



+ December 24 Christmas Eve

There is NO morning service at BUC on Christmas Eve.

Please join us at one of our evening services:

5:00 p.m. A more child-oriented service

8:00 p.m. A more traditional candlelight service with familiar carols, and reflections.

There is no childcare on Christmas Eve – children are invited to accompany you at either service.

Christmas Day Celebration at BUC

If you're looking for a place and people to celebrate with on Christmas Day, consider joining us for an enjoyable potluck dinner and gift exchange.

To facilitate better planning, we are asking people to sign up, either after church December 3, 10, or 17 or contact the coordinator, Carol Winslow by email at cwin@att.net or call her at (248) 892-8387.

We will begin at 4:00 p.m. – If you'd like to help set up, arrive at 3:30 p.m.

SERVICES 10:30 a.m.

Most services are broadcast live on our BUC Facebook page and posted on our website www.bucmi.org

- 03 Claiming our own understanding and acceptance with originally Christian Holidays can be as easy as it can be hard. Learn of two very different journeys to find peace and joy in this Holiday Season. With the Rev. Patricia and the Rev. Daniel Budd. Music offered by the Sound Messengers band.
- 10 The BUC Chalice Choir, under the direction of Abha Dearing, will be performing John Rutter's *Gloria* accompanied by a small orchestra. Several of BUC's own accomplished instrumentalists, along with some friends of BUC, will make up the accompanying ensemble.
- 17 The No Fault Orchestra ~ The Rev. Patricia Shelden, and the Rev. Daniel Budd will join BUC member, Pam McAlpin who will conduct our annual *No Fault Orchestra*. Come hear classic Christmas songs performed by our BUC members and friends.
- 31 Worship Associate Paul Vachon will lead our annual "New Year" service.

Connections

“...Joy and

sorrow are

inseparable... together they come and when one sits alone with you... remember the other is asleep upon your bed.”

– Khalil Gibran



A sorrow: Kathleen Thompson, long-time former BUC member, died October 30 of a brain hemorrhage in Lacrosse, Wisconsin. Betty Blair has Kathleen's sister's address if anyone would like to send condolences.

On November 19 the choir sang the same song that was performed at the ordination of the Rev. Patricia Shelden in honor of the 20th anniversary of her ordination.

A Memorial service will be held for Susie Sherman-Hall's father, Larry Sherman, on Saturday, December 2nd at 11:30 a.m. followed by a light luncheon.

Dwane Adle's mother was diagnosed with stage four cancer in her lungs. Additionally she is experiencing complications from a stroke with her right arm and hand. Prayers much appreciated.

From Stefanie Janes, "I ended up going to the ER on Thanksgiving with excruciating back and upper abdominal pain caused by gallstones and pancreatitis. This week has led to not one, but two trips to the ER; not one, but two admissions to Beaumont and not one but two surgeries/procedures requiring anesthesia among many other tests. When I think about being thankful there is no doubt that this year I am thankfully indebted to my mom and sister who took care of our son while Clavis was with me at the hospital."

"Thought you might enjoy this picture. A few of us gathered at Dorothy Prier's for a "sing along" this afternoon (November 26). Barbara Woolf played a portable keyboard and Cathy Compton played her viola. Dorothy remembered a number of the songs and sang along and/or hummed the tunes. Pictured here: Barbara Woolf, Cathy Compton, Ann Posanski, Carol Winslow, Ann Throop, Helen Spangler, and Dorothy Prier. Missing from the picture are Barbara Robinson, (who engineered the event along with Ann P.), and Annis Pratt. It was good to see Dorothy again; she seems quite frail." – Ann Throop

The Knitting Ministry at BUC



In addition to our regular knitting, we are also knitting scarves to be distributed to the homeless via a soup kitchen in Cass Park. To this end, we have assembled "project bags" which contain enough coordinating yarn for a scarf or other small project. A scarf takes about 200 yards of yarn.

