



**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation  
of Grand Traverse**

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**UUCGT Office Hours**  
**Monday - Thursday**  
**9:00 am - 4:00pm**

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**Spiritual Leader**

Rabbi Chava Bahle  
[rabbi@uucgt.org](mailto:rabbi@uucgt.org)

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**Board of Trustees**

Karl Love, President  
Mike McDonald, President Elect  
Don Pyne, Secretary  
Kay Sturgeon, Treasurer  
Tom Darnton, Trustee  
Linda Fletcher, Trustee  
Laura Matchett, Trustee

**UUCGT Board Meeting**

(date change)

**Monday, November 13**

**5:30 pm**

**All are welcome!**

Vol. 54, Issue 11

— **the BEACON** — **November, 2017**

*Sunday Services at 10:30 AM*

[www.uucgt.org](http://www.uucgt.org)

email: [office@uucgt.org](mailto:office@uucgt.org)

**NOVEMBER SERVICES**

**The Importance of History**

Honoring the sources of our Unitarian Universalist heritage means we are keepers of stories: stories of the human family, stories from our source traditions, stories of our families and of ourselves. Join us this month when we look at the importance of history through many turns of the crystal of memory.

**Thursday, November 2 - Rabbi Chava Bahle**

**6:00 PM Special Service: “#MeToo: A Service for Acknowledging and Healing”**

This service will be a time for quiet reflection, ritual and healing. (This will not be a time of story sharing or divulging). Begun as an online acknowledgement of women's experiences of being harassed and assaulted, #MeToo has opened an important social conversation on the broader culture women must face.

**Sunday, November 5**

**9:00 AM Program: “Dialogue in Community”**

**10:30 AM Service: “Finding My Truth Through Literature” - Rabbi Chava Bahle, Mark Gustafson, Margaret Wozniak**

This is national novel writing month! Mark will discuss how the literature he taught for 35 years as an English teacher changed him and brought him to Unitarianism. Mark will discuss Heller, Kesey, Dickey, Salinger and others to make his point. Come prepared to think! If you'd like, bring a favorite book to place as part of the setting. We will also welcome New Members on this Sunday - please come and say a friendly hello.

**Sunday, November 12 - Rabbi Chava Bahle, Max Old Bear**

**10:30 AM Service: “Stories of Care-giving and Care-receiving”**

This month is National Caregivers Month. Join Rabbi Chava, Max Old Bear and speakers from the congregation who have been caregivers or receivers of care as they reflect on the joys and challenges of the journey. We will offer a special “Beatitudes for Caregivers” as well.

**Sunday, November 19 - NO SERVICE AT UUCGT**

A brief service will take place at 11:00 AM at Twin Lakes prior to the UU Thanksgiving Feast.

**Monday, November 20 - Rabbi Chava Bahle in conjunction with Polestar LGBT+**

**7:00 PM Service: “Transgender Day of Remembrance”**

The Transgender Day of Remembrance was set aside to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder was on November 28th, 1998; like most anti-transgender murder cases, her murder has yet to be solved.

**Sunday, November 26 - Rabbi Chava, Amanda Mangiardi**

**10:30 AM Service: “Beyond Words: The Stories We Carry in the Heart”**

Chant, Meditation, Stillness, Silence and Movement

***BEACON Article Deadline:***

***No later than the 25th of the month***

***preceding the issue date***

**Stan Cain, Editor**

**(231) 938-1506  
Send submissions to  
[beacon@uucgt.org](mailto:beacon@uucgt.org)**

## **DECEMBER SERVICES**

**Sunday, December 3 - Rabbi Chava Bahle, Hal Gurian**

**10:30 AM Service: "A Celebration of Our Shared Ministry"**

This is the Sunday following an event honoring Rabbi Chava and UUCGT's shared ministry (see p. 5). Rabbi Chava will reaffirm the three part vision she shared in September. You are invited to join members of the Traverse City community for this special Sunday.

**Sunday, December 10 - John Bailey, UUCGT Music Director**

**10:30 AM Service: "Holiday All Music Service"**

**Sunday, December 17 - Rabbi Chava, Betsy Emdin**

**10:30 AM Service: "Preparing for Solstice: Finding True Repose"**

John Matthews, who has lectured widely on Celtic and Arthurian traditions, has written this lyrical passage about Winter Solstice: "The Solstice is a time of quietude, of firelight, and dreaming, when seeds germinate in the cold earth, and the cold notes of church bells mingle with the chimes of icicles. Rivers are stilled and the land lies waiting beneath a coverlet of snow. We watch the cold sunlight and the bright stars, maybe go for walks in the quiet land ... All around us the season seems to reach a standstill - a point of repose."

**Wednesday, December 20 - Sarah Montgomery-Richards**

**6:00 PM Service: "Celebrating Winter Solstice" (Potluck dinner to follow )**

Join Sarah Montgomery-Richards, our Covenant of UU Pagans and community members in one of our most beautiful events of the year. This Wednesday evening is a chance to become more familiar with nature-based spirituality through both the service and Wednesday night supper. All who are interested in celebrating Yule and Winter Solstice are welcome to attend this family-friendly evening of joy and merriment! The celebration will be followed by a potluck. Bring yourself, your loved ones and your little ones! Childcare will be provided for children who are too young to participate. If you can stay for the reception, please bring YOUR OWN PLACE SETTING, AND a dish to pass.

**Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve - SUNDAY EVENING ONLY (NO MORNING SERVICE AT UUCGT)**

**Rabbi Chava Bahle & Community**

Celebrate our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Christmas Eve at the State Theatre. Join us for this growing, beloved tradition of honoring many faiths in a blessed community space. Tickets are free and available through the State Theatre box office and at UUCGT.

**Sunday, December 31 - Rabbi Chava, Andi Kramer**

**10:30 AM Service: "Honoring Kwanzaa: 7 Symbolic Principles"**

Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration held in the United States and in other nations of the West African Diaspora in the Americas. The celebration honors African heritage in African-American culture, and is observed from December 26 to January 1, culminating in a feast and gift-giving. Let's join in learning the seven principles/symbols of this holiday and looking at how they intersect with the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism.

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# **#MeToo**

## **A service for acknowledging and healing**

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse**

**Rabbi Chava Bahle, Senior Spiritual Leader**

**Thursday, November 2, 6 PM**

**This service will be a time for simple rituals of release and healing. We'll move through silence, music and ritual. (The service will not include divulging or story sharing.) We will have materials on hand for those who seek further support.**



## Rabbi's Reflection

### What we are doing... and why?

As we approach our celebration of three years of shared ministry (on Saturday, December 2 (see p. 5) and Sunday morning, December 3, with cake), it is fitting to pause, to consider, what we are doing and why.

What is the purpose of a congregation?  
What is the purpose of this congregation?

The world at large is filled with reinforcement of our fears: the news, the environment, politics, international relations, economics – these all affect our consciousness. Add to that our more personal concerns -- health, the health of our loved ones, finances -- and there is plenty that captures our concern.

More deeply, beneath all these apprehensions, there is existential anxiety. Ezra Bayda of the Zen Center of San Diego writes,

“Every negative emotion, every drama, comes down to one or more of the three most basic fears: the fear of losing safety and control, the fear of aloneness and disconnection, and the fear of unworthiness.”

It is not easy to sit with these challenging layers of public, personal and existential fear. Most of us run from these as fast as we can by numbing out, denial, busyness or creating surface dramas to distract ourselves.

We are here, as a congregational community, not to offer simple solutions, but to create a space where we are safe enough to sit with these realities, offer each other support, and find expression of our highest and best instincts.

The purpose of this congregation to provide the intellectual and spiritual tools for facing what is most difficult and most delightful in the human existence; to provide a place for meaningful connection and relationship; and to reinforce the inherent worth and dignity of each and every one of us, regardless of age, ability, skin color, religion, sexual orientation and identity, etc. through shared, meaningful social witness.

Our community has a very clear purpose:

to build a common core of experience in community that allows each of us to be present to our lives with some courage and good humor, to nurture compassion for one another (through our ups and downs), and to give expression to our shared aspirations for healing the world.

It is not really very complicated, friends. As my teacher Ram Dass is fond of saying, “We are all just here walking each other home.” I am glad this is our home and glad to be walking with you.

**In blessing -  
Rabbi Chava**

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## 9:00 AM Programs

### When Our Heart is in a Holy Place: Dialogic Theory and Practice

Our 9:00 AM programs kicked off robustly on September 24 with about 25 great folks coming together to consider theory and practice of dialogue. That Sunday we looked at the Ground Rules of dialogue from [livingroomconversations.org](http://livingroomconversations.org) and had some fun in sharing and deeper reflection. One word that was used several times was the sense of **trust** we felt together. To grow in trust and in the ability to talk with each other from the heart is central to growing in dialogic culture.

The calendar of 9:00 AM programs (when they are being held) is here: <http://uucgt.org/calendar/>  
**This month we will gather on November 5.**

In upcoming weeks, we will look at other approaches to dialogue and move more deeply into our conversations with one another.

**Rabbi Chava Bahle**  
[rabbi@uucgt.org](mailto:rabbi@uucgt.org)

# UUA and Denominational News from Rabbi Chava

## From UU World: Wild Fires in California

As deadly fires in Northern California forced the evacuation of tens of thousands of people and destroyed thousands of buildings, Unitarian Universalists in the region are finding comfort and help at UU congregations. The Pacific Western Region authorized the UUA Disaster Relief Fund to accept requests for aid from congregations affected by the wildfires.

## Continuing Our Commitment to Racial Justice

Along with congregations across the country UUCGT once again devoted Sunday worship time to explore race, racial justice and our commitment to being an anti-racist congregation. If you would like to explore the pledge we are being invited to sign individually and congregationally, please visit <http://bit.ly/UUpledge>

The pledge reads: "I PLEDGE to be a part of the growing multifaith community in support of the Movement for Black Lives. By doing so I will share and receive up to date information and be on call for the movement, staying connected and spreading the word to support Black-led organizing."

