadership School

It's time to start thinking about attending RLLS this year on **August 10-16**, at the beautiful Menucha Retreat on the Columbia River Gorge near Portland, Oregon.

If you are considering a PUUF leadership position, have been in a leadership position, or just want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, you may want to throw your hat in the ring to be considered as a participant. PUUF pays tuition, room and board for two members each year, but transportation is not included.

For further information, contact Mark Neiwirth, RLLS Administrative Dean, at neiwmark@isu.edu or 208-251-8051. Visit Russell Lockwood Leadership School/RLLS on Facebook for photos and fun.

January Board Meeting Minutes

Summary of January 2014 PUUF Board Minutes Submitted by Erin Rasmussen, PUUF Secretary. The January agenda was substantial this month, and was held across two meetings. These minutes are condensed across both meetings. For a complete set of minutes, contact Erin at rasmerin@isu.edu.

[Agenda and December minutes were approved.](#)

Rev. Duffy discussed the Minister's Report and plans for Rev. Green's visit.

Rev. Duffy reviewed key findings from Congregational Economic Impact Study, which discusses congregational practices that build trust.

R. Feuerborn presented the Treasurer's Report. Directors-at-Large and Secretary presented committee updates.

Plans for the Covenant Workshop were finalized.

E. Rasmussen provided information on starting small group ministry.

Background check form for adult nursery helper discussed. [Suggestions for presenting proposed by-laws amendment were discussed.](#)

Mark and Rev. Duffy will proofread newsletter before it goes public, a standard practice in UU congregations.

[A motion was made to adopt a Board/Minister covenant.](#)

[Motion passed unanimously. A motion also was made to approve a condensed version. Motion passed unanimously.](#)

Rev. Duffy updated us on insurance premiums.

The Covenant workshop and the next steps for a congregational covenant were discussed. The process for selection of a congregational covenant working group was reviewed.

The board viewed and discussed a video that J. Mariani made about our congregation. (Thanks, Jim!)

[Proposed by-laws amendment and Contra-Dance contributions were tabled.](#)

The board needs to come up with a policy on child care for 5th Sundays.

[A motion was made to change ARE to RE to incorporate the inclusion of teen members. Motion passes unanimously.](#)

Contract with Church Lady was signed.

[Details of the Spring Stewardship Canvass, including cottage suppers, were planned.](#)

Next board meeting is scheduled for February 24 at 6:45 p.m.

Ministerial Musings with Rev. Peet

For those of you who may not have noticed, the issue of covenant has been something I have been attending to since I first arrived. With the work that is currently underway to create a congregational covenant I have come to realize that it is important to put some of my thoughts about this in writing so everyone could know both what I have been thinking as well as what I have been working on. My hope is that what I share here will provide each of you a sense of the work that is underway as well as that which lies ahead.



Before the Ministerial Search Committee had any contact with me the Board had identified a set of goals they wanted the new minister to work on. One of those goals was the development of a congregational covenant. Since my start date in August there has been a good deal of time and attention focused on covenant. Those who attended the start-up in early September made it clear that the development of such a covenant wasn't just a good idea, it was very near the top of the list of what was important to, and hoped for, by the congregation.

In preparation for the work that lay ahead, the significance of covenant in our Unitarian Universalist history, as well as in our congregations today, was the theme for our worship services and the sermons I delivered in September and October. Rev. Elizabeth Green helped us start moving on the task of creating a congregational covenant by leading a half-day workshop on the topic in mid-January. This was followed, on February 9, with a two hour "Congregational Covenant Conversations Continued" workshop. Both workshops were well attended. It is



clear, however, that there are a good number of people who don't have sufficient information about what has been done on this topic or on what the plan is for moving forward. With what I share here, everyone will hopefully have at least an outline of where we have been and where we are headed in our effort to achieve the goal of creating a congregational covenant.

At the workshop on February 9, I presented information about two types of congregational covenants, one an aspirational covenant and the other a behavioral covenant.

An aspirational covenant often contains words that might be identified as “noble” and the overall sense one can be left with after reading such a covenant is that it seems “lofty.” An aspirational covenant speaks to who we aspire to become as a religious community. Good examples of this type of covenant are readings 471 through 473 in the back of our hymnal. A well crafted aspirational covenant is typically not very long and some congregations include them as a part of each worship service. Behavioral covenants tend to be longer and go into more specifics. A behavioral covenant addresses how we want to be with one another and, as the name implies, how we will behave or act.

