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# First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan

Nurture Your Spirit. Help Heal Our World.

# **October Newsletter**

October 1, 2013 - Vol 9, Issue 10

# **Worship @ UUAA**

#### **Quick Links**

**Calendar of Events** 

**Heartland District** 

Standing on the Side of Love

**UUA.org** 

**UUAA.org** 

Join Our Mailing List!

Services and classes for children are at 9:30am & 11:30am.

### October 6, 2013 "We Do Not Stand, We Move"

Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer For UU's nationally, today is *Join The Move Sunday* when we celebrate the move of our national offices in Boston. A good time to reflect on where we stand.

#### October 12, 2013 Special Event, 10:00am - 1:00pm

Rev. Dr. Galen Guengerich will present from his book, *God Revised: How Religion Must Change in a Scientific Age.* More details further on in this newsletter.

October 13, 2013

"The New World Order"

Rev. Dr. Galen Guengerich, Senior Minister, All Souls, New York City, Guest Preacher Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Pulpit Host

When Christopher Columbus and his men landed on the shores of the New World in 1492, they knew nothing about the unknown land before them; they didn't even know where they were. Undaunted, they proceeded anyway, and their self-serving endeavors ended up decimating the Native Americans and their land and culture. Today, we know a great deal about the other nations of the world, which poses a quandary when troubles arise elsewhere. When should we leave problems in other lands for their own inhabitants to resolve? When should we step in to help, and how should we do so?

**Rev. Dr. Galen Guengerich** currently serves as the

senior minister of All Souls in New York City, one of the largest and most prominent Unitarian Universalist congregations in the nation. He graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary and went on to earn a PhD in theology at the University of Chicago. His sermon "The Shaking of the Foundations" appeared in Representative American Speeches 2001-2002 as one of seven responses to September 11th, alongside former President George Bush and former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. His most recent book is *God Revised: How Religion Must Change in a Scientific Age.* 

October 20, 2013
"Diversity: Why? How?"

Rev. Mark Evens

We say we value diversity, and we do. Yet diversity can seem like a prescription for conflict and wholesale destruction in some parts of the world, and at some points in history. At other times in other places diversity clearly helps life thrive. What gives? And what is our role?

October 27, 2013 "In \_\_ We Trust"

Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley, Congregational Life Consultant with the Mid-America of the UUA Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Pulpit Host

On our money, the phrase is printed "In God We Trust." For some of us, that's enough. But for others, not. So what is the glue that holds us together, as a congregation, as congregations, as an Association? What difference does it make? What difference do we want it to make?



# **From Our Staff**

**Gleanings**Reflections from Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Senior Minister



Save the Date! The Rev. Dr. Galen Guengerich is coming to our Congregation. On October 12 he will present from his new book *God Revised: How Religion Must Change in a Scientific Age.* The next day he will preach for us. More info is further



on in this newsletter.

I am taking a few days of study leave just now. For your reflection this month, I offer you the wisdom of Eleanor Roosevelt. Do you agree? Can we build world peace if we cannot have peace in our homes and communities? I encourage you, also, to read in the UUA Hymnal *Singing the Living Tradition* Reading #602 from Lao-Tse, "If There Is To Be Peace."

From Eleanor Roosevelt, "Where after all do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home-so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any map of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person: the neighborhood we live in; the school or college we attend; the factory, farm, or office where we work. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world."

My love to Each, Rev. Gail



Musings Rev. Mark Evens, Associate Minister

### Hitch Your Project to the Guide Star

We are a congregation of many big wonderful hopes and dreams about what we should do and accomplish together within our congregation and in the wider world. We enjoy each other's company and have lots of ideas of how we would like to have fun together. We have projects that have been ongoing for many years that we are quite attached to, and others that no longer seem to draw for the same energy they once did, while new ideas and proposals for projects are continually tumbling forth.

How do we decide what to sustain, what to start, what to let coast or die? The available quantity of two key ingredients is decisive. The first is volunteer interest and commitment to the project. The second is coherence of the project with the purposes and priorities of the congregation. The congregation as a whole participated in an extensive process of reflection and vision making during the interim period from 2005 to 2008. Input provided by the congregation was refined and crystallized by the Board of Trustees into the Board "Ends" statements. The "Ends" articulate what we are here to accomplish.

congregation. Every

It is the season for developing the 2014 budget here in our congregation. Every recognized group of the congregation is invited to submit its budget request for financial support for the next January through December fiscal year. While not

required, connecting your group's goals with the goals of the congregation as a whole, as articulated in the Board "Ends" statements, can help you better align your work with the priorities of the congregation, can help you appreciate the importance of the work you are already doing or are planning, and can increase the persuasiveness of your request for financial support.

You can find the Board "Ends" statements here <a href="http://bit.lv/1ahIXNE">http://bit.lv/1ahIXNE</a> or here http://www.uuaa.org/about-us/our-congregation/how-we-govern/195-governingpolicies.

Yours in faith, Mark



## Good News for Spiritual Growth and Development (SGD)

"Dear Leaders at First UU Ann Arbor and beyond:

This news is not as fresh as I would have liked, but exciting nonetheless!

I'm pleased to let you know that Sandy Garges has been accepted as a candidate in the UUA Religious Education Credentialing Program. She is seeking status as a Credentialed Religious Educator - Credentialed Level, with a target completion date of May 2016. The Religious Education Credentialing Program is intended to nurture the call to religious education as a profession, to uphold standards and guidelines in religious education leadership, and to provide an intentional and comprehensive path for professional development.

In order to achieve Credentialed Level status, Sandy will create a portfolio demonstrating her knowledge and skills in 12 competency areas deemed essential for effective religious education leadership. Additional completion components involve substantial reading, writing, and reflection, and the process will culminate with an evaluative interview before the Religious Education Credentialing Committee. Sandy is being companioned on her credentialing journey by a LREDA mentor. You can learn more about the benefits and requirements of the program

at <a href="http://www.uua.org/careers/re/">http://www.uua.org/careers/re/</a>.

Thank you for supporting and celebrating Sandy as she undertakes this significant endeavor. May your congregation and our faith be further enriched by her leadership.



Sandy Garges, Director of SGD

Joyfully, Jan"

O ME

Jan Gartner Professional Development Associate for Religious Education and Music Leaders. Unitarian Universalist Association IGartner@uua.org 585-301-6782

### News from the Harper Room Julie Dybdahl, Lead YRUU Advisor

The Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU) of Ann Arbor began the 2013-2014 year with a potluck for parents and youth, followed by an overnight. We held our own Water Communion that night, and perhaps you were present when our water was added to the larger Church's Water Communion waters the next morning. Thirty-two youth attended that first gathering, including four exchange students. It's a richly varied group and it promises to be a great vear!



We have begun our election process, and as this goes to press we have elected three leaders, with four positions to be elected next week. Our youth honor the UU Fifth Principle, using the democratic process in its best form. Candidates give campaign speeches, the group deliberates while the candidates step outside, and we vote. Our new leaders for 2013-2014 are Addison Coleman-Brewer (Leader of Leaders), Maddie Goodson (Right Relations officer), and Billy Reece (Worship Coordinator.) Next week we will elect our Social Action Coordinator and representatives from each grade, 10 through 12, to serve on the leadership team. After that, we will - as a group determine our courses of study (and play!) for the year.

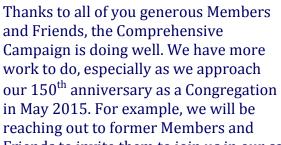
Each summer the YRUU travels to do service in another community. This past July, 17, youth and six adults spent five days in a south Chicago suburb rehabbing a house with Habitat for Humanity. It was a great experience for everyone, as we demolished walls (what a great way to blow off stress!), removed a water heater, dug the foundation for and built a wooden walkway, put in a bricked patio, rehabbed a metal shed, and put up aluminum siding on the house. The youth were great workers both with Habitat and also with our cooking and clean-up chores. Many thanks to Kate Hutchens, Stuart Downing, Tom Goodson, Paul Morris, and Bob Dinan, who joined me as chaperones, without which the trip could not have happened.

We are now setting our sights on next summer and are looking at a few different service programs we might join for a week, doing work in Appalachia, or on a Lakota Sioux reservation in S. Dakota. It's pretty exciting to look ahead at the transformative experiences that await us!

We still have one opening in our Youth Advisor Team. If you like teens, having adventures, staying up late to talk, and making a difference in the world, perhaps you're our missing leader! If you would like to know more, contact Sandy Garges at sandy@uuaa.org or Julie Dybdahl at julie@uuaa.org. 

# Stewardship

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





Friends to invite them to join us in our campaign to continue the building of our legacy. For now though, we are directing our efforts and our treasure to the annual Stewardship drive.

Join us in supporting this vital effort as we strengthen our connections and pledge generously so that we may realize our aspirations.



### **Activities and Events**

# Folksong Jam-Along \* September 30

Join the family-friendly Folksong Jam-Along. The dates for this fun song circle season will be the fourth Monday of the month from, 7:00 to 9:00pm on September 30, October 28, and November 25. We hope to have a solstice sing in December, so stay tuned for details on that.

We'll meet in the Social Hall for some harmonizing and socializing. Bring your guitars and your friends. Get the week started off in harmony. Questions? Contact Lori Fithian at <a href="mailto:lorifithian@mac.com">lorifithian@mac.com</a> or 734-426-7818 for more info and to make song requests. The lyrics and chords will be posted up on a screen, so need get those slides done beforehand! No singing experience necessary.

# 150th Anniversary Brainstorming \* October 5

Constructing a  $150^{th}$  anniversary time capsule, identifying the theme of the  $150^{th}$  to go on our t-shirts, creating a public witness event that identifies us in the community are all topics of interest that are bubbling up as we prepare to celebrate our  $150^{th}$  anniversary. Do you have ideas you wish to share on how to celebrate our UUAA

150<sup>th</sup>?

All are invited to contribute your suggestions anytime but, in particular, to attend our brainstorming session on Wednesday, October



2 from 7:00 to 8:45pm in the Social Hall to get ready for our September 2014 - June 2015 UUAA anniversary celebration.

**Questions? Contact** 

Terry Madden and Sandy Simon at <a href="mailto:birthday150@uuaa.org">birthday150@uuaa.org</a> to let us know if you're planning to attend.



# Plant-Strong Family Potluck \* October 5

Come to a community-building vegan family potluck in the Fahs Chapel, on Saturday, October 5 from 12:00 to2:00pm. Bring a plant-based vegan dish which is without meat, fish, eggs, dairy, honey, or other animal products. Enjoy the company of fellow mindful eaters, share information, and eat delicious food. Bring your own table service and serving tools, too. For recipe ideas or questions, contact Donna Estry at 734-484-0913 or <a href="mailto:estry@umich.edu">estry@umich.edu</a> or Jenny McKillop at <a href="mailto:finnabar@gmail.com">finnabar@gmail.com</a>.

# **Challenging Racism \* October 5**

The first large meeting for Challenging Racism will be Saturday, October 5 from 9:30 to 11:30am in the Social Hall. All are invited to discuss events and plans for 2013-2014. Social class will be a major focus this year.

- Help to integrate more about social class into our activities.
- Learn how Challenging Racism fits into the new UUAA Social Justice framework and procedures.
- Find out about scheduled UUAA and Community events.
- Share your ideas for direction and events 2013-14.

Questions? Contact Kathy Friedrichs at <a href="mailto:kamf@umich.edu">kamf@umich.edu</a> or Lucia Heinold at Heinoldcia@aol.com.



#### Round Robin \* October 11

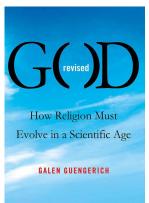
Join other UUs at Round Robin dinners on the second Friday of the month from October through May. These adult dinner parties are held in members' homes and provide an opportunity to get acquainted and reacquainted with other UUs in a small group setting.

The first Round Robin dinner of the season will be on Friday, October 11. New to the church? This is wonderful way meet a few people at a time while sharing good food and conversation. Sign-up by Wednesday, October 2 at the Involvement table during

Social Hour or contact Sally or John Preston at <a href="mailto:dinner@pctraining.net">dinner@pctraining.net</a> or <a href="mailto:sally@pctraining.net">sally@pctraining.net</a>.



#### God Revised Book Talk \* October 12



Come to a book talk on Saturday, October 12 from 10:00am to 1:00pm in the Social Hall.

he Reverend Galen Guengerich, Senior Minister with All Souls Unitarian Church in New York City will be presenting on his new book *GOD Revised: How Religion Must Evolve in a Scientific Age*. He offers a compelling vision for Unitarian Universalism in the 21st century. Light Refreshments and Book Signing to follow presentation.

Questions? Contact Lucia Heinold at <a href="mailto:heinolcia@aol.com">heinolcia@aol.com</a>.



#### Senior Luncheon \* October 14

Get ready for a senior potluck lunch on Monday, October 14 from 12:00 to 1:30pm in the Social Hall. Drinks will be provided and the rest will be a potluck. Everyone is welcome to partake of a light lunch and enjoy the company of old time friends.

An educational program *Adapting Our Exercise As We Age* will follow the lunch from 1:15 to 2:00pm in Jackson Chapel. To register for the class contact Terry Madden at terrence.madden@gmail.com.

If you are unable to bring food, come anyway. If you are unable to drive let us know and we will make every effort to pick you up and take you home. To sign up for the Senior luncheon call Meredith Ley at 734-665-6158 Ext. 118 or stop by the Pastoral Care table during Social Hour.

### **Interweave \* October 15**

Interweave is a ministry serving, supporting and working for justice for all TBLGQQIA folk.

On Tuesday, October 15, all are welcome to the first potluck program of the program year. The potluck begins at 6:00pm and the program begins at 7:00pm. Come and share a meal, then hear activist and communications expert Mike Whitty speak on *Action Steps to Defeat the Religious Right*.



Come ready to label ingredients for potluck dishes. Dairy- and gluten-free dishes are especially welcome. Questions? Contact Margaret Pekarek at <a href="mailto:mdawsonpekarek@gmail.com">mdawsonpekarek@gmail.com</a> or 734-998-3522; or Leigh Robertson at <a href="mailto:leigrobe@umich.edu">leigrobe@umich.edu</a>.



#### ICE-T Potluck \* October 16

The Mindful Eating Coalition and ICE-T invite you to celebrate the fall harvest, Farmer Bill and the Farm Project, and learn about the creative ways Food Gatherers obtains food for those in need.



Join us for the fall harvest potluck on Wednesday, October 16 at 5:50pm in the Social Hall. Bring a dish to pass (hopefully from locally-harvested foods) and your own place settings. All ages are welcome. Questions? Contact Sandy Eyl at 313-213-5559 or <a href="mailto:sandy.eyl@gmail.com">sandy.eyl@gmail.com</a>.



#### Men's Breakfast \* October 19

All men are invited to attend the monthly breakfast at 8:15am on Saturday, October 19, at the Classic Cup Café. It is located at 4389 Jackson Rd about one mile west of Wagner Rd. Meetings will be held every third Saturday of the month. Questions? Contact Fred Lynch at 734-665-9904.



# **Game Day \* October 20**

Join the fun on Sunday, October 20 from 1:00 to 4:00pm in Fahs Chapel for a multigenerational day of gaming. Stop by for a friendly board or card game on the third Sunday of every month during the 2013-14 school year. There will be fun for all ages and stages. Many games will be available but bring a favorite to introduce it to others.

Bring a dish to share for a potluck lunch. All are welcome even without a dish. Questions? Contact Steve Lundy at 734-622-0982 or <a href="mailto:sklundy@yahoo.com">sklundy@yahoo.com</a>.



# **Halloween Party \* October 26**

Put on a costume and come celebrate the Halloween season with congregational friends at the Halloween potluck dinner and party. On Saturday, October 26, there will be pumpkin carving, games, crafts, trick-or-treating, and a YRUU-designed haunted house for those who dare.

Pumpkin carving, games, and crafts begin at 5:15pm. Bring your own pumpkin to carve. A potluck dinner begins at 6:00pm, followed by a costume parade, trick-ortreating, and the YRUU Haunted House.

To help with games or crafts for young children contact Hannah Hotchkiss at Hannah@uuaa.org.



#### Women's Breakfast \* October 26

Women's breakfast meets every fourth Saturday at the Classic Cup Café. It's located at 4389 Jackson Avenue, just past auto row, make a Michigan left, then go into the mini-strip-mall of stores on the right. Come enjoy companionship and a morning repast. Questions? Contact Judy Slater at 734-679-3497.



# Mindful Eating Coalition Forum \* October 27

The Mindful Eating Coalition will be sponsoring a forum on Sunday, October 27 at 1:00pm in the Fahs Chapel. *Feeding a Hungry Planet: Crisis and Opportunity* will be presented by Catherine Badgley, Associate Professor, University of Michigan Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Against a background of industrial food production and consumption, food systems are changing rapidly. Badgley will discuss principles of sustainable food production and consumption and how these can contribute to mindful eating. Questions? Contact Donna Estry at <a href="mailto:estry@umich.edu">estry@umich.edu</a>.



#### Intro to OUUr Faith\* November 9

An Introduction to OUUr Faith class will be held on Saturday, November 9 from 10:00am to 2:30pm.

This class is an introduction to Unitarian Universalism taught by ministers with assistance from lay members. Topics include: history of Unitarian Universalism and this Congregation, how this Congregation is governed, how to get involved, the meaning and responsibilities of membership, and participants' own spiritual journeys.

Sign up by Sunday, November 3. Registration forms are available at the Involvement table, the Newcomer Welcome Room, at the front entrance literature rack, or email a registration request to hannah@uuaa.org.

Childcare will be provided with sufficient interest. Child care requests must be submitted by Friday, October 26.

Questions? Contact Hannah Hotchkiss at 734-665-6158 or <a href="mailto:Hannah@uuaa.org">Hannah@uuaa.org</a>.



## **Announcements and Notices**

#### **Denominational Connections Team**

The Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI) for 2012-2016 titled *Reproductive Justice: Expanding our Social Justice Calling* will hold discussions with topics from the UUA's recommended CSAI curriculum. Topics include:

Session 1: October 16 - Introduction: What is Reproductive Justice?

Session 2: November 20 - Sacred Sexuality

Session 3: January 15 - Inherent Worth and Dignity

Session 4: February 19 - Reverence for Life

Session 5: March 19 - Right of Conscience

Session 6: April 16 - Conclusion: Moving Forward



The selecting process for the 2014-2018 CSAI has started. Congregations will submit a proposal on October 1 that will be posted to UUA's web site on November 13. By February 1, 2014, the proposals will be certified by at least 25% of all congregations in the congregation poll. A five proposal maximum will be on the agenda for delegates to vote on at GA 2014 in Providence, RI. General Assembly (GA) delegates will discuss and discern which proposal will be the next CSAI at GA.

Dis/Ability Action Certification pilot program will establish an Accessibility team to test a certification program developed by the UUA. A retreat will be held October 12 from 1:30am to 3:30pm. Join if you have a disability, are a caregiver, or are interested in the topic. Everyone is welcome. Questions? Contact Els Nieuwenhuijsen, field test coordinator at <a href="mailto:elsni@comcast.net">elsni@comcast.net</a> or 734-255-3786

The Denominational Connections Team (DCT) serves as a conduit for information exchange between the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor (UUAA) and the wider Unitarian Universalist (UU) community, providing our congregation and the denomination with a vibrant means of co-operating together and strengthening our identity as UU's. Questions? Contact DCT chair Roberta Allen at <a href="mailto:bert7allen@gmail.com">bert7allen@gmail.com</a>.



#### **Social Justice Council**

On September 7, the Social Justice Council (SJC) held a workshop for groups that come



under the SJC umbrella. For a complete list of these groups go to



http://uuaa.org/social-justice/about-social-justice. Over 30 were in attendance and we thank everyone for their comments and questions.

Interest and questions on the use of social media in publicizing church events were presented. A topic considered at the workshop was the use and challenges of Facebook. In light of such interest, the SJC will hold a workshop on social media, its practical uses, and the aspects of using it within the church and church groups. The date will be announced. SJC groups may ask to have announcements or events posted on the SJC Facebook page. Questions? Contact Janella James at <a href="mailto:janellaj@gmail.com">janellaj@gmail.com</a> or Carol Acitelli at <a href="mailto:carol.acitelli@gmail.com">carol.acitelli@gmail.com</a>.

There are now mini grant funds available through this December for SJC groups. These grants provide additional opportunities to begin a project or to provide some conference support. Funding requests through these mini grants are due on Friday, November 8. Pick up applications at the Social Justice table during Social Hour on Sundays or request a copy from Carolyn Madden or Carol Acitelli.

Forms for yearly reports and requests for funding for 2014 are available at the SJC table or at <a href="http://uuaa.org/social-justice/council">http://uuaa.org/social-justice/council</a>. These reports and requests for funding are due by October 1, 2013. Address them to Carolyn Madden at <a href="mailto:cgmadden@gmail.com">cgmadden@gmail.com</a>. This year the SJC was able to financially support the Men's Council in sponsoring Doug Mudar and his workshop on classism, the Reproductive Justice Conference in Detroit, and the Mindful Eating Coalition presentation on justice for food workers with a book discussion of *Behind the Kitchen Doors*, among others.

Questions on SJC activities? Stop by the SJC table or contact co-chairs, Carolyn Madden at <a href="mailto:cgmadden@gmail.com">cgmadden@gmail.com</a> or Kate Warner at <a href="mailto:kpwarner@gmail.com">kpwarner@gmail.com</a>.

# **Justice in the Middle East Team**

On Wednesday October 9, the Justice in the Middle East and Challenging Racism groups will cosponsor the film *Roadmap to Apartheid* at the Michigan Theater at 7:00pm in partnership with many faith-based and secular local groups.

*Roadmap to Apartheid* explores the parallels between South African apartheid and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Alice Walker narrates this documentary on the ways that separation makes strangers and enemies. The international community urged South Africa to bring apartheid to an end with truth and reconciliation.

The event will be moderated by Rev. Fr. Peter Dougherty of the Lansing Diocese, cofounder and member of the Meta Peace Team, formerly Michigan Peace Team, and International Gandhi Award recipient. The film will be followed by commentary from Sam Bahour, a Palestinian American who grew up in Youngstown, OH, and then married and settled in the Occupied Territories of Palestine; and Barbara Harvey, a civil rights attorney, former head of the Michigan ACLU, and founding member of the

Detroit chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace.

A discussion of the film will be on Saturday, October 12 at 1:00pm. For questions, advance ticket vouchers, or a copy of the current UUJME newsletter, stop by the UUJME table during Social Hour or contact Anne Garcia at <a href="mailto:awgarcia@wccnet.com">awgarcia@wccnet.com</a>, George Garcia at <a href="mailto:gagarcia325@gmail.com">gagarcia325@gmail.com</a>, Larry Cooper at <a href="mailto:larycooper@wowway.com">larycooper@wowway.com</a>, or Diane Cooper at <a href="mailto:cooperdiane@wowway.com">cooperdiane@wowway.com</a>.



### **Khasi Hills Sponsor-A-Student Program**

Khasi Hills Sponsor -a-Student program connects our Congregation with Mawkisyiem Unitarian Primary Schools in the Khasi Hills of northeast India. Our congregation has been involved with the Khasi Hills for over 100 years starting with our Minister, Jaybez Sunderland.



For a \$50 annual donation you can sponsor a student.

Your donation will provide textbooks, teacher wages, infrastructure development, and a year-end gift. Those members that sponsored last year can pick up letters on Sunday, October 6, 13, and 20. Then you can bring your answered letters to the Khasi Hills table during Social Hour on October 27, November 3, and 10.

Questions? Contact Mary Ann Camron macamron@sbcglobal.net.



# **Sharing the Collection Update** Terry Madden, Chair

Katie Pelz-Davis is a member of UUAA and founder of the Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor. Here is her story on why she founded this organization and why we she support her in this worthwhile service. The "Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor" will be the recipient of the Sunday Services *Sharing the Collection* on October 6.

"Cancer touches all of us in one way or another, and the Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor was created to fill a gap in services that I discovered when my husband Glenn was diagnosed with lung cancer in 1998. At the time my children were 12 ½ and 17. As a social worker, I knew the importance of emotional support during times of stress and crisis. I was deeply disappointed that I could not find such support for my family,

emotional support during times of stress and crisis. I was deeply disappointed that I could not find such support for my family, especially the children; and I vowed that at some point in the future I would address this need.



Glenn died in May of 2000. After my youngest child left for college in the fall of 2003, I enlisted people who shared my vision.



By January of 2004 we had formed a steering committee that created Glenn's House, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting those in our area affected by cancer. Later that year we discovered The Wellness Community (now the Cancer Support Community), an international non-profit organization that is dedicated to providing support, education and hope to people with cancer and their loved ones at no cost to participants.

By March of 2005 we had raised \$50,000. In May we celebrated the receipt of our charter and Glenn's House became The Wellness Community of Southeast Michigan, later renamed the Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor.

The Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor is very appreciative of all of the support it has received thus far and we are thrilled to be able to open our doors on November 12, 2007 and offer support, education and hope to those affected by cancer.

Katie Pelz-Davis, Founder"

Questions? Contact Terry Madden at <a href="mailto:terence.madden@gmail.com">terence.madden@gmail.com</a>.



# Join the Anti- Fracking Campaign

The deadline to get *Ban Fracking in Michigan* on the 2014 ballot is almost a week away. Suddenly the media has started to pay attention. Citing the recent release of the UM study, pro-fracking editorials justify claims that fracking is benign, does no harm, and boosts Michigan's economy.

Two important news items confirm many warnings about the dangers of fracking: First: Per NBC News: "Fracking Conclusively to Blame for Ohio Earthquakes...Earthquakes were triggered by fluid injection shortly after the injection initiated...," said a seismologist at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, September 4, 2013.

Second: "Oil and gas wells drilled in a flood plain are under water and leaking in Weld County Colorado. There is at least one pipeline that broke as the dirt supporting it was washed away. Hydrocarbons and no telling what else are leaking into the flood waters yet the media is silent." *Daily Kos*, September 15, 2013.

More information is available at the Ban Fracking table during Social Hour. Questions? Contact Marcia McMullan at <a href="mmcmullan@gmail.com">mmcmullan@gmail.com</a>.

# **Becoming a Member**

Many can take part in aspects of congregational life at UUAA without technically being a member. You can worship, support the efforts of the Social Justice groups, make connections through varied social events, and enroll children in the Spiritual Growth and Development Program. So, what does it mean to join the Congregation? By

becoming a member you commit to the principles of Unitarian Universalism; you validate the importance of exploring human nature and spiritual questions; you enter a covenant to support a congregation that fosters religious tolerance, compassion, social justice, and community. By signing the Membership Book, you declare that these things are important to you.

We welcome new members to our congregation throughout the year.

#### **Stepping Stones to Membership**

- \* Attend the Introduction to Our Faith workshop next offered Saturday, November 9 from 10:00am to 2:30pm.
- \* Understand and be in accord with UU Principles and the Mission and By-laws of UUAA.
- \* Complete the Enrollment Packet, which includes a Pledge Form and Talents and Interests Survey.
- \* Make arrangements with the Welcome Ministries Coordinator, Hannah Hotchkiss, to sign the Membership Book in the presence of a minister and board member.
- \* Attend a Recognition Ceremony to be welcomed into the Congregation.

Questions? Contact welcome ministries coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at <a href="mailto:Hannah@uuaa.org">Hannah@uuaa.org</a> or 734-665-6158.



# **Church Office News**

# **Building Hours:**

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

**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 <a href="mailto:bulletin@uuaa.org">bulletin@uuaa.org</a>.

The deadline for submitting UUAA event, news, and program notices for inclusion in UUAA's Monthly Newsletter is 9:00am on the 15th of each month. Send your submissions to <a href="mailto:newsletter@uuaa.org">newsletter@uuaa.org</a>.

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, <a href="mailto:thom@uuaa.org">thom@uuaa.org</a>
Debby Casamatta, Office Administrator, <a href="mailto:deborah@uuaa.org">deborah@uuaa.org</a>
Venus Gregory, Weekend Building Attendant, <a href="mailto:venus@uuaa.org">venus@uuaa.org</a>
Arthur Whigham, Custodian, <a href="mailto:arthur@uuaa.org">arthur@uuaa.org</a>



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