



BUUF News

Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Volume 30 Issue 3

EVERGREENE

Reverend Elizabeth Greene

As a church goes from smallish to mid-sized, one of the things people notice sharply is that the minister’s available time goes way down. When there are fewer people to minister to, and way fewer administrative/organizational details to attend to, it’s just easier to get one-on-one or small-group time with the minister. (That would be me.)

We in leadership address this very real issue in several ways. An important one is to encourage folks to find pastoral sustenance in other “avenues,” notably in Chalice Circles, where church-related intimacy can be found and nurtured. Task group, Board and committee work can also bring satisfaction. (Plus, if it’s Committee on Ministry, Worship Committee, Board or Congregational Care Team, significant time working with me.)

Another way is to call and make an appointment during office hours (listed in this newsletter’s masthead, p. 2). This is particularly important if you’re undergoing a crisis or difficulty about which you’d like ministerial counsel.

A third way is no-host Ministerial Lunches. These are held on one Tuesday and one Friday a month. The Tuesday lunch is on the west-ish side of town at the International Chinese Restaurant on Glenwood very near Chinden, and the east side lunch is at the URS building cafeteria, 1750 Front Street, sort of across from the Ram. We have no agenda, but manage to find all kinds of things to talk about. See elsewhere for the March dates and join us!

SUNDAYS

March 1, single service, 10 am, followed by potluck

“How Can I Keep From Singing? The Spirituality of Social Action,” Rev. Ralph Galen and Pam Kelly

After spending exciting time together on Friday and Saturday, we will have the chance to hear our presenters share worship with us, reflecting on the spiritual path of justice and service. Bev Harley, service coordinator. Rev. Elizabeth Greene, celebrant. BUUF Choir, music. Carrie Bastian, Director, Sue Langley, Accompanist.

March 8, 9 & 11 am

“A Complaint-Free World,” Rev. Elizabeth Greene

What do you suppose the world would be like if everyone spoke honestly but non-judgmentally, without “whining.” Elizabeth will share her odyssey of trying to achieve this, with the help of a book. Nancy Harms, service coordinator. Lance Pitman (voice) & Carrie Bastian (piano,) music.

March 15, 9 & 11 am

“The Fire of Commitment,” Rev. Elizabeth Greene

On this new-member-joining Sunday, Elizabeth will explore what it means to commit one’s self: to another person, an organization, a particular course of events. Mark Zimmerer, service coordinator. Boise Highlanders (bagpipes,) music.

March 22, 9 & 11 am

“We Are Not the News. Or Are We?” Rev. Elizabeth Greene

So many of us are “news junkies,” a habit that can be detrimental to our health. How do we stay aware of our world, and also maintain our sense of hope, let alone optimism? Wanda Jennings, service coordinator. *being hUUMAN* (BUUF’s house band,) music.

March 29, 9 am & 11 am

“We Ain’t Afraid of No Ghosts,” David Ward

Most of us are haunted by the “ghosts” from our past. Times in our lives wrought with embarrassment or regret. David recently returned to Pocatello for a little “ghost-busting” from his college days. Armed with the healing power of love, David sought to silence his ghosts once and for all. Come to BUUF, and together we’ll embark on a thorough ghost-busting of the soul. Carol Wechselberger, service coordinator. Michael Stevenson (violin) & Carrie Bastian (piano,) music.

Spring Forward!

Sunday, March 8, Daylight Savings Time begins again. Move your clock forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, March 7 so you can come to church on time.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sue Philley, Board Chair

The Vision Mission process helped highlight and reveal many of our “shared” dreams! Some of the items that received the most “votes” during the process were Leadership Training and Succession Planning, Green Sanctuary, Programming (summer evenings, musical, special speakers, intergenerational, and for elders), Solid Finances (and eliminate debt), Social Justice (community gardens and partnerships), Better Communications, and More Staff (ministerial, R.E., cleaning, data entry, office).

Miriam Woito and Elton Hall, Board members, will participate on a new Task Force (Strategic Planning Team 09) that includes Arlene Baldwin, Elaine Durbin, Bruce Dowlin, and Laurie Deines. Sheryl Dowlin will serve as “process checker” representing Strategic Planning Team ‘08. A completed Strategic Plan (our ‘08 Plan with added goals, objectives and activities from ‘09 will be ready for congregational input and review during April.

