

# Birmingham Unitarian Church

*A Unitarian Universalist Congregation*

*June 2011*

## Sunday Worship Services

June 5 & 12 ~ 9:30 and 11:15

June 19<sup>th</sup> we begin our Summer  
Schedule ONE SERVICE @ 10:30

### June 5: R.O.P.E. Sunday ~ 9:30 and 11:15

Rites of passage -- many cultures and religions mark human passages as they proceed through the journey of life. The passage into puberty is celebrated at BUC with the Rite of Passage Experience (R.O.P.E.) year, culminating in a wonderful service created and presented by the thirteen and fourteen year-old youth where they share their prepared personal credo statements. This ceremony is important to the process of marking one of life's transitions at BUC. This service is a wonderful opportunity to see what a UU religious education provides for our youth.

### June 12: Flowers, Bridging & New Welcoming ~ 9:30 and 11:15

In our final regular services of the church year, Kathy and Worship Associate Elaine Morse lead us through an array of transitions, as we "bridge" the graduating seniors and the 5th graders, welcome new members, celebrate flower communion, and reflect on the many passages in our lives as individuals and as a church community. Please bring a flower with you to the service, perhaps one that represents something about you.

### June 19: One Service @ 10:30

Guest speaker Gloria Albrecht and Worship Associate Frank Arvan will reflect on the status, challenges, and opportunities for interracial community in Detroit.

### June 26: "Sustaining Faith" ~ 10:30

In troubled times people turn to their faith traditions. What is the sustaining message of Unitarian Universalism that not only helps us through the night

but gives us the strength to continue to be courageous and strong in the face of adversity? Guest minister Rev. Francis Dew and Worship Associate Gregg Bloomfield consider what our tradition provides to help us hang on.

## Share the Summer Fun with RE this Year!

Try your hand at leading a Preschool or K-5th grade multi-age classes this summer. It takes sixty volunteers to make a Summer RE program possible. The RE staff does all the prep for you, walks you through the activity before the class starts and then cleans up after you! We have a great bunch of kids who make teaching a fun and rewarding experience. Please look for the sign-up board in the Social Hall or contact Eleanor or Laura at the office. Check out the fun on page five and see what you'd like to sign up for.



## Town Hall @ BUC June 26

When: June 26 following the single service

Where: Pavilion just outside the Sanctuary

Purpose: to provide a setting for exchange of views, information, and ideas between congregants and Minister/Board of Trustees

Topic: The use of our facilities for activities

- a) Non-BUC sponsored (A.A., Bridge Club, etc.)
- b) BUC internal activities (worship, Alliance, etc.)
- c) BUC externally sponsored programs and speakers (MOSES, Medicare, etc.)

Facilitator: Boris Silberberg. Looking forward to thoughtful and productive sessions!

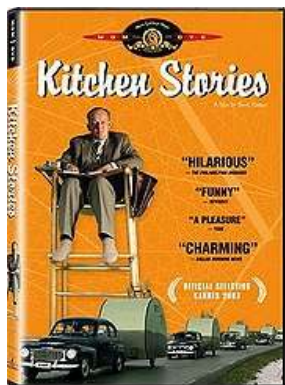
## Film Buffs ~ June 17, 7:00

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### Kitchen Stories

When: Friday, June, 17

Where: Commons



"It begins when an employee of a Swedish home science company is assigned to observe - full time - the kitchen habits of a grumpy and pathologically private Norwegian farmer. The goal of the study is a bureaucrat's dream-come-true: to reach a higher level of "kitchen efficiency" through streamlined design and step saving body motions. Imagine a

loopy, surrealistic marriage of Chaplin's *Modern Times* and Jim Jarmusch's *Stranger Than Paradise* and you'll begin to envision the deadpan comic universe of this tart and biting social satire. Cannes and Toronto Film Festivals." - DFT Winter/Spring 2004 Film Guide

"Bittersweet, wise and original... a heartfelt little masterpiece." – Bruce Field, *Film Journal*

*Kitchen Stories* (Norway, 2003, 95 minutes) was rated PG (mild language) by the MPAA.

Snacks provided. For more information contact Larry at 248-569-0965 or [LarryWisniew@att.net](mailto:LarryWisniew@att.net).

## Sacred and Profane Discussions

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Eleven members discussed the topic of "Compassion" at the last meeting on 18 May 2011. The discussion was particularly animated and ranged over a number of issues. The group will meet this month on Wednesday June 16 at 10:30 in the Large Conference Room. The topic is "Creativity", and will be facilitated by John Ballantyne. All are welcome to join this lively discussion group.

## Pastoral Care Associates

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BUC's Pastoral Care Associates are exploring ways to extend our outreach to members and friends in need of support by developing a list of "helping hands," names of individuals who would be available to fulfill specific needs. For instance, you may be able to be a driver for someone who could use transportation to a medical appointment; you may be free to run errands

for someone recovering from illness or surgery; or you may be inclined to provide meals for families who simply are not up to cooking for a time.

If you would consider being on a "helping hands" list for occasional service to others in our BUC community, please stop by the Pastoral Care table on Sunday morning or talk with any of the Associates.

## Habitat for Humanity 2011

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O.K. let's get dirty. Unless you've been off the planet you've heard of Habitat. Whatever your skills, Habitat can use them. For two weeks (June 13-17 and July 11-15), there is the All Churches (SOCOF) blitz build in Pontiac. There are opportunities available in building, hospitality/registration/snacks, sales at the Habitat Restore, and more. I will be building every day of the blitz. Contact me and I'll walk you through a work day.

We are also refurbishing used homes for new buyers every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8:00-4:00. I will be building one day every week in Pontiac. I normally work Tuesdays. I will not be soliciting after services, you need to contact me if you're interested. Please contact coordinator Paul Plante [pplante@twmi.rr.com](mailto:pplante@twmi.rr.com), ph: 734-464-1577, only a few spots left for volunteering.

## Summer Hospitality

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Can you imagine how sterile Sunday mornings would be without the smiling faces of our Greeters, Ushers and Coffee Servers who welcome members and visitors, insure that the service runs smoothly and provide the essential ingredient for after service fellowship?

Seven volunteers are needed at each single 10:30 service this summer from June 19th through September 4th – two Greeters, three Ushers and two Coffee Servers. Take a moment and stop by the Sunday Host table in the Social Hall after any service and sign up for one or more dates that fit your schedule or contact one of the hospitality coordinators below.

Greeters: Karen Stankye 248-666-0284  
[kesala@msn.com](mailto:kesala@msn.com)

Ushers: Larry Freedman 248-370-8227  
[lawrenceman@sbdglobal.net](mailto:lawrenceman@sbdglobal.net)

Coffee: Roger Marshall 248-765-2408  
[rbm3368@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rbm3368@sbcglobal.net)

## Connections - Joys & Sorrows

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Judy Amir wishes to share that in the past six months her friendships at BUC have been a lifeline. Though words are not enough, she wishes to express her thanks for all the love and support she experienced during the death of her husband Abe on May 2, 2011.

On Sunday morning June 12, Ron Frederic will be at the Unitarian Society of Hartford, Connecticut, giving a talk on his grandfather, Norbert Capek. On June 19th, he will be at the Paint Creek UU Congregation to give the same talk on his grandfather, for whom our own Capek woods is named.

Diane and John Lake's daughter, Hilary, is quoted in an article in the UU World about the UU co-op Hilary helped start in Boston. She is on the board and works with them primarily in the areas of spiritual and leadership development. Thanks, Diane for sharing the link!

<http://www.uuworld.org/life/articles/183208.shtml>

Congratulations to Kaye and Bill Rittinger on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on May 15, and to Paul Vachon and his wife, Sheryl who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on May 25. Paul and Sheryl are half way there!

Good friends of Helen and Elson Spangler, Bob and Shirley Schlorff, founding members of BUC and long time choir members, wished to share that they are living in Port Huron, Michigan. At present they are coping with health issues, but sent their best wishes to all their friends at BUC.

Aisa (pronounced "ice-uh") and Eric Borg, were married, graduated from law school, and joined BUC in May. Welcome to BUC and congratulations on this next chapter in your lives.

Barb Eschner and Dick Cantley celebrated seven wonderful years together by eloping to Las Vegas the second week in May. We celebrate along with you!

Larry Freedman's son recently collaborated with a well know Seattle Chef to publish a book of photo essays "La Figa - Visions of Food and Form" introduced the third weekend in May at the Seattle Art Festival. Larry's daughter, Emily learned recently that she will need a kidney transplant. With joy, Emily's sister, Julie offered her kidney and it was a match. The transplant is scheduled for July 15th. Prayers and positive thoughts most appreciated.

Jim Shettel experienced the loss of two Aunts who both died in May. Our thoughts are with you, Jim.



*Julien & Sebastian Polidano*

Alison, Anthony and Julien Polidano welcomed the not-so-little bundle of joy, Sebastian Harper Polidano on May 19<sup>th</sup>, weighing in at ten pounds, ten ounces. Congratulations on your newest addition!

Pauline Mengebier's aunt died at the age of one hundred and four in Vancouver, British Columbia. Her aunt and her mother were very close through the ninety years of her mother's life. This loss is making the grief over her mother's death, seem renewed.

## Youth Work Day... Thank You!

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The Youth Work Day on Sunday May 22 was a great success. Nine GUUSH youth (that's Great Unitarian Universalist Senior High-ers), along with a few adults moved four yards of wood chips into the Memorial Glen covering both circles and part of the path. They also cleared overgrowth on the path entering the glen. This was in preparation for the Memorial Day service on May 29.

As a bonus wood chips were spread along one hundred feet of the path through the wettest part of the Capek woods. Seven UFO Youth (Unitarian Friendship Organization) current 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>

and future 5<sup>th</sup> grade members and a few adults cleared first and second year growth of the invasive Garlic Mustard which threatens our Capek Woods. They cleared out several major patches, so next year's growth should be very minimal! When you see one of our youth, thank them for their help and commitment to maintaining our church and its beautiful environment!



*2011 Memorial Glen Service*

# Reflections

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Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt



Trappist monk and author Thomas Merton once speculated that the most common prayer request was for more time: “Lord, give me time.” The sense that somehow we never have quite enough time—in a day, in a week, in a year, in a stage of life, in a lifetime—seems to be always with us, shadowing our experience, driving us to ever more elaborate schemes and subterfuges that can persuade us we have, miraculously, managed to come up with more time.

Our culture offers us a couple of options for more time if we can learn to multitask, and if we can distinguish different characteristics in time, with some time being superior to other time by virtue of being termed “quality time.” If I am able to multitask, I have neatly solved the issue of time shortage by learning to attend to multiple activities at once, much like the circus performer who can juggle with one hand, twirl a baton with the other,

all the while standing on one foot and playing a tune on a kazoo. Of course the sacrifice in multitasking is that of depth. When I am doing multiple things at the same time, just how fancy is my baton twirling, how engaging is my kazoo tune? By contrast, the notion of “quality time” suggests that how one experiences time, the depth of presence and attention one brings to it, can compensate for its brevity. I may not give you more than a minute of my time, but you will have all of me for that minute, and so a minute should be all you need under those circumstances.

Both multitasking and giving quality time are finally rationalizations—clever, even useful, but still rationalizations—for my unwillingness to simply set aside more minutes for some person or project. Rather than make sacrifices or establish priorities, I instead try to convince myself that I can do it all and have it all. Multitasking and quality time are tools that assist in the persuasion; they support my avoidance of sacrifice, of hard choices about to what and to whom I will commit myself.

At some point—on my deathbed, if not sooner—the reality of limited time will catch up with me and make it impossible for me to dodge any longer the question of how I spend my time. My priorities, my purpose will be thrown into sharp relief by the easiest, most readily available, and most assiduously denied measure: within the limits of the time I have, how do I allot that time? To whom, to what, do I give my most precious commodity?

Faithfully,

Kathy

## Religious Education

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### Habitat for Humanity Lunch

For the fifth year in a row, Children’s RE is teaming up with University Presbyterian of Rochester Hills to provide a “nachos bar” lunch meal to the Habitat for Humanity workers on June 13th. Our church will be providing the hot main dish (meat, beans and rice.) and they will be providing the cold fixings, drinks and desserts. I’ll be sending out an e-mail explaining how your family can contribute (raw ingredients) as well as an explanation of a few hands-on volunteer opportunities available. This service project reinforces for our children the lessons taught in the Fair Start rotation, where they learned about the ways our church works to make a difference in the lives of local children. To help with this endeavor or if you have any questions, please contact me at [leanor.mcguire@bucmi.org](mailto:leanor.mcguire@bucmi.org). Thanks!

## Summer RE Sundays: at BUC Great Books & Great Fun

Beginning June 19th, Children’s RE will go to its summer schedule, offering multi-age programming during BUC’s single 10:30 am summer worship services. There will be Nursery for the littlest ones, a Preschool class and a Kindergarten through Fifth grade class, meeting each Sunday through Labor Day. Our summer theme is always Great Books & Great Fun, involving creative activities, games and wonderful stories. BUC’s youth (6th grade--High School) are welcome to join us or go into the Sanctuary for worship. The Summer RE activity schedule might be subject to change due to weather – please contact us if there is a particular activity that you don’t want to miss! Also, occasional Youth Group programming will occur during the summer – stay tuned to your email for notices of events with UFO, ROPE or GUUSH.

### R.E. Activities ~ Summer 2011

	Preschool	1 <sup>st</sup> thru 5 <sup>th</sup>
June 19	Father’s Day	Father’s Day
June 26	Tie-Dye butterflies	Tie-Dye Art/
July 3	Fourth of July / fireworks	Fourth of July / flags
July 10	Robin’s Nest	Kaleidoscopes
July 17	Outside games and bubbles (weather permitting)	
July 24	Multi-Generational Service - Kites	
July 31	Apples & Cheese/T-Pick Con	Ice Cream
Aug 7	Pocket Fairy	Recycled Paper
Aug 14	Outside games and bubbles (weather permitting)	
Aug 21	Blow-out Frogs	Stained Glass Cookies
Aug 28	Bear-in-a-cup	Egg Drop
Sept 4	Multi-Generational Service	

Thank you to the BUC community and friends for your support of all of our Youth Groups. Your participation in the years’ fundraisers allowed:

✓GUUSH (Great Unitarian Universalist Senior High – 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades) to support scholarships for their members to attend district Conferences, subsidize their advisors’ costs to participate with the group’s activities, support an auction item for BUC, and pay for an end-of-year Cedar Point trip

✓UFO (Unitarian Friendship Organization – 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades) to offset their upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade year costs, and helps with beginning and end-of-year celebrations; and

✓ROPE (Rite of Passage Experience – 8<sup>th</sup> grade) to get themselves and their advisors to and from Boston, including all meals, travel and admission fees.

Youth Calendar: ROPE Sunday (8<sup>th</sup> grade Rite of Passage Experience matriculation) June 5 9:30 & 11:15  
 Bridging Sunday (to honor Graduating HS Seniors) June 12 9:30 & 11:15

- June 12: Moment of recognition for “graduating” 5<sup>th</sup> graders during service followed by celebration with current 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade UFOers after church; potluck picnic; location tbd
- ROPE-GUUSH Picnic: Sunday June 5, 1:15-4:30p, Beverly Park
- GUUSH end of year Cedar Point trip June 22 7a – 10p

If you have any questions about the Youth Religious Education program at BUC, or would like to introduce a friend to the program, please contact Laura Worley, Director of Religious Education for Youth at [laura.worleyross@bucmi.org](mailto:laura.worleyross@bucmi.org).

# BUC Volunteer of the Month ~ Marcia Mahood

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My maternal grandparents joined the Unitarian church in the province of Quebec during the 1930's, leaving behind the orthodoxy of their Church of England upbringing. My parents joined the Kingston Unitarian Fellowship when it formed in 1959, and I attended RE classes there. Members of my wider family are active in UU congregations in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Kingston, Ontario and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Our UU heritage is an important part of our family, and involvement in the congregations is a family value. My husband, Neb Duric and I were married in Kingston by a UU minister, Rev. Max Coots in 1984.



We moved to Michigan in 2004 from New Mexico. It was an election year, and when our children reported that only Republicans rode the school bus, we packed them up the next Sunday, and headed to BUC, seeking among other things, liberals. The first people we met at BUC were Alan and Aletha Craig. I consider myself part of a secret society at BUC – The “Alan and Aletha Craig Were the First People We Met at BUC,” club. They are truly BUC’s unsung welcome

ambassadors. I’ve been attending the Wednesday Small Group Fellowship ever since, and have treasured the relationships and connections that have grown into dear friends. My small group introduced me to Rummage, and I’ve also been active in the Memorial Services committee, teaching an RE preschool class, and volunteering at WHRC. Each year, our sons, Alex and Michael play in the “No-Fault Orchestra.” Last year, at the urging of my SGF, I ran for the Leadership Development Committee. I served in 2010 helping with the January leadership seminars, and realized how many people I still didn’t know at our church.



*Marcia's Wednesday SGF 2005*

Walter Dean’s stewardship Sunday speech hit home with me last fall. He recounted that it wasn’t until he consciously decided to get involved and more deeply commit to our institution that he personally received the full benefit of this community. I then answered the call and volunteered to chair the upcoming spring Auction. “It’s easy, all you have to do is run the meetings,” I was told. In retrospect, it was perhaps, a little more than that.

The auction committee had its first meeting on January 16. There were perhaps six people at the meeting, and I went home with furrowed brow. Teresa Honnold kept pushing the point we needed to involve newer people, and to bring them into the fold. Lisa Crawford had a host of names and their associated talents. I picked up the phone, and started calling people. Fresh from voting on our settled minister, there was a new energy at BUC. ( I kept telling my group, “We are riding the Kathy wave. This is a great time of high hopes, and high enthusiasm.”) March 12 was looming ahead and somehow it all got done. I am honored to be named the June Volunteer, but I truly share this recognition with all the terrific members of the auction committee. They were a hard-working, ever so reliable, fun, dedicated, talented, Gotta-Get-It-Done Group. So I share this with Dick Cantley, Joanne Copeland, Barb Eschner, Mary Jo Ebert, Mary Gowel-Ensroth, Julia Gragg, Teresa Honnold, Don Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Jane MacFarlane, Kat McMullen, Gail Rouse, Sheila Seaver and Amy Smalley.



*Marcia and Jane ~ Bake-Off 2011*

So, why do I volunteer? I believe if you are going to do something, you should always try to do your best. I also think that I have a responsibility to reach out to newer members. I was once a new member, and Aletha Craig reached out to me. From the auction, I learned there are a lot of people willing and wanting to help, wanting to find their place in community at BUC. All it takes is a phone call, or a conversation at Sunday coffee. There are new friends out there that you haven’t met yet. I know my life is richer for the friends I’ve made at BUC, and the deeper community it has added to my life. For that I am grateful.

# Music @ BUC ~ Youth Chorus Farewell

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Last fall, the board decided to cut three part time music directors and combine them into one position. I did not apply for this all-in-one position. The hiring process was long and arduous, but is finished. Starting in September, I leave you in the capable hands of Abha and Steven Dearing.

I thank you for sixteen wonderful years.

For the past sixteen years, I have been blessed to direct the Youth Chorus at the Birmingham Unitarian Church. Many of your children and all three of mine have been part of this musical group.

For sixteen years we've worked hard, played hard, and sang in two-part harmony. We started with six members and grew to thirty-eight. Rehearsing in between services (thank you parents), allowed first and second service children to meet and grow into one community.

Sixteen years of shared music, reaching out, and trusting one another. We've sung at retirement homes, Vespers and Vittles, the service for the National Day of Peace, and contributed music up to ten services per year. Some of you auditioned, rehearsed, and performed with the Children's Honor Choir at General Assembly. Others helped them out by singing Mother's Day telegrams to pay part of their way.

Years of sharing joy through music. I have loved watching you grow and help one another. I've loved watching you make new friendships and become more confident with each passing rehearsal. I've loved beating you on water slides, almost drowning in the wave pool, and gliding down the lazy river. Most of all, I've loved listening to you sing to my deaf grandmother sitting in the back row for sixteen sweet years.

Peace and Hope, Pamela McAlpin

## BUC Campus Landscape Project

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Much of the exterior landscape at BUC is tired and in poor condition. A landscape plan for the entire BUC Campus that considers the purpose and use of each and every area as well as coordinates them into a cohesive design is needed. These areas include but are not limited to: Woodward Avenue entry and monument sign; Capek Woods; Memorial Glen; Lone Pine entry and monument sign; main church entries; and the Marshall Courtyard.

Four local landscape architectural firms were asked for proposals to develop this plan and coordinate its completion. Those firms invited to provide proposals specialize in landscape design and in particular landscape for churches and municipal parks. Several church members have agreed to donate money to help cover the cost of the landscape architect. At this time, \$7,000 has been donated. Cost estimate is around \$10,000. Should you wish to donate money to help cover the cost of the landscape architect, see Nancy Duffy.

A walk through with the landscape architects happened on May 26. Each architect firm will prepare a proposal for services along with their general plan and ideas for the campus. The proposals will be presented to the Facilities committee on Saturday, June 11 in the Social Hall at 10, 11 and 2 o'clock. BUC members are invited to attend the proposal presentations.

Once a landscape architect is chosen, the plan is developed, and price estimates are obtained, the landscape plan along with cost will be presented to the BUC membership for comment and support. It will be a big project but an exciting one. The ultimate goal is to provide a facility that makes people say WOW" while adhering to UU principles. With your help, the Facilities committee is confident this goal will be met. We hope to have a plan in place and ready to implement the summer of 2012.

# The Facility @ BUC: building update

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April showers brought May showers (yes, and May flowers). The past month it has rained, and rained and rained some more. While the plentiful rain has brought beautiful May flowers, it seriously delayed the repairing of the parking lot pot holes and Marshall Courtyard concrete. The projects Facilities is working on include:

MARSHALL COURTYARD: Demolition and work by WK Construction began in April but due to rain and low temperatures has not progressed much. Work stopped during Rummage the week of May 1 through 8. Since Rummage, rain and cold temperatures during the week and weddings three weekends in May have delayed the work.(Total cost \$19,400) Work resumed after Memorial Day.

DUMPSTER PAD: A new dumpster pad will be poured next to the current pad when the Marshall Courtyard concrete replacement occurs. Originally intended to support a recycle dumpster, the Green Committee has developed a plan that will recycle more types of materials and bring in a small amount of revenue so the recycle dumpster will not be necessary. While it is not needed for a recycle dumpster, the concrete pad can be used for other purposes including a future single stream recycle dumpster.(Total cost \$1,600)

HANGING SYSTEM FOR ART GALLERY: The art gallery is an area enjoyed by both BUC members and visitors. At this time, the artwork is hung on the walls using nails. In a short time, the walls look a mess since the art varies in size. Choice of a hanging system for the gallery is in progress, will be purchased and then installed. The Facilities Committee will coordinate the hanging system installation; the Art Committee who has funds available will cover the cost of this project.

RESTROOM FLOORS AND DÉCOR: Plans are in progress for renovations to the restrooms. New ceramic floor tile has been purchased for the entry restroom and the Pavilion restroom. (Floor tile \$600 plus installation) Other changes planned include new mirrors, lighting and where needed, new toilets and sinks.

BUC CAMPUS - EXTERIOR LANDSCAPE PLAN: Per the separate article in this month's newsletter, this project is in the early stages but is expected to occur.

PARKING LOT: The BUC parking lot is in poor condition. This year the cost to fill in the potholes is \$2,220. As with the Marshall Courtyard project, completion of this work was delayed due to cold temperatures and rain. The parking lot needs to be replaced. Estimates for this work will be obtained and the cost presented to the congregation along with the BUC campus landscape ideas and plans. Replacing the parking lot will be an expensive project and is tentatively planned for 2012.

## OTHER PROJECTS IDENTIFIED:

Other projects we have identified a need for and hope to tackle in the near future include: Security – system for locking the church; Traffic flow in parking lot - directional signage; Repair to main entry skylight glass – leaks around windows and into church; and nterior Design Standard Guidelines – standardize colors, style, etc for furnishings, wall colors, artwork, etc. for the church interior. While our list is getting shorter as projects are completed, it also grows with new projects and ideas.

Jim Dean continues to work on maintenance tasks at BUC, chipping away at them one by one. Should you know of something at BUC in need of repair, please notify Rev. Hurt either via e-mail or by calling the office, extension 12.

As always, with your help, the Facilities Committee is dedicated to continuing its work to maintain BUC not only for today, but for future years.

Together with you in service for BUC. BUC Facilities Committee

## Around the BUC Auction Block: Motown Market lives on!

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**Pauline Mengebier** hosted a lovely French dinner at her home for eight auction winners. One guest reported “I would have enjoyed the evening just getting to meet such interesting people. To have the wonderful food on top of the great conversation made it an extra-special evening.” **Marissa Hancock** enjoyed a relaxing massage from Mary Lanphier. **Chuck Stavoe and Laurie Horiszny** introduced **Wendie Carter’s** daughter **Victoria** and friend to the underwater magic of the scuba experience. The 2 girls thoroughly enjoyed it.

**Steve Schneider** and **Penny Hackett-Evans** are very happily working together on the hammered dulcimer lessons. **Anne Calomeni’s** Italian meal was an amazingly delicious event, as was **Margot LeRoy’s** afternoon tea. **Kyle Sim’s** garden has substantially fewer weeds thanks to the busy hands of the **Wednesday Small Group Fellowship**. **Yvette Kaplan** has been parlez-vousing with several BUC’ers on Saturday mornings – tres bien, Yvette! On Thursday, April 21 the Monday evening Small Group Fellowship shared a wonderful Seder dinner with their Auction winners in the Commons.



Over 30 people attended The Professor and the Pianist on May 13. **Ed Sharples** and **Barbara Woolf** shared their talents in a wonderful presentation. With Barbara’s piano accompaniment, Ed sang a JRR Tolkien verse in Middle Earth – it was enchanting.

If you haven’t had a chance to get together with your BUC Auction donor, what are you waiting for? Don’t miss out on the fun. *Remember, that you have until the end of 2011 to receive your service and/or talent.* Questions about the service you purchased or donated? Email [marciamahood@gmail.com](mailto:marciamahood@gmail.com).

## Rummage Spring 2011

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This year, the BUC spring rummage sale grossed over \$15,000. The net profit, of course, will be less, as we must pay for extra custodial help, supplies, advertising, security, truck rental, babysitting, extra dumpsters, and our coordinator, but we did well. Although the Rummage Committee spends many hours analyzing the impact of numerous variables on Rummage success, we have to admit that one of the strongest determinants is one we cannot control-- the weather. This spring we were blessed with sunny-- or at least dry-- sale times and that made a difference.

When we look beyond the dollars and cents, however, this sale was as successful as we could ask. It was that semiannual Unitarian miracle-- the transformation of mountains of castoffs into a delightful shopping experience in just four and a half days. It was an opportunity to eat and socialize with other BUCers, some of whom we see only during Rummage! And for many both in- and outside of our church community, it was an opportunity to acquire high-quality used goods without breaking the budget. We also provided assistance to Afghan children, Most Holy Trinity’s homeless outreach program, Whitmer Human Resource Center, the Oakland County Jail library, and the Salvation Army. We expanded our Rummage recycling scheme and also expanded our recycling mindfulness, putting fewer reusable goods in the trash than ever before. (I know-- I checked.) Thanks to a fortuitously-timed electronics recycling drive, we were even able to put unusable electronics to work for the Beaumont Hospital’s First Words Society.





