



# First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

A liberal religious voice in Ann Arbor since 1865

## UUAA June 2019 Newsletter

June 2019 Newsletter - Vol. 15, Issue 6

### Congregational Links

[UUAA.org](http://UUAA.org) | [Calendar of Events](#) | [Social Justice at UUAA](#) | [Make a Pledge](#)

### Other Links of Interest

[UUA.org](http://UUA.org) | [MidAmericaUUA.org](http://MidAmericaUUA.org) | [Side with Love](#)

## Weaving Worship

Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship & Music

**June 2019 | Beauty**

### UUAA's Worship Planning Team

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  
Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Senior Minister

### June 2, 2019 | 10:00am Beauty on the Bridge

We honor our graduating seniors and add our blessings, our hopes for them in this new chapter of their life. Of course, the crossings of life don't stop at high school's edge. Our whole lives flow on from bridge to bridge. Come celebrate, honor, and explore the sacred gift of moving on, again and again.

### June 9, 2019 | 10:00 am The Beauty of Belief | The Annual Coming of Age Credo Service

We celebrate the 9th grade students who have been part of the Coming of Age program. Their voices are inspiring and articulate, honest and authentic, and bring hope for the future. With honor, the community comes to bear witness to the aspirations of these young people.

**June 16, 2019 | TWO SERVICES (10:00am and 10:45am)  
Beauty of the Beast**

Our companion animals are great blessings in our lives, and this service seeks to return that blessing while honoring our connections to all manner of living creature.

We invite you to bring your companion animal to this multigenerational and multi-species service. If it would not be a blessing for either your animal companion or the rest of the congregation for them to attend, you may bring a photo instead.

Please note that we have two short services this morning.

The first, a service outdoors (weather permitting). Because of the location and the journey there, it is likely that this service setting will also present potential mobility and hearing issues.

The second service will take place within the building.

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**June 23, 2019 | 10:00am  
Beauty on the Beat | Summer Solstice Sing-Along**

Celebrate the transition into summer as we join our voices in a joyful hymn-sing with guest musicians led by Laz Slomovits.

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**June 30, 2019 | 10:00am  
Beauty in Beginning...Becoming...Being...and Beginning Again**

She went from handbell novice to unquestionable success as our bell choir director in a couple of years. Once, Ann Arbor's new worship associate; now, a masterful service writer and pastoral presence. Our community's own theresa rohlick brings an uncommon grace and savvy to teaching and learning well at once. Today, we celebrate theresa's return from her latest journey of wisdom exchange, having recently graduated Meadville Theological School of Lombard College. We celebrate and we welcome her to lead the worship team she once studied and has always taught.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glen Thomas Rideout'.

Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout  
Director of Worship and Music  
[glen.thomas@uuuaa.org](mailto:glen.thomas@uuuaa.org)



**Upon Reflection**

When I tell people that part of my job involves developing policies, I think that many assume I must have done something wrong in a previous life to be burdened with



such an onerous task.

I see this work quite differently, though. To me, policies are an expression of covenant. They're how we give our promises a practical form. Dwelling together in peace sounds straightforward - until another group wants the Social Hall for their event at the same time as yours. How will we search for truth in love when weather reports predict a blizzard? We can help one another in raising funds for good causes, but probably not all in the same weekend.

Policies help us figure out how the 1,000 humans in this congregation can navigate community while stepping on as few of those 10,000 toes as possible.

As Rev. Manish preached a few months ago, UUAA has much catching up to do. Many operational policies haven't been touched in years and are grossly out of date, while others simply don't exist at all. This isn't the work of months, but years.

Since the fall, we've created or overhauled at least half a dozen policies. Several more are in the works. These are living documents, which means that edits and updates are a natural part of the process. We can't afford to let the perfect become the enemy of the good. (You can find the new policies, as well as the procedure used for creating/revising policies, at [uuaa.org](http://uuaa.org).)

Writer Anne Lamott tells a story about the time her brother had put off a huge school report on birds until the last minute, and then felt immobilized by the enormity of the task before him. Their father comforted him: "Bird by bird, buddy. Just take it bird by bird." Policy by policy doesn't have the same ring to it, but that's how we'll get it done.

Peace,  
Rev. Lindasusan  
Assistant Minister



## Slate of Candidates for Board & Leadership Development Positions

### 2019 Slate of Candidates

Submitted by

Leadership Development Team Representative Dixie Hibner

The Leadership Development Team (LDT) is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates for election at the June 2 Annual Meeting. [Click here](#) to receive biographical information about each candidate.

President: Erik Stalhandske  
Treasurer: Vanessa Campbell  
Trustee at large: Toni Wander  
Trustee at large: Erin Krajcik  
LDT Elected Position: Leigh Robertson

These candidates were selected by the LDT following a careful selection and vetting process. We posted a recommendation form on the UUAA website and used the Sunday Bulletin and a table in the Social Hall inviting nominations from the Congregation. We contacted all eligible suggested candidates to learn a bit more

about them and discern their interest in serving. Finally, we interviewed each potential candidate to confirm they would be the best match for the position.

We believe this is an extremely strong field and are pleased to offer this slate to you for confirmation. If you have questions, please email [ldt@uuaa.org](mailto:ldt@uuaa.org).



