



# The Free Spirit

News from the Big Sky Unitarian Universalist Fellowship • Helena, Montana

November 2008

## UU Happenings This Month ...

**Sunday, Nov. 2 – Potluck Sunday!  
Enough to Make a Difference. Led by  
Joyce Kronholm**

**Tuesday, Nov. 4 – BSUUF Board meeting,  
4 p.m. at the home of Carol Barnes, 930  
State Street. All are welcome**

**Thursday, Nov. 6 – Knitting for Peace, 7  
p.m. at the home of Ruth Luke, 301 S.  
Rodney.**

**Sunday, Nov. 9 – Veterans Day – A  
Degree of Ambivalence? Led by Bill  
Kronholm**

**Sunday, Nov. 16 – One Father, Two  
Children, Three Religions, with guest  
speaker Dr. Barry Ferst**

**Thursday, Nov. 20 – UU bUUK cIUUb, 7  
p.m., at the home of Nisan Burbridge, 706  
9<sup>th</sup> Ave..**

**Thursday, Nov. 20 – No Knitting for  
Peace.**

**Sunday, Nov. 23 – Led by Carl  
Junkerman and Donna Davis.**

**Thursday, Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Day –  
enjoy!**

**Sunday, Nov. 30 – Jainism, and the  
Fourth Principle. Led by Blake Gardiner.**



**We make a living by what  
we get, but we make a life  
by what we give.**

**-Winston Churchill**

## Here we are! New sign tells Helena where we meet

The green sandwich board has done its job each Sunday for the last two years. Placed on the sidewalk by the setup crew before services, and taken in as we closed up, it told the world of our presence for about three hours every Sunday morning and invited the world to join us.

The problem, of course, is that that left us pretty much anonymous for the other 165 hours in the week, when far more people come by.

No more. At the end of October, a new sign for the Big Sky Unitarian Universalist Fellowship was erected on the west side of the church.

The BSUUF board submitted the idea of a more permanent sign to the Christian Science Church board, which graciously approved it, as long as it did not block their own sign.

The sign was contracted out to Auto Trim and Design, which also does custom signs. The fellowship paid \$150 for the metal sign, which will be easily visible to motorists and pedestrians going north or south on Lamborn.

The sign will remain until next summer. We will remove it during our summer break, when no services are held, and erect it again when services resume in the fall.

Above, Jeanette Uland and kids Ella and Ian make a final check that the sign is level on installation day.



## Barry Ferst to speak on three faiths

Dr. Barry Ferst returns as a guest speaker on Nov. 16, on the topic "One Father, Two Children, Three Religions," about similarities among the three Abrahamic faiths – Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Dr. Ferst is a professor of philosophy at Carroll College, where he has taught for 28 years. His specialty is the influence of the Greco-Roman philosophy on the three faiths.

His research has included 16 trips to Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. He is the recipient of two National Endowment for the Humanities stipends, and a Mofet Institute (Israel) summer studies award.

**We unite in this fellowship to seek truth, deepen our awareness of religious values, strengthen one another in our free search, maintain the sanctity of the individual conscience bound by no dogmas or creed, and uphold freedom, community, and equal rights for all.**

### Board of Directors

Joyce Kronholm - President (457-8246)  
Magalie Belanger – Vice President  
Jeanne Powell – Treasurer  
Carol Barnes – Secretary  
Jan Ellen Siemers

### Committees

Membership  
Cynthia Overturf  
Religious Education  
Becky Warren (449-6908)  
Social Justice  
Magalie Belanger (202-0629)  
Welcoming  
Rebecca Hargis (459-0380)  
Worship  
Bill Kronholm (457-8246)

### Mailing Address

Big Sky UU Fellowship  
PO Box 816  
Helena, MT 59624

**Message Phone:** (406) 449-3096

### Services

Christian Science Church  
1800 Highland  
Helena, MT 59601  
11:30 a.m. - Everyone Welcome!

Sign up to receive email updates and our newsletter. Write to [w.kronholm@bresnan.net](mailto:w.kronholm@bresnan.net)

Webmaster:  
Blake Gardiner at:  
[blake@helena-mont.us](mailto:blake@helena-mont.us)

More information at  
[www.bigskyyuu.org](http://www.bigskyyuu.org)

**Big Sky UU Fellowship founded 1983**  
**Helena Unitarian Society founded 1891**

**Food Share  
Sunday is  
Every Sunday**

## **Brochures offer short courses in UU; about kids, too!**

Our fellowship offers six-week courses in adult religious education, but for those wanting something requiring a bit less time, the answer may be in a rack at the back of the church every Sunday. UU brochures cover a wide range of topics, some of them specifically regarding kids and UU.

Here are some of the available brochures:

-*Our Unitarian Universalist Faith; Frequently Asked Questions*. Intended primarily for visitors and newcomers, this brochure covers common questions such as: What do UUs believe about God? What about Jesus? And about the Bible?

-*Journeys; The Many Paths to Unitarian Universalism*. Eight rank-and-file UUs describe the paths they followed.

-*Unitarian Universalist Origins; Our Historic Faith*. A brief history, with bibliography for those who want more.

-*Spirituality: Unitarian Universalist Experiences*. Five UUs, both lay and clergy, talk about spirituality in the UU context.

-*Becoming a Member*. It's more than signing the book. Some things to consider for those thinking of taking the step from frequent attendee to formal member.

-*UU Religious Education and Your Child*. A Q&A for parents about UU religious education. Also available: *Should My Child Go to Sunday School?*

-*We Dedicate This Child*. Describes the Ceremony of Dedication, in which the UU community has the opportunity to bless a child, celebrate the gift of life, and covenant with the family to honor the preciousness of the child.

-*UU Kids Say ....* Just for fun, here's what some UU kids around the country say about the faith: "Our church is a very old and sleepy house ... that comes alive on Sundays."

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## **With Gratitude ...**

... to Katie Campbell and Sam Woods, Ruth and John Piccone, and Jeanette and Matt Uland for hosting Dinners for Eight on Oct. 26. It was another wonderful dinner enjoyed by all.

... to Ruth Luke, Donna Davis, and Lynda Saul for facilitating our six-week Adult RE class on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. There was a good turnout. Look for more Adult RE classes in the December newsletter.

... to Josie Baird, Donna Davis, Kerri Fairbrother, Joyce Kronholm, Mary Jo Olson, Cynthia Overturf, Elaine and Jeff Palmer, and Beth Steele for donating business attire for the Helena's Make a Difference Day Career Fair held on Oct. 25. It was a great response, and clothing much needed for people looking for employment.

... to November service greeters Becky Warren, Katie Campbell, Jeanne Powell, Barb Harris, Joyce and Bill Kronholm and Jan Ellen Siemers and potluck and fellowship hosts Mary Jo Olson, Magalie Belanger, Ryan Grandy, and Lynda Saul.

... to Magalie Belanger and Joyce and Bill Kronholm for their help in hosting the Journey of Hope event on Oct. 10, sponsored by the Montana Human Rights Network, a member of the Montana Abolition Coalition. It was organized by Rachel Carroll, BSUUF member and MHRN staff member.

