



7/5 "That Elusive Freedom"



7/12 "Norbert Capek: Apostate, Minister, Martyr"



7/19 "Escalating Inequality and the Parable of the Parking Lot"

+ Effortless Meditation  
July 1 & 8  
Meditate & Mingle  
July 15 & 22  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

July 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in the Commons. Newcomers are always welcome. No experience necessary.

"Meditate & Mingle" will meet in the Blue Door room. This group is open to all. This is a chance to do meditation and followed by time to mingle, chat and share some snacks. Both groups will be facilitated by Denise Everheart of the International Assoc. of Human Values. Meditation will be on summer vacation in August and will resume in September.

For the rest of the summer we have a potpourri of subjects and experiences to offer. From Zen to compassion, humanism to God, brokenness to welcoming... It will be good to be together in a more casual fashion during the summer days.

## Art in the Chancel July

July will feature a watercolor, "Leelanau Summer", by BUC member Sonia Molnar. Sonia writes, "The subject is taken from the beautiful and unspoiled country view of the Leelanau Peninsula. It is an area with undulating hills, lush fruit orchards, agricultural patterns and small farms surrounded by Lake Michigan. At the bottom of the painting I placed a dark band of color within which are the Sunflowers that lie in the background of the landscape. I hope this painting evokes the true spirit and character the peninsula.

## July

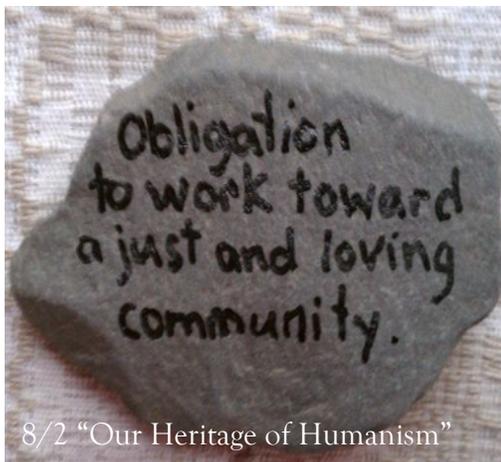
Sunday Services  
10:30 a.m.

5<sup>th</sup> Guest speaker, Zenki Kathleen Batson, a Soto Zen Buddhist priest, will speak about how she came to Zen Buddhist practice and how her practice informs her day-to-day life. Kathleen and Worship Associate Frank Arvan will explore the meanings of freedom and how Buddhist spiritual practice offers a sense of well-being and freedom in this complex and chaotic world

12<sup>th</sup> Capek's grandson, our own Ron Fredrick, will relate the life story of this fascinating man. The Church he founded in Bohemia in the 1920's is the largest UU congregation ever recorded. UU churches worldwide celebrate the Flower Communion rite that he created. WA Paul Vachon.

19<sup>th</sup> Rev. Penny Hackett-Evans and WA Teresa Honnold will explore what escalating inequality asks of us specifically here at BUC. We all want to do the right thing. All of us are in favor of halting escalating inequality - but, much stands in our way.

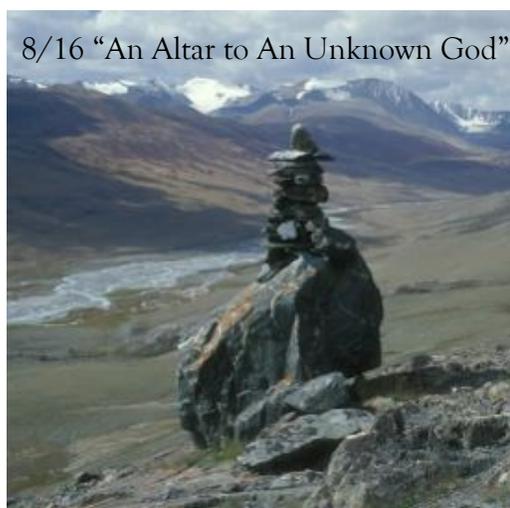
26<sup>th</sup> The Ministry of Compassion - BUC member Ed Sharples and WA Judy Amir will explore compassion as a necessary component of the spiritual self and the religious community. It may have little to do with reason and logic, but it has much to offer as congregants try to diminish the grief of friends when illness and death intrude into personal and family life.



