

Birmingham Unitarian Church

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

March 2011

Sunday Worship Services

9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

March 6: "The Stranger in My Heart"

This week begins the season of Lent in many traditional churches, a time of self-scrutiny with a focus on one's attachments, limitations, shortcomings, sins. How do UUs consider our personal darkness? How do we talk about it, live with it, heal it? Kathy and Worship Associate Stuart McAlpin try to locate a place of comfort in the midst of these uncomfortable subjects.

March 13: "Why Would You Even Bother?"

Kathy and WA Frank Arvan explore the motivations for our engagement in the work of social justice to see whether intentions, as well as actual results, matter.

March 20: Youth Sunday

Join the BUC youth as they lead us in a service celebrating childhood imagination. This annual Sunday event always delights and inspires.

March 27: "Says Who?"

As a tradition without a hierarchy invested with authority, where do UUs turn for authoritative pronouncements on spiritual matters? Kathy and WA Gregg Bloomfield wrestle with our longstanding authority issue to consider who we believe, and why.

Newer to UU Class

The next New to Unitarian Universalism Class will be **Wednesday evening, March 16** at 7:00 in the Commons. If you would like to attend please email: lisa.crawford@bucmi.org or you may call the church office at 248-647-2380 and leave a message. We would love the opportunity to hear your stories and share BUC and Unitarian Universalism's story with you!

MAMA's Coffee House, March 19

Stacey Earle and Mark Stuart

Few husband-wife musical duos provide audiences with the complete entertainment package that Stacey Earle & Mark Stuart dish out in a live performance. Armed with clever acoustic guitar interplay, autobiographical songwriting, lovely harmonies, and humorous storytelling this couple captivates your attention from the first moment onstage. Shows begin at 8:00 p.m. – Doors open at 7:00.



John Latini opens the show. Winner of the 2008 and 2009 Detroit Blues Challenge, John is a veteran singer/songwriter, performer, and above all, entertainer whose energy and presence are infused so deeply that every song becomes his own.

Motown Market
BUC TALENT & SERVICE AUCTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2011
SILENT AUCTION 6-7:30PM
LIVE AUCTION 8-9PM
CHILD CARE PROVIDED

BIRMINGHAM UNITARIAN CHURCH
38651 WOODWARD AVE.
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
248-647-2380

SPECIAL MENU BY INDULGENCES
WINE, WATER & COFFEE
DELIGHTFUL DESSERTS!

Tickets on sale in the Church office and the Social Hall. Call and reserve your tickets today!
248-647-2380.

What Lies Beyond Religion?

Is Compassion Unrealistic? In her new book, *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*, Karen Armstrong leads the reader on a progressive path to make compassion an everyday part of one's life. The Sunday Morning Discussion Group will use this book as its main resource in a twelve-week discussion on compassion, Sundays **at 9:30 a.m.** in the Large Conference Room. Bring a cup of coffee from the social hall and join in one or more of these group-facilitated discussions.

Contact Diane Lake at 248-626-0222 or diane.lake@comcast.net with any questions.

Sacred and Profane Discussions

The discussion on Feb. 16 on the topic of "A language of reverence" was facilitated by Rev. Kathy Hurt. Kathy invited examples of 'reverent' language, and the white board was soon full. There was wide difference of opinion on what 'reverent' words were suitable for the BUC congregation. Kathy felt that in her own usage "God" was barely 'in', but "Holy Spirit" was definitely 'out'.

The next meeting of the Sacred & Profane discussion group will be on Wednesday, March 16 from 10:30 AM until noon. The topic is "Forgiveness". All members and friends of the church are invited.

March 4 Vespers, Vittles & Variety

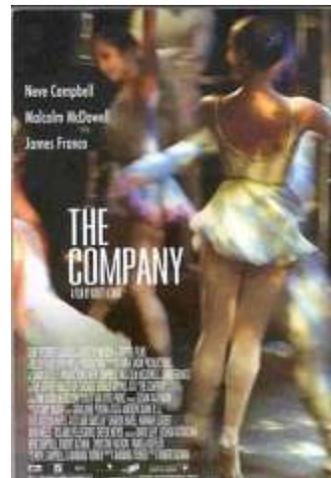
BUC's administrator, Lisa Crawford, will be leading the intergenerational Vespers service in March. Vittles will be served at 6:15 with BUC preparing the main dish of tacos/taco salads (meat and vegetarian) with everyone being asked to either bring a dish to share or to help with set-up (5:30) or clean-up (around 8:30).

