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First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, Michigan

Nurture Your Spirit. Help Heal Our World.

October Newsletter

October 1, 2015 - Vol 11, Issue 10

Worship @ UUAA

Congregational Links

UUAA Links:

[Calendar of Events](#)
[Social Justice at UUAA](#)
[UUAA.org](#)

Other Links:

[MidAmericauua.org](#)
[Standing on the Side of Love](#)
[UUA.org](#)

Join Our Mailing List!

Two Worship Services
at 9:30am & 11:30am.

October 4, 2015

Improv as a Spiritual Practice

Theresa Rohlck, pulpit host
Lindasusan Ulrich, M.Div., Consulting Minister

When the Buddhist monk shared his wisdom, "Meet what arrives," he probably didn't realize that it's also the first rule of improvisational theater. Join us to look more closely at the place where reflection and ridiculousness collide.

October 11, 2015

"Behave or Be Damned? Not Here!"

Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Senior Minister

Universalism emerged in response to the theologies of predestination and eternal damnation. Unitarianism emerged in response to irrational and literal interpretations of scriptural text. What has endured throughout all the western religions from which we descend? What remains and strengthens our emerging faith now, in the 21st century?

October 18, 2015

To Be or Not To Be: Grown Up Church for the 21st Century

Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Senior Minister
Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Music

The Chalice Singers
The Chalice Sparks
Laszlo Slomovits, guest artist

While the posturing politicians and pandering pundits draw off our life energies into the pointless, endless

question: 'Black Lives Matter' or 'All Lives Matter,'
 we need to ask, "Will the church Matter to Black Lives?"
 How will it matter?
 When?
 The purpose and practice of church: now.

October 25, 2015

The Space Between *What Was* and *What Is*

Lindasusan Ulrich, M.Div., Consulting Minister

Late October is the time of the year when many cultures believe the veil between the worlds is thinnest. But as humans look to the future, we face a different kind of divide between past and present, one that's wider and has more far-reaching implications than even the gap between us and our ancestors.



Gleanings

Reflections from Rev. Gail R. Geisenhainer, Senior Minister



Dear Ones, All,

What is a Consulting Minister? Something new for our Congregation, to be sure. The Unitarian Universalist Association Ministerial Transitions Office folks refine the language we use for ministries every several years. This keeps us flexible and current with the changing needs of congregations. As with so many things, it is more simple to define what a thing is not, than it is to define what it is.

The UUA Transitions Manual offers this, "practically speaking, any ministry that is designed to last longer than a few months and is neither interim nor called is a consulting ministry." Lindasusan Ulrich is, now, our Consulting Minister. In parlance more familiar to our own history, the position is an Assistant Minister position. Hired not called. Reports to the Senior Minister.

This year, the position is also 'consulting' to the Senior Minister. It is both-and. Lindasusan is here to assist me in the regular and broad duties and expectations of parish ministry. She is also tasked with consulting with me on the massive staff changes we now have the opportunity to make.

In her beginning weeks, I asked Lindasusan to write down anything that she found surprising.., good news or sad. We are using her "fresh eyes" and new-to-us perspectives to assist me in directing the refreshments and refinements needed to streamline our staff toward the end of providing an operating system that is both sustainable and affordable.

Much of her current focus has been in collaboration with me and our Director of Worship, Music, and Arts, Glen Thomas Rideout. We are working to increase the number of voices in our worship services. We are working to structure and build a lay

Worship Associates program to much more deeply involve laity in the crafting and presentation of worship. Over the next few months I think the work of our Consulting/Assistant Minister will be more visible. She is preaching September 27 and October 4. I hope you will come and support her pulpit work on those days.

November 15, after second Service, is the next President+Senior Minister Q+A session. We will be in Jackson Chapel to offer time for any and all questions you may have about our Congregation. I look forward to chatting with you then if you have more questions for me.