The Rummage Committee likes to keep a low profile, but I cannot omit this opportunity to thank them:

Laura Lee (Rummage Co-Chair, Silent Auction coordinator, and T-shirt sovereign), Walli Andersen (committee secretary, organizer and kitchen coordinator), Soren Andersen (internal publicity and bulk pickup coordinator and overall organizer), Margaret Marsh (supplies manager, setup and takedown coordinator), Debbie Stroup (outside publicity coordinator and recycling queen), Ann Throop (treasurer and layaway manager), Scott Cameron (electronics coordinator and organizer), Walter Dean (electronics, lighting, youth advisor, and much more), Pat Schwing (manager and sale staffing coordinator), Eleanor McGuire (child care coordinator), and our newest committee member, Hillary Bishop, champion of signs! We also owe many thanks to the assistance of church administrator Lisa Crawford, custodian Jason MacDonald, Jason's son Dakota, and the other BUC staff members. You are the best!

Although the rummage sales are organized by the Rummage Committee, they could not happen without the many donors, cooks, drivers, intake workers, layaway clerks, sorters, managers, salespeople, money counters, consolidators, and packer-uppers. We run the gamut from elementary to retirees, but every person's efforts are greatly valued. Thank you, all-- it was a pleasure to work with you. Mark your calendars now for September 24, 2011-- our next Rummage Sunday!

Kimery Campbell  
Rummage Coordinator

## BUC's Newest Members

	<p>Jennifer and Gary recently took a week long Leeward Islands sail trip! They had moved away from this area for Gary's work, upon moving back to the area, they found BUC and feel as if they've been UU's (without realizing it) for years.</p>		
<p>Jennifer &amp; Gary Rigby</p>	<p>February 27, 2011</p>	<p>Ron Lewis</p>	<p>May 1, 2011</p>
	<p>Beth is an Art Therapist who works in traumatic brain injury rehabilitation. She likes running, gardening and knitting. Steve is an Architect who will soon be transitioning to teaching high school social studies. They've been attending BUC with their three children since the fall of 2009.</p>		<p>Aisa and Eric both graduated from law school in may and are currently studying for the July bar exam. They were also married in May in a civil ceremony, with plans to have an intimate family celebration of the wedding in September at Cranbrook.</p>
<p>Beth &amp; Steve Lorey</p>	<p>March 27, 2011</p>	<p>Aisa Villarosa Berg &amp; Eric Berg</p>	<p>May 22, 2011</p>

Lauren Glover and Marcia Young also signed the book on May 22. Welcome all of you!

# Snapshots in May @ BUC

## Having Faith *a poem by Penny Hacket Evans*

There is a tiny opening  
where several trunks  
of the crab apple tree  
diverge. Just in that spot,  
less than one foot  
off the ground and within  
a couple of feet  
of the church's front door  
she tucked in a nest.  
There she sits, a fragile sentry.  
A robin in her tiny nest--  
in this most unlikely place --  
teaches us something about  
where trust is found.  
She stares unblinking  
as we come and go. Steadfast  
in her claim of belonging,  
she sits on three turquoise eggs,  
reminding us that we are the guests  
in this place. It is she that belongs  
and we who have built our nest  
in the midst of her place.  
We do walk tenderly by her.  
Each time we come and go,  
she remains like Buddha,  
like Jesus, like Mohammed,  
protecting what is sacred,  
staking her life on faith.



*Welcoming the Dearings*



*The Gragg Wedding*



*The Memorial Day Remembrance Service in the  
Glen. Sunday May 29, 2011*



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All Submissions for the Newsletter must be received by midnight on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for the following months newsletter to the editor [lisa.crawford@bucmi.org](mailto:lisa.crawford@bucmi.org)