March's activity is the ever popular Variety Show which will immediately follow the Vespers. RSVP by contacting Kathy DuHame. Phone, 248-670-0307, or e-mail, kduhame@ameritech.net.

BUC Film Buffs ~ March 18, 7:00

The Company

Embracing the love of ensemble acting that has characterized his most innovative work, Robert Altman has now turned his gaze toward the intense day-to-day relationships, both personal and professional- of a modern ballet company. For Altman, known for his constantly moving camerawork- the cinema itself is a form of dance; this story of a team of individuals trying to create seamless works of living art while struggling with their private lives may be one of his most personal works. With Neve Campbell, Malcolm McDowell, James Franco and the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago. -*Detroit Film Theatre Winter/Spring 2004 Film Guide*
"Elegant and appealing. *The Company* casts a gentle spell." - Todd McCarthy, *Variety*
The Company (USA, 2003, 112 minutes) is rated PG-13 due to brief strong language, some nudity and sexual content.



Snacks provided. For more information contact Larry at 248-569-0965 or LarryWisniew@att.net.

BUC Pictorial Directory ~ Sittings in April

Beginning Monday, April 18 through the 23, Lifetouch will be taking photographs of BUC family and friends for our directory. Beginning Sunday, March 6 and the following three Sundays, you may sign-up in the Social Hall for appointments. On Monday, March 7, you may make your appointments online at BUC's website. Picture directories are a wonderful way for the community to connect.

Everyone who comes to BUC for a portrait will receive a free 8x10 and a free hard copy of the directory. Lifetouch has a new feature allowing us to have an "in-house" on-line directory, accessible by password. Stay tuned...more details will follow.

Connections - Joys & Sorrows

Nancy and Dick Halsted are happy to announce the birth of a great-granddaughter, Kennedy, to their granddaughter, Katy, who was dedicated at BUC 26 years ago by former minister, Rev. Bob Marshall.

Kelly Taylor's dear friend was diagnosed with inoperable liver cancer and began chemotherapy in February. Any thoughts and prayers would be much appreciated.

Nanette Magner began an a new job in February and daughter, Bernadette was cast in the movie, "Fireworks."

Carol Lee is proud to announce that her son Cal has been granted tenure at the University of North Carolina.

Amy McVeigh's father, Hugh McVeigh, died on February 26. Amy and husband, Jeff Braun have returned from Shanghai, gathering with family for a memorial service on March 5.

Marion Foster, died Sunday, February 27. She was a friend of BUC and was active in our twice yearly rummage sales. The family is currently planning a spring memorial service, most likely on Saturday, April 30th at 11:00 at BUC.

Margaret and Stephen Marsh's daughter, Ann Marsh, a three-time Olympic fencer who was ranked in the top ten in the world in 1993-97, will be enshrined this summer in the U.S. Fencing Hall of Fame in Shreveport, LA.

Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt's Installation Service ~ April 10!

On Sunday, April 10th the Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt will be installed as the settled minister at BUC. An installation service is a very special event in the life of a UU congregation. This service celebrates the covenant of the minister with the congregation, its staff and the wider community.

Sunday morning, April 10, we will have **one service at 10:30. The Installation Service will be at 3:00 in the afternoon** followed by a large reception in the Social Hall. Please mark your calendars now and plan to take your part in this wonderful ceremony in the life of BUC.

Act Locally

Among BUC members there are many diverse professions. So that we may support one another in these endeavors, we are creating a Directory of Professional Services. There is now a notebook in the office for business cards. If you have a service to offer, please place a business card or two in the appropriate section, e.g. "A" for attorney or architect, "D" for Dentist. If you are looking for a service, please give these BUC members your consideration.

SGF Openings

Currently we do not have an operating steering committee for our Small Group Fellowship program. Stephanie Patil has been fielding inquires and put together the table below for those considering joining a small group. A small group fellowship is an intentional commitment to a smaller group, for discussion and deeper fellowship. For many, this is a deeply satisfying experience of community @ BUC.

A special request: "Our *weekday small group* is seeking more members to join in our lively, supportive discussions and explorations. We currently meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday mornings of each month at some of our members' homes in Oakland County. Our mostly male group of over-50's is looking for a better gender balance. For more information, please call either Bob Nicholson at 248-390-8292 or Juanita Cervenak at 248-585-5646."