## June 20-24, 2018: Kansas City, MO - All Are Called

It's not too early to think about Kansas City (MO) - Here We Come! General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend.

Grounded in a deep belief that we are all prophets, Unitarian Universalists ask, "How can we faithfully meet the demands of our

time?" The call to witness and act for justice in our society and in the world is clear. So, too, is the call to examine our structures and practices, dismantling and transforming those which fail to recognize the full humanity of all people and to honor the interdependent web of life. Join us in Kansas City as we dive deeply into questions of mission for our Unitarian Universalist Association, for our congregations and communities, and for each of us as individuals.

Together, we'll ask:

- Who and how are we called to be at this time, individually and collectively?
- How are we called to act and to live?
- How does our Unitarian Universalist legacy strengthen us in living out our mission?
- In what ways does our legacy present challenges and impediments to answering our call?

The call of our faith has a place for each of us. Join us in Kansas City to build courageous, collective leadership with tools, skills and connections.

## Michigan UUMA Cluster Meetings

UU Ministers Association members in Michigan resumed monthly meetings in October. I was unable to attend, but look forward to future meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to offer mutual support, share ideas and resources and build professional community. I look forward to reporting when I am able to attend.

Rabbi Chava Bahle  
[rabbi@uucgt.org](mailto:rabbi@uucgt.org)

## Endowment Committee Presentation

On **November 15<sup>th</sup>** the Endowment Committee will host the program after the Wednesday Night Potluck Supper. **Guest speaker, Steve Wade**, will share his thoughts on why endowments provide a powerful way to impact our church community. Steve is a lifelong Episcopalian, former church administrator, former director of United Way, and currently works for the Community Foundation.

I know what you're thinking: We have an endowment committee? Yes, we do! The resolution establishing the Endowment Fund was passed by the Congregation in April 1996. The fund recently reached the set principal that allows the committee to disburse a portion of the interest generated on an annual basis. In the past few years, thousands of dollars have been disbursed for building maintenance, to send a Board member to General Assembly, and for various outreach efforts in the community.

The Endowment Fund is one of the most effective ways you can leave a legacy at UUCGT. Any monies donated to the fund will continue to keep giving FOREVER, since the principal is never disbursed. Each year, your gift will continue to generate annual dividends that will support the mission of UUCGT. It's the gift that keeps on giving! It can also provide a savvy tax benefit to you. Win-Win!

Current members of the Endowment Committee are Maura Brennan, Mike Jackson, Nancy Doughty, Ann Swaney, and Doug Wozniak. If you would like to learn more about making a contribution to the Endowment Fund, feel free to talk to one of us. Better yet -- attend the presentation on **November 15<sup>th</sup>** and find out all you need to know about endowments. Social time begins at 5:30 pm, Potluck Supper at 6:00 pm. The presentation will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. Join us for the entire evening or come just for the presentation.

We hope to see many of you there!

Maura Brennan  
[mimaura@aol.com](mailto:mimaura@aol.com)





## CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

**2 December 2017**

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse  
6726 Center Road  
Traverse City, Michigan  
5:30 PM**

Please join us for a wine & hors d'oeuvres reception  
following the Celebration

The Committee on Ministry for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse  
extends our heartfelt invitation to join us in a celebration of  
the ministry of Rabbi Chava Bahle, our Senior Spiritual Leader.

It has been three years since Rabbi Chava answered the call to spiritual leadership of UUCGT.  
Our Congregation will renew its commitment to honor, support, and enhance her ministry  
as we embrace it as our collective ministry both within UUCGT and within our community.

We hope you will be able to join us.

You are also invited to join us December 3, 2017 at 10:30 AM, for a special Sunday Service  
followed by cake and coffee or tea.

Both events will take place at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse  
6726 Center Road, Traverse City, Michigan.

Please RSVP or direct questions to [joansheard@aol.com](mailto:joansheard@aol.com)

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## The Thanksgiving Feast

UUCGT Community - As the weather turns colder and dreary, we want to remind all of you that the Thanksgiving Feast Potluck will soon be here. It is scheduled for 11:00 AM on Sunday, November 19th at the Twin Lakes Gilbert Lodge. There will be no service at our UUCGT home on Center Road that day.

Members of various UUCGT committees that make up Program Council have volunteered to take charge of one or more of the responsibilities that make this an exciting, welcoming, luscious success.

Mike McDonald and the Finance Committee will sell tickets (recording names and accepting payment) on November 5th and 12th at UUCGT. Last minute sales will also be available at the door. The cost is \$5.00 per person and \$15.00 for families.

There will also be a sign-up sheet at UUCGT on the 5th and 12th for people to volunteer to roast turkeys (12 - 14 lbs.) and bring sliced to the dinner in trays that can be put in the oven to be kept warm.

Plan on bringing a dish to pass and your own table service. Arrive around 10:45 AM to deliver your various special treats to the kitchen and prepare for a brief Service at 11:00 AM. If you choose to skip the 1/2 hour Service, plan to arrive around 11:30 for social time - 1/2 hour prior to the actual dinner at 12:00 noon.

The entire schedule for the day is as follows:

- 10:00 - 10:30 AM** - Mike McDonald will be at UUCGT on Center Road with Maps to Twin Lakes
- 10:00 AM** - Set-up, Decorating, Coffee Prep, (Men's Group, Facilities, LE, Hospitality, Membership)
- 10:45 AM** - Receipt of Turkeys and Potluck food (Hospitality, Membership)
- 11:00 - 11:30 AM** - Service (Sunday Services, Rabbi Chava, John Bailey)
- 11:45 - 12:00 noon** - Fellowship and Food Set-up (ALL)
- 12:00 - 1:15 PM** - Tables released by the "Sorting Hat" for Dinner in "Hogwarts Banquet Hall" (ALL)
- 1:30 - 2:00 PM** - Clean-up (Men's Group, Facilities)

**Richard Walter**  
**Chair, Program Council**  
[rick9709@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rick9709@sbcglobal.net)



# From the President

The Board of Trustees met on October 9<sup>th</sup> for their second study session. Also in attendance were members of the Leadership Development Committee and several congregants who had attended the first session in September. The subject was leadership. Our conversation was engaged for ninety minutes or so with virtually every person contributing. I would like to summarize my understanding of this discussion.

We agreed that successful democratic leadership cultivates and nurtures a climate that encourages new leadership and the process of successful succession. To be a democratic institution requires the cultivation of leaders and the leadership process to be the first order of business and the vibrancy of this is a measure of the health of the institution.

We spent some time after reaching that conclusion discussing how we foster that kind of encouragement in both experienced as well as new or potential leaders. By leader, we refer to all of our members who assume greater responsibility than that for themselves. This includes our elected leaders of governance as well as all of our committee chairs and our committee members.

We discussed what a leader should look like. We stepped away from a prescriptive code of conduct and talked about leaders shaped by integrity, leaders who lead by example, leaders as judged by their behavior as much as their intentions and positions.

We decided we are looking to cultivate a leadership style that includes:

- ◆ Those who encourage and inspire trust.
- ◆ Those who respond rather than react.
- ◆ Those who are committed to honoring their word. Those careful to commit because once committed, treat that commitment as a promise.

- ◆ Those who take responsibility for their actions. Leaders who move to correct their missteps, mistakes and misunderstandings.
- ◆ Those who create opportunities for disagreement to be open and direct (and depersonalize the process so that discussion is about ideas and not personalities). Depersonalizing conflict.
- ◆ Those who have and share a trust in purpose.
- ◆ Those who have a strong sense of and commitment to integrity.
- ◆ Those who are committed to a consensus of process. This means doing things openly and directly with room for everyone.
- ◆ Those who let ideas collide rather than people.
- ◆ Those who create opportunities for all involved to be heard.

The Board of Trustees supports and encourages a focus throughout our congregation by any and all of our leaders. I believe we cannot simply hope for and assume democracy, but rather we must ensure a clear understanding in all that we do. When in doubt, compare these points with our congregational covenant.

Respectfully submitted,

**Karl D. Love**  
[karldlove@charter.net](mailto:karldlove@charter.net)

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## MUSICAL NOTES

### *Getting Ready for the Holidays !*

On December 10 we will have a special “All Music Service” celebrating the December Holiday Season. Included will be selections sung by the VE, pieces by instrumentalists, solos and piano.

A special request goes out to the entire congregation for suggested music – both hymns and other music. If you have a suggestion, please email me at [peracola@gmail.com](mailto:peracola@gmail.com)

Be Well!  
John

**John Bailey,**  
**UU Music Director**  
[peracola@gmail.com](mailto:peracola@gmail.com)

*Looking forward to an inspirational service!*



# Announcements

## UU BOOK CLUB

It is time for our final UU Book Club gathering for 2017. We'll be meeting November 12th at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Stan and Dottie Cain (3584 Village Circle).

The book is "Gulliver's Travels" by Jonathan Swift. Either Stan or Dottie will lead the discussion. Be sure to RSVP to 938-1506 or [sdcelk@yahoo.com](mailto:sdcelk@yahoo.com).

The 2018 booklist is being finalized and will be available at the November meeting and by email. If you would like to consider joining us in the new year, send me an email and I will send you a copy of the new booklist as soon as it is available.

**Karen Mars**  
UU Book Club "Communicator"  
590-2551  
[karen.mars.tc@gmail.com](mailto:karen.mars.tc@gmail.com)



## Men's Group Meets

The UUCGT Men's Group will meet on Monday, November 6, 5:30 PM at UUCGT. Pizza will be served / BYOB (Note location)

H.G. Smith will discuss the Civil War. He will ask:

"What is Reconstruction?"

"When did it begin?"

"How did the U.S. Government hope to integrate millions of former slaves into American society?"

## Benzie County UU

The Benzie County Unitarian Universalists will meet November 1 and November 15. Both services will be held at Grow Benzie. Potluck at 6:30 PM. Program at 7:30 PM. All are welcome.

Margaret Wozniak will present a program on "White Privilege" at our first gathering of the month (11/1).

Mary Robling will discuss her personal near death experience on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Marty Litherland**  
[litherlm@gvsu.edu](mailto:litherlm@gvsu.edu)

## Donated Dinners

The annual Donated Dinners Fundraiser event is looking for hosts. If you have done it before you know how enjoyable it is to host a dinner. If you're new to the event please consider doing one this year.

Last year we were able to donate 50% of the proceeds to the Food Rescue Program. We will have Dinner sign-up sheets available at our annual Thanksgiving Dinner (11/19).

Contact **John Hoffmann** ([jandphoff@yahoo.com](mailto:jandphoff@yahoo.com)) for more information.



Thank you,  
John

## All About Us - Congregational Care Team

**We are mindful of those at home in care of their families:**  
Gary Harris, Sue Pyne, Barbara McClellan, and Karen Culp

**We also continue to remember those in the care of others:**  
Nancy Landfair, Carol Still, and Sally Mitchell

**We are thankful for many things at this time of year!**  
We remember to thank our leadership and all the other persons that volunteer to make things happen at UUCGT.

**The Congregational Care Team** has 4 snowbird members who will be gone for all or parts of the winter.

If you would like to help us make visits; prepare, purchase, or deliver food; provide transportation or help in other ways, please contact any Team member:

Joanie Jackson, Judith Briggs, Hal Gurian, Pat Light, or Gerry Schatz

**Judith Briggs, CCT Member**  
[jbriggs002@centurytel.net](mailto:jbriggs002@centurytel.net)



# Lifespan Experience

**Greetings Friends,**

**Sundays in November for pre k-8<sup>th</sup> grade**

We've been off to a great start with our first session of "UU & YOU at Hogwarts"! The children will be finalizing their "hunger horcrux", culminating with a visit to the Grace Episcopal Pantry after service on 11/12. Parents should contact me if they would like more details regarding the visit. We will begin our "literacy horcrux" this month as well.

Don't forget to join us out at Twin Lakes on 11/19 for our Annual Thanksgiving Potluck! There will be NO Sunday service at UUCGT that week, instead we will have a brief but lovely service at Twin Lakes.

Suggested readings for families/parents this month include:

"How to Train Your Dragon" – by Cressida Caldwell

"How to Train Your Dragon" has been touted as the perfect book to reel in your reluctant readers. It's full of varied text and picture use throughout: maps, lists, songs, stat pages on dragons, rough drawings, even stray blots of ink strewn here and there... Mixed in with all the laugh-out-loud moments, excitement, danger, dragons, and very uncivilized Vikings, your students will find a real hero's adventure complete with a quest or two, impossible odds, a main character you can't help but like, and a story that will keep the kids thinking (despite themselves) all the way through. You'll find themes of quintessential initiation rites of childhood; dealing with intimidation by peers, parents, and even teachers; finding the leader within; depending on good friends; discovering strength you didn't know you had; learning to adapt; among many others. This book can be used as a supplement to a study on early Vikings, Norse mythology, and/or even a fun language unit (due to the many bits of *dragonese* that will have your students in stitches)".

– Books & Bunnies Book Review

For Parents: "Why Grown-Up Muggles Should Read 'Harry Potter'" by David Busis, NY Times: <http://nyti.ms/2sUZ6sF>

**Friday Night Out – November 10, 5:30-9:00 PM**  
**Contact me ASAP to reserve a spot!**



**Save the Date**

**LAST Adult Lifespan Experience Class This Fall!**

Our Adult Lifespan Experience Connections Classes - "Dialogue in Community" - will meet for the last time this fall on November 5<sup>th</sup>  
Watch for new opportunities in 2018!

**Brewing Community!**

Brewing Community will meet on Thursday, 11/16 from 5-7 PM at The Workshop Brewery in Traverse City. This will be the ONLY Brewing Community in November because of Thanksgiving. BREWING COMMUNITY WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER.

**Wednesday Supper Schedule!**

Reminder – there will be NO Wednesday Supper on 11/22 (the day before Thanksgiving)

**Wednesday Programs!** We have some interesting programs lined up in November:

11/1 – Hal Gurian on Gerrymandering... Information & Q&A  
11/15 – Maura Brennan for Endowment Committee – Everything You Always Wanted to Know!

**Pagan Fair!!**

**Saturday, November 11**

**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Join us for our 3rd Annual Pagan Fair! This wonderful event will feature a variety of vendors from statuary to drums, books, balms, candles, ritual items, and more! We will have healers/readers on hand... and don't forget about our workshops! Workshops will include an introduction to Paganism, Creating Sacred Space, and "The Sidhe & Me: Renewing our Kinship with the Faerie Other-worlds" (led by Jeremy Berg). Come feed your spirit, take some time for self-care, and support local artists/vendors (shop 'till you drop)! FREE SOUP LUNCH!

As always, be kind to yourselves, kind to each other, and send loving kindness out into the universe.

In Peace,

**Sarah Montgomery-Richards**  
**Director of Lifespan Experience**  
[dle@uucgt.org](mailto:dle@uucgt.org)



# Social Witness

We are delighted to announce that the Board of Trustees has supported Lynnette Rhodes, Barb Conley and Kim Sibilsky as co-leaders of our emerging Social Witness Team. Emmy Lou Cholak will continue to lead Social Justice Action.

Social Witness is the term broadly used throughout the Unitarian Universalist Association to describe "big picture" thinking about how we wish to engage in living the principles of Unitarian Universalism in the public square.

Watch for more news and opportunities to enter into conversation about UUCGT and its intersectionality with the many good projects our members are already doing.

Nationally, our work is led by our denominational staff, congregational leaders, and a wide variety of coalition partners and UU groups focused on justice and identity.

**Rabbi Chava Bahle**

## Social Justice

It is a time of celebration as we, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse signs the UU Declaration of Conscience. This was put forth by the UUA and the UUSC some time ago.

Both organizations are 501c3 approved. It is with good faith and conscience, that we join them in this Declaration! Many, many of our congregants have signed as individuals and are following this Declaration as social justice activists. Being socially aware and active at this time, demands that we be politically active because many social justice issues are threatened politically under this administration. Not for a long time have human rights been so universally threatened.

The third attempted Muslim ban, the removal of the Dreamers' protection (DACA), along with US illegal (not congressionally approved) involvement in military action in targeted areas, the persistent roll back of access to good education, health, and basic needs including help from natural disasters, etc., threatens the human rights of millions and millions of peoples as well as threatening the basis of our democracy!

Please see the UUSC blog: <http://bit.ly/2xFgIdQ>

Our feelings of responsibility beyond our own personal needs, have gradually increased as our basic needs are met and with the realization of the horrors we can and do inflict on others with war and deprivation. FDR was the first to begin to put it down into words during World War II, State of the Union Address, 1941.

In the address known as the Four Freedoms speech, FDR proposed four fundamental freedoms that people "everywhere in the world" ought to enjoy: Freedom of speech. Freedom of worship. Freedom from want. Freedom from fear.

Here is a reference: <https://fdrlibrary.org/four-freedoms>

After the War, the newly formed United Nations Assembly adopted the Declaration of Human Rights in December, 1945. Please read it here: <http://bit.ly/1O8f0nS>

And this past weekend, we have joined hundreds of UU activists and organizations with our support, too. Thanks to all of us!

**Emmy Lou Cholak,**  
**[sjatcmi@gmail.com](mailto:sjatcmi@gmail.com)**



# Program Council News

## UU Program Council November 2017

Program Council met on October 8th and finalized plans for the Thanksgiving Feast Potluck held at Twin Lakes Gilbert Lodge at 6800 N. Long Lake Road, Traverse City on November 19th.

Thanksgiving Service will begin at 11:00 AM and dinner in the “Hogwarts Banquet Hall” will be initiated at 12:00 noon by the “Sorting Hat”. Further details can be found on page 5.

Committee on Ministry (COM) is planning a celebration of Rabbi Chava Bahle’s installation and her three years of spiritual leadership at UUCGT. The celebration will be held on December 2 at 5:30 PM. A service with a variety of invited speakers will be followed by a casual strolling small plates tapas dinner with background music. The celebration will continue on Sunday morning, December 3 at 10:30 AM with a modified service with visiting speakers and hymns followed by a celebration reception in social hall.

Christmas Eve at the State plans are coming together. A Sunday Services subcommittee, Rabbi Chava and John Bailey are planning liturgy and music for this UUCGT-sponsored community service.

Individual committee representatives relayed recent operations of their committees. All are functioning well, but many could use additional members. Most committees (see listing in the UUCGT web site) only meet once a month and would welcome your help in their activities. Sharing your time and talent through committee work is also a good way to get to know more UUCGT members. One urgent need is for someone with interest in environmental social justice to help with the Green Sanctuary Committee that has been so ably directed by Mary Van Valin, the recent recipient of this year’s Milliken Leadership Award.

Our next meeting is Sunday, November 12 at 9:00 AM in the classroom. Anyone interested in learning more about the workings of UUCGT committees is welcome to attend.

**Richard Walter**  
**Chair, Program Council**  
[rick9709@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rick9709@sbcglobal.net)

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**As of September 30, 2017**  
**(25% of fiscal year)**

	<u>Current Year</u>		<u>Prior Year</u>	
<b>Budgeted Income Received YTD</b>	<b>\$ 88,740</b>	<b>32.3%</b>	<b>\$ 94,700</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
<b>Budgeted Expenses Paid YTD</b>	<b>\$ 66,259</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>\$ 60,474</b>	<b>22.3%</b>
<b>“For Those in Need” YTD</b>	<b>\$ 3,452</b>		<b>\$ 3,336</b>	

Budgeted income includes the total of all pledged and unpledged donations and miscellaneous income including building rent, etc. “For Those in Need” collections are in addition to Budgeted Income Received and are disbursed quarterly to worthy causes, including Congregational Care, Tuesday Community Lunch and other Community needs outside our congregation. The percentage reflects the portion of the total amount of income or expense budgeted for the fiscal year.

Pledge payments were below normal in September. If you are not current on your 2017-2018 pledge, please try to catch up if you can. If you want more detailed information, you can look at our website, click on Board, then on Board Packet, then on Statement of Financial Activity.

Questions can be directed to your Finance Committee Chair, **Mike McDonald** ([m\\_mcdonald@charter.net](mailto:m_mcdonald@charter.net)) or to other members of the Finance Committee.



## Membership News

**NOVEMBER** - What a delight the warm weather and leaf color have been! We know these delights will change soon and other seasonal joys will be upon us. Greetings from the entire **FUN and FRIENDLY Membership Team** - Sherry Davis, John and Pinkie Hoffman, Sue Pyne, Charlotte Shea, Chris Walter, Rick Walter, and Jane Watts - who continue to Welcome, Greet, Facilitate into membership, and Nurture (in Partnership with other groups at UUCGT) prospective, new and current members.

The entire Congregation looks forward to:

**Sunday, November 5, 2017**

### NEW MEMBER WELCOME SERVICE

A portion of the service will be devoted to Welcoming members committed to joining UUCGT. The new members will be introduced to the congregation and receive important materials. After the Service they will Sign the Member Book and be celebrated at a Special Reception in the Fellowship Hall.

**WE HAVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CURRENT MEMBERS TO SERVE AS FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS TO OUR INCOMING MEMBERS!** The purpose of Fellowship Friends is to more fully integrate new members into our community.

Here are the **Responsibilities**:

- ◆ Make an Initial contact to the Incoming Member by phone, email or in person.

- ◆ Be available if there are remaining questions about UUCGT or UUism.
- ◆ Arrange an "out of UUCGT" meeting - for coffee, a meal, OR
- ◆ Invite them to a Wednesday Night Supper, another upcoming UUCGT event, or especially the upcoming Thanksgiving Feast and Potluck on November 19, 11:00 AM at Gilbert Lodge, Twin Lakes (NO Service at UU that Sunday).
- ◆ Continue to be "friendly" for the following year.

**Contact** any Membership Team member to volunteer ASAP. **THANK YOU!** It's an Important Ministry and Service.

**THIS MONTH** we are again taking space to **HIGHLIGHT** one of our Newest UUCGT Members who Jumped right in after joining to serve our community.

**Kim Sibilsky** joined UUCGT February 26, 2016. She now serves on the Finance Committee. Her positions as a CEO and Administrator of several organizations provide tons of experience that she is now sharing on this committee of our congregation. Kim believes that "...healthy finances of any institution are one important indicator of the health of that organization." Kim brings a lot of expertise, a fun personality and lots of friendliness and caring to this committee work and to our entire community. Be sure to meet Kim on Sundays at UUCGT or at other activities. **Thank you, Kim**, for taking on this important assignment!

Thanks and See you at UUCGT!

**Chris and Rick Walter**  
**Co-Chairs, Membership Team**  
[chris9709@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chris9709@sbcglobal.net) or 989-430-4776  
[rick9709@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rick9709@sbcglobal.net) or 989-430-5174

*Calendar continued from page 12*

### DECEMBER 2017

01 **Fri** Facilities Committee Dave Halsted 10:00 AM  
 02 **Sat** InterPlay Workshop Lee Edwards 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
 02 **Sat** Rabbi Chava Bahle Celebration of Ministry 5:30PM  
 02 **Sat** Celebration Reception 6:30 PM  
 03 **Sun** Safe Harbor Volunteer Training Mike McDonald 9:00 AM  
 03 **Sun** **Sunday Service Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
 03 **Sun** Reception for Rabbi Chava 11:30 AM  
 03 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation (1st Sunday) 2:30-6:30 PM  
 04 **Mon** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
 04 **Mon** UU Men's Group Dave Halsted Minerva's 5:30 PM  
 05 **Tue** Community Lunch 10:30 AM @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
 05 **Tue** Indivisible GT Joan Sheard 11:30 AM  
 05 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
 06 **Wed** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
 06 **Wed** Wednesday Potluck Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM  
 07 **Thu** Congregational Care Team J Jackson / P Light 1:00 PM  
 07 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
 07 **Thu** Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
 07 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM

08 **Fri** Friday Night Out Sarah Montgomery-Richards 5:30 - 9:00 PM  
 09 **Sat** UUCGT@ Safe Harbor Mike McDonald  
 09 **Sat** New Moon Women's Circle Carolyn Kelly TBA  
 09 **Sat** Singing Sisters Linda Hebert 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 10 **Sun** UUCGT@ Safe Harbor Mike McDonald  
 10 **Sun** Program Council Rick Walter 9:00 AM  
 10 **Sun** **Sunday Service - Lay-led 10:30 AM**  
 10 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 5:00 PM  
 11 **Mon** UUCGT @ Safe Harbor Mike McDonald  
 11 **Mon** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
 12 **Tue** UUCGT @ Safe Harbor Mike McDonald  
 12 **Tue** Community Lunch 10:30 AM @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
 12 **Tue** Indivisible GT Joan Sheard 11:30 AM  
 12 **Tue** Staff Resources Phyllis Jessup 12:30 PM  
 12 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
 12 **Tue** Leadership Development Joe Cook 5:00 PM  
 12 **Tue** Finance Committee Mike McDonald 5:30 PM  
 13 **Wed** UUCGT@ Safe Harbor Mike McDonald  
 13 **Wed** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
 13 **Wed** Board Executive Committee - Agenda Karl Love 1:00 PM  
 13 **Wed** Wednesday Supper/\$5 Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM



Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
of Grand Traverse  
6726 Center Road  
Traverse City MI 49686-1802

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## *the* BEACON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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### UUCGT Calendar

All events and programs take place at UUCGT unless otherwise noted and are open to everyone.

#### NOVEMBER 2017

01 **Wed** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
01 **Wed** Wednesday Potluck Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM  
01 **Wed** Wednesday Program Gerrymandering Hal Gurian 7:00 PM  
02 **Thu** Shantideva Fan Club 2 Chris Innes 9:30 AM  
02 **Thu** Congregational Care Team Pat Light/Joanie Jackson 1:00 PM  
02 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
02 **Thu** Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
02 **Thu** #MeToo Service Rabbi Chava Bahle 6:00 PM  
02 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM  
03 **Fri** Community Needs Jane Fochtman 3:30 PM  
04 **Sat** InterPlay Workshop Lee Edwards 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

#### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

05 **Sun** Dialogue in Community Rabbi Chava Bahle, Sarah Montgomery Richards 9:00 AM  
05 **Sun** **New Member Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
05 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation (1st Sunday) 2:30-6:30 PM  
06 **Mon** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
06 **Mon** UU Men's Group @ UUCGT HG Smith 5:30 PM  
06 **Mon** COM Food Committee Solveig Gustafson 7:00 PM  
07 **Tue** Community Lunch 10:30 AM @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
07 **Tue** Indivisible GT Speaker Event 12:00 noon  
07 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
08 **Wed** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
08 **Wed** Executive Committee - Agenda Karl Love 1:00 PM  
08 **Wed** Wednesday Supper/\$5 Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM  
09 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
09 **Thu** Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
09 **Thu** Music Committee Bob Hicks 6:00 PM  
09 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM  
10 **Fri** Facilities Committee Dave Halsted 10:00 AM  
10 **Fri** Friday Night Out Sarah Montgomery-Richards 5:30-9:00 PM  
11 **Sat** Pagan Fair Sarah Montgomery-Richards 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
12 **Sun** Program Council Rick Walter 9:00 AM  
12 **Sun** **Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
12 **Sun** UU Book Club @ Stan & Dottie Cain 2:00 PM  
12 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 5:00 PM  
13 **Mon** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
13 **Mon** UUCGT Board Meeting Karl Love 5:30 PM  
14 **Tue** Community Lunch 10:30 AM @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
14 **Tue** Indivisible GT Joan Sheard 11:30 AM

14 **Tue** Staff Resources Phyllis Jessup 12:30 PM  
14 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
14 **Tue** Leadership Development Joe Cook 5:00 PM  
14 **Tue** Finance Committee Mike McDonald 5:30 PM  
15 **Wed** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
15 **Wed** Lifespan Experience Sarah Montgomery-Richards 12 noon  
15 **Wed** Sunday Services Committee H Gurian/A Mangiardi 4:00 PM  
15 **Wed** Membership Committee Chris Walter 4:15 PM  
15 **Wed** Wednesday Potluck Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM  
15 **Wed** Wednesday Program - Endowment Maura Brennan 7:00 PM  
16 **Thu** Shantideva Fan Club 2 Chris Innes 9:30 AM  
16 **Thu** Congregational Care Team P Light / J Jackson 1:00 PM  
16 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
16 **Thu** Brewing Community John Hoffmann The Workshop 5:00 PM  
16 **Thu** Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
16 **Thu** Board Social Night Karl Love Sleder's 6:00 PM  
16 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM  
18 **Sat** JNFO Legal Clinic Margaret Wozniak AB 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
18 **Sat** New Moon Women's Circle Carolyn Kelly TBA 4:00 PM  
19 **Sun** **No Service @ UUCGT**  
19 **Sun** **UU Thanksgiving Feast Twin Lakes Gilbert Lodge 11:00AM**  
19 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 5:00 PM  
20 **Mon** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
20 **Mon** Transgender Day of Remembrance Rabbi Chava Bahle 7:00PM  
21 **Tue** Community Lunch 10:30 AM @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
21 **Tue** Indivisible GT Joan Sheard 11:30 AM  
21 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
22 **Wed** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
22 **Wed** No Wednesday Supper  
23 **Thu** **Happy Thanksgiving!**  
26 **Sun** **Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
26 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 5:00 PM  
27 **Mon** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
28 **Tue** Community Lunch 10:30 AM @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
28 **Tue** Indivisible GT Joan Sheard 11:30 AM  
28 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
29 **Wed** Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 11:00 AM  
29 **Wed** Wednesday Pizza Supper Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM  
30 **Thu** Shantideva Fan Club 2 Chris Innes 9:30 AM  
30 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
30 **Thu** Policy Committee Tom Darnton 5:00 PM  
30 **Thu** Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
30 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM

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