Amazing progress has been made by the By-Laws Committee in recent weeks. (Many thanks to Loren Bergensen, Bill Reid, Warren Bean, and Elton Hall!) Watch for a detailed list of opportunities (meetings and presentations) that they will offer to assure that everyone has read and understands the bylaws, has been given a chance to suggest changes for ideas they may not agree with, and is ready to vote “yes” on new By Laws by our May 17 Annual Meeting.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Deadlines:

Third Tuesday (noon) — all inserts must be submitted to the editor

Third Thursday (noon) — all newsletter articles & other items must be submitted to the editor.

These deadlines will now be strictly enforced. No exceptions. Submit all items to the editor by email at newsletter@boiseuu.org

Formatting Guidelines:

200-250 words per article. This will also now be strictly enforced.

Please use Times New Roman font in 11 point. Do not use all caps, even for article headlines.)

Single space between sentences.

Single space between paragraphs.

Do not embed graphics or photographs in the document. They must be a separate attachment to the email (so your email will have 2 attachments: the document & the graphic).

Inserts

Inserts will only be done for items that involve the entire congregation. If you or your committee wants to design it yourselves, that's fine. But you/they need to work closely with the newsletter editor. Please give the newsletter editor as much notice as possible that you want to include an insert in an upcoming newsletter. **INSERTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE EDITOR BY NOON ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.**

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Office hours:
9 am - 3 pm, Tuesday & Thursday
9 am - 12 noon, Wednesday & Friday

Ministers office hours:
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Directors of Religious Exploration office hours:
9 am - 2 pm - Tuesday & Thursday

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Religious Exploration



Get to Know Our Kids

Do you know BUUF's kids? Do the kids to know you? Whether or not your children are in RE, we would LOVE to have you come play with us!

We have record attendance this year. Hurrah! Of course, we now have a call for more classroom assistants. Assistants **support the class's regular teacher**, and is a **one-time commitment**. You may have so much fun, however, that you'll consider joining us more often! We have a fabulous curriculum and we need your support to make it work. And so I invite you to sign up as a classroom assistant.

To sign up, swing by the RE table in the North Vestibule. Simply put your name down on the list, and we'll give you a reminder call the week before you assist. Questions? Give me a call (639-9450) or write me at ann.sabin@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you in the classrooms!



Chili & Cornbread Cook-Off

Pull out your aprons and dust off your recipe boxes because it's almost time for the GREAT BUUF CHILI & CORNBREAD COOK-OFF. The 2009 Boston Bounders will be sponsoring this fun event on Saturday, May 2. Look for the sign-up form and details in the April Newsletter. Got questions and/or suggestions for making this THE EVENT of the year? Please call Connie Onyon at 888-7530 or send her an email at connieonyon@cableone.net.

Boston Bounders present: A Taste of New England

As winter wanes and spring waxes, why not treat yourself to a night out and help our junior high youth, too?

The Boston Bounders will present A Taste of New England on Friday, March 13. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for mingling, and dinner will be served at 6:30.

You'll enjoy a dinner of updated traditional New England delicacies including creamed turkey and biscuits, Johnny cakes, baked beans, and more, prepared by guest chef Sharon Barlow Palm and the Boston Bounder families. Beer and wine will be available by donation.

There also will be a live dessert auction featuring beautiful desserts from local bakeries and a live Boston trivia game. Plan to come and show off your Boston knowledge and win lobsters (gummy).

All proceeds will benefit the junior high 2009 trip to Boston.

Tickets are just \$10 per person or \$50 for a table of 6 and will be available March 1 and March 8 in the north vestibule and at the door on March 13. You can also reserve tickets by emailing Cathy Sherman, cathy.calm63@gmail.com, or calling her at 387-0478 (h) or 794-6277 (cell). Get your tickets early! Don't miss this Great Event!

