

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Missoula – Volume 19 Issue 11

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Email and Hardcopy Edition

www.uuf-msla.org

Summer 2009

News From the Chair:

Hi all!

How often do we stop to celebrate who we are, individually and as a Fellowship? Not often enough. The wonderful poetry service we had today epitomized what makes us so strong. We enjoyed a wide variety of offerings, which, with no pre-planning, fit together perfectly. Let us be truly appreciative of the diverse talents we have to draw upon. Performers and listeners alike contributed this morning.

I think a reason I am a bit focused on celebration right now is the time I spent this week in Yellowstone. The springs and geysers there are truly awesome sights to behold, to say nothing of the wildlife. How lucky we are to live so close to not one, but two wonderful national parks

Check out the summer calendar and attend those events that fit your fancy and your schedule. Most of all, find ways to re-fuel yourself and just enjoy! Which gives me a perfect excuse to keep this short, both because I don't feel like doing any more thinking, and to make it so nobody has to feel obligated to read any more of what I have to say!

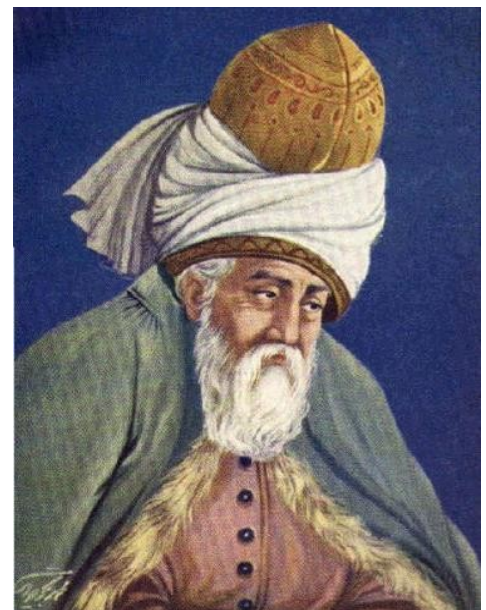
Appreciate and enjoy!

Mary

Destroy Yourself

*Destroy your own house, destroy it now!
Don't wait one more minute! Pull the whole house down!
A treasure greater than Pharaoh's is hidden under it.
Go and build with that a million houses!
In the end, whether you like it or not,
Your house will be pulled down and destroyed,
And the treasure under it revealed.
But then it will not belong to you--
For you can only own the treasure
If you destroy the house yourself.
How can you get the pay if you haven't done the work?
Do you imagine the Koran is speaking lightly when it says,
"Human beings don't get anything they haven't worked for?"*

--Jalal-ud-Din Rumi, trans. Andrew Harvey



Summer UU Events

- x **July 8th**, 6:30-8:00 pm: Monthly cleaning at the Fellowship. We all love the house, now here's your chance to make it shine. The more the merrier!
- x **July 18th**, 10:30 am-3:00 pm: Come visit the New Dawn Farm Animal Sanctuary, founded by UUFM member Sue Eakins. We'll carpool from the Fellowship and Sue will provide a light lunch for all. Contact Josh for more information (mahankhal@gmail.com).
- x **July 23rd**, 8:30 am-5:00 pm: Habitat for Humanity volunteer day (see announcement below).
- x **July 27th**, 12:00 pm: Women's Lunch at El Cazador
- x **August 1st**, all day: UUFM Summer Yard Sale! Bring all those unwanted copies of Dianetics and taxidermied moose heads down to the Fellowship for our annual rummage sale. All proceeds from this year's sale go to the Watson Children's Shelter, which provides a safe and nurturing environment for children facing abuse, neglect or family crisis. The shelter serves around 100 children a year, providing every thing from physical necessities to emotional and medical care.
- x **August 12th**, 6:30 pm-8:00 pm: Last Fellowship cleaning day of the summer...don't miss out!
- x **August 30th**, 10:30am: Are you a musician (or aspiring to be one)? Bring a piece of music to share with the Fellowship for our Music Service.
- x **August 31st**, 12:00: Women's Lunch at El Cazador.

UUFM COMMUNITY ACTION:

- Clear your calendar for **Thursday, July 23**, when 5-10 UUFMers will be asked to help build houses for **Habitat for Humanity!** Feel free to come for just the morning, just the afternoon, or all day! If you are more of the food type than the building type, think about helping out with providing lunch to the crew on July 23rd! Or, help with building and a portion of lunch (we UUs have the group lunch down to a fine art!). Volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Those who are 16-17 years old need to fill out parental release forms that can be downloaded and filled out before you build. Here is the link to the form: http://www.habitatmsla.org/assets/Documents_PDF's/MinorRelease.pdf. People who would like to volunteer can contact Kirsten Anderson at kirsten.kander33@gmail.com or call her at 406-697-8845. We got GREAT compliments on the snacks we provided for the Clergy Build! The staffers at Habitat have told us several times that we went WAY beyond what they normally see for morning snack! GOOD JOB!
- We'll be scheduling another Food Bank Volunteer Day for the middle of August. May's volunteer day was a success, with 9 UUsers helping sort and organize donated food. If you didn't get a chance to come along last time, keep an eye out for August's date. It's the UU version of loaves and fishes!