## For Your Calendar

### Food Gatherers Farm Project \* Saturday, June 1



Join us Saturday, June 1 from 10am-3:00pm to start the growing season!

It's time to "Garden for Good" with the Mindful Eating Team in the fight against hunger in Washtenaw County! We will kick off Season 8 of the Food Gatherers Farm Project on the property of Farmer Bill Schmid (3725 South Maple, Ann Arbor), right around the corner from our UUAU facilities.

All are welcome to join in this incredible service project that raises thousands of pounds of fresh produce each year for those in our community who suffer from food insecurity. Food Gatherers is focused on distributing not just more pounds of food, but more nutritionally valuable food, and the freshly harvested veggies and fruit that we grow are greatly appreciated by their clients.

Our volunteers have been working since early May, but it's time to widen the circle so that everyone has a chance to help! We work in teams on Monday and Thursday evenings, 5:30-7:30pm, and Saturday mornings, 10am-noon, but Farmer Bill is flexible and welcomes helpers all throughout the week.

The Big Plant on Saturday, June 1, is our "all-hands-on-deck" day of planting, and we need many volunteers to help get seedlings in the ground. Sign up for a 2-hour morning or afternoon shift or stay all day. We'll celebrate with a yummy potluck for all volunteers at noon.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Colleen Crawley at [ccrawley59@gmail.com](mailto:ccrawley59@gmail.com) to be added to our volunteer list, or stop by the Mindful Eating Table during Sunday Social Hour. We hope to see you at the Farm!



### UUAU Annual Meeting \* Sunday, June 2



**UUAU Annual Meeting and Election of Officers**  
**Sunday, June 2, 2019**  
**11:45am-1:30pm**  
**UUAU Sanctuary**

All are welcome to attend and take part in discussions. Full and associate members of UUAU can cast votes.

The meeting documents, including the biographies of candidates running for elected positions, the agenda, and the 2018-2019 Annual Report are available following [this link](#).

Note that we will be voting on bylaw changes at the meeting. Please be sure to read the information about changing our bylaws to permit proxy and/or absentee voting. There will be only a few printed out copies at the meeting, so we encourage you look at the documents online or download to your computer.



## We Will Rise Concert at UUA \* Sunday, June 2

**We Will Rise**  
***Sounding Light Choir***  
Tom Trenney, Conductor  
Anne Wilson, Accompanist

**Sunday, June 2 | 4:00pm**  
**UUA Sanctuary**

The glorious voices of Sounding Light offer an uplifting program that carries a message of resilience, renewal, and rebirth. The inspiring music of J.S. Bach, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Moses Hogan, Craig Hella Johnson, Abbie Betinis, and Tom Trenney alongside beloved hymns, spirituals, and folk songs promises to lift our spirits, revive our souls, and restore our hope.



## Memory Loss Caregiver Support \* Wednesday, June 5



The Memory Loss Caregiver Support Group, sponsored by the UUA Pastoral Care Team in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, meets regularly the first Wednesday of each month from 3:00pm to 4:30pm in the David Room. It is a drop-in group, open to both members of the congregation and the larger community. We encourage congregants who may know a person giving care to someone with memory loss, to let them know that they are welcome to join the support group.

A support group offers caregivers, family members, and friends of people with memory loss the opportunity to ask questions, share stories, give and receive comfort, and gain practical knowledge. A confidential, positive setting for sharing experiences is known to be an important factor in how well one copes with caregiver stress. Questions? Contact Joan Burleigh at [joburleigh@aol.com](mailto:joburleigh@aol.com), Sandy Kunkle at [sandykunkle@gmail.com](mailto:sandykunkle@gmail.com), or Meredith Ley at [meredithl888@gmail.com](mailto:meredithl888@gmail.com).



## Senior Dinner Out \* Wednesday, June 5



UUA seniors, join us for a night out. We will meet at 6:00pm at Hot Pot Chen (2255 West Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor). You may just drop in -- no reservations are required. Come for fun and good conversation. Questions? Contact Marie Duke at 734-769-0467 or [omaduke7@gmail.com](mailto:omaduke7@gmail.com).





Join Rev. Lindasusan Ulrich and Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss for this engaging workshop on June 8 from 10:00am to 2:30pm. Explore the history and theology of Unitarian Universalism. What does it mean to be a covenant religion? Learn how to get involved and about the responsibilities and rights of membership. Share your spiritual journey with fellow congregants. Whether you are ready to sign the membership book or are new to UU, you are welcome to take part. Register online or by filling out a form found on the Involvement Table during Social Hour. The registration deadline is Sunday, June 2. If you need childcare, please register by Sunday, May 26. Questions? Contact Hannah Hotchkiss at [hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org).



## Mothers & Others Playdate in the Park \* Saturday, June 8

### Mothers and Others | For Caregivers of Young Children



This growing group connects parents, guardians, and other caregivers of young children for support and fellowship.

We have paused our bimonthly playgroups for the summer but will be gathering for monthly playground picnics instead! Join us for our first summer picnic on Saturday, June 8 at 10:00am at Gallup Park in Ann Arbor.

For details and to RSVP, join our Facebook group or email list! Search for UUA Mothers and Others on Facebook or email Arika Lycan at [arika.grace@gmail.com](mailto:arika.grace@gmail.com) to be added to the email list or for more information.



## UUA Indivisible Viewing Challenge \* Wednesday, June 12

Have you ever wished you could talk more deeply and constructively with people who think or vote in a way you don't quite understand? [\*Free Trip to Egypt\*](#) is a funny, unexpected, and powerful documentary of a thoughtful, unassuming, kind man, Tarek Mounib, offering people who didn't know any Muslims a free trip to Egypt. The story is a perfect prompt and inspiration for dialogue about ways to shift polarizing tensions.

*Free Trip to Egypt* will be showing June 12 at 7:30 at Quality 16 in Ann Arbor. Meet in the lobby at 7:00pm.



UUAA Indivisible is joining Kindness Films to invite people into dialog, inspired by the unexpected dialogs and connections you'll see among eight Americans of very different backgrounds and their six host families.

We encourage each of you to invite someone to this special screening of *Free Trip to Egypt*. Feel free to invite like-minded friends, but we encourage you to reach out to someone who you believe might think or vote differently than you, whom you've maybe wished you could engage in conversation, but it always felt too "sensitive" or "tense" or

"risky."

We challenge you to do something unusual. Tarek invited folks he didn't know to Egypt. You could just invite one or a couple of people to #FreeTripToTheMovies. Our guess is you'll leave *Free Trip to Egypt* and feel the ripple effect...moved to talk and to listen and to deepen and expand participation in movements to spread kindness, listing, and hope rather than avoidance, division, and despair.

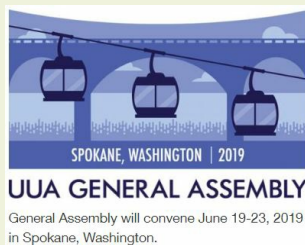
[Check out the trailer and purchase tickets here](#) or go to the theater to purchase in advance.

Questions? Contact Carrie Hatcher-Kay at 734-730-3952 or at [chatcherkay@gmail.com](mailto:chatcherkay@gmail.com).

If you miss the June 12 screening night, or haven't yet taken the #PledgetoListen and want to participate in this opportunity to do the unexpected, visit #PledgetoListen.



## General Assembly 2019 | Spokane \* Wednesday - Sunday, June 19 - 23



The General Assembly (GA) of the Unitarian Universalist Association will be held Wednesday - Sunday, June 19 - 23, 2019, in Spokane, WA.

GA attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through a democratic process. Anyone may attend, and it's a great opportunity to participate more deeply in our faith. You can also participate off-site; many GA events are live-streamed, so you can watch them from home.

Our congregation has the opportunity to send delegates to GA. Delegates represent us in the general sessions (business meetings). Delegates this year will consider whether to approve a Statement of Conscience on the topic of "Our Democracy Uncorrupted" as well as other business.

If you are planning to attend GA this year, either in Spokane or off-site, and would like to be a delegate, please contact Demoninational Connections Team representative Laura Bollettino at [laurab@umich.edu](mailto:laurab@umich.edu).



## More about General Assembly

### The Power of We

What do we want Unitarian Universalism to be? It is a time when we are asking big questions in our faith, and GA 2019 will be focused on digging into those questions together. It is a critical chance for congregational leaders and passionate UUs to set new goals and aspirations for our religious community. Help begin to reshape our Association and our congregations in new and powerful ways.

This year's theme is about collective power, "The Power of We," as well as the possibility, the purpose, the struggle, and the joy of what it means to be together in faithful community. In the past two years, Unitarian Universalism has recommitted to the work of liberation inside and outside our faith community. The antidote to a time of dangerous dehumanization is a love that connects us to our deeper humanity. Come to Spokane to experience what our shared faith can become when we embrace the Power of We.

### Registration and Housing

Contact the GA Registration and GA Housing Reservation System at [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga)

### Spokane, Washington

The Spokane region is the gateway for adventure and exploration in the Intermountain Northwest. Located driving distance from Glacier National Park and Yellowstone, Spokane is nestled in natural beauty.

Spokane is located on interstate I-90, 110 miles from the Canadian border and 18 miles from Idaho. It is the largest city between Seattle and Minneapolis.

Spokane International Airport (GEG) is serviced by Alaska, American, Delta, Frontier, Southwest, and United Airlines. Nonstop service is offered to 17 destinations, including Minneapolis, Chicago, Dallas, Phoenix, and LAX.

Spokane is accessible by rail via Amtrak's Empire Builder route (Chicago - St. Paul/Minneapolis - Spokane - Portland/Seattle). It is also reachable by Greyhound Bus.

### Excellent Programming

GA will offer more than 100 programming selections over the course of five days. This year, in addition to theme-based programming, the schedule will feature role-based track programming, including time for discussion among attendees, sharing inspiring models and stories, and concrete suggestions for how to further the work or "take it home." More programming details are available at [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga).

Most General Assembly events will be held in the Spokane Convention Center.

### Financial Aid Available

The UUA is committed to the goal of making GA accessible to as many attendees as possible. Go to [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga) in the month of March to learn about scholarships to support delegates - particularly those from marginalized groups - and volunteer opportunities (work in exchange for registration).



Black Lives of UU (BLUU) Summer Connections \* Sunday, June 23

BLUU Summer Community Connections:

Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU) has had a great





year at UAAA. Between worship watch parties and Babies and Bailout, it's been a dynamic year of visibility and growth.

**Join us this Summer for BLUU Community Connections  
Sunday June 23 and Aug 4 12:00-1:30 pm**

Please note that these Community Connections will be closed / black only space. All those who identify as black are welcome to attend.

If you are a non-black person and have a desire to connect with BLUU, here are some other ways to engage, connect and learn:

1. The website: <https://www.blacklivesuu.com/>
2. YouTube Black Lives UU channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaX1WEmwOjOfGG3yBYwCqbg>
3. Open to All: BLUU Harper- Jordan Symposium in St. Paul MN:  
<https://www.blacklivesuu.com/symposium-registration>

We look forward to seeing you over the Summer.  
Questions? Email [quiana@uuaa.org](mailto:quiana@uuaa.org).



## Alpha House Host Week \* Sunday - Sunday, June 24 - 30



The next UAAA Alpha House host week will be Monday - Sunday, June 24 - 30. Alpha House is a shelter on Jackson Road for families experiencing temporary homelessness in Washtenaw County. UAAA needs 90 volunteers to provide food, serve meals, play with the kids, and be day hosts. If you can't volunteer, donate! Up to \$400 is needed to cover food, supplies, and support

the mission of Alpha House. Sign up online at [tinyurl.com/AHJun19](http://tinyurl.com/AHJun19) or sign up or donate on Sundays during Social Hour. New to UAAA or Alpha House? Contact [alphahouse@UAAA.org](mailto:alphahouse@UAAA.org) for more info!

**Children:** 1 or 2 children attending a volunteer slot with an adult are welcome! Alpha House kids especially love meeting other kids during Activity Time. We no longer need to know the children's names or ages. If you plan to volunteer with a lot of kids, please let us know.

**Background Checks:** When you sign up, there will be a question asking for any adult's full name and/or former name. This applies to everyone who interacts with residents (dinner/brunch servers, activity time). For these slots we must provide our full legal names including any former legal names (such as a maiden name or birth name). When arriving for your slot (everyone except cooks), check in at the front desk where the staff will confirm you have had a background check, or they will complete it on the spot.

**FYI:** Sometimes Alpha House parents work late, so you might not see as many people at dinnertime (or have as many kids at weeknight activity time). Our food is needed because residents are reheating the food from the dining room refrigerator later that night.

**Cooks/Dinner:** You can find the number of adults and kids, any food allergies, and a list of favorite meals here: (<https://tinyurl.com/AHResidents>). You can see the meals served recently here: (<https://tinyurl.com/AHPastMeals>). Questions? Email [alphahouse@uuaa.org](mailto:alphahouse@uuaa.org).

## People of Color Potluck \* Sunday, June 30



### POC Brown Bag Lunch Gatherings

We are excited to announce two People of Color (POC) Brown Bag Lunch gatherings taking place over the Summer. We know it's a busy time of year but we hope you will be able to join us: Sunday, June 30 and August 11, noon - 1:30pm. Please bring a brown bag lunch! The time will be focused on conversation and building community. Questions? Email [quiana@uuaa.org](mailto:quiana@uuaa.org).

## News and Announcements

### Babies and Bailout Share Back



Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU) would like to sincerely thank the UUA community for the plentiful donations made during Babies and Bailouts! At the UUA, "End Money Bail Watch Party" there were 25 people in attendance. UUA also worked with a local donation partner, Metro Detroit Diaper Bank. Our donation drive yielded 4,105 items and \$550!

On a national level, BLUU worked with Allies for Racial Equity (ARE) on a social media fundraising campaign, raising \$8,800 in just 12 days. Those funds were used to release and support 90 black mamas in 34 states.

On many levels, Babies and Bailouts was a huge success! As we move into the Fall, please look for more open space dialogues and ways to engage with BLUU.

Questions? Email Quiana Perkins at [quiana@uuaa.org](mailto:quiana@uuaa.org).

### Community of Writers



The Community of Writers is a group that enjoys sharing their writings with others! All are welcome to respond to writers with positive feedback. We also include in our monthly meeting discussions of topics such as interesting forms in creative writing and the publishing processes involved in creative writing. During the spring months we focused two meetings on new aspects of the current creative writing scene.

A few of our members, also taking creative writing classes, suggested "prompt writing," a popular expansive writing method of responding to a topic and incorporating three required words in their piece. Our group found this a productive approach that created dramatic narratives and expressive poems of significance.

A second meeting, by group request, was a presentation of today's publishing business, by Kathy Edgren, our poet who published her latest book, *The Grain Beneath the Gloss*, in 2017. Kathy created a guide to publishing from her personal experience, including cover letter, each journal's specifications, evaluating rejection letters, a bibliography of journals and resources for finding a good fit for your writing, and much encouragement for this unfamiliar business endeavor of publishing. To add to the conversation, Pauline Loewenhardt offered insights she had gained from publishing her memoir in April. Everyone greatly appreciated this firsthand introduction to publishing.

On Sunday, June 9 the Community of Writers will give their formal summer reading in the Jackson Chapel at 11:30am-1:00pm. The congregation is invited to hear the original writings, such as story, poetry, personal essay, memoir excerpts, humor, and flash fiction, of 13 participants in the writers' group, with each writer reading for five minutes or less. Also, the writers welcome all those attending to enjoy coffee and conversation following the reading.

The Writers will meet again Sunday, July 14. Questions? Email [mlund@mi.rr.com](mailto:mlund@mi.rr.com).



## Spiritual Growth and Development (SGD) Wraps Up the Program Year



SGD completed its last Sunday of the 2018 - 2019 year last week, and we celebrated with a well-attended teacher appreciation lunch. We have a lot of people to be thankful for!

In the fall term we averaged 123 children/youth in the building each Sunday, and that number increased in the winter term to 134. We need a lot of teachers, rovers, mentors, and other volunteers to run our classes averaging 34 in class for the fall term and 42 for the winter term. Those numbers would be larger if we included all the overnights, conferences, field trips, and off-site social justice work they participate in. Yes, we are growing! We have 279 children officially enrolled and so many more new or visiting families attending each week.

Our curricula this year were a mix of tried and true and a little something new. One new class was Picture Book UU for our K-1 class, which helped the children learn about our 7 Principles using beloved picture books. It was popular with both the children and the teachers, and it added many new books to our ever-growing SGD library. Another example of how we're always improving our classes was in Harry and UU for 4th-5th graders. It was taught by a team that included two full-time teachers, who added in nature walks to deepen our connection with our land.

Other program highlights include: 2nd-3rd graders exploring the inner workings of electronics during their "Take Apart Party;" 6th graders in the Building Bridges class racing through a lively scavenger hunt with items related to all the religions

and places they visited this past year; and preschoolers jumping with joy when they saw the tulips they planted in the fall bloom outside their classroom window this spring. Each class had more special moments than there is room for!

The summer program begins next week with more stories to share and people who care. If you'd like to volunteer as a classroom assistant to help make our summer program successful, please email me for more information.

Debra Golden, SGD Program Assistant at [debra@uuaa.org](mailto:debra@uuaa.org).



## Habitat for Humanity



On May 18, we started working on our 34th house as part of the Good News House Group, an interfaith group of 17 churches working together with the local Habitat for Humanity office to provide decent, affordable housing for people in need.

### 2019 Work Days

**Saturday, June 8 (2716 Woodruff Lane, Ypsilanti)**

**Friday, June 14 (2716 Woodruff Lane, Ypsilanti)**

**Saturday, July 27 (2668 Peachcrest, Ypsilanti)**

Each work day begins at 8:30am and ends at 3:30pm.

### How You Can Help

**Work on Site** - No experience is necessary and all tools and equipment are provided. Stop by the Habitat Table during Sunday Social Hour or visit [uuaa.org/H4H](http://uuaa.org/H4H) to sign up.

**Make Lunches for Workers** - Any age can help make lunch, and our workers always appreciate the wonderful food that arrives mid-day.

**Contribute to Pay for Materials** - Our goal this year is \$7500. This will be added to the contributions from the other 16 congregations to help pay for the materials and contracted work on the houses.

### Special Activities

This year, you are invited to help at the Habitat for Humanity-sponsored Youth Day at Sugarbrook Park. This is a yearly event that features a picnic, music, and activities for kids. Last year approximately 150 people came to the picnic. This will be on a Saturday in August, and children and youth are invited to help.

Stop by the Habitat Table in the Social Hall during Sunday Social Hour to learn more about any of the above or to join our committee.

Questions? Visit our website [uuaa.org/h4h](http://uuaa.org/h4h), email [habitat@uuaa.org](mailto:habitat@uuaa.org), or call Mike Muha at 734-717-4627.

## Are You a Humanist?



Do you believe that we must decide for ourselves what is the meaning of our lives? Do you believe that humans, rather than a supreme being, define morality and ethics? Do you believe that God is created in humans' image? If you answer yes to any of these questions, or if you are unsure of the answers, then consider joining this group which is searching for answers to these questions.

Humanism has a long history in our congregation, and a lively group of humanists has been meeting for about 20 years, with the current group of about 20 members gathering to discuss topics relating to humanist philosophy, theology, morals, ethics, reasoning, and science -- the list is long and varied.

The Evening Humanists discuss the same issues, with some of the same participants, but at a time when those who have commitments during the day can attend. The topics will be just as varied and lively.

Thursday, June 6 (2:00pm-4:00pm) and Monday, June 10 (7:00pm-8:30pm) the topic for discussion is our fourth principle, with Terry Butcher leading and a Ken Phifer sermon as source material.

Anyone is welcome at either or both of these meetings.

Thursdays, June 6 and 20 (2:00pm to 4:00pm)

Mondays, June 10 and 24 (7:00pm to 8:30pm)

Questions about the Monday class? Email Hal Breidenbach at [hal@breidenbach.net](mailto:hal@breidenbach.net).

Questions about the Thursday class? Email Bruce Gibb at [blgibb@aol.com](mailto:blgibb@aol.com).

## Immigration Action Coalition

**Immigration Action Coalition Announces  
Representatives to Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary**



Ruth Cassidy (left) and Ines Llorente (right) represent UUAA on the Steering Committee of Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary (WCS).