Junior High Survey Results

On a Sunday in January, the BUUF Junior High Youth engaged attendees in a brief survey. Many of those surveyed expressed interest in hearing the results. So, here they are. We had about 50 adults respond, and 11 Jr. High Youth. Note that no definitions or context were provided by the youth, i.e. respondents interpreted the question themselves.

1. Do you believe in a form of God or a religious higher power?

Adults: Yes, 76%. No, 17%. Don't Know, 7%.

Jr.High: Yes, 36%. No, 18%. Don't Know, 45%.

2. Did you come to UU from another religion (i.e. religion of family or that you practiced)?

Adults: Yes, 74%. No, 26%.

Jr.High: Yes, 27%. No, 73%.

3. Do you believe in some form of afterlife?

Adults: Yes, 42%. No, 24%. Don't Know, 35%.

Jr.High: Yes, 64%. No, 18%. Don't Know, 18%.



COMMITTEES

All You Ever Wanted to Know About *Chocolat*...

Calling all chocolate lovers! Be sure to register soon to participate in a delightful social and educational evening featuring that incomparable duo—chocolate and wine!

Come sample handcrafted chocolates from The Chocolat Bar, enjoy selected red wines, and learn from the experts. This special Adult RE program happens at BUUF from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesday, April 1—no ‘fooling’ but you need to pre-register.

Chocolatiers Chris and Kristi Preston of Boise’s The Chocolat Bar will discuss the colorful history of the chocolate industry dating back to pre-colonial times.

They’ll explain the process and art of fine chocolate making. And they’ll describe the recent expansion of organic and “single origin” chocolate in the marketplace, a trend which carries both positive and negative consequences for the developing nations where most of the world’s production of cacao beans occurs.

Throughout, Chris and Kristi will provide a generous and varied sampling of fine chocolates, accompanied by delicious red wines.

Come to BUUF April 1 and treat your taste buds to heaven while learning about a favorite food.

To join in the pleasure, please pick up an Adult RE class bulletin at the BUUF Info Center in the north vestibule and register for this event.

The class size is limited, so act quickly. For further information, contact Eric Wallace, 433-0706, ericwallace@gmail.com.

Creating “Abundance” together this spring

The Stewardship Committee is gearing up for its spring Annual Budget Drive with an emphasis on “Abundance” at BUUF, and we can’t wait to get started. We have a dedicated team of volunteers poised to lead the way toward meeting our goals of spiritual and financial abundance. They include David Ward, Debbie Johnson, Allie Gooding, Jim Lyons, Betsy Dunklin, Mason Morfit, Jane Bunker, Linden Boice and Sue Phillely.

The plan this spring is to celebrate together, dine together, sing together, worship together and help shape our future together. A Kickoff Gala is scheduled for the evening of April 25 at BUUF. All are invited for an evening of dinner and music. A lively “Commitment Sunday” follows on April 26, and the annual budget drive will close with a spirited “Celebration Sunday” on May 31. Mark your calendars now, and prepare for an exciting month of celebrating and relishing the wonderful community we have established.

In addition, we invite you to say “yes” when you’re asked to join one of the many teams who will be continuing our one-on-one visits with BUUF members and friends this spring. These personal visits provide ample opportunity to meet new people, express ideas and become an integral part of building and shaping our spiritual home. Please step up and say “yes.” For more information, contact David Ward at 939-2601 or award_3@hotmail.com.

This Is Not Your Mother’s BUUF Summer Season!

The Sunday Services Committee is soliciting sermon ideas for the BUUF 2009 Summer Season. Building on the formula of last year’s successful summer season, the committee is requesting that members of the congregation submit compelling personal stories to scaffold summer

programs around. As opposed to a straight dry lecture format, services truly come alive when coupled with the narrator’s personal experience. The most successful lay programs use the speaker’s personal experience and passion as a springboard to explore issues that have transcendent meaning to both the speaker and the congregation. If you have the passion and a personal story, please contact Wanda Jennings, Chairperson of the Sunday Services Committee, to begin the process!



Landscape Work Party

Join the March 14 Landscape Work Party! We deadhead, trim & rake from 9 am til noon, then enjoy lunch (provided) and each other. If you have your own gloves or small garden tools, bring them. However we do have extra gloves and tools in the shed for our use. This is a great opportunity to be a part of BUUF’s awesome out-of-doors. Questions? Call Mary Anne at 336-0179.