Day	Monthly	Time	Location	Openings
Mon	1st, 3rd	7:00 PM	BUC	1 M or F
Wed	2nd, 4th	10:00 AM	Blm. Hills	F
Sun	1st (varies)	PM	Roch. Hills, Troy	3-4 M or F
Sun	1st, 3rd	1 - 3 PM	BUC	1 M or F
Sun	1st, 3rd	7:00 PM	Warren	1 M or F



I write this column from Minnesota, perched in the third floor apartment of a friend's house, while outside a snowstorm is piling up inch after inch of soft white flakes. The scene contrasts sharply with the images used in the weather forecasts that alerted us to this snowstorm's arrival: we were told to be prepared for a "monstrous" winter storm that would "dump" more than a foot of snow on us, accompanied by winds that might "whip" the snow about to create "dangerous" driving conditions. All negative images, presenting the snowstorm as a kind of enemy threatening our very lives.

Having lived in winter climates for many years now, I am no fool when it comes to snowstorms. They can indeed be life-threatening, especially for those who are too poor to have heat, or those luckless enough to be without shelter. But I would guess that anyone watching the forecasts, as I was, would not likely be endangered by the storm; rather, the biggest threat would come only if I was foolish enough to insist on trying to drive because there was something I simply could not live without another day.

"Monstrous," "dump," "whip," "dangerous": the adjectives suggest the greatest antipathy towards a natural event that many of us, as children, found beautiful, a source of wonder, an invitation to play, a freedom from usual routines. When did we lose our love of snowstorms? When did they turn into monsters menacing our lives? Snowstorms can create considerable inconvenience—but does that transform them into monstrosities? Or have we become so attached to having things unfold precisely as planned all the time that anything, anywhere, disrupting our plans is our enemy?

I hope you spent this snowstorm in a warm, safe place, doing something you love with people who matter to you. I hope any inconvenience it caused you was ultimately outweighed by its remarkable beauty, the sculpting it did to trees and bushes, the perfect lines of drifts. Monsters often lose their power to harm us when we put down our swords and welcome them with open arms.

Faithfully,

Kathy

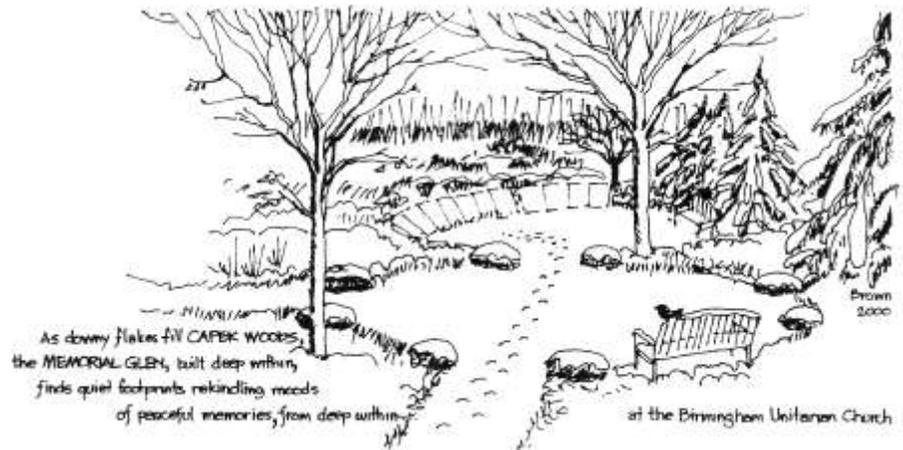
Winter in BUC's Memorial Glen

During our snowy winter, the Memorial Glen in the Capek Woods rests, waiting for the removal of its snowy blanket.

The Glen is a special place, an outdoor meditative space, a destination at the end of a spiritual path, a place for remembrance and memorialization of members, friends and relatives of BUC members. The Memorial Glen committee wishes to let members and friends know that names of members, relatives and friends of BUC who have passed, may have names engraved into the granite cenotaphs in May, and added to the official Death Register, prior to the annual Memorial Service, Sunday May 29th.

For additional information, and arrangements, please contact: Carol Lee, (carolallmanlee@yahoo.com), Lisa Crawford and/or Rev. Kathy Hurt

Remembrances are also encouraged for Sunday services by donating flowers by prearrangement with the Sunday Morning Flower Coordinator, Grace Rising.



