

UU Laramie news matters November, 2024

Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of Laramie, 1402 Gibbon, Laramie, WY. 82072. 307 745-8874

Services for November

November 3, 10 am, "Dia de Los Muertos" led by Benny Pallares and Barbara Bogart.

To honor our beloved dead during this season of remembrance, we will create a traditional Mexican *ofrenda*. Bring photos or memorabilia to include on the altar, along with wildflowers, rocks or other natural materials that hold significant memories for you.

November 10th, 10 am, "No matter _____, you are welcome here" led by Linda Meeker.

Come explore the myriad of symbols and acronyms that describe or reflect our values and identities. Some of these symbols may have been oddly or crazily misused during our recent election and perhaps need to be reclaimed in some way. Others, like the chalice, seem specific to UU's alone and remain free from emotional tarnish. In a roundtable format, we will consider the symbols which stir us, speak to us, or represent each of us.

Guided meditation at 3 pm led by Catie Ballard.

UUFL Board: Linda Meeker, Chair <u>Idangrous1@gmail.com</u> David Perry, Treasurer <u>dperry@uwyo.edu</u> Robin Chestek, Secretary <u>rchestek@gmail.com</u> Member: Jeff Lockwood lockwood@uwyo.edu Member: Sara Saulcy <u>s.saulcy@gmail.com</u>

Laramie Zoom Room: Meeting ID: 2907005294 No passcode needed

November 17th, 10 am, "Justice as a Unitarian Universalist" led by Maya Gilmore and Ken Chestek.

Most UUs care deeply about creating a world that is more just, equitable and compassionate, in line with the second principle of Unitarian Universalism. However, attempting to create this world sometimes feels futile. What does justice mean to us as UU's? If it is impossible to create a world that is truly just, equitable and compassionate, should we still try to pursue these ideals? And if so, how can we maintain our commitment to a task that we cannot succeed at?

November 24th, 4:30 pm, "UUFL Thanksgiving Feast"

In keeping with our new practice of meeting in the late afternoon on the last Sunday of the month, we will celebrate Thanksgiving this year by gathering for a brief service at 4:30 pm in the Social Hall followed by our traditional potluck feast.

Guided meditation at 3 pm led by Catie Ballard.



Contemplative Yarns meets on Saturdays at 1:15 p.m. at the Fellowship. Please contact Sara Saulcy at <u>s.saulcy@gmail.com</u> for more information. When the weather is nice, we meet at the same time at Harbon Park kitty-corner from the Fellowship.

Calendar for October:

The next Board meeting is on November 6th, 5pm at the Fellowship. The next Program Committee meeting will be on November 21st, at 5:15 pm, live/zoom.



Bulletin Board

Update from the Board of Trustees and the Committee on Ministry

Thanks to your suggestions, we are getting a clear picture of what UUFL's members, friends and visitors want from the ministry of our Fellowship. Here's a preliminary list, in alphabetical order, of what you have told the Board of Trustees and Committee on Ministry about what's important:

Ceremony and ritual. Educational programs for children, youth and adults. Fellowship and community. Intellectual stimulation. Music. Organizational leadership. Outreach and social action. Pastoral care. Spiritual enrichment.

The Board and Committee on Ministry plan to finalize this list in the coming weeks and to add some specific examples to make it more comprehensive and detailed. Please tell us what you think. Are we missing anything?

The next step will be asking you to rank the components in order of importance to <u>you</u>. This will be a kind of written survey, with a twist that we hope will make it engaging for you and deeply informative for the Board and the Committee on Ministry. We're still working out the details, so stay tuned.

This next step will take place in January, after the holidays, and we think it will be a good way to start the new year. From the beginning of this conversation last spring, our goal has been to answer two big questions before our 2025 annual meeting in May: What should UUFL's ministry be, and do we want a professional minister to help us achieve that? We're on track to meet that goal.

In the meantime, feel free to contact Dan Elliott (<u>peak14259@gmail.com</u>) or Rich Barrans (<u>rich.barrans@gmail.com</u>), members of the Committee on Ministry, with your comments and suggestions.

Thank you!

To reserve the UUFL Building: Contact David Perry, 307 760-7879, <u>dperry@uwyo.edu</u>. See the current event calendar on the UUFL website. Covid Info: Please wear a mask if you are ill or have not been vaccinated; masks are suggested but not required. See UUFL covid policy on the UUFL website.

Please contact us if you would like to receive the news matters newsletter; check out the UU Laramie website, **uularamie.org**, and our **UUFL Facebook** page.

Robin Chestek and Ken Chestek (460-9139) maintain the Membership database; please contact Ken if you have changed your address or phone number.

If you have an item that Caring Committee should be aware of, please contact Jim Erdelyi (Chair) at 307 760-8274. Other Caring members: Ralph Garrett, Robin Chestek, Sara Saulcy can be contacted.