

# First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

A liberal religious voice in Ann Arbor since 1865

#### **October Newsletter**

October 2018 Newsletter - Vol. 14, Issue 10

#### **Congregational Links**

<u>UUAA.org</u> | <u>Calendar of Events</u> | <u>Social Justice at UUAA</u> | <u>Make a Pledge</u>

#### **Other Links of Interest**

UUA.org | MidAmericaUUA.org | Side with Love

# Weaving Worship Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship & Music

#### October 2018 | Sanctuary

#### **October's Worship Planning Team**

Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Senior Minister Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship & Music Rev. Cassandra Hartley, Assistant Minister for Spiritual Growth & Development Rev. Lindasusan V. Ulrich, Assistant Minister Allison Halerz, Pianist-in-Residence

October 7

Worship: 9:30am & 11:30am

Seeking Sanctuary

Join us for this collage worship service honoring October's worship theme of "sanctuary," exploring what sanctuary might mean for us on a spiritual level.

October 14

Worship: 9:30am and 11:30am

**Places of Sanctuary** 

When we're in need of refuge, where do we go?
When our souls are worn down, where do we turn?
When we offer sanctuary to another, what promises are we making?

October 21

Worship: 9:30am & 11:30am

**Huddled Masses Yearning to Breathe Free** 

Our congregation and the Unitarian Universalist denomination have made

significant moral and spiritual commitments to being a part of the contemporary Sanctuary movement, in support of justice for migrant and immigrant communities. Join us this Sunday as we reflect on and explore this spiritual commitment.

October 28 Worship: 9:30am & 11:30am The Disguises We Wear

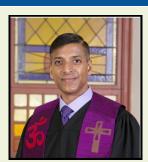
Join us this Sunday as we honor Halloween and the theme of disguises. How have disguises been a source of sanctuary and comfort? How do they limit and/or harm us? This Sunday we explore the role of disguises in our life, as we invite adults, teens, and kids to attend worship and our Spiritual Growth and Development programs in "young kid-friendly" Halloween costumes ("young kid-friendly" = nothing gory, nothing overly scary, and no accessories that mimic or can be used as weapons, please).



1412

Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout Director of Worship and Music

# Reflections for the Journey



#### Something human...

As Halloween approaches, my daughter Mina and I have been watching a music video (*Something Human*, by Muse) in which a guy drives a race car, changes briefly into a werewolf, and then back into a person. The werewolf part of the video invariably scares Mina a tiny bit, but she knows that it's pretend and that the person is going to change back into himself. The

make-believe monster is thrilling, allowing us to "play" with a concept that could otherwise be dangerous, if it were real.

The challenge is, in our current day and age, that there can be so many real-life threats that surround us that it can be hard to be playful about anything, much less play with the concept of "fear." Case in point: the movie *My Friend Dahmer* was on cable this week, reminding me of the reality of brutal real-life serial killers. In addition, simply following current events can lead to feeling as if our collective compassion and civility is being eroded on a daily basis. The real or perceived level of danger in the world is increasingly leaving many of us feeling on edge and short-tempered and angry — even, at times, with people we genuinely like and care about.

The intensity of "scary" energy that we are exposed to is not just constant, the volume of it also feels higher. Our cultural reference points, in cinema and TV, have shifted in pronounced ways over recent decades. The 1950s- 1960s had *Leave It to Beaver* and *The Brady Bunch*. The 1970s, *Little House on the Prairie* and *The Match Game*. Our current era, by contrast, provides a steady stream of apocalyptic imagery: killer zombies, aliens, diseases, cataclysmic earthquakes, and even "sharknados." In parallel with all of that, our news relays a nonstop scrolling banner

of real-life experiences of suffering, neglect, and abuse.

