Birmingham Unitarian Church

"The Mission of the Birmingham Unitarian Church is to create a free and welcoming religious community that encourages lives of integrity, service, learning and joy."

May 2012

Worship Services @ BUC

9:30* and 11:15*

With Childcare & Children's Ed~ something for all ages

May 6: "Mother Tongue"

We take it as a given that our UU congregations include a diversity of thought and belief, of spiritual practices. But with that diversity comes a diversity of spiritual "languages," different kinds of expressions of one's beliefs. Kathy and Worship Associate Frank Arvan consider the different languages that come with different spiritualities, and how we honor those different languages without deteriorating into chaos. This sermon was purchased by Don and Nancy Johnson at last year's auction fundraiser and is a response to their choice of topic.

May 13: "The Way We Were"

In keeping with the nostalgic mood and themes of Mothers Day, this multigenerational service led by Kathy and Lifespan Team Member Pamela McAlpin sorts through past experiences to see whether they really unfolded as we like to remember them, and how they shape our present.

May 20: "What Would UU Do?"

The BUC Chalice Choir presents its annual spring choir service with the theme of UU identity and values, in a service of music, readings, and celebration, led by Co-Directors of Music Steven and Abha Dearing, with assistance from Kathy and choir members.

May 27*: ONE SERVICE @ 10:30 a.m. "Try to Remember"

In a culture focused relentlessly on the next new thing and the future, it can be difficult to hold onto our memories in helpful ways. This single service of Memorial Day weekend explores the ways memories heal and save when we hold them properly.

Memorial Glen Service

Following the one service, at 11:30 all are invited to move into the Memorial Glen for our annual honoring of the lives of loved ones whose names have been added to the cenotaphs in the past year.

Greening of Detroit

Saturday May 12 and May 19, 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Trees bring hope and beauty to recovering neighborhoods. Families are welcome. Show your kids a way to give to others, while enjoying a family outing. No experience required. We will teach you. This is physical work, but we plant in teams, so all are welcome. Tools are provided. Planting occurs from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. both Saturdays. This donation is for your time only, no money is solicited. If your short on cash this year, this is a great way to contribute. Mother's Day is May 13. Plant a tree for her, plant a tree for yourself, plant a tree for the Earth. Go Green. Please contact Paul Plante at pplante@twmi.rr.com, or by phone: 734-464-1577 to sign up.



Connections - Joys & Sorrows

After being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in March, long time BUC member, mentor and friend to many, Worship Associate at BUC and a beautiful spirit, Elaine Morse, died on April 18 at home, in the company of loved ones. Her memorial service will be at BUC on Sunday, May 6 at 2:30 in the afternoon. Those attending from BUC are urged to park in the parking lot adjacent to BUC, just south of our Social Hall to free up our main parking lot for guests.

Drieka DeGraff's mother was recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Please keep her in your thoughts as she deals with this difficult, emotional eldercare issue.

Melinda Henderson has been have some health concerns. They are in the process of diagnosing her, and she has returned to work part-time. She was cheered and grateful for the friendship and caring of her BUC friends during this tough month.

Ann Duncan's father passed away after being hospitalized for injuries sustained in a car accident.

Betsy Spiker's mother, Joanne passed away on April 2.

Dan Kosuth's former father-in-law, LeRoy, died after a long illness on April 19.

Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt's mother, Maxine died on April 24 after an extended illness.

Tom and Paula Short are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Mary Elizabeth to partner Laura Graff. The wedding will be in October in Massachusetts.

Dr. Bob Mengebier age 83, died April 26 in Tucson. Husband of Pauline Mengebier for 26 years, the father of their three children, and her friend for the last 30 years.

Kelly Taylor's mother-in-law, Sandra Taylor, has been diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. Your thoughts and prayers would be much appreciated.

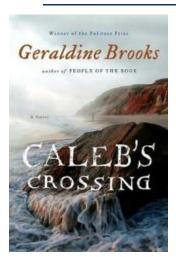
Long time BUC member, Sue Buckner, mother of Liz Buckner, died on April 23rd. There will be

a Memorial service at BUC on Saturday, May 19th at 2:00. Reception to follow at the home of Sue Buckner. The service will be led by a family member who is a Rabbi.

Kaaren Peters younger sister has been diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis after beating cancer four times. Thoughts of strength appreciated.

Charlie Kosuth is traveling in Guatamala with his U of M Engineering work group for a ten day trip to build wind generators in a mountain village.

Drop-In Book Club: Caleb's Crossing, Thursday, May 31



Caleb's Crossing, by
Geraldine Brooks will be
the topic of our drop-in
book discussion on
Thursday, May 31 at 6:30
p.m. "In 1660 on
Martha's Vineyard in the
settlement of Great
Harbor, fifteen-year-old
Bethia Mayfield lives with
her pastor father; her
brother, Makepeace; and
her sister, Solace. Her
mother died in childbirth,

along with the unnamed baby. Bethia most misses her twin brother, Zuriel, who died in an accident. Resisting the female role that is expected of a Puritan girl of that time, Bethia listened as her father taught Zuriel. When she was forced from the house, Bethia continued to study in secret. Her love of learning is her secret sin."

Spring Rummage @ BUC Dates and Times

Thursday, May 3: 6:30-9:00 Opening Night!

Friday, May 4: 10:00-2:00 Half-Price Day, Consolidation/GUUSH Sleepover 5:00-Sat. a.m.

Saturday, May 5: 9:00-Noon -- BAG DAY Clean-up: Noon-5:00

Sunday Morning Discussions

On May 6th, we will conclude our discussion of the book, "Living Buddha, Living Christ" by Thich Nhat Hanh. Our next discussion will revolve around the book by Nick Hornby, *How to Be Good* beginning on May 13. Our group meets in the Large Conference Room from 9:30 to 11:00 -- everyone is welcome.!

Sacred & Profane Discussions

The S&P discussion group will meet on Wednesday, May 16 at 10:30 AM in the Large Conference Room. The topic for discussion is "What makes you laugh?" Lighten your day by

sharing your best jokes and/or real life happenings that make you laugh.

Film Buffs, Friday May 18 *Bride Flight*

Join us in the Commons at 7:00 p.m. for "An audience favorite at festivals the world over, this lavish and visually

lush romantic epic charts the lives of three women from very different backgrounds, forever changed when they emigrate to New Zealand as war brides. Eager to escape the gloom of postwar Holland, shy but sensual rural girl Ada, dogmatic Marjorie, and fashion designer Esther become fast friends during the 1953 KLM flight that carried the brides to their waiting husbands, who have already settled in Christchurch. Though they part ways upon arrival in their new country to begin their new lives, the women's paths continue to cross in the years to come in unexpected ways as love affairs, betrayals and unbreakable bonds spur them toward an inevitable yet eye-opening final reunion fifty years later. In Dutch and English with English subtitles." -Detroit Film Theater Summer 2010 Film Guide

BRIDE FLIGHT

Snacks provided by Margot Leroy. For more information contact Larry at <u>248-569-0965</u> or <u>LarryWisniew@att.net</u>.

Kudos Work Day Participants!

More than 30 dedicated BUCer's participated in the All Church Work Day, Saturday April 21 even though the day started out at a cool 38 degrees. The projects were too numerous to detail but included major pruning and mulching of the shrubbery around our buildings and along Lone Pine. There was extensive invasive weed removal and gardening in many areas including the Memorial Glen, the Capek Woods, the Marshall Courtyard and the Woodward berm. There is still much work to be done. Contact Nancy Duffy, Stephanie Patil or Fred Straky if you are interested in helping out on mini-work days this summer.

Good Grieving, Not Good Grief

This group is a safe place to share feelings of grieving, or of grief. Please join us whether on a regular basis or as needed. We meet the second Tuesday of the month, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Small Conference Room. This month it will be on May 8th. If you have questions, please contact Grace Rising at 248-545-2178 or gbrising@comcast.net

Sunday Morning Hospitality @ BUC

Signing up just got easier! Every Sunday morning we benefit from the people who volunteer to be greeters at the door, from folks who offer to usher, handing out orders of service and collecting our offerings, and the folks who make coffee offering us gracious hospitality in the Social Hall following our services. We've just made it even easier to sign up! We need all of you who love BUC to take a look at our available slots on Sign Up Genius and see where you could volunteer some time to make BUC even more welcoming and inviting. This is a password protected site. **Our password is: welcome**

If you put in your email address, it will notify you with an email two days before your time. Give it a try. Sign up today! Click Here

Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt



"I take you to be my husband/wife/partner, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, honor, and cherish, so long as we both shall live." The words are a traditional version of wedding vows, repeated in ceremonies simple and elaborate, in front of judges and ministers-for-a-day and clergy of all varieties, often spoken tearfully or stammering, by persons who may or may not appreciate the implications of what is being promised.

