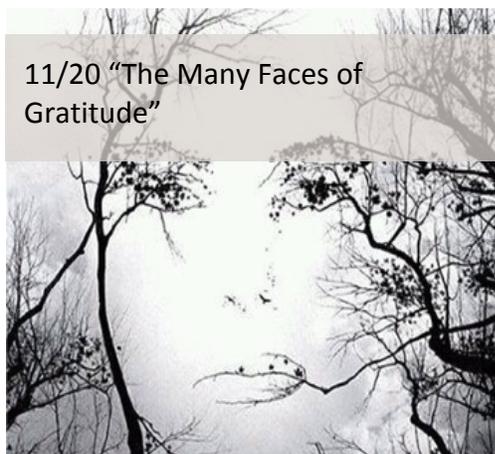




11/6 "Fences & Neighbors & Love"



11/13 "The Sound of Solitude"



11/20 "The Many Faces of Gratitude"

+ Sunday November 27 "Our Unitarian Universalism Ancestry"

Our church was founded by members of the First UU Church of Detroit who wanted to build a beloved community located closer to home. Both Unitarians and Universalists first arrived in Detroit in the 1830s. You are invited to hear about these two liberal faiths in Detroit during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Guest speaker Daniel Rebb is a member of First UU Church of Detroit. He currently serves on the Worship Committee, is the Board Secretary, and is an unofficial church historian.

Polarity: Alone and Together

As we continue our yearlong focus on polarities, opposites that push and pull us in the unfolding of our lives, our November services take up the polarity of alone/together.

Each of us needs solitary time, and each of us needs time with others: how do we balance those needs, especially when the circumstances of our lives might complicate the balancing, even make it impossible? How do you find solitude within your family? How do you get enough time with others when you live alone? What drives us from one polarity to the other? These are some of the questions we take up in November.

SERVICES 10:30 a.m.

06 Poet Robert Frost famously observed that "good fences make good neighbors," a testimony to the need for some sort of boundaries between people. Kathy and Worship Associate Judy Amir explore the kinds of boundaries that help us maintain the distances we need to thrive. Music by the Sound Messengers.

13 A The Koran includes a statement by God which describes God's creation of humans as "those whom I created lonely." Our culture presently seems to rarely invite solitude, even encourages us to regard being alone as a negative state. Kathy and Worship Associate Donna Mohr ponder the many sides of solitude and how it may be essential for spiritual and emotional growth. Music provided by Chalice Choir.

20 This multigenerational and interactive service, led by Rev. Kathy, Directors of Religious Education Eleanor McGuire and Kimery Campbell, and Worship Associate Sara Constantakis, considers how different traditions understand expressions of thanks, and how those are similar and different from our own UUism. Music provided by the Sound Messengers.

27 "Our UU Ancestry" (See call out box to the left)

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



Bill and Kaye Rittinger, September 2016

One of BUC's members of more than fifty years, Bill Rittinger, died on October 24th after a long decline. Bill was active in the choir, participated in Sharing Dinners, and was a wonderful lively presence in the lives of all who knew him. His service was on Saturday, October 29, at Desmond Funeral Home followed by lunch at Papa Vino's. A large number of his choir buddies were in attendance, and sang some beautiful music in celebration of his life.

Long Time Member of BUC, Albert Radcliffe, passed away in Seattle. Albert & his late wife, Mickey, were stalwart members of our congregation for many years in the 1980's & 90's. Albert began the Art Committee at BUC featuring a variety of local artists. Albert would have celebrated his 96th birthday at the end of October.

Jim Shettel's older brother Don died on September 29 in Boulder City, Nevada.

Larry Freedman's daughter Emily had her spleen removed in an attempt to eliminate the autoimmune problems she has had with her two transplanted kidneys.

Sharon Kirchner's sister-in-law, Nōna, was diagnosed with stage IV colon/liver cancer with a 5-10 year life expectancy. She will be going through a very aggressive chemo treatment. Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

“On September 30, my mother, Teresa, peacefully finished her eight year battle with multiple myeloma. In those eight years she taught us all to live and appreciate life.” ~ Derrick Karteczka

“My daughter, Nicole has just been given the ‘all clear’ after breast cancer surgery, with no cancer in the breast or lymph nodes!” ~ Margot LeRoy

“Please share your positive energy with my sister, Kristen Camilli. She is scheduled for a mastectomy following breast cancer surgery on October 31.” ~ Mike Auchter

Wendi Corteville's mother, Donna, is scheduled for surgery on November 3. Please

Feeling Lucky -- Two Potluck Opportunities in November!