Please take one of these "project bags" and make an item to be distributed! They are in a rolling bench in the hallway between the foyer and commons. It is the first one, right next to the magazine

rack. There are even knitting needles and crochet hooks there too ☺ Use whatever pattern you like. If you need help, contact Andie Stewart alamonts851@gmail.com.

Humanists Group & Film Buffs on Hiatus in December

Living By Heart

This group meets on Monday evenings 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the classroom with the red door. In this group we explore our inner lives via reading and writing poetry, writing reflective memoir pieces, and doing some simple collage and line illustrations. The group is open to regular on going or irregular drop-in attendance. Please bring; a poem that you love, a journal, pen, simple art supplies (glue stick, scissors etc.) and a willingness to explore what it means to live “by heart”.

Facilitated by Penny Hackett-Evans. The group is NOT meeting December 25, or January 1.

Grief Support Group: December 5 & 19

This group meets monthly on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 4:30 ~ 6:00 p.m., currently meeting in the Sanctuary. All who are processing and experiencing grief at the loss of a loved one are welcome to come participate in this group. Any questions may be directed to facilitator, Alison Rule at (248) 320-1021.

Sunday Morning Discussion Group

This group meets from 9:00 to 10:15 am in the smaller Green Door classroom. Each week we vote on a topic to discuss from those suggested by all of the attendees. Everyone is invited to come, join us, and be surprised at the topic the majority chooses! We are NOT meeting on Christmas Eve Sunday morning, as there is no morning service at BUC.

Caregivers Support Group: December 11 (Not the 25)

This is a support group for those caring for a loved one with dementia. Being the sole caregiver can be an isolating, overwhelming, and challenging experience. We offer support for those doing the supporting! This usually meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 1:30 in the large conference room, (first room to your right when you come in the main entrance). To learn more, call Alison Rule at (248) 320-1021 or Camille Harris at (248) 320-9651.

Wednesday December Effortless Meditation

Join us from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the classroom with the red door on the east side of the outdoor courtyard.

December 6 (blue door): Live With Joy! December 13 (blue door): Christmas Meditate & Jingle (Not meeting the 20 & 27)

Friday Daytime Meditation Group in Rochester

There is a UU meditation group that is meeting in Rochester on Friday mornings. This group began at the Paint Creek church, and has continued even after they merged with Emerson to form Beacon UU in Troy. If you are wanting to participate in a group meditation, but don't like venturing out at night, (especially in the dark winter months) please give this group a try. The group meets regularly on Friday mornings, but there will be no meditation the first week of December. Meditation for December will be at Arlena Heter's home, located at 320 Heil Steet, Rochester Hills, 48307, at 10.30 a.m. Hope to see you on the 8th, the 15th, and the 22nd! Namaste, Izzy Khapoya

Settled Minister Search Committee Communiqué

On November 19th, the Settled Minister Search Committee hosted a UUA-sponsored workshop on *Beyond Categorical Thinking* (BCT) with 36 BUC members and friends in attendance. Ably facilitated by Jerry Carden and Kathleen Robbins, who also gave a riveting service before the workshop, the program worked to promote inclusive thinking by identifying unconscious biases that, unrecognized, might lead to discrimination in the search process for our new minister. Jerry and Kathleen hail from the UU Church of Urbana-Champaign.

Next on the agenda for the Settled Minister Search Committee is the posting of the completed Congregational Record on November 30 by the UUA. This document will be viewed by the pool of prospective ministers.

Remember: to share your thoughts and concerns about the Settled Minister Search with the committee, feel free to approach a member of the committee or send an email (searchcommittee@bucmi.org).

Your Settled Minister Search Committee meets weekly. The committee Chairperson is Lisa Demian. The members are Marcia Mahood, Diane Slon, Ben Ensroth, Andrew Schreck, Amy Smalley, and Eric Sargent.

The Work of BUC Governance Goes On!

