



**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation  
of Grand Traverse**

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**Sunday, July 1 — ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM**  
"Enough!"

**Katy Bean-Larson, with some of our talented teen-aged  
musicians**

All of us want what we need. But what exactly do we need?  
If I need it, does that mean you need it too? If I need  
something, does that mean I deserve it?

**Sunday, July 8 — ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM**  
"Hopelessly Helping"

**Rev. Chip**

How does Mahayana Buddhism differ from Theravadan  
Buddhism? From Zen? From UUism? We'll explore this  
spiritual path that is rapidly becoming more popular in the  
United States.

**Special meeting following the service—vote on  
the 07-08 budget!**

**Sunday, July 15 — ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM**  
"A Divinity School Address"

**Rev. Kevin Tarsa; Judy Weaver, violin, Jean Saalfeld,  
cello, and co.**

Ralph Waldo Emerson delivered his famous "Divinity School  
Address" on this very day, July 15, in 1938, touching off a  
major controversy among American Unitarian theologians.  
While not expecting to shake the world of theologians, I will  
offer reflections from my own seminary journey toward a  
Master of Divinity degree. I entered this journey in order to  
learn and to grow, and so I am.

**Sunday, July 22 — ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM**  
"The Deeper Meaning of Mindfulness"

**Maura Brennan; Bob Hicks, trumpet and Andy Evans,  
bass**

In the Vipallasa Sutra, the Buddha described four basic  
ways we misconstrue our experience on earth. They are  
known as the four distortions of mind, because they cause  
us to misunderstand how things actually are, and cling to  
"dukkha," or the unsatisfactory conditions and suffering of  
cyclic existence. This morning we will explore the four  
distortions, and how we can use true mindfulness to  
liberate ourselves from them, and clear the path  
to enlightenment.

**Sunday, July 29 — ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM**  
"To Live Fully"

**Rev. Chip; Nan Worthington, harp and voice**

Getting at the very Marrow of Life. Deprogram and recharge!

**Sunday, August 5 — ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM**  
"2,500 Years of Liberal Religion in 25 Minutes"

**Rev. Chip; Holly Knibbs, piano**

Two millennia of spiritual history and inspiration in less than  
half an hour.

**Sunday, August 12 — ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 AM**  
"God, In Other Words...."

**Richard Kraemer**

The ways we search in the realms of faith and belief says as  
much about us as what we might believe.

**M E S S A G E  
f r o m t h e  
P R E S I D E N T**

**June 24**

Fellow congregants: We had a sermon this morning which dealt with fear and love. The minister posited that all our behavior evolves from those two emotions. It would seem we must conquer our fears before we can move on in life both giving and receiving love. It is my wish that the financial support for our church comes from our hearts with joy. I truly believe that the love demonstrated at UUCGT will evolve into a stewardship which will meet and exceed the work we need to do with and for each other as well as for expanded community service. So to that end, with a bold look forward, come to the church service and the business meeting on July 8 and vote both your head AND your heart!

If you are not able to be with us that day, please come to the church office and vote an absentee ballot prior to the business meeting. If you are unable to drive, please call me (922-1834) and I will see that you receive a ballot. We UU's pride ourselves on being active in our civic and volunteer communities. I invite all to assist in the sacred mission we have as a church and vote on or before July 8.

Yours in faith,

—Joan Sheard

*the BEACON*

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

Jim Cook, Editor, 941-4648  
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Folding, labeling & mailing  
by Peg Kauffman and volunteers

## From Our Senior Minister

**“Let The Congregation Say ‘Hooray!’”**

“Please contain yourselves,” we were told, at the beginning of the Service of the Living Tradition. “This is a worship service, not a graduation. Do not applaud.” So the new ministers, and the retiring ministers, were recognized with a dignified silence following their names. As someone who spends hours each week, crafting a service and anticipating the flow of emotion therein, I understand the desire to control what happens at a service. However, it seems to me that trying to prevent spontaneous and reverent outbursts of emotion is self-defeating. On the contrary, human emotion is part of the experience. I say every week, “may our reason, and our passion, be kindled.” So when a number of youth and young adults \*did\* cheer for one new minister (the only minister to hear applause at her or his name), I

appreciated the break of decorum.

Cheering constantly and doing “the wave” during a funeral would be inappropriate; crying a few tears or yelping with glee on a Sunday morning might be okay. A young child yelling and kicking all service long might be better served in the nursery; a baby making occasional baby noises should be welcome. Applause after a moving musical piece, intended to deepen our spiritual experience, might break the mood; some spontaneous and reverent vocal utterances after a joyful anthem might add to our shared experience.

There are few black-and-white guidelines here, but I would like to err on the side of expressive life, over oppressive decorum.

