



## Glacier Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

*On December 21st, the Winter Solstice, Glacier UU Fellowship members gathered with others from around the valley to celebrate the longest night of the year. As we move into 2018, join us in using these long nights as a time of rest for ourselves and for our precious planet. And welcome the light as the days gradually grow longer. We look forward to seeing you!*

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**January 7 - 10:00 a.m.**

### **The Fire Communion Service**

Each year we take time to think of those things we want to leave behind from the past year. We write them down and toss them on the fire and then look forward into 2018! Led by Paige Rapple

**January 14 - 10:00 a.m.**

### **"The Arc of the Universe Bends Toward Justice"**

**led by Social Action Committee members**

Yearly, we pause to remember Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil rights movement.

**January 21 - 10:00 a.m.**

### **"Mind University: Exploring the Outer Limits of the Human Mind"**

**by Brian Muldoon**

Mind University is a new project that is designed to help identify and overcome the unconscious biases of the mind, cultivate critical thinking in the spirit of Sherlock Holmes, and provide a path to "full mind utilization that supports the experience of non-conceptual awareness." Brian Muldoon is an author, lawyer, mediator and perennial seeker. He currently leads our men's group at GUUF.



## **January 28 - 10:00 a.m. Credo Sunday and Community Sunday**

Each January we set aside a day for our own mid-year meeting to share a potluck lunch and discuss items of interest to the whole Fellowship. We will begin with a brief service at 10:00 in which members share their thoughts as in the NPR show "This I Believe." After lunch, topics at this year's meeting will include a look at the Right Relations policy and some possible new initiatives that have grown out of our November retreat.

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## **January's News**

The board accepted Paige Rappleye's resignation as of Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> and has formed a search committee to hire a new administrative assistant soon. The search committee is chaired by Bruce Fehlman. Meanwhile, volunteers are trying to fill in the gaps! If you would like to help, drop by GUUF on Wednesdays from 10-2 for lunch and Wednesday work days. There will be tasks for all such as paperwork, organizing, repairing, and cleaning. For details on this: contact Betsy Kohnstamm at 260-2627 or [twinjunipers@gmail.com](mailto:twinjunipers@gmail.com)

## **Care Team Update**

The Care Team meets twice a month at Anne Lent's home Wednesday mornings from 10:30 to 12:15. Peggy Moore has been designated as the dispatcher for "care requests" for the next six months. In addition, the team plans a training session that will begin on February 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:00pm. If you are interested in this, please contact Dan Kohnstamm, membership chair/prez 260-6244.

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### Social Action Committee

Aside from leading two services at GUUF, the committee has been busy with their Adopt a Family program. Thanks to the intervention of members of this committee, the family we have chosen for this year was successfully moved back into the Abbie Shelter. Now the committee is working on finding a car for the family. Donations from GUUF towards this amounted to about \$500 so far. In addition, others beyond the fellowship have contributed to this cause. Funds for repairing a car are almost secured. (Meg Gordon, chair)

### Sunday Program Team

The months go by and we seem to be filling in our Sunday mornings with a variety of lay led services and guest speakers. We have exciting programs planned for February including a service in the Wiccen tradition, a service led by former GUUF member Kevin Allen-Schmid, a visiting songwriter who wrote one of our favorites - Blue Boat Home -Peter Meyer is coming, and a joint service with other Montana congregations. Stay tuned for dates for all of these towards the end of the month. If you have ideas for services or want to help with services, contact us or come to one of our meetings which are always on the second Sunday of each month. Betsy Kohnstamm and Melinda Morison, co-chairs

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## **Beyond GUUF's Walls**

### **REGIONAL ASSEMBLY : April 27–29 Portland, Oregon**

The four districts of the UUA's Pacific Western Region will gather April 27–29 in Portland, OR for the 2018 Regional Assembly. Speakers include civil rights activist, the Rev. Dr. William Barber; Washington Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, advocate for women's, immigrant, civil, and human rights; and the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, newly elected UUA president. Programming includes workshops, worship, district meetings, and an optional social justice activity. Discount lodging is available at the Portland DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, site of the Regional Assembly. Childcare and youth programming will be available. Registration will open by January 4. Watch the PWR website ([www.uua.org/pwr](http://www.uua.org/pwr)) for full details to be posted soon.

If you are considering joining the GUUF through going to Portland in April, sign up on the hotel block sheet in the kitchen.

