



+ Sunday, October 25  
Guest speaker:  
Stephen Henderson

Stephen will speak on Detroit and personal responsibility. He is editorial page editor for the Detroit Free Press. His column appears on Sundays in the newspaper and at [FreepOpinion.com](http://FreepOpinion.com). A Detroit native, he is a graduate of University of Detroit High School and the University of Michigan. In 2014, Stephen won the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary for his columns on the financial crisis facing his hometown of Detroit. He recently joined the cast of WDET's daily talk program, Detroit Today. With WA Donna Larkin Mohr. Music provided by the Chalice Choir.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Principle: We affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

In this year when our physical home will undergo significant changes, it seems timely to review the foundations of our spiritual home. To that end, worship services this year will take up each of the seven principles that undergird our Unitarian Universalist path, to consider what meanings they have for us in daily life and how they shape us over time. October services begin this yearlong consideration with the first principle.

How do we live this out, where do we fail to live it out and why, what difference does it make to be part of a tradition which chooses this as its starting point? These are some of the questions we will raise in a month of single services.

October is a SINGLE SERVICE Month  
10:30 a.m.

4<sup>th</sup> The classic fairy tale describes a transformation when one person sees past ugly outer characteristics and celebrates a beautiful inner nature. At times inherent worth and dignity get obscured by clouds in our ability to see another. What interferes with our perceptions? How do we access an ability to see it inwardly and outwardly? Kathy and WA Peggy Woehrle review beauty and beast encounters as a template for transforming perception.

11<sup>th</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> principle does not include exceptions, but applies to every person. Are there persons for whom you find it difficult, perhaps impossible, to affirm as having inherent worth? Do some people seem beyond respect? Kathy and WA Paul Vachon probe the possibility that there may be limits to our 1<sup>st</sup> principle. Music provided by the Chalice Choir.

18<sup>th</sup> Because the first principle is oft-cited and much loved, it can be assumed to usher in harmony and what some have referred to as a "Kumbaya moment." The respect called for is far from easy and no guarantee of harmony. It often seems more a goal than achievement. Kathy and WA Lisa Demian reflect on the messiness that can follow when we try to live in respectful, mutually affirming relationships. Music provided by the Sound Messengers.

## October Sundays – Special Programming

In the month of October we have several special programs slated, made possible as we spend the month worshipping all together in single services at 10:30. The extra programs are as follows:

October 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 “Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys” –hosted by the Membership Committee, this gathering invites everyone to tell and hear what has shaped us spiritually. No registration needed. Join us in the small classroom to the left in the blue door room.

11:45 Town Hall – hosted by your Board of Trustees and the Campus Development Prioritization Committee, this gathering will include updates on our building plans and outline some possible financing options for the project.

October 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 “What Is Unitarian Universalism” – hosted by the Membership Committee, this gathering led by Rev. Kathy Hurt will include some history of our tradition and our church, with a look at the different spiritual perspectives that often find a home in Unitarian Universalism.

October 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 “Developing Relationships at BUC” – hosted by the Membership Committee, this gathering provides information about ways to get involved and what the church offers in the options for fellowship, serving, learning, and justice work.

11:45 “How It All Works” – hosted by your Board of Trustees, this gathering includes a presentation on policy governance, the system by which decisions are made at BUC, and discusses some proposed updates to our church constitution. The proposed updates will ultimately be subjected to a vote of the congregation.

October 25<sup>th</sup> 11:45 Bakeoff! The 36th annual BUC Bakeoff is a fundraiser for our youth groups but it's also a door opener for our church! Tickets are just \$5 for a delicious soup and salad luncheon following service. You'll have the opportunity to bid on goodies in both the silent and live auction, not to mention the pleasure of sharing a church event with fellow BUCers.

### Connections: Joys & Sorrows

“...joy and sorrow  
are inseparable... together  
they come and when one  
sits alone with you...  
remember the other is  
asleep upon your bed.”

-Khalil Gibran

A joy: “I was pleased to attend my son Matt’s wedding on August 29<sup>th</sup> to Angela Bardal from Brazil. It was the first marriage for both.” – Larry Freedman

“Larry Larson and I visited former member Ken Kauffman last Friday (Sept. 4) in a nursing home in Baldwin, Michigan. He has been in rehabilitation for 18 months as a result of a fall and spinal fracture. He is partially paralyzed but extremely alert, cheerful and optimistic.” – Larry Freedman

Jim Lewis is home recovering from prostate surgery. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

A sorrow: “I think most of you have heard that my Dad passed away on Saturday, (Sept. 19). We are having a memorial service celebrating his life on Sunday, October 4. I would appreciate your thoughts and prayers for my Mom and all those who were close to him as we mourn losing him.” – Craig Stroup

A joy: “Susan Darlington and Camille Harris had an enlightening, restorative month long trip in Turkey – feeling blessed.”

A joy: “The African Library Project – shipment of books arrived at Kwanyezi Primary School last Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>!”

A sorrow: Longtime BUCer Grace Kachaturoff is saddened to report the death of her sister, Evelyn, on September 26. A memorial service will be held at Henry Ford Village Chapel on Saturday, October 10, at 10:45, followed by lunch at the Dearborn Inn.

A sorrow: Former BUC member, Rennlyn Declaire died the morning of September 26. Rennlyn participated in the Sunday morning discussion group, and with her, “sharp wit, could be very funny, offering great intelligence and insight.”

## REFLECTIONS

Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt



Kabir, a 15th-century Sufi poet, wrote verses that highlight the difference between religious talk and religious walk, saying in part:

Go over and over your beads, paint weird designs on your forehead,  
wear your hair matted, long, and ostentatious,  
but when deep inside you there is a loaded gun,  
how can you have God?

In these disturbing times when news comes too often of yet another mass shooting, followed by predictable debates about whether better gun control laws might have prevented the shooting, Kabir's poem suggests that the debate is heading in the wrong direction, and that religious people in particular might redirect it. True enough that better gun control laws could make such shootings

a bit less frequent, since countries that have enacted such controls can attest to that change—but what is at work in us and among us that invites aggressive, often violent, responses to whatever happens to rub us the wrong way? What dynamic is operative in me, in you, that triggers harsh denunciations on social media websites when an offensive person or opinion shows up? Why is rudeness at unexpected delays a default response? Why can simply being tailgated or cut off in traffic elicit road rage?

Kabir claims that until one's inner loaded gun is identified and emptied of its ammunition, nothing of spiritual significance can happen. May it not require one more shooting, one more inconclusive negotiation over what sort of gun controls we do or do not need, for any one of us to deal with that inner loaded gun, so that an entire current of violence might begin to abate.

Faithfully,  
Kathy

## Creating Sacred Space; Inner and Outer Mondays 7:30 – 9 p.m.

We will be exploring the intentional creation of sacred space both within our lives and in the spaces where we live. We will write, create and explore altars, experiment with sound, color, etc. We will finish with a field trip to the DIA to see their exhibit of "Ofrenda" altars at the end of the month. The group will be facilitated by Penny Hackett-Evans and Hope Swann.

## Chalice Circles



Last chance to register to join one of the newly created Chalice Circles.

The circles are an opportunity for 8 – 12 people to be in a small group setting which meets every two weeks and where participants share their spiritual journeys and reflect together on important topics of life. Each group has two trained co-facilitators and follows a set curriculum. The groups begin in mid-October and will be closed to new members once they begin. Register during coffee hour or contact Penny Hackett-Evans [Evansph2@wowway.com](mailto:Evansph2@wowway.com) for more information.

## Mulch Spreading Party! November 1<sup>st</sup>

Join a crew of teens and BUC gardeners to help spread mulch in the Memorial Glen on Sunday, Nov. 1, after second service. **Lunch will be provided.** ☺ Bring a wheelbarrow, shovel and large tubs if you can. Rain date is November 8. For information contact Harper West at [harper\\_west@yahoo.com](mailto:harper_west@yahoo.com) or 248-464-1297.

# BUC Talent & Service Auction, October 16<sup>th</sup>

*Our biggest single fund-raiser of the year!*

## Excitement Builds for “Building Connections”

How about a wine, fondue and trivia party... Cuban or Lebanese dinner... family game night... neck and shoulder massage class, or maybe kayak lessons? That’s just a glimpse into the range of skills and socials that BUC folks are donating for others to bid on at our upcoming Auction. You’ll find many ways to connect and build friendships—both during the Auction party and throughout the year. And all proceeds help to fund BUC’s operating budget, so it’s a fun night that also works hard for our church!



With our “building” theme, we are adding *three new ways* to raise the roof on this event:



### Bidding gets better with ClickBid™

“ClickBid” is the new software we will use to manage donation information, display it online for folks to browse at leisure, and expedite the bidding process. It’s easy to use on a PC, tablet or smart phone, but only if you wish! Here’s how...

Bidding for the Silent Auction will open online about 10 days before the event. Those who prefer to view things on paper will have access to a hardcopy catalog. At the event, online bid activity will appear on paper bid sheets and bidding will continue from there until each table of items “closes”.

The Live Auction will be handled with its usual, well, liveliness. As the last bid is won, ClickBid will tally each bidder’s Silent/Live donation amounts and produce a receipt, speeding up the check-out process.



**Tickets on sale now!** “Building Connections” tickets are \$25 per adult, available on Sundays in the Social Hall or weekdays in the church office. Tickets at the door as space permits. **Note:** If you cannot attend the Auction, you can still bid online up until the day before the event; see [www.bucmi.org](http://www.bucmi.org) for more information.



### Parents: It’s Kids’ Night, too!

Feel free to bring your —we’ll give them a fun, supervised evening while you enjoy the Auction. Supper includes such favorites as Mac ‘n cheese.

Activities are age appropriate: a mix of building stuff, service projects, and socializing (a great opportunity for our older youth, especially). Movie time ends the night. Infants through high schoolers are welcome; free with parent’s Auction ticket!



### A mouth-watering menu plus great beverage choices

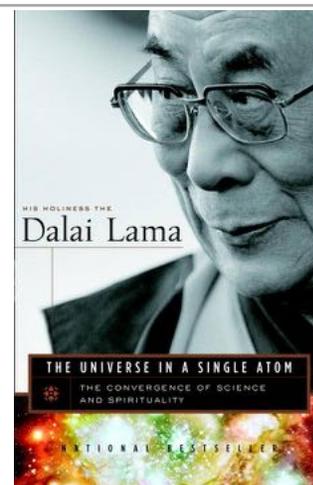
Some of the freshest, tastiest meals today are delivered by food truck. And we’ve got a “fleet of food truck foods”! Try them all—from BBQ to Mediterranean, Asian, and All-American. (Vegan and gluten friendly selections are available.) Step up to the dessert bar...help yourself to local brew-pub beer, wine and sparkling water. All that bidding builds a thirst!

**There’s still time for you to donate! Visit the BUC website home page for more Auction information,** including the Auction donation form and details on how to use ClickBid, at [www.bucmi.org](http://www.bucmi.org).  
Questions? Contact [marciamahood@gmail.com](mailto:marciamahood@gmail.com).

**Thanks and hope to see you at the Auction on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-9:30PM at BUC!**

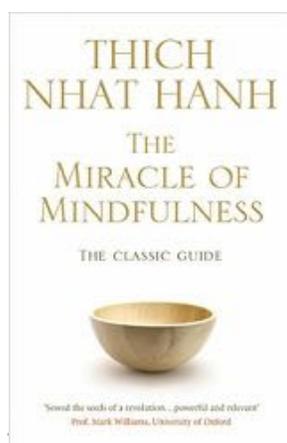
## The Sunday Morning Discussion Group Every Sunday in October 9 – 10:15 a.m.

The Sunday Morning Discussion Group will continue reviewing the book, "The Universe in a Single Atom" by the Dalai Lama. Chapter 2 will be on Oct. 4, Chapter 3 on Oct. 11, Chapter 4 on Oct. 18 and Chapter 5 on Oct. 25. Join us in the large conference room, (first room to the right of the main entrance). Everyone is welcome to join in learning about science and spirituality from a Buddhist point of view.



## Sign Up for Sharing Dinners Online

You need not have a large home or grand table to host a delightful event. Food can be served buffet-style and eaten on laps. But if you absolutely cannot host, you can help with the joint dinner held in February at the church. Sign up now by filling out the electronic form on our website (About Us>Fellowship Groups>Sharing Dinner SU), or by picking up a form from the church on Sundays and emailing it to Debbie Fordree at [debfordree@yahoo.com](mailto:debfordree@yahoo.com), fax 800.672.6260, snail mail see directory listing or dropping it off in the Sharing Dinners mail box in the church office. Questions: Contact Debbie at [debfordree@yahoo.com](mailto:debfordree@yahoo.com)



## Exploring Spirituality Sunday Mornings 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Join us in the small classroom on the left as you enter the blue door classroom (east of the center outdoor courtyard). We are reading and discussing Thich Nhat Han's book, *The Miracle of Mindfulness* and sharing about our experiences with meditation and what it means in our lives.

Oct. 4 we will discuss chapter, two "The Miracle is to Walk on Earth, Oct. 11: chapter three, Oct. 18: chapter four, Oct. 25: chapter five.

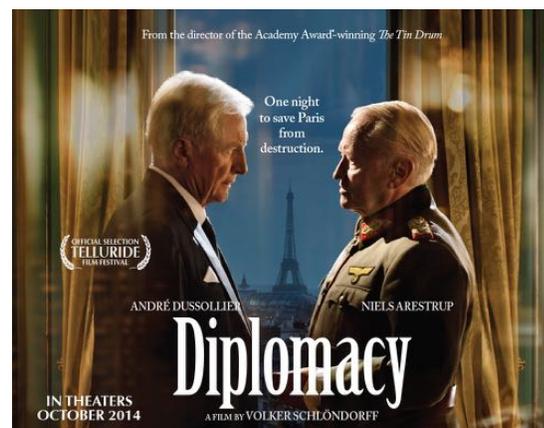
## Tuesday Grief Support Group, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Facilitated by Pat Kridler, join us in the large conference room (first room on the right inside main entrance) from 2 – 3:30 p.m. Meeting time has been moved to the first Tuesday of the month, and a new earlier afternoon time. This group is open to all, but wishes to extend an extra warm invitation to those newly grieving.

## Film Buffs, October 30<sup>th</sup> *Diplomacy*

7:00 PM in the Commons. *Diplomacy* (France, 2014, NR, 85 min.) In French and German with English subtitles. "Filled with twists and turns that show how history sometimes lies in the hands of a select few." –The Hollywood Reporter

Join us in the Commons, snacks provided. For more information contact Larry at 248-569-0965 or [LJWisniew@yahoo.com](mailto:LJWisniew@yahoo.com).





## October 17<sup>th</sup> Christine Lavin & Don White



+ \$15 Admission \$13 Seniors/Students. Shows begin at 8:00pm unless otherwise specified. Doors open at 7:00pm with open mic beginning 15 to 30 minutes later.

## Music at BUC

There's lots of fun, interesting music going on at BUC these days. Special thanks to our guest musicians Brian Schandavel and Jennie Spenner for providing lovely accompaniment on drums and flute respectively in September. We are blessed and grateful to have your talents at the ready. BUC Chalice Choir continues to grow in spirit and numbers. There is always room for more, even if you have no choir experience. We always rehearse on Wednesdays 7:30-9pm so come sing and talk and snack with us afterwards. FREE Childcare is provided. [abha.dearing@bucmi.org](mailto:abha.dearing@bucmi.org)

This month, the BUC Chalice Choir will sing for October 11th and 25th at the 10:30am services. The Sound Messengers will present music on October 18 (always the 3rd Sunday of the Month).

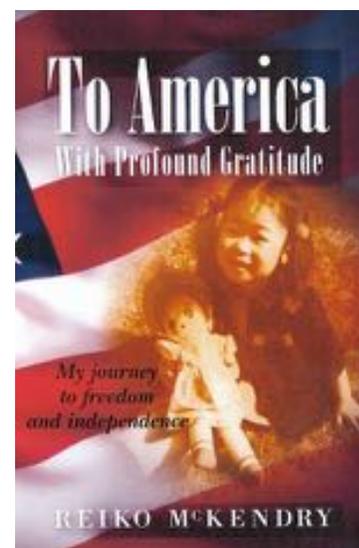
Interested in joining the music committee? We are looking for one more "at-large" member who cares deeply about the music at BUC. Please contact Steven at [steven.dearing@bucmi.org](mailto:steven.dearing@bucmi.org)

## BUC Alliance: Wednesday, October 21

Alliance welcomes everyone to its new program year starting in October. Our first meeting is Wednesday, October 21 at noon in the Pavilion with a board catered lunch. The cost is \$10, payable at the door. Lunch will be followed by a program in the Commons on the U.S. - Japanese relationship after WW II by Reiko McKendry, a Japanese woman who migrated to the United States. She has written a book *To America with Profound Gratitude: My Journey into Freedom and Independence*. This is the 70th anniversary of the end of WW II, after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Looking ahead. Programs in 2015 include Wednesday, November 18, with a Detroit Historical Society program on Boom Town: Detroit in the Roaring '20's. Our traditional holiday luncheon at the Kingsley Inn will be held on Wednesday, December 9.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us. Everyone is welcome, hope to see you on the 21<sup>st</sup>!



## Opera Buffs - Three Operas in October!

**Sat., Oct. 3 12:55 pm** - *Il Trovatore*: Soprano Anna Netrebko's dramatic and vocal skills are on full display in her next new role at the Met—Leonora, the Verdi heroine who sacrifices her own life for the love of the gypsy troubadour.

**Sat., Oct. 17, 12:55 pm** - *Otello*: Inspired by Shakespeare's play, Verdi's masterful opera matches it in tragic intensity. Aleksandrs Antonenko plays the doomed Otello; new soprano star Sonya Yoncheva sings Desdemona,



**Sat., Oct. 31, 12:00 pm** - *Tannhauser*: James Levine conducts Wagner's early masterpiece in its first return to the Met stage in more than a decade. Today's leading Wagnerian tenor, Johan Botha, takes on the daunting title role.

BUC opera goers meet at the AMC Forum 30 theater in Sterling Heights for the live in HD Saturday matinee transmissions directly from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera in NYC. Many of us go for a bite to eat after the opera for discussion and fellowship. Tickets are \$24. (\$22 seniors). Contact Larry Freedman -lawrenceman@sbcglobal.net 248-370-8227 for more information.

## Volunteer of the Month of October: Lynn Bell

"I am a bit overwhelmed to be considered for the Volunteer of the Month honor, and I give my thanks to those who thought of me.

When we joined BUC in 1988, I was somewhat perplexed with what felt vague to me about "free and responsible search for truth and meaning", but somehow in my core, I also felt this denomination and church would be good for me!

Serving on the RE Committee in various capacities during the 80's, I hoped to support the program within which our children and the congregation's children would grow spiritually. Serving on the Board as secretary in the 90's, I answered a call to participate in decisions and document the life of this congregation. Rummage means recycling what we're done using in our home to others and generating funds for social justice action. SOS is such a perfect opportunity every year to interact in a spirit of respect for the worth and dignity of us all. Being a Pastoral Care Associate for a number of years, I believe deeply that a core and essential expression of our congregation together is the care, affection and support we give each other when joy and sorrow touches our lives. Knitting Ministry lap afghans supports that warmth and connection. My Small Group Fellowship, celebrating 15 years together this year, has meant wondrous growth for me and respect, trust, wisdom, care, service and fun among our circle of women. When I am a guest in OWL, I act on my belief that knowledge enables young people to make choices, which promote their happiness and emerging confidence. Sorting and circulating books to children in classrooms with the WHRC Book Trolley library programs brings them the wonder of books and reading.



So ... these are some of the activities I've done and do at BUC. Reflecting on the fabric they weave together after all these years, perhaps this has become my "free and responsible search for truth and meaning" and my confidence in my life, church community and the wider world." - Lynn Bell

## Service & Justice October 2015

### Bananagrams After-School Program



Word has spread at WHRC Elementary School about the Bananagrams program that we piloted last spring and forty students have signed up so far. With the growing popularity of this program, we need a few more volunteers on Thursdays at 3:45-5:15. Contact [MaryJoEbert@gmail.com](mailto:MaryJoEbert@gmail.com); phone # in directory.

### When a Worker Gets Sick...

There is no Michigan law requiring private or public employers to provide sick leave, paid or unpaid. Many employers grant it as an employee benefit, but 1.5 million MI workers do not receive this benefit. Besides allowing employees to get well without losing pay or their jobs, companies benefit by avoiding the spread of sickness among workers and customers or having employees preoccupied if they can't take care of a sick family member. A grass roots effort known as "MI Time To Care" is proposing legislation requiring that workers earn one hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked, up to nine days. For companies with fewer than 10 employees, a combination of paid and unpaid sick time would be earned. BUC is a member of MUUSJN (MI UU Social Justice Network), which is collecting signatures to initiate legislation to enact the Earned Sick Time Act. You can support this proposal by (1) signing the petition in the social hall after Sunday services, (2) helping collect signatures, (3) talk about this with friends and family and encourage them to support it. Contact [MaryJoEbert@gmail.com](mailto:MaryJoEbert@gmail.com); phone number in directory.

## Escalating Inequality Study/Action

Last April we launched a study/action program on the subject of escalating economic inequality. This is a worthy topic for small group fellowship, book clubs, and individuals. Watch for news about a speaker series to be announced soon. Want to learn more about the subject and how to recognize actions you can take to address the economic gap (support of earned sick leave is one of them)? Contact Pat Hammer, Marti Szilagyi, or Mary Jo Ebert.

### WHRC Book Trolley



Due to budget constraints, the WHRC Elementary School in Pontiac does not have a librarian. To fill the gap, BUCers and other volunteers staff a mobile library using trolleys. Reading is essential to the development of young minds, and the volunteers find it rewarding to make books available to eager readers. Volunteers are needed for book trolleys on Thursday mornings. Contact [AlisonRule@gmail.com](mailto:AlisonRule@gmail.com); phone number in directory.

### Social Justice Update

Social justice work kept advocates busy throughout the summer, including BUC's hosting of the Detroit to Flint water justice walkers on July 4 and participation in the walk and rallies calling for clean, affordable water for all people in our region. A focal topic this fall will be a proposal to allow workers to earn one hour of sick leave for every 30 hours worked. BUC and other UU churches across the state are members of the Michigan UU Social Justice Network (MUUSJN), which will coordinate a petition drive for this sick leave proposal. Watch for more information about this.

## Plate Collection – Baldwin Center Coats & Boots

A portion of October's plate collection will go to the Baldwin Center's Coats and Boots Program. The cold days are approaching when the students served in their afterschool program will need warm coats and boots. About 80% of Pontiac students meet the poverty guidelines for free breakfast and lunch. It is not difficult to imagine what a burden buying coats and boots for children who outgrow them so quickly places on a family's limited budget. BUC has partnered with the Baldwin Center for a number of their programs and we hope to strengthen that relationship.

The Plate Collection committee is accepting applications for future recipients. Submit an application at [www.bucmi.org](http://www.bucmi.org). Click the "Service & Justice" tab, then "Plate Collection Application."

### Open Invitation – Service & Justice Committee

Do you have an interest in community service and/or social justice and would like to serve on our committee? There are many interesting things to work on and a variety of skills are needed, including volunteer coordination, facilitation, communication, publicity, project planning, and others. This is rewarding work and also a chance to meet other great BUCers and people in the wider community. Contact Mary Jo Ebert to get started.

BUC Service & Justice Chair: Mary Jo Ebert

MUUSJN (Mich. UU Social Justice Network): [www.ujustice.org](http://www.ujustice.org)

UU Service Committee (UUSC): [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)



## Campus Developments: Town Hall October 4<sup>th</sup>

September brought great progress in allowing BUC to pinpoint the total number, extent, and schedule of individual construction projects which will comprise our building transformation.

The Campus Development & Prioritization Committee (CDPC) met with architect inFORM studio and construction manager McCarthy & Smith to review their updated cost estimates and value-engineering alternatives, including HVAC options, along with current floor plans. The CDPC made decisions on a number of items, the net result of which will keep construction in the ballpark of our total project budget of \$1.9M.

There are still some details that the BUC architect advisor group will resolve, but the CDPC will be able to present final decisions about the project to the Board in October. inFORM will prepare construction drawings, timed so that McCarthy & Smith can put the project out for bid in November and award contracts in December. This will give us hard numbers on most of the project components, which will indicate our firm budget to select interior finishes and furnishings.

The decision to close the Preschool in January at the end of the semester creates new opportunities for use of that space. CDPC members Pam Graham, Sharon Kirchner, and Jim Shettle will be looping back with RE and Music program leaders regarding space utilization.

We are continuing to track to our schedule for construction prep and demolition to begin at the end of April 2016 with project completion by the end of October. Special thanks go to Walli Anderson and the Rummage Committee for agreeing to move the Spring sale to mid-April, so the BUC budget will have the benefit of two Rummage sales again in 2016.

The next Town Hall meeting is scheduled for after the single service on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. This session will cover "Campus Development & More" with such topics as membership trends, pledge income history, mortgage affordability, and financing.

Child care will be provided, and slides and video will be posted for those who cannot attend. If you have a question you'd like to see covered, please contact [dick\\_cantley@yahoo.com](mailto:dick_cantley@yahoo.com). Hope to see you there!

## Religious Education

### Children's Rotation Curriculum

This year's first rotation, Change Over Time, explores how our religion helps us in seeking "truth." It examines four different sources that influence our decisions, each of which will be the focus of a workshop:

1) Personal Experience: The Art workshop reveals how our church helps us move through life's passages, by offering through its fellowship, the sustaining power of dialogue, memories and companionship.

2) Familiar Authority: The History workshop uses timelines to emphasize that change can sometimes allow us to expand our choices without forsaking our past.

3) Scientific Evidence: The Science workshop examines how vast amounts of fossil evidence reveals that we humans, even with our own complicated evolutionary history, are only a tiny part of the Earth's story.

4) Traditional Authority: The Storytelling workshop explores what it means to "engage in a responsible search for truth & meaning." We will explore how important traditional ideas change over time (for example, the ancient belief - disputed by the Greeks - that the Earth was flat).

### Bake-Off Come Bid & Buy for RE With a Yummy Soup & Salad Lunch Sunday October 25 Following the Service

All Youth: Bakeoff ALREADY? Wowza ☺

In the spirit of innovation, we have decided to try having our annual all-church luncheon and youth bake sale fundraiser during the month of October to take advantage of the single services. Families, we need you!!

- Each of the three groups has its own responsibilities for food and volunteering, but this year we have merged the three so please go to SignUp Genius for details and to sign up. A single link includes both responsibilities, so please sign up in at least two spots! coming soon
- Questions? Because it is so early in the church year, we have not yet designated leaders for the various levels. But any questions addressed to DREs Kimery Campbell and Eleanor McGuire or to RE Assistant Beth Lorey will be forwarded to the right organizer! We would LOVE to have a strong adult presence, so if you can pitch in during the event or in advance, please let us know. We are looking for parent champions as well as volunteer commitments from everyone, adult and youth. Please let Kimery know if you are available to help plan. She is also looking for nominations for Celebrity Chefs!



### Youth Religious Education

6th and 7th grade Neighboring Faiths class will spend October studying the Unitarian Universalism and the roots of religion. Thank you to our fall teachers: Bruce Webber, Debbie Fordree, and Steve Lorey.

The Unitarian Friendship Organization (UFO) is our 6th and 7th grade youth group. Two upcoming service events are Cookie baking for our South Oakland Shelter guests in November (parent coordinator needed) and the All-Youth Bakeoff on Oct. 25 (parent coordinator needed. Please make sure that Youth DRE Kimery Campbell has your contact information so that she can notify you of the date and time of all events!

All 6th-8th grade youth who are planning to attend the annual UU Middle School Retreat at Mystic Lake YMCA camp near Clare, Michigan, Oct. 9-11, 2015 should get their paperwork in to DRE Kimery Campbell as soon as possible. (Hint: it was due Sept. 30.) Parent drivers need to register, too.

This year's 8th grade Coming of Age program is off and running! Thank you to our dedicated teachers, Dave Graham, Vickie Muir, Alison Rule, and sub Terry Blankenship for all of the time they have put in to make this program a success. Although the second part of this program does not begin until January, the ROPE parents have already begun their fundraising efforts for the annual UU Heritage Boston trip. Please support their efforts by planning to purchase your holiday poinsettias here at BUC and attend the annual Bakeoff on Oct. 25.