Children's Religious Education

Eleanor McGuire, Director of Religious Education for Children



March's *Fair Start* rotation is part of a larger objective of sharing with our children the ways that our church and our religion work to achieve equity for all people. This rotation addresses the reality that not all children have the necessary opportunities and material circumstances that they need as they start their lives. It asks two main questions: How are children's circumstances different, even in our own community? How does our church work to address these differences?

The **Storytelling** workshop focuses on whether all children get enough to eat - and the right foods to eat - to be healthy. Our church works in two ways to address children's nutritional needs within our community: through ongoing collections for the Lighthouse food pantry in Pontiac, which offers emergency and long-term supplemental food, and through participation in the Royal Oak Lunch program, which serves Saturday lunches to the needy.

The **Drama** workshop emphasizes that all children deserve adequate shelter as a basic human right. Our children will explore the role of a community in assisting with the difficult and costly task of securing adequate shelter. Our church works to provide both short-term and long-term housing for people in need: every fall BUC hosts the South Oakland Shelter for one week, and once a year, members of BUC assist with the building projects of the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate.

The **Art** workshop focuses on the disadvantages faced by people who cannot read. This workshop looks at the ways that BUC works to ensure that every child receives a good education, both through its partnership with Whitmer Human Resource Center in Pontiac and through its support for Fair Trade coffee and chocolate. BUC serves and sells these Fair Trade products in order to support the right of every family to earn a livable wage, thereby enabling those families to be able to send their children to school.

The **Science** workshop reinforces the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee belief that access to a clean water supply is a basic human right. Worldwide, children are especially vulnerable to illnesses contracted from unsafe water. This workshop explores the different ways that water can become contaminated as well as several simple ways to provide clean water to both individuals as well as communities. Please contact Eleanor McGuire, Children's DRE, with questions at: eleanor.mcguire@bucmi.org

2011 Religious Education Survey

As part of our continuing effort to be responsive to the needs of our RE families, you should have received a request to participate in a survey to assess the RE program offerings. The anonymous responses will be compiled by the RE Council to help guide programming for the 2011-12 church year. We appreciate your candid, honest responses. And we thank you again for contributing your time to maintaining the quality of BUC's programs.

Youth Religious Education

Laura Ross, Director of Religious Education for Youth

laura.worleyross@bucmi.org



"Thank you, one and all, for your support of Bakeoff! All of the chefs and cooks made delectable treats for our tummies, and the youth made \$2664.15 for their programs. Well worth a delightful afternoon in company together!"

YOUTH CALENDAR

- ◆ GUUSH all 9th – 12th graders are welcome! March meetings: 13 & 27 6p-8p
- ◆ Youth Sunday March 20, 2011 Both Services – ROPE Pancake Breakfast, too!
- ◆ ROPE Boston Trip April 28 – May 1, 2011
- ◆ Heartland District Conferences:
 - ~ Spirituality Development Con- Location: Gross Point UU- Date: February 11 – 13
 - ~ Our HS BUC FUN Con has been postponed until August. Stay tuned for more info!
 - ~ Social Justice Con- Location: Thomas Jefferson UC, Louisville- Date: March 11-13
 - ~ Bridging- Location: UU Indianapolis - Date: April 29 - May 1
 - ~ Jr. High Election - Location: St. Johns Cincinnati- Date: May 13-15

10th - 12th Grade Our Whole Lives (OWL) ~April 14 - 16, 2011

April 14, Friday, 7:00 to 10:00 - April 15, Saturday, 9:00 to 5:30 - April 16, Sunday, 1:00 to 5:00

March 27, Sunday 10:30a – 1p PARENT ORIENTATION. Free for BUC 10th, 11th and 12th graders; \$25 for other UU 10th - 12th grade Youth even those who participated in OWL in Eighth Grade will find new benefits in this more advanced cycle of Our Whole Lives. High School OWL differs from Junior High OWL in that it recognizes the higher maturity level of 15 – 18 year olds. The topics will include discussion of anatomy, sexual behaviors and risks, and relationship issues. Some units are similar: discussions of anatomy, contraception, gender roles and orientation, sexual and emotional health. Many older teens have more knowledge of relationship issues, even if they have not been in significant relationships yet themselves. They're likely to be more interested in forming romantic and sexual relationships and because of this are more capable of initiating pregnancy. The experts who developed the OWL curricula recognize these differences and have produced materials accordingly, including covering new topic areas not appropriate for younger teens

Please contact DRE for Youth Laura Worley Ross at laura.worleyross@bucmi.org or 248-225-5210 for more information.