In considering the BUC strategic plan, we have created a small ad hoc committee to see if any sections need to be updated before a settled minister arrives. The committee of Debbie Fordree, Barbara Woolf and Bruce Weber will report to the Board at a future meeting.

We continue to review sections of the Carver model of governance, and we shall later look at staff salaries in relation to UUA guidelines. Diane Slon (settled minister's search committee) asked approval of the compensation package for the settled minister and we approved a package including all costs (salary, housing, and benefits) starting at mid-range for our church size. Lisa Demian, chair of the settled minister's search committee, reported on the survey of church members and summarized the results.

Finally in October, we forwarded a "BUC Safety Plan for Missing or Endangered Persons" to the executives for implementation.

Ed Sharples, Board President

Strengthening Pastoral Care and Making It More Accessible

Your Lay Pastoral Care Associates completed an intense training, led by the Rev. Patricia Shelden in November, to ensure that they are providing you with the best Pastoral Care possible. In addition to their training, they have also been working on steps to make Pastoral Care easier to access. To this end, there is a form available to request Pastoral Care for you or someone you know well at church. The form will be available in the office near the staff mailboxes. To request Pastoral Care, complete the form and seal it in one of the envelopes addressed to the ministers. You can also email or call the ministers for Pastoral Care. If they are unable to meet your needs, a member of the Team will be assigned to support you through whatever you are currently facing. Pastoral Care is often needed when we have endured a loss, had a major change in our lives, are dealing with a major health issue, lose our job, etc. You do not need to go through life's difficulties alone. You have a Team of trained Pastoral Care providers willing to journey with you in a nonjudgmental, supportive way. Please reach out and remember that you are not alone.

From Your Co-Ministers

We are entering a season filled with activity and expectations. For many of us this is a joyous time of year. For some, it is fraught with anxiety, stress and grief.

Just like the rest of the year that means that we each need to find our way through this season in the way that allows us to be the most whole. And, also like the remainder of the year, we can do so while being part of a beloved community, not isolated.

In addition to Holiday plans and activity, we are planning for 2018. These plans include more Adult Religious Education from your ministers, a more highly trained Lay Pastoral Care Team, building a stronger community in the congregation, more Social Justice programs, and preparing to be in the best shape possible for your newly settled minister this Fall. Since we are already a strong community it means the work should be fun as well as insightful.

May this season be full of whatever you need the most. May you be able to offer what you can of love, kindness and peace. May we together be thankful for all that we have and are. May wonder, awe and mystery be part of our Holiday experience. And, may we begin the New Year as open and full as we possibly can.

Happy Holidays, Patricia and Daniel

**Rev. Patricia
Shelden &
Rev. Daniel
Budd**



Save the Dates for Upcoming Adult Education Opportunities

1) Training to Lead Small Group Worship

Small Group Worship is different from Sunday worship in many ways. It can be a more intimate, gentle, contemplative type of worship. It can be a more spontaneous, joyful kind of worship. It can open committee meetings, classes, any group gathering. Because small group worship can be so many things there will be a class offered January 27, taught by the Rev. Patricia Shelden. Information on how to register for this class will be in the January newsletter.

2) Dying and Death From a UU Perspective

Most religions have a shared belief about whether or not there is something after death, which can offer comfort and peace at the end of a life. Because we are non-doctrinal and non-dogmatic we do not. This can make thinking of the end of life complicated. This four-part course will view Dying and Death through the lenses of our open religion and our need for comfort near the end of life. Dates and more details will be available in future newsletters.

