



# UU Laramie News

February 2021

Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Laramie  
1402 E. Gibbon Street  
Laramie, WY 82072  
(307) 745-8874

## Services for February

Please see page 4 for important information regarding Zoom services, including login information.

**February 7** (Casper Zoom Room)

Reverend Leslie Kee will introduce this month's theme "Compassion."

**February 14** (Casper Zoom Room) *Happy Valentine's Day!*

Let's celebrate hope and love in this joint service led by Reverend Leslie Kee, Reverend Hannah Villnavé of UU Cheyenne, and Reverend Aaron Norris of UU Greeley, inviting UU congregations across Wyoming and northern Colorado!

**February 21** (Laramie Zoom Room)

"Practicing Compassion as a Verb" - Lou Farley, Hospice of Laramie chaplain. Lou will share with us some ideas regarding practicing compassion in the same way one might practice basketball.

**February 28** (Laramie Zoom Room)

"Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Challenge of Compassion" - Linda Meeker, UUFL Board. Martin Luther King, Jr., regularly spoke truth to power. But his underlying and persistent message was always the same: Those with power must have compassion for those without power.



### Minister

Rev. Leslie Kee ([lkee@wyoming.com](mailto:lkee@wyoming.com))

### UUFL Board

Co-chairs: Linda Meeker ([ldangrous1@gmail.com](mailto:ldangrous1@gmail.com))

David Perry ([dperry@uwyo.edu](mailto:dperry@uwyo.edu))

Treasurer: Michael Wade ([darooke22@gmail.com](mailto:darooke22@gmail.com))

Secretary: Robin Chestek ([rchestek@gmail.com](mailto:rchestek@gmail.com))

Catie Ballard ([cdonbdoc@bresnan.net](mailto:cdonbdoc@bresnan.net))

### UU Laramie News Editor

Laura Miller ([uularamienews@gmail.com](mailto:uularamienews@gmail.com))

**Facebook: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Laramie (public)**

**Facebook: UUFL Community Group (private)**

*This is a private group for UUFL members and friends who want to discuss current issues and challenges.*

**Website: <https://www.uularamie.org/>**

## Winter Musings of a Board Co-Chair

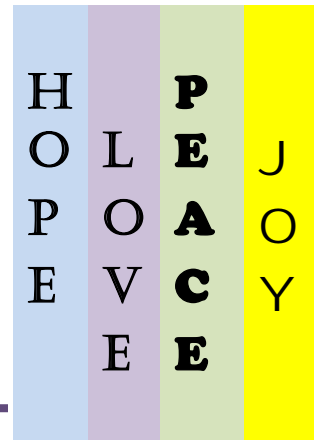
I missed most of the fun on Inauguration day. I was at work all day on the 20th and so busy that I didn't give it a thought even once. I got home 20 minutes before my first zoom meeting at 5:00, and not until nearly 6:00 did it occur to me to ask if there had been any incidents in DC or other state capitals. The chorus of UU zoomers replied, "No, nothing like that, but did you see that young poet laureate? She was fantastic..." So during meeting intermission I sat eating dinner in front of the never-silent living room TV, and saw Anderson Cooper interviewing this radiant, self-possessed, wonderfully knowledgeable, incredibly talented, 22-year-old poet. I was utterly transfixed. Her words-- I was hearing truths I knew of old, but had not heard spoken in so long, they seemed like only a faint memory. It was so, so hard to leave the TV and join the next meeting at 7:00. But oh how my spirits were lifted! The next day I stole a little work time (ssshh...) to find the YouTube video of Amanda Gorman reciting her poem at the inauguration ceremony, then found the text of the words she had spoken. Again my heart sang reading those words over to myself. It was hard to describe what moved me to tears in the privacy of my office space-- Joy? Hope? Relief?

The formatting is probably in error, but this is the passage I wish we could engrave onto the foundation of our building, and emblazon on our hearts: *We will not march back to what was, but move to what shall be: A country that is bruised but whole, benevolent but bold, fierce and free. We will not be turned around or interrupted by intimidation because we know our inaction and inertia will be the inheritance of the next generation. Our blunders become their burdens. But one thing is certain: If we merge mercy with might, and might with right, then love becomes our legacy and change our children's birthright.*

There is a wisdom here that speaks to all of the world's nations, and to the sometimes-not-very-united states, and to us little ol' UUs in southeastern Wyoming. May it guide our every action, and every plan, and every 7:00 pm mid-week committee meeting when I'm not even sure what day it is for a minute: If we act so that love is our legacy, then our children will be born into a kinder, wiser, more beautiful world.

May it be so!

*Linda*



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## Social Action: Change for Change

We are collecting Change for Change again. There will be a recipient for an entire month. You can either send a check to the church with 'Change for Change' in the memo space, or go to the UUFL website ([www.uularamie.org](http://www.uularamie.org)) and click on DONATE at the bottom of the page, to use either plastic or Pay Pal. Where it says "write a note" put in Change for Change or the name of the recipient.

February's Change for Change collection is for Cathedral Home. This is a wonderful organization that strives to steer young people to a viable and productive course. Without this many would probably end up in jail. Please do what you can. *Ralph Garrett, Chair UUFL Social Action*

## Family Promise

The UUFL schedule for participating in the Family Promise program for 2021 is as follows:

**January 24 - 31**

March 28 - April 4

June 20 - 27

July 18 - 25

October 10 - 17



Please take your donations of food (preferably non-perishables) to the United Presbyterian Church, 215 S. 11th Street between 9 am and 4 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Due to the pandemic, families have limited facilities to heat and cool foods within their hotel/motel rooms. For more information regarding families, types of food donations, contact Family Promise directly at 742-6480.

## Membership Committee

The UUFL Membership committee is Robin Chestek (Chair) and Andi Noakes. Please help keep the member / friend database up to date! If you have a change of address, phone number, or email address, please send your updated contact information to Robin Chestek at [rchestek@gmail.com](mailto:rchestek@gmail.com).

## Building Use Policy *updated October 2020*

The UUFL board has drafted a policy governing the use of the Fellowship building by small groups during the COVID-19 crisis.

### Requirements:

1. Users must wear masks or cloth facial coverings.
2. Users are responsible for cleaning tables, doorknobs, and bathroom surfaces with appropriate solvents.
3. There must be a gap of 24 hours between groups using the building.
4. A maximum of 20 people is allowed in the Sanctuary and no more than 12 people are allowed in the Social Hall. The two spaces may not be occupied simultaneously.
5. The kitchen remains closed.

### Recommendations:

1. Please maintain a social distance of 6 feet or more.
2. The doors and windows may be open for ventilation, weather permitting.

The board will regularly review and revise these policies as conditions and state guidelines change.

NOTE: All scheduling for use of the building **MUST BE** done through David Perry ([dperry@uwyo.edu](mailto:dperry@uwyo.edu)).

## UUFL Calendar of Events



David Perry maintains a current event calendar on the UUFL website (<https://www.uularamie.org/>). You can always check there to see what is happening. Remember, all scheduling for use of the building must be done through David ([dperry@uwyo.edu](mailto:dperry@uwyo.edu)).

## New UUFL Website

UU Laramie's website has recently been revamped for a new look and expanded content. With Board approval, Marian Erdelyi and Barbara Bogart undertook the project in November, using a template developed specifically for UU congregations. The website went live on January 15, 2021. Although the website has a new look, the address remains the same: [www.uularamie.org](http://www.uularamie.org).



## Missing Dollies

Does anyone know the whereabouts of the two furniture dollies we used to have at the Fellowship? Until recently, they were stored in the utility room; however, they are not there or anywhere else in the building or storage shed. Although we no longer need them to move the pews, they make moving the piano much easier and minimize damage to its base. Please contact David Perry at ([dperry@uwyo.edu](mailto:dperry@uwyo.edu)) if you know where they are.

## Important Information Regarding Zoom Services

The Zoom information for every Sunday service in the UU Laramie zoom room is the same. The meeting id is 290 700 5294. The passcode is Board0805. This is all the information you need to access the Zoom room. You do not need to have a live link to click on.

Please keep this information handy. You could copy and paste the meeting id and passcode onto the desktop on your computer or to a piece of paper kept next to your keyboard. Another option is to print out this page and keep it by your computer. This will avoid the frustration of trying to find the link in the newsletter or on Facebook on Sunday morning.

To get to the service, open Zoom on your computer, click on "Join a meeting" and then enter the meeting id and passcode when prompted to do so. You can access the UU Casper Zoom room by using their room id (459 187 0381) and passcode (084964) in the same way. *Barbara Bogart, Program Committee Chair*

## Zoom Room Information

UUFL has a Zoom Room members and friends may use to host UUFL related events. Contact Michael Wade ([darooke22@gmail.com](mailto:darooke22@gmail.com)) for details on how to use the Laramie Zoom Room to host a meeting.

Below is the Zoom access information for both the Laramie and Casper Zoom Rooms. The location of each Sunday service is stated on page 1 in the service announcements.



**Laramie Zoom Room**  
**Meeting ID: 290 700 5294**  
**Passcode: Board0805**

**Casper Zoom Room**  
**Meeting ID: 459 187 0381**  
**Passcode: 084964**