Currently several PUUF committees have such covenants. Behavioral covenants can provide guidance regarding how we relate to one another in ways that show respect and consideration for others. Behavioral covenants can be beneficial in assisting each one of us in living out our Fourth Principle of a free and responsible search to truth and meaning as we work on maintaining and building the relationships of our religious community.



In consulting with a number of other ministers about the work of creating a congregational covenant, I heard over and over that it is advisable to create an aspirational covenant before attempting to establish a behavioral covenant. They shared with me that it is best to have a statement which speaks to our hopes regarding who we will become before setting out to establish a statement of the way we will be with one another as we strive to make our hopes come alive. This is what I recommended at the February 9 workshop and the people in attendance expressed agreement with this approach. Therefore, in the very near future we will take the next step in our journey as we begin the process of creating an aspirational covenant.

The next step entails more than just talking about covenant, it involves beginning to write down words and concepts that it will contain. Attempting to do this level of work in a large group of ten to twenty people would likely not be very efficient or effective. Instead, having a small group do this type of work would seem more appropriate. We already have a list of over fifty of our highest values that arose from the workshop with Rev. Greene in January. A small group could work with that list and get further input from the larger congregation to first identify the themes that would be included in such a covenant and then to begin to write drafts of a covenant for the congregation to consider.

An important question, however, is who will make up that small group and how will the members of this group be chosen. First, in regards to who will make up the small group, a person must be a member of PUUF. A list of current members is included with this newsletter. Also, the Board will decide the specific number of people this working group will consist of. I will not be a member of the group but will be available to assist as needed. As for how this group will be chosen, Rev. Greene shared with me what I believe is a very good approach.

Here is how the process would work. Every member will have the opportunity to share who they would feel confidence and trust in doing this work. Each member would be asked to give three recommendations of whom they think could and would be good members of such a working group. A person could give three different names, one name three times, or two names with one name given twice. In order to obtain these names, members of the Board will contact every PUUF member and ask for their preference(s). After everyone has had the opportunity to express their preferences, a list of names will be created and organized according to the number of times their name was given. The Board will then contact the first person on the list and ask if they would be willing and able to be a member of the team that will craft an aspirational covenant. Once a yes or no answer is given by that person, the next person on the list will be asked. This process will continue until a sufficient number of working group members is found.

After the working group is established they can begin the task at hand. They will be asked to periodically inform the congregation of what they have come up with and to ask for further input. Eventually they will



provide a covenant statement that will be voted on by the congregation. When an aspirational covenant statement is approved by the congregation the working group’s work is done and the congregation’s work of living into the covenant that has

been created can begin.

The process of creating and approving such a covenant will not occur in a month or two, it will take a while. The process of living into such a covenant will be ongoing. The aspirational covenant will be a point of light to guide us along our journey into the future just as the North Star has been for so many travelers of the past. I feel both excited about, and challenged by, the work that we are undertaking together. Our journey has begun and, in time, we shall see where it takes us.

President's Corner with Mark Neiwirth



It's that time of year again: our Stewardship Canvass. For the third year in a row, the PUUF Board members are hosting a series of Cottage Suppers, a fun time to get together in small groups to share what it means to be a member or friend of PUUF. But perhaps more

importantly, it is a time to assess how we want to move forward financially as a congregation to continue our good work, and to carry forward our professional ministry.

Since our membership numbers have actually dropped to 50, it is crucial that, 1) we work to build our membership by inviting friends and acquaintances to attend worship services and RE gatherings, and 2) we dig a little deeper into our pockets to pledge for the next fiscal year.

In a capitalist society, we tend to spend money on things that make us feel good. But there is always a deeper yearning in all of us to be nourished spiritually, to be a part of a beloved community, and to be led and encouraged by ministry--both professionally and in small groups. Bear in mind that this takes dollars to cover the many expenses that PUUF accrues in order to make these things available to each one of us.

We want to continue contributing offertory plate monies to local organizations that do good work for the community, so please remember that PUUF is completely supported by membership pledges.

If you haven't already put in an RSVP for a Cottage Supper, please contact one of the hosts as soon as possible! See supper schedule in this newsletter.

On another note, I recently went to Portland (during their worst blizzard in decades) for a planning meeting for the upcoming Russell Lockwood Leadership School. Since it is now open to the entire Pacific Western Region, many things are changing. We are restructuring the schedule and classes, and the new ten-member staff and faculty are a dynamic combination of powerful, creative, sincere people.