3) Keeping Us Safe

A few years ago, with the help of the Bloomfield Hills Police and Fire we created procedures for evacuations in the event of fires or tornadoes. We have in place a policy for dealing with an Intruder. Today, in light of the mass violence that seems to be more frequent, we are adding additional learning and procedures. Sunday, January 7th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. we will host a training on A.L.I.C.E., the response to an Armed Intruder. The first part of this training will teach us to review what we think will keep us safe vs. what will keep us safe, and is open to the public. The same program will be offered again on Saturday, February 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



MAMA's Coffeehouse: Mustard's Retreat

Saturday, December 16, 2017, 8:00 p.m. Admission \$15,
\$13 student/senior

For the past four decades, Mustard's Retreat (David Tamulevich & Michael Hough) has been entertaining audiences with its special brand of folk music. Highly acclaimed as not only songwriters, but as interpreters of traditional and contemporary songs and stories, their show is full of enthusiasm, good humor and fine musicianship. On this show, they are joined by Libby Glover, the other founding member of Mustard's Retreat (they were briefly a trio in their early days.)

"Music to cure what ails you." ~ Michigan Times

ROSETTA PEBBLE, a local duo, will open the show.



Music at BUC

There are lots of music events from the past month to celebrate and in the coming month to anticipate. You'll want to get out your calendar!

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, SoundBites was a rousing success with the Dave Sharp Worlds Quartet. The group was spirited, dynamic, frenzied and meditative. It was a treat for the senses because the wonderful concert was followed by a fabulous array of sweets and drinks. There are countless folks to thank but we can try here: Teresa Honnold, Anne Calomeni, Barb Eschner, Dick Cantley, Kym Worth, Jane O'Neill, Amy Smalley, Shawn Rooney, Chris Slon, Joanne Copeland, Lisa Crawford and others. Mark your calendars now for Friday January 19 at 7:30pm--this event will feature The Dearing Concert Duo (yes, that's us) with voice, guitar and flute in Classical, Romantic, Latin and Modern styles.

The BUC Chalice Choir will be performing John Rutter's *Gloria*, accompanied by a small orchestra, on Sunday December 10th. It will be a dynamic, energetic Sunday of music. The choir is excited to give this gift to the congregation, plus several of our own accomplished instrumentalists, along with some friends of BUC, will make up the accompanying ensemble. It should be... glorious!

On another note, (ahem) for the 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service we could use some extra singers. If you haven't had time to join choir, come sing with us on Wednesday, December 20 for one hour to prepare the music, and then join us for December 24 Eve rehearsal and then the service. The 8:00 p.m. service is contemplative and full of wonder.

As always, write to us if you have music questions or comments. steven.dearing@bucmi.org and abha.dearing@bucmi.org
Happy Holidays to all.



Green Sanctuary Ministry

What are we called to do?

Earlier this year, a Declaration of Conscience was published that recognizes our UU principles as a call to oppose hatred and harm based on demographic characteristics, to oppose threats to people's freedoms and well-being, and to oppose inaction in the face of climate change.

These are social justice issues that the **Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)** and **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)** and individual advocates have been addressing in various forms for many years.

These issues face a growing threat from government action or inaction and the polarization among elected officials and citizens that is stifling dialog, listening, compromise, and other measures necessary to address our social concerns. We must **not only oppose threats** but **also work toward solutions** that serve the greater good.

One way to work toward solutions is for UUs and others to sign on to this Declaration.

A signature represents a commitment to put our UU values into action; and to seek out actions and policy changes that address issues that matter to us.

You may wonder what your "featherweight" contribution can accomplish, questioning what one person can do to make much difference. But we each have control only over our own actions. Only you can decide whether you will do the one thing that you can do.

After signing the Declaration, you may find yourself inspired to speak out where you didn't before or to join a movement at BUC or in your community to address an issue when you couldn't find the time before. It may take a lot of feathers to add up to a hundred pounds, but it still does add up to a hundred pounds!

Visit www.tinyurl.com/DeclarationConscience to sign this Declaration or watch for opportunities to do so in the social hall after Sunday services.

Jane O'Neil and Cindy Clement, Green Sanctuary Ministry Co-Chairs
Mary Jo Ebert and Ben Gabel, Social Justice Committee

"Statement" vs "Declaration"

What does it mean?

As an expression of our values, the UUA and UUSC take positions on relevant issues of social justice, and make **Statements of Conscience**. Statements of Conscience go through a Democratic process and are voted on by congregations at General Assembly. They provide a form of social witness and a basis for action by individual UUs and congregations.

