



Sunday services 9:30 & 11 am; religious education classes, 11 am

www.uucgt.org

Unitarian Universalist
Congregation
of Grand Traverse
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Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

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Sunday, December 3, 2006 Services at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

"Raise High the Roof Bar"

Rev. Chip

Why "growth" is not necessarily the only or best answer: what we learned at the "Raise the Roof" training. Plus: festivals of light from around the world, and a spiritual surprise!

Tuesday, December 5, 2006 Service at 7:00 PM

"A Sacred Pause in the Season of Light"

Rev. Chip Roush, Rev. Kevin Tarsa, and Rabbi Chava Bahle

An interfaith Vespers service, with Congregation Ahavat Shalom. A contemplative, mellow time to "de-stress" from the holidays. Childcare will be provided, and a cookie reception will follow.

Sunday, December 10, 2006 Service at 11:00 AM. only

"Would You Like to Hold the Baby?"

Christmas Pageant with an all-star cast of young persons and musicians of all ages, John Noonan, director

Joyce Poley and Frank Henning wrote this Christmas intergenerational service to celebrate the spiritual truths and metaphorical beauty found in the Christian Nativity story that surrounds us at this time of year. "For the story invites us to reflect on what we value in life" ... and speaks to our yearnings for depth and meaning and hope.

Sunday, December 17, 2006 Services at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

"Blue Christmas"

Rev. Chip

There are many reasons we might be "blue" around the holidays: less sunlight, missing loved ones, family issues, too-high expectations, over-commercialization... We'll create some solace and joy together. The UUCGT Vocal Ensemble will sing!

Friday, December 22, 2006 Service at 7PM

"Winter Solstice Celebration"

Jeffery Hawkins (UUCGT Member and Druid) and Karen McCarthy

Winter Solstice marks the time of sun standing still, the time of greatest darkness but also the time of greatest hope. It is both a time of reflection and looking forward, of accepting our greatest sorrows and acknowledging the hope that comes as the wheel of the year turns once again back to a return of light – both within and without. Join us for an evening of cozy darkness, luscious light, and jubilant music as we honor the ways of Nature and celebrate the return of the light. The Rite of Alban Arthuan will be facilitated by Jeffery Hawkins / \ -- UUCGT member and Druid.

There will be festive feasting after the service—we invite you to bring some simple finger foods to share!

Sunday December 24, 2006

"Christmas Eve"

9:30 AM: a meditative service

11:00 AM: a traditional "kid's" service (instead of 4pm)

8:30 PM: a candlelight service

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

First, let me give a warm welcome to all the new faces we see coming through the door! Karen Culp, greeter extraordinaire, whispered to me last week as she closed the sanctuary doors, "Where ARE we going to put all these people?"

Such a delightful dilemma! The joy of worshippers, both new and "long-time", is palpable as you walk into the service and remain after to chat. UUCGT is moving into a new sense of itself; one which will call forth the best in all of us.

In the midst of this joy, your Board continues to struggle through the murky waters of governance. Transition can be a demanding mistress. We are earnestly focused on how to make wise use of both our economic and human resources. We survive and thrive on the gifts and talents of our members.

We ask ourselves questions such as: "What will help a congregant say YES freely when asked to serve on a Board committee? What will motivate a

congregant to say YES when asked to help defray the cost of items not listed in the budget, but necessary to the health of our congregation? (Cleaning up the grounds and installing our new minister come to mind!) What can the Board do for you?

Like the "Got Milk" ads we see so often, I ask you, "Got Answers?"

Finally, a thank-you to UUCGT staff and congregation for all you do here and in our wider community. Simple gifts of food, music, mittens, time and heart are offerings that have been part of our sustenance in the past and that are transporting us into a healthier and more vigorous congregation.

Warm wishes to you all during this holiday season from your Board of Trustees.

—Joan Sheard

MINDING THE STORE

Spirituality of the Grateful Dead

Rev. Chip will present three sermons on the religious humanism of the rock band, The Grateful Dead. The services will be Jan. 14th, 28th, and Feb. 4th. Musicians and dancers are welcome—please contact Rev. Chip.

Covenant Groups

Covenant group times and facilitators will be announced soon—those who have already indicated their interest will be called, and others may have the opportunity to join, if there is still room. The first meetings will be held in January.

...From our Friends

I introduced last month's Beacon article by explaining that the title of this column comes from the Beatles refrain, "we get by with a little help from our friends", referencing the UUA and the UU Heartland District. This month I would like to expand upon the gifts we have received from them.

In the recently passed budget, the congregation voted to approve paying off our mortgage. This might make it easy for us to forget that we are the grateful recipients of not one but two

building loans offered to us by the UUA. These monies help to build the literal and figurative foundations of who and where we are today. And, yes, these loans are still outstanding. These loans come with responsibilities. First, we must remember that these were indeed (very generous!) loans and need to be repaid on a timely basis. Secondly, it is up to us to maintain the building which our UUA friends helped us to build and enjoy. In the coming weeks and months your Board and representatives will be asking you what gifts you have to offer to help maintain this wonderful space. You may be willing to offer time, money, energy, or any combination of these! If you are asked to help, please consider this as an opportunity to participate in an exchange of goodwill between you and your fellow congregants, and with the larger UUA community. You might even have fun doing it!

As we celebrate the relationships in our lives with gift-giving and receiving this holiday season, let us not forget the generous offers of help from our UUA friends. Could we ever thank them enough?

Jeffery Hawkins
Trustee for Denominational Affairs

Going Away for the Winter?

Please contact the office regarding your departure and return dates. To receive *the Beacon* at your winter address, please let us know what that address is and what you want it sent to you, otherwise the Postal Service will return *the Beacon* to the office and it will cost us 39cents.

DRE Opportunity

There is a job opening for a Director of Religious Education. Gretchen Kronk, our interim DRE, would like to leave the position by the end of the year. This is currently a part-time position with a possibility of full-time in the future when the congregation (especially the number of children) has grown. This is a paid position of 20 hours a week and benefits. Contact the congregation office for an application, qualifications, and job description. The position needs to be filled as soon as possible hopefully no later than the end of January 2007. You may also contact the DRE search committee - Jeff Sanborn - 945-8680, Gail Trill - 938-1333, or Dave Halsted - 223-7277.

FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Red and blue and green lights, blinking, reflecting off the gold wallpaper. One of my childhood memories is lying in bed, watching the lights of the Christmas tree reflect down the hallway. I was warm, and secure, and I knew that some of the presents under that tree were for me. It was a comfortable time.

Of course, not all holidays and not all people are that comfortable. This December, we hope to approach the holidays from many different angles, to serve the many differing needs of our community. For those who are rushed and exhausted, we'll have a low-key, restorative Vespers service (with Congregation Ahavat Shalom) on Tuesday night, December 5th. For those for whom the holiday is difficult, we'll have a "Blue Christmas" service on Sunday morning, Dec. 17th.

For those who are hungry and without shelter, we will continue to serve Tuesday lunches, and we are expanding our service to assist other congregations who provide overnight accommodations. And, of course, we'll celebrate both the Solstice (Dec. 22nd) and Christmas Eve (three services: contemplative at 9:30a, child-friendly and boisterous at 11a, and a candlelight service at 8:30p).

Then, on January 7th, the first Sunday of the new year, we'll look back on the joys and sorrows of 2006. Be thinking of the events and moments that you'd like to honor that morning...

Until then, Happy Holidays!

the Rev. Chip Roush

ADULT PROGRAMS

UU Book Club

Recently some friends from the Benzie Satellite group asked me what books our UU Book Club would be reading in 2007. Here is a tentative list recommended by our selection committee of Mary Lou, Rebecca and Mercedes.