Truly, I wish I had a giant banner to hang up over the Congregational Map and Organization Chart that hangs in the office hall way. Yes, it is whimsical., but, it is also Oh-So-True! I would have it read: UNDER CONSTRUCTION! We are working to build a stronger UUAA, a vital UUAA, an affordable and deeply sustainable Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor that will bring our salvific and transformative messages of Love and Service boldly into the generations to come.

My Love Abides
Rev. Gail



Upon Reflection Lindasusan Ulrich, Consulting Minister

I've just returned from a whirlwind trip to Washington, DC, where I was part of a group of bisexual activists making policy recommendations to the White House. I was honored to be one of the panelists speaking on behalf of the bi community and to be in a room full of brilliant, diverse, dedicated advocates from around the country who are working ceaselessly to improve people's lives. (If you're interested in learning more about the major disparities that bi people face, I was the principal author on a groundbreaking report published by the San Francisco Human Rights Commission a few years ago.)



Given how many LGBTQ people have been wounded by those who spew hateful rhetoric in the name of religion, it was especially important to me to show up in my ministerial collar. This was my first public witness event in clergy garb - hey, go big or go home - and it couldn't have been more timely. After the meeting itself, our group went outside for an impromptu gathering in front of the White House. There, we happened upon two men with microphones and large signs filled with some of those less-than-loving words. I don't know whether they noticed me standing between them sporting both the collar and a bi pride flag, but it lifted my heart to think that someone passing by might see me. Perhaps someone longing to acknowledge their true identity, or someone struggling to reconcile their faith with a loved one's identity. My visible presence had power in that setting.

I'm equally aware of the power that Unitarian Universalists can wield as a religious community. We have the potential to heal across differences that have too often become divisions. We can push back against the notion that religion can only do damage, or that spiritual people have forsaken reason, or that making the path to peace narrow is better than flinging the gates wide open. Our presence can offer a

lifeline to people trying to make sense of their place in the world.

When was the last time you came out of the closet as UU?

Peace,
Lindasusan



Board of Trustee News

President's Message

Beth Hospadaruk, Board President

I'm starting to settle into the fact that Fall is upon us. The weather is turning, the temperatures are great for sleeping at night and the crispness in the air is refreshing. I'm so excited that the "Church season" has begun. I'm writing this on Sunday evening after being renewed and energized by all the children and youth coming back to class for the first time here at UUAA. What a wonderful feeling!



Your Board of Trustees continues the work of the Congregation this month with finalizing our Work Plan for the upcoming year. We are making decisions about task forces needed to do the fulfilling work of strategic planning and other projects for the near and more distant future. If you are called upon to serve, please consider saying yes! Your voice is important and the work can be part of your spiritual renewing as well.

We want to thank everyone who attended both the informational meeting and the specially called Congregational meeting regarding capital expenditures. You asked thoughtful questions and voted to affirm the repairs and maintenance needed to keep our spiritual home running smoothly. Thank You!

Our annual Pledge drive will begin this month. Ed Lynn, our Interim Church Administrator has been working hard with Ginny Preuss and Catherine Olson to create a direct and simple campaign. It is our hope that you consider what this Congregation means to you in the most meaningful way possible. What we can accomplish together is much greater than any of us can do alone. The sooner you return your pledge for 2016, the sooner we can make decisions and move forward on our shared work.

I've enjoyed speaking with many of you who have approached me with your thoughts and ideas. These conversations boost my spirits and keep me aimed in what I hope is the right direction! Keep it up; you can reach me at president@uuaa.org.

Be well, friends,
Beth Hospadaruk
2015-2016 Board President
president@uuaa.org



Spiritual Growth and Development

Program Notes

Aaron Gibson, Programs Coordinator



Kicking off the SGD program

After lots of planning and coordination over the summer, it is great to see the Spiritual Growth & Development classes in full effect. September 20 was the first day of SGD classes, and as I roamed the halls, I was thrilled to see all of the introduction and team-building exercises happening. Building community will be a pertinent goal during this program year.