Join the BUUF IT Circle

BUUF IT Circle is a initiative to improve the data and technology to meet the future needs and goals of BUUF. With the rapid growth BUUF is experiencing, we need to put a dynamic system or systems in place. Any individuals are welcome to join regardless of their technical experience. For more information and ways to contribute please feel free to email Mitchel Bethel at mitchel.bethel@gmail.com or call 208-695-7912.

SOCIAL ACTION

Support the Peregrine Fund

Gus Tate

The Peregrine Fund was chosen by BUUF's Senior High group to be the March "cause of the month." The Peregrine Fund is a Boise-based organization that works nationally and internationally to conserve birds of prey in nature. The headquarters for the fund is the World Center for Birds of Prey, which breeds falcons and condors for release into the wild. The Peregrine Fund has twenty projects across the globe that are engaged directly in conservation work as well as educational programs to increase the survival of many birds of prey species.

One of the current conservation projects includes saving the California Condor from extinction. During the second week of March, the Peregrine Fund will be releasing a new group of California Condors into the Arizona population near the Grand Canyon. This is a great cause and anything you can give is welcomed. Twenty five percent of the non-pledged donations in the offering plate will go to the Peregrine Fund; if you would like all of your donation to go to the fund, simply write •goutreach•h on the memo portion of your check. Thank you for your support of the Peregrine Fund and the BUUF Senior High project.

BUUF Chocolate Dessert Extravaganza

*All Desserts Home-made
from Scratch*

Saturday April 4, 2009

1:00pm to 4:00 pm

Admission: \$10 at the door (for 3 desserts & 1 raffle ticket). Additional desserts \$3— raffle tickets \$2



Raffle drawings on the 1/2 hour. Must be present to win. Profits will be used to pay down the mortgage. Invite everyone you know for further information call Claudia at 853-1526.

Hygiene Kits for Whittier School

Each spring the nurse at Whittier Elementary School visits the classrooms to discuss personal hygiene and to give out a few of the kits we prepare. This year there is an important change in the contents. We will NOT be including small toys for the boys or hair accessories for the girls. Instead, since the nurse can no longer get free toothpaste from manufacturers, we will include a tube of toothpaste (any size). We will, however, continue to include a book in each packet along with a comb, soap, hotel/motel size shampoo, conditioner and lotion. Please place your reminders of summer travel in the Whittier box in the north entryway.

BUUF ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Spring Book Sale

Stock up for your summer reading at our Spring Book Sale on Saturday, April 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Main Hall. The Library Committee will be selling gently used books, the proceeds of which will be used to buy new books for our Library. These sale books have been donated by our BUUF members and friends and comprise a wonderful variety of fiction and non-fiction volumes at bargain prices. The Boston Bounders will also be selling books and games for children and youth and will have a baked goods table. They are earning money for their trip to Boston. We hope you will all come by and support these fundraisers as well as taking home some terrific book bargains and goodies. Bring your biggest shopping bags, and stock up! We will be accepting donated books and games through April 17. Please place items for children and youth in the donations box in the Jr. High classroom, and adult reading in the box in the Library.





Photo by Jennifer Grush-Dale

What's New in the Library

We've had some wonderful recent additions to our library shelves donated by Jane Bunker, Mason Morfit, Laurie Deines, and Judy and Coston Frederick. Come by and check them out. Many can be found in the sections of Life Passages, Family, Poetry, and Meditations. Many thanks to all of our donors for broadening our library's collection. Thanks to Liz Ratcliffe, our BUUF readers will be able to enjoy The Atlantic magazine this year. It can be found in one of the burgundy magazine holders.

Friendship Dinner!

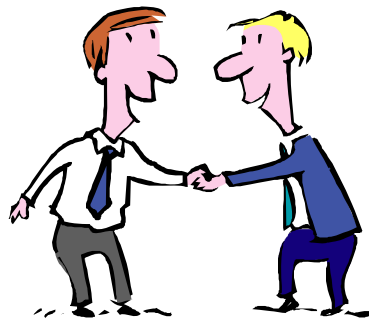
It's Suppertime! Come join your BUUF friends for an intimate dinner in someone's home on Saturday, March 21. It is a great way to get to know people better. Sign up on the clipboard and someone will call you to bring a dish and enjoy lively conversation. Contact Wanda Jennings at 362-7563 or desertfox4@cableone.net.

Sage in Yukon

The BUUF Senior Sages journey to the Yukon this month, as if we were a mouse on Don Clark's shoulder. He'll bring his slide show, you'll bring your spare change for the no-host breakfast, and we'll have an interesting discussion together at the Kopper Kitchen (2661 Airport Way), 9:30am,

Thursday, March 12. On the fourth Thursday, March 26, we're bound to have an interesting presentation, but we're not sure what it'll be just yet.

Newcomers are welcome, no reservation needed. Contact Tom von Alten for more information or to get with the program, 378-1217.



Ministry Lunches

The Ministry Team

As our church gets bigger and bigger, it is harder and harder to find time to just chat with our minister, Elizabeth Greene. To help remedy this lamentable circumstance, the Ministry Team (formerly known as Committee on Ministry) sponsors two no-host lunches a month, to which everyone is invited. There is no "agenda;" you bring your ideas, questions, sharing, or whatever, and Elizabeth is there as part of a convivial luncheon gathering. March times:

Tuesday, March 10, 11:30 am, International Chinese, Glenwood near Chinden

Friday, March 30, 11:30 am, URS cafeteria (previously Washington Group, even more previously Morrison-Knutson), 1750 Front; cross Broadway from eastbound Connector, enter doors behind fountain.

Join us!

Other Book Club

Please join the Other Book club in the BUUF library to discuss contemporary literature:

March 8, 7:00pm: *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion.

April 12, 7:00pm: *March* by Geraldine Brooks.

May 10, 7:00pm: *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo.

Wonders of Change

Jeanette Ross

February's meeting of the Humanists at BUUF celebrated the joys of the natural world with the benefit of understandings first provided by Charles Darwin. Twelve attendees shared 12 personal perspectives of the cosmos and its evolutionary products as seen by, in Cal Peterson's words, a peculiar featherless vertical biped.

Nancy Rolig will lead discussion in March, on the issue of finding comfort when suffering a loss— without faith in a caring god or the benefits of a religious community. We will meet in the library of BUUF at 11am, March 8. To be included on the reminder list, contact Rick Groff; if any questions, contact Rick or Jeanette.

Landscape's Hidden & not-so-Hidden Treasures: The Children's Play House

Part I

Have you ever looked at the early stages of a flower bud and marveled as it slowly opened, beauty and

wonder at every moment, until the fullness of the lovely flower was revealed? That's the story of the Children's Playhouse. There is more to the Playhouse story than one might think – let its story unfold:

When the Master Plan for BUUF's landscape was designed, it included a Transylvanian children's playhouse, right along with the other special features we all would enjoy. But it was Roy Montague who would make this playhouse a reality. Enlisted by Landscape's Mary Schwartzman, Roy agreed to design and build it. From the floor plan to the unique touches that mark its ethnic identity, and ultimately to putting saw and hammer to wood, Roy nurtured the little two-story project to completion. After a trip to our partner church in Meszko, Romania and seeing some of the area's architectural signatures, Roy was able to incorporate them into the play house. A steep roof, painted flower designs and access holes for bird houses as part of the fascia – all typically Transylvanian. It actually has a sister structure in Troll Haven Bridge, with some of the porch railings made of its leftover materials. The furniture in the playhouse was painted by RE high school students. Folks can get the combination for the lock box from the BUUF office.

But Roy wasn't finished with the playhouse. In front of the playhouse in a little cedar enclosure is more kid stuff – a table and chairs. Noted local artist Zella Bardsley did the metal work which included the dragonflies on the chairs, with the RE high schoolers painting the wooden parts. In 2007, he added a Transylvanian cupola, complete with bird houses and flower designs to the children's slide. He says that he isn't quite finished with that project; there are a couple more things he'd like to do (why are we not surprised?).

Watch for the second half of this intriguing story in April's newsletter.

