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First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan

Nurture Your Spirit. Help Heal Our World.

July Newsletter

July 1, 2013 - Vol 9, Issue 7

Worship @ UUAA

Quick Links

Calendar of Events

Heartland District

Standing on the Side of Love

UUA.org

UUAA.org

Join Our Mailing List!

One Worship Service at 10:00am through September 8 with classes for children K- 8, followed by Social Hour.

July 7, 2013

Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Senior Minister Please watch <u>uuaa.org</u> for information on this Sunday.

July 14, 2013

"A New Story of Salvation" Rev. Fran Dew, Guest Preacher

We need to be reminded that we are in the business of saving souls. Our "Good News" is no less real for being different. This morning, from the perspective of a long-time UU (48 years and counting) and retired UU minister, I'll be reflecting on the life saving qualities of our faith.

July 21, 2013

HYMN SING!

Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Senior Minister

What do our hymns reflect about Unitarian Universalism. Got favorite hymns? Are there hymns that speak to you, comfort you, confuse you, challenge your thinking about Unitarian Universalism? Let me know at gail@uuaa.org. Send your name, the hymn name, and a word of how it is important to you. Deadline for submission is 8:00am, July 8.

July 28, 2013

Rev. Tom Schade. Guest Preacher

Please watch <u>uuaa.org</u> for information on this Sunday.



From Our Staff

GleaningsReflections from Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Senior Minister



The Annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations..., this whirlwind of activities, workshops, speeches, worship services, greeting long-time friends, amazing music, and inspiring preaching, the discomforting hotel mattresses, the occasional game changing conversations, and the luxury of a Starbucks store right in the hotel lobby, all of this and so much more every year! This year GA is happening in Louisville, KY.

I'm writing this column from my GA hotel room on Tuesday, the first full day of Ministry Days. GA itself doesn't even start until tomorrow evening! At Starbucks this morning I had an invigorating conversation with Kay Montgomery, the soon-to-be-retired Executive Vice-President of the UUA. After that, at the 8:30am worship service offered by the Board of the UU Ministers Association, Rev. Parisa Parsa preached the heck out of the experience of ministers at the end of the church

program year. I sat with Rev. 's Karen Hutt and Ashley Horan, with whom I had real fun singing harmony. By 9:30am we were inspired and beginning to find renewal.

Our UUMA Keynote speaker was Rev. Lillian Daniels, author of *When Spiritual but Not Religious Is Not Enough*. She said, "There is nothing challenging about having deep thoughts all by oneself. What is interesting is doing this work in community, where other people might call you on stuff or, heaven forbid, disagree with you." Lots to think about from this provocative speaker. I lingered to debrief the morning with Rev. Jane Rzepka. Along the way I hugged and greeted Mark Evens, Fran Dew, Tom Schade, local Ann Arbor area clergy. Saw other Michigan colleagues across the huge ballroom, and got hit and run greetings from folks I know serving all across the United States. Way cool way to get my clergy batteries super-charged.

A two hour lunch with Rev. Wendy von Zirpolo (who preached for us in Ann Arbor in 2012) gave us both a chance to run deeper into the delicate, rewarding, empowering challenges of the particular events of a ministry year. I am so grateful for these deep connections in our larger circles of Unitarian Universalist communities of accountability.

A quick afternoon run over to the Convention Center to register for GA gave a chance to greet UUAA member, Laura Bollettino and folks I worked with when serving in Florida. Many of the folks serving as volunteers on Tuesday are local or near to the Louisville, KY churches. Many of them were at GA when I had the privilege of preaching in St. Louis. I am staggered to learn how many folks remember my preaching from that one Sunday morning in 2006. Seven years ago and they still wanted to say they were touched by my work. Humbling and Amazing!

So here I am. We've been in Louisville for less than 24 hours. I haven't recorded anywhere near all the encounters I've had so far. Part of the staff compensation package you all have worked so terribly hard to restore for 2013 has empowered Rev. Mark Evens and me to attend General Assembly this year. GA offers me a chance to restore friendships, get the support I need, offer my experience to others, learn about best practices and new ideas, and to connect with this larger community of accountability. I am deeply grateful to all of you in Ann Arbor for supporting my ministry and making it possible for me to attend GA 2013. Thank you.

My Love to Each, Rev. Gail



Musings Rev. Mark Evens, Associate Minister

Congregations and Beyond

I have good news from Louisville, KY where I am attending our annual General Assembly of the Universalist Association of Congregations this week: we are alive and growing.

Our present growth is truly tiny. But in an environment where almost all religious denominations are shrinking rapidly, growth, even in the very low single digits, growth that does not even keep pace with population growth such as ours, is a sign of health and hope. But that is not the growth I'm most excited to report.



What I'm most excited to report is that our association leadership is growing in its understanding of the opportunity and challenges at hand. Together we are taking these changes seriously and are stepping forward bravely to meet and address a new religious landscape in which we would otherwise be doomed to near irrelevance, and a shrinking future within the next decade or so. Our leaders are working hard to engage us in learning about these changes and are inviting our participation in new ways in shaping our future together.

Here are some of the changes which confront us. I discussed some of them in my March sermon "In Nothing We Trust" (available at: <u>uuaa.org/worship/onsunday/sermons-and-forums/144-sermon-library</u>):

- The internet, with its capacity to put any of over a billion people into direct communication with each other, is possibly reshaping human interaction as drastically as the invention of the printing press by Gutenberg over 500 years ago.
- Younger people are increasingly turning away from, and completely unfamiliar with, traditional congregational life. The proportion of "nones," those reporting no religious affiliation, has risen rapidly over the last ten years from

under 5% to an all time high of 28% nationally. Among those under 30 the proportion is much, much higher.

- People are increasingly turning to digital media to interact socially.
- We are moving from a consumerist, passive culture toward an increasingly interactive culture.
- We are moving from dependence on institutions for organization and creation of "content" toward increased grassroots, self-organized efforts. One example of this in our congregation is the proliferation of social media destinations in our congregation created by groups of you eager to connect and further your church projects on your own without waiting for your busy staff to create things for you.

In the face of these changes we may need to focus more on "curating" spiritual and religious experiences than on creating and providing them. The renaming of our former "Religious Education" program to "Spiritual Growth and Development" (SGD) was, and continues to be, a hugely significant step in this new direction.

What does "curating" look like in the context of congregational life? We continue to articulate our values together and focus more on providing relationships and questions that help us reflect on and deepen our experiences in the light of those values. Our SGD classrooms are increasingly organized on this principal. The "homework questions" I provide at the end of my sermons and the "advance reflection" and discussion questions that we provide in our Chalice Circle small group discussions, do this.

We might need to make our congregation more available to those beyond our walls as a center of digital interaction centered on questions of the heart, centered on sharing experiences of connecting with others, with our environment, and with questions of ultimate importance.

Change is coming. Change is here. These changes provide even more fertile ground for the growth of our faith movement. Our response is ours to create, together.

Yours in faith, Mark



Business of the Church Thom Bales, Executive Director

Almost Mid-Year Financial Update

	2013	2012
Operating Budget	\$1,026,593	\$1,025,214
Actuals thru May 31, 2013		
Income		
Pledges	\$484,792	\$303,810
Weekly collection		\$16,835

Facility rentals	\$20,484	\$10,543
Fundraising activities	\$12,404	\$48,631
Other income	\$27,175	\$9,425
	\$5,465	
Total Income	\$550,320	\$389,244
Direct Program Expenses	¢1 20 <i>6</i>	¢2
Worship & music	\$1,206 \$752	\$2,621
Spiritual growth & development (SGD)	•	\$2,072
Social justice	\$202	\$75
Community	\$1,217	\$4,818
Culture	\$3,165	\$3,659
Stewardship Expenses		
Building & grounds	\$54,234	\$46,481
Office services	\$7,937	\$7,146
Finance & fundraising	\$16,526	\$15,067
Mortgage payments	\$54,296	\$61,732
Capital expenses	\$ 0	\$2,172
Capital expenses		
Personnel Expenses		
Ministers	\$97,554	\$104,747
Music staff	\$17,695	\$16,231
SGD staff	\$28,356	\$29,526
Other program staff	\$32,064	\$27,120
Building & office team	\$66,860	\$79,662
Other	\$1,177	\$1,260
Total Expenses	\$383,241	\$404,389
Income less Expenses	\$167,078	(\$15,145)