The Green Sanctuary Annual Harvest Potluck: November 20

Please join us—all ages welcome—for our annual Harvest Potluck following worship on Sunday, 20 November, in the newly remodeled Hodas Social Hall. Bring a seasonal, local dish to share; and, if you just bring yourself, that's fine, too. We'll provide beverages, plates, flatware and some extra food, so do join us for a meal and some pleasant conversation.

Thanksgiving Potluck at BUC

Unsure what to do for Thanksgiving? Too busy to try and arrange something? Come join us for a wonderful potluck dinner at BUC on Thanksgiving Day! Available and interested in being a co-host? Let Carol know when you sign up at church after service on the 6, 13, and 20 or email Carol Winslow, the coordinator, at cwin@att.net

Grief Support Group, November 1 and 15

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, due to construction, we will announce the room change when it happens. 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 Alison Rule at (248) 3020-1021.

Sunday Morning Discussion Group

The Sunday Morning Discussion Group will be looking at selected essays from Mark Grief's book *Against Everything* from 9 to 10:15 in the social hall, or one of the colored door classrooms as they become available. All are welcome whether or not you have read the essay. If you would like to be included in that email distribution list, please email Steve Lorey at loreyzone@att.net.

Alliance November 16

We will meet in the Pavilion at noon for a "brown bag" luncheon; Alliance will provide coffee and dessert. Our speaker will be BUC'er Ann Duncan, Chief Veterinarian at the Detroit Zoo, where she has worked for over 20 years. During that time she has had a number of unique experiences, and has seen the zoo grow in size and influence. Think of the polar bear and penguin exhibits. She will share stories and answer questions. It's our own world famous zoo - come at 1 in the Pavilion to hear more about it!

UPDATE on our Holiday Luncheon

We have had to re-schedule our Holiday Luncheon. It will now be held on TUESDAY, Dec. 13, and NOT at the Kingsley. It will be a mile up Woodward Avenue at the Iroquois Club - a banquet facility next to the Moose Preserve Restaurant. It is easy to find and has lots of parking. Mark your calendars for TUESDAY, Dec. 13. More details to follow.



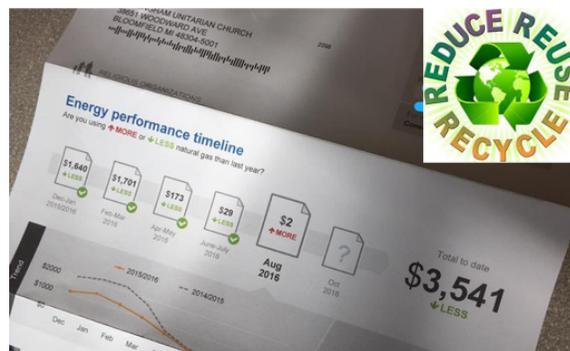
Caregivers Support Group November 8 and 22

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! Join us when we meet the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 1:15 at the church. To learn more, call Alison Rule at 248-320-1021 or Camille Harris at 248 320-9651.

Humanists Group November 27

The Humanists of BUC will be meeting on November 27 at noon to hear from Donna Mohr, the chairperson of BUC's Green Sanctuary Committee. Donna will be speaking on our role in contributing to a cleaner environment. A light lunch will be provided, followed by our program.

Due to the ongoing construction, a place for our gathering will be announced prior to the date, when we will know more about availability. All are welcome!



REFLECTIONS



Rev. Dr.
Kathy Hurt

Quaker author Parker Palmer, in his book *Letting Your Life Speak*, comments on autumn as a season marked by contrary energies of dying and seeding for new life. The dying aspect of autumn often seems more evident, with the constant drift downward of leaves, the increasing barrenness of branches stark against the sky. I watch the showers of leaves and feel melancholy, thinking I once again let autumn slide past me and failed to spend enough time noticing its beauty. The leaves fall too soon for me, every year.

But Parker notes that autumn is a time when seeds are prepared and cast widely in preparation for the growth that will come in the spring. So along with the dying, the work of rebirth is already underway. If I could focus on that, my usual autumn melancholy might be less. Parker notes that this dual motion of dying/seeding shows up in our lives, though just as we tend to

overlook one part of the motion in autumn we may also overlook one movement in lived experience. Whenever a loss is underway, how is it possible to see at the same time something new emerging? Yet those dual motions are frequently in play, dying and seeding, losing and growing.