# Words from the Prez

During the last few months, the GUUF board and the Fellowship Council have been considering adopting a policy such as you see in draft form below. The purpose of this document is to help guide our relations within our fellowship. We hope to bring this to a vote at our Community Sunday meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Right Relations Covenant of the Glacier Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
DRAFT (Revised 1/4/18)

The UUA recommends that we should have a Covenant of Right Relations which is a document which guides us in our interactions with each other as a congregation. The UUA states: "The well-being, strength and reputation of our church depend on a sense of fellowship among the members, friends, and staff, which thrives in an atmosphere of trust, respect, and cooperation. Within such an atmosphere, differences of opinion and their resolution through compromise or consensus can enhance a sense of community.

However, differences or misunderstandings that go unresolved and descend into prolonged conflict can threaten the social fabric of our church. We recognize that conflict may arise from time to time and that, when it does, it management and resolution are paramount."

To enhance our sense of community,

1. Express sincere appreciation
2. Allow for human fallibility
3. Deal directly with each other
4. Speak softly
5. Be creative problem solvers
6. Maintain a sense of humor
7. Actively listen and clarify what we hear, letting others have their say
8. Respect boundaries that may differ from our own
9. Respect confidentiality
10. Refrain from harmful gossip.

We also:

1. Have an obligation to bring to light concerns about things which threaten the health of our church.
2. We have a responsibility to support the Fellowship, honor our pledges, show up, fulfill our commitments for committees and strive to be on time.
3. We owe each other respectful participation in the life of our Fellowship
4. This should be done by using existing procedures, proper committees. We have an obligation to find out what those procedures are.

In summary, at GUUF, let's all strive to:

1. Treat others as you would like to be treated.
2. Volunteer, as you are able, as we are all members of our beloved community.
3. Talk to a person with whom you have a grievance before talking about that person.
4. Praise those who work on projects; please try to refrain from complaining about their work.

Remember that you are welcome to bring your suggestions when you volunteer.

5. Look for the best in everyone assuming their actions are based on positive intentions.
6. Reach out to others, especially when they are in distress.
7. Communicate your thoughts and ideas, POLITELY and RESPECTFULLY,  
whether electronically or verbally, to prevent misunderstandings based on assumptions.
8. Be patient and compassionate with your fellow humans when they don't follow these principles  
as we all have our moments.
9. Share gratitude and joy whenever possible. Shine your light!
10. Do all of these things in honor of our beloved community.

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# January 2018

**January 7, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Fire Communion Service**

**January 14, 2018 - 10:00 a.m.: Arc of Justice Service**

**January 12 and 13 -- Weekend Circle of 8 gatherings**

**January 14, 2018 - 11:30 Sunday Program committee meets**

**January 14, 2018 - 11:30 Newcomer workshop**

**January 21, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m. "Mind University" with Brian Muldoon**

**January 21, 2018 ~ 11:30 a.m.: Fellowship Council Meets**

**January 25, 2018 - 6:30 p.m. Men's Group Meets**

**January 28, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Credo Sunday and Community Meeting**

\* For questions regarding Toni's Teas please contact Sandy Alessi at [406-504-7178](tel:406-504-7178) or [sandy@montanastarr.com](mailto:sandy@montanastarr.com)

\*\* For questions regarding GUUF fellowship events, contact the office at [info@guuf.com](mailto:info@guuf.com)

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## **Care Team Coordinator:**

*Our Care Team Coordinator is an important part of our congregation. They help to strengthen our community when there are needs to be met. If you are in need of some assistance (meals, errands, transportation, visitors, yard maintenance, childcare...), please contact our Coordinator.*

**Care Team Coordinator is Peggy Moore.** Please contact her if you need any assistance,  
**[406-837-2101](tel:406-837-2101) and email is [wimpjm@icloud.com](mailto:wimpjm@icloud.com)**

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Once a month Glacier UU Fellowship volunteers show up at The Samaritan House, prepare, and serve dinner for Kalispell's local homeless population.

If you would like to assist with this program, please contact Chris at [choldhusen@yahoo.com](mailto:choldhusen@yahoo.com) or [406-862-6882](tel:406-862-6882). Our upcoming Volunteer Nights are usually the third Thursday of each month.

## **Administrator's**

### **contact information:**

Contact [info@guuf.com](mailto:info@guuf.com)

to reach our administrator.

Our office phone number is 755-9255

We are in the process of filling this position.

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