Fear, destruction, and pain permeate our popular culture, and we collectively pay an unnoticed price for this. In the face of that backdrop, everything we do can feel so serious, so weighty — as if the welfare of our family, our community, or even the whole world rested on some specific outcome we are working toward. As a result, we forget to play...and, in the seriousness of it all, we may even forget that play has value in our lives. We forget that community is not just about "working" together, but also about taking the time to breathe, let our guard down, relax, and play. The human spirit, at any age, cherishes opportunities to be playful in the company of others.

Honoring this very human need, I'd like to invite you to join me and the staff on Sunday, October 28 as we honor Halloween in our community (adults, teens, and kids alike!) in an intentionally playful way. All are invited to join us that Sunday in ("young kid-friendly") costume. Even if you haven't done anything for Halloween in years, consider joining us in the fun! Don a crazy hat, unpack that old bumblebee costume, plan out being the tooth fairy for a morning! Whatever you might want to try, give it a try — and know that it's not only OK, but that your soul will sing with the intentional lightheartedness of it all. Allow yourself to play. And — enjoy planning your costume debut over the next few weeks! (Anticipation is part of the fun of the Halloween season!)

May the intention of playfulness lighten your heart and give us all something to look forward to in the month ahead!

Yours in faith, and in play,

Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti Senior Minister manish@uuaa.org

# Introducing the UUAA Shared Ministries Team (SMT)

We are all fortunate to be part of a UU congregation that is thriving. There are many reasons for this, for which we can be very thankful. One of the challenges to growth, particularly as we embark on a leg of our journey with a new senior minister, will be knowing where to turn when we have questions or concerns about any number of issues related to congregational life.

This challenge is recognized by our Board of Trustees and by staff, and has led to the creation of the Shared Ministries Team. The SMT is designed to receive, reflect on, and respond to, as appropriate, congregational feedback, concerns, and questions, particularly as they relate to our life together as a community.

Everyone in our congregation deserves timely information and responses, which are provided in a thoughtful and caring manner. To that end, the Shared Ministries Team will be available at coffee hour, through e-mail, or by phone to take your questions, concerns, and ideas.

It is our intention that the Shared Ministries Team will offer a channel for feedback, concerns, and questions, providing congregants a clear pathway for expressing their thoughts and queries.

For additional details about the SMT, please click <u>here</u> for access to the new team's <u>framing document</u>, which was crafted collaboratively by the UUAA

Governance Advisory Team and our new senior minister and reviewed by our Board of Trustees.

The appointed members of this team will eventually serve staggered 3-year terms. Please don't hesitate to contact the Shared Ministries Team if we can help you navigate our community. We are here to listen and to help. We can be reached by email at <a href="mailto:sharedministriesteam@uuaa.org">sharedministriesteam@uuaa.org</a>.

In all good faith,

Margie Teall, Chair Joan Burleigh Mike Halerz Jim Lee Lisa Lemble Tim Richards

## **Upon Reflection**



Autumn is my favorite time of year, from the crisp coolness to the vibrant colors. The light slants differently. The smell of the air shifts. For me, this is the time of year that feels like home.

When every headline needs a trigger warning, though, it's hard to feel like any place is home.

If you're having a difficult time, please reach out - to a friend, a family member, a fellow congregant, a therapist, one of your ministers, pastoralcare@uuaa.org, or a crisis support line (see below). You don't have to go through the struggle alone.

How are you caring for yourself and/or those around you these days?

Peace, Rev. Lindasusan

Rev. Lindasusan Ulrich Assistant Minister <u>lindasusan@uuaa.org</u>

National Sexual Assault Hotline (24-hour) 800-656-4673 www.rainn.org

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (24-hour) 800-273-8255 www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Trans Lifeline 877-565-8860 www.translifeline.org

#### Five to Thrive | Deeper Hopes



How many times have you thought about all the good work that goes on here at UUAA? Do you participate in it or have you seen it in action? Have you thought about the many people in our community who benefit from our good work? Guests at Alpha House, recipients of a renovated Habitat home, prisoners who receive books to read, and the people in Washtenaw County who are

food disadvantaged are just a few examples. Reverend Manish shared his thoughts on working toward a common vision, yet to be determined, in his sermon on September 16, a vision that will guide our work now and into the future. I have a deeper hope that we can all work together to determine our common vision and make it a reality. All of this and more is the direct result of commitment, dedication, and the generosity of our members and friends who support this congregation through a financial commitment...all of YOU! Thank you over and over again! We have a lofty goal set to achieve so much.