As we enter these last days of autumn, may we cherish each beautiful leaf as it remains on the tree, as it falls gently to the ground. And may we look beyond the falling and dying to see the beginnings of growth also happening with the seeding. We are seldom only growing, seldom only losing and dying, more often going in both directions at once. To see both those directions can afford some consolation when loss seems all there is. Happy autumn to you—and happy beginnings of spring.

Faithfully,

Kathy

Introducing the 2016-2017 BUC Leadership Development Committee

This year's Leadership Development Committee (LDC) informally started its year with a potluck and mixer of "old and new" members, along with LDC nominees, hosted by Max Kort and his family in August. Thanks to the Kort family for their hospitality!



The current LDC is meeting monthly to begin the work of developing a slate of candidates for the ballot in May 2017. Amazingly, even as the program year is just beginning, the LDC must begin looking for leaders for the 2017-2018 year.

The slate of candidates for the Board of Directors and new members of the LDC is presented to the congregation in the weeks before the annual meeting in May. Then, at the annual meeting, the members of BUC vote.

This year's LDC members include: Soren Andersen, Walter Dean, Mary Cay Dietz, Neb Duric, Merry Hoffmeyer, Jay Labban, Marie Miller, Diane Slon, Kelly Taylor, Harper West.

Writing as a Spiritual Practice

This group will gather on Monday evenings from 7-9 in the Blue door to explore writing as a daily practice to be mindful about your life. No writing experience is necessary. Come with a journal and a pen and a willing spirit. Facilitated by Penny Hackett-Evans

Green Sanctuary Ministry

Donna Mohr

SIMPLICITY

Simplicity: freedom, joy, balance

Spiritual discipline of simplicity not a lost dream—
a recurrent vision

Capture it, hold it

Lose Archimedian focal point for simplicity

Lust for status, position, showy extravagance dissipates

Love a life of joyful unconcern for possessions

Experience the liberating spirit of simplicity,

Reject that which produces an addiction

Simplicity is freedom, not slavery

Give things away; don't get too attached to things

Develop a deeper appreciation for the creation—

get close to the earth; walk, listen

Buy that which oppresses no one; my lust must not mean
poverty for others

Simplicity is voluntary and enabling

Life of conscious simplicity—a beautiful and functional integrity
that elevates the human spirit

Break the yoke of oppression—racism, sexism, classism

Seek a higher truth

Ecological living does not turn away from economic progress;
it's a path of new growth

Includes material and spiritual dimensions of life

A simpler life is not a retreat from progress; in fact,
it is essential to the advance of civilizations

Not a back to the land movement—

a make the most of wherever I am movement

Advance culture, capacity for compassion,

sense of community, strength of democracy

Simplicity removes the obscuring clutter and discloses the spirit
that infuses all things

Simplicity goes far deeper; involves a change in my way of life

I'm not just not dying; you are not just not dying

I am surpassing life as I now know it

You can surpass life as you now know it



Benefit Concert for Kids in Flint, November

Families in Flint still need help! Please join us for a special benefit concert to support the Flint Child Health & Development Fund. Donations made at this concert will directly support the future health of the children of Flint who have been exposed to lead in their water. All gifts received by December 31 will be matched by the C.S. Mott Foundation - up to \$5 Million!

The evening is Co-Sponsored by the BUC Green Sanctuary Ministry & the GAIA Chorus & will feature music of solidarity and hope by the Gaia Women of the Great Lakes Basin and Ann Arbor folk quintet Harmony Bones, and an update on the Flint Water Crisis by guest speaker, Claire McClinton, from the Flint Democracy Defense League.

Suggested donation: \$20 or more, at the door.

Help make a difference! Bring family and friends and enjoy an evening of music and support for an important cause.

Can't attend, but want to donate? Send a check, made payable to Foundation for Flint with "Flint Child Health & Development Fund" on the memo line, to: Foundation for Flint, 500 S. Saginaw Street, Flint, MI 48502-1856

<p>A BENEFIT CONCERT</p> <h1 style="text-align: center;">HELPING THE KIDS OF FLINT</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Supporting the Flint Child Health & Development Fund</p>		
<p>FRIDAY NOV. 18 8 PM</p>	<p>Birmingham Unitarian Church 38651 Woodward Ave. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304</p> <p>Guest Speaker Claire McClinton Flint Democracy Defense League</p>	<p>MUSIC BY: Gaia Women of the Great Lakes Basin Harmony Bones</p>



+ MAMA's Coffeehouse November 19: Ruth & Max Bloomquist

Saturday November 19, 2016 8:00 p.m.

