

# UU LARAMIE NEWS

August 2015



Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Laramie

UUFL meets Sundays at 10:00 am at 1402 E. Gibbon. Any changes will be noted in the description below. Religious Education classes for children 5-12 are held the second Sunday of the month at 10 a.m. Child care for all children is available every Sunday except for the summer.

**August 2 "Poems We Carry: Writing a Wyoming Life"** Americans do not, in general, read or write poems. The task of poetry is to make lived experience accessible to others, and to help us understand our own selves, and our own lived experience more deeply through that lens. On this beautiful Sunday morning UUFL member **Lori Howe** who is an instructor in the English Department at UW will use a simple writing prompt to help each of us create a poem that does just this--share something meaningful to us, with others, through words. We guarantee no pressure; just being creative...together. Participate as you feel comfortable doing.

**August 9 "Caring for Our Planet"** Pope Francis has recently stirred up some controversy even among some Catholic clergy with his recent encyclical calling world leaders to take immediate action to care for the planet and reduce or reverse the process of global warming. We as UUs can find common cause with his initiative. **Ken Chestek** will lead an informal discussion about what we can do locally to advance the cause of climate justice.

**August 16 "Nones are Growing"** A recent Pew Research Center. (May 2015) survey shows the Christian share of the U.S. Population is declining while the number of U.S. adults who do not identify with any organized religion is growing.. the "nones". Yet there still exists a spiritual hunger; a desire for people to authentically connect but don't know how, a place for humanists, atheists, agnostics. Wait....that place already exists! Could it be...us?? Come this morning for a discussion about exploring how we might find new ways of reaching out to the "nones."

## August 23 Clean Up/Spruce Up Sunday

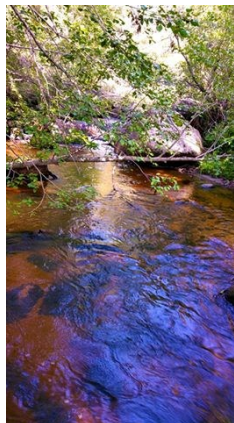
The weeds are taking over! Please come help us spruce up both the outside of the building and the inside as we prepare for our more formal Fellowship year starting later this month. We need to wash windows, dust, vacuum, just some general tidying up as well as pulling some persistent weeds in the yard. Come with work gloves, a Weed Wacker if you have one, or your window cleaner if you can. Otherwise we will have what we need to get our Fellowship home sparkling. Come stay for 30 minutes or as long as you can. "Many hands make light the work."



**August 30 "Water Communion"** This Sunday begins the 61st year of our coming together as the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Laramie. As with many other UU groups across the country, we begin our formal Fellowship year with this Ingathering Service. This morning we ask that you bring water (real or virtual), from places or events you have been to over the summer which have real meaning for you. We add the water each of us brings to a common bowl, signifying our coming together from different paths and journeys. We invite you to speak briefly as you pour your water into the community bowl about the significance this water has for you and or your family by saying, "With this water, I honor....."

*We arrive out of many singular rooms  
We come to be assured that our brothers and sisters surround us.  
We enlarge our voices in common speaking and singing.  
This is the reasons of cities, of homes, of assemblies in the houses  
Of worship.  
It is good to be with one another"*

*Kenneth Patton*



## UU Fellowship of Laramie

1402 E Gibbon ST  
Laramie, WY 82072

2015-2016 Board  
Co-Chairs: David Perry  
and Linda Meeker

Ken Chestek,  
Laura Miller,

Nancy Lockwood

UU Laramie Newsletter

Editors: Clarine Dunder  
and

Patricia Wiseman

Deadline: 20th of each  
month

uularamienews  
@hotmail.com

Laramie UU website  
www.uularamie.org

Facebook Page:

Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Laramie

National UU website

www.uua.org

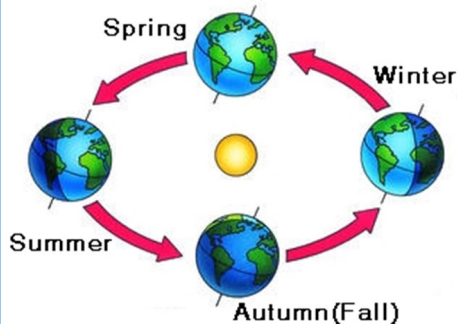
## Light's Out!

Please double check doors  
are locked, lights are out,  
coffee is unplugged and no  
water is running when you  
are the last to leave the  
Fellowship building.

Thanks.

# Musings of our Board Co-Chair

Here in Wyoming we're pretty tuned into the seasons. We have patience to ride out the long winters and we have the wisdom to enjoy the beauty of summers while they last. We sort of know better than to look for buds of spring, but most of us have identified our own signs that glorious Laramie summer is just around the corner. I think that the seasonal patterns help us mark our time in the universe and to pace us out, connecting us to larger things.



I have been wondering if our Fellowship also has seasons, patterns of growth and dormancy that are barely visible until we stop to look. Since I joined the UUFL in 1996 I've seen terrific members join or leave, ministers installed and retired, buildings bought and outgrown. Now here we are again: embarking on renovations to our building, reimagining ourselves without established members, and planning a fall celebration to welcome our new minister. It seems we do have invisible seasons, because the movement is unmistakable.

Some ancient poet [where are my biblical scholars?] noted that to everything there is a season and a time to every purpose. Do you feel it too? Is this our time to become again, to renew ourselves, to take our next steps into the now? I find it exciting and rewarding. It feels good to be part of something so established, trusting the pace and the change, knowing that these shifts are part of our healthy process. Let's go!

Co chair, *Linda Meeker*

## Welcome to Rev. Jackie Ziegler

Welcome to Laramie and our congregation...Rev Jackie Ziegler our new UUFL minister. Jackie arrives early in August...we hope to have a welcoming picnic for her once she gets a bit unpacked and settled into her new home on Park Street. Her first official sermon for us will be in September but she will be visiting with folks and having some office hours later in August. Do welcome her (and her feline companions) when you get a chance!



***The Board reports*** that the Installation Ceremony for Rev. Jackie Ziegler will be on Saturday, October 10, 2015 at 1:30 pm. Save this date!

" For last year's words belong to last year's language  
And next year's words await another voice.  
And to make an end is to make a beginning."  
(Little Gidding) - T.S. Eliot

# UUFL Community

## Committees

**Board Meeting** 2nd Wed. 6-7:30 p.m.

**Membership Committee** 3rd Thurs 6:30 p.m.

Members: Robin Chestek, Claudia Thompson.

This group is looking for another member.

**Program Committee** 2nd Tuesday at 5 pm

Members: Linda Goldman, Nancy and Jeff Lockwood, Ken Chestek, Barbara Bogart, David Perry

**Social Action Committee** Members are Marian Erdelyi, Claire Maloney, Bob Strayer Barbra Naughton, Madeline Darymple and Ralph Garrett. They meet 2nd Monday, 10:30 a.m. at the Grounds, Internet and Coffee Lounge, 171 N 3th St.

**Committee on Ministry** as needed.

Members: Claire Maloney, Barbara Naughton, and Linda Goldman

**Endowment Trust Board:** Laura Miller, Linda Goldman and Ken Chestek

**Caring Committee** Please notify Mary Beth Baptiste, Sara Blake, Ralph Garrett, Renee Gray if any one in our congregation is in need or needs celebration.

## Care of Building

**Lights Out** Please double check doors are locked, lights are out and coffee is unplugged when you are the last to leave the fellowship building.

## Building Use

After contacting Linda Goldman to schedule use of building Please send committee meeting dates and other building use information to:



## Welcome to Summer visitors

Josie and William visited with their kids, Clay and Cory Winkler; also Rebecca Mayfield and her friend David Ash

## Applause for:

Claire Maloney, Linda Goldman, Nancy and Jeff Lockwood and Catie Ballard for leading programs. Thanks also to Laura Miller, Madeline Dalrymple, Bill Reiners (digging shrubs), Stephanie (last name?) and Rebecca Mayfield and her partner David Ash for weeding at the building.



**Membership** is looking for a new member to help encourage more young people to be involved in our Fellowship. What an opportunity for them to travel their spiritual

journey in an accepting community. Contact Robin Chestek at 317-402-1948

The launch of a **Laramie Chapter of Citizen Climate Lobby** will be held August 1st from 10 am to noon. The meeting will be in the First Baptist Church. Follow signs to the meeting room. Unitarian Universalists nation-wide are becoming quite active in this organization. We hope you will join us for this inspiring workshop! For more information contact Madeline at [madelinedalrymple@gmail.com](mailto:madelinedalrymple@gmail.com)

From Christiane Dechert: I am looking for volunteers for the **Laramie Human Rights 10k**. I can easily put 20 people to work. Thank you! Christiane Check the Website for contact.

**Help our Fellowship** by getting Gift cards for Ridley's at \$100 each. Also if you want a Safeway reloadable card, email Steve Hodder at: [hodder@uwyo.edu](mailto:hodder@uwyo.edu). He would like to get a count as to how many cards he should purchase.

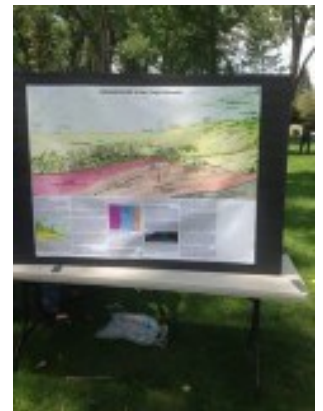
# From the Editors:

Come down off the ladder.

By David S Blanchard  
Come down off the ladder.  
Wash out that paintbrush.  
Shake the sand out of your shoes.  
Get up off your muddy knees,  
and give the garden a morning off.  
Fold up the newspaper.  
Turn off the coffeepot.  
Close up your calendar,  
already filled with dates,  
and times,  
and people,  
and places that claim you.  
This church is ready for you to fill its rooms,  
to create its spirit, to generate its warmth,  
to kindle its light.  
This church is ready for you to make community,  
to create beauty, to bend it toward justice,  
to serve its ideals.  
This church is ready for you to be here,  
honoring our past,  
invigorating our present,  
and dreaming our future.  
This is your church.  
Here we are home.  
Here we are whole.  
Let us begin.



The UU Booth on July 4th in Washington Park featuring the Casper aquifer concern.



Cici Maloney and Clay are friends.



Waiting for the fire to warm the S'mores.

Thank you to Christiane, Dechert, Ken ChestecK, Davit Perry who posted Photos on Facebook so we could use them in the Newsletter.

# August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
No Yoga this month. We will resume in September		Remember- All Sunday Programs meet 10 am				1 10-12 am Citizen's Climate Lobby
2 Poems that We Carry 5 pm Meditation	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Caring for our Planet 5 pm Meditation	10 10:30 am Social Action at The Grounds	11 5 Program Committee	12 6-730 pm Board Meeting	13	14	15 8 am Human Rights 10K
16 Nones are Growing 5 pm Meditation	17	18	19	20 6 pm Membership Committee	21 Newsletter items due	22
23 Spruce Up Sunday 5 pm Meditation	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Water Communion 5 pm Meditation	31	<p>“There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right.” -MLK</p>				



# Unitarian Universalist

Fellowship of Laramie

1402 Gibbon

Laramie, WY 82072