As this year's chair of our annual Five to Thrive pledge campaign, I want to say how excited I am to be serving the congregation in this capacity. In early October, you will receive information in your mail at home inviting you to be a part of this deeper hope. With a goal of committing up to 5% of your gross annual income, please take the time to read it and engage in meaningful thought and discussion about what we can accomplish together. Each Sunday during October, a member of the Stewardship Committee and members of your Board of Trustees will be available to answer questions and receive your pledge in person. You will also be able to pledge online. Look for the link on our website <u>uuaa.org</u> coming very soon.

If you are interested in learning more about the proposed goal and budgeting process, please join me and Interim Administrator Ed Lynn on Sunday, October 7 after each service.

In deep faith, Beth Hospadaruk

#### For Your Calendar

#### Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group \* Wednesday, October 3



This group offers caregivers of people with memory loss a safe place to share and receive information and experiences. If you are a caregiver who would like some support, please join us from 3:00pm to 4:30pm in the David Room. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Meredith Ley at 734-717-0213.

## Senior Dinner Out \* Wednesday, October 3

Join fellow seniors at 6:00pm at Hot Pot Chen (2255 W. Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor), have fun, and keep up on the news of the congregation. Questions? Contact Marie Duke at omaduke7@gmail.com or 734-769-0467.

#### Evening Humanist Discussion Group \* Wednesday, October 3



The Evening Humanists gather on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm to discuss ethics, philosophy, and theology from a humanist perspective. Hal Breidenbach will facilitate the meetings, with topics introduced by the attendees. Topics may be prompted by individual interests, books, articles, current events, and ancient wisdom. Starting Oct. 3 we will meet in the David Room. Anyone who is interested may attend. Questions? Contact Hal Breidenbach at <a href="https://hallogo.nc.net.org/ha

# Friday Fun Night \* Friday, October 5



# UUAA FRIDAY FUN NIGHT

Friday, October 5 6:00pm - 9:00pm

# Fall Feast

# This Month's Features

- \* Campfire with songs and s'mores
- \* Dinner: Chili (Beef, Chicken, and Veggie)
- \* Craft: Make a drum to play!
- \* Documentary: Wasted: The Story of Food Waste
- \* Kids Movie: The Lion King
- \* Game room

Everyone is welcome to attend, no need for a reservation. Suggested donation is \$5/person or \$20/family.



FRIDAYFUNNIGHT@UUAA.ORG

## Mindful Eating Presents Wasted \* Friday, October 5



Wasted! The Story of Food Waste will be shown at 7:00pm in Fahs Chapel after the Friday Fun dinner. A discussion will follow. Did you know that 40% of the food produced in the U.S. goes to waste? Through the eyes of famous chefs, see how they make the most of every kind of food, transforming what might be considered scraps into incredible dishes that create a more secure food system. Shown in conjunction with ICPJ. Questions? Contact Colleen Crawley at <a href="mailto:ccrawley59@gmail.com">ccrawley59@gmail.com</a>.

# Outdoor Women Dog-Friendly Walk \* Saturday, October 6



Join outdoor and nature loving women and their kids and partners for a dog-friendly group walk in Ypsilanti at 10:30am. A dog is not required.

We will meet at Frog Island Park (699 Rice Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48198) in the north parking area. Some parking is available at the meeting spot or nearby, close to the farmer's market. Look for our orange UUAA Womyn sign!

The group will walk along the Huron River through Frog Island Park and Riverside Park to Downtown Ypsi. Round trip 1.5 miles with opportunities to purchase coffee along

the way or shop the Ypsilanti Depot Town Farmers Market afterwards.

Please RSVP to Sandy Eyl at <a href="mailto:sandy.eyl@gmail.com">sandy.eyl@gmail.com</a> or 313-213-5559.

# Plant-Powered Family Potluck \* Saturday, October 6

Plant-Powered Family Potluck takes place from noon-2:00pm in the Fahs Chapel. Bring a plant-based vegan dish without meat, fish, eggs, dairy, honey, or other animal products. Enjoy the company of fellow mindful eaters, share information, and eat delicious food! Please bring your own table service and serving tools. Questions? Contact Sheila Sanders at <a href="mailto:sheilasanders@comcast.net">sheilasanders@comcast.net</a>.

# Neither Here Nor There... \* Sunday, October 14

Neither Here Nor There, But Somehow Still Present: Soulfully Living the Cross-Cultural Life: A Presentation by César Valdez

Join us in the Fahs Chapel at 1:30pm for this powerful Challenging Racism event.

As we undergo the transformational storms of a rapidly changing world and the emergence of a global community, psychological and spiritual teacher Atum O'Kane identifies the need for bridge people -- those who live soulfully with one foot in one world and one foot in another.

César Valdez grew up in an area of the U.S. primarily made up of a people who maintain many of the cultural traditions of their Mexican ancestry, and who also very much identify as "all-American." This talk reminds us that the most resilient individuals and collectives are those who can offer a coherent narrative of their life stories, yet the Mexican-American community, for many reasons, has remained in the shadows of the greater American narrative. César makes a contribution toward expanding that narrative with a beautiful description of Mexican-American life in the U.S. Additionally, he reminds us of the history of racism that played a part in the formation of this invisibility. He describes his experience of leaving his hometown and encountering those who couldn't seem to fathom that he, too, was as American as they were and the strategy of withdrawing one's life force as a way of navigating through and protecting oneself from an unaccommodating world.

While this kind of bi-cultural life may present many challenges and conflicts, one of its hidden gifts is the ability to hold seemingly dissonant experiences at once and without the option of taking sides. As such, César identifies four lessons taken from the unique experience of inhabiting this unavowed space. These lessons aim to describe qualities needed for building bridges across vast divides. With consideration to the increasing polarization of our world, we will explore lessons learned from living in a space that is neither here nor there, yet somehow still powerfully present.

Questions? Contact Kathy McLean at <a href="mailto:idkamclean@comcast.net">idkamclean@comcast.net</a>.

#### Alpha House Committee Meeting \* Sunday, October 21



Alpha House is a shelter for families experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County, and UUAA is one of the founding congregations of the organization running this shelter, Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). We host four times per year, preparing meals and volunteering at the shelter. We need about 90 volunteers and \$400 for groceries each host week.

The UUAA Alpha House Committee will host a discussion to recruit new committee members after both services (10:45am and 1:45pm) in Fahs Chapel.

Committee members help with tasks from home and in the Social Hall during the month before our host week.

The next host week is Thanksgiving!

Come and find out more! RSVP here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/JoinAhouse">https://tinyurl.com/JoinAhouse</a>.
Can't make it? Email committee chair Sandy Eyl at sandy.eyl@gmail.com to join the committee.

# Healing Justice \* Thursday, October 25

Join the Dispute Resolution Center and the Friends of Restorative Justice (FORJ) for a film viewing, panel discussion, and community conversation about the documentary, *Healing Justice*. This film examines the impact of trauma, redefines justice within the criminal and juvenile justice systems, and moves us toward empathy, reconciliation, and healing to bring about social and transformative change.



We are honored to have Associate Professor from the University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, researcher, and author, <u>Dr. Reuben Miller</u>, as our guest keynote speaker and panelist. His research examines life at the intersections of race, poverty, crime control, and social welfare policy. Dr. Miller has conducted fieldwork in Chicago, Detroit, and New York City, examining

how law, policy, and emergent practices of state and third-party supervision changed the contours of citizenship, activism, community, and family life for poor black Americans and the urban poor more broadly.

By supporting the DRC through events like these you are impacting the many lives we touch by empowering community members through personal crises to resolve their own conflicts and begin on a path towards healing and reconciliation.

#### RSVP here

5:30pm | Reception & Film: \$50/person (student, \$25)

7:00pm | Film & Panel Discussion only: \$25/person (student, \$15)

Reception and keynote starts at 5:30 pm in the atrium.

Film starts at 7:00 pm, followed by a panel discussion and community conversation in the auditorium

If you are Interested in becoming a sponsor, view and download our brochure for sponsorship opportunities and donate <a href="here!">here!</a>

Checks can be made payable to:
The Dispute Resolution Center
4133 Washtenaw Avenue, Suite B125
P.O. Box 8645

Ann Arbor MI 48107-8645



For more info and/or to inquire about scholarship tickets, contact Germaine Smith, <a href="mailto:smithger@washtenaw.org">smithger@washtenaw.org</a> or 734-794-2125

# Halloween Sunday! \* Sunday, October 28

Adults and kids alike are invited to join us in "young kid-friendly" Halloween costumes for our morning worship and Spiritual Growth and Development programs! For our purposes, "young kid-friendly" means nothing that might frighten a 2, 3, or 4 year old, please! No gory or overly scary costumes, and no accessories that mimic or can be used as weapons, please.

# Accessibility and Inclusion in Congregational Life \* Sunday, October 28

Join the Accessibilty and Inclusion Ministry Team (AIM) in the Fahs Chapel from 1:00pm to 3:00pm for a video presentation from the UUA about welcoming people of all abilities. A discussion will follow where participants will create an action plan for how this information can be implemented in our church community. This event is open to all and will be of particular interest to AIM members, members of the Sunday Welcome Team and all who care about accessibility and inclusion in our congregation. We need your insights and energy.



The webinar's description: Opening our doors to people of all abilities is the less-talked-about test of inclusion in our congregations. This webinar will discuss "disability etiquette" and will explore the many ways in which our congregations can be more accessible and more welcoming to people with a

variety of disabilities. The presenter is Mark Bernstein, who serves on the steering committee of the Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM), a joint program of the UUA and EqUUal Access working to enable the full engagement of people with disabilities and their families in our congregations.

Questions? Contact AIM Chair Dee Dishon at deedishon@gmail.com.

#### **News and Announcements**

## **Grocercy Certificates/Scrip**

Did you know that several grocers donate to local charities, including UUAA? At Arbor Farms, when you check out, just say "I support UUAA." At <u>Buschs</u>, designate First Unitarian Universalist. At <u>Kroger</u>, specify FIRST U.U. CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR or use code 82740 to sign up <u>online</u>.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Barber at <a href="mailto:cmbponyclub@sbcglobal.net">cmbponyclub@sbcglobal.net</a>.

#### Membership



# Becoming a Member

#### **Stepping Stones**



Learn about the UU faith and history by attending an Introduction to Our Faith class. (For more information about registering for upcoming sessions, check the Sunday Bulletin or contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org.

Upon completing Introduction to Our Faith and learning about the rights and responsibilities of membership, arrange with the Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss to sign the membership book and submit paperwork.

Questions? Contact Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org.

The Men's Fellowship provides a variety of opportunities for men to connect, build community, and have fun:

#### Men's Circles

Groups of 8-14 men meeting once or twice a month, affording opportunities to make a deeper connection with other men by learning together, sharing issues of personal importance, and enhancing their ongoing spiritual growth.

#### Men's Retreat

An early-autumn weekend-long gathering held annually. Each retreat has a unique theme and curriculum, providing a great opportunity to get away and make deeper connections with others in the congregation and learn more about ourselves in the process.

#### Men's Dinner

A spring event giving men an opportunity to get together, share a meal, and dive into a topic of interest. Outside speakers, roundtable discussions, and great food are all part of the mix.

#### Coming of Age Weekend

The Men's Fellowship participates in this weekend event that is a key part of the boys' "Coming of Age" curriculum. The experience of camping, cooking, eating, sharing, and singing with his male peers, parent, and mentor is designed to reinforce the young man's feeling of belonging in the broader Community of Men in the congregation.

#### Men's Night Out

A monthly informal get-together over cold beverages (fermented or not). Catch up with one another, make new connections, have some laughs, and discuss issues affecting us and the world around us.

#### Men's Breakfast

An informal monthly get-together over breakfast. Catch up with one another, make new connections, have some laughs, and discuss issues affecting us and the world around us.

#### Service Projects

This annual project may involve clearing trails on our land, building playground equipment, or helping someone do something.

#### Men's Council

This nine-member group, whose membership partially rotates annually, facilitates the various men's activities described above.



For more information, email <a href="mailto:menscouncil@uuaa.org">menscouncil@uuaa.org</a> or go to Google Group <a href="mailto:https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/uuaamen">https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/uuaamen</a> or our web page <a href="www.uuaa.org/men">www.uuaa.org/men</a>.

#### Planned Giving | Make Your Will

#### Your Legacy Gift = 10% match now!

Since 2005 UUAA has received nearly \$1 million from planned gifts. That money has been used to reduce the mortgage, improve our building, and get us through some hard times.

Planned giving means bequests from people who remembered UUAA in their wills and estate plans. Organizing our affairs before death is something we want to do anyway. Having a plan is a great benefit to our families and loved ones. But it is complicated and we tend to avoid it and put it off.

We have a unique opportunity this year for UUAA to earn immediate matching gifts for each congregant who notifies us of new planned gifts. In 2018 (and maybe 2019) UUAA can receive a 10% match from the Unitarian Universalist Association for each new or increased planned gift to the UUAA. A planned gift requires no contribution today, yet we will receive the matching funds already in 2019.

Get this! So far in 2018 our UUAA has received 13 new or increased bequests, with several more in process. That means in 2019 UUA will send us a check for more than \$65,000. This is not a typo!

This matching opportunity is available until December 31, 2018 and may or may not be available in 2019. So let's get started now.

This is a complicated and sensitive subject for sure. There is a lot to sort out. The most difficult step is the first one. Please contact <a href="mailto:plannedgiving@uuaa.org">plannedgiving@uuaa.org</a> or one of the Planned Giving Committee Members. We will get information to you and help you every step of the way.

Planned giving tied to one's estate plan is a great way to perpetuate our shared values into the future.

The Planned Giving Team
Becky Hoort at <a href="mailto:rhoort@umich.edu">rhoort@umich.edu</a>
Jim Lee at <a href="mailto:leej\_48103@yahoo.com">leej\_48103@yahoo.com</a>
Don Duquette at <a href="mailto:duquette@umich.edu">duquette@umich.edu</a>

#### Round Robin Dinners Signup



Good food, better conversation! Round Robin Dinners are 6-8 person potluck dinners held in members' homes on the second Saturday of the month. Participation is always optional on a monthly basis. The first dinner this Fall is October 13.

To get one email per month (you only need to reply if you want to attend that month), contact Wally Welch at <a href="www.wsystems@fastmail.fm">www.wsystems@fastmail.fm</a>!

Why is Round Robin so great? Wally says "Peg and I began attending Round Robins in the 1990s when the UU building was on Washtenaw. At that time we were considering membership. The social hour after the service was one way to

get to know the people who comprise the congregation, but it was a little unsatisfying because there was not enough time and too many people.

"When we found we could be invited into the homes of people associated with the congregation, we decided to try out a Round Robin. For us, each dinner was different. But each provided a warm, relaxing opportunity to get to really know, and to build friendships with, the many great and interesting people who make up UUAA."

# Sponsor a Family

The Social Justice Council is pleased to introduce Sponsor A Family, a new "Faith in Action" group at UUAA. Several months ago UUAA congregant llene Beninson approached the Council with the idea of forming a group to help provide gifts for needy families at Christmas.

After gaining the Council's endorsement, llene initiated a collaboration with <u>Community Action Network</u> (CAN), a nonprofit organization that partners with families from under-resourced Washtenaw County neighborhoods to create better futures for the families and to improve the communities in which they live. UUAA will be joining an existing program that CAN has created to provide gifts for children attending local schools.

Beginning in October, you'll be hearing about ways in which you can participate in this program. You can also contact llene at <a href="mailto:ilene.beninson@gmail.com">ilene.beninson@gmail.com</a> for further information.

Connie McGuire Chair, Social Justice Council

# **UUSC Coffee Project**



Support small farm cooperatives globally while helping to fundraise for UUSC social justice programs and this congregation. Visit our table following the service to choose from fair trade chocolates, coffee, teas, nuts, dried fruits, and Palestinian olive oils. Questions? Contact llene Beninson at <a href="mailto:ilene.beninson@gmail.com">ilene.beninson@gmail.com</a>.

#### Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) News



The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is preparing for its annual fundraising drive called Guest at Your Table (GAYT). The Guest at Your Table dollars collected support the many programs around the world provided by partner organizations protecting and supporting those in need.

This year, the main focus for GAYT will be on Justice Across Borders, supporting

organizations offering assistance to people working in Central America, Mexico, here at our border, or detained to stand for their human rights and to facilitate change. "Guests" include Ely Rosales at Radio Progresso, individuals and families in transit seeking asylum like Clementina Flores, or caught in the detention quagmire like Valentia Mejia, or those already here in need of support and assistance like Anjelica Barajas. Learn more at the UUSC website. GAYT is our way of reaching upstream to strengthen our commitment to Sanctuary.

Questions? Contact Quincy Northrup at <a href="mailto:qnorthrup@gmail.com">qnorthrup@gmail.com</a>.

#### Did You Know...



**Did you know** that the Mindful Eating Farm Project has donated over 3,000 pounds of fresh produce and more than \$3,500 to Food Gatherers this season? This represents more than 1,000 hours by our volunteers.

**Did you know** that over the past 3 years we have invested over \$1,050,000 to replace, upgrade, and improve our UUAA facilities?

**Did you know** that on a typical Sunday when the choir is singing, approximately 25% of the attendees are volunteering to make Sunday happen — choir members, SGD teachers, Welcome Team members, group representatives in the Social Hall, and more?

This new monthly feature "Did You Know..." is an opportunity to share how UUAA groups, staff, and ministers are connecting with the wider UU community and the wider world. If your group has news to share about work with the wider community, send a submission to <a href="mailto:newsletter@uuaa.org">newsletter@uuaa.org</a> by the 21st of each month. Please put "Did You Know..." in the subject line. Questions? Contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at <a href="mailto:hannah@uuaa.org">hannah@uuaa.org</a>.

# Office and Building News

#### **Publication Deadlines**

#### Weekly Bulletin

Submissions should be sent as an attachment in Word format and limited to 90 words or fewer. Send submissions to <a href="mailto:bulletin@uuaa.org">bulletin@uuaa.org</a> by Wednesday at 5:00pm.

#### November Newsletter

Submissions for the *November Newsletter* should be sent as an attachment in Word format and limited to 300 words or fewer. Send submissions to <a href="mailto:newsletter@uuaa.org">newsletter@uuaa.org</a> by 9:00am, Sunday, October 21.

Questions? Contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at <a href="mailto:hannah@uuaa.org">hannah@uuaa.org</a>.

**Sunday** | 8:30am to 4:00pm Monday to Thursday | 9:00am to 9:00pm 1st & 3rd Friday | 5:00pm to 9:00pm Other Fridays | Closed Saturday | 9:00am to 4:00pm

Office: Monday - Thursday | 9:00am to 5:00pm

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor | office@uuaa.org | 734-665-6158 | www.uuaa.org

See what's happening on our social sites:







