



November 11  
"Thank You for Your Service"



November 18  
"Grateful"



November 25  
"Thanksgiving"

## Sunday, November 4 "Gratitude as a Spiritual Practice"



We often think of gratitude as something we either have or don't. What would it mean to take on gratitude as a spiritual practice? Rev. Mandy Beal preaching; Worship Associate Lisa Demian. Music by the Sound Messengers.



### NOVEMBER SERVICES 10:30 AM

#### **11** "Thank You for Your Service"

Veteran's Day can stir up complex emotions for Unitarian Universalists. This worship service will be an exploration of those feelings and expression of gratitude for those who have served. Rev. Mandy Beal preaching; Worship Associate Shawn Rooney. Music by the Chalice Choir.

Note that a "New to UU" session will be held from noon-1:30 pm in the Red Door classroom. Details, page 4.

#### **18** "Grateful"

Our Thanksgiving service will consider what it means to give thanks for our everyday lives. We will also celebrate the Dedication of Tony and ShieHern Kubien's new baby Eleanor Chwa Kubien. Rev. Mandy Beal preaching; Worship Associate Teresa Honnold. Music by the Sound Messengers.

#### **25** "Thanksgiving"

Bill Fox and Camille Harris serve as our Worship Leaders.



## Grateful

Rev. Mandy Beal  
Senior Minister

### THIS MONTH, OUR WORSHIP THEME IS "GRATITUDE."

It is appropriate for us to consider gratitude at any time of the year, but in North America, we tend to equate gratitude with our historical experience of the fall harvest. Those who came before us worked in the spring and summer to ensure a bounty in the fall that would sustain them through the winter. The experience of gratitude for the fall harvest was the natural outcome of the (almost) assurance that their family would (probably) survive the winter. As we've become more accustomed to a world of endless choices and instant gratification, I can't help but wonder if our culture is starting to lose the meaning of gratitude.

Our task this month is to reclaim the place of gratitude in our spiritual lives. Every one of us has something for which we can be grateful. I am particularly grateful for BUC and to have been called as your minister. I'm grateful for

the opportunity to serve, teach, and lead this beloved community. I'm grateful for the support that you've given me as I settle in to a new location and a new role. I'm grateful for our outstanding staff that supports the work of this congregation. Perhaps most of all, I'm grateful for the reassurance that all of us, layfolk, staff, and clergy, have a role our shared ministry.

In gratitude,  
Rev. Mandy

### WORSHIP NOTES

This column is an opportunity for me to address changes in our worship services. I want to thank everyone who has given feedback or asked questions in response to October's "Worship Notes" column. This month, I want to address the issue of Announcements.

- Announcements have been starting at 10:25 am, and that will continue.

### REMINDER - Congregational Start Up Meeting Nov 2 at 7 pm

Please join Rev. Mandy and the Board of Trustees for a Start Up Meeting. This is a facilitated discussion hosted at the beginning of a new ministry to help the congregation and minister identify shared goals. This is a great opportunity to share your hopes for our future. Everyone age 7 and older is encouraged to participate, and childcare will be provided. Snacks and social time begin at 6:00 pm in the Pavilion and the meeting begins at 7:00.

Announcements are important, but they are not a part of worship. If our worship starts at 10:30, then 10:25 is a reasonable time for announcements.

- If you have an announcement, please keep it under 100 words. Worship Associates may need to make edits to fit the time allotted.
- If you prefer to email your announcement, please send it to [joanne.copeland@bucmi.org](mailto:joanne.copeland@bucmi.org) by Thursday. If you prefer to bring in a copy (or miss the Thursday cut off), print your announcement and place it in the announcements binder (located in the office) by 9:30 am on Sunday.
- No announcements submitted after 9:30 will be read.

I hope this clears up some of the questions that have been posed about announcements. My goal is for announcements to have a place of importance in the life of our congregation, and for them to run smoothly. If you have questions about any changes to our worship services, or general feedback about worship, please contact me at [mandy.beal@bucmi.org](mailto:mandy.beal@bucmi.org).

### Transgender Day of Remembrance November 20th at 7:00 pm

Please join us for a vigil memorializing those who have been murdered because they are transgender, nonbinary, or gender nonconforming. This is a somber event held annually in churches and public spaces across the world. BUC is a Welcoming Congregation, and we are in solidarity with those who have experienced violence or discrimination because of transphobia. Vigil will be held in the Sanctuary; childcare will be available.