Sunday Programs for July and August

July 5- Margaret Burns, Meditation on Freedom

July 12- Susan Sampson, Spiritual Gifts

July 19- Rev. Kayle Rice, Living the In-Betweens. As Unitarian Universalists, how do we live through life's ambiguities and still be true to living our best selves?

July 26- TBA

August 2- Joyce Clarke

August 9- TBA

August 16- Ty Clement

August 23- TBA

August 30- Music Service, all members and friends are invited to perform a piece of music

September 6- Labor Day Weekend Picnic at Greenough Park (at the Fellowship in case of rain)



Like to Hike?

A small group of members, including Mac, Bill and Carol, plan a hike most weeks, and welcome other participants. The details have a way of changing at the last minute, so if you would like to be included on the email list where we make these decisions, please contact Carol at carolnhero@msn.com

No commitment. You get to decide which hikes you'd like to do, and participate in making the decisions once you're on the list. We've been hiking in the Bitterroot a lot lately, using the book "Day Hikes Around Missoula" as our guide, and we will likely stick with the Bitterroot for a while. Happy Hiking!

*I played for ten years with the girls my own age,
but now I am suddenly in fear.*

I am on the way up some stairs-they are high.

*Yet I have to give up my fears
if I want to take part in this love.*

*I have to let go the protective clothes
and meet him with the whole length of my body.*

My eyes will have to be the love-candles this time.

*Kabir says: Men and women in love will
understand this poem.*

*If what you feel for the Holy One is not desire,
then what's the use of dressing with such care,
and spending so much time making your eyelids
dark?*

--Kabir, trans. Robert Bly

About our Visiting Minister:

The Rev. Kayle Rice was ordained into the United Church of Christ 25 years ago and did UCC ministry in several churches in South Dakota and as a chaplain in Kenosha, WI.

In 2000 she began work toward transferring her ministerial fellowship to the UUA and did her internship at the Unity Temple UU Church in Oak Park, Illinois. She was the minister at the UU congregation in Marquette, MI for four years and has been minister at the UU Church of the Palouse in Moscow, ID since 2006.

She is married to Brian Leekley, a retired bookseller who writes as much as he can, does volunteer work and is very happy to do the weekly laundry and daily catbox!

UU History Corner

July 1st 1858: Unitarian Charles Darwin presents his paper "The Origin of Species" to the Linnaean Society in London.

July 16th 1836: Augusta Jane Chapin is born in Lakesville, New York. She was the first woman to receive an honorary D.D. Degree (Lombard University, 1893) and the second woman to be ordained a Universalist minister. Chapin served churches in Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, California, Nebraska, Massachusetts, New York, Iowa, and Illinois. She lectured at Lombard University and chaired the World's Parliament of Religions for the Chicago World Exposition in 1893. She was active in the women's suffrage and temperance movements and worked to reform the Universalists' denominational process, proposing that they form a more uniform system of fellowship and polity, including a covenant for ministerial ethics. She died on June 30th, 1905.

(from [This Day in Unitarian Universalist History](#) by Frank Shulman. Thanks Google Books!)

Adult R.F.
Book of J Study Group

The first five books of the Jewish and Christian scriptures (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy) are the result of a complex joining of several historical traditions or sources. Biblical scholars have identified four major strands within the text, referred to as the Yahwist, Elohist, Priestly and Deuteronomic authors. It is believed that these four strands were then combined by an unknown Redactor to create the text as we have it today. These four sources and one editor have been dubbed J, E, P, D and R respectively.

In **The Book of J**, Harold Bloom presents a thought-provoking analysis of the oldest of these strands, the Yahwist, J. Bloom argues that much of J's exquisite and unique irony has been weakly misinterpreted by readers for thousands of years. He also argues that J was likely a female writer in the court of King Rehoboam, son of Solomon. To defend this thesis he presents a close reading of J that reveals weak and deluded males, a childish deity, and a plethora of strong, intelligent women.

If you would like to join in a **discussion** of this book, there will be a group meeting **1st and 3rd Sundays** after the service. Copies of the book are available on amazon and other on-line booksellers, but you don't need your own copy to join in the fun. Like Eve with her apple, we're more than **happy to share!**



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