Ruth's award-winning abilities as a songwriter and singer are accented by Max's harmony and touch on the upright bass. With influences of folk, bluegrass, and country, they have created a heart touching, audience pleasing, acoustic Americana that is all their own. Ruth's trademark rich alto is unmistakable, and her songs evoke images and emotions common to us all.

DAN HAZLETT will open the show. \$15 Admission, \$13 Seniors/Students. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Shows:
December 17, Lee Murdock; January 21, Reggie Harris



Music at BUC



Happy autumn wishes to everyone. Music is bustling at BUC these days. The Chalice Choir is busily preparing for the big December 11 service. Mark your calendars now to hear beautiful carols in the Spanish tradition accompanied by harp, mallet percussion, and our special resident guitarist.

Are you interested in singing, but concerned about the time commitment and skill level of our fine choir? Please consider joining a new kind of choir. Ask your co-directors of music if you want more information. As you can see from the picture below, we are kid friendly! Give us a try, it's a great way to experience a smaller community within the larger BUC community.



The Sound Messengers continue to bring a different kind of energy to our services. We welcomed Mark Watson, a keyboard player, in our band this fall. This has helped to fill out the sound. Thanks to many of you, our discerning congregation, for your positive feedback about the band. It is gratifying to know the effect Music has on our spiritual lives, and we love hearing that you were impacted by a certain song or mood. We count ourselves blessed and fortunate to be part of this beloved community.

Service and Justice

'Tis the season! I can't believe the holiday season is just around the corner. One of my favorite stories is the Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. As we all know in the story, Ebenezer Scrooge, a wealthy man is visited by three ghosts and later learns to give to others who are less fortunate as himself. During the visits with the ghosts, Scrooge learns that his employee, Bob Cratchit, has a disabled son named Tiny Tim. Cratchit is not able to afford Tiny Tim's medical care and Tiny Tim would later die if Scrooge didn't do anything. Inspired by Cratchit's love for Tiny Tim, Scrooge becomes more generous by giving a higher wage to Cratchit so he can provide the care that Tiny Tim needs.



We as BUC'er commonly tell ourselves the reason for donating to Adopt-A-Family (Whitman School in Pontiac) or to the Lighthouse of Oakland County is because we have the means to help those who are less fortunate than us, just like Scrooge had the ability to share his wealth with Bob Cratchit so he could take care of his disabled son.

Recently, I read the Seven Spiritual Laws of Yoga by Deepak Chopra. One of these spiritual laws is giving and receiving. The principle idea is that giving and receiving are different expressions of the same flow of energy in the universe. Since the universe is in constant and dynamic exchange, we need to both give and receive to keep abundance, love, and anything else we want circulating in our lives.

As we prepare for this holiday season, I invite you to participate in the donation drives this year not only because we are able to help those who are less fortunate, but as an expression that we are all interconnected with one another. Our giving and receiving to one another avoids us from becoming static, and to be part of an interconnected and dynamic world.

From you I receive, to you I give, together we share, and from this we live. Blessed be.

Ben Gabel, *Director of Service and Social Justice*

South Oakland Shelter November 6-13

BUC will host 30-35 homeless adults and children during "SOS Week," with volunteers providing transportation, meals, entertainment and hospitality. Our partners from Muslim Unity Center, Farmington UU, and Northwest UU are helping again this year. There may still be some volunteer spots open or food donations needed. Contact BUC SOS project leader Paul Plante: pplante@twmi.rr.com or 734-464-1577. Thank you to all who are joining hands and hearts to welcome people who need a home for the week.

Voter Support

Volunteers will be at the Baldwin Center on Nov. 2 to help people identify their polling location, preview their ballot, etc. Contact Mary Jo Ebert if you'd like to help. Requests for an absentee ballot can be submitted to your city clerk's office by 2 p.m. on Nov 5. We encourage all eligible voters to exercise their right to vote on or before Nov 8.



Transportation Ballot Initiative: Read our endorsement of this proposal in the October newsletter and look for it on your ballot. Contact Pat Hammer or Mary Jo Ebert for information.

Walt Whitman School -- Volunteers Enhance K-6 grade Education

We have a great team of BUC, Beacon UU, and other volunteers who provide educational enrichment for K-6 graders at this Pontiac school. We welcome others to join the team.