PNWD & UUA

Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly, A Meeting of Congregations

June 24-28, 2009, Salt Lake City, Utah

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. General Assemblies shall make overall policy for carrying out the purposes of the Association and shall direct and control its affairs. Plus they have many interesting, challenging, educational, and spiritual programs. You will be amazed by how wonderful GA is and how it will change your life. You could even be a delegate representing the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship!

This is the closest General Assembly will be to Boise, so this is your chance to attend this exciting event with Unitarian Universalists from around the world. Go to uua.org for more information.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of North Bay Wine Country Holiday

“Napa was as delightful as I had expected. What was equally important and somewhat unexpected was the profound connections I felt with my hosts and hostesses.”

Carol Lim, Los Angeles

The UU's of Napa, California proudly announce an addition to our successful Wine Country Excursion program which we have offered the past 3 years.

In a year when overseas vacations are harder on the budget, why not plan a trip here in America? There is so much to see and do in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys, e.g. wine education and tasting, art, history of the regions, gourmet dining, bicycling and hiking



John Harms Sunday

The Second Annual John Harm's Day will be on April 12. If you have a John Harm's Tie you are encouraged to wear it to the service that day. If you do not have a John Harm's Tie you are encouraged to wear a tie of your choosing to honor John. Last year it was great fun enjoying the creative way some of us displayed their ties!

to explore the natural beauty of our hills and valleys and only an hour to San Francisco!

Sites of particular interest include Jack London's home; renowned and boutique wineries; numerous fine restaurants including the Culinary Institute of America; the diRosa Art and Nature Preserve; many museums and galleries; miles of bicycling and hiking trails, etc.

We offer two choices: Comfortable lodging in members' homes with full breakfast (up to 3 nights), or lodging plus our renowned Wine Country Excursion 2-day tour package.

In 2009 our program will run from April through October. Our fees for lodging are at least 25% below market rate (and include a scrumptious breakfast!) and tours are about 50% below commercial rates. All proceeds go to our small fellowship. We have limited openings, so contact us now for details. Tom Wilson (707.254-7443) or 2wilsons1dog@comcast.net

We look forward to sharing our lovely "home" with you!

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS...

BUUF CHOCOLATE DESSERT EXTRAVAGANZA

Join us for an evening of hand-made chocolates & help us retire the mortgage! Details on **page 5**.



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

March 8, 12:30 p.m., BUUF Sanctuary. See the **back of the calendar** to see the results of our Vision-Mission weekend.

DON'T FORGET TO SPRING AHEAD

It's Daylight Savings Time again. See details on **page 1**.



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

A reminder about how & when to submit items for the newsletter. For more details, including deadlines, see **page 2**.



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Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

