



UU Laramie news matters May, 2023

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

Services for May:

May 7th, 10 am, "Who Are We?"

The statement of Principles & Purposes is the foundation of Unitarian Universalism. It is the covenant to which congregations pledge themselves as members of the UUA. A Study Commission was charged with reviewing Article II (i.e., Principles & Purposes) and propose revisions enabling UUism, "to be a relevant and powerful force for spiritual and moral growth, healing, and justice." The changes were to be consistent with core UU theological values, and the UUA Board advocated love as the central value.

This Sunday, Catie Ballard and Jeff Lockwood will lead a discussion of the proposed wording of Article II to help our religious community understand the changes and provide feedback to UUFL delegates who will vote on the new version at the UUA General Assembly in June. To facilitate fruitful conversation, you are asked to consider, even briefly, the existing (pages 17-18) and proposed (pages 19-22) Principles and Purposes which can be found at: <https://www.uua.org/files/2023-02/article-II-study-report-2021-23.pdf> (the rest of the document includes some rationales and processes that may be helpful as well)

May 14th, 10 am, "Our Universalist Roots and Branches" led by Rev. Kalen Fristad

Rev. Kalen Fristad focuses on roots and branches of universalism, including John Murray and how he came to believe in universalism in England, the early history of universalism in the American Colonies, Thomas Potter and his chapel in New Jersey, and the subsequent spread of universalism up until the present time. Rev. Fristad has been a United Methodist minister for more than 40 years, and is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship. He retired from the parish ministry in 2013, but continues to travel the country speaking on universalism. Over the years he has spoken at more than 240 UU churches.

May 21st, 10 am, Annual Member Meeting and Celebration

Come join us for a short service followed by our official Annual Meeting on May 21st. We will recognize the new members that have joined us recently, celebrate the end of a successful pledge drive, and review the events of this past church year. In the official meeting session, we will vote on three openings on the Board, and one each on the Committee on Ministry and the Endowment Committee. In addition, we will present the Board-approved budget for the 2023-24 church year and update the congregation on the current status of all of our finances. An official meeting agenda will be sent to all members of the congregation ten days in advance of the meeting. We need a quorum for any congregational votes; we look forward to seeing you there in person or online.

May 28th, 10 am, Rev. Kee will lead the service

Calendar for May:

Board meets May 10th, 5 pm, zoom/live; Program Committee meets May 17th, 5pm live/zoom.
Contemplative Yarns meets every Saturday, 9:30 am at the Fellowship building.

Bulletin Board

Building news— LED lights have been installed and the ceilings have been painted. The final painting will be later in the Spring when we can have the windows open for extended periods of time. We will send out a call for volunteers when the time comes.

Pledge Drive— The annual Pledge drive has been successful so far. The Pledge Committee will be winding up its work at the end of April so the Budget Committee can revise the proposed 2023-24 budget, if necessary, for Board approval at their next meeting on May 10th. If you haven't pledged yet, please do so soon.

Annual Meeting, May 21st The final agenda, including candidates for the Board, COM, and endowment Committee will be sent out immediately after the May 10th Board meeting.

Minister: Rev. Leslie Kee
(lkee@wyoming.com)

UUFL Board:

Board Co-Chairs: Linda Meeker

ldangrousl@gmail.com

Co-Chair & Treasurer: David

Perry dperry@uwyo.edu

Secretary: Robin Chestek

rchestek@gmail.com

Member: Matt Stannard

Stannard67@gmail.com

Member: Catie Ballard

Catie.Ballard43@gmail.com

Laramie Zoom Room:

Meeting ID: 2907005294

No passcode needed

Rev. Leslie Kee—Thoughts for May

Along with the usual stirrings of spring, it feels like the eternal motion of change is pushing us to pay a bit closer attention these days. As participants in this wonderful open-minded spiritual tradition called Unitarian Universalism, our principles and purposes call us to pay attention to those human behaviors that inform, construct, and guide the norms which structure how we co-exist in a civic community. In particular, today's headlines are recording democracy's response to the un-healthy forces of autocracy, antisemitism, racism, misogyny, and anti-intellectualism fueled by pure power-mongering and greed. But the slow and steady push-back from those of us who understand what is going on and who know the high stakes is very reassuring!

From the institutions within the judicial branch of government to the power of grassroots activism, the imperative to contribute to the health of our democracy is a defining feature of this moment in history – and Wyoming is not exempt from this imperative to pay attention and find ways to act. The threat of elected representatives pushing an extremist agenda in order to privilege their narrow religious beliefs over our entire state is unacceptable, and the eyes of the nation are watching. This is a great time to be a UU in Wyoming because it is in our blood to be champions of justice and we must continue to answer the call! See you in church!

To reserve the UU Building: Contact David Perry, 307 760-7879, dperry@uwyo.edu. See the current event calendar on the UU website.

Covid Info: Please wear a mask if you are ill or have not been vaccinated; masks are suggested but not required. See UU 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 [460-9139] and Ken Chestek maintain the Membership database; please contact Ken if you have changed your address or phone number.



Race Information

5K, 1mile fun run/walk, .5K Slacker

April 30, 2023

- 712 Canby at 1:00
- Register:
 - on-line at: <https://ultrasignup.com/register.aspx?did=68817>
 - Race day starting at 12:00
 - Paper registrations are available at 712 Canby.
- 5K- \$35.00 includes race day T-Shirt. High Plains Harriers are officially timing this event.
- 3K-\$35.00 or get sponsors with the sponsorship form. To request the paper registration and sponsorship information emailed to you email lisa@mcwyo.com
- .5K SLACKER RUN- \$55.00- "SLACKER PACK" Includes race day T-shirt, Finishers Medal, Donuts, Coffee, Relaxation Station and FAUXMOSAS!
- Questions? 1(307) 742-4240
- Course starts at 712 Canby, goes north on 9th and back. It is mostly pavement but here is some dirt road.

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Registration Form

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Age on race day: _____ Gender: Male Female

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Choose your race:

5K Run \$35.00 1Mi Walk \$35.00 .5K SLACKER \$55.00—get the Slacker pack!

Choose your swag:

Circle one

Reusable Shopping Bag

Laramigo T-Shirt

Select Size

Adult Child

XS S M L XL XXL

Waiver

Sue Wedel Run, Walk, Wheel Waiver

In consideration of your accepting this entry, I, the below signed, intending to be legally bound, for myself, my heirs, my executors and administrators, waive and release and any all rights and claims for damages I may have against the race, and sponsors and their representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in said event. I attest that I will participate in this event as a footrace, that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the completion of this event. Furthermore, I hereby grant full permission to use my name and likeness, as well as any photographs and any record of this event in which I may appear for any legitimate purpose, including advertising and promotion.

DATE __/__/__

Signature of Participant or Parent or Guardian if under 18

