— the Beacon —

Sunday Services at 10:30 AM

http://www.uucgt.org

Vol. 56, Issue 6

June 2019



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse

6726 Center Road Traverse City, MI 49686-1802 6.2.19

6.9.19

6.16.19

6.23.19

6.30.19

Richard Miller

Pam Hendrick

Rev. Beth Marshall

Rev. Beth Marshall

Andi Kramer

Richard Miller

Mary Van Valin

UUCGT Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm 231-947-3117

Minister

Rev. Beth Marshall minister@uucgt.org

Director of Music

Susan Holmes-Glazier musicdirector@uucgt.org

Director of Religious Education

Betsy Hammerberg dle@uucgt.org

Office Administrator

Susan Sherman office@uucgt.org

Bookkeeper

Glennda Corning bookie@uucgt.org



Roots Hold Me

Me Free

We Know

Forest

Father's Day

Close, Wings Set

Flower Communion. Baby and

Child Dedication

The Edge of What

Stewards of the

June Theme

"Jazz and Joy"



Renewal a name in the book.

(Annual Meeting)

Rev. Jane Lippert Jazz Church Jazz music offers an underlying theme v

Jazz music offers an underlying theme with space for spontaneity and improvisation. What about Jazz speaks to our faith and our community?

Guided by Rev. Norbert Capek's vision and writings for his original Flower Service in 1923, this morning we will celebrate both individual gifts and responsibility to the larger community. As part of the celebration, everyone is invited to bring with them a flower or twig to contribute to our shared bouquet.

How can we open ourselves to the possibility that there are others in the larger community who would benefit from what we have at UUCGT, and how do we communicate that?

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony celebrating our woodlands and those who have been long-time stewards planting, protecting, and loving trees. A rather short indoor service will lead us outdoors to a new walking trail, pausing to remember Clarence Kroupa for his surrounding trees and dedicating a new bench in honor of Arlene Howe.



Please join us!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES





June Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 18, 2019
6:00 PM

Open to all unless indicated

Please send <u>Beacon</u> submissions to <u>jomangiardi@hotmail.com</u>
by the 25 of the month preceding the issue date



	42300		
Sunday	Coordinators	Title	Description
7.7.19	Amanda Mangiardi Karen Casebeer Nancy Doughty	A Tribute to Mary Oliver	Beloved poet Mary Oliver has written poems that touch our hearts. She passed away this year and we will hold a service commemorating her amazing body of work which fills our hearts with joy.
7.14.19	Beth Marshall Margaret Wozniak	Who and Why?	Bring a Friend or Guest Sunday!
7.21.19	Beth Marshall Mary Van Valin	Blessings and Benedictions	Rev. Beth's final service with UUCGT - We are grateful and wish you blessed travels.
7.28.19	Rev. Jane Lippert Hal Gurian	TBD	TBD

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse

Adult Religious Education June 16 and June 23, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.

On June 16th, Anthony J. Wilgus will conclude the 3 part series entitled, *Spiritual Exercises for the Unenlightened*.

While the first segment examined the spiritual traditions of ancestors and the second installment explored the substance of current religious and spiritual beliefs and practices, Part III will anticipate the future and some of the 'unfinished business' that humans may have as they approach the end of life. There is a Chinese saying that in one's youth, a person is a Taoist; in middle age, one becomes a Confucian; and at the end of life, people end up as Buddhists. The latter challenge will be the focus on this discussion.

On June 23rd, there will be an opportunity to discuss in an open forum the thoughts, reflections, wisdom, and insights garnered from the three presentations. Those attending Part III will be given a list of questions that will serve as prompts for the final discussion.

Hope to see you there!



Rev. Beth will be speaking at UUCGT on the following Sundays:

Join us!

June 16 & 23 July 14 & 21

Reflection from Rev. Beth

There are a handful of pieces that I return to, again and again during stewardship campaigns and pledge drives, and on ordinary Wednesdays when asked "Why join this congregation?" the short answer is:

- We join a Unitarian Universalist congregation because what happens here matters.
- We join because it transforms us.
- We join because it gives us a venue to express our deepest hopes and dreams.
- We join because our families benefit from being part of a larger circle.
- We join because we know that we are stronger together.
- We join because we believe that the world needs our care and our work.

The longer answer was written by Rev. John Wolfe, minister emeritus of All Soul's Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. What do you think?

There is only one reason for joining a UU Church. That is to support it. You want to support it because it stands against superstition and fear. Because it points to what's noblest and best in human life. Because it is open to men and women of whatever race, creed, color, or national origin.