Wedding vows may be the most familiar version of a covenant, an ancient tradition of promises made by all the parties in a relationship regarding how they will be together, how their relationship will unfold. Covenants do not cover all eventualities,

but tend to be broad and elastic enough to both endure and evolve over time. And like wedding vows, covenants are made with the awareness that they are likely to be broken, given our human limitations, but can be renewed rather than having to be abandoned as a contract is abandoned when one of the parties fails to live up to expectations.

Your BUC Board of Trustees has charged the Committee on Ministry with the task of leading us through a process of conversation, education, input, reflection, and creation that will result in the adoption of a new congregational covenant at our annual meeting next December. This has been set as a goal for us because the existing covenant, which you adopted during your interim period, is both too long to be useful and the creation of a congregation whose circumstances have changed since it was written.

One of the characteristic definitions of Unitarian Universalist congregations says that we are a "covenantal, not a creedal, church." In contrast to churches which affirm shared beliefs, we allow for a diversity of beliefs and instead bind ourselves to one another through the affirmation of shared promises that describe how we will live together in community. When we hit the rough patches that inevitably come when people live and work closely together, we turn not to beliefs to settle our differences, but to our covenant. A covenant reminds us that we are a community—and that a beloved community, as we intend to be, is far more than simply a collection of autonomous individuals.

Perhaps you have participated in the writing of a congregational covenant before, and the news that we are embarking on a new covenanting process elicits from you some eye-rolling and deep sighs, images of laundry lists of ideas on whiteboards, sentences that we haul out once a year and never see or make use of any other time. And sadly, covenants in congregations do sometimes match those experiences.

But I believe we can do more. The struggle to live in community while honoring our differences, to join in shared work to benefit the whole, and to resolve conflicts respectfully rather than pretending they do not exist or deteriorating into hurtful words and actions, is at the heart of what our church is about. The message we offer is not one of how to think but how to love. And just imagine: if we can learn to live harmoniously in a diverse community, what could we then offer to our fractured world that has yet to discover how to embrace its ever-growing diversities?

In faith, hope, and love,

Kathy

Lifespan Religious Education

Pam McAlpin, Director of Performing Arts & Adult Education pam.mcalpin@bucmi.org
Kimery Campbell, DRE for Youth kimery.campbell@bucmi.org
Eleanor McGuire, DRE for Children eleanor.mcguire@bucmi.org

Adult Religious Education

Our last Friday: Food, Faith, Fun, and Fulfillment went out with a bang! Thanks go out to everyone who participated this year in our monthly potlucks, Vespers, Adult Education's exploration of BUC's ROPE questionnaire, and family fun. We ended the year with a variety show featuring talents unknown to many of us. The night featured:

Amelia, Randy, Eric Pierce, and Kristi Fielder Lee Mashmeyer Mike Kendra and Kathy DuHame Barbara Woolf Reed and Stuart McAlpin Gabriel Loomis Mandell and Sarah Newman

I look forward to the first Friday in October when we resume Faith, Food, Fun, and Fulfillment. Save the date, October 5, 2012.

Multi-generation Services: Thanks to Eleanor McGuire and Kimery Campbell (Hilda the Chicken) for their help in my original story "Second Chances" on Easter morning. Coming up, our May Mother's Day service explores the media's look at families from the late 1940's through today. Thirty members of our congregation have been rehearsing to help make these years come to life. BUC will continue monthly Multi-gen services this summer. Summer Multi-gen's will include the "Blessing of the Animals" service, a relaxing drumming service (yes, I said relaxing), and a look at the "Special Needs in all of us".

Pamela McAlpin Performing Art's Director Lifespan Team Member

Children's Rotation Curriculum

In May we continue the *Creating Equity* rotation that highlights some of the ways that our church teaches us to *practice* our faith. It explores BUC's work to promote equity in both our community and our world. This rotation asks: "Why does our church work to help other people succeed?", "How do you recognize what the need is?" "How do you decide *how* to help...what path to take?" and what does it mean, "Teach a man to fish and he'll be fed for the rest of his life?"

Youth Religious Education

The 6th and 7th graders, under teachers Debbie Fordree, Stuart McAlpin, and Eric Sargent, will spend one week looking at traditional/earth-based faiths. We hope to pull together one final UFO (Unitarian Friendship Organization) event for the year—possibly a sports day. On May 6, following second service, we will offer the 5th graders and their parents a brief introduction to UFO, with pizza and games with the current UFO youth. (Note: this is the day of Elaine Morse's memorial, so it will be a quieter event than usual.) On May 20, the 5th graders will be welcomed into the 6&7 class for our UU revisited/wrap-up session, possibly followed by another UFO welcome event.

ROPE (Rite of Passage Experience): Now that their Boston trip is over, the ROPE youth will begin to pull together the experiences of their Coming of Age year in their credos for ROPE Sunday, June 3rd. ROPE rehearsal is June 2, from 9 to 1. They will be welcomed into the high school youth program at the GUUSH-ROPE picnic on June 10! On June 1, the ROPE class of 2013 will take over Scrip sales. Watch for new ideas about how BUCers can support our youth with Scrip!

May's Sunday morning High School class will continue with their Leadership workshops, exploring the forces that quietly guide our lives. The youth will also discuss their vision of what Sunday mornings "might be" in 2012-13.

GUUSH (Great Unitarian Universalist Senior High) will focus on end-of-year events: the Rummage sleepover and Election meeting on May 4; the Heartland District Bridging Con May 11-13 at BUC; a possible car wash; high school bridging and the GUUSH-ROPE picnic on June10; the annual Cedar Point trip on June 20 (drivers needed!). All high school youth are welcome to join us for the GUUSH meetings on May 20th and June 3rd, 6 to 8 p.m.

June Youth Ceremonies

Rites of passage along life's journey are common in many cultures and religions. Child dedications, services of union, and memorials mark "big" moments in the journey, but at BUC, we also recognize some important transitions in our young people. Coming of Age is celebrated at BUC with the Rite of Passage Experience (ROPE) year for our 13 & 14 year-old youth, culminating in the ROPE service at which they will present their personal credos. The passage into young adulthood is celebrated at the end of the high school senior year with a Bridging ceremony. We ask the graduating seniors to give a brief, thoughtful statement concerning their past and future. Both ceremonies mark very important transitions in the lives of our youth.

ROPE Sunday: June 3rd, 9:30 and 11:15am

Bridging Ceremony: June 10th, 9:30 and 11:15am

Questions about Youth RE can be addressed to Kimery Campbell at kimery.campbell@bucmi.org

Say "Thanks," "Good Luck" and help BUC RE - Shop with Scrip! Scrip is Fundraising

While You Shop!™

Whether for "Teacher Appreciation", graduation parties or "just because", gift card are easy to give and well received. Order your gift cards (Scrip) through BUC and help send our incoming 8th graders to Boston next April.

A complete list of merchants is available

at http://www.shopwithscrip.com. Browse the list at your leisure, fill out the BUC order form (attached to the electronic mailing) and bring it to the BUC social hall with your check on any Sunday. The gift cards will be ready for pickup the following Sunday. BUC receives a % of each sale, anywhere from 1.5% and up, but it doesn't cost you anything extra. Say "Thanks" with a \$5 "teacher appreciation" Starbucks card though May 11, or "Good Luck"

with Staples (5%), Speedway (4%), Meijer (3%), Panera bread (9%), Amazon.com (4%),

Your Invitation: Alliance June 6 Luncheon

BUC Alliance will observe the completion kof its 58th year with its traditional Annual Meeting Luncheon on Wednesday, June 6. The Noon luncheon in the Social Hall will be catered by Donna Hollis The Inspired Chef. WE are now taking reservations, with payment of \$18 in advance. We will not meet in May.

After a brief meeting, including election (for our 2012-2013 program year), we will have a presentation of the TV game show, "To Tell the Truth" being organized by Diane Sasaki. We enjoyed a similar program at our 2008 Annual Meeting – which (to many...) brought back memories of the 1960's TV game show.

Everyone is most cordially invited to this event. For reservations please leave an envelope addressed to BUC Alliance in the church office containing your check for \$18 made to BUC Alliance. The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, May 30.

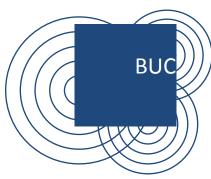
This delightful occasion marks the end of another year of excellent programs and friendly gatherings. Next year – our 59th – will begin on Wednesday, September 19. We hope to see you on June 6.

Words & Spirit April

Living by Heart - - a group dedicated to reflecting on the written word as a means for deepening our own lives. Bring a poem or piece of short prose to share. We meet the first Monday evening of the month, this month on May 7, from 7:00-8:30 in the Large Conference Room.

Writing as Spiritual Practice -- a group focused on using our own writing to deepen our living. Bring paper and pen. We meet every third Monday of the month, May 21 this month, from 7:00-8:30 – this session we will meet in the Blue Door Room. Drop ins welcome to both groups!

Hallock Heritage Society Members Party



The Endowment Committee is hosting a wine and hors d'ouvres reception for members of the Hallock Society on Friday evening, May 18th at the home of Donna Cunningham. Anyone who has included a gift to BUC in their estate planning via trust, will, annuity or other conveyance, is automatically a member of the Society.

Nan and Clark Hallock were long-time BUC members who were known for living quite frugally. During the years that Clark made coffee for Sunday social hour, he often re-used old coffee grounds; the coffee was awful but we saved a lot of money. The Hallock's left their entire estate to BUC which turned out to be a whopping \$80,000. That was in 1987

and provided the impetus for the church to create our General Endowment Fund.

If you have been thinking of including BUC among your bequests, speak to a member of the Endowment Committee: Judy Amir, Donna Cunningham, Ron Fredrick, Diane Saski, or Dick Schwing and you too can become a member of the Society.

If you are a Hallock Society member and have not received your invitation to the May 18th party, please contact Donna Cunningham: 248-646-8434; drcunn1@comcasg.net

Music @ BUC



What a musical spring we are having at BUC. On Easter Sunday, we were delighted to have Mike McGillivray volunteer his talents by arranging a version of "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place" from the Brahms' Requiem for choir and chamber ensemble. Our BUC instrumentalists included Mike, Cathy Sherwin, Grace Brockett, and Angelina. We also had two visiting musicians, Rita Kiislyuk (viola) and Sam Martin (clarinet). Our BUC singers did a wonderful job. Thanks to all for your offering of time and talents.

April 29, was a delightful Hymn Sing Sunday. It was great hearing all your voices.

Looking forward to Choir Sunday, the choir will be sporting our latest in BUC swag: wrist bands embossed with WWUUD, for our theme that day 'What Would UU's Do.' They will sell for \$5, and all sales will go towards our BUC 'close-the-gap' financial need. So, come and hear our choir, and leave with a cool, new wrist band. Also, many thanks go out to all the sewers of the choir's new stoles under the leadership of Margot LeRoy.

To welcome Spring, the Kids Choir will sing for both services on May 6th. This energetic group of musical children is working hard to learn some new harmonies. In addition to rehearsing our songs for services, they are beginning to read music and use their bodies as instruments! These kids pick up new ideas so quickly and are very welcoming to new singers. Later, on May 20th, the Adult Choir has a chance to share their own message in our annual Choir Sunday services. This year, the theme is "What Would UU's Do?". The service gives a historical overview of Unitarian Universalism, then tries to answer some questions. As UU's, we often struggle to figure out how to live out the values of our faith, since we are so different from other long-established religions. So, where do we go from here? Come and take the journey with us through songs, Rev. Kathy's words, and the choir's own reflections and readings. Last, please mark your calendars NOW for the UU Choir Festival on Sunday, June 3rd at 4:00pm, hosted this year by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ann Arbor. Over ten different UU church choirs will converge for a concert that is FREE and open to all. There will be many songs sung by the combined choruses, plus some hymn singing and a special appearance from Carolyn McDade, composer of "Spirit of Life", one of our best-loved hymns. It would be wonderful to see some BUC-ers in the audience. Co-Directors of Music Steven and Abha Dearing. You may email us at: abha.dearing@bucmi.org or steven.dearing@bucmi.org"

Calling all Music Lovers!

The Music Committee is open to new members for its two-year cycle beginning July 1. If you enjoy the music at BUC and would like to participate in supporting and enhancing our music programs, please let me know! We would love to have new voices. We meet about once a month, following the second Sunday morning service. Mary Jo Larson larsonbizer@comcast.net

Considering Membership @ BUC?

The membership Committee has put together a Path to Membership booklet to help answer any questions you might have concerning membership at BUC. They are located in the rack outside of the church offices, out on the glass table in the foyer on Sunday mornings, and there's one attached to the electronic mailing of this newsletter.

MAMA's Coffeehouse Saturday May 19 - Jill Jack with Mark Iannance



- MAMA's Coffeehouse is held at Birmingham Unitarian Church. Click <u>here</u> for directions.
- General admission is \$12 unless otherwise indicated. Seniors (62 and over), and those under 18, are \$10. Children 12 and under are free.
- Shows begin at 8:00pm unless otherwise specified. Doors open at 7:00pm with open mic beginning 15 minutes later.
- Open mic starts at 7:30pm with 2 reserved spots available. Please e-mail Jim Bizer at <u>jb@jimbizer.com</u> if you wish to reserve a spot. Walk-ins can sometimes be accommodated.
- Volunteers receive free admission! Please e-mail <u>MamasCoffeeHouse@ameritech.net</u> if you are interested.