Comments:

- We greatly appreciate the high number of members and friends who have made timely pledge payments to the Operating Budget this year. We are way ahead of the past several years in this regard. This income will ensure smooth cash flow for the remainder of 2013.
- Likewise, early payments made to the Comprehensive Campaign have had a significant impact on our mortgage. Since the launch of the campaign in 2012, \$412,000 has been received and directed towards our

\$412,000 has been received and directed towards our mortgage principal, reducing our monthly mortgage payments from \$12,374 in November 2012 to \$9,775 in May 2013. Our payments will continue to shrink as folks continue to make payments on their Comprehensive Campaign pledge.

Thru May 31, we have received the following memory & tribute gifts to the
Operating Budget: Elvira Hahn (in memory of her brother William Hahn), Phyllis
Valentine (in memory of Barbara Peacock) and Helen Peters (unspecified). We
thank these contributors. Should you wish to remember someone with a gift to
support the mission and ministry of UUAA, make your check payable to UUAA
with the name of the person being remembered in the memo line.

As always, my door is open to discuss this or any other church-related business matter.



Spiritual Growth and Development (SGD) in Action Sandy Garges, Director of SGD



During the end-of-school-year (c)rush I had the opportunity to serve as a volunteer driver for my oldest son's 5th grade field trip. I am a frequent volunteer at my son's school but this one event crystallized in my mind the hope I have for all of our volunteers here at UUAA.

For this trip, I drove four 5th grade girls in my car, a different experience for me as the mother of two boys. As soon as we all settled in the car one asked, "can I turn on the radio?" "Of course," was the answer. What followed was singing, lots and lots of singing. One girl shared with excitement that she had hit a "low E" for the very first time the day before. I felt like I was being serenaded! I let them know I would drive them

wherever they wanted whenever, they wanted; their gift of song was so moving to me. "We want to go to L.A. to be discovered," was their answer.

It is unlikely that we will make it to L.A. together but that experience lifted me up and fed me for the following week. It also helped me build relationships with four youth I had previously not known well. This is my hope for you - That through your volunteer efforts in the SGD program - as well as anywhere in UUAA - that you are fed and nurtured, that you form relationship and community through that service, and that you are open to discovering fulfillment in unlikely places.

One of my duties is to recruit volunteers for our SGD program. What I find joy in is matching volunteers with a role that helps sustain them. This sustenance does not always appear where you might expect it - who knew chaperoning a class field trip would be the place for me!

Please contact me if you would like to discuss ways to become more involved in our Spiritual Growth and Development Program. There is a place for you.

With care, Sandy



News from the Harper Room

Julie Dybdahl, Lead YRUU Advisor

The school year has just ended as I write this, and a lot of transitions are happening. Our seniors are now graduates, and although they'll still be part of YRUU through the summer, we know their eyes are looking forward. They are a great group of committed UU's and they will do good things in the world!

In mid-June, we welcomed the Coming of Age graduates into YRUU at our traditional Bridging-In gnomapalooza. It looks like we'll have a large group of rising 10^{th} graders joining YRUU, and they're bringing a lot of good energy to the mix.

I'm headed to GA, with YRUU advisor, Leigh Robertson, and five youth are attending also. Our own Rianna Johnson-Levy is serving as one of just two youth chaplains for the GA youth caucus. After GA, we'll be planning our July service trip to work with Habitat for Humanity on the south side of Chicago.

And lastly, YRUU father, Jamie Todd, accompanied several of our youth to a regional conference (CON) in May. He was impressed with the youth, and wrote to share his experiences:



"Recently, I had the chance to attend a YRUU Heartland District Convention. My daughter and three other youth from our Congregation attended. A parent of one of the youth called me and asked if I would drive them to Louisville. She would loan us their van to go. As is usual for me in these situations, I accepted out of a sense of responsibility. And as is usual, I could not have had a more deep, enlightening, and enjoyable experience.

Although my daughter has been involved with the Cons (that's what everyone calls them) for a long time, I didn't really know what they were all about. I knew that it was a good way for her to get out of town and be safe to socialize with other UU kids. What I didn't know was that our children, leveraging their UU training, had created a radically inclusive, unconditionally loving community. Although there were adults present, and the Heartland District administration's contribution was integral, the kids planned and ran the operation. We can be especially proud that our teenagers were a disproportionally large part of that leadership, and that they handled their leadership roles in a polished and confident manner...

If you didn't know, this UU thing really works."

James Todd



Stewardship

Comprehensively Speaking

Margaret Pekarek , Co-Chair Comprehensive Campaign Tim Richards, Co-Chair Comprehensive Campaign

Tim and I received a letter from longtime members Dave and Kathy Friedrichs that we thought was worthy of sharing with you all.

Thank-you to everyone who has made a pledge to the Comprehensive Campaign. We commend this letter to the attention of all of you:

"Time Is Money for UUAA. While timing may not be everything, it can make a huge difference!

Kathy and I found this to be the case as we looked into how and when to pay our 3-year commitment to the church's Comprehensive Campaign. We write to share what we learned.

The goal of the Campaign is to marshal extra pledges between this year and our sesquicentennial (2013 - 2015) to reduce - or eliminate if possible - the fixed rate mortgage taken out when the church completed its education wing (SGD) in 2006.

Because the UUAA mortgage note carries a higher interest rate than is ideal, this goal proves to be both a high priority and "low hanging fruit" when it comes to righting our financial ship of state. Two reasons provide the details: (a) the mortgage note carries a higher interest rate (7.5% APR) than might have been achieved AFTER the Great Recession; and (2) the note includes high enough penalties for refinancing to discourage such action (when loan fees for refinancing are factored in).

The good news is that the UU mortgage note does NOT charge a fee for extra payments against principle (from congregants). Thus, every dollar saved (and paid) against the church's mortgage not only becomes a dollar earned - but eliminates <u>immediately</u> the 7.5% APR rate that otherwise continues to accrue against the entire outstanding

balance.

As a result, Kathy and I concluded that the unpaid principle on the mortgage note was the most worthy of targets to aim at.

While the church will not turn 150 years young for another 2-years, the financial environment is <u>not</u> one in which to postpone legacy payoffs any longer than we must, especially where high rates of interest are concerned. Kathy and I found ourselves fortunate, that is, with some home equity credit available at a cost well

below 7.5%, that made it possible to borrow this winter and still lower overall payments to lenders, in total.

This was definitely a trade-off we were willing to make. Some might even call it a "win-win", as we had pledged to make the payments to the Comprehensive Campaign

anyway. How about you? Have you made a Campaign pledge? If so, in the interests of pay-off, might it possible to <u>accelerate the pay-in</u>?

If so, Thom Bales is the one to get in touch with. Each dollar "saved" gives the Campaign goal of pay-off a better chance of being realized.

Thank you for joining us in an early celebration of 2015!"

Dave & Kathy Friedrichs



Activities and Events

Senior Dinner Out * July 3

We will meet on Wednesday, July 3, at 6:00 PM at the Gourmet Garden Chinese Restaurant at 2255 W. Stadium. Good food and lots of conversation in a relaxed atmosphere. Any questions? Call Bev Todd at 330-9349.



ICE-T Potluck * July 10

The newly formed Intergenerational Community Events Team (ICE-T) held its second potluck in June with a presentation of *Everything you wanted to know about Chalice Circles* by Royla Furniss. We would like to thank five volunteers for making this happen: Sandy Eyl, Royla Furniss, Lucia Heinold, Arthur Prokosch, and Bethany Ramirez.

Our potlucks will be on the second Wednesdays of each month. The next will happen on Wednesday, July 10 in the Fahs Chapel, at 5:30pm, with a theme of "Cookout." Rain or shine, we'll be grilling. Bring a side dish or beverage to share. A dairy-free, gluten-free, or vegan side dish will be appreciated. No peanuts please.



To receive updates, volunteer, or partner with ICE-T contact Sandy Eyl at sandy.eyl@gmail.com.



Women's Breakfast * July 28

On the fourth Saturday of every month we will meet at 8:15am at the Classic Cup Cafe, 4389 Jackson Ave. This is a casual and great way to start your weekend. Come join us. Contact Judy Slater at 734-679-3497.

Announcements and Notices

Denominational Connections Team

The Denominational Connections Team (DCT) serves as a conduit for the exchange of information between UUAA and the wider UU community, providing our congregation

and the denomination with a vibrant means of co-operating together and strengthening our identity as UU's. DCT chair, Roberta Allen can be contacted at bert7allen@gmail.com.

The General Assembly (GA) de-brief meeting will be on Sunday, July 7 after Service. Delegates, GA attendees, and those who live-streamed, will share experiences from attending GA 2013 in Louisville, KY.

MidWest Leadership School (MWLS), a part of the UUA's nationwide network of leadership schools, will be from Saturday, July 14 to Saturday 20, on the campus of Beloit College in Wisconsin. For information visit www.mwls.org.

The Ohio Meadville District Summer Institute 2013 will have Rev. Art McDonald return as the theme speaker Sunday, July 14 to Saturday, July 20. They will explore Social Justice as a Spiritual Practice: *A Central UU Path*. For more information click here: www.omdsi.org.

The Southeast UU Summer Institute (SUUSI), Sunday, July 21 to Saturday, 27 will be in Radford, VA. "Let It Be A Dance" is this year's theme. Go to: suusi.org.

Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN) is co-sponsoring a one day workshop: *Standing Up for Reproductive Justice*, an interfaith voice for women, men, and gays. It is on Saturday, July 13, at First UU Church of Detroit, 4605 Cass Avenue, Detroit. Visit <u>uujustice.org</u> for more information.

UUAA's at GA

Congregant Carol Acetelli attended GA. Here are her thoughts:



Carol Acetelli and Bett Weston

"We're into day two of GA and I'm happily exhausted. It's been everything good I imagined and more. The highlight on Wednesday, June 19 was the banner parade and Opening Celebration. It was exhilarating and moving to watch and read the banners of churches from around the country, from the newest (one accepted this year into the UUA) to the oldest church banner we saw, dated 1632. The sea of happy faces and wonderful organizing has made this event easy to navigate.

After a keynote address by Wendell Berry Thursday evening, June 20, approximately 2,000 of us took part in the Public Witness and March to the river to call attention to the

urgent need for clean energy and an end to mountaintop removal. This was the service project for this year's GA on behalf of Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light.

The UUAA contingent here at GA has been gathering together under our mini banner for the common events and evening worship



UUAA's Congregational Representation at GA

services. Not surprisingly, we are a vocal group, and cheer and sing with one voice. It's thought that we are the largest group representing one church and we hope to represent you well."

SGD Leadership

The Children and Youth Committee (CYC) welcomes three new members: Todd Irgang, Lisa Kohn, and Gregg Peterson. They join members Audra Eddy, Christine Pellar-Kosbar, and David Tumbarello. Thank you to these Congregants for supporting our program and leading it with dedication and grace.

Our Adult Education Advisory Team (AEAT) welcomes new leadership: Charley Burleigh, Bruce Gibb, Terry Madden, Margaret Pekarek, and Angelina Zaytsev. They are planning the 2013-14 Adult SGD Program and welcome all Congregants to become a part of our adult learning community.

Fall Adult SGD Program

The path to a revitalized adult SGD program is underway. Potential teachers and facilitators of classes, workshops, and other small group programs are being contacted for interest in supporting what the Sankofa Report (September 3, 2006) called "our quest for spiritual development." Sandy Garges, Director of SGD, and the AEAT are ready to help prepare and submit program proposals forms by August 5.

An online and paper program catalogue will be available September 8. Registration will be on Wednesday, October 9. If you would like the opportunity to serve our community, contact Charley Burleigh at Chburleigh@aol.com.

Sharing the Collection Update

The first Sunday Service collection of every month is donated to a non-profit community service organization in Washtenaw County that serves disadvantaged and vulnerable populations. *Sharing the Collection* also supports UU service organizations.



Here are the recipients of the *Sharing the Collection* for the first six months of 2013:



	January	Washtenaw Prisoner Re-entry	
\$1,710			
	February	Avalon Housing	\$1,193
	March	Michigan UU Social Justice Network	\$1,136
	April	Habitat for Humanity	\$1,214
	May	HIV/AIDS Resource Center	\$927
	June	Community Action Network	\$932

This program is one way we live out the second UU principle: "Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations." For more information, contact chair Terry Madden at terence.madden@gmail.com.



Good News from Rev. Andrew Weber

Dear UUAA Community,

It was within these walls that I was first called "Rev.", by the YRUU informally and then through my formal ordination almost two years ago. Thank you all for living your values by "joining together in community to encourage and inspire each other's spiritual journey"- an encouragement and inspiration I have felt first-hand.

It is a great pleasure to share with you that I have accepted a call to serve the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Newark, Delaware (UUFN) as their next settled minister. UUAA will always have a special place in my heart, as it has a special place in my ministerial development. Please feel free to stop by and worship with the UUFN community whenever you are in the Newark area.



In faith, Rev. Andrew L. Weber



Partner Church News

The new minister of our partner church in Kézdivásárhely, Romania was installed in late April. The ceremony took place in the village church and was attended by both congregations. Below is a description that Rev. Buzogany-Csoma sent following the

ceremony:

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. Galatians 5:13 was the main Bible passage of the enrollment.



Dear congregation from Ann Arbor,

I am happy to let you know that we had a beautiful festivity. We would like to thank you for your greetings, which were translated in Hungarian and read during the celebration.

We started our sermon with the greeting of Bishop Bálint Benczédi Ferenc from Kolozsvár. The "Székely István"choir and Bucs Ildikó curator saluted the Bishop in the courtyard of the priest's home. After that we went in the Unitarian church from Szentivánlaborfalva, where Minister Buzogány-Csoma István started the sermon, followed by Bishop Bálint Benczédi Ferenc. Then followed the moment when Dean Török István handed over to the Minister the



"service marks": the Bible of the Minister, the Chalice and the Stamp of the congregation, and the Key of the church.

In the end, our family was greeted by curator Gábor Vilmos, clerical persons, partner churches, council of Uzon, and curator Bucs Ildikó read the greetings of our partner church from Ann Arbor.

The festivity ended with a joint dinner in good mood, with the blessing of our God.

Sincerely yours, István, Csilla, Boglárka and Eszter



Join the Anti-Fracking Campaign

Let's get ban fracking on the 2014 ballot because "what happens to water during fracking is different from (leaving) the tap running...When a single well is fracked, several million gallons of fresh water are removed from lakes, streams, or groundwater aquifers and are entombed...It will no longer swirl with tadpoles or ripple with fish...It will never again swell a bud, spray, drip, or glisten. Never again fog, mist, frost, ice, dew, or rain. Its gone. Not that you would want it to come back. Its poisonous now," Biologist Dr. Sandra Steinberger. Learn more at the Let's Ban Fracking table in the Social Hall on Sundays. Questions? Contact Marcia McMullan at mmcmullan@gmail.com.

Family Camp Registration Open

Join us for a UU summer getaway at Family Camp from August 23 through 26. Whether you come with family, friends, or by yourself, there's something fun for everyone:

- Swimming
- Sailing, Paddle Boats, Canoeing, Kayaking and other water fun

- Fishing (no license needed)
- Mountain Biking
- Climbing Wall & Archery
- Ropes Courses
- Bird Watching & Nature Hikes
- Interactive Group Discussions



- Campfires with S'mores & Sing-Alongs
- Music (bring your instruments & voices!)

Where?

YMCA Camp Pinewood, <u>www.camppinewood.com</u>, near Muskegon, MI.

How do I register?

Click to download camp information and the registration form. Return the form with your non-refundable deposit of \$50/person to the Church. Register by July 15. Payment in full is due by August 1.

Questions?

Call YMCA Camp Pinewood at 231-821-2421, contact Jonathan Thomas-Palmer at 734-222-0433, or email the Family Camp team at familycamp@uuaa.org.



REGISTRATION FORM

New Members

Robert Beane and Cassandra Hartley



Robert and Cassandra have three children (Emerson, 6, Fionn, 4, and Miren, 2) and a rambunctious dog named Edie.

Robert is a medical device engineer and Cassandra is a stay-at-home mom and graduate student.

The family enjoys biking, traveling, gardening and spending as much time as possible in downtown Ann Arbor.

Bob Chapman and Katharine Keeble

Katharine is a reader, potter, traveler, and lifelong student. She lives with her husband and a beauty-challenged, pug-like creature named Maggie.

Bob teaches full-time in the MS degree Quality engineering/Management program at Eastern Michigan University. He is interested in cooking exotic cuisine, reading, occasional woodworking projects, and vegetable gardening. His passions are humane food and animal practices.



Kevin Leininger and Erin Doutre



Kevin and Erin are engaged to be married April 12, 2014 at the Church. They are excited to have found a spiritual home to start their life in. They look forward to one day raising their children here. Kevin is a lifelong UU who has served in a YRUU/Young Adult leadership role for 13 years. He works at the Domino's Pizza World Resource Center in Ann Arbor, MI.

Erin began attending in March of 2012 to research the unfamiliar religion of her then-boyfriend Kevin. After his proposal in November of 2012, they decided to become more active members. Erin grew up Catholic and would

appreciate any help in her transition to UU Christianity.

Tricia Mooney

Tricia is a life-long Michigander and was raised Catholic. She attended the University of Michigan, where she majored in mathematics and met her husband, Pete. Trish works as an actuary/computer programmer.

Trish and Pete have attended since 2001. Trish is on the webtech team and teaches Sunday school. She loves to play the piano, create stained glass and mosaic artwork, and enjoys old fashioned wood jigsaw puzzles. Her greatest passion is for the Michigan's men's basketball



Trish and husband, Pete

team. She attends every home game and watches every away game.



Mary St. Clair



Mary has been a member of four Unitarian churches in her life, starting in her teens. She also spent 14 years as an American Sikh.

Mary worked in the discipline of neurofeedback (brain-based biofeedback) treating clients with ADHD, brain injury, anxiety, and depression. She is well known as a trainer and speaker in the field.



Mary was struck with a recurrence of breast cancer in 2010. UUAA is very satisfying to Mary, including the sermons and music programs. She recently moved to Dexter, MI to be closer to her daughter Kim and son-in-law Mike Diaz.



Church Office News

Hours of Operation:

Sundays, 8:00am-9:00pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9:00am-9:00pm Fridays, CLOSED Saturdays, 9:00am-5:00pm The Church Office is open Mondays-Thursdays, 9:00am-5:00pm

Note: The building will be closed for the 4th of July Holiday at 9:00pm on Wednesday, July 3 and will re-open at 9:00am on Saturday, July 6.

Telephone: 734-665-6158

Fax: 734-665-7895

General Email: office@uuaa.org

Communicating at UUAA:

The deadline for submitting UUAA event, news, and program notices for inclusion in UUAA's Weekly Bulletin is 5:00pm each Wednesday. Send your submissions to bulletin@uuaa.org.

The deadline for submitting UUAA event, news, and program notices for inclusion in UUAA's Monthly Newsletter is 9:00am on the 21st of each month. Send your submissions to newsletter@uuaa.org.

Lay and staff program leaders may submit changes, additions, or updates for the website (www.uuaa.org) to webtech@uuaa.org.

Building & Office Team:

Thom Bales, Executive Director, thom@uuaa.org
Debby Casamatta, Office Administrator, deborah@uuaa.org
Venus Gregory, Weekend Building Assistant, venus@uuaa.org
Arthur Whigham, Custodian, arthur@uuaa.org



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