



**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation  
of Grand Traverse**

6726 Center Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686-1802  
231-947-3117  
[office@uucgt.org](mailto:office@uucgt.org)  
Fax: 231-947-0726  
[www.uucgt.org](http://www.uucgt.org)

---

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

---

**Spiritual Leader**  
Rabbi Chava Bahle  
[rabbie@uucgt.org](mailto:rabbie@uucgt.org)

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

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

**Business Administrator**  
Sheri Novak  
[bookie@uucgt.org](mailto:bookie@uucgt.org)

**Office Administrator**  
Susan Sherman  
[office@uucgt.org](mailto:office@uucgt.org)

**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

**PLEASE NOTE**

**UUCGT Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 15 @ 5:30 pm**

**All are welcome!**

Vol. 54, Issue 8 — **the BEACON** — August, 2017

*Sunday Services at 10:30 AM*

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

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

**AUGUST**  
**Sunday Services**

**A UU THEOLOGY / COSMOLOGY OF THE BEATLES**

"It is often said that each Beatles' album utilizes tonal language that is unique from any of their other albums. Although some artists intentionally make changes in efforts to appear more towards a certain demographic, members of The Beatles have been quoted numerous times as saying they often changed musical tones and styles out of sheer boredom – they were simply interested in exploring a different musical language.

Intentional or not, the tones and chords of the Beatles are both beautiful and unorthodox..."

– The Hugh A. Glauser School of Music, Kent State University

**Unorthodox, open to change, exploration, difference, beautiful .... Join us for a month of looking at UU cosmology/theology through the language and music of the Beatles!**

**Sunday, August 6 - Rabbi Chava Bahle and Andi Kramer**  
**10:30 AM Service: "Love Me Do – An Ode to John Ort"**

"Reverence and respect for human nature is at the core of Unitarian Universalist (UU) faith. We believe that all the dimensions of our being carry the potential to do good. We celebrate the gifts of being human: our intelligence and capacity for observation and reason; our senses and ability to appreciate beauty; our creativity; our feelings and emotions."

– Rev. Dr. Rebecca Ann Parker, minister, theologian, and author

**Featuring "Love Me Do", "I Will" and "And I Love Her"**

*Following the service, the congregation is encouraged to participate in the interment of John Ort's remains in our Memorial Garden.*

**Sunday, August 13 - Rabbi Chava Bahle and Hal Gurian**  
**10:30 AM Service: "Yesterday: Reflections and the Search for Meaning"**

The 4th Principle of Unitarian Universalism is "a free and responsible search for truth and meaning." How do we find meaning? What is the role of reflecting upon the past? This service will offer ample time for quiet meditation.

**Featuring "The Long and Winding Road", "Things We Said Today", "Let It Be" and "Golden Slumbers"**

***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)**

**Sunday, August 20 - Rabbi Chava Bahle and Betsy Emdin**

**10:30 AM Service: "You Say You Want a Revolution"**

UU's 5th and 6th principles remind us to aspire to "the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." The sixth principle encourages us to build toward "a world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all."

**Featuring "We Can Work It Out", "Eleanor Rigby" and "Here Comes the Sun"**

**Sunday, August 27 - Rabbi Chava Bahle and Mark Dragovich**

**10:30 AM Service: "All You Need is Love"**

The 7th Principle of Unitarian Universalism reminds us to have "respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

In this final service we will touch on the many themes of how awesome people can be when we think BIG.

**Featuring "I'll Follow the Sun", "Across the Universe" and "With a Little Help from My Friends"**

**For this last service on the Beatles, wear your '60s best – beads, bell bottoms and tie dye!**

## **SEPTEMBER Sunday Services**

### **SEEKING TOGETHER**

Our September Sundays will start our program year off by exploring the harmony we have in our diversity as seekers, together.

**Sunday, September 3 - To Be Announced**

**Sunday, September 10 - Rabbi Chava Bahle**

**10:30 AM Service: "We Begin Again in Love"**

Join us for a most cherished UUCGT tradition: Resumption Sunday! Beloved hymns and inspirational readings to start our new program year off right! We are a community of seekers. What are your hopes and dreams for UUCGT?

**Sunday, September 17 - Rabbi Chava Bahle**

**10:30 AM Service: "Celebration of Rabbi Chava's Ministry"**

Join together as we celebrate the beginning of Rabbi Chava's 3rd year with UUCGT! In the words of Gordon McKeeman, "Ministry is all that we do - Together. Ministry is that quality of being in community that affirms human dignity - beckons forth hidden possibilities, invites us into deeper, more constant, reverent relationships, and carries forward our heritage of hope and liberation. Ministry is what we do together as we celebrate triumphs of our human spirit, miracles of birth and life, wonders of devotion and sacrifice. Ministry is what we do together enabling us ... to say yes to life."

**Sunday, September 24 - Rabbi Chava Bahle**

**10:30 AM Service: "Seekers Together - Three Journeys"**

As we close our month of exploring what it means to be seekers together, Rabbi Chava is seeking 3 people to share a taste of their journeys with the community. What was your journey to us? Do you identify as a Christian UU? Are you a Buddhist UU? Are you part of the LBGTQ+ community? Please contact Rabbi Chava to tell a bit of your story as a seeker who lives in the UUCGT beloved community.

---

---

**Please save the date!**

**Sunday, September 17, 2017**

***"Reserved for Rabbi"***  
***Celebration of Spiritual Leadership***  
**Sunday Service: 10:30 - 11:45 AM**  
**Luncheon: 12:00 - 1:30 PM**

***Yes, there will be cake!***





# Rabbi's Reflection

## Bringing Back the Gifts of My Study Bardo

Beloved community,

Thank you again for the time in July to enjoy a month of study. I am deeply grateful that UUMA has the wisdom to put this into our contracts!

As you know, I returned to making my annual pilgrimage to the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemane for quiet reflection, rest, extensive bird watching from my porch, and lots of hiking (and one nearly-getting-very-lost incident) in the hills of Kentucky. As always, the monks were completely hospitable and welcoming. When I arrived Fr. Carlos said, "Where have you been? We haven't had anyone in rainbows since you left!"

One thing I noticed for the first time was a hand written list, taped to the Thomas Merton bookshelf in the library, which was his own assessment of the 60 or so books he wrote during his too short life. The sign listed his books as "Just Okay," "Good," and "Better." Some didn't even make the list.

The ability to honestly self-assess is an important quality in spiritual leadership. I remember a reading in my prayer book as a child:

*In this quiet hour of worship, we reflect upon the meaning of our lives.*

*I harbor within – we all do – a vision of my highest self, a dream of what I could and should become.  
May I pursue this vision, labor to make the dream real.  
Thus will I give meaning to my life.*

*An artist in the course of painting will pause, lay aside the brush, step back from the canvas, and consider what needs to be done, what direction is to be taken ...  
As I hope to make my life a work of art, so may this hour of worship help me turn back to the canvas of life to paint the portrait of my highest self. (Gates of Prayer)*

UU writer Eric Williams echoes this beautifully:

*We all emerge from  
Dwell within  
Are transformed by  
And called back to Love.*

*May your mind be humbled before this Mystery.  
May your heart grow hopeful by it.  
May you be sustained by this Love always.*

Truly, at Gethsemane I experienced this being called back to Love. My heart feels peaceful.

From Kentucky I drove to Dayton to be with my family for three blessed days. I did the baby naming ceremony of my great niece, Jocelyn, and fell head over heels in love with my great nephew, Jacob, who looks so much like my father, of blessed memory. (Jacob is 2½, and pronounced my name "Allah.") Being with my immediate family was another heart-filling time; being held in such a circle of care, laughter and connection with four generations brought joy to my heart.

Then I went on to Milwaukee where I was a co-presenter, along with a Muslim woman and a Catholic nun, to 200 School Sisters of St. Francis. I'll be honest: I had some serious misimpressions of sisters prior to this trip. These were some of the most progressive, forward thinking women with whom I have ever had the privilege of learning. They were very interested in a rabbi serving a UU! There was such a coming together over the four days of our Abrahamic family of faiths – I am reminded that learning can open hearts, change minds and inspire us to be together in new ways.

So what do I bring back to you from this time away?

Restedness.

Peace.

Love.

And hope.

**In great gratitude –  
Rabbi Chava**

### Rabbi Open Office Hours (Drop-Ins Welcome!)

Open Office Hours are "open" times for shorter conversations. If you'd like 30 minutes or more with Rabbi Chava, please schedule an appointment by contacting Susan in the office (rather than emailing Rabbi Chava). This will save time!

### Short Conversations ~ Open Office Hours in August

- ◆ Tuesday, August 8 1:30 to 3:30 PM
- ◆ Tuesday, August 22 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- ◆ Thursday, August 31 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

# UUA and Denominational News from Rabbi Chava

## UUA Common Read

The challenges, the call, and the opportunity of this moment in Unitarian Universalism and in the broader US American society are compelling. Unitarian Universalists must be prepared and willing to look inward, examining, exploring, and acting to dismantle white supremacy culture in our association, in our congregations and groups, and in ourselves. At the same time, we must be prepared and willing to look outward and act to lift up Unitarian Universalist values in the political and civic challenges of our time. After much deliberation, the Common Read Selection Committee has chosen two books for this year's Common Read:

*Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry*, edited by Mitra Rahnema (Skinner House, 2017), centers the stories, analysis, and insights of a number of Unitarian Universalist religious leaders of color as they explore how racial identity is made both visible and invisible in Unitarian Universalist communities.

*Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want*, by Frances Moore Lappé and Adam Eichen, (Beacon Press, September 2017) lifts up the importance of democracy itself. It examines the anti-democracy movement that led to the Trump presidency, then offers a vision and call to action to save the democracy we thought we had and to take our civic life to a place it has never been.