Let me know if you are interested in possibly attending RLLS at Menucha Retreat in Oregon during **August 10-16**. For further information, see previous article in this newsletter, or go to <http://pwrdua.org/rlls-journeying-to-leadership/>

Rose Eidemiller



Our congratulations to Rose Eidemiller, PUUF's Hospitality Chair. Rose made the fall 2013 dean's list in the College of Arts and Letters at ISU. To qualify for the dean's list, students must complete at least 12 semester credits and receive a grade point average of 3.66 or higher.

Professor Lawyer



Our congratulations to Steve Lawyer, PhD, PUUF's Membership Committee Chair and past president. Steve was recently promoted to full professor in the Department of Psychology at ISU.

Check Out the New PUUF Website

The new, improved PUUF website is updated almost daily. Please go to pocatellouu.org to keep up between newsletters with what's happening in our congregation!

Like Us on Facebook

For additional PUUF information, photos and inspiration, visit our Facebook page at Pocatello Unitarian Universalist Fellowship/PUUF. Edited and moderated by Lynn Leonard.



Interested in Joining PUUF?

If you are on a life-long spiritual journey; if the UU worship style suits your needs; if you enjoy UU programs such as worship services, Religious Exploration and Children's Religious Exploration (CRE) and workshops; and if you care about a liberal

religious voice in Southeastern Idaho, you may be interested in becoming a PUUF member. For further information: membership@pocatellouu.org or 208-240-5352.

Portneuf Animal Welfare Society

PAWS was established in 2004 and has been administering animal rescue services across Bannock, Bingham and Power Counties for eight years. Whether providing food, shelter, or medical care for abandoned and neglected cats and dogs, rescuing livestock from abusive owners, or helping to limit the profusion of feral colonies, the several volunteers of PAWS dedicate their collective time and energy to promote the health, safety and welfare of the area's large and small animals in need.

PAWS is a non-profit organization depending entirely upon donations raised through private contributions and an annual yard sale of donated items. Pet food costs alone exceed \$500 monthly, with an additional \$3,000 monthly in veterinary expenses, medications and boarding.

Visit <http://pocatellopaws.org/>, or call 208-339-4183.



Who is that dapper Unitarian wearin' the green?

Westside Players Dinner Theatre

It's Westside's 28th year! The award-winning plays for 2014 are *Will You Still Love Me in the Morning?* (spring), *Parallel Lives* (summer), and *The Game's Afoot* (fall).

Call The Raven's Nest at 208-232-2232 for reservations, with or without dinner.

For all things Westside--including performance schedule and dinner menu--visit westsideplayers.org and Facebook, Westside Players Pocatello.

March with Pocatello Film Society

***Wadjda*, Sunday, March 9, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 p.m.** at ISU Bengal Theater. Shown in honor of Women's History month, this Los Angeles Film Festival winner was shot entirely in Saudi Arabia by a female director. It's the story of a young girl determined to raise enough money to buy a bike in a society that sees bicycles as dangerous to a girl's virtue. The Washington Post writes, "The most radical and cheering message of *Wadjda* is that a change isn't just possible, but inevitable." Rated PG. Admission \$2, or \$1 with Bengal ID. Trailer: www.pocatellofilmsociety.com/wadjda.

Inside Llewyn Davis

Sunday, March 16 at 3:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. at ISU Bengal Theater. From the Oscar winning Coen Brothers comes this Cannes Film Festival winner and Oscar nominated story about the life of a struggling folk singer as he navigates the Greenwich Village folk scene of 1961. Guitar in tow, huddled against the unforgiving New York winter, he struggles to make it as a musician against seemingly insurmountable obstacles, many of his own making. Rated R. Admission \$2, or \$1 with Bengal ID. Trailer: www.pocatellofilmsociety.com/llewyn.

Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom

Sunday, March 30 at 2, 5, and 8 p.m. at ISU Bengal Theater. A Golden Globe winner, this is the chronicle of Nelson Mandela's life journey from his childhood in a rural village through his protest and prison years, to his inauguration as the first democratically elected president of South Africa. Rated PG-13. Admission \$2, or \$1 with Bengal ID. Trailer: www.pocatellofilmsociety.com/mandela

For further on these and other films coming to ISU, go to www.pocatellofilmsociety.com.

From Dewy Dreams (XV Chamber Music)

From dewy dreams, my soul, arise,
From love's deep slumber and from death
For lo! the trees are full of sighs
Whose leaves the morn admonisheth.

Eastward the gradual dawn prevails
Where softly-burning fires appear,
Making to tremble all those veils
Of grey and golden gossamer.

While sweetly, gently, secretly,
The flowery bells of morn are stirred
And the wise choirs of faery
Begin (innumerable!) to be heard.

--James Joyce