BUC's Enhanced Sunday Morning Social Time

Thank you to the sixty-seven people who took the time to fill out our survey on our Sunday morning social time! What great feedback and suggestions. Eighty-eight percent of those surveyed said they would like to see Indulgence continue their offerings and possibly expand to include lunch following the second service. With regard to frequency, fifty-six percent said they would like for Indulgences to be here every week, with twenty-four percent suggesting twice a month.

Due to special fundraising events and other happenings at BUC, Indulgence has decided at this time to offer an enhanced buffet twice a month. With scheduling in March, the Auction and the Pancake Breakfast, March twenty-seventh will be the only Sunday Indulgence will be in the Social Hall following the services during the upcoming month.

Indulgence will be catering Kathy's Installation Reception on April 10 in the afternoon and will not be offering their buffet following the one service at 10:30. Please check the April Newsletter and the website for Indulgence Sunday times in the Social Hall. If you'd like to the complete survey results you may check them out on our website www.bucmi.org.



Alliance Features the Special DIA Exhibition

Our alliance programs highlighting the exhibits at the Detroit Institute of Art are long time favorites. On Wednesday, March 16, bring your brown bag for lunch in the Pavilion at Noon. Alliance will supply beverages and our baker-members will give us home baked cookies! Our program will begin about 1:00 in the Commons.



Fakes, Forgeries and Mysteries presents “sixty paintings, sculptures, photographs, prints drawings and decorative art objects from diverse cultures – European, African, American, Asian, Islamic, Coptic and ancient Near Eastern, all providing opportunities to explore issues of attribution and authenticity”. So writes director Graham Beal. Of the sixty works, all but two are from the DIA collection. Ann Oleander of the Speakers Bureau will present the illustrated program. The exhibition runs until April 10th, giving us the opportunity to enjoy having been prepared by the experts.

Image: *Head of a King*, about 1925, granite. Formerly by unknown artist, Egyptian, either Saite period, 664–525 B.C.E., or New Kingdom, 1570–1085 B.C.E. Currently by Oxan Aslanian “The Master of Berlin” (German, 1887–1968). Collection of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Our next program will be Wednesday, April 20. BUCer Michigan Supreme Court Justice Honorable Marilyn Kelly will be our speaker. She has been a Justice since 1996 and was the Chief Justice from 2008 until after the 2010 elections. Her topic, “How should the Michigan Supreme Court Justices be Selected?” will address the recurrent political issue. Candidates for Justices are selected by their party at present.

UPDATES FROM THE PLATE COLLECTION COMMITTEE

Thank you, thank you, generous BUCers, for “stepping up to the plate” during these difficult economic times to help make a better life for our neighbors.

We gave \$1617.68 to the Southern Poverty Law Center, which fights hate crime in Michigan as well as the rest of the country. This amount was doubled by a matching campaign. You gave \$993.41 to the Welcome Inn, a homeless shelter in Royal Oak. For the first time all year, it is in the black. We contributed \$915.91 to help the Cass Tech Orchestra repair their base instruments. We are collecting now for The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) and, after that, will be passing the plate for Common Ground, a counseling service for run-away, homeless and at risk youth and their families.

The way it works is that, each Sunday, 10% of the total intake goes to the minister to donate at her discretion. Of the remaining total, 60% goes to BUC and 40% to the charity we are sponsoring.

Please remember that

1. Checks for the plate collection must be marked "special plate collection" on the memo line.
2. Cash donations go to the plate
3. Checks with no memo line advice or saying "pledge" go to your pledge
4. If you want the entire check to go to the designated charity you should make the check out to it and 100% of your donation will go there.

The next quarterly meeting of the Plate Collection Committee will be early in April. Charities are chosen from applications by a BUC member in good standing (who has joined the church and made a financial contribution) by filling out the Common Grant Application form found on our website www.bucmi.org in the church business section of the directory.

Thanks again for your heart warming generosity!

