



Birmingham Unitarian Church
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



June 2 – ROPE Sunday



June 9 – Multigenerational Service/
“Bridging”



June 16 – Powers of Ten

Sunday, June 9th
BUC Campus
Following Worship

**GOOD OLD-FASHIONED FUN
PICNIC**

Food, Games, Cake! Everyone Welcome!
Help Wish Happy Trails to
Eleanor, Kimery, Beth, and Penny



June 23 – Drummunity

The mission of Birmingham Unitarian Church is to create a free and welcoming religious community that encourages lives of integrity, learning, service, and joy.



All of who you are is sacred. All of who you are is welcome.



June 30 – Welcoming Congregation
Renewal Service: 50th Anniversary of
the Stonewall Riots

June Services

- 2 Rite of Passage Experience (ROPE) Sunday is the day of completion of our 8th graders' Coming of Age year. The ROPE youth will present their statements of faith (credos). Music by youth and adults, including the Teen Choir.
- 9 This multigenerational service will include 5th grade and high school bridging, flower communion, and interactive activities to celebrate our strength as a community, even as we grow and move into other aspects of life.
- 16 The classic 3-minute video, Powers of Ten takes us outward to the most distant reaches of the universe and then inward to the quantum world of subatomic particles. In this presentation by Neb Duric, we follow a similar but more existential journey in time, tracking our ever-expanding spiritual and physical worlds from the biblical view of our inner selves and the cosmos, some 2000 years ago, to today's struggle to reconcile our spiritual selves with an unimaginably large universe.
- 23 Join percussionist Lori Fithian for a special rhythmical service—we'll create our own "Drummunity"! She'll bring the drums, and YOU get to play them! In this fun inter-generational service, the whole family gets to drum, sing, and maybe even dance together, as we celebrate life and connect to each other and the heartbeat of our Mother Earth and all her precious beings. No experience necessary!
- 30 A service commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, an important day in LGBTQ+ history. Led by Welcoming Congregation Renewal Taskforce members Jesse Beal, Donna Larkin Mohr, Jane O'Neil, Brianna Zamborsky, and chosen congregants.

Humanists of BUC

Sunday, June 2 | 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m. | Lower Level Classroom

On June 2, Suzanne Paul, past president of the American Humanist Association and the Southeast Michigan Humanist Association, will speak on the status of Humanism and its future in Unitarian Universalism.

We will meet in the Lower Level Classroom beginning at 12:00 noon with a light lunch, followed by the program from 12:15 to 1:30. David Greer will also give a short talk on his meaning of Humanism.

Everyone is invited to our last meeting of the church year. We will begin our fifth year in September.

For more information on the Humanists of BUC, contact Larry Larson at lawrencejudy@yahoo.com.

Joys and Sorrows

From Dwane Adle: “A prayer request for Donna Adle. Her cancer has spread throughout her body and she has entered hospice care.”

Colleen Cavanaugh and Dan Kosuth celebrated their 29th wedding anniversary on May 5!

11-year-old Raina Dearing fractured her ankle sliding into second base at a softball tournament on May 11. Please send her healing vibes.

From Kelly Taylor: “Our kitten, Benji, passed away on May 11. He was a wonderful kitty. He will be missed.”

Longtime friend of BUC and environmental activist Ken Grundberg is in Cambridge North Healthcare Center in Clawson and has been receiving chemotherapy treatment after a stay at Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital.

From Larry Larson: “My loving Mom was born on May 28. Happy Mother’s Day!!”

Diane Licholat-Surati asks for prayers and light for her childhood friend, Judy. Judy’s husband, Geoff, suffered an emergency amputation of his leg after an army blast training accident. They are currently in rehab in Texas as they learn to navigate their new normal.

Sid Jaffe died in December 2018. He was very active at BUC in the early days, as was his wife Lorraine.

From the LDC: Election Results

The Leadership Development Committee would like to thank those members of the congregation whose names were on the ballot at this year’s Annual Election. We are grateful to everyone for their willingness to serve here at BUC. Next year’s Board will have the following Officers: Bruce Webber (President), Donna Larkin Mohr (Vice President), Claudia Kocher (Treasurer), and Mary Gawel-Ensroth (Secretary). The Trustees to the Board will be Debbie Fordree, Marilyn Kelly, Jay Labban, Diane Slon, and Craig Stroup.

Joining the Stewardship Committee are Walter Dean and Harper West.