We were happy to launch the SGD Teacher Lounge, located in the Alcott room, which gives teachers a space to meet with parents, plan out their lessons, and grab a cup of coffee.

I would like to recognize and thank the volunteer SGD Committee who has taken the role of SGD Director for the year and who will continue to serve this program (in alpha order):

- Christine Pellar-Kosbar
- Gregg Peterson
- Lisa Kohn
- Michelle Avery-Ferguson
- Stephanie Surphus

I am really looking forward to working with this group and making the SGD the best it can be for students this year!

Contact Aaron Gibson at aaron@uuaa.org.



Activities and Events

Round Robin Dinner Registration Deadline * Sunday, October 1

Join other UUs on the second Friday of each month from October through May. This is an opportunity to meet other UUs in a casual dinner group held in members' homes. These adult dinner parties provide an opportunity to get acquainted and reacquainted with other UUs. For those new to the Congregation, this is a way to get acquainted with a few people at a time while sharing good food and conversation. Those new to Round Robin can sign up at the Involvement table during Social Hours. Interested in the first dinner of the season on Friday, October 9? Register by Thursday, October 1. Questions? Contact Wally Welch at wvsystems@fastmail.fm.



Escalating Equality Forum * Sunday, October 4

At 3:00pm in the Fahs Chapel, Barbara Jensen, author of *Reading Classes: on Culture and Classism in America* will present from her book and offer a deeper understanding of the role of class in our lives and in our community. This event is cosponsored by the Social Justice Council and Challenging Racism. Questions? Contact Carolyn Madden at cgmadden@gmail.com.



Accessibility Team * Sunday, October 4

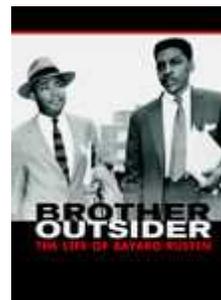
All are welcome to a meeting to be held from 11:00am to 12:15pm. Questions? Contact Phil Tuchinsky at ptuchinsky@sbcglobal.net. 

Interweave Potluck & Film Night * Friday, October 9



Join for a potluck at 6:00pm in the Fahs Chapel. Bring a dish to share; coffee, tea, and water will be provided.

See the film *Brother Outsider* at 7:00pm followed by discussion. This movie has introduced the life and work of Bayard Rustin - a visionary strategist and activist called "the unknown hero" of the civil rights movement. A disciple of Gandhi, a mentor to Martin Luther King Jr., and the architect of the 1963 March on Washington, Rustin dared to live as an openly gay man during the fiercely homophobic 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. Co-sponsored by the Challenging Racism team.



Interweave will offer Friday potluck and film nights on the second Friday of each month. The next movies will be held on November 13, and December 11.

Questions? Contact Joan Burleigh at joburleigh@aol.com. 

Women's Breakfast * Saturday, October 10

It's time, again, for women of UUAU to get together and solve the world's problems over breakfast. Join at 8:15am at the Classic Cup Cafe on Jackson Road, across from the UM Credit Union. Think about joining for good conversation and great fun. Questions? Contact Roylea Furniss at refurniss@gmail.com. 

Escalating Equality Film * Wednesday, October 10

Join at 7:00pm at the Michigan Theatre where the Dispute Resolution Center will sponsor a film and discussion on *15 to Life: Kenneth's Story*. The panel discussion on juvenile justice will include Judge Tim Connors, Peacemaking Court, attorney and juvenile advocate Deborah LaBelle, associate professor Brian Sellars, and Calvin Evans, a life interventionist specialist. An afterglow at Sava will begin at 9:15pm. This event is co-sponsored by Friends of Restorative Justice and other local groups. Tickets are available for \$15 general and \$10 students [here](#). More ticket information will be available at the Social Justice table during Social Hours. Questions? Contact Carolyn Madden at cgmadden@gmail.com. 