With Spirit,

—*the Rev. Chip Roush*

### ALL ABOUT US

We were saddened by the death of Fred Johnston this month. Flo Rose honored Fred with a small group of friends and family at their home in Interlochen. There was a special honor by a member of the Native Americans because of Fred's good work with them.

We are sorry for the loss of Patty Pelizzari's father whose memorial service was held in Milliken auditorium of Dennon Museum.

#### **We Hold In Our Hearts:**

Ron Yatich who was recently moved into Munson from Tendercare fighting an infection. He is now back in Tendercare and enjoys short visits. Because of his immune system he should not be exposed to any unnecessary infectious situations. Thanks to the wonderful regulars who visit and help Ron these days.

#### **We Are Mindful Of:**

- ❖ Deni Everett
- ❖ Beecy Fraser
- ❖ Ruth Gamble
- ❖ Margaret Tarsa

To all those who are suffering and

whose problems we are unaware of, we hope you know there is help and know we care.

Arline Howe

#### **The Old Mission Labyrinth . . .**

. . . is available for anyone interested. It is located at the NE corner of M-37 (Center Road) and Old Mission road. Call John Schneider or Sharon Olson for information: 223-9299.

#### **Five Wishes Initiative**

Pastoral Care & Social Action are entering the third year of a five-year program to have all members of the congregation take active steps in preparing for end-of-life care. To date, the majority of those involved in church leadership roles have at least filled out the Five Wishes document, and will be available to any congregant wishing to discuss the topic. We are hopeful it will be an important part of the patient advocacy training program that will begin this fall. Copies of Five Wishes are available in the church office (in John Schneider's mailbox) or at most doctors' office and local hospitals. Call John Schneider if you wish to discuss your living will planning: 223-9299.

### MINDING THE STORE

#### **Thank you, chair cleaners!**

I had this crazy idea to steam clean the church's sanctuary chairs. Lucky for me, I had the support of Solveig Gustafson, and then confidence to go for it. So, early on June 21<sup>st</sup>, eight willing helpers started to work and in two hours of hard labor, with two rented machines, all the chairs were out drying in the sun. Three hours later, seven other folks, responding to a list minute call, came and hauled them all back inside. Three more came forward and helped by contributing to our cost of \$67.80. I'm so grateful to all those who supported my crazy idea. If you appreciate the clean chairs and see any of these people, let them know it: The “Steam clean crew”: Mary Anne Rivers, Carol Still, Pinkie Hoffman, Solveig Gustafson, Mark Gustafson, Mary Kiner, Cal Boulter, Nancy Landfair, Jane Watts; the “Bring 'em back in crew”: Bill Mathias, H G Smith, Rebecca Dobler, Larry Dobler, Ann Ward, Fred Schaafsma, L E Smith; the “Dollar crew”: Kay Wentzel, Shari Cope, Joan Sheard.

My heartfelt thanks to all—you are the greatest!

—Nancy Landfair

# From Our Minister of Music

My horoscope on June 18 began: "It's counterproductive to force yourself to focus."

I'll say! I am finding focus very difficult to come by at the moment. In part, it is because my head needs "down time" from the reading and studying. I need long, long hikes out on the Platte Plains Trail or at Pyramid Point in the Sleeping Bear Dunes in order to process all that is going through my head. The struggle to focus is also heightened by the needs of my heart as my mom finishes her chemo treatments and prepares to wait three months to see if cancer shows up in CAT scans or MRI's. Here too, "down time" is what helps. No amount of forcing helps. And so my thoughts for

this column come but slowly.

My June 18 horoscope continued: "So stroll around, wander the Web, doodle. Giving yourself permission to mentally meander will prove to be an incredibly industrious move."

The horoscope column is not my usual source of wisdom, but I'll take insight from any available source, and rather than trying to force a focus in this writing, I'll think I'll go stroll around or wander the Web or doodle, or...

Yours,

*Rev. Kevin Tarsá*

## ADULT PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

### Family Mental Health Group

If a member of your family has mental illness, come meet with us on Thursday evening, July 26th, at 7pm

—Rev. Chip

### UUCGT CampOut

Anyone interested in an intergenerational campout, sometime in early autumn, contact Rev. Chip.

### Crones and Scones July Meeting

The wise and wonderful crones of UUCGT will be boarding the scenic BATA Village Connector bus and for \$1.00 (exact change only) will journey to Empire for lunch and whatever else strikes our fancy. We will meet at the Transit Station on Hall Street near Front Street at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, July 25 and return in the afternoon. All women of "that certain age" are warmly invited to join us. Call Sally Mitchell (929-2798) or Solveig Gustafson (929-9608) for more information.

### Share-A-Book?

Anybody want to be a joint book reader? Here is the story: I have a book by Michael Shermer - How We Believe: The Search for God in an Age of Science which I purchased from the Skeptic Magazine web site. It occurred

to me it would be interesting to read it in a group and discuss it. There are ten chapters. We could parcel out chapters or we could read the book and talk about it. Interested? Contact Sally Mitchell, 929 2798.

—Sally Mitchell

### Men's Group . . .

. . . is taking a break in July. Enjoy the Cherry Festival in whatever way suits you best! The men will meet again on Monday August 13.

## YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Youth Group Film Festival

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 PM until ??? Two movies + dinner. Teen going into ninth grade or older are invited. Please RSVP to Katy Bean-Larson at 342-0461 for headcount for dinner.

## MUSICAL NOTES

### Music Thank You's...

- ♪ to Kim Gribi, violin and R. Gary Deavel, piano, for their always amazing music on June 3. What a gifted pair of musicians!
- ♪ to guest singer/songwriter Joe Jencks for his marvelous music and spirit on June 10. If you missed him at the service or the concert, be sure to catch him next time.
- ♪ to Jeff Hawkins for anchoring and

energizing our music with his intuitive drum playing.

♪ to singer/harpist Nan Worthington for both beautiful harp playing and an extraordinarily tender, personal offering of "Both Sides Now" on June 24.

### Making Music at UUCGT

Musicians, please always consider approaching me with your ideas/ requests for music making. Increasingly, my role is to support, equip, facilitate the offering of your musical gifts. I generate ideas as I am able, but you do not need to wait for me to ask.

Vocal Ensemble rehearsals resume on Thursday, September 6. Mark your calendars!

Who wants to be part of a UUCGT band (folk/rock) this fall/winter?

## SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ACTION

The Social Justice Action committee will commence regular meetings beginning in September. We will meet at 7 PM in the social hall, first Tuesday every month (except Jan. 1). Come with ideas and eagerness to help heal our world; share your ideas with other like-minded and concerned congregants. We are not alone. Together we can overcome. See you then. Thanks!

—Emmy Lou Cholak

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# the BEACON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
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July 2007

## the BEACON

### Calendar

All events take place at the Congregation building unless otherwise noted

July

- 1 Sun **"Enough," Katy Bean-Larson, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 2 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 5 Thurs Finance Committee, Holly Knibbs, 5:30-7:30p.m.
- 8 Sun **"Hopelessly Helping," Rev. Chip, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 8 Sun **UUCGT Annual Meeting and election of officers following the service; please attend or submit an absentee ballot**
- 9 Mon Men's Group—NO MEETING THIS MONTH
- 9 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 11 Wed Cherry Festival—NO Supper at Six!
- 15 Sun **"A Divinity School Address," Rev. Kevin Tarsa, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 16 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 18 Wed Supper at Six, Ann Dressel's home, 922-0483, 6 PM
- 22 Sun **"The Deeper Meaning of Mindfulness," Maura Brennan, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 23 Mon SOS meeting (Jeff 946-8680, Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 24 Tues Sunday Services Committee, Maura Brennan (941-9158), 7-9 p.m.
- 25 Wed Crones & Scones Travel to Empire, Sally Mitchell, Solveig Gustafson, 10 AM - ?? PM (see article inside)
- 25 Wed Supper at Six, details TBA
- 26 Thurs Family Mental Health Group, Rev. Chip, 7 PM
- 29 Sun **"To Live Fully," Rev. Chip, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 30 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 1 Wed Supper at Six, details TBA

August

- 1 Wed Supper at Six, details TBA
- 5 Sun **"2,500 Year of Liberal Religion in 25 Minutes," Rev. Chip, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 6 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 8 Wed Membership Committee, John & Pinkie Hoffman, 2:30-4:30 PM
- 8 Wed Supper at Six, details TBA
- 9 Thurs Finance Committee, Holly Knibbs, 5:30-7:30p.m.
- 12 Sun **"God, In Other Words..." Richard Kraemer, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 13 Mon Men's Group, South City Limits, Mark Gustafson (929-9608), 6-8:00 PM
- 13 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 14 Tues Board, Joan Sheard, 7-9 PM
- 15 Wed Supper at Six, details TBA
- 19 Sun **TBA, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 20 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 22 Wed Supper at Six, details TBA
- 24 Fri Board Retreat
- 25 Sat Board Retreat
- 26 Sun **TBA, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 27 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 28 Tues Sunday Services Committee, Maura Brennan (941-9158), 7-9 p.m.
- 29 Wed Supper at Six, details TBA

September

- 2 Sun **TBA, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 3 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 6 Thurs Finance Committee, Holly Knibbs, 5:30-7:30p.m.
- 9 Sun **TBA, ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00 a.m.**
- 10 Mon Men's Group, South City Limits, Mark Gustafson (929-9608), 6-8:00 PM
- 10 Mon SOS meeting (Steve 929-9836), Office, 7-8 p.m.
- 11 Tues Board, Joan Sheard, 7-9 PM