



# UU Laramie news matters December, 2023

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

## Services for December

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10 am**, “This I Believe” led by Catie Ballard. A merry band of UU’s arrive today to share their thoughts on what their personal beliefs are around this holiday season! Don’t miss the fun as we illuminate the season!

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 10 am**, “Traditions, Obligations, and Cosmic Happenstance of the Season” led by Linda Meeker and Barbara Bogart. The meaning of gifting is laden with emotional baggage which is hard to untangle. Let’s look beyond the crass adults and ungrateful children, beyond the sales and return lines, and refocus on the gifts you may have overlooked. What pleasures, surprises, and delights has the universe left on your doorstep lately? How can we turn down the noise and clear away the trash, so we can accept the gifts being granted to us?

**December 17<sup>th</sup>, 10 am**, “Pagan Roots of Holiday Favorites” with Rev. Leslie Kee. In the spirit of the season, we’ll explore some of the origins of our favorite holiday sights and sounds. And as 2023 comes to a close, it behooves us to remember ‘the best is yet to come!’

**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 10 am**, Sara Saulcy will lead an informal discussion about winter holidays and celebrations.

**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm**, Join us for our annual **Christmas Eve service**. We will sing Christmas carols and listen to Christmas stories. The service will conclude with our traditional singing of “Silent Night”.

**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 10 am**, Coffee & Conversation—A few quiet moments within the frenzy of the season.



## Calendar for December:

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 pm. Program Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 pm. Meetings are in-person and zoom.

## Bulletin Board

*UUFL now has a YouTube channel where you can find archival recordings of past services. Here is the link:*  
<https://www.youtube.com/@UUFL>

*Our promissory note of 8/26/16 from First Interstate Bank for the church renovations was paid in full on 10/2/23—thanks to some generous contributions to reduce the principal.*

*As of 11/1/23, we are 42% through our fiscal year—our pledge income is only 34%. Our expenses are 33% of budgeted but will significantly increase as we move into heating season. Please forward your pledge payments—most appreciated!*

*The Board discussed installing cellular shades in the small meeting rooms. David will continue to pursue estimates. If you have a color preference, please let the Board know.*

Minister: Rev. Leslie Kee  
[lkee@wyoming.com](mailto:lkee@wyoming.com)  
UUFL Board:  
Linda Meeker, Chair  
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Member: Jeff Lockwood  
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Member: Sara Saulcy  
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Laramie Zoom Room:  
Meeting ID: 2907005294  
No passcode needed

*My thanks to the UUFL and the Caring Committee for the generous donation to the Dartmouth (MA) Natural Resources Trust in memory of my mother, Theresa Baptiste. She loved our seaside hometown and would be pleased with this contribution to the preservation of its wild lands. Thanks also for your expressions of sympathy. Much appreciated  
--Mary Beth Baptiste*



To reserve the UU Building: Contact David Perry, 307 760-7879, [dperry@uwyo.edu](mailto: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](http://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 Sauley, Rev. Leslie Kee are also available.