Annis Pratt
Chair, Plate Collection Committee

Our BUC Facility: A Building Update

The lighting retrofit at BUC is complete. Jim Dean, the Maintenance Tech hired on a part time basis completed in mid-February. Spring 2011 promises to be a busy time at BUC. The following are several projects slated for completion:

MARSHALL COURTYARD: The contract with WK Construction was approved at the Facilities meeting on February 14 for demolition and replacement of most of the concrete in the courtyard and the hand railing. Work will begin as soon as weather permits and will be coordinated around Rummage the week of May 1. Replacement of the concrete and railing will be completed in time for the Gragg wedding at BUC.

RECYCLE DUMPSTER PAD: Another dumpster pad will be installed next to the current pad when the Marshall Courtyard concrete replacement occurs. Veolia Environmental, our trash contractor, will provide a recycle dumpster to be emptied once each month at no additional cost. The recycle dumpster will be for BUC use only. Like items will need to be bagged together in clear garbage bags and put in the dumpster. Look for a list of recyclable items and other details on the recycling program in the near future.

CARPET REPLACEMENT: Another important and much needed project scheduled and budgeted to occur this spring is replacement of the carpet in much of the BUC facility. The carpet choice has been finalized. Installation will occur in time for Rev. Kathy Hurt's installation on April 10.

AUTOMATIC DOOR OPENERS: Automatic door openers from the outdoors into the sanctuary by the Bridal room will be installed in March 2011. The Memorials & Tribute committee has graciously offered to pay for the door openers. The funds budgeted for this project will be used for interior painting at BUC.

Other projects in progress:

INTERIOR PLANT CARE: Bids to maintain the interior plants throughout the church were solicited, and we received 3 bids. Historically the plants have been maintained by volunteer church members, but schedule conflicts have made it difficult for the volunteers to maintain the plants for the entire month. The cost for an outdoor service to maintain, clean and trim the plants throughout the BUC facility ranges from \$85 to \$150 per month.

SOCIAL HALL FURNACE NOISE: The furnace that services the social hall is loud when it runs and is disruptive to activities in this room. If and when the geo-thermal furnace is installed, the furnace for this area will no longer be needed; however, due to the cost associated with completing the geo-thermal furnace, this project is not likely to move forward anytime soon. Consequently, the Facilities committee has decided to have the ducts that service the existing furnace insulated. This will cost \$2,900 and while it may not totally eliminate the noise, should lessen it considerably.

WINDOW CLEANING: In early April, the exterior building windows and sky lights will be professionally cleaned.

RESTROOM FLOORS AND DÉCOR: The restroom walls need a fresh coat of paint and some redecorating. The restroom floors were professionally cleaned, but without addressing the other needs, the additional cleaning has basically gone unnoticed. We are working on this project.

Now that the lighting retrofit is complete, Jim will be working on miscellaneous maintenance tasks around the church. Report any maintenance related items at BUC to Lisa Crawford. She works with Jim, coordinating all maintenance repair work.

As always, with your help, the Facilities Committee is dedicated to continuing its work to maintain BUC not only for today, but for future years.

Together with you in service for BUC.

BUC FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee is now holding regular discussion sessions, twice a month on Sundays following the second service in either the Large or Small Conference Room at 12:45. On March 6th, our guest speaker will be Jim Kruer. He will work with us until 2:00 in the Large Conference Room. He will continue our work on framing our speech with an emphasis on "stories" in our frames of speaking. All are welcome.

On Saturday, April 2, BUC will be hosting a "Framing Workshop" from 10:00-4:00 in the Large Conference Room. Space is limited, so please contact Lucille McNaughton to register and for more information. All are welcome! Email lucillerm@sbcglobal.net : phone 313-561-5692.

BUC TALENT & SERVICE AUCTION

Metown Market

Saturday, March 12

6-9 pm

Top 10 Reasons to Attend the BUC Talent & Service Auction

1. Best Entertainment Value in town at \$20/per person
2. Great items to bid on at all range of prices
3. Food by Indulgences – Smokey Robinson Scallops, Four Tops Sliders, Fry Bar of Temptation, Supreme'd Gazpacho Shooters, Through the Grapevine Dessert Table
4. Open Wine Bar
5. Our very own Ed Sharples, Live Auctioneer
6. Live Music by Craig Stroup and friends
7. Free Childcare (with advance reservation)
8. Silent and Live Auction featuring fabulous donations from amazingly talented BUCers
9. Free Drawings of prizes all night long – Must be present to win
10. And the best reason of all: Socializing with your fellow BUCers



Tickets on Sale in Church Office, and in Social Hall. Sunday, March 6th is the last Sunday to buy. Call Lisa Crawford at 248-647-2380 to reserve your ticket today.