March 2009 Events at BUUF unless noted

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>01 10am» "How Can I Keep From Singing? The Spirituality of Social Action" 11:15am» Newcomers Orientation 11:30am» Potluck luncheon 12pm» Music Committee 12:30pm» Curious Explorers Chalice Cir. 12:30pm» Single Parents Chalice Circle 5pm» Landscape Committee</p>	<p>02 7pm» Green Sanctuary Team 7pm» Stewardship Committee</p>	<p>03 7pm» 'being hUuman' rehearsal 7pm» Men's Chalice Circle 7pm» Women on the Verge II</p>	<p>04 5pm» Personnel Committee 7:15pm» Choir</p>	<p>05 7pm» Low Carbon Diet: A Green Sanctuary Project 7pm» Thursday Night Chalice Circle</p>	<p>06</p>	<p>07</p>
<p>08 8:30am» Social Action Comm. 9am» "A Complaint-Free World" 11am» "A Complaint-Free World" 11am» Humanists 12:30pm» Boston Bounders meeting 12:30pm» Congregational Meeting 12:30pm» Newcomer Orientation 12:30pm» Single Parents Chalice Circle 1pm» The Cool Group Chalice Circle 7pm» Other Book Club</p>	<p>09 7pm» Interiors Committee</p>	<p>10 4:30pm» Partner Church Committee 7pm» 'being hUuman' rehearsal</p>	<p>11 Women on the Verge II 7pm» Ministry Team 7pm» RE Cmte 7:15pm» Choir</p>	<p>12 9:30am» Senior Sages (Kopper Kitchen) 7pm» Low Carbon Diet: A Green Sanctuary Project 7pm» Sunday Services Cmte</p>	<p>13 6pm» New England Dinner</p>	<p>14 9:30am» Congregational Care Team</p>
<p>15 Joining Sunday 9am» "The Fire of Commitment" 11am» "The Fire of Commitment" 12:30pm» Newcomers Welcome Chat 12:30pm» Single Parents Chalice Circle 1:30pm» Welcoming Congregation Committee</p>	<p>16 7pm» Bridge Event Center Committee</p>	<p>17 7pm» Men's Chalice Circle</p>	<p>18 7:15pm» Choir</p>	<p>19 10am» History Keepers 12pm» BUUF News deadline 7pm» BUUF Board 7pm» Membership Committee</p>	<p>20 7pm» Friends of Jung</p>	<p>21 9am» Friends of Jung</p>
<p>22 9am» "We Are Not the News. Or Are We?" 11am» "We Are Not the News. Or Are We?" 12:30pm» Newcomers Welcome Chat 12:30pm» Single Parents Chalice Circle 1pm» The Cool Group Chalice Circle</p>	<p>23 7pm» Leadership Council</p>	<p>24 10am» Library Committee 6pm» BUUF Mommas' Night Out</p>	<p>25 9:30am» Newsletter assembly 7pm» Coming of Age 7pm» Small group ministry council 7:15pm» Choir</p>	<p>26 9:30am» Senior Sages (Kopper Kitchen) 7pm» Adult RE cmte 7pm» Membership Committee</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Phyllis Hower memorial service</p>
<p>29 9am» "We Ain't Afraid of No Ghosts" 11am» "We Ain't Afraid of No Ghosts" 12:30pm» Newcomers Welcome Chat 12:30pm» Single Parents Chalice Circle</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				

Special Congregational Meeting

March 8, 12:30 p.m., BUUF Sanctuary

Elton Hall, Board Secretary

This Special Congregational Meeting will vote on BUUF's proposed Vision and Mission statement. (Child care will be provided.)

BUUF's "Search for the Future" efforts have produced remarkable results, beginning with the Strategic Plan developed last spring through focus groups, interviews and meetings. Last fall, the "Feed the Faith" campaign exceeded its goal of \$50,000 for BUUF's operating budget. And this spring, over 150 people participated in a facilitated weekend workshop to develop a Vision and Mission statement for BUUF. Thirty-six facilitators took time for special training for the workshop. Then small groups spent a Saturday (many of you were there!) crafting a Vision and a Mission for BUUF, as well as brainstorming goals, objectives and action steps to realize the Vision/Mission. Over two Sundays in February, members and friends were invited to indicate those goals, objectives and action steps that were most important to them (and added a few of their own).

Now two steps remain in this process. One will involve comparing the results of the congregational priorities with our Strategic Plan to make sure everything important to BUUF is included.

The second step involves voting on the proposed Vision and Mission at the **March 8, Special Congregational Meeting, 12:30 p.m., BUUF Sanctuary**. Because so many people were involved in creating this Vision and Mission, the Board will honor their hard and thoughtful work by requesting an up or down vote on the Vision and Mission. Generally speaking, the Mission should be revisited every three years, and the Vision at least once a decade.

BUUF VISION

We are an inclusive religious community lifting hearts, broadening minds and honoring the interconnected web of life.

BUUF MISSION

We are a caring community promoting and providing robust religious and intellectual exploration opportunities for children, youth, and adults.

We offer creative and inspirational opportunities for worship. We nurture spiritual and personal growth and transformation, foster diversity by reaching out to different communities, and practice justice as individuals and as a community.

All members and friends are invited to this meeting and make their views known. Only members may vote on business in a congregational meeting. If you think the Vision and Mission capture what BUUF is all about whether or not you would have expressed them in different words, please support them by voting "yea." If you are convinced that the Vision and Mission are seriously off base, then vote "nay." Either way, please attend and let everyone hear your voice regarding this important next step in our "Search for the Future."