To read about the new president of the UUA and some of her agenda, click here: <http://bit.ly/UUANewPresident>



Life is full of hard edges and complicated choices. Braver/Wiser gives you a weekly message of courage and compassion for life as it is. Every Wednesday we deliver an original written reflection by a contemporary UU religious leader, and brief prayer, grounded in Unitarian Universalism.

Sign up to receive it here: [uua.org/braverwiser](http://uua.org/braverwiser)

## All About Us - Congregational Care Team

### We hold in our hearts

Paula Ward  
Garry Harris

### We are mindful of

MaryAnn Force  
Nancy Landfair  
Sally Mitchell  
Marge Rundell

### Note

The Congregational Care Team has compiled a Community Services File for any needs you may have. It is located on the Reference shelf in our UU Library.

In care,  
Pat Light, CCT co-chair  
[patricialight@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patricialight@sbcglobal.net)

# From the President

Greetings to all my fellow congregants,

This month I would like to share with you my remarks from the July Board of Trustees meeting. In my remarks, I hoped to not only set a tone for going forward with the new year, but also to make some commitments to the other Trustees and the congregation regarding how we will do the work of our community. My address follows:

I am humbled with the confidence that my fellow Trustees have shown me in asking that I serve again as president of UUCGT.

The past, the present and the future: from the past are memory and the source of heritage, tradition and common values. In the future are our hopes, aspirations and dreams. Remaining is NOW: what our Buddhist friends tell us is all there is. Our present is centered on intention and intention forms the future. The danger is drifting into living in the future. The roots of heritage ground good intention.

I would hope that we work at being NOW centered creating a leadership by example, rooted in mutual respect. A Board's strength is in its totality and indeed that is its only authority. This Board will be collaborative in nature and consensus driven. We will manage our inevitable conflict. We will create a greater understanding by the manner we resolve conflict. We will use our growing understanding to make conflict resolution a central value in encouraging a diverse community. Peace is not the absence of conflict but the acceptance of conflict. It is not enough to talk. We must adopt the attitude: "I might be wrong, you might be right; let's talk".

In the coming year, I believe that the first priority of the Board is not the business that we transact, but how we transact business. I refer to our policy **Governing Style** (page 6 of our Manual on Board, Staff and Committees):

6. Govern with an emphasis on: Outward Congregational vision rather than internal Board preoccupation.

- Encourage diversity in viewpoints;
- Strategic leadership more than administrative detail;
- Clear distinction among Board, and Minister roles;
- Collective rather than individual decisions;
- Focusing on the future while honoring the past and present;
- Acting proactively rather than reactively; and
- Responsiveness to stakeholders (stakeholders being members, friends and guests)

Our Board will hone a model of consensus and collaboration rooted in mutual respect. This Board should demonstrate leadership within our organization by example.

Towards that end, I will ask the Board to have regularly scheduled study sessions in addition to our monthly business meetings. I will propose at least eight of these informal sessions. Some may involve the researching of difficult topics, some the first stages of discernment, some mutual training to better understand a process and some just to allow us to get to better know one another.

These sessions will be open to any congregant to observe. We will endeavor to balance transparency with the occasional need for confidentiality. I will ask this Board to affirm our policy:

## **Intention of Transparency in Governance** (page 7)

We, the Board of Trustees, declare our commitment to transparency in the conduct of our business, recognizing the occasional presumption of discretion.

What else will be our focus? Policy. We have been working to be a Board of policy-based governance for the last decade. Tom Darnton says the work is like painting the Mackinaw Bridge. Indeed. Our Policy Committee has asked for clear direction going forward. We will provide it. I will highlight a proposal under the Policy Report than can serve as a beginning. Policy should be a means of assessing who we are and who we want to be. (Later in our meeting I proposed that Tom Darnton and myself draft a proposed outline of what our policies should look like. We will include items that need definition and suggested priorities. The Board will then consider in study session prior to approving a proposal for the Policy Committee.)

This past year, considerable work was spent on revising and adopting an organization chart. There are three broad transformative areas: Staff Resources, Stewardship and Congregational management of safety and conflict. All Trustees will be involved in our continued evolution. We will hold fast to what best serves us and adapt in ways that allow us who we wish to become.

Process management will be a priority. We will need to staff well our various governance committees. These resources only serve when they are staffed with the right number and the right choices. Further, they must be provided with clarity of mission and expectation. We will create a template for leading our committee volunteers. Our management of these processes and tasks require not only clarity but also accountability, definition of process and management of expectations and reporting.

We must be available to best support the amazing web of ministries, activities, committees and resources that define us. We will ensure that everyone knows who to talk with and how to best reach them. For many, we will have specific Board contacts or liaisons.

The past is our legacy and our heritage. The future is the country of hope. Buddhism teaches that there is only the present. This Board will focus on the vision forward, but be in the present moment, together. The future is always hinged on brief moments.

Parting Quote:

"We are attracted to the notion that the moments that change our lives forever are momentous, but often those moments are soft, whispered. Only later, sometimes much later do we realize their importance."

Pascal Mercier (paraphrased)

**Karl Love**  
**karldlove@charter.net**



# Understanding and Analyzing Systemic Racism Workshop

## October 12 - 14

Thursday 1 - 5 pm, Friday & Saturday 8:30 am - 5 pm

The purpose of this training is to provide an opportunity for the participants to develop shared language for talking effectively about systemic racism, explore an analysis of systemic racism, and examine strategies for dismantling racism within their organization.

This in-depth workshop includes discussion of the socio-historic development of institutional racism; the definition of racism; how racism has been legally codified and institutionally perpetuated throughout U.S. history; how racism manifests on individual, cultural, and institutional levels; and how long-term organizing informed by antiracist values can lay the path toward institutional antiracist transformation.

WORKSHOP LOCATION  
TBD

COST: **\$425**  
Scholarships Available

MEALS: Breakfast,  
lunch and snacks will be  
provided

### What are participants saying?

"This training helped me find myself, love myself, respect myself, and feel stronger as a woman of color."

"ERACCE training invited me to explore racialization in my own life and made me realize it affects us all"

Click **HERE** to register

<http://eracce.aquaspace.com/event-registration>

**ERACCE**

Eliminating Racism &  
Creating/Celebrating Equity

Questions? Contact ERACCE at 269.389.9956 or [eracce@eracce.org](mailto:eracce@eracce.org)

## *Coming in AUGUST!* **THE UUCGT BOOK SALE**

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday - August 24, 25 & 26 ~ 9:00 – 5:00**

We'll be selling books on the premises, with profits going to our General Fund

Please start putting adult & children's books you wish to donate aside  
*No technical books, magazines or encyclopedias, okay?*

**Books may be dropped off at UU on Sunday, August 20**

Volunteers needed to staff a table or cash point. And don't forget to tell family, friends & neighbors about lots of good reading and unusual finds!

**For more information, or to sign on, kindly contact your friendly organizers**

**Joann Rosi Phone: [\(231\) 633-1232](tel:2316331232) & Cynthia Brzak Phone: [\(231\) 421-5295](tel:2314215295)**

# Announcements

## NEW MOON WOMEN'S GROUP

with Carolyn Kelly & Rabbi Chava Bahle

**New Moon Soul to Soul Group (meets monthly)**

**Next Meeting: August 19, 3:00 - 5:00 PM in the Sanctuary**

"A New Moon marks the beginning of a new cycle, a fresh start in its cycle of waxing and waning. During this time the Moon is empty and receptive and full of potential. This is an optimum time to plant seeds of intentions for what you wish to manifest in your life.

Most of us live our lives so disconnected from the Earth, and devoid of any kind of ritual that creates the space for us to connect. So the New Moon provides us with an opportunity to take the time to create SACRED SPACE for ourselves. It is essential.

There is something so powerful when women come together to support each other on their journey, in their hopes and dreams. We are healed, we are nurtured, we feel comforted and understood. Moreover, when you share sacred space together you magnify the power of your intentions and you energetically create a web of support for not only your circle of women friends, but with women everywhere." (MysticMama)

Join us! We are using the book, *Soul to Soul: Fourteen Gatherings for Reflection and Sharing* as our guide. You can read more here:

<http://www.uuabookstore.org/Soul-to-Soul-P17830.aspx>

**Carolyn Kelly**  
[carolynk113@gmail.com](mailto:carolynk113@gmail.com)

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

---

## The Cycle of Life

Please join Penny Ort and the community for the interment of John's ashes on August 6 following the service.

Rabbi Chava wishes to extend special thanks to the UUCGT staff, Congregational Care Team, the Memorial Reception Team and volunteers for their immense caring and generosity for Mercedes Kimling and her family.



## UU BOOK CLUB

We happily take a book club break in July and August as we move into the Cherry Festival, the Film Festival, boating, fishing, camping, gardening and all the other summertime joys of Northern Michigan.

However, I wanted to let prospective new members see our lineup for Fall so you can ponder the idea of joining us as these lazy days of summer fly by.

**9/10/17**      *Commonwealth* by Ann Patchett  
hosted by Bonnie Mathias

**10/8/17**      *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* by Jennifer Chiaverini  
hosted by Barb Bloomer

**11/12/17**      *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift  
hosted by Stan & Dottie Cain

If you have any questions about the book club, contact Mark Gustafson at 929-9608, or [cyberfools@gmail.com](mailto:cyberfools@gmail.com).

**Karen Mars**  
**590-2551**  
[karen.mars.tc@gmail.com](mailto:karen.mars.tc@gmail.com)

---

## Post-Surgical Help needed!

I, Karen Mars, will be having the revision total knee replacement on August 9th down in Grand Rapids at Blodgett Hospital. I'm told that I will be coming home from the hospital possibly as early as the next day. It will not be possible to return to my own home and I am not eligible for a rehab facility unless I spend 3 nights in the hospital. I am hoping that there might be a retired person in our congregation who is basically home during the day and who has an extra bed who could let me stay with them for up to 10 days during my early recovery period when I might need some help. If you think that might be possible, please give me a call at: **590-2551** or email me at [karen.mars.tc@gmail.com](mailto:karen.mars.tc@gmail.com).

With gratitude,

Karen Mars



# Lifespan Experience

## Greetings Friends,

### Sundays in August

As our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Specialty Class Summer (our summer program for children pre-k-5<sup>th</sup> grade on Sunday mornings which runs June 1<sup>st</sup> - Resumption Sunday in September) comes to a close, I'd like to thank all of the wonderful people who made it so remarkable! Special thanks to Mary Cheney, Kathy Booker-Graham, Mark Dragovich, Bob Fitch, Denny Richards, and Laura Matchett. There are still great classes ahead which include "Meeting a Tree", and going on a "Micro-Hike".

Youth are invited to remain in the sanctuary throughout the summer months.

Suggested readings for families/parents this month include:

- ♦ Families – by Susan Kuklin
- ♦ The Tiny Seed – by Eric Carle

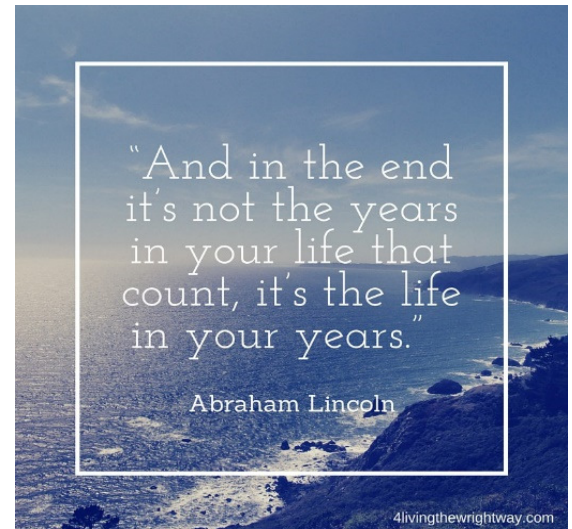
**Friday Night Out – August 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-9pm – Contact me ASAP to reserve a spot!**

**Register NOW for UU & YOU at Hogwarts!**

We are **THRILLED** to announce that registration is open for our "UU & YOU at Hogwarts" program! This will be our Sunday morning curriculum September 2017 - June 2018. Most parents believe that it's important to instill social responsibility in their children, but it can be difficult to find meaningful sources or projects for children to get involved. In addition, many social action projects are not relevant to children, and a lack of relation can lead to a lack of engagement. The Harry Potter series of books by J.K. Rowling are an excellent way to immerse children in the idea that one can work to make the world better. Harry Potter, like other pop culture, can allow children to discuss important social issues with peers.

The "Harry and UU" curriculum was originally written by Unitarian Universalist Educator, Karen Hager – creator of the *Imagine-RE* UU curriculum series, and we are enhancing it to meet our multi-age classroom needs. This curriculum is a fun way to get children and middle-school youth excited about our UU principles and social justice. *Don't worry! Children/Youth needn't have read or be familiar with the storylines from Harry Potter in order to fully participate – they need only come with a creative, playful, inquisitive, and open mind ready to explore!*

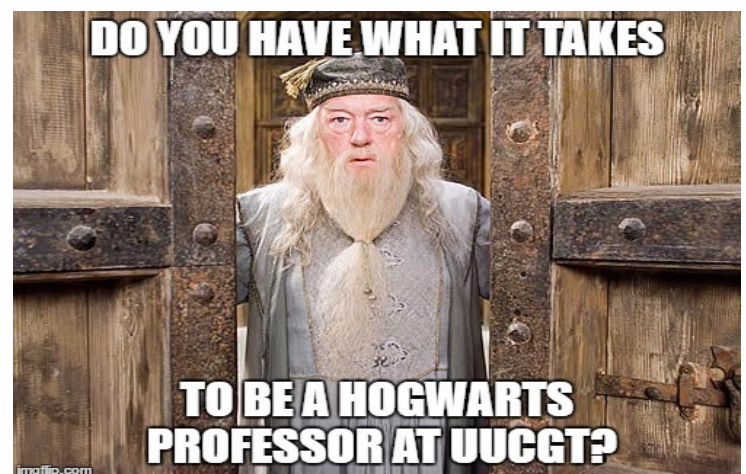
This curriculum seeks to help participants learn that change is possible through multiple avenues, and can happen whether the problem is local or worldwide. Students will have the opportunity to make a difference in their community and the world in a meaningful way through hands-on projects that will also teach them social responsibility.



Children pre-k-5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate as UU Hogwarts students, and middle-school youth are invited to be "prefects", or "upper-classmen" with additional (but FUN!) responsibilities. The curriculum includes many fun wizarding activities, but **the main purpose of the curriculum is social action.** The class forms a chapter of Dumbledore's Army and engages with "Horcruxes" during the year.

The "Horcruxes" that will be explored this year include: Hunger, Literacy, Poverty, Sickness, & the Environment.

**Children/Youth who register by AUGUST 28<sup>TH</sup> will receive a special Hogwarts UU Acceptance Letter! Registration forms will be available via a link in the FLASH throughout August. Print copies are available at the Welcome Table in the social hall.**



We Are Also Seeking Volunteer Professors (aka, classroom teachers) For This Program!  
Please Contact Sarah If You Are Interested!

(Continued on Page 11)



# Social Justice and Action

At one point in my knowing Rabbi Chava, she recommended a good book to read. It is so pertinent every day, especially these days. It is called *Minyan, Ten Principles for Living a Life of Integrity* by Rabbi Rami Shapiro.

I will not rephrase. I will quote below:

## *Do Not Murder*

*Aware of the suffering caused by the needless and wanton destruction of life, I vow to cultivate compassion and justice and learn ways to protect the well-being of people, animals, plants and minerals.*

*I am determined not to murder, not to let others murder, and not to condone any act of murder in the world, in my thinking and in my way of life.*

*I recognize that murder refers not only to the literal taking of life, but to the killing of dignity. I vow to practice gentleness and respect toward all, learning how to struggle for what is right without falling prey to what is wrong.*

Surely, I do not need to point out the realities in this well stated piece, but I like especially like the three-worded phrase, *killing of dignity*. That must mean allowing and even promoting the development and respect for all. Doesn't that mean providing sustenance, good housing, education, health care, to all humans, animals and plants as best we can? The piece recommends to not murder *in my thinking and in my way of life*.

If we could all practice this, what a different world we could have!

Emmy Lou Cholak, Social Justice Chair, [sjatcmi@gmail.com](mailto:sjatcmi@gmail.com)

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

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**As of June 30, 2017**  
**(100% of fiscal year)**

	<u><b>Current Year</b></u>	<u><b>Prior Year</b></u>	
<b>Budgeted Income Received YTD</b>	<b>\$287,630</b>	<b>\$288,827</b>	<b>105.2%</b>
<b>Budgeted Expenses Paid YTD</b>	<b>\$268,417</b>	<b>\$289,183</b>	<b>99.1%</b>
<b>"For Those in Need" YTD</b>	<b>\$ 15,851</b>	<b>\$ 19,143</b>	<b>90.0%</b>
			<b>90.2%</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.

We had a good year. The Finance Committee recommended and the Board approved, in their July meeting, the following distribution of our \$19,213 surplus. \$10,000 was carried forward to the 2017-2018 fiscal year (as approved in the Annual Meeting), \$4,213 was placed in the Capital Improvement Reserve and \$5,000 was placed in the Operational Reserve. Also, based on Finance Committee recommendation and June Board approval an additional \$5,450 was paid to UUA in June and an additional \$2,200 was paid the Mid America District in June. This brought our payment of dues to 50% for the year. 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

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP THE MEMBERSHIP

**TEAM** - But not be required to attend Committee Meetings??

**We have a Deal for You!** Sign up to be on the **Greeter List** OR to **Staff the Welcome Table** beginning in **September**.

Job Descriptions are available for both positions and Job Shadowing is provided! Put your Friendly Welcoming self forward and get a chance to meet great people!

**AUGUST - Quick! Get out there and Enjoy Summer activities, family and friends before the summer wanes.**

**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.

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP TEAM** is gearing up for another wonderful program year 2017-18. Next month we will announce dates for Orientation Sessions for Prospective Members, 15 Minutes with Rabbi Chava, and New member Welcome Services.

**Membership at UUCGT is something to be taken very seriously.** We encourage everyone thinking about joining to attend as many services as possible, and to feel comfortable. Also it is important to understand and fulfill important **membership** obligations, or as we see them, **opportunities!** Please stop by the Welcome Table, talk with someone on the Membership Team there, and pick up the literature we have prepared for your contemplation.

**GREETER OPPORTUNITIES** - It's easy - just sign up on the bulletin board near the office or call coordinator Charlotte Shea, 883-9357. Greet just one Sunday, or sign up for a regular or semi-regular shift. Job description is posted on the bulletin board, but simply involves:

- 1) **Smiling**, 2) **Saying** "Welcome", "Glad you're here", "How are you?", 3) **Handing out** Order of Service, and 4) **Helping** with offering.

**WELCOME TABLE** - Nothing to it, simply:

- 1) **Arrive** 10:00 AM before service, 2) **Welcome** Visitors who come to the Welcome Table, 3) **Invite** them to make a Name Tag, 4) **Answer** questions they may have, 5) **Encourage** signing the Welcome Registry (to receive Flash, Beacon, and receive an Attender Name Tag), 6) **Repeat** Steps 2, 4 and 5 After the service.

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)

### **SEPTEMBER 2017**

01	Fri	Facilities Dave Halsted 10:00 AM	14	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM
03	Sun	Sunday Service - Lay-led 10:30 AM	14	Thu	Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM
03	Sun	Mindfulness Meditation 2:30 PM-6:30 PM	14	Thu	Music Committee Bob Hicks 6:00 PM
04	Mon	Labor Day - UU office closed	14	Thu	Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM
05	Tue	Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM	16	Sat	New Moon Women's Circle Carolyn Kelly 3:00-5:00 PM
06	Wed	Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM	17	Sun	Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM
06	Wed	Wednesday Potluck @ UUCGT Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM	17	Sun	A Celebration of Spiritual Leadership/Luncheon 12-1:30 PM
07	Thu	Congregational Care Team Joanie Jackson / Pat Light 1:00 PM	17	Sun	Mindfulness Meditation Fleda Brown 5:00 PM
07	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM	18	Mon	Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM
07	Thu	Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM	18	Mon	UUCGT Board Meeting Karl Love 5:30 PM
07	Thu	Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM	19	Tue	Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM
08	Fri	Friday Night Out Sarah Montgomery-Richards 5:30-9:00 PM	20	Wed	Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM
09	Sat	InterPlay Workshop Lee Edwards 10:00 AM-1:00 PM	20	Wed	Lifespan Experience Sarah Montgomery-Richards 12:00 PM
10	Sun	Program Council Rick Walter 9:00 AM	20	Wed	Membership Team Chris Walter 4:00 PM
10	Sun	Sunday Service - Rabhu Chava Bahle 10:30 AM	20	Wed	Sunday Services Committee Amanda Mangiardi 4:30 PM
10	Sun	Mindfulness Meditation Fleda Brown 5:00 PM	20	Wed	Wednesday Potluck Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM
11	Mon	Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM	21	Thu	Congregational Care Team Joanie Jackson / Pat Light 1:00 PM
11	Mon	UU Men's Group Dave Halsted Minerva's 5:30 PM	21	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM
12	Tue	Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM	21	Thu	Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM
12	Tue	Finance Committee Mike McDonald 5:30 PM	21	Thu	Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM
13	Wed	Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM	23	Sat	Sunday Services Retreat Hal Gurian / Amanda Mangiardi 10:00 AM-3:00 PM
13	Wed	Board Executive Committee - Agenda Karl Love 1:00 PM	24	Sun	Adult Lifespan Connections Course Rabbi Chava, Sarah Montgomery-Richards 9:00 AM 10:00 AM
13	Wed	Wednesday Supper/\$5 Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM	24	Sun	Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM
14	Thu	Shantideva Fan Club Chris Innes 9:30 AM			

# Program Council News

The Program Council did not meet in May. Our last meeting was June 11, 2017, and here is a delayed update from the Program Council as well as planning for the future.

- A. All Committees need to send an updated list of membership and current chairperson to Susan Sherman so records can be correct as we move into this new 2017 - 2018 program year.
- B. Our next meeting will be August 13th at 9:00 AM in the Classroom.
- C. We will be meeting on the Second Sunday of the month for the entire 2017 - 2018 year, so if you are a chairperson or just interested in keeping up with the various programs of the UUCGT, please put these dates on your calendar. And if you cannot attend, please send a representative from your group.
- D. A brief discussion was held concerning an apparent lack of budgeted funds for support of an accompanist in May for our fantastic Vocal Ensemble. A misunderstanding of this issue was rectified by the Finance Committee and Board.
- E. We also noted that the Board had not followed up on the Social Justice's and Program Council's recommendation for the entire congregation to vote on the UUA Statement of Conscience at the Annual Meeting due to concerns about possible effects on UUCGT's 501(c)3 status.
- F. All committees gave brief reports on their activities and planning for the upcoming year. All are meeting regularly, functioning well and have a good complement of volunteer members. There is always room for additional members on all committees, so if you feel left out, look into what committee you would like to join and contact the chairperson for that committee.
- G. The whole congregation needs to begin planning for the **Thanksgiving Feast** celebration which will be held the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving, **November 19, 2017** at the **Twin Lakes Gilbert Lodge**. Please Mark your calendars now! Historically, only a few volunteers carried the majority of the work load in planning and executing this event. Last year Victoria Gallup and Carol Ritter volunteered to coordinate this event and did a fantastic job. I believe it may be a good idea to have several committees this year sharing the individual tasks of having this event. We will discuss this at our upcoming Program Council meeting on August 13th.

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

---

(Continued from Page 8)

## Save the Dates!! Adult Lifespan Experience Classes

This fall, Rabbi Chava and I will be launching the first of our Adult Lifespan Experience Connections Classes – “Dialogue in Community”. This is what we are considering a “Roots” course – I introduced these in my Annual Report. Once again, “Roots” courses are foundational, skill-building trainings that will support collaboration and the fostering of covenantal community. Additionally, the completion of the “Roots” courses will serve as the certification necessary to lead Small Group Ministry in our congregation. Our “Dialogue in Community” class will be based on the work both Rabbi Chava and I have done in our respective Interfaith Programs, and will include lecture, discussion, and interactive components. These classes will meet at **9:00 AM** on the following Sundays this fall:

**September 24**  
**October 1**  
**October 15**  
**October 29**  
**November 5**

## Don't forget...

### Brewing Community has switched to its summer format!

This gathering moves to the last Wednesday of the month May-August, and will include dinner out as it joins forces with the Wednesday Supper program. We will gather on WEDNESDAY, August 30th at **Rare Bird** from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. This is a great way to meet people, laugh with friends, and is family friendly! RSVP to John Hoffmann if you plan to join us for dinner so we can get a general count.

**Wednesday Supper Schedule!** Make sure to read your FLASH carefully each week, and check the congregational calendar for the location of our summer potlucks. Remember, these gatherings are in people's homes, and we ask that you BYOB. Such a fun way to spend summer evenings!

**Coming of Age** – Work continues on a Coming of Age program. Please continue to look for updates on this.

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)

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## *the* BEACON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Volume 54, Issue 8 August, 2017

### UUCGT Calendar

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

#### AUGUST 2017

01 Tue Community Lunch 10:30 set-up @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
01 Tue Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
01 Tue LDC Judy Myers 5:00 PM  
02 Wed Shantideva Fan Club Chris Innes 9:30 AM  
02 Wed Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
02 Wed Wednesday Potluck Ann Dressel host 6:00 PM  
03 Thu Congregational Care Joanie Jackson 1:00 PM  
03 Thu Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
03 Thu Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
03 Thu Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM  
04 Fri Facilities Dave Halsted 10:00 AM

06 Sun **Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
06 Sun Interment - John Ort 12:00 PM  
06 Sun Mindfulness Meditation Fleda Brown 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
07 Mon Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
08 Tue Community Lunch 10:30 set-up @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
08 Tue Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
08 Tue Finance Committee Mike McDonald 5:30 PM  
09 Wed Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
09 Wed Executive Committee - Board Agenda Karl Love 1:00 PM  
09 Wed Wednesday Potluck Kiner/Boulter 6:00 PM  
10 Thu Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
10 Thu Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
10 Thu Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM  
11 Fri Friday Night Out Sarah Montgomery-Richards 5:30-9:00 PM  
12 Sat InterPlay Workshop Lee Edwards 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
13 Sun Program Council Rick Walter 9:00 AM

13 Sun **Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
13 Sun Mindfulness Meditation Fleda Brown 5:00 PM  
14 Mon Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
14 Mon Committee on Ministry Chris Innes Jim Linsell's 2:00-3:30 PM  
14 Mon Safe Harbor Board Mike McDonald 7:00 PM  
14 Tue Community Lunch 10:30 set-up @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
15 Tue Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
15 Tue UU Board Meeting Karl Love 5:30 PM  
16 Wed Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
16 Wed Lifespan Experience Sarah Montgomery-Richards 12:00 PM  
16 Wed Sunday Services Amanda Mangiardi 4:00 PM  
16 Wed Wednesday Potluck Connie Armstrong/Chuck Grabiell 6:00 PM

17 Thu Shantideva Fan Club Chris Innes 9:30 AM  
17 Thu Congregational Care Joanie Jackson 1:00 PM  
17 Thu Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
17 Thu Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
17 Thu Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM  
18 Fri Jazz Sabbath with Jeff Haas 7:30 PM  
19 Sat New Moon Women's Circle Carolyn Kelly 3:00 PM

20 Sun **Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
20 Sun Mindfulness Meditation Fleda Brown 5:00 PM  
21 Mon Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
22 Tue Community Lunch 10:30 set-up @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
22 Tue Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
23 Wed Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
23 Wed Wednesday Potluck Bob & Cindy Clements 6:00 PM  
24 Thu UU BOOK SALE Cindy Brzak & Joann Rosi 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
24 Thu Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM 6:30 PM  
24 Thu Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
25 Fri UU BOOK SALE Cindy Brzak & Joann Rosi 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
26 Sat MI UU SJA Board Emmy Lou Cholak 9:00 AM 4:00 PM  
26 Sat UU BOOK SALE Cindy Brzak & Joann Rosi 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

27 Sun **Sunday Service - Rabbi Chava Bahle 10:30 AM**  
27 Sun Mindfulness Meditation Fleda Brown 5:00 PM  
28 Mon Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
29 Tue Community Lunch 10:30 set-up @ Friends Church, 5th & Oak  
29 Tue Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM  
30 Wed Stretch & Strengthen Judith Briggs 10:30 AM  
30 Wed CUUPS Sarah Montgomery-Richards Robby's Tacqueria 12:30p  
30 Wed Brewing Community & Dinner Out John Hoffmann Rare Bird 5:00 PM  
31 Thu Shantideva Fan Club Chris Innes 9:30 AM  
31 Thu Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM  
31 Thu Meditation Workshop Elisabeth Treefon 5:30 PM  
31 Thu Vocal Ensemble John Bailey 7:00 PM

Calendar continued on Page 10