## Welcome Our Newest Member

Abby Schreck signed the Membership Book on Homecoming Sunday, a special day as it was also Rev. Mandy's first day in the pulpit. Abby is a lifetime member of BUC and says she loves going to church each week with her family and values the welcoming community. She felt it was important to commit fully to BUC as church is so important to her. Abby is active in the High School GUUSH group and is also the youth advisor on the RE Council. Welcome, Abby!



## Baby Dedication Nov 18th

The BUC community extends our love and support to Tony and ShieHern Kubien in celebration of the birth of Eleanor Chwa Kubien on October 5th. This will take place in a dedication ceremony as part of the Sunday, November 18th worship service.



For those new to Unitarian Universalism, the UUA website describes this ceremony for infants and children: <https://www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-do/celebrations/births>

If you are interested in having your child dedicated, that's wonderful! Please speak with Rev. Mandy.

## How the Board Determines Church Vision and Goals

In the last newsletter, I talked a bit about our system of policy governance and how this allows the Board of Trustees to focus on vision and strategic planning.

How does the Board determine the vision and goals of the church? These come from you, the congregation. A large part of the Board's work is to ask questions and listen. We then work with our minister and executive, the Rev. Mandy Beal, to articulate a vision and develop our strategic plan.

I encourage each of you to participate in our congregational start up meeting on Friday, November 2nd from 7:00 to 9:00 pm [more details on page2].



During this meeting the Rev. Lisa Presley, Congregational Life Consultant for the MidAmerica Region, will lead us in a guided discussion about how we envision our future.

You can also share your ideas, questions and concerns directly with a Board member. After most Sunday services we'll have a Board of Trustees table in the Hodas Family Hall and you can find one of us there.

*"True stability results when presumed order and presumed disorder are balanced. A truly stable system expects the unexpected, is prepared to be disrupted, waits to be transformed."* – Tom Robbins

—Bruce Webber, President

## Stewardship Supports a Healthy Future: Please Note

Financial 2018/2019 Pledge and 2015/2019 Capital Campaign statements for July through September were emailed the first week of October. Please note, payments received for balances due on your Capital Campaign are applied to the loan and reduce our monthly interest payment. Contact Kym Worth, Associate Director, with questions. ([kym.worth@bucmi.org](mailto:kym.worth@bucmi.org) or 248.647.2380)



## Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Here are the entries that were placed in the Joys and Sorrows book during the month of October.

A sorrow from Rosemary Robinson: My husband of 61 years, Hal Robinson, died on September 25th after a long illness. Thank you to all members of BUC who attended his memorial service.

From Colleen Cavanaugh: Became a year older this past week, hopefully a bit wiser, and now carry a Medicare card! Should I laugh or cry?

Cindy Goldman writes: On Sunday, October 14th, 34 years ago I married the love of my life, Paul Goldman.

Jon Baker, son of former BUC member Jane MacFarlane, had surgery in early October for glioblastoma, a form of brain cancer. He will undergo further treatment; his prognosis is not clear at this time. Jane is staying with Jon and

his family in Atlanta to help out during this challenging time.

BUC member Dr. Diane Sasaki died on October 6th. A memorial service will be held for her on Sunday, October 28th at 1:00pm at Pixley Funeral Home in Rochester.

A joy from Annis Pratt: Her brother-in-law Bill Pratt and great-nephew Jonathan Pratt were visiting from Cologne, Germany, and came to church with her.

Pat Hammer is recovering from major abdominal surgery to remove part of her pancreas, which also required removal of portions of her colon and stomach. She is cancer free, but full recovery will take 6 to 12 months. Pat is currently exceeding her doctor's expectations and is grateful for the cards and flowers from BUCers.

Sarah Isaksen shared this joy: After 8½ long years in a PhD program, I successfully defended my dissertation and earned my doctorate in math education!

A joy! After 10 long years at the University of Cincinnati, our son William successfully defended his PhD dissertation... his final commencement is in sight! —Chris & Anita Stoddard

As of October 29th, the Dearings are the parents of a TEENAGER! Happy Birthday, Rakk!

From the Green Sanctuary Ministry and Social Justice teams: Over 300 daffodil bulbs were planted on BUC grounds a week ago Saturday! They symbolize our continued solidarity with the LGBTQ community and UU principles of dignity, peace and justice for all people and our earth. Thanks to those who donated and planted bulbs!

## Getting to Know UU: Classes to Begin November 4th

Do you have questions about what BUC stands for, believes in, and values? Want to know more about BUC and ways you can give and receive from the church?

Membership Committee member Rob Davidson is facilitating a class to discuss, share, and explore who we are. Whether you consider yourself a newcomer or have been attending for a while, you are welcome.

Classes will begin on Sunday, November 11th, and will continue on December 9th, January 13th, and February 10th. They are held from noon to 1:30 pm in the Red Door classroom.

For the first session, please let Rob know if you're coming by Sunday, November 4, at [kathyd8082@gmail.com](mailto:kathyd8082@gmail.com) to ensure we have enough materials and snacks. Child care will be available.

## November Plate Collection

This month's recipient is the BUC Emerging Needs Fund. These funds are for congregants and people in the wider community in need of financial support. The Fund is used at the discretion of our Minister to meet emergency needs that come up during the year.

Any BUCer may nominate a local non-profit service organization to be a Plate Recipient. Submit an application online at [bucmi.org](http://bucmi.org) by clicking the "Social Justice" tab, then "Plate Collection Application." You can also contact Barbara Robinson at (248) 320-8366 or [brjdr8719@gmail.com](mailto:brjdr8719@gmail.com) to submit an application or to discuss a potential recipient.

## Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Associates provide support for BUC congregants experiencing significant life challenges, through the support of Pastoral Care and Helping Hands volunteers working in partnership with the Rev. Mandy Beal. We assist congregants in moving toward being able to help themselves, by being a caring presence during a difficult time and providing support in such areas as visits, meals, transportation, and assistance in locating appropriate community resources for ongoing needs.

We recently developed a “helping hands” program that provides short-term practical support like meals, transportation, errands, and more. This level of support is a good match for people recovering from illness or surgery.

Pastoral Care Associates are specially trained lay members of BUC. They work

in collaboration with our 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

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

If you or someone you know could benefit from pastoral care, please contact Rev. Mandy or any Pastoral Care or Helping Hands volunteer.

**Rev. Mandy Beal** ([mandy.beal@bucmi.org](mailto:mandy.beal@bucmi.org))

### Pastoral Care Associates:

Cindy Goldman ([goldmancp@comcast.net](mailto:goldmancp@comcast.net))

Alison Rule ([aprule@comcast.net](mailto:aprule@comcast.net))

Ed Sharples ([edwardsharples@ymail.com](mailto:edwardsharples@ymail.com))

Lisa Patterson ([lisaeverspatterson@gmail.com](mailto:lisaeverspatterson@gmail.com))

Paul Fordree ([paulfordree@yahoo.com](mailto:paulfordree@yahoo.com))

Mary Markovski ([1marymarkovski@gmail.com](mailto:1marymarkovski@gmail.com))

Merry Hoffmeyer ([merryhoffmeyer57@gmail.com](mailto:merryhoffmeyer57@gmail.com))

Helen Strahl ([hccstrahl@gmail.com](mailto:hccstrahl@gmail.com))

### Helping Hands:

Heidi Kapsokavathis ([hikeannie@gmail.com](mailto:hikeannie@gmail.com))

## BUCers Lobby for Our Planet

Yes, this is the United States Capitol with BUCers as members of the Detroit Metro North Chapter of Citizen’s Climate Lobby (CCL, at [www.citizensclimatelobby.org](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org)). BUCers met with our Members of Congress to talk about climate change. Recognizing that it is easy to be paralyzed by fear of global warming’s impact, we found that lobbying on behalf of our beloved planet energizes us every time.

CCL has encouraged the formation of a bipartisan Climate Caucus in the House of Representatives, now made up of 90 members, half from each party; one of them is District 11’s Republican Representative David Trott who joined after we visited his local and DC offices for four years. And that’s how we lobby—cultivating our Representatives and Senators, using CCL’s excellent coaching on how to talk respectfully and informatively to members of both parties.

We lobby for a Carbon Fee and Dividend Plan that places a fee on fossil fuels at the source (well, mine, or port of entry), with the net fees returned to American households on a per-capita basis as a monthly dividend. This sends a clear price signal to



businesses to invest in a clean-energy plan, protects lower and middle-income households from higher fuel expenses, creates jobs as the dividends are spent locally, and discourages domestic businesses from locating where they can emit more CO<sub>2</sub>.

The BUC Green Sanctuary Ministry has endorsed CCL’s plan and hopes that the whole congregation also will, as a Social Justice position. Your local members of CCL, Detroit Metro North Chapter, which meets at BUC, are Karen Stankye (chair), Mary Dunn, and Annis Pratt. For further information, visit us in Hodas Family Hall during coffee hour on November 4 and 11.

## Religious Education

In October 1950, Boy Scout leader Forest Witcraft wrote a small piece for *Scouting* magazine titled “Within My Power,” which ended with this line:

*A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different, because I was important in the life of a boy (child).*

BUC’s Religious Education program is an example of the expression of this value. Although we are less than two months into the 2018-19 church year, RE is already indebted to a long list of volunteers. Each Sunday, we have more than a dozen people working as advisors, teachers, and classroom helpers in the programs that span the years from birth to young adulthood. Then there are the behind-the-scene helpers, who promote Religious Education through committee work, volunteering for weekend events, and providing consulting support to the directors of Religious Education.

So, although the year has just started, it is not too soon to say thank you to all the people who have volunteered in our classrooms on Sunday morning; to **Kateri McMullen** and **Jim Williams**, who devoted a beautiful fall weekend to chaperoning middle school kids at the Mystic Lake retreat; to all the generous **bakers, soup-makers, and bidders** who made our 39th annual Bakeoff a huge success; and to the **Religious Education Council**, under the leadership of **Pam Graham**, for devoting so much time and thought to making a good program even better.

### Share the fun: bring a friend Dec. 2!

The generosity of our volunteers not only enables us to serve our families better, it enables us to keep our church alive and growing. For example, this year, RE would like to invite all our children and youth to [bring a friend to church on Candy Cane Sunday, December 2nd](#). Sharing this wonderful event with others will only add to the chaos, joy and memories. Thank you again to all our wonderful volunteers, be their parts large or small.

Note: November 18th is BUC’s Thanksgiving service with

Kindergarten – High School students attending service that morning, November 25th will be Holiday Happenings, a morning of fun and games for Preschool – 5th Grade with youth either participating or attending service.

—Eleanor McGuire, Director of RE for Children, and Kimery Campbell, Director of RE for Youth

## BUC Music

We have had a wonderfully musical start to the year, thanks to all the fine folks who contribute their time and talents to music at BUC. It has been a joy to exchange ideas about music with Rev. Mandy and the worship associates. We all strive to make our services as rich and connective as possible. This takes time and energy to bounce creativity among all the folks who craft the service: choir members, staff, worship associates, and congregants. They make helpful suggestions and even request certain styles and songs, and all combine to make music an integral part of our spiritual lives.

It has been a thrill to welcome a couple of new singers in choir these days. The BUC Chalice Choir is rehearsing for the December 9th big music service, our annual holiday gift to the congregation. This year, there will be a small orchestra accompanying the beautiful and evocative “Mass in G” by Romantic composer Franz Schubert. Mark your calendars now!

SoundBites in October was a great show. The vocal stylings and exchange between jazz singer Ramona Collins and the engaged audience was heartwarming and inspiring. And the instrumental trio led by Scott Gwinnell was perfectly sensitive accompaniment to Ramona. As usual, the desserts were delectable. Thanks to all who participated in any way, large or small. Our next SoundBites show is Friday, February 8: Detroit’s [CutTime Simfonica!](#)

In closing, it was our pleasure on Sunday, October 28th, to introduce you to Forrest Howell, BUC’s new pianist. Please come up and introduce yourself to Forrest after a Sunday service.

Happy Autumn, All!

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



## Great Ways to Celebrate Community



### Thanksgiving Day Potluck

Unsure what you are doing for Thanksgiving? Too busy to plan anything? Don't feel like having people over this year or traveling long distances? Come join us for a wonderful potluck dinner at BUC on Turkey Day, November 22nd. Sign up at church in Hodas Family Hall after service on November 4th, 11th or 18th or contact Carol Winslow, coordinator at [cwin@att.net](mailto:cwin@att.net). Carol provides the turkey and fixings (for a modest fee to defray costs).

Note: Carol is seeking someone who would be willing to help coordinate this popular dinner with her. Please contact her for more details.

### Yum! December 8th Sharing Dinner

Interested in being a Sharing Dinner host on December 8th? Email David Sabbagh at [dsabbagh7@gmail.com](mailto:dsabbagh7@gmail.com) with "Sharing Dinner Host" in the subject line by November 20th to sign up, indicating the number of guests you are able to accommodate. Once we have determined the number of available guest spaces, we will communicate that in the BUC weekly emails and open for reservations. Participants will be filled on a "first reserved, first filled" basis, with reservations closing December 3rd. On December 4th the hosts for December 8th will receive their guest list, and the contact information of their guests. The monthly hosts then email their guest

list with a copy of guidelines for Sharing Dinners, organize the potluck menu, and finalize remaining details. You'll have a great meal with wonderful company; thanks for sharing!



### Adopt-A-Family for the Holidays

The Social Justice team is again hosting our wonderful Adopt-A-Family program this year. Generous BUC members can adopt a large or small family for Christmas, and provide them with toys, books, and clothing, maybe even a gift card if you like. You can increase your giving ability by adopting as a group with other BUCers. Our program serves families who have students at the Walt Whitman School in Pontiac, where many BUC folks tutor and volunteer.

Sign-up days are Sundays November 18th, November 25th, and December 2nd after services. Gifts are due back at BUC on Sunday, December 17, and will be delivered to the school on Monday, December 18. Questions? Contact Barbara Robinson (248) 320-8366 or Jane O'Neil (734) 216-9076—call or text either of us.

### Save the Date—Dec. 8—for More Gingerbread Fun!



#### Gingerbread House Construction Party

Fun for Kids and Kids-at-Heart, as these builders from last year will attest!

Saturday, December 8, 9:30 am - noon at BUC.

Watch for further information in upcoming announcements.



**Mike Agranoff**

Saturday, November 17, 8:00 pm at BUC

Admission \$15, \$13 student/senior. Tickets at door only.

Equally at home in the contemporary and traditional camps of the Folk world, Mike is a fine musician and storyteller. His prime instrument is the guitar, upon which he shines with intricate

fingerstyle arrangements of anything from Tin Pan Alley tunes of the '20s to fiddle tunes to his own music. He also plays concertina, piano, banjo, or sings acapella. He can be uproariously funny, contemplative, and powerfully emotional in the space of a few minutes. The man will capture your attention, and then your heart. Ali McManus will open the show. Questions? Contact Jim Bizer at [mamascOFFEEHOUSE@BUCMI.org](mailto:mamascOFFEEHOUSE@BUCMI.org).

**Knitting Ministry: November 26**

The Knitting ministry will get together—and knit together—on Monday, November 26, from 1-3 pm in the large conference room. Join us or grab a project bag from the knitting bin in the Commons hallway to make a scarf for the homeless. Return your finished project to the bin and it will be delivered. There is plenty of yarn for larger projects too! Questions? Contact Andie Stewart at [alamonts851@gmail.com](mailto:alamonts851@gmail.com).



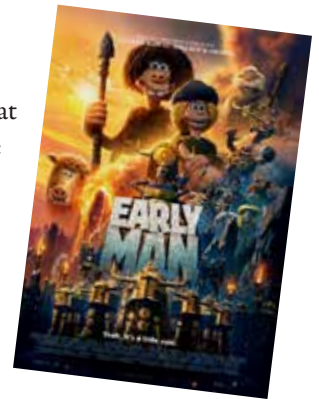
Note: If you know of a person in need of a comforting shawl, a warming lap robe, or a cuddly blanket for baby, and you

want to deliver same, please email or call Andie Stewart (248-375-2285) and she will explain the process.

**Movie Buffs: Family Friendly Edition**

**Early Man**

Friday, November 23 at 7:00 pm in the Commons



“Early Man is a 2018 British stop-motion animated historical sports comedy film directed by Nick Park (Wallace and Gromit) and starring the voices of Eddie Redmayne, Tom Hiddleston, Maisie Williams, and Timothy Spall. The film follows a tribe of primitive Stone Age valley dwellers, who have to defend their land from bronze-using invaders in an association football (soccer) match.” —Wikipedia

“Early Man is a very funny trip to the past” —A.O. Scott, New York Times

Early Man is rated PG. Snacks are provided. For more information contact Larry at 248-569-0965 or [LJWisniew@yahoo.com](mailto:LJWisniew@yahoo.com).

**BUC Magazine & Book Exchange**

It’s our version of a Little Free Library, but inside. Find our bookcase across from the Religious Education office (next to the copy room door). We now have children’s and adult books, too. The rules are: 1) Take a book/magazine, if you see one that grabs you. 2) Bring a book/magazine if you want to. 3) Repeat, as desired. Note: These rules are adhered to very strictly ;)



# Make Meaningful Connections

## Humanists: November 11

The Rev. Mandy Beal will speak on her core values on Sunday, November 11th, at our Humanists of BUC meeting. What does Rev. Mandy mean when she says she is a theist? Could she be a humanist too? Prior to her talk, Larry Larson also will give a short talk on three values of humanism: goodness, truth, and beauty.

We will meet as usual in the lower level classroom at noon beginning with a light lunch. Everyone is welcome to participate in this most important discussion.

—Larry Larson, Humanists of BUC Planning Committee

## Alliance: November 14

What a great start to our Alliance year! It was good to see so many at our wonderful October luncheon catered by Anne Calomeni and followed by our talk by Rev. Mandy.

Our Wednesday, November 14th, program will start with a brown bag lunch in the Pavilion at noon. Then we will hear from Prof. Bruce Zellers of Oakland University's History Department. The title of his talk is "Presidents and the Media: Attraction and Repulsion: FDR to Trump." It is sure to be an interesting session.

All are welcome to the lunch at noon and Prof. Zellers' talk at 1 pm in the Pavilion.

Remember to mark your calendars for the Tuesday, December 4th, Holiday Luncheon at the Iroquois Club in Bloomfield Hills.

—Ann Throop, Alliance Committee



## Body Wisdom Group: November 5 and Ongoing

The weekly Body Wisdom group will resume in November on Monday nights at 5:30 pm in the Commons. Come join us in this creative and fun way of unlocking the wisdom of your body. No experience necessary—you can participate even if you have mobility concerns. Come once or every week. We use stillness, movement, music and talking as ways to find out what our body knows that our head may not. Open to men and women. Facilitated by Penny Hackett-Evans

## Living by Heart: November 5 and Ongoing

This weekly Monday night group resumes on November 5th, from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Commons. Come once or every week. In this group we focus on our lives and our "soul life" by doing writing, simple art work, reading poetry and other spiritual writing, and sharing together. Bring a journal and pen and any simple art supplies you like to work with (though there are lots to share). Bring a poem that has meaning for you. Facilitated by Penny Hackett-Evans.

## Grief Support: November 13 and 27

This group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 4:30-6 pm in the Large Conference Room. All who are processing and experiencing grief at the loss of a loved one are welcome to participate in this group. Facilitated by Alison Rule.

## Caregivers Support: November 14 and 28

Being a caregiver can be an isolating, overwhelming, and challenging experience. We offer support for those doing the supporting! This group meets twice a month on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 2:00 pm in the Large Conference Room. Facilitated by Alison Rule and Camille Harris.

## Sunday Morning Discussion (Ongoing)

Join in the discussion from 9-10:15 am in the north Green Door Classroom. Each week, we pick a topic by majority vote so there's not even homework. All are welcome to come and share their thoughts or simply listen. Coordinators are Larry Larson and Ann Throop.

## Pastoral Care Library

BUC has a lending library with books on Unitarian Universalism and topics of related interest. If you'd like to borrow a book, record the requested information in the sign-out notebook on the table. Please return the book within a month. The library is in the Bridal Room, directly off the hallway to the south Sanctuary entrance. Questions? Please call Alison Rule at 248-320-1021.

**SOS at BUC: There’s Still Time to Help!**

November 4-11 is when BUC will be hosting 30 guests from the South Oakland Shelter, continuing a tradition which started in 1989. Volunteers provide food, rides to and from the Shelter, entertainment, and general good cheer. To sign up, call Paul Plante at 734-464-1577 or use this link: <http://birminghamunitarian.wixsite.com/sos-at-buc>. Thank you!

**Fall Rummage Wrap-Up, and See You in the Spring**

The number of new volunteers who swelled the ranks of our stalwarts helped BUC’s 121st Rummage Sale go smoothly as well as successfully. Not only did we meet the financial expectations set in the BUC operating budget—a total of \$25,250 for the year—the combined energy of our workers seemed higher than ever.