By contrast, a Declaration does not go through the same process, and is a rare opportunity for you to sign as an individual.

In partnership with other faith and justice organizations, the UUA and UUSC make public statements that align with our social witness positions in the form of letters to public officials, open statements, shareholder letters, and amicus briefs. As of this writing, there have been 71 such publications in 2017, all of which are listed on the UUA website.

Declaration of Conscience

At this extraordinary time in our nation's history, we are called to affirm our profound commitment to the fundamental principles of justice, equity and compassion, to truth and core values of American society.

- In the face of looming threats to immigrants, Muslims, people of color, and the LGBTQ community and the rise of hate speech, harassment and hate crimes, **we affirm our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.**
- In opposition to any steps to undermine the right of every citizen to vote or to turn back advances in access to health care and reproductive rights, **we affirm our commitment to justice and compassion in human relations.**
- And against actions to weaken or eliminate initiatives to address the threat of climate change – actions that would threaten not only our country but the entire planet – **we affirm our unyielding commitment to protect the interdependent web of all existence.**
- **We will oppose any and all unjust government actions to deport, register, discriminate, or despoil.**

As people of conscience, we declare our commitment to translate our values into action as we stand on the side of love with the most vulnerable among us.

We welcome and invite all to join in this commitment for justice.

The time is now.

Service and Justice – December 2017

The holiday season is among us at BUC. The tree is up and the decorations are out. Christmas can be a complicated season for many Unitarian Universalists especially for those who have let go of their childhood faith. If the story of a virgin birth is no longer your cup of tea, what does this time of year mean for you? Are the holidays a time for you to reconnect with family? A time for Sabbath? A time to be jolly or is the holiday season a difficult time mourning for lost loved ones and friends? For those who are Christian, the nativity story can be all of these things as well as about hope and new beginnings.

During this holiday season, what do you hope for in 2018? For me, here at BUC, I hope to continue our social justice theme, “Principles into Action”. How can we express our UU Principles into Action so that we can create the beloved community and a more just world? For traditional Christians, the holiday season is a time to reclaim their faith. How can we as UUs spend the holiday season reclaiming our faith? We are a faith that proclaims that there is inherent worth and dignity of every person, and that every night is holy – that seems like a great starting point.

For the first time, I am planning to begin the holiday season by celebrating Chalica, which starts on Monday, December 4th. Chalica is a holiday for UUs to reflect on each of our seven principles by lighting a chalice on each day for 7 days. For readings and to learn more about Chalica, you can go to <https://tinyurl.com/ChalicePrinciples>.

Blessed be, Ben

Newtown Screening Dec 14, Northwest UU Church

This film provides access into the lives and homes of people who lost loved ones in the Sandy Hook School shooting five years ago. Film begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Northwest UU Church in Southfield. There is no charge.

December Plate Collection Recipient: The Welcome Inn



For many years, BUCers have helped The Welcome Inn, which is at Southfield Covenant Church at 21575 West 10 Mile. Operated by South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless, it is the only daytime warming center for the homeless in all of South Oakland County. On any given day between Mid-December and March, 70 to 90 guests use the facility. They receive a hot dinner, clothing from the clothing closet, social services, haircuts, medical treatment, and most important of all, our friendly companionship.

The Welcome Inn could not operate without volunteers, and the shelter is completely dependent on donations. BUC volunteers help in a number of ways. They sign up for weekly four hour-shifts helping in the clothes closet or serving lunch. They are vital to crucial short time needs like purchases and deliveries, for which funds have been donated to cover expenses. Casserole recipes are assigned that they can cook at home (a great small group or neighborhood project) and then deliver to Southfield Covenant Church or BUC. Please see Annis Pratt at the Welcome Inn Table in the Social Hall starting December 3, or contact avpratt@aol.com.

It costs the Welcome Inn around \$25/day for each guest or about \$1500 per guest for the entire season. To help with this, the December Plate Collection Recipient will be the Welcome Inn.

Any BUCer may nominate a local service organization to be the plate recipient. Submit an application online at www.bucmi.org. Click the “Social Justice” tab, then the “Plate Collection Application.” Contact Sharon Kirchner at skirch47@gmail.com if you prefer to submit a paper application.

Holiday Cheer – Adopt-A-Family for the Holidays

We are grateful to the many generous BUC members who adopt a family for the holidays. Without you many of these children would not have gifts! Our families are from the Walt Whitman School in Pontiac, where many BUC folks tutor and volunteer.



Last Day to Sign Up:	Sunday, December 3
Drop Off Day:	Drop off your gifts at BUC on Sunday, December 17, between 10:00 am and 12:30 pm
Delivery Day:	Gifts will be delivered to the school on Monday, December 18.

THANK YOU for your generosity! Questions? Contact Barbara Robinson or Jane O'Neil



Happy 15th Birthday MUUSJUN & Congrats to Pat Hammer!

The Michigan UU Social Justice Network celebrated its 15th birthday in November. Pat Hammer and social justice advocates from congregations across the state were honored for their work. Pat is a past leader of the BUC service & social justice program, has served on the MUUSJN steering committee and board, co-founded and co-leads the Escalating Economic Inequality Task Force, and continues to advocate for public transit, affordable health care for all, environmental protections, and other social justice matters in the wider community. Pictured to the left, MUUSJN Director Randy Block & Honoree Pat Hammer.

UU All Church Read: *Daring Democracy*

Books will be available for sale at the Social Justice table in the Hodas Family Hall, following Sunday services for \$15. Take a moment, and mark your calendar, BUC's congregational discussion of the book will be on January 20.

Walt Whitman Elementary School



As you set up your schedule for next year, consider volunteering at the Walt Whitman School in Pontiac. We have over 20 BUC people who regularly participate at Walt Whitman. You could join the Thursday after-school Bananagrams team, book trolley team, or serve as a tutor.

Contact Mary Jo Ebert at maryjoebert@gmail.com to get connected with a volunteer role. Pictured at left: Mary Gawel Ensroth, and on the right Barb Sosnowski sorting and labeling books for book trolley.



Social Action Resources

Winter Warmth: The Greater Unitarian Universalist Senior High group is collecting hats, mittens, and scarves for the Baldwin Center, which serves the Pontiac community. Bring any donations to the Hodas Family Hall on Sundays or drop them in the designated basket in the coat rack area during the week. New or gently used items are welcome.

Hand Up: Visit handup.org, a program of the South Oakland Shelter, to donate toward an item needed by an individual.

Join the Michigan UU Social Justice Network (MUUSJN) email list to receive timely alerts, with action steps, and information about social action projects. Sign up at www.uujustice.org

Visit the VoteSmart.org to access information about elected officials and candidates. This nonpartisan service provides comprehensive information on background, issue positions, voting record, campaign finances, interest group ratings, and speeches and public statements.

BUC Opera Buffs



Special Encore performance from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera in New York: Saturday, December 9th, 12:55 p.m. – *Hansel and Gretel* – Humperdinck.

A Met English-language holiday presentation, Richard Jone's clever production of Humperdinck's fairy-tale opera is based on the Brothers Grimm story. This will not be showing at our usual place, The Maple Theater, so please contact Larry Freedman at lawrenceman@sbcglobal.net or call him at (248) 370-8227 if you are interested, to make arrangements to attend another local theater.

Gingerbread House Construction Party -- Fun for Everyone! Saturday, December 9th



9:30 to Noon at BUC – in the Hodas Family Hall. **There is no cost to participate, but signup is required.**

Younger children will need assistance with their projects. They may bring a helper, or work with a friendly volunteer helper from BUC. RSVP to Merry Hoffmeyer: merryhoffmeyer57@gmail.com

Please provide the following:

- Your name and contact information
- Name and age of child (or children)
- Will child require a volunteer helper?

For more information, or to volunteer, contact Merry Hoffmeyer or Mary Jo Ebert.

Religious Education 2017-2018



On December 3rd, as part of the annual Candy Cane Sunday event, the RE program will be collecting new socks, gloves, and mittens for toddler through 6th grade children at the Walt Whitman School in Pontiac. Please bring unwrapped donations of these items to the RE office anytime through Sunday, December 17th. Thank you!

Children's Religious Education

Here is a brief outline of the Kindergarten-5th grade schedule through the holiday season:

- December 3rd: Candy Cane Sunday during single 10:30am service / gift wrap creation in Social Hall after service
- December 10th: Choir service at 10:30am (Preschool, Nursery & K-5th grade RE classes offered)
- December 17th: No Fault Orchestra/MultiGenerational service at 10:30am (Nursery & Preschool class offered)
- December 24th: Two services: 5:00 p.m. (child-oriented) and 8:00 p.m.
- December 31st: Congregant-led service at 10:30am (no RE classes for Nursery-12th grade)

Please contact Eleanor McGuire, Children's DRE, with any questions at: eleanor.mcguire@bucmi.org

Youth Religious Education

What is going on in Youth RE these days? In November, the 6th and 7th graders baked 27 dozen cookies for our South Oakland Shelter guests and took a field trip to Bharatiya Temple in Troy as part of their Hinduism unit. The 8th grade OWL (Our Whole Lives) class is nearing the end of their intensive, three-hour Sunday morning curriculum. Some BUC high school youth, in conjunction with youth from Northwest UU and the Muslim Unity Center, prepared dinner for our SOS guests. On November 19, in an event organized by the high school youth, the 6-12 youth spent the afternoon playing laser tag at Zap Zone in Waterford.

Coming up:

- December 1, the 8th graders will sort and set out the poinsettias ordered by congregants (for pickup on Dec. 3). They will have an extra session of OWL on December 3 and will conclude the program on December 10. Also on December 1, RE will host a Parents' Night Out.
- December 3, following service, Eleanor and Kimery invite RE families to put their stamp on the holidays! We'll gather in the Hodas Family Hall to decorate paper and create original gift wrap out of—well, you'll just have to come and find out! Folks who are really organized can bring their gifts to wrap; the rest of us can create materials to take home or donate to the GUUSH WHRC shoppers. (The high school youth have again chosen to sponsor a family for the Adopt-a-Family program and are choosing a date to shop together for gifts.)
- December 8, they will sponsor a musical program at American House in Auburn Hills, followed by a video game night here at BUC!

THANK YOU so much to the many adults who have made our program possible, especially our dedicated OWL teachers Max Kort, Dave Graham, Kat McMullen, and Kye Campbell-Fox; to our 6&7 teachers Latika Mangrulkar, Michelle Chapman, Bill Fox, Bruce Webber, and Steve Lorey; to high school teacher Paola Seidel, and to GUUSH advisors Bill Fox, Kat McMullen, Paul Plante, Tom Cranston, and Walter Dean.

Happy holidays, all! If you are not receiving regular email updates about youth events, please send your contact information to Youth DRE Kimery Campbell at kimery.campbell@bucmi.org.

Birmingham Unitarian Church
38651 Woodward Avenue
Bloomfield Hills MI 48304
www.bucmi.org

Mark Your Calendar

BUC Talent and Service Auction March 10th, 2018

Save the Date!

The Talent and Service Auction is a great way to share your skills and passions, and get to know your BUC family through that sharing. For example—you love to knit, and you are quite adept at making beautiful socks. You offer to teach someone how to create wearable beauties. Then on auction night, people bid, someone wins, and you two have a great time knitting and finding out about one another.



There will be a table in the Hodas Family Hall starting in January where you can ask questions, find out more about the event, and sign up to share your talent. You can also email Teresa Honnold at teresaraehonnold@gmail.com