Arthur and George, by Julian Barnes

Waxwing, by Jonathan Rabin

Underworld, by Don DeLillo

Sons and Lovers, by D. H. Lawrence

Gravity's Rainbow, by Thomas Pynchon

Rise and Shine, by Anna Quindlen

The Syringa Tree, by Pamela Glen

Winters' Tale, by Mark Helprin

Prodigal Summer, by Barbara Kingsolver

Dates and places will be announced later. Call me if you have any questions.

Mark Gustafson
929-9608

Eighth Annual Classic Film Series

January 2007 is nearly here and that means it is time again for our winter film series. See the enclosed insert. Please note that we are doing a double feature and pizza party on both opening night, Saturday, January 6th and closing night, Saturday, January 27th. Call me if you have any questions.

Mark Gustafson
929-9608

UU Trivia

The first person to email

Rev. Chip (jchpr@yahoo.com) with the answer to this trivia question will win a gift certificate to Horizon Books, and will have his or her name published in our next *Beacon*.

This Unitarian Universalist used his television scripts to advocate for social responsibility. He learned that his controversial messages could only be shown if they were set in a fictional or fantastic setting—a "wondrous land whose boundaries are that of imagination..."

Congratulations to **Betsie Kortokrax**, for her right answer last month: the Unitarian author, Abolitionist and Suffragette who wrote many thrillers in her lifetime, but was best known for her children's books, was Louisa May Alcott. Further congratulations to **Molly Paryani**, who correctly noted that Ms. Alcott never signed the book in any church, although she attended several Unitarian congregations.

UU Quilters

Quilters will meet on Wed. Dec 13th in the social hall from 1-4. Materials, instruction and good company provided. Quilt proceeds to UU coffers. January dates: 10th and 24th. Bonnie Mathias and Kathy Prentice are contacts.

Thanksgiving Thanks

Thanks to everyone who helped make our Thanksgiving

feast such a wonderful success! A special Thank you to Richard Curtis who did the table decorations. Another thank you to those who roasted turkeys and helped set up and clean up. What a neat event!

Bible Study

The discussion topics are from the book, *Understanding the Bible: An Introduction for Skeptics, Seekers and Religious Liberals*, by John Buehrens

Rev. Chip says, "I've already seen some places where my understanding differs from (Buehrens') so we should have lively discussions among us."

January 14th will be a general introduction to the book's material and decision by participants for chapters for further discussion. January 28th, February 11th and 25th we will have further discussion of selected material.

The UUA bookstore states: "The book is designed to help empower skeptics, seekers, nonbelievers and those of a liberal and progressive outlook to reclaim the bible from literalists."

The book is available from Beacon Press or Amazon. There is one copy available in our library. Or, order your copy through Jeff Sanborn jfsan@charter.net but order asap because, Jeff says, "... it takes a week to get."

(Continued on page 6)

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION

Helping the Homeless!

Aren't we lucky! We have; therefore we can share, we can give to others! Thanks to Mary Kiner, chair, Tom Albrecht, Mary Ann Force, Pinkie Hoffman, Mercedes Kimling, and Judy Weaver, the homeless had an evening meal at the Grace Episcopal church election night. This is part of the winter long program to house and feed the homeless.

Safe Harbor is the name of the local homeless organization, now in its second year. The in-town churches that are able, house the homeless over night. They also provide a warm supper and breakfast. There is need to help those churches with the meals or even chaperoning the overnight stays. Congregations that help the housing churches are called Partner Churches. Potter House would like us to partner with them when they house the homeless. Grace Episcopal, and others, also need help.

In early January there will be training for those interested in helping. We will learn about the rules that the Homeless must follow, get our questions answered, and generally learn about the program. Then all we need is about 3 to 5 people to help prepare and serve a meal. Can you do that? Wouldn't you want that done for you? We are asking you to give only what you can, like one evening, or one morning, or just prepare a dish. You will be working with your UU friends and helping others too. It would be fun to do it together, and a learning experience for all. They need our help! **Please sign up on the sheet on the Social Justice Action table, or call or email me.** Anyway I can help you, to help us, and others, would be a pleasure. I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you!

Emmy Lou Cholak
943-7999
sjatc@charter.net

Dates To Save

- * Friday, Jan 26th, a UU video, probably about the Invisible Migrants of Deer Valley;
- * Saturday, March 10th, a film and talk by a Holocaust survivor, one of the Righteous Christians, who risked her life to save others. This last event will be co-sponsored with Temple Beth El. We will have other UU videos, dates and topics to be announced. Hope to see you at them.

Emmy Lou Cholak
943-7999

MINDING THE STORE CONTINUED

PLEASE KEEP UUCGT IN MIND WHEN YOU ARE PLANNING YOUR YEAR-END CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Welcome New Members

We are delighted to welcome new members Greg and Lori Boothroyd, who joined UUCGT in November. Greg has recently joined the Vocal Ensemble, and they are listed as friends in the new Directory. Please look for them during coffee hour and help us to make them welcome.

To become a member, please make an appointment for a meeting with the Rev. Chip Roush.

Tax Issues for IRA holders

If you are 70 or older and are the holder of IRA's please read on! During 2006 and 2007, the newly enacted IRA rollover provision permits individuals age 70.5 and above to make charitable donations of up to \$100,000 from Individual Retirement Accounts and Roth IRA's without having to count the distributions as taxable income. This is a rollover and is part of your distribution you have to make according to law. Here is an opportunity to take your church pledge from this required taxable amount. In fact, you can increase your church pledge with the money

the government would have taken. It is a win/win situation for you and the church. While this wasn't made into law until August this year, you can pay out arrears pledges and pledge forward until December 2007. These distributions must be made directly to the charity from the IRA trustee. My trustee is making the check out to the UUCGT and sending it to me and I will hand it in. I must have a receipt and I can't count this amount in regular charity donations, because that would be double dipping. All in all, it is a good deal for all of us. For more information, talk to your tax person. Also go on line to www.independentsector.org/programs/gr/IRARollover.html.

Thanks to John Ort for mentioning this in a previous Beacon.

Barb Bloomer
276-7655

Dining with Rev. Chip Roush

You are cordially invited to dine with Reverend Chip -- in fact, you are invited to 30 meals with him. Continuing for the rest of this church year, we'll have a POTLUCK dinner, or lunch, or brunch every week. Groups of 10 or so will have a chance to talk about their spiritual journeys, why they attend UUCGT, and their hopes for the Congregation's future. By the end of the year, Rev. Chip hopes to have shared a meal with every person in this congregation, from infant to centenarian and all ages in between. To date, about 25 of our members have shared a meal and their thoughts with Rev. Chip. The response has been exciting and I know no one is going to want to miss this great opportunity. Sign-ups will continue on Sunday mornings. We have had 30 people sign up to host these meals. Please see Solveig Gustafson, L.E. Smith or JoAnn Rosi between or after services or phone Solveig (929-9608) to make you reservation.

SERVICE SCHEDULE CONTINUED

Sunday December 31, 2006 Services at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

"Ringing, Reflecting, and Renewing"

Maura Brennan, Mary Lee Orr, Karen McCarthy, and Friends

As we prepare to ring in 2007, it is also a time to reflect on 2006 and "check in" with ourselves. During the year our busy days turn into busy weeks that are quickly filled up. The turning of a new year can be a time to quiet our minds and truly reflect. This morning we will embrace the renewal a new year brings through poetry, song, and stories.

Sunday January 7, 2007 Services at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

"When Darkness Was A Virtue"

Rev. Chip

Constructing our shelter against the storms of oppression.

Sunday January 14, 2007 Services at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

"Searching for the Sound: the Spirituality of the Grateful Dead"

Rev. Chip

First of three sermons on the religious humanism of the rock-n-roll band "The Grateful Dead." The other two will be Jan. 28th and Feb. 4th.

2006 RUTH & JIM GAMBLE AWARD PRESENTATION SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH AT THE THANKSGIVING DINNER TWIN LAKES LODGE BY PAUL HEATON & HOLLY KNIBBS

This year we would like to honor someone who models the volunteer standards set by the namesakes of this award – Ruth & Jim Gamble. This is someone who is always there when we are serving food or entertaining – as an organizer, a wine or tea pourer, a cleaner-upper. This person is there every Wednesday evening for a potluck or "dining out" with the "Two on the Town" group, perhaps because, as one member has said "people are so comfortable with" this person. This person has been a member of the membership committee for forever; organizing and presenting orientations for new members, greeting newcomers and chairing meetings. This person is the host of the last-standing FAN club, a social club meant to facilitate and enhance small groups within our growing congregation. This person is always there when it's our turn to clean the highway we adopted...sometimes the only one! ..and has been described as being "present so much in that quiet kind of way".

Our 2006 Gamble award winner is Pinkie...and John Hoffmann. Pinkie has been a member of this congregation since 1989; John has been a member since...2005....is that right? Judy Halsted describes them both as "very very reliably there", and adds that "what they say they will do, they do."

Pinkie has shared her sewing talents by creating costumes for Christmas pageants, April Fool's concerts and even the Autumn Auction. When Kathy Prentice was looking for help managing the quilt we created for Emmy Lou, she asked Pinkie to lead a group of would-be quilters; Pinkie said she wasn't a quilter but she would be glad to help.

John has many talents as well: he was the only pitcher we ever had during the ten years of our UU softball team. As a member of the Ministerial Search Committee, he shared his wisdom in his subtle, thoughtful way...and always brought a bottle of wine to the meetings. Karen McCarthy reports that his contributions to their discussions had both "breadth and depth". Another very timely example of their low-key and quiet contributions is the now annual "dinners at home" fundraiser, which has become part of the Thanksgiving dinner.

We are very fortunate to have John and Pinkie as members of our congregation, and are pleased to present them with their Gamble Award key pins.

ALL ABOUT US

We Hold In Our Hearts

We hold Barbara Brokaw in our hearts as she bravely battles the treatments used for the pancreatic cancer she suffers.

We also give thanks to the many UU's and others who have provided food and conversation and caring to Barb and her sons. Among those are: Chris Allen, Karen Culp, Joanne Rosi, Sharon Fidler, Nancy Crisp, Marsha Walton, Kathy Prentice. as well as others whom I am unaware of but grateful.

We also hold all those others we know are suffering greatly this time but who do not wish to be recognized by name. Thank you for sharing and entrusting the pastoral care leaders with your concerns.

We Are Mindful Of

We continue to be mindful and aware of needs of:

- * Beecy Fraser
- * Ruth Gamble
- * Joan Laird
- * Elizabeth Norris
- * Richard Myer

Volunteers for transportation or for providing food should be directed to:

Mercedes Kimling 223-7537 and Bonnie Mathias (935-3715) of the pastoral care leadership.

The Pastoral Care Team will be on hand to answer questions and offer help and understanding of the "Five Wishes" program on Wednesday, Dec. 6th following the Wed. evening potluck supper. Dinner at 6:00 and program at 7:00 p.m. This is a very important item to have in your family discussions no matter what your age may be.

Look into a dining out opportunity with our minister, Chip Roush, by contacting L. E. Smith or Solveig Gustafson.

Arline Howe

ADULT PROGRAMS CONTINUED

Roots

The Rev. Chip Roush has scheduled a *Roots* course for this winter. *Roots* is described as an "exploration of the Free Church Tradition"; "First step towards involvement in a community dedicated to the preservation of religious freedom." The four session course introduces the ideas, history and people which make up the Free Church Tradition as it is manifested in Unitarian Universalism. The course schedule is Wednesday, January 17th, 24th, February 7th and 21st at 7 PM (following the Wednesday night supper). The roots course is open to everyone interested in learning more about UU heritage and we strongly encourage newer members and those in our Congregation who are considering membership to attend. A sign-up sheet will be at the Welcome Table. For additional information talk with Rev, Roush or one of the "Ask Me" Membership Committee members.

Five Wishes

The Wednesday night supper group is fostering discussion on the FIVE WISHES program. Join us on December 6th for potluck at 6 and/or workshop at 7. In light of the serious issues facing our health care system, should we present and future users feel an obligation to help our families make responsible decisions on our behalf, should we become seriously ill or incapacitated? Is there a user-friendly plan available to accomplish this? Yes to both questions. Given the extraordinary measures for prolonging what could become a tragedy for our families, and the obvious examples in the world of how not to do it, we urge you to take advantage of our team's training and understanding to help make FIVE WISHES part of your legacy.

Your Pastoral Care Team



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM THE OFFICE
AND
BEACON STAFFS



Chip Roush,
Connie Hoffman,
Kevin Tarsa, Jim Cook
Linda Carp, Richard Curtis
Peg Kaufman & Volunteers,
Gretchen Kronk, Jessica Jacobs

M

A

R

Y

Kiner

FROM YOUR MINISTER OF MUSIC

Whether December events and experiences draw forth fond memories and lift your most generous spirits, or send you scrambling for solitude, silence and protective shelter, may you find in the images of this season, valuable metaphors for your own life and living.

- * metaphors that mirror your interior journey and shed helpful light onto its edges and into its sheltered spaces,
- * metaphors that call you out into deeper compassion and a wide, calm generosity
- * metaphors that help you connect to friends and

family through a risking but open-eyed intimacy,

- * metaphors that invite the offering of your gifts to the world around you.

In the midst of the growing darkness, the stilling of the sun's southern sojourn, and the subtle turn to lengthening days, may you see your own life reflected, illuminated and, if ever so subtly, transformed.

Yours,

Rev. Kevin Tarsa

MUSICAL NOTES

Another Possible Living Room Concert

Conversations are underway regarding the possibility of another "living room" concert after the services on Sunday, December 17th. If you would like to make music that day, contact Kevin Tarsa. Stay tuned to the announcements in the Sunday orders of service as we get closer to the date.

December Music

Our gentle evening vespers service on Dec 5th could include your music. We'll gather a small ensemble (including you?) for the Pageant on Dec 10th. We seek music makers for the Solstice Celebration on Dec 22nd, as well as all of the services (morning and evening) on Dec 24th. Contact Kevin Tarsa if you would like to sing/play for any of these.

Grateful Dead Choir and Musicians

In January, Jeremy Treadwell will be organizing and rehearsing musicians for three services rooted in the music of the Grateful Dead. If you would like to be one of the musicians or a member or leader of the Grateful Dead choir, contact Jeremy (or in December, Kevin Tarsa.)

Musical Thank You

- To Kim Gribi and Dede Alderman for violin and percussion in the services with Mark Gustafson on Nov 5th.
- To Richard Curtis for his beautiful

flute playing, Children's Chorus members Patrick Elmgren, Eliot and Maran Huggins, Laura Kortokrax and Chloe Love for their wonderful singing and bell playing, to singers Joel Heady, Kevin Weber and members of the UUCGT Vocal Ensemble, harmonica player Bill Cheney, and accompanists John Christenen and R. Gary Deavel for great and moving music making on Nov 12th.

- To R. Gary Deavel, Mercedes Kimling and Treva Jaffe who offered a wonderful "living room" concert after the services on Nov 12th.

- To the UUCGT Vocal Ensemble members, soloist Marilyn Tilley, violinist Alan Tilley, and percussionists Dede Alderman, and Jamie and Jeremy Treadwell for very beautiful and very exciting singing and playing on November 19th.

- To Mercedes Kimling, members of the Vocal Ensemble and more, Rabbi Chava Bahle and members of TC Celtic who offered an evening full of wonderful music at the Father Fred Foundation Thanksgiving Eve dinner on Nov 22nd.

- To the two young pianists, students from the Interlochen Arts Academy, who played for the 9:30 service and to Laura Kortokrax . the members of the Peterson/Mueller family - Nancy, Pohai, Nina and Fiona - and to Chris Williams for getting our toes tapping with the "Irish Wedding Dance" at the 11:00 service on Nov. 26th.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Christmas Pageant

There are **just two more rehearsals** of this year's pageant, "Would you Like to Hold the Baby?" Following the 11 o'clock service on **Sunday, December 3rd**, we will rehearse until 2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The next **Sunday, December 10th**, at 9:00 a.m., we will convene in the Sanctuary for dress rehearsal, prior to the presentation during the 11:00 a.m. service.

Thank You . . .

... to RE Committee members Kathy Tack and Gail Trill, who put in a solid afternoon's work scrubbing down the classroom carts and organizing the supply cabinets on each of them. They made sure each cart is equipped with pencils, pens, staplers, staples, scissors, band aids, tape, glue, blank name tags, stickers, crayons, markers that work, and more!... to our volunteer RE teachers who gave of themselves on behalf of our children and youth during November: Betsie Kortokrax, Emma McCarthy, Gail Trill, Joyce Braeuninger, Katy Bean-Larson, Mary Cheney, Ron Chao and Scott Huggins.

Please thank our RE volunteers and Committee members when you see them.

*—Gretchen Kronk,
your Interim DRE*

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of Grand Traverse
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Calendar

All events take place at the Congregation building unless otherwise noted

December

- 2 Sat RE Shopping and wrapping of gifts for Women's Resource, Kathy Prentice, Social Hall, 9-noon
- 3 Sun **"Raise High the Roof Bar" Plus: festivals of light from around the world, and a spiritual surprise, Services at 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.**
- 4 Mon SOS Meeting, Jeff, . Office, 7-8:30 p.m.
- 5 Tues "A Sacred Pause in the Season of Light" An interfaith Vespers service, with Congregation Ahavat Shalom. Tuesday, 7pm, with cookies after. A contemplative, mellow time to "de-stress" from the holidays. Childcare provided. Sanctuary, 7-8:30 p.m.
- 6 Wed RE Committee Meeting, G. Kronk, Social Hall, 4-5 p.m.
- 6 Wed Potluck at six (social time at 5:30) Program at seven, Five Wishes
- 7 Thurs Family Chorus Rehearsal, K. Tarsa, 6-7:00 p.m.
- 7 Thurs Vocal Ensemble, K. Tarsa, 7-9:00 p.m.
- 9 Sat Pageant Rehearsal, G Kronk, time to be determined

- 10 Sun **pageant: "Who Wants to Hold the Baby?"; Services at 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.**
- 11 Mon Finance Committee, Holly Knibbs, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Off-site
- 11 Mon Men's Group, South City Limits, 6-7:30 p.m.
- 11 Mon SOS Meeting, Jeff, Office, 7-8:30 p.m.
- 12 Tues UUCGT Board Meeting, social hall, 7-9 p.m.
- 14 Thurs Vocal Ensemble, K. Tarsa, 7-9:00 p.m.
- 17 Sun **"Blue Christmas" Services at 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Vocal Ensemble**
- 18 Mon SOS Meeting, Jeff, Office, 7-8:30 p.m.
- 21 Thurs Vocal Ensemble, K. Tarsa, 7-9:00 p.m.
- 24 Sun **Christmas Eve: a meditative service at 9:30am, traditional "kid's" service at 11am (instead of 4pm), and a candlelight service at 8:30pm.**
- 27 Wed UU Quilters, Social Hall, 1-4:00 p.m.
- 27 Wed Supper at six (social time at 5:30) Program at seven, Festival of Resolutions

the BEACON
BEACON Deadlines: Last Sunday of the month, following the last service.
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