- Bananagrams: Thursday after-school program kicks off on Nov. 3 for K-3 students.
- Book Trolley Program: Thursday mornings; K-6 classrooms.
- Tutoring: Days & times mutually arranged between the teacher and the tutor.
- Adopt-A-Family: We expect to have family information available starting Nov. 20. Watch for updates.



Contact Ben Gabel or Mary Jo Ebert to get connected with a volunteer role.

November Plate Collection – Minister's Fund for Emerging Needs

Religious Education

Children's Rotation Curriculum

This fall's K-5th grade classes have been a rewarding mix of both the fundamentals of UUism combined with a dash of fun. We will continue with this classroom recipe until the RE classrooms are finished and we are able to once again separate into K-2nd grade and 3rd-5th grade age groups.

For further information, please contact Children's DRE Eleanor McGuire at eleanor.mcguire@bucmi.org.

Youth Religious Education

The 6 & 7 Neighboring Faiths class will continue its look at Judaism and the beginnings of monotheism with teachers LuAnne Holder and Bill Fox. The unit includes a field trip to a local synagogue and the essential component of experiencing food and music during the wrap-up session on Nov. 13!

OWL (Our Whole Lives) in November will discuss sexuality and social media, bullying, abstinence and lovemaking, STIs, contraception, and more. On November 20, we will welcome class guest Lynn Bell!

The High School Youth have been patiently meeting in the Social Hall to discuss faith ideas that contribute to our development as Unitarian Universalist. We also held a GUUSH meeting during class to plan fun and social action events—a format we hope to continue into the winter months.

Youth Groups

UFO (Unitarian Friendship Organization): Our 6&7 youth group will gather after service on Nov. 6 for our annual cookie-baking extravaganza! Sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f48afab29a31-ufocookie2> to bring cookie dough and help us whip up lunch treats for our SOS guests.

ROPE: During November, BUCers will have the opportunity to order their holiday poinsettias from our ROPE class. This annual fundraiser helps fund the 8th graders' UU Heritage Trip to Boston. This year, our poinsettia chairs are Andrew and Kristen Schreck.

GUUSH (Great Unitarian Universalist Senior High): With two social events and a con already behind us, the high school youth group is looking forward to helping with SOS and participating in a chaplaincy training in Dayton and a fun con at People's Church in Kalamazoo from Nov. 11-13. Register at: <http://peopleschurch.net/religious-education/consciousness-youth-con-nov-11-13/>

Thank you to all of the congregants, families and youth who prepared soup and baked goods, crafted stunning pastries for our live auction, sold tickets, organized the silent auction space, staffed Buy It Now, checked in and checked out the Celebrity Chef table, worked as auctioneers, set up, maintained, and cleaned up the kitchen, and otherwise contributed to the fabulous success of Bakeoff 2016. **We earned over \$2800 for our three youth groups and we are deeply grateful to everyone who helped.** (Matthew McNitt's homemade bread pictured)



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.

Campus Development Project: the Parking Lot!

The Parking Lot is done, for this year, and striped. Both entrances are open as is the drive-through lane. A single 2" layer was put down this week and will settle for the next several months before the final 2" is laid in the spring.

We anticipate getting back into the Colored Door rooms by November 6, barring any last minute issues with the City Inspector.

In the next week or so several of the restrooms will be finished up, with the final wall tiles and accessories. The Pavilion flooring and restroom are being worked on this week and next.

The Foyer then remains as the focus for the remainder weeks. Interior wiring and HVAC are nearly done.



UUA Program Fund & MidAmerica Region Dues

Thank you everyone who turned in a pledge at our special service on October 30, and for those of you who were able to pay additional membership dues – an EXTRA thank you! If you missed the service, here is a copy of the payment/pledge form.



UUA PROGRAM FUND & MIDAMERICA REGION Dues Payment Form

Combined, our Fair Share dues for the UUA Program Fund and Mid-America Region are \$85 per member per year (UUA: \$60, Regional: \$25). Our fair share provides for the many valuable resources we can receive (e.g., curricula for Spiritual Growth and Development, facilitating networking with other congregations on Social Justice). Please make checks payable to BUC.

- Number of BUC members in your household # _____
 - UUA Program Fund & MidAmerica Region Dues equals the # from line A x \$85.00 \$ _____
 - I would like to make an additional Dues contribution to help members who are unable to participate at this time: **\$85.00 x _____ or other \$\$ amount** \$ _____
- Total Membership Dues Paid** \$ _____

_____ **Print Name**

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