To be added to the MAMA's e-mail list or mailing list, send an e-mail message to MamasCoffeeHouse@ameritech.net. Be sure to indicate which list(s) to add your information.

May's Artist: Dr. Jian Chen



Artist Statement

A nice photo just like a key. It opens your heart and soul. It sooths the hearts, and refines sentiment of human being. When you travel or live in daily life, a lot of things, beautiful or ugly, unique or ordinary, simple or complex, special occasion: happy or sad, catch your eye and temporarily implant in your memory. Photography can catch the moments you desire to stay in your memories, enabling you to share it with some one else.

Artist Biography

Dr. Jian Chen is a General Surgeon, has practiced in Detroit area for more than 29 years. He also has been the president of an art organization – Sino American Culture Exchange Center (a non-profit Michigan domestic organization, 501(c)(3)).

As a hobby, he has grown a very unique flower named Cereus (Tan Hua in Chinese). The flower only blooms during the night, usually once a year. The classical Cereus bloom, only lasts five to six hours. The next morning the bloom has collapsed. It is a a very fragrant, elegant looking, large nocturnal blossom. At this time, Dir. Jian Chen he has five different species.

In order to catch the beautiful moment when the blossom blooms and to share the beauty with people, he has worked at developing the skill of taking photos of the flowers.

The photos he is going to display in the Art Exhibition were selected from thousands of photos taken during the past ten years. Hopefully, you will not only enjoy looking at the beauty of the photos, but will also share the experience how to raise the unique plant, Cereus• jianchenmd@comcast.net

Michigan UU Social Justice Network

MUUSJN Affordable Care Act Forum

Saturday morning, June 9 in the Commons, 9:00 - 12:00

Health care advocates, Marjorie Mitchell of <u>Michigan Universal Health Care Access Network</u> (<u>MichUHCAN</u>) and John Freeman of <u>Know Your Health Care Michigan</u>, will fill us in on the Affordable Care Act, what it means for us in Michigan, with special attention to Oakland County, and, of course, the elephant in the room ... the anticipated Supreme Court decision.

For more information please contact Pat Hammer 248.644.6568 patriciajhammer@gmail.com



BUC is sponsoring the Annual Fundraiser for the Bulgarian Underprivileged Children.

We hope you can support this worthwhile fundraiser and have fun, all at the same time! BUC is donating the space for this annual fundraiser for the MITHRA foundation.

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

When Dame Beatrice is given a mink shawl by her maid, the resident lodgers – a precision-minded brigadier, a vivid vocal coach, and a dithery china restorer – band together with Dame "Bee" and her friend, elegant Lady Alice, to return the filched fur. That successful mission is quite an invigorating experience, prompting the eclectic group to form a Robin Hood-like crime syndicate, which steals furs and gives the proceeds to charity. But when Scotland Yard gets wind of those highminded thefts, things get even more interesting.

Full Impact Theater is thrilled to take you to back to the early '60s to witness the outcome of this fabulous English frolic. *Breath of Spring* opens on Friday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. in OPC's Cattell Auditorium, near downtown Rochester (at 650 Lettica Drive). Performances also run on Saturday, May 19 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., concluding on Sunday, May 20 at 2:00 p.m.

Keen to get your tickets right now? If so, you'll save some loot: Presale tickets are specially priced at just \$8 for seniors and students, and only \$10 for all others. If you choose to wait, those same general admission tickets will cost you \$10 or \$12, respectively, at the door. Group rates are also available. Purchase your tickets directly at OPC, or save gas and charge them online (without a service charge, by the way) at the *FullImpactTheater.org* website. Should you have any questions, please email *info@FullImpactTheater.org* or phone 248.609.9019.

Mesmerizing audiences with classics-based entertainment, Full Impact Theater distinguishes itself from other student drama groups by its mission—to develop leadership, teamwork and communication skills in teens ages 12 to 19 through mentoring and with profound respect, while upholding and providing the professional theatrical standards of more traditional adult organizations. Full Impact Theater is a 501(c)(c) nonprofit organization.

Planning their next raid right here at BUC. Members of the Albert Memorial Fur Gang in rehearsal, going over their lines for *Breath of Spring*. BUC is the staging point for this enticing production, which is directed by the accomplished Lisa Melinn.

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