Make A Difference Workshop * Saturday, October 10

All active Congregants who would like to become more involved and are curious about how things work at UUAU are invited. This workshop is for potential, emerging, and current leaders and team members of the many groups that work for the Congregation. The workshop will offer inspiration, resources, and practical information to help foster participation in congregational activities.

The workshop will share how to get things done at UUAU. Explore real-life experiences of serving, and dip into social media as a way to increase the reach and impact of each team's work. There will be opportunity to speak with staff representatives, Board members, and clergy to get answers to leadership questions.

The Make a Difference Workshop will be held from 9:15am to 1:00pm; with breakfast available at 8:45am. This workshop also complements the Make a Difference Involvement Fair that will take place the next day, Saturday, October 11 during Social Hours.

Questions? Contact the Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org. Register [here](#) or contact Hannah.

This event is sponsored by the Leadership Development Team and the Social Justice Council. 

Make A Difference Involvement Fair * Sunday, October 11

Congregants are invited to attend during Social Hours. Browse the display tables in the Social Hall to learn about the work being done by many UUAUAA groups. Fill out an Interests and Talents Survey to share how to help get congregants involved. Lay leaders representing recognized groups are invited to reserve table space by signing up [here](#) or contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org. The lay leader table reservation deadline is Thursday, October 1. 

Crop Walk * Sunday, October 11



Come walk to help fight hunger and poverty throughout the world and in Washtenaw County. Questions? Contact Jamie Todd at jasttodd@gmail.com or 734-717-5081. 

MUSJIN Forum * Sunday, October 11



Justice in the Middle East presents "No Way to Treat a Child" at 1:00pm in Fahs Chapel. This project was initiated by the Chicago Faith Coalition, Defense for Children International - Palestine, and the American Friends Service Committee. UNICEF, Human Rights Watch, and Amnesty International report the ill-treatment of Palestinian children by soldiers, police, and interrogators within the Israeli military justice system. The award-winning documentary *Stone Cold Justice* will be shown, followed by a discussion and information on how to contact members of Congress. Questions? Contact Diane Cooper at cooperdiane@wowway.com or Mark Jagner at mjagner@yahoo.com. 

Adult SGD: As We Age * Wednesday, October 14



Well-Being Education presents "As We Age - A Conversation" based on the first five chapters of Atul Gawande's provocative book *Being Mortal* which addresses the progression as each ages from the independent self, to being dependent, to living with assistance. The discussion will focus on the wants and needs of the various stages of life. Terry Madden will facilitate three Wednesday sessions from 1:30 to

3:00pm on October 14, 21, and 28. To register contact Terry Madden at

Terence.madden@gmail.com.



Fall Harvest Potluck * Friday, October 16



This annual tradition for the Mindful Eating Coalition (MEC) will feature guest speaker ICPJ Director Chuck Warpehoski. Join in the Social Hall at 6:00pm Bring a dish to share that celebrates the



harvest season, and bring a place setting.

MEC will continue to share produce during Social Hours until people have no more to share. Sign up at the MEC table to receive a MEC newsletter.

Questions? Contact Colleen Crawley at ccrawley59@gmail.com.



Peace All Stars Benefit Concert* Saturday, October 17

See UUAU's own Director of Music, Glen Thomas Rideout at the "Peace All-Stars 4: Honoring Black Lives" benefit at 7:00pm at Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church. Storyteller La'Ron Williams will host a musical tribute to peace, justice, and black lives. Rev. Robert Jones, Edie Lewis, and Peter "Madcat" Ruth will be featured at this benefit for Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Ypsilanti nonprofit Mentor2Youth. Tickets: \$15 advance; \$20 at the door. Questions? Contact Jeanne Mackey at jane@icpj.org or 734-663-1870.



Interweave Circle Discussion * Sunday, October 18



Join at 10:45am for the "Coming Out in Faith" conversation to share journeys of "coming out" in faith. Questions? Contact Mark Jagner at mjagner@yahoo.com.



Immigration Action Coalition (IAC) * Sunday, October 18

Ever thought about living in someone else's shoes? It can dramatically change the way of thinking and living. Join IAC in "Immigration: Two Sides." This two-part program will watch an episode of Morgan Spurlock's *30 Days* focusing on immigration. Then join a discussion examining human biases surrounding this complicated issue. A follow up program will explore immigration in the community. Sessions will be held on Sundays, Oct 18 and Nov 22 from 12:30 to 2:30pm in the Fahs Chapel. Light refreshments will be provided. RSVP to ktdoud@gmail.com for a food and beverage count. Questions? Contact Cheryl Valentine at cherylntatzmervvalentine@gmail.com.



Alpha House Host Week Sign up * Sunday, October 18

As has been the tradition, UUAU will represent at the Alpha House Host Week during the week of Thanksgiving. Alpha House is a shelter for homeless families that then helps them find permanent housing. During Host Week, UUAU will provide food for all the residents' meals, servers for a warm dinner each night, people to play with the children in the evenings, a person to stay overnight, and Day Hosts to coordinate the volunteers.

Sign up at the Alpha House table during Social Hours. Online signup will be available, look for it in the *Weekly Bulletin* and the *November Newsletter*. Questions? Contact coordinator Angela Barber at abarber@gmail.com.



Halloween Party * Friday, October 30



Put on a costume and come celebrate Halloween with other UU congregants at the Halloween potluck dinner and party. There will be pumpkin carving, games, crafts, trick-or-treating, and...the famous YRUU Haunted House.

Pumpkin carving, games, and crafts will begin at 5:30pm. Bring a pumpkin to carve.

Potluck dinner will begin at 6:00pm, followed by a costume parade, trick-or-treating, and the YRUU Haunted House.

Helpers are needed with games or crafts for young children. Questions? Contact Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org.



Announcements and Notices

2016 Annual Budget Campaign

Building a Sustainable Future.

The 2016 annual budget campaign (ABC) will kick off in October. Co-chairs, Ginny Preuss and Cathy Olson started the process by drafting an affordable budget for 2016 which funds congregational priorities. To support that budget, the Budget Campaign Committee set a goal to achieve \$915,000 for the stewardship campaign without a second ask.

In early October, congregants will receive an ABC packet with a pledge form, the 2016 draft budget, and additional information. There will be a Q&A session with Interim Administrator Ed Lynn, after each service on Sunday, October 11 in the Fahs Chapel, to answer questions about the budget.

Watch for this material in the mail in early October. Take some time to reflect on what this congregation means and make a 2016 pledge commitment during October.

Questions? Contact Ginny Preuss at ginnylpreuss@yahoo.com.



Partner Church



This poster is for the celebration of Transylvanian Unitarian Thanksgiving at the partner church in Kezdivasarhely and in their minister's other congregation, in the village of Szentivanlaborfalva.

Beginning in November, learn more about what these partners were doing over the summer and what future plans will be, via Newsletter articles, or by visiting the Partner Church table during the October Involvement Fair on Saturday, October 10.

Thanksgiving in

Questions? Contact Phyllis Valentine at pav@umich.edu.



Adult SGD Catalog Available

The Adult SGD Fall Catalog is available. Print copies can be found during Social Hours and in the literature rack by the front entrance. It is accessible at uuua.org. When the homepage opens, follow the menu bar under the Congregation's name across to "Learn." Click on "Learn" and drop down to "Adults." Then click on "Adults" to open the page headed "Adults," and find the box "All About Classes." Click on "View our current Adult class list."



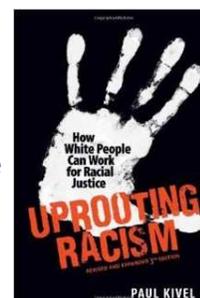
There are a wealth of opportunities to join fellow UUs in conversations that matter. Questions? Contact Charley Burleigh at chburleigh@aol.com.



Challenging Racism Common Read



Anchored in the reading of *Uprooting Racism- How White People Can Work for Racial Justice* by Paul Kivel, the discussion will focus on the deeply embedded institutional racism which affects all people of color in society negatively. All are welcome to attend these sessions and all are needed in working to reduce racial injustice.



There will be two series. One on Sundays: October 4, 11, 25, and November 8 from 12:45 to 2:45pm. The second on Tuesdays: October 6, 13, 27, and November 10 from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Edie Croake will facilitate.

Questions? Contact Lucia Heinold at heinoldcia@aol.com.



Sharing the Collection Recipient Applications

During the month of October, the Sharing the Collection Team will accept applications from non-profit organizations seeking to be selected as one of the monthly recipients for 2016. Non-profit organizations that serve or advocate for predominantly disadvantaged families and individuals living in Washtenaw County are urged to apply.

The criteria for eligibility may be found [here](#) and on the UUAU website. Questions Contact Terry Madden at terence.madden@gmail.com.



Get-Involved Survey

How many Unitarian Universalist congregants does it take to run a typical, two Service Sunday at UUAU? This question generates many punch lines that include coffee and the democratic process. All jokes aside, the answer is impressive. On average, 15% to 25% of Sunday attendees, or approximately 130 congregants when the choir is singing, are contributing their time and talents to make UUAU a special gathering place. The Chalice Singers, SGD teachers, Sunday Welcome Team members, Social Hour volunteers, worship assistants, and others provide the energy for welcoming, teaching, singing, and worshipping.

How can congregants contribute? Fill out a 2015-2016 Interests and Talents Survey to match interests with needs by [clicking here](#). Questions? Contact Welcome Ministries Coordinator Hannah Hotchkiss at hannah@uuaa.org. 

Denominational Connections Team (DCT)



General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through the democratic process. Anyone may attend. The 2016 GA will be held from Wednesday to Sunday, June 22-26 in Columbus, OH. Most GA events will be held in the Greater Columbus Convention Center, less than 200 miles from Ann Arbor.

The theme will be "Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect." The faith world is increasingly becoming multi-faith oriented. People are crossing borders of religion and spiritual practice to create wholeness in their lives individually and collectively. The labels: Christian, Jew, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, theist, and non-theist no longer define how Spirit moves in our lives. GA will assemble leaders and communities of many faiths to worship together, learn from one another, and create a new vision of faith that no longer divides, but connects to an interdependent future that works for all.

The DCT will sponsor events to encourage Congregants to attend. The first events will be a Q & A about GA held between Services. There will also be Forums to discuss what GA is like and what it means to be a Delegate at GA. Watch the Weekly Bulletin for upcoming events. Questions? Contact Royla Furniss at refurniss@gmail.com. 

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) News



Help the UUSC and UUA respond to the current refugee crisis. The UUSC's President Rev. Bill Schulz and UUA President Rev. Peter Morales issued a joint statement announcing two new initiatives in response to the ongoing refugee crisis: a special [UUSC-UUA Refugee Crisis Fund](#), with the goal of quickly raising \$250,000; and a [petition drive](#) to pressure the Obama administration to raise the number of refugees admitted into the United States to 200,000.

Donations to the UUSC-UUA Refugee Crisis Fund will go directly to partners operating on the ground in countries receiving refugees. Work will focus on ensuring the safe passage of refugees and helping refugees access their rights in host countries.

The UUSC-UUA joint statement explains why the US must raise the general refugee admission ceiling to accommodate the growing number of people seeking asylum from Syria and other countries in crisis. It states, "This is a simple policy change that will have a huge impact. Right now, 11 million Syrians have been forced to leave their homes after four years of civil war. Worldwide, an estimated 60 million people have been displaced, leading to the largest crisis of forced displacement since World War II."