Lastly, the following members were elected to next year’s Leadership Development Committee: Judy Amir, Kathy DuHame, Dan Isaksen, Izzy Khapoya, and Barbara Woolf.

Thanks to all who are willing to serve and bring their leadership to the congregation.

-Sarah Isaksen, Chair, Leadership Development Committee

Alliance Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Wednesday, June 5 | 12:00 noon | Hodas Hall



The Alliance annual meeting and catered luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 5 at 12:00 noon in Hodas Hall. We will have a brief meeting followed by lunch catered by Donna Hollis, the Inspired Chef.

Reservations are REQUIRED! You can mail a check for \$20 to BUC, send your check to Betty Blair at 2400 E. Lincoln, Apt. 312, Birmingham MI 48008, or sign up on Sunday morning after service in Hodas Hall.

Questions? Call Priscilla Hildum at 248-475-0729.

Issues and Ale

Friday, June 7 | 6:00 p.m. | Joe Kool's, Troy

The next meeting of the monthly Issues and Ale group is Friday, June 7 at 6:00 p.m. In an attempt to find a place more conducive to conversation, they are changing venues to a private room at Joe Kool's Sports Bar and Grill, located at 1835 E. Big Beaver Rd. in Troy, next to the Troy Sports Center. The June 7 discussion will be facilitated by Aletha Craig. Stop by and join the group for some lively conversation on important social justice issues in an informal atmosphere. For more information, email Jay Labban at sigma373@yahoo.com.

Church Picnic

Sunday, June 9 | Following worship



You are invited to an old-fashioned family picnic here at BUC directly after worship on Sunday, June 9. This will be our way to give a loving send-off to our RE staff, Eleanor, Kimery, and Beth, and to say “happy trails” to Penny. Come for a hot-off-the-grill lunch—we’ve got all food needs covered—and enjoy some fun surprises. Hope to see you there!

Thank You from MAMA's Coffeehouse

MAMA's Coffeehouse has just finished up its 26th season of fine acoustic music concerts here at BUC. We closed out the season in fine fashion with Robert Jones and Matt Watroba in May, drawing the largest audience we've had over the last couple of years.

The volunteer staff would like to thank everyone who came out to the shows. We are entering our summer hiatus now; please join us again in September for a new series of great music. Visit us at www.mamas-coffeehouse.org or the MAMA's Coffeehouse Facebook page for more info.

Living by Heart

Mondays 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Commons



The Living by Heart women's group meets on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Commons. We use both simple art techniques and writing techniques to explore what matters most in our lives. No experience necessary. Bring a journal, a pen, and any art supplies you like. We have lots to share also. Facilitated by Penny Hackett-Evans (evansph2@gmail.com).

Sunday Morning Discussion Group

Sundays | 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. | Lower Level Classroom

The Sunday Morning Discussion Group will be meeting weekly on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the Lower Level Classroom. The discussion topics will be decided by majority vote on topics suggested each week by those attending. However, on June 9, we'll discuss the last half of the book *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* by Karen Armstrong. You need not have read the book to join in the discussion.

Everyone is welcome and invited to share their ideas and experiences, as we get to know each other better. After nine years, we continue to be recognized as an important group for learning and growing at BUC.

For general information on the Sunday Morning Discussion Group, contact Larry Larson at lawrencejudy@yahoo.com.

Grief Support Group

2nd and 4th Tuesdays | 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. | Large Conference Room

The Grief Support group meets monthly on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room. All who are processing and experiencing grief at the loss of a loved one are welcome to participate. Facilitated by Alison Rule (248-320-1021).

Spring All-Church Grounds Work Day

RESCHEDULED - Tuesday, June 11, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon



Our spring all-church grounds work day has been rescheduled to Tuesday, June 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We're looking for volunteers to roll up their sleeves and help spruce up the church grounds. Paul Plante will guide volunteers in a variety of tasks including trimming, light weeding, and general cleanup. Pre-work coffee and bagels will be provided. Please RSVP to Kym Worth at kym.worth@bucmi.org.

June/July Plate Collection



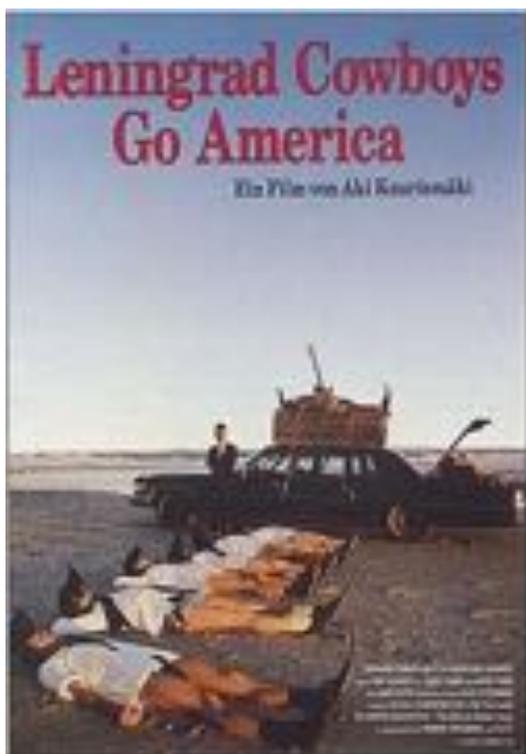
A portion of our Sunday plate collections from Sunday, June 2 through Sunday, July 14 will be donated to **Ruth Ellis Center** in Highland Park, which provides trauma-informed services for homeless, runaway, and at-risk LGBTQ youth and young adults of color. During its 18-year history, the Center has evolved from a 500-square-foot space into a 10,000-square-foot facility which offers outreach and safety-net services, primary and behavioral health-care services and case management, skill-building, HIV prevention, and family-preservation programs. The Center also provides a residential foster-care program which is thought to be the only facility in the Midwest specifically for LGBTQ youth, as well as a drop-in center which offers meals, a laundry facility and computer lab, job-seeking assistance, and peer-support groups.

Any BUCer may nominate a local nonprofit to receive a portion of our Sunday plate collection donations. Submit an application online at bucmi.org by clicking the Social Justice tab, then Plate Collection Application. You can also contact Barbara Robinson (248-320-8366 or brjdr8719@gmail.com) or speak with any Committee member: Sharon Kirchner (Assistant Chair), Janet Brown, Dan Kosuth, Ron Lewis, or Paola Seidel.

Film Buffs

Leningrad Cowboys Go America

Friday, June 28 | 7:00 p.m. | Commons



“The Leningrad Cowboys are seeking success in Siberia, but nobody seems to like their music except for the mute village idiot. Thwarted by a lack of commercial potential, they are encouraged to move to America, for people will ‘buy anything’ there. After arriving in New York, an agent offers them a gig at a wedding in Mexico. They buy a used 1975 Cadillac Fleetwood 75 Limousine and make the trip to Mexico, where they find success. (Finland/Sweden, 1989, PG-13, 79 minutes)” -Wikipedia

Snacks provided. For more information, contact Larry at 248-569-0965 or LJWisniew@yahoo.com.

Home

Rev. Mandy Beal
Senior Minister



As our first year of shared ministry wraps up, I'd like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude for this Beloved Community. While this has been a year of unexpected challenges, it has also been a year of overflowing support and love. My challenges this year included the loss of so many staff members, overlapped with learning a new congregation and a new area, and growing into full-time ministry. At each step of the

way, BUCers have stepped forward to provide our congregation with leadership, love, and support.

One example of how we've shown up for each other this year is the revival of the Membership Committee, the Pastoral Care Associates, and the Program Council. All three of these important teams are fully functional and doing great work. Another example is the extraordinary contributions of the folks who were recognized at our Annual Meeting for outstanding service and leadership: Dwane Adle, Larry Freedman, Brian Schandavel, Amy Smalley, and Andrea Zellner. Each of these folks gave of their time and talent to support various aspects of our RE, worship, music, and fellowship programming this year.

I'm excited about the planning work that's on the docket this summer. This includes working with the Worship Associates to create the worship calendar as well as a retreat with the Board of Trustees to set overarching goals. I think we're off to a great start, and I look forward to the year to come

Yours in faith,

Rev. Mandy

From the Board



The results of a recent Pew Research Center study only deepen the mystery of faith and its impact on our well-being. According to new research, people who are active members of a religious community are more likely to describe themselves as "very happy" than those without strong religious ties.

After analyzing data from over two dozen countries, including the United States, Pew researchers concluded that participation in a religious community of any form is clearly linked with higher levels of happiness and civic engagement.

Why share this data? We want to grow BUC in multiple ways, including adding new young families. Think about why you value BUC and what you might share with a friend or a neighbor, and consider inviting them to accompany you on Sunday.

Last month, at our Annual Meeting, we elected a new Board of Trustees, Leadership Development Committee, and Stewardship Chairs for the 2019-2020 church year. We shared Stewardship and Budget updates, welcomed new members, and enjoyed chocolate!

BUC is a wonderful place, as the saying goes, "to grow a soul." Invite a friend, and grow together.

-Bruce Webber, President, Board of Trustees

Music at BUC

Happy Summer to all of you as we downshift into what is hopefully a time of slowing down, introspection, energizing activity, and enjoying some long-awaited warmer weather. Even though there is a Chalice Choir summer hiatus and the Dearing's will be spending quality family time together and pursuing professional development endeavors, Music at BUC is alive and well with gifted musicians through the summer to enhance the worship experience.



Choir Sunday was a success and many of you let us know personally that you were affected by the Choir's interpretation of the relationships that we create and call "Family: Given and Chosen." Many of our singers reflected on a specific relationship that connected to one of the songs chosen for the service. These were often funny and, more often, poignant and personal, but all had universal qualities that connected the congregation to their story. It was a joyful time preparing and then presenting this important service. Choir, you deserve some time away, but don't you worry: Choir Party dates will be forthcoming!

Speaking of PARTIES: The summer is a fine time to come to a Choir Party to consider if joining the Choir is right for you. We will gather 1-2 times to hang out and enjoy food and fun in the sun, and later in August, we will even sing together to get ready for the new church year. **Email Abha if you are considering joining: abha.dearing@bucmi.org**

We bid farewell to a fine Bass/Baritone who has been in our Choir for many years. Larry Freedman is retiring from the choir this year. He has been a stalwart member, singing out with gusto and passion, listening attentively in rehearsal to espouse ideas of healthy vocal technique, studying his music diligently outside of rehearsal, and always on time, ready to sing, and add a clever quip to make everyone laugh. Larry's strong voice, positive attitude, wit, and vibrant personality will be missed in choir and we wish him the best as he enjoys being a listener in the congregation in the future. Cheers, Larry! Thank you to each member of Choir who sacrificed time and other activities to commit themselves to lifting up our Beloved Congregation in song.

The Sound Messengers play one more time on ROPE Sunday, to support our five ROPE eighth-graders as they transition out of that important milestone class and share their journey with the congregation in the form of Credos. Emma Taylor and Rahkesh Dearing will provide music for parts of this Coming of Age service. It will be awesome for the congregation to hear some of our budding musicians support this special event.

Abha and Steve will be attending the Association of Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries (formerly known as Unitarian Universalists Musicians' Network) in Denver this July. It should be a rich conference where we learn lots and are again asked to perform and help lead some of the conversations about robust music programming. Thank you, dear congregation, for your support of us.

As always, email us (steven.dearing@bucmi.org and abha.dearing@bucmi.org) to connect about ideas, if you want to play or perform at church, or just to talk over music at BUC. We are proud and grateful for this Beloved (Music) Community. Happy Summer, everyone!

--Abha Dearing and Steven Dearing, Co-Directors of Music Ministry

Social and Environmental Justice

The BUC Social and Environmental Justice team meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. We are focusing on five areas: Ending Gun Violence, Confronting Racism, Environmental Justice, Climate Change, and LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation Renewal. All are welcome to attend meetings, and join us in our work. We meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., usually in the Blue Door Room. To be added to our email list for notices of BUC activities and outside events, please contact us at janeAoneil@gmail.com.

~Jane O'Neil and Eric Sargent, Co-Chairs, Social and Environmental Justice Committee

50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots

June is LGBTQ+ Pride month, a time when cities around the world hold festivals, rallies, and—most visibly—parades. Fabulous parades! Do you know why?

Answer: to commemorate the Stonewall Riots, considered by many to be the genesis of the Gay Liberation Movement (now called the LGBTQ+ Civil Rights Movement).

On June 28, 1969, police raided a LGBTQ+ hangout in Greenwich Village called The Stonewall Inn. But its patrons, the most marginalized of the already-marginalized community—homeless youth, sex workers, transgender women of color—had had enough. Not today, they said, and rioted.

The fighting lasted two nights. When it was over, police made arrests, shut down the inn, and continued raiding gay-friendly spaces. So, what good had it done? What had changed?

Everything.

For the first time ever, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people felt not like disparate oppressed individuals, but like one community. One *empowered* community. Around New York and nationwide, they took actions—from holding hands in public to publishing newspapers to creating activist organizations—that marked the beginning of a movement.

One year later, the first LGBTQ+ parade was held to mark the anniversary.

This June marks the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. Please join us on Sunday, June 30 for a service led by members of the Welcoming Congregation Renewal Taskforce and chosen congregants to celebrate this important day in LGBTQ+ history. You'll learn more about what happened then, what happened after, and what we can do as we look to the future.

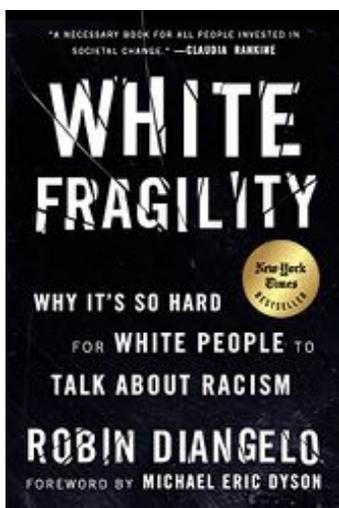
~Brianna Zamborsky, Welcoming Congregation Renewal Taskforce



Workshop: Women and LGBTQ as Political Allies—June 29 at BUC

How can women and members of the LGBTQ community support each other and enhance each other's efforts? To explore this question, MUUSJN is sponsoring a conference, "Stronger Together: Women's and LGBTQ Justice," here at BUC on Saturday, June 29 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Topics covered will include protecting abortion rights in Michigan, fighting the Trump "gag" rule, restoring access to family planning, making the Elliot Larson Civil Rights Act LGBTQ inclusive, and more. Speakers will include Rep. Christine Greig, House Minority Leader; Rep. Erika Geiss (invited), Vice Chair, Michigan Progressive Women's Caucus; Jay Kaplan, Staff Attorney, MI ACLU LGBTQ Project; Amanda West, Director of Government Affairs, Planned Parenthood MI; Dani Woods, Detroit Police Dept. LGBT Liaison; and Judy Lewis, Training and Education Coordinator, SAGE. The cost is \$30 and you can register at <http://www.uujustice.org/womens-lgbtq-justicestronger-together-conference/> (copy and paste link or Google "MUUSJN".) For more information, call 248-549-5170, or contact Sharon Kirchner (skirch47@gmail.com).

Confronting Racism—June 21 at BUC



Understanding is the first step toward healing racism. The BUC Confronting Racism program holds monthly meetings to address this goal. Everyone who wants to help end racism in ourselves and our institutions are welcome. Currently we are reading and discussing the book *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism* by Robin DiAngelo. BUT, even if you haven't read the book, please join us anyway!

Our next meeting is on Friday, June 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Hodas Family Hall. To be added to the email list for this group, please contact program leader Peggy Bocks at pbocks@gmail.com.

Ending Gun Violence

Members of the SEJ Committee attended a meeting of the Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence that featured Igor Volsky of Guns Down America (<https://gunsdownamerica.org>). Guns Down America seeks to weaken firearms interests and pro-firearms legislators through campaigns that attack the financing of firearms corporations and companies that provide cover for the industry.

The meeting also highlighted current efforts in the Michigan Legislature to reduce gun violence through Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs). These empower families and law enforcement to petition the court to have guns removed from persons who present risk to themselves or others. 14 states (not Michigan) have ERPO laws. One state estimated that one life has been saved for every 10-20 ERPO petitions issued. In Michigan, HB 4283 and SB 0157, currently in committee, are working their way through the legislature.

Child Access Prevention (CAP) was also discussed. These laws hold gun owners responsible for the safe storage of firearms. In Michigan a series of CAP bills (HB 4511-4514) have been introduced.

How can YOU help? Contact your state representative and senator through their web page and/or CALL them!

Green Sanctuary Ministry's "Green Tip" for June



Eat Healthier AND Lower Your Carbon Footprint!

According to the National Resource Defense Council, up to 40% of food in the United States goes uneaten. Wasted food is a major contributor to climate change, producing more greenhouse gas emissions than 37 million cars. The majority of those greenhouse gases are released by growing the food, though a portion is released as methane as food rots in landfills. In fact, food is the number one contributor to landfills today.

This is about more than just food. It's about resources. Even with the most sustainable practices, our food system uses enormous resources, including cropland, fresh water, fertilizers, pest control, labor, and energy to transport and regulate temperature. If we never eat the food, those resources are used in vain.

One way to help is to buy local and buy organic. Food from local (within 100 miles of you) farms is healthier, tastes better, and has a smaller carbon footprint.

The Michigan Farmers Market Association website is a great resource for finding a market near wherever you find yourself this summer, getting recipes for seasonal foods, and a lot more. Check it out at mifma.org/findafarmersmarket/.

...and after you unload those locally bought organic groceries...



Membership

This graphic is an all-too-true representation of how young adults are often welcomed with in UU congregations. Age becomes their only identity and that becomes the only way we know how to engage with them. The same thing is true of all demographics: race, class, gender identity, physical/mental ability, size, and more.

Talking to new people can be scary (I'm with you, introverts!), which is why we sometimes fall into habits with our interactions, like asking the easy or obvious questions based on someone's perceived identity. But there is so much more to everyone, right? There are other ways to connect. So think about that this month, try it out, and don't worry if you don't get it "right." It takes practice and we can all get better together.

Check out next month's newsletter for more discussion on this, including a more comprehensive visual with suggestions for engaging people of all demographics in our beloved community.

--Brianna Zamborsky, Membership Committee

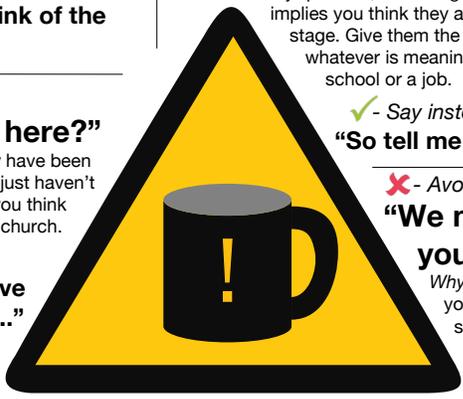
Coffee Hour Caution

...advice for greeting young adults at church

✗ - Avoid saying:
"How old are you?"
Why: Is age so important? There's no good answer. Avoid this one altogether.
✓ - Say instead:
"What did you think of the service today?"

✗ - Avoid saying:
"Are you new here?"
Why: A young adult may have been attending for years, you just haven't met them. This implies you think they don't belong in the church.
✓ - Say instead:
"I don't think we've met, my name is..."

✗ - Avoid saying:
"When are you planning to have kids?"
Why: Having or not having kids is a private matter and not one people may want to discuss. This implies you only value young adults for their future children, not as a peer adult, here and now.
✓ - Say instead:
"What brought you here today?"



✗ - Avoid saying:
"What do you *do*?" or "What year are you in school?"
Why: For those who are un- or under-employed, work is a tricky question; assuming someone is a student implies you think they are of a certain age or life stage. Give them the chance to talk about whatever is meaningful, which might not be school or a job.
✓ - Say instead:
"So tell me about yourself..."

✗ - Avoid saying:
"We need more young people!"
Why: Like everyone else, young adults want to be seen for who they are, not as a token for their age.
✓ - Say instead:
"Great to meet you!"

✗ - Avoid saying:
"Have you met our other young adult?"
Why: Young adults enjoy friends of all ages. Welcome them into faith and fellowship.
✓ - Say instead:
"Can I introduce you to my friend?"

✓ DO: Introduce yourself • Make friends • Be interested • Reach out • Respect boundaries



Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Unitarian Universalist Association • uua.org/youngadults

New Member Corner



Please welcome Steve Wright!

Steve and his wife, Laura, married for over 30 years, have a son, Daniel, 27, and daughter, Christine, 25, who are both pursuing graduate degrees. Steve retired from GM after 37 years where he was lead program planner at Powertrain HQ. He went to U of M for undergrad and MSU for grad school. He serves on the Humanist and Rummage Committees here at BUC and lives in Rochester.

Religious Education

As their final newsletter piece, Kimery and Eleanor share their favorite memories, proudest achievements, and hopes for RE.

Most of my favorite memories have occurred outside of the classroom. Having the kids run up to tell me that they lost a tooth or got a new puppy, watching them bravely act out the Christmas Eve Nativity play, being asked to provide letters of reference. All of my favorite memories revolve around being invited into the kids' lives.

My proudest moments always occurred whenever a lesson "stuck." I relished hearing the kids say "we've done this before." Whenever a lesson was the perfect ratio of instruction and action, such that it stuck in the kids' minds in bits and pieces, I was proud.

My greatest wish is that everyone could have some degree of relationship with BUC's children and youth. I wish that everyone could find their niche, their small act that brings them into contact with these innocent, growing human beings. If you want to understand that you matter in this world, become involved in the life of a child. *-Eleanor McGuire*

I'm stuck. The fact that I cannot choose one favorite memory shows how lucky I have been to be part of RE for 15 years: Small children in the nursery snuggling up for a story. 6th & 7th grade youth on a field trip asking really good questions. The ROPE Boston trips. The eighth grader who didn't think they could write a good credo, who (after receiving requests from congregants for copies) said, "I could do TED talks!" Every original, creative, heartfelt Youth Sunday service. The reluctant adults we coaxed into the classroom who then said, "That was fun. I would do it again."

I am, however, proud that Youth Sunday has become more inclusive. Once, younger youth were relegated to being ushers or greeters. More recently, even sixth graders have taken speaking or musical roles in the service, leading to greater youth ownership of the entire service. Also, the older youth have been ready to reach out to and mentor the younger ones. The credit belongs to the youth but I am pleased to have been part of that change.

As for hopes, I would like to have every adult congregant make a connection to Religious Education—and vice versa. There is much more to church than teaching and preaching. Spiritual growth happens every day and in both likely and unlikely ways. Thank you, everyone, for the incredible gifts of insight, spirit, caring, and laughter Eleanor and I have gained from working at BUC. We hope for the same for every member of this truly beloved community. *-Kimery Campbell*



RE event note:

BUC's annual family camping trip is happening on a first-come, first-served basis in 2019. Due to lack of participation, there will be no group campsite, as in past years. For more info, please contact Eleanor at eleanor.mcguire@bucmi.org.

Rummage Fun



Brand-new chocolate fountain from the Rummage sale? \$4!!

Chocolate? \$3

Food for dipping? \$20

A wonderful evening with four BUC families (the Zamborskys, Isaksens, Metzels, and Koch-Gregorys)...

A huge mess at Sarah's house instead of mine...

And Leah, who usually can't use chocolate fountains because of her Celiac disease, turning into a crazed chocolate vampire...?

PRICELESS.

You never know what you're going to find at Rummage! This year, I found a chocolate fountain, but what I really found was friendship, fellowship, and fun. (And a slight stomachache.) The Fall Rummage Sale is September 29-October 5. What will YOU find?

-Brianna Zamborsky



UUA Annual Program Fund

Each year, UU congregations across the world provide support to the Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Program Fund. Our contributions are the primary source of income for the UUA's larger ministry in the world. This ministry includes the Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education program, scholarships for seminarians, the credentialing of Religious Educators, the summer seminary program for youth, justice work on a wide variety of concerns, and a UU presence at the United Nations. The work that the UUA does amplifies our voices as individual UUs and as an individual congregation. Through our congregational support of the Annual Program Fund, we get a stronger Unitarian Universalism, within our congregations and beyond.

Starting with the 2019-2020 cycle, the UUA has changed the way that Annual Program Fund contributions are calculated. Historically, the UUA has asked churches to pay a dollar amount based on their number of members. From now on, however, this dollar amount will be calculated based on the church's annual budget. I write to you today to ask for your contribution to the 2018-2019 UUA Annual Program Fund. This is the last year that you will be asked to make a specific contribution to the UUA's Annual Program Fund. The cost is \$86/congregant, and there is a form and drop box in the office. Please give generously to the good work of our Unitarian Universalist Association.

-Rev. Mandy

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care associates are specially trained lay members of BUC. They work in collaboration with the minister to extend their services throughout the congregation. Pastoral care involves:

- Being present with the person
- Listening to the person describe his or her situation
- Asking appropriate questions to help the person tell their story
- Offering empathy and emotional support
- Referring to the minister, if appropriate, for pastoral counseling

The minister offers pastoral counseling. Pastoral counseling is typically short term and may lead to a referral to other support resources.

Pastoral care also has a “Helping Hands” program that provides short-term practical support like food and transportation.

If you know of anyone who needs pastoral care support, please let the minister or a pastoral care associate know. Also, if you know of someone who is housebound and would like a visit, please let us know.