8/2 "Our Heritage of Humanism"



8/9 "Listen to All the Voices"



8/16 "An Altar to An Unknown God"



8/23  
"Brokenness  
- And Holy  
Glue"

**+**  
**Sunday, August 30**  
**"How Welcome**  
**Are We?"**

Dr. Glen Thomas Readout, director of music at the Ann Arbor UU church will speak with us about his experience as a gay man within Unitarian-Universalism. As UUs, we pride ourselves in "Standing on the Side of Love" and on being a "welcoming congregation". In this service we will explore what that means and how we can live out those ideals here at BUC.

## August Art in the Chancel

August will feature a pastel done on aluminum, "Sol Duc", by BUC member Joe Sim. About this pastel Joe writes; the swift movement of water in the Sol Duc River in the state of Washington captivates me. The quiet shallow water seems to magnify the pattern of stones below, becoming a meditation on what lies beneath the surface; a metaphor for the unconscious. Dry stepping stones surround the watery image, but the gap that appears the most challenging is the one separated by the darker swift water leading below to a deeper, unclear realm.

## August Sunday Services 10:30 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Rev. Ken Phifer will share ideas on our heritage of Humanism and the role it plays in our movement today. The congregation that Rev. Phifer served for 25 years in Ann Arbor is the source of one of the major documents of the religious enterprise in the 20th century, The Humanist Manifesto, drafted some 80 years ago and signed by 35 prominent Unitarian and Universalist ministers and several philosophers.

9<sup>th</sup> In this service, BUC member Lisa Demian along with WA Camille Harris, will consider how the practice of listening to all the voices may strengthen the foundation of our Beloved Community. As UU's, we strive to be inclusive of the diverse beliefs and ideas of others. As human beings, though, we sometimes react when others' beliefs and ideas differ from ours.

16<sup>th</sup> Rev. Penny Hackett-Evans will explore the various ways in which we as UUs define "the Holy" and our relationship to it. As UUs, many of us know the God we do not believe in, or the idea of a god is not relevant to our daily lives. For some other segment of us there is a wide variety of ways we might describe what is most holy.

23<sup>rd</sup> Rev. John Corrado and WA Donna Larkin Mohr will present this service. Rev. Corrado writes;

*- The real McCoy?  
 - A "terrible beauty?"  
 - What Thomas learned*

## Connections: Joys & Sorrows

“...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

BUC member, Jay Labban is, “Glad to be back in the U.S. after spending one week in the old country.”

“Paul Vachon’s father is recovering from hip surgery. Prayers and thoughts appreciated.”

Sorrow from Keith Ensroth: “Please keep my father, Ray Ensroth, in your thoughts and prayers as he combats his demons and those trying to help him – as he is hospitalized for fluid on the brain and its associated paranoid dementia.”

Joy: “Bill Fox and Kimery Campbell are so proud of their youngest son, Kye, who graduated from Oberlin College on Memorial Day!”

Joy: “Steve Lorey is happy to celebrate three years of remission from his cancer diagnosis. Woo-hoo!” ☺

Joy from Carolyn Hall: “Cap Hall, long time BUC member, has reached the age of 100 and he is still perking.” Happy Birthday, Cap!

Concern: “Joanne Copeland had a knee replacement on June 21. She is home, doing physical therapy, and now know that PT means, ‘pain & torture’! She welcome your calls, messages, and healing thoughts.”

Concern: “Bill Rittinger has been moved from St. Joe Hospital to Woodward Hills. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.”

## Summer Opera Buffs Opportunities



BUC opera fans will be attending encore performances in July of four great operas previously transmitted live in HD from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera:

Wed, July 08, 7 PM - Verdi’s *La Traviata*

Wed, July 15, 7 PM - Donizetti’s *The Daughter of the Regiment*

Wed, July 22, 7 PM - Lehar’s *The Merry Widow*

Wed, July 29, 7 PM - Verdi’s *Aida*

Location: AMC Forum 30 theater complex at Mound Road and M-59.

Admission: \$15.

Contact: Larry Freedman - [lawrenceman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lawrenceman@sbcglobal.net) Ph.. [248-370-8227](tel:248-370-8227)

## PENNY'S THOUGHTS



Rev. Penny Hackett-Evans

Modern day Jesuit priest, Anthony de Mello says, “enlightenment is absolute co-operation with the inevitable.” It strikes a chord with me. I believe it’s true, but oh so hard to accomplish. I can find all kinds of ways of arguing with the universe when I get a cold or when it rains or when my car won’t start. All that wasted anger. Just this morning I found myself swearing (swearing!) at the computer because I could not get it to do what I wanted! I am not proud of this – but I did finally have to laugh at myself! Aligning yourself with the truth of what IS, makes for an easier journey. Swimming downstream is always easier than bucking the current. We don’t have to like what is true, but we at least have to see it and align with it in any way we possibly can. This doesn’t mean that you don’t take an aspirin when you have a headache or that you don’t call a tow truck when you get a flat tire. But it does mean that you don’t spend unproductive minutes, hours, days wishing the situation was different.

You move forward with what is. Facing it in the best way you can without wishing for a parallel universe in which things turn out the way you hope. Of course, that’s a lot easier to do when you have a flat tire than when you are diagnosed with cancer. It’s a lot easier to do when you miss a plane than when someone you love dies. But, even in those most dire circumstances, being able to align ourselves with the truth that we are facing will make for an easier time than continuing to cling to the way we wish things were. This life throws curve balls at us all the time. Frequently we swing and miss. It’s just the truth of things. That’s why we need this beloved community and each other so much.

## Green Sanctuary Spotlight: The Capek Woods



A love of nature is so engrained in Unitarian-Universalists that many of us spend the summer hiking and kayaking to explore our beautiful planet and get ourselves back into balance with the world around us. Did you know that our campus is a lovely place to wander, with the Memorial Glen, the Capek Woods, and our pond down by Woodward all awaiting your footsteps? After you wander, please give a heartfelt thanks to Stephanie Patil and Pat Hammer for their countless hours over the years in designing and putting the sweat equity into making this all happen, from trails, to tree identification, to Midwest prairie plantings. Take yourself and your children for a “saunter,” which Thoreau defined as aimless wandering to refresh our

spirits, and watch for notices of Campus Tours later in the summer.

Seeking volunteers to help with our grounds on Wednesdays from 10-12.  
Please contact:

Stephanie Patil [sp4public@gmail.com](mailto:sp4public@gmail.com)

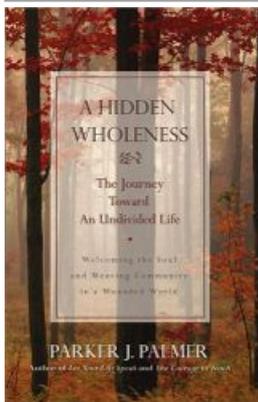
or Pat Hammer [patriciahammer@gmail.com](mailto:patriciahammer@gmail.com)



## The Humanist's Study Group

### Summer Sundays 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

July 12-August 30, the group will meet discussion. Those who attend will chose the topics as the summer progresses. Join us in the large conference room (first room on the right as you enter the main entry way) on Sunday mornings for stimulating discussion and lively conversation.



## A Circle of Trust – Wednesdays in August

A circle of trust is a small group of people (8 – 10) who will work together to help participants listen to their own souls and discern their own truth. Using the format and structure outlined in the book “A Hidden Wholeness” by Parker Palmer, Lisa Demian and Penny Hackett-Evans will facilitate this group designed to welcome the soul and support the inner journey. Please register in advance by calling the office or by emailing Penny Hackett-Evans at [Evansph2@wowway.com](mailto:Evansph2@wowway.com) This group will be closed once formed and members must commit to attend all four sessions. 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the room with the blue door, east side of the courtyard.

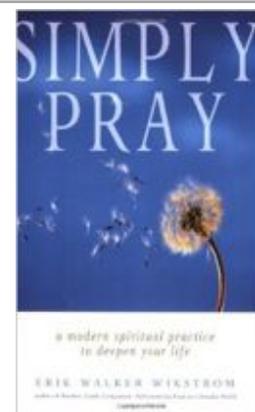
## Finding Your “Vein of Gold”: Wednesdays in July

7:15 – 9:15 Wednesdays in the Blue door in July. This ongoing group which explores creativity through the use of art and words will continue to meet through July. The group is open to new people at any time. Bring simple art materials and a journal. The group is facilitated by Penny Hackett-Evans.

## Exploring Spirituality

### Summer Sundays 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

Exploring Spirituality book group meets Sundays 9:30-10:25 in the small conference room in the RE hallway. We're using the book *Simply Pray* by Erik Walker Wikstrom as a springboard to discussions of various approaches to spirituality through prayer. Join us as we learn more about this practice that permeates various religions, cultures, and expressions of spirituality.



## Summer Grief Group: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays

The Grief Group will continue to meet over the summer, facilitated by Pat Kridler. Join us the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, July 14, 28 and Aug. 11, 25 in the Small Conference Room (in the Religious Education hallway – down from the Commons) from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. This group is open to all, but wishes to extend an extra warm invitation to those newly grieving.

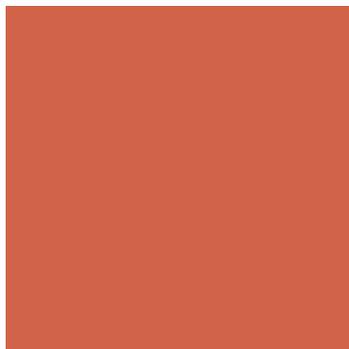


## Adopt a Spot at BUC!

To all our dedicated, hard-working BUC volunteers and family members!

We are offering a new way of participating in BUC's efforts to spruce things up a little over the summer months, and even a way family and friends (or a Small Group!) can come together and share in a "service project" right here at BUC for BUC.

The plan is akin to a jobs jar, or perhaps it could be called "Adopt a Spot": a project binder will be located in the front foyer with suggested short-term projects (think "all church work days") in specific areas around the campus, with suggested tool requirements, and a sign-up process.



Student community service time could be acknowledged as well! Projects of all sorts are available, of various time and physical requirements.

All questions can be directed to Jim Shettel in the office, by email or phone. [jim.shettel@bucmi.org](mailto:jim.shettel@bucmi.org) (248) 647-2380 ext. 215

## Music at BUC

Abha and Steven are grateful for this summer time when they have a chance to regroup, refresh and plan for our music and worship at BUC this fall. Over the last few years, your Co-Directors of Music have endeavored to make your contemplative and celebratory worship experiences meaningful. During the summer, they are blessed with opportunities to explore new ideas, learn new music and communicate with other professionals to build more community through music. Our music committee, headed by the venerable Ed Sharples, has been supportive of all the new ideas and the good old ones as well. We will convene in August to officially kick-start the new church year. We have lined up guest pianists and speaking guests throughout the summer.

Abha attended the University of Michigan Choral Conducting Symposium and came away with lots of new song-possibilities for our dedicated, high-level choir, and plenty of techniques to bring out the best from this group of singers. Overwhelming research shows the benefits of singing in a choir.

We are having gatherings over the summer to meet new potential singers and hang out a bit. Email Abha for more information on these shindigs and to find out about how to join choir [abha.dearing@bucmi.org](mailto:abha.dearing@bucmi.org)

Steven is busily planning this summer for the SoundBites Concert Series, getting revved up for Sound Messengers (our house band) and selecting worship music from a variety of tastes and styles, enhancing the overall message. Feel free to contact Steve to share your talents and suggestions: [steven.dearing@bucmi.org](mailto:steven.dearing@bucmi.org).

We will be in church for worship and community on most Sundays. Happy Summer, all! See you soon!

## The 2015 BUC Talent & Service Auction: Let's Build it Even Better

The answer is YES! There WILL be a Talent & Service Auction this year!

Friday evening, October 16<sup>th</sup> has been marked for this lively, entertaining event. With silent and live auctions wrapped around food and fun, this has proven to be the largest single opportunity to support the BUC operating budget—and build friendships at the same time. Please mark your calendar to join us!

In prior BUC Auctions, bidding was hot on such donated items as themed gourmet dinners... summer boat rides... cottage and NYC weekends... a beer crawl... group cooking lessons... and a walking tour of historic Detroit, to name just a few. Winning bidders still talk about their enjoyable experiences and getting to know people they'd met only briefly before.

**And now the question:** What talent or service will YOU share with BUC'ers to help make this Auction better than ever?

Your Auction Crew intends to gather all donation ideas over the summer, so come fall we can focus on planning the food, music and fun that makes this night so memorable. We will be reaching out by phone for donations, but if you have an idea now: GREAT! Here's what to do:

- Bring your idea for a talent, service, or social event to the Auction Table in the Social Hall any Sunday from **July 12<sup>th</sup> through August**. We'll help you take it from there. *Thank you!*
- Or email Marcia Mahood ([marciamahood@gmail.com](mailto:marciamahood@gmail.com)) and she will have a crewmember contact you. *Thank you!*
- Stumped for an idea? Picking a partner can make it easy and even more fun. Come to the table or email Marcia—we'll help you put the pieces in place. *Thank you!*



## Don't Forget to Bring Back Water!

As you travel around over the summer, collect a bit of water from wherever you are and bring it with you on September 13, our Homecoming Sunday. This is our Water Communion. If you're inclined, take a picture and send it to [lisa.crawford@bucmi.org](mailto:lisa.crawford@bucmi.org) ~ we'll have a visual feast to go with our celebration.

## Service & Justice July-August 2015

### Detroit to Flint Water Justice Journey – July 3-10

#### DETROIT TO FLINT



#### WATER JUSTICE WALK

The People's Water Board coalition and others have teamed up to advocate for clean, affordable water in our region and across the state. Detroit water shut-offs have been well-publicized and in Flint, residents are experiencing serious health problems related to unsafe water from the Flint River, including hair loss, autoimmune disorders, skin burns, and children with lead poisoning. Since clean water is essential for healthy living, affordability and safety are matters of justice. Advocates are calling for affordability plans and reforms aimed at protecting human health.

The Detroit to Flint Water Justice Journey will take place during July 3-10. Several people will walk the distance from Detroit to Flint and all of us are invited to walk with them for any segment of this route. We will host the full-distance walkers at BUC on the night of July 4. BUCers and friends are welcome to join them for dinner at BUC that day or for breakfast and send-off on Sunday morning, July 5. The walk will proceed to Pontiac on Sunday. There are rallies planned in Detroit and Highland Park on July 3, Baldwin Center in Pontiac on July 5, and Flint City Hall on July 10. Wouldn't it be great to have a strong UU presence for these events? Check the BUC website or weekly BUC update email for more details or contact Mary Jo Ebert. [maryjoebert@gmail.com](mailto:maryjoebert@gmail.com)

### Baldwin Center Summer Program – August 3-6

BUC will conduct its 3rd annual summer program for K-6th grade summer campers at Baldwin Center in Pontiac during August 3-6 at 12:30-2:30. If you have a skill that could be taught or demonstrated or if you can volunteer as a helper, contact Eleanor McGuire or Mary Jo Ebert. We welcome high school students and adults to serve as volunteers. The children are interested in a wide range of topics including art, science, singing, dancing, cooking, video technology, educational games, creative writing, and more. If you'd like to volunteer but are not available on Aug 3-6, please contact us to discuss other possibilities.



### WHRC Elementary School Volunteer Program

BUC will continue providing volunteer services at WHRC Elementary School in Pontiac during the 2015-16 school year. Most of the volunteer work is done during the school day, and there are opportunities to help at other times. We are recruiting volunteers. Please contact George Lentz or Mary Jo Ebert if you can participate or would like to learn more about it.

### Escalating Inequality Study/Action Issue

- Following the Class Conversations workshop held in May, we've continued learning about classism through a study of where it may be present in our congregational activities and practices. All are welcome to join our discussion. For a broader look at classism, we recommend the book, *Class Lives – Stories from Across our Economic Divide*, edited by Chuck Collins, Jennifer Ladd, Maynard Seider, and Felice Yeskel. This book features 40 essays from authors who represent a range of classes, genders, races, ethnicities, ages, and occupations. Their stories illustrate their growing awareness of class and their place, changing or stable, within the class system.
- We encourage BUC small group fellowships, book clubs, and discussion groups to allocate time to study and discuss escalating inequality. There are many resources from which to choose, including films, books, and other publications.
- Watch for sermon topics in July and August that address aspects of topic.

Contact Marti Szilagyi or Mary Jo Ebert for more information. [maryjoebert@gmail.com](mailto:maryjoebert@gmail.com) or [mszilagyi13@gmail.com](mailto:mszilagyi13@gmail.com)

## Plate Collection Recipient – Alternatives For Girls



Our plate collection recipient from mid-July through August is Alternatives for Girls, an organization in Detroit whose mission is to help homeless and high-risk girls and young women avoid violence, teen pregnancy and exploitation, and enable them to explore and access the support, resources and opportunities necessary to be safe, to grow strong and to make positive choices in their lives. For more information, visit [www.alternativesforgirls.org](http://www.alternativesforgirls.org)

### Nominate a Recipient

The plate collection committee is seeking recipient candidates for the next quarter. If you know of a local organization to recommend for our plate collection, submit an application online at [www.bucmi.org](http://www.bucmi.org). Click the “Social Justice” tab, then “Plate Collection Application.” Contact [maryjoebert@gmail.com](mailto:maryjoebert@gmail.com) if you prefer to submit a paper application.

BUC Service & Justice Co-Chairs: Mary Jo Ebert, Sharon Kirchner

MUUSJN (Mich. UU Social Justice Network): [www.uujustice.org](http://www.uujustice.org)

UU Service Committee (UUSC): [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)

## Campus Development Update & Town Hall Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>

Here is an overview of progress made by the Campus Development & Prioritization Committee since the BUC Annual Meeting in May.

### Construction Management and Architect

In an early example of the “value engineering” process, BUC’s construction management firm McCarthy & Smith determined that it would be more cost-effective to refresh the Social Hall and remodel existing restrooms at the same time as the main construction project, in the spring of 2016 vs. earlier. Therefore, the fall Rummage Sale and Talent & Service Auction will be free of construction worry.

McCarthy & Smith will provide a high-level construction schedule by mid-July and refined cost estimates by August 1<sup>st</sup>, so we can make any adjustments in the project scope that might be necessary to stay within budget.

Jim Clark and Jim Shettel met with BUC’s architectural firm inFORM studio and McCarthy & Smith to kick-off work on the designs for our mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems.

Members of the CDPC, its architect review team, and McCarthy & Smith met with inFORM studio to view their initial recommendations for interior finishes (floor covering, paint and trim).

### Project Financing

Since BUC congregant donations to the capital campaign are being phased over a 5-year period, Dick Cantley and Kim Ruiz are exploring options for financing the campus development project which will be complete over the next 18 months. These include the traditional bank mortgage discussed during our May Annual Meeting as well the need for a bridge loan, and such possible alternatives as church bonds and pledged asset lending.

More detail on financing options and interior design and finishes will be provided to BUC’ers in a Town Hall meeting to be held on Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the single service. Hope to see many of you there! As usual, please feel free to direct any questions to me at [dick\\_cantley@yahoo.com](mailto:dick_cantley@yahoo.com).

-Dick Cantley, Chair, Campus Development & Prioritization Committee

## Religious Education

The work that we do with our children and youth is arguably one of BUC's longest-lasting contributions to the future of our faith. From the simple religious and values concepts that we present to our preschool-age children to the topical discussions that take place in the high school classes, we strive for appropriate,

appealing, inclusive and memorable curriculum and instruction for the next generation.

While the Directors of Religious Education, Eleanor and Kimery, try hard to prepare the material to be covered in class each Sunday morning, a critical piece of that program comes from our volunteer teachers. As most of us know, learning from the right adult can be a transforming experience—and this opportunity is by no means limited to current RE parents! If you are interested in having an impact on our young people and have been involved with BUC for at least a year, please talk to Eleanor or Kimery about teaching.



## Summer RE Sundays at BUC

Children's RE is now on its summer schedule, offering multi-age programming during BUC's 10:30 am worship service. There will be a Nursery for the littlest ones and a four-year-old through Fifth grade class meeting each Sunday through Labor Day. Our summer theme is always Great Books & Great Fun, involving creative craft activities, games and sharing wonderful stories. This year, we are introducing some new titles to our list of great books.