To sign the petition and to donate, go to uus.org. There are easy-to-use links on the home page.

Questions? Contact Becky Hoort for the UUSC News reporters at rhoort@umich.edu. 

Climate Action Group Update



A hot issue is the Michigan Senate Bill 438. If enacted, this bill would make solar installations on homes and on the UUAA church building financially disadvantageous. It would also eliminate Michigan's 10% Renewable Energy Standard.

Join the Detroit March for Justice on Saturday, October 3 from 12:00 to 4:00pm. Join a contingent from UUAA and thousands of others will participate in a march for climate justice. For more info and to register, visit [here](#).

Climate Action Group Steering Committee will meet on Sunday, October 4 from 10:45 to 11:30am. All members of the Climate Action Group and other congregants are welcome. Bring ideas for actions to combat climate change.

The Michigan Interfaith Power & Light 10th Annual Sustainability Conference: Green & Grow Your Congregation will be held on Friday, October 9 from 7:45am to 4:15pm. Meet at People's Church in East Lansing. For more information [click here](#). This will be a good opportunity to carpool.

Citizens Climate Lobby will meet on Saturday, October 10 from 10:00am to 12:00pm for the monthly meeting of the Ann Arbor Chapter. Note that the date and time are different from usual. All are welcome. For more information about CCL check out [here](#).

For more information about any of these events or to connect with others, contact Larry Junck at ljunck@umich.edu or 734-649-7945.



Accessibility Team (AT) Update

The AT will see a major achievement in the near future: attaining an initial UUA Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM) Certificate. Since 2013, the AT has provided a voice for people with disabilities. Under founding leader Els Nieuwenhuijsen, the AT has responded to accessibility and inclusion needs as a first priority. Many projects and much good stem from this beginning.

UUAA is a pilot site congregation for the national UUA AIM program. As one of the first few in the nation, the AT now works in worship services, workshops, projects, and social justice actions in order to qualify to apply for the UUA AIM certificate this coming winter.

There will be major work beyond this milestone. The ongoing program will continue to serve the Congregation to and move toward UUA re-certification in 2019.

Questions? Contact Phil Tuchinsky at ptuchinsky@sbcglobal.net.



Alpha House Update

A big "Thank You" to all the people who donated meals, money, or time for the third Alpha House Host Week of 2015 from Monday, August 24 through Sunday, August 30. Without these contributions, Alpha House would not be able to do all that it does for homeless families in Washtenaw County. The following lists the volunteers:

- Day Host: Dee Dishon, Sandy Eyl, Diane Fead, Barb Gales, Lorraine

Gutierrez, Kate Hutchens, Brandy Sinco.

- Make Dinner: Molly Beebe (4), Delphine Benard (2), Barb Cherem, Carol Cramer, Jo Anne Diehl (2), Suzanne Davidson (2), Lorraine Gutierrez, Pat Herbst, Kate Hutchens (2), Eva Johnson (2), Lisa and Dave Kohn (2), Lisa Lemble, Thomas Longworth, Sara Mathews (2), Cordovillas (Cesilie Myers), Cathy Muha , Catherine Olson (2), Sally Preston (2), Betsy Reitbauer, Tim Richards (2), Gretchen Ridenour (3), Sandy Simon, Brandy Sinco, Dennis Smallwood, Tricia Smith, Lorie Otis Thomas.
- Serve Dinner and Clean Up: Jon Boyd, Carol Cramer, Thomas Longworth, Christie Lussenden, Angela Menegay, Vilma Mesa, Ana Moreno, Mary Ann Morris, Roen Montalva (2), Sandy Simon, Carol Thomas, Spencer Wilkerson, Terri Wilkerson.
- Play with Kids: Umut Alis; Chloe Biermann; James Biller; Jon Boyd; Ann Brennan and Lara Brown with Mateo, Katie, Joe, and Sophia; Constance Bridge; Kathryn Dybdahl; Susan David (2); John Hritz; Denise Kearns; Ki-Wing, Merlin and family; Angela Menegay with Gavin, Lucy, and Brenna; Vilma Mesa; Kirsten Mogbo with Johannah; Roen Montalva (2); Ana Moreno; Edward Norton (2) with Patrick and Ruth; Terri Palacios (2); Kaeli Sikkenga; Chelsey Tuxbury-Elliott; Laurin Tuxbury-Elliott; Arthur Verhoogt and Henrike Florusbosch with their 3 children.
- Make Weekend Breakfast: Makeia Fullwood (2), Brandy Sinco and Lora Girata.
- Overnight Host: Marti Wright Cabbage (2), Margaret Flannery, Larry Junck, Alison Paine, Terri Wilkerson.
- Alpha House Shopping Team: Sandy Eyl and Tricia Smith. Alpha House provides us with a shopping list for the weekday breakfasts, the bag lunches, cleaning and laundry supplies, baby supplies, etc.
- Social Hall Recruitment Table: Sandy Eyl, Sally Preston (2), Tricia Smith (5),

"Thank you" to a great group of volunteers for a wonderful cause. Questions? Contact Angela Barber, Alpha House Coordinator at abarber@gmail.com . 

Interfaith Service of Affirmation

"Are you woke? Stay Woke". This was the admonition to the crowd at a rally a few weeks ago on the University of Michigan Diag in support of Trans Women of Color. This Congregation celebrated a huge victory for marriage equality in June, but other civil rights are not yet assured for all LGBTQI folk. UUs must continue to stand up in support of Trans people in the struggle for acceptance and legal protection.

Hanging on to this awareness, continuing to show support, and striving to be allies will keep the community "woke". Will the Congregation stand up for Trans people who risk their lives daily? In a society in which fixed, binary gender is entwined, how can one wake up?

One method is for cis-gendered (those who identify with the biological gender with which they were born) to better understand what the Trans experience is like. To begin this journey, consider reading the memoir of Trans woman Jennifer Finney Boylan called *She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders*. In the book, Jennifer describes her life journey toward accepting and then claiming her inner gender. In addition to Jennifer's story, consider reading the afterword of the memoir, written by Jennifer's best friend and novelist Richard Rousseau. Rousseau describes his experience walking with his friend Paul Boylan as he made his transition.

Pay attention to upcoming newsletters, Interweave events, and other communications this year for more on how to "stay woke". Save the date for the Interfaith Service of Affirmation which moves this year to Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00pm, located at Temple Beth Emeth/Saint Clare of Assisi on Packard in Ann Arbor.

Questions? Contact Margaret Pekarek at mdawsonpekarek@gmail.com.



Church Office News

New Building Hours:

Sundays: 8:30am-4:00pm

Mondays-Thursdays: 9:00am-9:00pm

Friday: Closed

Saturdays: 9:00am-5:00pm

*** Note these changes: The Building will be closed on Friday's.**

The Church Office will be open Mondays-Thursdays from 9:00am-5:00pm.

Telephone: 734-665-6158

Fax: 734-665-7895

General Email: office@uuaa.org

Communicating at UUAU:

The deadline for submitting UUAU event, news, and program notices for inclusion in the *Weekly Bulletin* is 5:00pm each Wednesday. Send submissions to bulletin@uuaa.org.

The deadline for submitting UUAU event, news, and program notices for inclusion in the *2015 November Newsletter* is 9:00am on Wednesday, October 21.

Send your submissions to newsletter@uuaa.org.

Lay and staff program leaders may submit changes, additions, or updates for the website (uuaa.org) to webtech@uuaa.org.

Building & Office Team:

Ed Lynn, Interim Administrator, ed@uuaa.org

Deborah Casamatta, Office Administrator, deborah@uuaa.org

Arthur Whigham, Custodian, arthur@uuaa.org



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