WCS is a coalition of 13 local congregations that have pledged to support sanctuary as an option for undocumented immigrants in our community facing detention and deportation. WCS is considering expanding its commitment to sanctuary to include support for those seeking asylum. All who are interested are invited to a program exploring the possibilities on Sunday, June 30 from 3:00pm-5:00pm at Church of the Good Shepherd (2145 Independence Blvd., Ann Arbor). UUAA will share our experiences of hosting an asylum-seeker as an example of how a congregation can make a real difference. The hope is that this program will encourage other congregations to get involved. For more information, contact Cheryl Valentine at [cheryl.natzmervvalentine@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.natzmervvalentine@gmail.com).



## Pastoral Care News




This month, the Pastoral Care Network is excited to share the story of the Mangi-Lee family. Their experience at UUAA is a beautiful example of what it means to be in beloved community:

*"They say that it takes a village to raise a child. However, as with many modern families, my husband and I moved to Ann Arbor without a village. In January 2018, I made a commitment to find a spiritual home for myself and my infant daughter where we could grow and explore spirituality. While pregnant with our second baby,*

*I took the Introduction to Our Faith class and became an official member of UUAA.*

*"We were nervous about having two little people under two, but when our son Ozzie was born we felt nothing but the love and support from UUAA. We received cards, and calls, and a lovely hand-knitted blanket from the congregation. We agreed to participate in a meal train, folks we did not even know came to our house with nourishing meals, easing our family's new-baby transition. We were touched that so many people from this community/our new faith home showed up. The spirit of UUAA really is love, and I am so happy to raise my children in this village." – Charlene Mangi*

Thank you, Charlene and family, for sharing your UUAA journey with us. We look forward to watching you all grow in the love and possibility that is our community.



On Sunday, May 19, the new Pastoral Care Network was introduced to the congregation.

This network approach utilizes the skills and strengths of both the ministerial team and congregants to provide assistance in times of need and joy. The network needs you!

We are asking that each member commit, as spiritual practice, to performing one to two acts of care a year. Please let us know how you can support the Care Network by completing the [UUAA Pastoral Care Commitment Form](#).

The Pastoral Team looks forward to serving this beloved community!



## Social Justice Council (SJC) News



On April 27, we had a successful listening session with UUAA social justice group leaders and representatives to discuss ways to improve communication and coordination among Social Justice groups, the Social Justice Council, and the congregation. We are working on next steps and ways to continue to improve support for the many social justice activities.

Until the end of the year, Sally Preston will lead the Social Justice Council. During that time, we need two new members to join the council. Members of the council must be members

of the congregation who are committed to UU principles. Responsibilities include attending monthly meetings, participating in discussions and decisions, and facilitating projects that are identified to provide communication, guidance, and support between the council and social justice groups.

New members should plan on a term of at least two years. This is a way to learn about the many social justice groups and provide support to this important core value in our congregation.

If interested, contact Sally Preston during Social Hour at the Social Justice Table or email [sally@pctraining.net](mailto:sally@pctraining.net).



## Sharing the Collection



### Your Contributions Make a Difference!

The Sharing the Collection committee is happy to share the good news. On May 5, we raised \$2,988 for Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley ([www.h4h.org](http://www.h4h.org)).

In 2018, we raised almost \$29,000 to benefit non-profit

organizations in Washtenaw County that are serving the needy and the disadvantaged. Help us do even better in 2019: Mark your calendar for these upcoming collections.

- On June 2, to benefit the [Foundations Preschool](#).
- On July 7, to benefit [Community Action Network](#).

Are you not able to attend services on the Sunday of Sharing the Collection? You can mail a check to UUAA, noting "Sharing the Collection" in the memo line.

Do you know a community-service organization in Washtenaw County that would like to apply to be one of our recipients in 2020? Have them fill out the form located on our webpage: [bit.ly/sharingthecollection](http://bit.ly/sharingthecollection).

The Sharing the Collection committee: Bob Dinan, Jan Duncan, Casey Jackson, Glenn Kime, and Fran Lyman.

Questions? Email Bob Dinan at [bdinan83@gmail.com](mailto:bdinan83@gmail.com).



## Join a Sunday Welcome Team



We have openings for 2019-2020 Sunday Welcome Teams. Summer is a great time to try out ushering, greeting, hosting a Newcomer Welcome Session, or assisting with Social Hour. See if it is the right fit for you! Typically, Sunday Welcome Team members sign up to help one service a month. If you are

interested in learning more, contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at [hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org).



## Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)



Please go to the UUSC website and sign the petition calling for an end to child detention in general and at the Homestead (FL) facility in particular.

UUSC is a cosigner with American Friends Service Committee. Child detention is illegal, which is why Homestead and its antecedent Tornillo (TX) are called "temporary shelters," which they are not. However, there are still 2000 children in "temporary shelters." The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) is the body governing detention. ORR is demanding fingerprints from people claiming children though they allege that the material is not given to ICE.

When following the money needed to run Homestead, two organizations, Comprehensive Health Services and Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), are both involved. Both have been fined for Medicare fraud in the past, HCA for the largest health care fraud settlement in American history. Also, General Dynamics Corporation has a large contract for training and technical services assistance at Homestead. This company is well known for regulatory and labor violations.

GEO Group, another prison and detention contractor, is implicated in medical neglect, forced labor, and human rights abuses at facilities it operates. It made major contributions to the Trump campaign. It is vitally important to keep a watchful



eye on these facilities and their management teams until these "temporary" facilities are closed.

Questions? Email Quincy at [gnorthrup@gmail.com](mailto:gnorthrup@gmail.com).



## On the Horizon

### Womyn's Retreat 2019



Join us at the 2019 UUAU Womyn's Retreat, September 27-29 at beautiful YMCA Camp Copneconic (45 minutes north of Ann Arbor in Fenton). This retreat is a venue to meet other women in the congregation, enjoy interesting workshops, relax, and renew. It is a wonderful

opportunity to reflect, laugh, and connect in a warm and safe circle of women of all ages. Teens over age 14 are encouraged to attend with an adult sponsor.

Nearly a dozen workshops are planned, along with many fun activities. In our "Women's Wares" sale, attendees will be able to view and purchase art, crafts, music, and books handcrafted by other attendees. In addition, we invite women who are licensed massage therapists to bring their table or chair and offer short massages. Or, if you're experienced at tarot or astrology readings, bring your talents to share. These services may be offered for a nominal fee.

Our lodges offer a variety of sleeping arrangements. A separate building has been reserved for our teen attendees, and there's a separate apartment for our nursing moms & their infants!

The registration fee is \$170 (\$125 for ages 14-25). This fee includes lodging, meals, retreat t-shirt (if registered before 9/10/19), workshops, and most activities. Attendees may choose to pay \$10 extra for each of the following: high ropes course, zip line, and climbing wall. Scholarships are available. -- we ask that you pay what you are able, and request our help with the rest. Please try to request assistance before September 10, 2019.

Pick up a registration form at the Womyn's Community table in the social hall or register online at [www.uuaa.org](http://www.uuaa.org). Contact Roen Montalva, Womyn's Retreat Chair at [womensretreat@uuaa.org](mailto:womensretreat@uuaa.org) or Judi Lintott at 734-352-7285.



### 20th Annual Men's Retreat - Save the Date



Please join us for the 20th Annual UUAU Men's Retreat to be held September 21-23 at Judson Collins Retreat Center (45 minutes west of Ann Arbor). This year's theme will be Resilience. We are looking for group leaders and workshop leaders. Scholarships are available. Registration begins in August. Questions? Email Jim Schaefer at [jim@jvscontrols.com](mailto:jim@jvscontrols.com).



## Did You Know...?



Did you know that the Friday Fun Team hosted close to 1,200 congregants this past program year (once a month, September - May), providing dinner, crafts, activities, and movies?

## Memorial & Tribute Gifts

Thank you to the following people who donated to UJAA with Memorial and Tribute gifts in the fourth quarter of 2018

### In Memory of Dorothy Wilson

- Ed and Barbara Lynn
- Royla Furniss and Roberta Allen

### In Memory of Eleanor Hoag

- Phyllis Valentine

### In Memory of Shirley Axon, Jud Coon, Michele Donnelly, and Nancy Livermore

- Carolyn and Richard Barber

Thank you to the following people who donated to UJAA with Memorial and Tribute gifts in the first quarter of 2019

### In Appreciation of Sandy Eyl

- Charles and Betsy Price

### In Memory of Don Haefner

- Cynthia Stewart

## Welcome to Our Newest Members

### Chris Ballard

Chris grew up in Midland, Michigan, and came to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan (LS&A and Law School). He's now a lawyer who focuses on wills, trusts, and nonprofit organizations. He lives in Ann Arbor with his wife, Lesli and their two daughters, Katie and Clara. Chris's passions include bread baking and flying small airplanes. He also enjoys orienteering and anything else that creates an excuse for hiking in the woods



on a fall day.



## Reese Hvalatka



Reese is delighted to have found UUAA after spending 20 years feeling vexed by mainline Protestantism. A native of Michigan and a U of M alumna, Reese and her family moved to Ann Arbor last year after living in Oregon and Arizona. She works in student conflict resolution at her alma mater and enjoys baking with her three-year-old daughter, April. Reese is playing the long game of peer pressuring her beloved husband, Zach, into attending services at UUAA. (If you see him -- play it cool!) The best decision Reese made this year was joining the amazing Chalice Singers.



## Erik and Katy Kramp



The Kramps have been long-time residents of the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area. They are thrilled to have found a spiritual home at UUAA. Eric is an engineer for the Great Lakes Water Authority. He enjoys board and role-playing games, disc golf, and building various things. Katy is a librarian with the Plymouth District Library. She enjoys medieval music, books, and knitting. Robbie loves computer and board games. Lucy loves aerial silks, Girl Scouts, and reading. Both go to Honey Creek Community School. All do medieval recreation.



## Joe Libin



I am a transplanted Canadian, who has crossed the continent a few times from Vancouver to Montreal and from California and then to Michigan. I always lead with my heart, and so far my magic has never steered me wrong. I began my UU journey in California at the First Unitarian Church of Oakland with Pastor Jacqueline in the Summer of 2018. In January of 2019, I bossed up and changed my life by moving to Michigan to follow my heart and tend to my growing relationship with Cristy Cardinal. Once I landed here, I found home in the Sanctuary of UUAA and put down roots by joining the choir and attending weekly services. I am so honored to be a part of this wonderful congregation, and I look forward to making meaningful contributions well into the future.



## Katy Mattingly



As a teenager, Katy briefly attended West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Ohio, where she mostly demanded information about the nature of evil and skipped the social events. Katy works in administration at the University of Michigan and has previously taught violence prevention and organized to move the Democrats to the left. She is passionate about community building and meditation and lives in co-housing with her dog, Happy. She enjoys singing, hiking, and arguing about the nature of evil and the political change process.



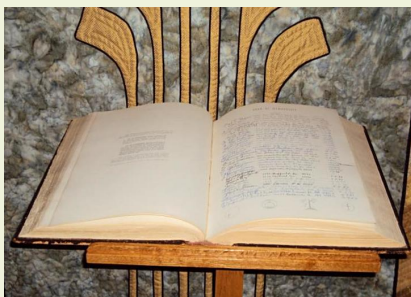
## Martie Ream



Martie grew up in Montclair, NJ and went on to spend 47 years in Virginia. Professionally, Martie worked as a mathematician at NASA during the period of the movie *Hidden Figures*. She was a homemaker after the birth of her daughter and then began a career in contract accounting which lasted 28 years. Much of Martie's volunteer work in Virginia centered around the Presbyterian church, where she held various positions, provided care as a Stephen Minister, and participated in outreach projects in DC. She also found working as a Hospice volunteer especially rewarding. In Ann Arbor, Martie has been active in the AAUW, the Ann Arbor Thrift Shop, and a newcomers group—somehow always being tapped as Treasurer.



## Becoming a Member



To start your path to membership, we ask that you attend an Introduction to OUUr Faith workshop, which covers Unitarian and Universalist history, governance of congregations, and the rights and responsibilities of membership. It is also a wonderful space to share your spiritual journey and get to know the journeys of fellow congregants.

The next offering of Introduction to OUUr Faith is Saturday, June 8 from 10:00am to 2:30pm. If interested, register by Sunday, June 2. You can [register here online](#), pick up a paper registration from the Involvement Table during Social Hour, or email the Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss directly at [hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org). Childcare will be provided.

If you have completed the Introduction to OUUr Faith class and are ready to officially join UUA as a member, email Hannah at [hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org) to arrange a membership signing.



## Publication Deadlines

### **Weekly Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays at 5:00pm**

Submissions should be sent as an attachment in Word format and limited to 90 words or fewer. Send submissions to [bulletin@uuaa.org](mailto:bulletin@uuaa.org).

### **July Newsletter Deadline: Friday, June 21 at 9:00am**

All submissions should be sent as an attachment in Word format and limited to 300 words or fewer. Send submissions to [newsletter@uuaa.org](mailto:newsletter@uuaa.org)

Questions? Contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at [hannah@uuaa.org](mailto:hannah@uuaa.org).



## Reserving a Room at UUAA

### **Summer Room Reservations**

We began accepting all room reservations for the Summer Program Session on May 1.

As a reminder, the UUAA room reservation calendar system is divided into two sessions:

#### **Summer Program Session**

(Sunday, May 26, 2019 - Saturday, Sept 7, 2019)

#### **Building Hours**

Sunday | 9:00am - 4:00pm

2nd and 4th Monday | 9:00am - 9:00pm

Monday - Wednesday | 9:00am - 5:00pm

Thursday | 9:00am - 9:00pm

Friday | Closed

Saturday | 9:00am - 12:00pm

#### **Congregational Program Session**

(Sunday, Sept 8, 2019 - Saturday, May 23, 2020)

#### **Building Hours**

Sunday | 8:30am to 4:00pm

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

1st and 3rd Fridays | 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Other Fridays | Closed

Saturday | 9:00am to 4:00pm

To submit a room request use the [Request a Room](#) link found at [www.uuuaa.org](http://www.uuuaa.org) on the lower right corner of the home page. Completing this form allows us to accommodate accessibility needs, room setup, audio/visual equipment, and special arrangements for large groups.

Starting July 1, 2019, we will begin accepting room requests for large events expecting over 50 attendees for the Congregational Program Session. All other room requests for the Congregational Program Session will be accepted starting August 1, 2019.

### **Consider these when planning your event:**

- Recurring events are scheduled within each session. If a recurring event

flows into the next program session, a new room reservation request will need to be submitted.

- For events expecting 50 or more attendees, allow extra processing time, as it will need to be approved by staff prior to being placed on the calendar.
- Room reservation requests during Sunday Service hours are restricted to those that:
  - anticipate 15 or fewer participants and
  - are timed to allow those participants to attend one full Sunday service.
- The Sanctuary room may be available for scheduled use one hour before and/or one hour after any scheduled events.
- Check the UUAA calendar as a guide, since other requests may affect your approved times.

Questions? Contact the Room Team at [room@uuaa.org](mailto:room@uuaa.org).



## Summer Building Hours \* Sunday, May 26 -- Saturday, September 7

**Sunday** | 9:00am - 4:00pm

**2nd and 4th Monday** | 9:00am - 9:00pm

**Monday - Wednesday** | 9:00am - 5:00pm

**Thursday** | 9:00am - 9:00pm

**Friday** | Closed

**Saturday** | 9:00am - 12:00pm

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



First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor | [office@uuaa.org](mailto:office@uuaa.org) | 734-665-6158 | [www.uuaa.org](http://www.uuaa.org)

See what's happening on our social sites:

