



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.

Everyone is Welcome

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

Worship Services are on the first, third & fifth Sunday of each month at 4 p.m.

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 (CRE)

Children's RE activities for ages 4 to 12.

Child care for toddlers and infants offered during service with pre-arrangement.

President: Jeff Shelton

Vice President: Jennifer Attebery

Secretary: Mark Neiwirth

Treasurer: Richard Feuerborn

Director at Large: Mark Roberts

Director at Large: Becky Hardy

Past President: Ann Swanson

Pastor: Jennifer Peek

Minister: minister@pocatellouu.org

President: president@pocatellouu.org

Newsletter: newsletter@pocatellouu.org

PUUF Office: office@pocatellouu.org

Website: www.pocatellouu.org

Facebook: [Pocatello Unitarian](https://www.facebook.com/PocatelloUnitarianUniversalistFellowship)

[Universalist Fellowship](https://www.facebook.com/PocatelloUnitarianUniversalistFellowship)

February's Theme:
Justice

February Service Announcements

February 4 "Hymn Sing!"

Get ready for this lively service when we will sing some of our most loved hymns together. Mark Neiwirth will accompany us! What are your favorites? Let Pastor Jenny or Mark know, or just come and lend your voice to the joyful noise!

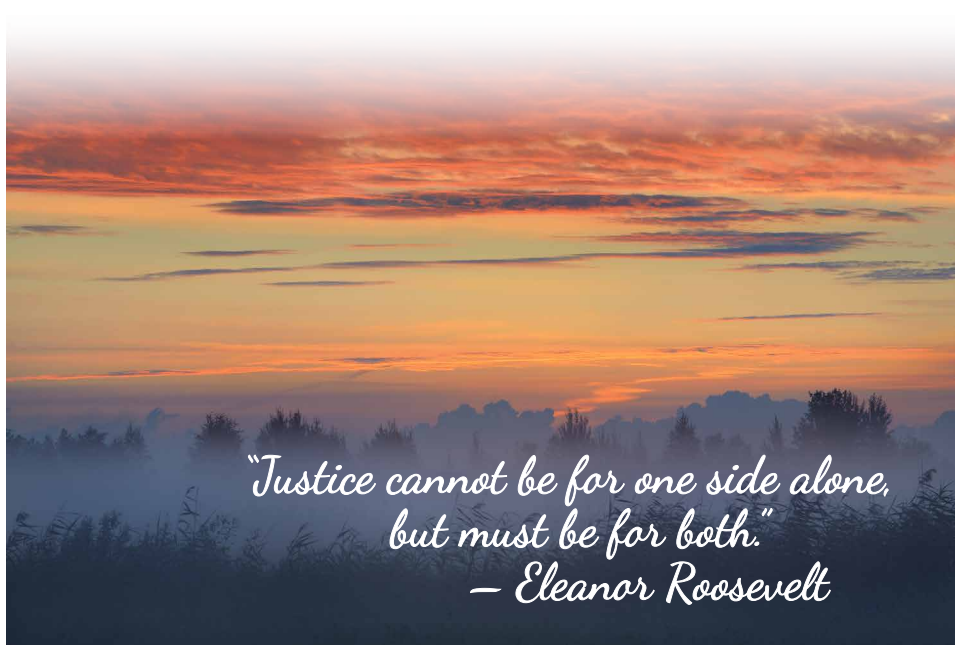
February 18th: "Why here, why now?"

Pocatello Unitarian Universalist Fellowship originated in a vision or dream shared by its founders. Let's talk about the dream as it manifested into ministry. What does this Fellowship represent in Pocatello, in Bannock County, in Idaho?



PUUF Aspirational Covenant

"May we be a compassionate religious community built on love and justice, exploring and celebrating the mysteries of life with reason, reverence, and courageous doubt. With conscious action, we can be the change we wish to see in the world."



PUUF has been officially recognized by the UUA as a Welcoming Congregation since 2011. PUUF membership is open to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) people, and to anyone else, regardless of religious background or ethnicity. Visit www.pocatellouu.org and see the 'About Us' page for more details.

**PUUF is a Welcoming
Congregation**

Ordination Q & A

Pastor Jenny asked the PUUF board to approve a meeting of the congregation to vote to ordain her. We thought you might have some questions.

What is Ordination?

