

Glacier Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

April 2017 Newsletter

We are a welcoming, supportive fellowship that nurtures the spiritual, intellectual and social needs of our members of all ages through the open inquiry into inspirational experiences, diverse beliefs, and religious traditions. We work together towards a more compassionate, more just world for all.



Schedule of Worship Services:

April 2, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.:

"The UU Principles from a Buddhist Perspective" is the title of the discussion. This will include a brief review of the origin of the UU principles and the origin of the Buddhist 4 noble truths and 8-fold noble path. The Buddhist idea of impermanence will be discussed.

April 9, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.:

"Moses was a Failure"

We welcome **Rabbi Allen Secher** as our guest speaker. Rabbi Secher is well known to many in the congregation and the Valley as the Rabbi of the Bat Harim Jewish Congregation which used to meet in our Glacier UU Building on Friday evenings.

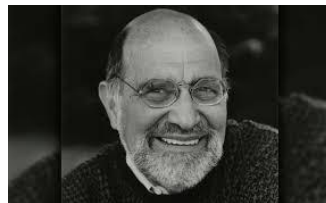
Led by Rabbi Allen Secher.

Theme for April

— **Greening** —

"A good question is never answered. It is not a bolt to be tightened into place but a seed to be planted and to bear more seed toward the hope of greening the landscape of idea."

~ John Ciardi



A graduate of Brandeis University, in the 1960's a young Rabbi Allen Secher became a Freedom Rider, joining Dr. Martin Luther King's historic fight for equality in the South. He was jailed for a week along with a number of other Freedom Riders in Albany, Georgia. Since then Rabbi Secher served congregations in Mexico City, New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago before relocating to Whitefish, Montana. For a time, Rabbi Secher was the only rabbi in the state of Montana, serving the local Bat Harim congregation. Rabbi Secher and his wife Ina Albert continue to be very involved with the Love Lives Here organization, where he works for social justice and shared interfaith conversations with both humor and humility. Welcome Rabbi Secher!



April 16, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Easter "So Much is In Bud"

There is so much to celebrate as winter yields to spring, both physically and metaphorically. Let us join our hearts and voices as buds begin to appear. Joy!

Led by Rev. Mary Wellemeyer.

It's time for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

TEENS, please come early (9:00 a.m.) and help play "Easter Bunny" and assist in making this a fun, magic-filled morning for the young ones.





Rev. Wellemeyer joins our Easter celebration where, besides her sermon, we have our annual Easter Egg hunt for the Littles, aided by the older youths, and a Potluck Brunch for all who wish to stay. Please plan to join us for a wonderful morning of Spring Festivities!

Mary has been a UU since she was very young. When her school friends were making their First Communion in another tradition, she asked her non-churchgoing parents about it and ended up going to the Unitarian Sunday School instead. After following a long and winding path that eventually led toward ministry, she completed study at Andover Newton and began ministry in 2000.

She has served congregations both as settled minister and as interim minister. She especially enjoys working on congregational development and social justice programs. In retirement, she is building a consulting practice with small congregations centered on these interests. She is involved with organizing a network of Unitarian Universalist fellowships in Montana, as well.

Mary raised three children, a son and two nephews, who are now grown and have families themselves. She lives in Columbia Falls with her son and granddaughter. She serves on the Board of Love Lives Here in the Flathead.

April 23, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.:

“A Journey into UU Ministry”

Each of us walks our own path in the journey through life. Our path intersects with or crosses the path of many others through the course of life. We hope the path we travel will have meaning and significance to more than just ourselves. Glacier UU Fellowship has had a significant influence on the life of our guest minister, Rev. Duffy Peet. He will share his journey and appreciation with us today.



April 30, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.:

“Our Interdependent Web!”

Roger Sullivan, Kathy Neff and some of our high school and middle school youth will design a creative multigenerational service. In honor of the month of April, the Earth day celebrations of the month, and the beauty around us, this service focuses on our UU 7th principle as we recognize our place in the amazing natural world around us.

Led by Kathy Neff and Roger Sullivan.



Meet Rev. Duffy Peet from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman!

Welcome our guest minister for April 23rd back to the Flathead Valley!

Rev. Peet has quite the resume including time here with us in the Flathead!

Rev. Duffy Peet began serving as the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bozeman in August of 2016. Prior to being called by the Fellowship in Bozeman he had been the consulting minister at the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Southwest Michigan in Portage. From 2013-15 he was the developmental minister for the Pocatello Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Pocatello, ID.

Ministry is a second career for Rev. Peet. His first career, which lasted more than 30 years, was in social work in which he holds both a Bachelor's and Master's degree. Before moving to the Boston area to enter theological school he lived and worked as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the Flathead Valley for 33 years. His path into ministry began in 2006 while he was living north of Bigfork, Montana. He is delighted to have the opportunity to be back in Montana where his journey began.

Please join us April 23rd as we welcome Duffy Peet back to the Flathead, this time as a UU minister!



“Should Glacier UU Consider Our Space a Sanctuary?”

-Paige Rappleye, GUUF Member and Love Lives Here in Flathead Community Organizer

I have found myself in many discussions with members of our GUUF community regarding whether Glacier UU Fellowship is a Sanctuary church, or has any plans to declare itself as such. We currently have made no such declaration, but we do have a history of supporting immigrants and refugees through our social justice programs. Unitarian Universalists also have a history of support and engagement with immigrant communities. UUA President Peter Morales calls UUs to action in this video: [YouTube Link](#)

“Migrant families in the United States are facing a crisis. As people of faith, we are called to respond. The US Department of Homeland Security is increasing deportations, with a particular focus on migrant families and children from Central America.

Right now, across the US, immigration and customs enforcement officials are conducting raids to round up and deport people. This escalation in aggression and the targeting of vulnerable populations is deeply troubling. Many of these families have fled violence and persecution in their home countries in Central America, in Africa, and the Mideast. Now they live in fear in the United States...

...As people of faith, Unitarian Universalists must respond. We must stand on the side of love, and be advocates for hospitality and compassion. There are many ways you can help. Support and protect people in your communities by offering sanctuary or supporting organizations that do. Sign one of the many petitions that are circulating. Visit uua.org for resources on immigrant justice.

Whatever you choose to do, show your support for the real human lives at stake, and let our country's leaders know that we need not surrender to fear, hate, and racism.”

As you know the raids and targeting of immigrants and other marginalized groups have escalated since that statement was made, even in the past few weeks. So, what does that mean for GUUF? We have been working on getting as much information as possible about our options for response so that we can pass it along to you. It is also important to know who among you are interested in this work. If we were to declare this community a Sanctuary (or a Congregation Supporting Sanctuary) we would need to have broad buy in and support from the whole congregation. It would be a choice we would make together. And so, as we continue our information gathering, please let me know if you are interested in being part of the conversation. And stay tuned for upcoming opportunities for information and dialogue.

There are many resources out there if you are interested in learning more, or you can join the work ongoing here in the Flathead. The UUA has [a toolkit for congregations](#). Standing on the Side of Love has created [a google doc](#) with lots of useful information and the UU College of Social Justice has [tools](#) and [resources](#) as well.

We are in a time of rapid change and challenge. Immigrants are not the only marginalized group that will need our help and support. Transgender and gender nonconforming people, the disabled, women, people of color, and so many more. Of course, a sanctuary is defined as a place of refuge or safety – and also a sacred or holy place. My hope is that whether we make the decision to formally become a Sanctuary Congregation, this community will always be a sanctuary for all who seek refuge among us, or who seek a sacred place, or who need help and safety in these difficult times.





Circle of 8 Dinners

Michele Page, Membership Committee

Save the dates for Circle of 8 dinners

with Fellowship members and friends!

The first weekend of each month:

April 1st

Sign up at GUUF or contact Michele Page

406-890-5030

cymichele@aol.com



Toni's Teas occur on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, every month.

This is a social discussion group that is open to anyone who enjoys lively conversation & good company. Please call Sandy Alessi at 406- 730-2425 if you have any questions.

On **April 4th** they meet at Rose Morris's home (118 Fly Way) in Kalispell; **April 18th** at Sandy Alessi's home (812 Greenwood) in Whitefish, from 1-4p.m. (Please watch the weekly eBlasts for location updates).



**Support
Montana Public Radio
and GUUF**

**Have you heard GUUF on
Montana Public Radio?**

We pay for the advertising (sponsorship spots) through our annual collection designated to MTPR. When the MTPR pledge drive kicks off– consider supporting MTPR through a donation to GUUF. All of the money we collect goes to MTPR for our sponsorship spots. Your donation is still tax deductible and you are supporting two organizations! As the donation is to GUUF your name **will not** be read on-air. If you like hearing your name on air consider splitting your usual MTPR pledge amount into two donations – one to MTPR and one to GUUF. MTPR can add you to their mailing list. (We will facilitate this.)

Please make a check to GUUF, PO Box 2778, Kalispell, MT, 59903 or include a check in the Sunday collection. ***Write “MTPR” on the check memo line*** and also write “mail list” on the memo line if you would like to be added to MTPR's mail list.

We will be collecting MTPR donations through Mid-April.

Thank you for helping out and letting our Flathead Valley Community hear about GUUF! **Questions – please email or call Paige at 253-7941 or guufadm@yahoo**

There are seven principles which Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Unitarian Universalism (UU) draws from many sources:

Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
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.

These principles and sources of faith are the backbone of our religious community.



*Important
GUUF
Administrator and
Board of Trustees
Contact
Information*

Administrator's contact information: Paige checks her email regularly and will get back to you, guufadm@yahoo.com.

In addition, Monday-Friday, during the hours of 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. you may call or text her cell phone 406-253-7941; she tries to take Wednesdays off, but will respond when needed.

She is usually in the office **Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings**. If you need access to the building, please call and schedule a day and time in advance.

2017-2018 DEADLINES:

eBLAST = Monday morning;

ORDER of SERVICE = 12 p.m. Monday;

SUNDAY (oral) ANNOUNCEMENTS = Friday afternoon;

NEWSLETTER = the 15th of the month

As always, the sooner that you can get Paige your information the easier it is for her. If you do not get her information BY the above deadline it WILL NOT be included in said publication. Thank you for your understanding.

**Glacier Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
2016-17 Board of Trustees**

Dear GUUF members and visitors,

We are honored to serve as your board representatives. Please let us know what we can do to make our GUUF community even better.

Our GUUF Board of Trustees meets at 6:15 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome. We also welcome your questions or comments anytime.

Officers:

Kathy Neff, President

nathykeff@yahoo.com

406-253-8150 (cell)

406-862-6882 (home)

Preference: Email or text, if urgent

Cathy Cooney, Vice-President

cmecooney@gmail.com

406-212-7243 (cell)

406-441-4954 (office)

Preference: Email or text

Bob Byers, Treasurer

robert058@centurytel.net

406-849-5276 (home)

Preference: Any

Betsy Kohnstamm, Secretary

twinjunipers@gmail.com

406-260-2627 (cell)

406-862-5528 (home)

Preference: Text or email

At-Large Members:

Dennis Brosten

dennis504@centurytel.net

406-756-5847

Preference: Email

Bruce Fehlman

bruce@fehlman.com

315-247-3443 (cell)

Preference: Text or email

Meg Gordon

meggordon1975@gmail.com

517-282-8217 (cell)

Preference: Text or email

Anne Lent

al@alcm.us

406-862-1585

Preference: phone

**GLACIER
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP**
**CALENDAR OF
EVENTS**
APRIL

APRIL

April 1, 2017 ~ TBD by Host(ess): Circle of 8 Dinners

April 2, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Service ~ *First Sunday*

April 4, 2017 ~ 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.: Toni's Tea

April 4, 2017 ~ 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.: Board of Trustees Meeting

April 9, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Service ~ *Guest Speaker*

April 16, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Service ~ *Easter Sunday~
Guest Minister*

April 18, 2016 ~ 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.: Toni's Tea

April 20, 2017 ~ 5:30 p.m.: GUUF Samaritan House Volunteer Night

April 23, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Service ~ *Guest Minister*

April 28, 2017 – 30, 2017: Montana Spring UU Conference and
Youth-Con!!

April 30, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Service



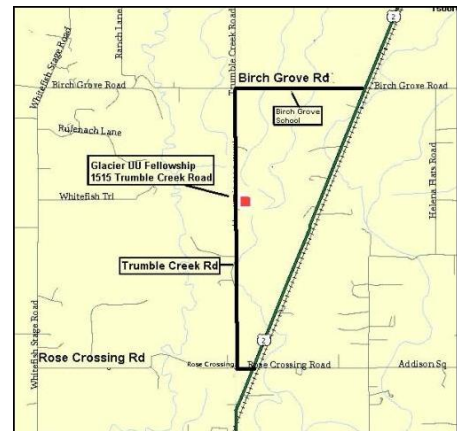
Glacier Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

*A Beacon of Liberal Faith
in the Flathead since 1964*

is located at
**1515 Trumble Creek Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901**

Mailing Address:
**PO Box 2778
Kalispell, MT 59903
(406)755-9255
website: www.GUUF.org
twitter: @glacieruu**

facebook: www.facebook.com/glacieruuf



Services begin at 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings unless otherwise specified.