Special thanks to...

- The folks who took on a “point person” role for a certain area of the sale; for some, it was their first time at Rummage and they all handled it well.
- All who helped with intake of donated goods, despite dodging raindrops
- Several “friends of BUC” who enjoy—and are experts at—organizing and merchandising



- Those who worked the Friday sale and then stayed on to consolidate goods in preparation for Saturday’s bag sale. That was a huge help!
- Our Saturday workers; they not only had a productive sale but also facilitated getting remaining items onto trucks from charities such as Vietnam Vets. (Every donated item not purchased also finds a home through Rummage.)
- All who donated food! Your delicious meals and snacks kept volunteers happy as they congregated for needed

**Meet Our AV Support Team**

Hope Still and Kate Fitzsimmons are the savvy students who operate the BUC sound system on alternate Sundays and during special events. Now you know these quiet heroes in the back of our Sanctuary; please say hello!



*Hope Still*



*Kate Fitzsimmons*

breaks. Plus, you helped keep our overall expenses low.

Finally, a big thank you to all who donated items for sale and the Live Auction, especially our donors who were downsizing on deadline. Nice weather had customers lining up at 5 pm Thursday for the 6:30 start, and a number needed a hand carrying their many purchases to their cars. Time after time, customers express appreciation for our quality merchandise at affordable prices. Rummage workers might be tired at the end of the day, but they also feel fulfilled.

**So, let this be a thanks-in-advance for volunteers for the Spring 2019 Rummage, May 2-4.** Come experience amazing fellowship and outreach to our wider community as well as satisfaction for financial support for our church. It’s an all-church effort that truly is “the more, the merrier!”

—Barb Eschner for the Rummage Committee

## Poinsettia Plant Sale to Fund 8th Grade Boston Trip



Poinsettia orders will be taken on Sundays beginning October 28th and ending November 18th. The plants will be delivered in time for pickup on Sunday, December 2nd. As always, plants are available in four sizes, with a choice of red, white, pink, or marble. New this year: Extra-large (10-inch) pot with a three-plant, tri-color combination! All profits benefit the UU Heritage Trip that our 8th graders will take to Boston.

## Help BUC Practice Radical Hospitality... and Keep the Coffee Coming on Sundays



Harper West and Carole Wiseman are seeking volunteers for the remaining open Coffee Hosting positions during the Hodas Family Hall social hours during the church year. Unlike Greeting and Ushering, this volunteer activity is roughly a two-hour commitment: 9:30-10:30 am set-up and 11:30-12:30 pm for coffee service and breakdown/clean-up. Never worked in the BUC kitchen before? Don't worry, we can pair you with an existing "Pro."

Ready to sign up? Click here: <https://signupgenius.com/go/30eOb48a8ad2aa13-sunday>. Or

please stop by the kitchen on Sunday to see Harper or Carole. To learn more about this rewarding opportunity (you'll make people happy!), call or email either Harper ([harper\\_west@yahoo.com](mailto:harper_west@yahoo.com); 248-464-1297) or Carole ([hellonoodlestheclown@gmail.com](mailto:hellonoodlestheclown@gmail.com); 586-446-0165).

## Sunday Morning Flowers



The flowers you see on the Sanctuary chancel table each Sunday not only enhance our worship experience but also can honor important people or occasions in our lives. You can choose a special Sunday in the future for your flower donation, and have your sentiment published in the Order of Service. Then either take the flowers home or leave them for folks to enjoy in church for the rest of the week. Donating is easy; use the link on the home page of [www.bucmi.org](http://www.bucmi.org). Thank you!





On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)), select Birmingham Unitarian Church as your charitable organization and BUC will receive a donation from all your eligible shopping. Amazon will then remember your selection and BUC will benefit every time you make an eligible purchase. Thank you!

### **SCRIP: the Easy Way to Support BUC**

A quick trip to the SCRIP table in Hodas Family Hall will show you the wide variety of store credit cards we stock. These include places people shop everyday such as Target, Meijer, Whole Foods, and favorite drugstores. SCRIP is an easy but effective fund raiser for BUC; these cards are sold at cost, so there's no additional charge to you.

Plus, BUC is active in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Each time you use your Kroger card, BUC receives a donation from them. Instructions are available at the SCRIP table or register online at <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>. Thank you!