The Sunday morning class will begin October's Faith and Science topics. Our UU Principles draw from many sources, including "humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science". Given that road map, how does an individual actually sift through the widely differing moral opinions surrounding most modern day scientific issues? Four questions are explored: What human needs may have lead to the birth of religion? Archaeologists are re-examining theories of the role of religion in humankind's early history, based on the discovery of Gobekli Tepe, a temple more than 6,000 years older than Stonehenge.

Check the high school calendar or the RE Calendar on the BUC website for dates of the many upcoming high school events! GUUSH is breaking the mold this year with a new philosophy: less business, more fun! Coming up: The youth will pitch in at Rummage Consolidation on Oct. 2, followed by a sleepover (parent chaperones needed). Interest is high for CONtagious, the annual high school fun conference scheduled for Oct. 23-25 at Unitarian Universalist of Indianapolis, and a Chaplaincy training con in Miami Valley (Dayton) Nov. 13-15. Register as soon as possible for Contagious at CONtagious Registration -space is limited! Please note: We MUST have adult drivers!

All Youth: YESSS!

We are trying something new this fall: all-youth fun and service events. On October 18, we will meet in Blue Door after service to make beautiful post cards with BUC artist Janette Andrews. There will be game options and our favorite fleece blanket project options, too. Kimery will provide some snacks; if you need more than that, please bring your own lunch. Also, please bring the address of your designated post card recipient.

Questions about Youth RE can be addressed to Kimery Campbell at [kimery.campbell@bucmi.org](mailto:kimery.campbell@bucmi.org)

## South Oakland Shelter at BUC November 8-15, 2015



"Poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings." ~ Nelson Mandela

Comments from guests BUC hosted in 2014: "Thank You for all you have done. We truly felt at home." "BUC-the all time greats in every category. You rock!" "May Father God bless all of you. I am so grateful to have you on this portion of my journey."

The mission of the Birmingham Unitarian Church is to create a free and welcoming religious community that encourages lives of integrity, service, learning, and joy. We put our "Mission Service" into action with SOS. Hosts commit to providing a warm and safe place to sleep, three meals a day, drivers, and lots of love. During the day, guests are required to leave the host site. Some go to jobs,

look for work or housing, go to school, or simply walk the streets. SOS provides assistance. Michigan has 10,000 (E) homeless. SOS served 500 (E) last year. BUC serves 30 men, women and children. Will you help us host the guests who fill these beds this year?

Please join us to do your part. Sign up in the Social Hall after October 18 and 25, and November 1 services, or contact me, Paul Plante, Coordinator [pplante@twmi.rr.com](mailto:pplante@twmi.rr.com); 734-464-1577

Birmingham Unitarian Church  
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## Explorations School for Young Learners

Explorations Preschool has started their Fall 2015 Session. We have eight returning students and four students new to our program. The children are busy examining the fall season by studying apples, the changing leaves and of course, pumpkins!



BUC member, Sharon Kirchner has joined our team as the Young Explorers Toddler teacher. She will be assisted by our beloved Ann Landen, (also a BUC member).

Questions? Contact Sally Barwin at: [Caresalkids@aol.com](mailto:Caresalkids@aol.com)

## Effortless Meditation



October sessions lead by Denise Everheart with the Association for Human Values. This group is for anyone interested in meditation. Whether you are a beginner, have hit a plateau, or are an experienced meditator looking to enhance your practice, Effortless Meditation has something for everyone. Primarily using the breath, we explore how to easily, effortlessly slip into meditation.

Wednesday, October 7: Exploring Sound & Meditation. This week you will learn about how the effect of sound on the mind can aid in effortless meditation. **7:00 in the Commons.**

Wednesday, October 14: Meditate & Mingle! Enjoy a free guided meditation followed by refreshments and conversation. **7:00 in the Green Door Room.**

Wednesday, October 28: Full Moon Meditation. This week you will experience a guided meditation especially created for the full moon. We will also use breath and sound as tools for effortless meditation. **7:00 in the Commons.**