You want to support a UU Church because it has a free pulpit. Because you can hear ideas expressed there which would cost any other minister his or her job. You want to support it because it is a place where children can come without being saddled with guilt or terrified of some 'celestial peeping Tom,' where they can learn that religion is for joy, comfort, for gratitude and love.

You want to support it because it is a place where walls between people are torn down rather than built up. Because it is a place for the religious displaced persons of our time, the refugees from mixed marriages, the unwanted freethinkers and those who insist against orthodoxy that they must work out their own beliefs.

You want to support a Unitarian Universalist Church because it is more concerned with human beings than with dogmas. Because it searches for the holy, rather than dwells upon the depraved. Because it calls no one a sinner, yet knows how deep is the struggle and how great is the hunger for what is good.

You want to support a Unitarian Universalist Church because it can laugh...because it insults neither your intelligence nor your conscience, and because it calls you to worship what is truly worthy of your sacrifice...

In the next month, I invite you to give some thought to what you might tell someone about why being part of a Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a good fit for you. We'll talk later in June.

In hope and faith, Rev. Beth



What is Unitarian Universalism?

Unitarian Universalism is a faith that honors YOUR mind, YOUR heart, and YOUR journey.

We are a guided path to a better you and a better world.

Learn more by copying and pasting this link into your browser:

https://bit.ly/315CQNp

Congregational Care Team

We send "Heart-felt" get well wishes to Rick Walters, Jim Walworth and Doug Wozniak. Thanks to modern medical care that works everyday miracles; all three are doing well, recovering from recent cardiac events.

Rick and Chris Walters have now moved to an apartment in town while their home is being repaired. We hope everything continues to go well for all of them!

Shari Cope celebrated a big happy 80th birthday with family and friends at her new apartment in Cordia.

Ann Dressel was there and is also happy to be at Cordia.

Nancy Landfair is very happy to be at the Pavilions now, and her Parkinson's is in better control with more treatment, including therapy and a Parkinson's support group there. A family memorial service for her mother, Carol Still, and her sister, Susan will be held at UUCGT on Monday, June 24.

A Big Thank You to all the Volunteers who under the leadership of Lauren Keinath are beginning to translate our grounds into some lovely paths and flower gardens. The future will be beautiful! Spring is finally here!



Help a City Teen!

For the third summer in a row the reputable My Block My Hood My City organization will bring 11 inner city teens and two chaperones from Chicago's North Lawndale neighborhoods to TC for a much-deserved 4-day June vacation.

\$200 per student will give these kids from one of Chicago's most under resourced neighborhoods the vacation of a lifetime!

To donate, please click on the link below (where you can also watch videos of a prior vacation experience). https://donorbox.org/traverse-city-exploration

OR, mail a check to: My Block, My Hood, My City, 47 W Polk St, Suite 260 Chicago, IL 60605

ANY amount, large or small is greatly appreciated!

To ensure the donation goes specifically to this cause, be sure to write <u>TRAVERSE CITY EXPLORATION</u> in the Memo Line on your check.

Thank you!
Kim and Kevin Gribi



Our New interim Minister





Reverend Dr. Catherine Harrington

The UUCGT Board of Trustees

is pleased and excited to announce that

Rev. Dr. Catherine Harrington

as our Interim Minister for the next two years starting August 2019

Rev. Cathy, a second career UU Minister, has served in ministry for over fifteen years with four congregations. After serving for two years as an intern in Austin, Texas, she was a Settled Minister in Ludington, MI for eight years, followed by a four year Developmental Ministry in Chattanooga, Tennessee and, most recently, one year completing a Developmental Ministry in Gainesville, Florida.

Serving as a Developmental Minister is very similar to an Interim Minister, although usually longer than two years. The UU Congregation in Gainesville, successfully called a Settled Minister this spring, assisted by Rev. Cathy's guidance.

Rev. Cathy has a rich and varied background starting as a hair-

dresser, opening a bakery/café in Seward, Alaska, then feeling a call to Ministry and getting her Masters of Divinity degree at Starr King University, a UU seminary, in 2004. She also holds a Doctorate of Ministry degree from Meadville Lombard, earned in 2012. While a Minister, she has served as a victim liaison for the Department of Defense and as a police Chaplain. She is also a member of the "Faithful Fools" and we will let her tell us all about that.

Rev. Cathy is married, has two grown sons and two grandchildren. She and her husband have a home in Ludington, but she plans to get an apartment in Traverse City for the next two years. Rev. Cathy is excited to be coming to walk beside us on our journey to get a Settled Minister over the next two years and is also happy to be back in Michigan, living nearer her husband, after five years "down South".

Let's wish Reverend Cathy a warm UUCGT welcome!



Our New Religious Education Teacher



Betsy Hammerberg

New Religious Education Director

We are pleased to announce that

Betsy Hammerberg

has been hired as our Religious Education Director!

This will be a part time position, coordinating the activities of our teaching staff and taking the lead in curriculum selection.

Betsy attended the UUCGT from the ages of 6-17 and recently began attending again, after a long hiatus, during which she studied elementary education and taught Pre-K through 3rd grade in Thailand, Syria, Vietnam, and Austria.

She and her husband Kris moved back to Traverse City last year with their two boys, Elliot (2.5 years old) and Oliver (10 months old), to be closer to family.

Betsy says, "The religious education I received through the UUCGT was fundamental to the development of who I am, and continue to strive to be, today. I look forward to supporting the next generation of UU's as they develop their senses of compassion, acceptance, inclusion, peace, curiosity, and respect for all."

We welcome Betsy and her family to our UUCGT family!



UUCGT SUMMER POTLUCKS ARE BACK!

WEDNESDAYS @ 5:30 PM
- Mark Your Calendar -

Potlucks at UUCGT - Wednesday, June 5, 12 & 26 June 19 @ Sandra & Mike McDonald's

Potlucks in July & August will be held at member's homes

Check the weekly FLASH for location Summer rules - Please bring your own table service & beverages

We hope to see you soon!

Social Justice



All people deserve to be treated with respect and dignity.

Discrimination against any one person is discrimination against us all. The indiscriminate use of power to hurt another using violence is against our UU principles and against our human sense of righteousness. An extreme example of this abuse of power is the violence propagated against women because of sex, color, religion, or nationality.

The Violence Against Women Act was first enacted in 1994 and addressed domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. This Act is supposed to be reenacted every few years and was due to be reissued last year, 2018. However, Congress has not yet voted to reenact it.

Copy into web browser: https://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/674/435/739/

Violence against women and girls is so high that 84% suffer such abuse in their lifetime. Sexual abuse and even murder is very high and there is not an adequate federal response to help investigate and stop this uncalled for violence.

Copy: https://act.credoaction.com/sign/not-invisible-act

Not voting on and passing the Equality Act in our National Congress is another example of discrimination. This Act would extend the rights and privileges that most of us enjoy to our LGBTQ friends and neighbors. Respect and dignity extends to all people.

Copy: https://act.credoaction.com/sign/equality-act

Learn more about where and how we are in living our values as UUers on a national level.

If you were comfortable taking actions to help, thanks! Emmy Lou Cholak



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY June 19 - 23

Jerry Schatz and Barb Conley are Member Delegates representing UUCGT at the UUA General Assembly in Spokane, WA later this month.

<u>Request to Members</u>: Please review draft Statement of Conscience at https://www.uua.org/action/process/csais/corruption-of-our-democracy/2016-2020-csai and send any comments or concerns regarding this document, the General Assembly or UUA governance to Jerry or Barb soon - their contact information is available in the directory.

Child Dedication Ceremony - Sunday, June 16

A Unitarian Universalist Child Dedication ceremony includes three parts:

A blessing; an expression of hope by caretakers; a promise by the congregation

All ages are welcome to take part in this dedication

If you would like your child to participate, email the following information to office@uucgt.org by June 5th

- 1. Child's full name
- 2. Parents' names
- 3. Child's birth date
- 4. Godparent(s) names (optional)

If you have questions about the ceremony, please contact Rev. Beth at minister@uucgt.org

Religious Education



The Our Whole Lives (OWL) Program

Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a comprehensive, lifespan sexuality education curricula used by UU congregations as well as other congregational and secular groups.

In mid-April, with financial support from the staffing committee, I had the honor of attending a 7-12th grade-focused OWL training with other educators in Kalamazoo, MI. THANK YOU, UUCGT!

The dialogue and learning experiences were meaningful, fun, and compassionate. Together we explored many relevant topics including:

- Adolescent development
- Effective group facilitation techniques
- How to be more understanding and welcoming of transgender people
- Gender and sexual orientation terminology
- The circles of sexuality
- Issues around consent

Having taught the Michigan Model reproductive health curriculum in an 8th grade health class in 2018, my students' feedback was that the curriculum was outdated, needed more gender and identity inclusion, and was overall fear-based and negative.

After this training weekend, I can assure you that OWL offers a different approach. I walked away from the training weekend feeling equipped, inspired and hopeful.

"Honest, accurate information about sexuality changes lives. It dismantles stereotypes and assumptions, builds self-acceptance and self-esteem, fosters healthy relationships, improves decision making, and has the potential to save lives." https://www.uua.org/re/owl

The Religious Education Committee has received quite a lot of feedback from parents in our community that they would like an OWL program to run this fall.

We are excited to be making plans to get students registered for this program, both from our congregation and the community, which I believe will be of great benefit to the entire Grand Traverse Region.

I'd be happy to engage with you about questions you may have or experiences you'd like to share regarding this program. Please see below for my contact information. I look forward to talking to you!



Katie's Master's degree is in Curriculum and Instruction with endorsements in PE/Health Education and Special Education.

Katie has experience in teaching a wide range of health topics including self-care and reproductive health.

Please contact Katie with any questions you may have.

Katie can be reached at katie.marie.tomczyk@gmail.com or 231-349-6616

UUCGT Board Report



The UUCGT Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, May 21. Following are key items from the meeting:

Heard a report from Jerry Schatz and Barb Conley who will attend the UUA General Assembly in Spokane as UUCGT Delegates. The Board gave them our blessing to vote their conscience on legislation and the slate of officers for the UUA.

Reviewed planning for the June 2 Annual Meeting. Everything seems to be coming together for the meeting.

Noted that the Board had approved the 2019-2020 Budget for approval of the Congregation at the June 2 Annual Meeting. This was done in a closed session on Monday, May 6.

Also noted that the Board had approved the contract and compensation for our Interim Minister, Rev. Dr. Catherine Harrington via e-mail on Wednesday, May 15.

Approved that \$1,000 of Rev. Beth Marshall's salary be designated as housing allowance. This is not additional compensation. Minister's have a right to request that a portion of their salary be designated as housing allowance for tax purposes.

Approved \$5,775 as our pledge to the UUA for 2019-2020 dues. This is the amount in the 2019-2020 budget for UUA dues.

Approved a policy regarding entry to the building for individual members of the SokukoJi Meditation group to use the meditation room during office hours on Monday through Thursday.

We plan to share highlights from our monthly Board meetings throughout the year. You can also find the minutes of Board meetings on our website. Board meetings are open meetings and you are welcome to attend. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18 at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This meeting will be the traditional meeting involving members from both the outgoing and incoming Boards.

Mike McDonald, President



Share your Smile and Welcoming Spirit! It's easy - just sign up on the bulletin board near the office. Greet just one Sunday, or sign up for a regular or semi-regular shift. Job description is posted on the bulletin board, but simply requires you to:

- 1) Smile, remember to get down to our little ones' level;
- 2) Say "Welcome", "Glad you're here", "How are you?", etc.;
- 3) Hand out Order of Service;
- Pecters 4) Count attendees; and
 - 5) Help with offering

Easy & Fun - no meetings!

<< MEMBERSHIP TEAM OUTREACH >>

What is your Passion, Interest or Ability to serve your congregation?

How can we help you connect with a meaningful opportunity at UUCGT?

There are so many ways to participate and your unique voice would add so much!

Contact Chris Lautz, Membership Team Chair ~ chrislautz7777@gmail.com or 860-884-7741

From the President

Financial Summary

As of April 30, 2019 (83.3% of fiscal year)

	Current Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	
Budgeted Income Received YTD	\$221,458	87.0%	\$226,209	82.5%
Budgeted Expenses Paid YTD	\$194,921	76.7%	\$222,995	81.3%
"For Those in Need" YTD	\$ 8,891		\$ 16,927*	

We have now completed 10 months of our fiscal year. If your pledge payments are not up to date, please try to get them up to date prior to June 30. If you have not yet pledged for 2019-2020, please do so right away. Time is running out.

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. *There was a one time donation of \$5,000 to "For Those in Need" in December 2017 that did not repeat in 2018.

Defining Member and Friend Terms

Membership is open to all who are sixteen (16) years of age or older who find value in the purpose of this Congregation and have signified their commitment by signing the membership register in the presence of the Minister or a Board member. Membership is open to all without regard to race, color, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender expression, class or national origin. Members actively support the operation of the Congregation through attendance, service, and an annual pledge commitment. Members shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of membership immediately, except that the right to vote shall take effect four (4) weeks after signing the register.

Activity	Member	Friend
Take part in Sunday Services	х	х
Serve on UUCGT Committees / Teams	х	х
Participate in UUCGT Activities	х	х
Welcome, but not required to sign a UUCGT financial Pledge commitment form		Х
Signify a commitment by signing the Membership Register and a financial pledge commitment form		
Serving in any elected or appointed leadership position		
Voting on matters affecting the Congregation		
Serving as a delegate to the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and/or the Mid America Region UUA		
Are also members of the UUA, and the UU MidAmerica Region Receive UU World, a quarterly magazine of the UUA		
Members (of at least 4 months) are entitled to the services of the Minister and the use of the sanctuary for Rites of Passage (weddings, dedications, memorial services, etc.) at no cost		

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse

6726 Center Road

Traverse City MI 49686-1802

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

the **BEACON**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Volume 56, Issue 6
June 2019

UUCGT Calendar

All events and programs take place at UUCGT unless otherwise noted

JUNE 2019

12

12

Landscape Team 10:00 AM-noon outdoor projects UU New Moon Women's Circle 4:00-8:00 PM social hall 02 Sun RE Committee 9:00 AM classroom Sun Fundraiser Committee 9:00 AM meditation room 02 Sun Sunday Service 10:30 AM Sun UUCGT Annual Meeting - following Sunday Service sanctuary Sun Mindfulness Meditation (1st Sunday) 2:30-6:30 PM sanctuary Mon Stretch & Strengthen 11:00 AM social hall Mon UU Men's Group 5:30 PM Minerva's 03 Tue Community Lunch @ Friends Church 10:30 AM Indivisible GT 11:30 AM sanctuary Bridge Club 1:00 PM social hall 04 Tue Tue 04 Tue SokukoJi Buddhist Meditation 6:30-8:30 PM meditation room 05 Wed Stretch & Strengthen 11:00 AM social hall Wed Wednesday Potluck @ UUCGT 5:30 PM Thu Congregational Care Team 1:00 PM library Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM social hall Meditation Workshop 4:00 & 5:30 PM meditation room 07 Thu Vocal Ensemble 7:00 PM sanctuary 07 Thu 08 Landscape Team Projects 10:00 AM-12:00 PM outdoors Sun Program Council 9:00 AM social hall 09 Sun Sunday Service 10:30 AM 09 09 Sun UU Book Club @ Harriett Wall's 2:00-4:00 PM Sun Private Kauffman family interment 2:00 PM 09 Sun Mindfulness Meditation 5:00-7:00 PM sanctuary Mon Stretch & Strengthen 11:00 AM social hall 10 Mon Port of Old Mission HOA 7:00pm sanctuary/social hall Tue Community Lunch @ Friends Church 10:30 AM Tue Indivisible GT 11:30 AM sanctuary Bridge Club 1:00 PM social hall 11 Tue **Tue** Finance Committee 4:30 PM office

Tue SokukoJi Buddhist Meditation 6:30-8:30 PM meditation room

Wed Stretch & Strengthen 11:00 AM social hall

Wed Death Café 1:00 PM sanctuary

Wed Wednesday Potluck 5:30 PM

13 13 14 15	Thu Thu Fri Sat	Meditation Workshop 4:00 & 5:30 PM meditation room Vocal Ensemble 7:00 PM sanctuary Parent's Night Out 5:30 - 9:00 PM classroom/social hall SokukoJi Meditation Retreat 9:00 AM-4:00 PM sanctuary
16 16 16 16 17 18 18 18 18 19 19 20 20 21	Sun Sun Sun Mon Tue Tue Tue Tue Tue Tue Wed Wed	Social Justice Action Committee 11:45 AM library Ice Cream Social 12 noon - 1:00 PM social hall
23 23 23 24 24 25 25 25 25 26 26 28	Sun Sun Mon Tue Tue Tue Tue Wed	Mindfulness Meditation 5:00-7:00 PM sanctuary Stretch & Strengthen 11:00 AM social hall Still Family Memorial Service 1:00 PM Community Lunch @ Friends Church 10:30 AM Indivisible GT 11:30 AM sanctuary Bridge Club 1:00 PM social hall
30 30 30	Sun Sun Sun	Sunday Service 10:30 AM TC Sings! Concert 2:00 PM sanctuary Mindfulness Meditation 5:00-7:00 PM sanctuary

Thu Shantideva Fan Club 9:30-11:00 AM sanctuary

Thu Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM social hall

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