In general, ordination is the process by which individuals are consecrated, that is, set apart as clergy to perform various religious rites and ceremonies. The process and ceremonies of ordination vary by religion and denomination. The liturgy used at an ordination is sometimes referred to as an ordination (Wikipedia). In the Unitarian-Universalist Association, Ordination can only be bestowed upon an individual by a UU congregation with a vote. This is part of UU congregational polity.

What is congregational polity?

Polity is the way churches structure their authority. UUs have autonomous governance of individual congregations. One of the consequences of UU autonomy is that only congregations can ordain a minister.

Are there any qualifications for a UU minister?

For UU ministers, there is an intensive career assessment with psychological evaluation and recommendations that examine one's fitness for ministry. The recommendations go to the Ministerial Fellowship Committee at the UUA

national offices in Boston. Prospective ministers obtain a MDiv. (Master of Divinity) from a school of theology. Pastor Jenny attended the Meadville Lombard Theology School in Chicago. Masters of Divinity study competencies in pastoral care, arts and aesthetics of worship, administration and governance, and serve an internship. Pastor Jenny Peek has been accepted into preliminary fellowship, the credentialing process established by the UUA.

At this time the UUA has approved Pastor Jenny for seeking ordination from a congregation. Ordination is official recognition of an individual's qualifications for ministry. With ordination Pastor Jenny will earn the title of Reverend.

What is the difference between ordination and installation?

Installation is a congregation calling an ordained minister to be their minister until retirement. Every minister seeks ordination, but not every minister seeks or desires installation. For PUUF, Pastor Jenny is our contract minister not seeking installation, but not yet ordained.

The PUUF Board has scheduled a special congregational meeting on March 18, 2018, for the purpose of voting on ordination of Pastor Jenny Peek.

— by *Jeff Shelton, President PUUF and Pastor Jenny Peek*

PUUF Religious Exploration

The 4th Sunday February 25th RE Session will be "What is Full Week Faith?" Pastor Jenny will introduce the group to this Religious Exploration program. While it originates from an effort to reach families with children, much of the material may be of interest to youth and adults, and single friends or members of any age. Since Full Week Faith debuted in our Fellowship in December, some have wondered what it is, how to get it, and why do we have it? Pastor Jenny hopes to answer these questions and even brainstorm on ways to improve this very new approach to Religious Exploration.

For March 11 Jeff Shelton will facilitate the session on Mithraism: Ancient Roman Mystery Cult Mithraism was a religion practiced in the Roman Empire from the 1st to 3rd centuries A.D. chiefly by soldiers. Although some of the ritual practices of the cult are known, the beliefs of the cult were and are largely mysterious. Clues to what Mithraists believed have been found in the iconography of their temples. Jeff will inform us of what is presently believed about Mithraism.

Our Religious Exploration sessions are seeking individuals who would like to facilitate a discussion covering some aspect of religion, spirituality, or social justice at our RE sessions this winter/spring. At present all dates are available through most RE weeks of February, and all of March, April and May. We meet on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 4pm at the church. If you have a topic within these subjects and would like to lead a discussion please contact Bob Gehrke at 208-680-4766 or email him at robertjmary_7@q.com with the topic and a suggested Sunday. Some sources to consider are the UU World, Touchstones, and other magazine articles, newspaper articles or books. All topics will be presented to the group for approval.

PUUF Website

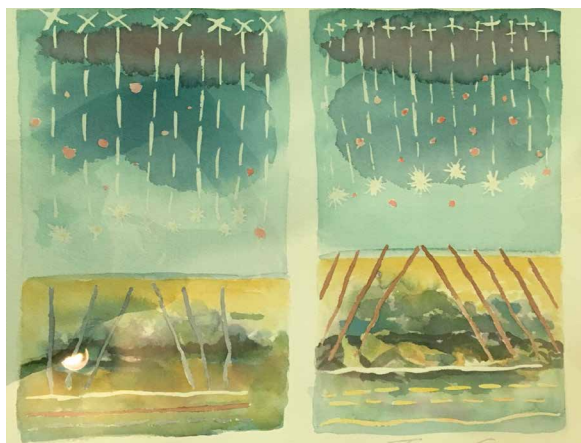
The Board is in the process of updating the PUUF website. This will be a total rework using the UUA WordPress Theme. Look for it to come online in late February or early March. If you would like to submit suggestions or activity and event photos for possible use on the website, please email them to Richard Feuerborn and Mark Neiwirth at Website@PocatelloUU.org.



*"Observe good faith and justice toward all nations.
Cultivate peace and harmony with all"
—George Washington*

Many Colors of Stewardship

As we approach our traditional stewardship season, it is helpful to reflect on variety of ways we contribute to our congregation. All of us help with our time and talent in some way. We buy flowers for the altar, we lead an RE discussion, we send a birthday card, wash dishes, and everything in between. We also need stewardship in



Tanya Forsman

support of our minister, our building, and our activities. Pledging money annually is part of this picture, but it also includes donations, cleaning, repair, and this month, actual pictures. Our church office has undergone major improvements in the last year and this effort continues with a donation of art from Barbara Swanson's estate. Some of the works are by Barbara and some were part of her collection. Now their many colors will brighten with walls of our office space!



Barbara Swanson



Unknown

UUU Common Read Recommendations

Pastor Jenny will host a discussion per book, on "First Saturdays". First up, *Centering* (see below for description). Join the discussion, Saturday, March 3rd, at 9:30 a.m. Let Pastor Jenny know you're participating. Group size will determine if we reserve the small chapel or use our UU office. Prefer to stay home? Video call-in options are available! The challenges, the call, and the opportunity of this moment in Unitarian Universalism and in the broader US American society are compelling. Unitarian Universalists must be prepared and willing to look inward, examining, exploring, and acting to dismantle white supremacy culture in our association, in our congregations and groups, and in ourselves. At the same time, we must be prepared and willing to look outward and act to lift up Unitarian Universalist values in the political and civic challenges of our time.

1. *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry*, edited by Mitra Rahnema (Skinner House, 2017), centers the stories, analyses, and insights of a number of Unitarian Universalist

religious professionals of color as they explore how racial identity is made both visible and invisible in Unitarian Universalist communities.

2. *Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want*, by Frances Moore Lappé and Adam Eichen, (Beacon Press, 2017) lifts up the importance of democracy itself. It examines the anti-democracy movement that has led to the Trump presidency, then offers a vision and call to action to save our democracy and to take our civic life to a place it has never been.

Centering offers help with the inner work of today's Unitarian Universalism; *Daring Democracy* provides a vision and practical guidance for advancing our justice-making work in the public square. We invite you to make time to read both, and to work with others to organize discussion groups in your UU community.

You may purchase both books from [inSpirit: UU Book and Gift Shop](#). Both are also available as ebooks.

PWR UUA Regional Mission Trip Next Summer!

- Do you have a passion for environmental justice?
- Have you been interested to partner with grassroots organizations to create a lasting partnership in solidarity with local communities?
- Have you ever wanted to make a real difference while learning hands on skills and concepts?

"Pacific Western Region Justice Journey: Roots, Reflections and Relationships - An Environmental Justice Journey. A week long immersion experience focusing on Environmental Sustainability through service, learning, and through a meditation practice designed to be reflective and to sustain future justice work.

Logistics: Sat. night, July 14 - Sunday afternoon, July 22, 2018 at Throop Unitarian Universalist Church 300 S. Los Robles Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101.

You are invited! 25 multigenerational participants - youth (rising 9th - rising 12th graders), YAs and adults. Families with youth, YAs and adults welcome.

Cost is \$550.00 per person for 8 days. All meals, lodging at the church, local transportation. (Air and ground Transportation to the Throop Church is not included.) Scholarships are available!

Staff: Eric Bliss, PWR Youth Specialist, Rev. Jaelynn Scott, Buddhist minister and U.U. Religious Educator, Katie Covey, PWR Mission Trip Lead.

The Pacific Western Region Mission Trip provides an opportunity to practice environmental sustainability in the unique permaculture urban garden at Throop, as well as a variety of community projects and events. In addition, the group will engage in centering meditative UU and Buddhist practices as developed by Rev. Jaelynn Scott's Mutuality Movement as a way to build a lifelong foundation for justice work and compassionate understanding.

Registration: <https://register.pwruua.org/event-registrations/pwr-mission-trip/>
Contact: Katie Covey, PWR Mission Trip Lead at katiecovey@gmail.com.

UCC Work Party February 9

The UCC Congregation has invited us to join their work party on Saturday, February 9th. This activity will focus on changing the light bulbs, as needed, in the Sanctuary. Scaffolding and other needed equipment will be provided. A pizza lunch is planned following this work gathering. They hope many of us will join them.

Upcoming Pocatello Film Society Movies



Sunday, February 11

"Last Flag Flying" plays at 4:30 & 7pm. In this insightful comedy/drama, when a father loses his son to the Iraq war, he enlists a couple former marine buddies to go on a road trip and attend the services with him. Directed by Oscar winning director Richard Linklater. (Rated R)



Sunday, February 25

"Roman J. Israel, Esq" plays at 4:30 & 7pm. Denzel Washington stars in a film based on Roman J. Israel, Esq., a driven, idealistic defense attorney, finds himself in a tumultuous series of events that lead to a crisis and the necessity for extreme action. (Rate PG-13)

All shows are at the ISU Bengal Theater. Admission is \$2 for the public or free for ISU students with Bengal ID unless otherwise stated. Trailers and more information on these and other upcoming Pocatello Film Society movies are online at www.pocatellofilmsociety.com.

Weekly Get-Together at Elmer's!

Stop by Elmer's Restaurant every Thursday evening at 6:30-8:30 pm. Join us for dinner or dessert and casual conversation. This is a wonderful opportunity for PUUF members and friends to socialize regularly, outside of church.

Heartland Wellness Center & Wholehealth Cooperative Coming Events

WholeHealth Cooperative hosts an Open Community Healing Circle the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month from 6-8:30 PM and a Community Drum Circle on the 4th Friday @ 6:30 PM. Kundalini Yoga is on Mondays @ 7pm, \$11, 2704 Via Valdarno, 208-479-2255. Trauma Sensitive Yoga is offered on Tuesdays at Family Services Alliance @ 5:30pm. For details contact Crete Brown at 208-251-2400. The Wholehealth Cooperative is located at 303 N 12th Ave, in Pocatello.

Pocatello's Second Saturday Contra Dance

The Contra dance will be held in Pocatello at 7:30 pm in the UCC church, 309 N. Garfield (behind Pocatello High School). Dancing will be the 2nd Saturday of each month and continue through May. The beginners' session at 7:30pm is highly recommended for those unfamiliar with this simple, fun, social dance form. The dance is sponsored in part by the Pocatello Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Admission is \$6 per person (suggested donation). New dancers are always welcome!

Contact Kristi at (208) 523-3847 or austkris@isu.edu for more information. See our "News & Events" page on the www.pocatellouu.org website for updates.

PUUF Meetup

Join our new, fun group, "Pocatello UU Meetup" through meetup.com and enjoy fellowship among friends throughout the month. Meetups are spontaneous, fun and varied ways to spend time together beyond our Sunday meetings at the church. To join the site and receive meet-up notices, go to Meetup.com and search for Pocatello UU Meetup. For more information or if you have an idea for a meet-up, talk to Jennifer Attebery, Jim Mariani, or Pastor Jenny.

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, Children's RE, and workshops; and if you care about a liberal religious voice in Southeastern Idaho, you may be interested in becoming a PUUF member. For more information: membership@pocatellouu.org or 208-851-0842.

Portneuf Valley Interfaith Fellowship Update

Please contact Bob Gehrke (robertjmary_7@q.com) or Pastor Jenny (minister@pocatellouu.org) for more information or questions:

- 500 blankets were collected and donated from the blanket drive.
- World Harmony Week is the first week in February. Discussion about tours of some of the local faith communities on Feb. 2nd and 3rd or Feb. 6th and 7th.
- VOAD is hosting an event on February 3rd in Idaho Falls on Pistol in the pulpit, teaching safety at the church. The cost is 65.00. Contact Brenda for more information.
- "Feeding the 5000 Families" is planning its annual fundraising campaign. Pastor Jenny is selling raffle tickets for a quilt. The kick-off concert will be February 10 at 7:00 pm in this sanctuary, hosted by First Congregational United Church of Christ.
- If anyone is interested in attending the LDS general conference in Salt Lake in April, please contact Bill Mckee.
- Next meeting will be February 6 at noon at the first Presbyterian Church, located at 202 S. 7th. Lunch will be served.

Pastor Jenny's Office Hours

Office Hours:

Tuesdays 8-11:30am & Wednesdays 1-4:30pm.

Weekly Get-Together: Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm at Elmer's Restaurant. Food & Fellowship!

Community Hours: Fridays 9-10:30am at The College Market Cafe, Chat over tea or coffee.

Personal Sabbath begins every Sunday 9pm and ends Tuesday 8am.

Pastoral emergencies will be responded to as quickly as possible. All other communications will be responded to during Tuesday office hours, in the order they are received.

*"There is a higher court than courts of justice
and that is the court of conscience.
It supersedes all other courts."*

— Mahatma Gandhi