Can't come to the auction? Not to worry, we will accept email bids for silent auction items. Check your email for a special auction announcement highlighting all the donated items on Monday, March 7th.

Spring Rummage May 1-7, 2011

Yes, it's coming! Spring? Maybe. Rummage? Absolutely. The Rummage Committee is already hard at work, planning this year's spring sale. At sign-up time in April, be sure to check our handout, "What's New at Rummage" for the latest scoop on Rummage improvements.

Every year we ask donors to plan ahead. It makes the sorting process go a LOT faster if all donations are in sale-ready condition-- clothing on hangers, sorted by age and gender; toys with all pieces firmly sealed in a box or bag; electronics and small appliances pre-tested and labeled with any caveats; instructions for anything included wherever possible. It's especially helpful to have pre-sorted donations-- items grouped by department and clearly marked. (By the way, children's books go to Toys, rather than Books.) Be sure to make a list for your records.

Please, take time to go through your donation pile and do not include unsalable items such as raggedy clothing, broken appliances, plastic cups, or analog televisions or computers. We CAN, however, use those old newspapers, magazines, and hard and soft cover books-- we even earn money for collecting them! Just label paper discards "recycle" and leave them with your rummage donations.

Wonder what happens to unsold Rummage? We offer it to community organizations, such as the Furniture Bank, the Most Holy Trinity outreach center, and the Salvation Army. We are ready to welcome other groups as well. Anyone who wishes donations must make arrangements before Rummage Saturday (bag day-- the final day of the sale) with Kimery Campbell or Laura Lee. We would prefer 501(c)(3) documentation but other credible sources are also acceptable. All charity shoppers are invited to come at about 11 a.m. on Saturday and must be done by noon.

Help Wanted:

Of course, we ALWAYS need lots of help for a successful Rummage Sale. But the Rummage Committee is in particular need of someone to take over the Signs portfolio. The job entails erecting the freestanding sign on the church grounds and taking responsibility for the internal signs that are erected around the sorting and sale areas. If you are interested, please contact Kimery Campbell at kimery.Campbell@bucmi.org

A World of Health: Connecting People, Place and Planet Saturday, March 19 and Saturday April 2

A Northwest Earth Institute discussion course, Presented by the Green Sanctuary Committee.

Participants in this discussion course will:

- Explore the connection between human health and the environment
- Examine the roots of Western medicine and how it has evolved in an industrial society
- Learn about the places where our personal health intersects with the environment— our food, our living spaces, our communities and ultimately, our planet
- Identify actions that promote good health and in turn promote a healthier environment

The discussion will be facilitated by Dan Kosuth, meeting from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Lunch will be provided. Cost is \$45 per person, or \$65 for couples sharing a course book. Participation is limited to the first 12 to sign up. All ages are welcome. Registration forms are available in the offices at BUC and on the website.

"The most fundamental message is for people to remember that the environment is not just something that they visit on weekends or during their summer vacation—that the environment is all around us, that it is in us and we are in it, and that it profoundly influences our health."

*--Dr. Philip Landrigan
Director, Children's
Environmental Health Center
Mt Sinai Medical Center*

From the Endowment Committee

THANK YOU to the 72 family units who made a commitment to the future of BUC by contributing nearly \$18,000 to the BUC Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan in 2010.

The Fund distributed over \$13,000 to the BUC budget in 2010, constituting the fourth largest income source (after pledges, rentals, and rummage). And it is an income that will only have greater impact as time goes by. *Once again, our great appreciation for all you do for the BUC community. Your gift is a wonderful way to maintain BUC's vitality in the community for now and for generations to come.*

Committee: Betty Blair, Donna Cunningham, Ron Fredrick, Dick Schwing

Nancy Jones, Chair

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Seminars offered FREE for a limited time to help people deal with the current economic crisis
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SEMINAR DATES & TIMES
Sun Mar 13th 1pm-2:30pm

LOCATION DETAILS
Birmingham Unitarian Church
38651 Woodward Ave, N of Lone Pine
Bloomfield Hills 48304

CONTACT DETAILS
Denise Everheart
248-705-5004
detroit@us.artofliving.org

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Birmingham Unitarian Church

All Submissions for the Newsletter must be received by midnight on the 20th of each month for the following months newsletter to the editor lisa.crawford@bucmi.org