Questions about Children's RE can be addressed to Eleanor McGuire at [Eleanor.mcguire@bucmi.org](mailto:Eleanor.mcguire@bucmi.org)

BUC's youth (6th grade--High School) are welcome to join us or go into the Sanctuary for worship. Occasional Youth Group programming will occur during the summer - stay tuned to your email for notices of events with UFO, ROPE &/or GUUSH.

## Youth in the Summer

It may feel as if summer RE at BUC is all about the younger kids, but there is a place for youth as well. We encourage the UFO (6&7) families to plan summer events such as picnics, pool parties, or trips to the movies. All it takes is choosing a date and sharing the details with Kimery. She will generate a flyer and distribute it to the families. So plan now for middle school summer fun!



Kimery is also planning some summer craft nights, to be held here at BUC. Whether you are a committed artist or an occasional doodler or just like working with your hands, please watch your inbox for the dates. For the older youth, watch email and Facebook for leadership planning meeting and information about our intended camping trip in August.

There are lots of opportunities for other summer fun. If you are willing and able to organize a picnic, host a pool party, plan a day at Kensington or a backyard barbecue or bonfire, or anything else to get our church youth together, please let Kimery know the details! Questions about Youth RE can be addressed to Kimery Campbell at [kimery.campbell@bucmi.org](mailto:kimery.campbell@bucmi.org)

## Explorations School for Young Learners

As we come to the end of the preschool year, the Explorations School for Young Learners has accomplished much in two short years! We have added a 3-year-old preschool class, welcomed Sally Barwin to our staff and continued to expand our program. Just last month we welcomed two additional students into our toddler program. The children have had a wonderful year building friendships, reading books, creating many masterpieces, going on field trips and exploring the world around them. We have all had a busy year at Explorations School for Young Learners.

This month, after regular preschool ends, we will begin our third summer camp program. At summer camp the children can look forward to making new friends, singing songs, playing games, reading books, making crafts, having special treats and fun on the playground. The Explorations School for Young Learners and Explorations Summer Camps are exciting, fun programs for young children! Fall registration for our Toddler and Preschool Programs continue. For more information about our Toddler, Preschool or Summer Camp programs please contact us at [248-647-6531](tel:248-647-6531) or visit our website: [explorationspreschool.com](http://explorationspreschool.com).



### In the Gallery Aug. 17 – Sept. 25

### Artist Cecilia Gabel

### Reception, August 28<sup>th</sup> 6-8:00 p.m.

My new painting series is titled "Trees." It is a departure from my other work which was focused on the negatives spaces of structural grid patterns. My new work focuses on the organic grids that the twisting, arm-like branches form, and in that regard, this work is an extension of my earlier work.

The inspiration grew out of my work as an art teacher. Two of my favorite painting lessons stem from the work of Jackson Pollack and Dale Chihuly. I also teach a unit on Mondrian and I especially love his trees. Dale Chihuly's drawings of the Ikebanas (Japanese flower arrangements), inspired a lesson where I have the students paint a fast, quick painting of flowers in one class period. As I demonstrate for them, I find that there is usually one that I want to finish. The Jackson Pollack lesson is a three class period painting where the students are not given any object to paint and must use quick, fast, expressive lines. Each class we add a different layer of paint and type of line. We conclude the paintings by drawing on top with squirt bottles. Of course, I also find one or two that I have to finish from my demonstration pieces! Because I love painting in this quick expressive way, I now use these two techniques to paint the trees. It is an extension of my teaching and a tribute to the artists I love.

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

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## AMUUSE Vacations – Adult Midwest UU Singles Enrichment

- be a part of a year-round community of single adults!
- swimming, hiking, canoeing, dancing and more!
- new people and lasting friendships!
- workshops for fun, personal enrichment and growth!
- days and days of sun-filled beautiful, relaxing, enriching, inexpensive fun.

July 12-18

### Mystery Cruise

embarking from the Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI. If you love a good mystery, delight at solving puzzles, or enjoy figuring people out this is the AMUUSE vacation for you!

Register online at [www.amuuse.org](http://www.amuuse.org)



Aug. 30- Sept. 5  
Celebrating the  
Arts

Whether your talent is music, fashion design, athletics, drama, fine arts and crafts or something else you will find a category to highlight your natural gifts. A formal opening of the Art Gallery with dancing and celebratory toasts.. Register online at [www.amuuse.org](http://www.amuuse.org)