



Sunday services: 10:30 AM; religious education classes, 10:30 AM

www.uucgt.org

email: office@uucgt.org

**Unitarian Universalist
Congregation
of Grand Traverse**

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then fax.)

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9-4:30 Tues - Thurs
9-12 noon Friday

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rabbi@uucgt.org

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August: Interdependence and the Practice of Connecting

Sunday, August 2nd, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“UU Values in Film”, Rabbi Chava

NOTE: Venue Change!

This service (originally scheduled for the Bay Theater) will be at the UU instead.

Can you think of film moments that deeply inspired you to understand interconnectedness? One of the great joys of film is the celebration of human creativity and our deep connection to story. After all, film is a storytelling genre. What a wonderful way to celebrate our humanness! Come enjoy an inspiring opportunity to contemplate how the medium of film can change the world.

Sunday, August 9th, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“The Traverse City Film Festival. So what's a good movie?”, Mark Gustafson and Friends

Mark Gustafson, H. G. Smith, Pat Light and Betsy Emdin will explore and discuss several Traverse City Film Festival offerings:

The five fiction films chosen are:

- *The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out The Window And Disappeared*
- *Love at First Fight*
- *When I Live My Life Over Again*
- *Virgin Mountain*
- *Wild Tales*

The three documentary films are:

- *Wolf Pack*
- *Brainwashing of my Dad*
- *Fear Not the Path of Truth*

Sunday, August 16th, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“Harmony”, Rabbi Chava

On this date in 1962, Ringo Starr replaced Pete Best as the drummer for the Beatles and a world phenomenon was born. Harmony is the art of interdependence. Along with a “No Fault Choir”, we will focus on how difference makes for harmony and beauty. How do we use this Sunday morning to, in the words of Wordsworth, find “through an eye made quiet by the power of harmony, and deep joy, we see into the life of things”?

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BEACON Deadline:

No later than the 25th of the month
preceding the issue date

Stan Cain, Editor

231 938-1506
Send submissions to
beacon@uucgt.org

Sunday, August 23rd, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“Humanity for Prisoners”, Rabbi Chava

– Being part of a web of interdependence means connecting with everyone—those with whom we feel an immediate synchronicity, as well as those whose lives have led them to vastly different ends. This week, we welcome Doug Tjapkes, founder of the Humanity for Prisoners organization. HFP is the only organization in the State of Michigan that works one-on-one with inmates in the Michigan prison system, personally responding to each inquiry. Come and hear stories of hope and redemption

Sunday, August 30th, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“Interbeing”, Rabbi Chava

The great Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh has created an international community called the Order of Interbeing. This Buddhist concept of interdependent arising has much to teach about the nature of self and what is seen as non-self. The eastern traditions are one of the six sources of Unitarian Universalism. What can we learn from this gentle teacher?

September: Seekers Together Sunday Services, 10:30 AM

Beginning in September, we will explore a pairing of one of the UU Principles, along with the UU sources. The richness of these solid UU traditions will guide us through the year, helping us stay rooted in great ideals of Unitarian Universalism. Thanks to Nancy Flanagan and Sarah Montgomery-Richards for creating such a beautiful tapestry. In September, we explore the ways in which we are seekers, together. Here are the titles - watch your September Beacon on the weekly Flash for more details.

Sunday, September 6th, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“What Does it Mean to be a UU Seeker? What Exactly are We seeking? ”, Rabbi Chava

Sunday, September 13th, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“Resumption Sunday”, Rabbi Chava - All Congregation Service

Sunday, September 20th, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

“Under One Roof: When Fellow Seekers Differ ”, Rabbi Chava

Sunday, September 27th, 10:30am, *Childcare and RE at 10:30*

TBA

Contemplative Reflection, 9 - 9:45 AM, Sanctuary September 20 (with Rabbi Chava) and September 27 (Leader TBA)

“Muddy water, let stand, becomes clear.” — Lao Tzu

Join us in the sanctuary for an additional offering beginning in September: a time of quiet contemplation with our beloved UU symbols - bell, chalice, hymns, joys and concerns - in addition to silence and a short teaching from Rabbi Chava (9/20).

Begin your day in peace. Stay for coffee and join us the 10:30 AM service as well!



R. Chava's Column

"Is This Still our Congregation?"

Change always comes bearing gifts. ~Price Pritchett

Beloved friends, I wonder sometimes if our long term members look around at the many wonderful innovations that are occurring at UUCGT and ask, "Is this still our congregation?" The reality is that we indeed have a good amount of change occurring in our programming (9 AM programming, changes to RE structure, for example), to the physical plant (chalk wall, new parking places, a blue and green rabbi office, that sort of thing), to our governance structures, for example. The most visible and highest impact change will be the addition of programming on Sunday mornings beginning in September.

It is quite exciting, but I want to assure you that, even with all the robust growth, we are still the UUCGT.

What does this mean? Most important, we are still and will remain committed to the principles and sources of Unitarian Universalism. We remain a part of the UU world and the UUA. The core symbols of Sunday worship - uniquely UU - the bell, chalice, joys and concerns, hymns, hymnals remain the heart of our shared experience. Traditions and customs unique to our congregation will re-

main steadfast even as we add new programming.

Now that we are ready to launch the additional Sunday programming and the changes to RE offerings, it is very important that we slow things down and allow ourselves time to settle in together. As Gandhi said, "There is more to life than increasing its speed." The pace of change has been intense; it is vital that this now be balanced with time to look around ourselves, to explore more deeply, to inquire.

So for those who might be wondering, "Is this still the same place?" I want to assure that the ministerial team holds CONTINUITY as a high priority, even as we evolve. The core principles and practices of UUCGT are foremost in the minds of the teams at work to build a strong, robust, rooted community.

Thank you for your patience as we take new steps; thank you for your willingness. And thank you for holding the center that makes this congregation THE place to be, for old friends and new.

In loving blessing -
Chava

Rabbi Chava Bahle
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse
(231) 947-3117 rabbi@uucgt.org

All About Us

We hold in our hearts

The families of Helen Wells and Nancie Thole, as they continue to grieve the loss of their loved ones.

Ben Hansen, who is battling cancer.

We continue to be mindful of:

Joe Connolly and his daughter, Zezilla.

Dick Dancer who enjoys visitors but please call ahead.

Mary Kiner as she faces yet another ankle surgery at the U. of M. hospital on August 3rd. A meal would be appreciated for 2 when she returns home.

Max Old Bear who will be recuperating from his hip surgery when you read this article.

We Share In the Joys:

Nancy Landfair, still at Bortz Long Term Care, and celebrating birthdays with out of town families.

Carol Still (Nancy's mother) who just celebrated her 92nd birthday.

Submitted by Judith Briggs and Arline Howe
Pastoral Care Committee

MUSICAL



NOTES

The Filling Station

By the time the August Beacon is published, I may already have returned from my first UU Musicians Network conference, which will be held July 22-July 26 in Boston. I have packed my walking shoes and my umbrella—the conference will take place in three different Boston churches, and it’s ankle express all the way. I’ve been in contact with my roommate (a Jewish music specialist from North Carolina) and my assigned mentor (the current president of the UUMN).

To say that I am geeked to be attending is an understatement. I really *need* all of this: the most current information, the best new music, daily choral singing and inspirational

worship services—and especially the camaraderie. I need to talk to the people and hear the songs that will “fill my bucket.”

I’d like to thank the Board and the whole congregation for helping fund this rich musical adventure, and having faith that I will use what I learn in the upcoming year, to keep our congregational gatherings fresh and inspiring, too. Churches need to grow and stretch—we’re all in need of a stream of new ideas and discoveries.

I applied for one of the scholarships the UU Musicians Network grants each year, and was thrilled when I got word that I had been chosen for a \$900 award. In the application, I had to write a short piece describing my congregation. Here is part of what I wrote:

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse has been on a journey of renewal for several years. I have been Director of Music for a little over three years, through two interim ministers, several weeks-long periods of lay-led services—and a great deal of uncertainty. I replaced a beloved Minister of Music, whose absence left a huge hole in the congregation’s heart. Because I was new to the Unitarian Universalist tradition, I have had to pick my way carefully through musical traditions, ingrained habits, differences of opinion on

some of my favorite hymns, and “but we always...”

Oh—but the rewards have been so great! I inherited terrific co-workers, a solid library, a small-but-mighty core group of singers—the Vocal Ensemble—and best of all, a singing congregation. It was immediately obvious to me that not only had I landed a wonderful new job, I also had found new friends, fellow musicians and a warm-hearted spiritual home. I signed the book, and joined the congregation.

The choir has doubled in size, and we have a long roster of talented musicians who enhance every service. We also have an amazing new minister—a rabbi—who has injected an infectious spirit of joy and appreciation into all we do. I am seriously ready to stretch my own skills, and bring back a bucketful of new ideas and knowledge.

Thank you for being a singing congregation—MY singing congregation. Why not join the No-Fault Choir on August 16 (9:00 a.m. rehearsal—sing at 10:30)? The theme of the service is “harmony.” Perfect.

**Nancy Flanagan,
UUCGT Music Director**

Announcements

NOTE: Venue Change!

The August 2nd Sunday service (originally scheduled for the Bay Theater) will be held at the UU instead.

Death Cafe

At our next meeting on August 13, 10am-noon, the Death Cafe has invited **Connie Hintsala** from the Alliance for Senior Housing to speak to our group. The members of the group would like to open this meeting to other UU congregants who might be interested in this topic.

We have asked her to address the questions below as well as answer any other questions folks might have.

- What’s the range of assisted living options in the area?
- What factors are important to consider as people make a decision to move to assisted living?
- What are helpful roles other family members might play?

- What sorts of issues arise as the transition is negotiated?
- What are the comparative merits of selecting an assisted living facility in the locale the older people have lived as adults vs. moving to an area to be nearer an adult child?
- What might the future of care of the elderly bring?

Anyone interested can RSVP to me. We just would like to know about how many people to expect. There is no charge.

**Donna Stein-Harris
(847)226-5098**

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What's up with the Board?

HAPPY NEW YEAR! (July Board Update)

Our congregation is beginning a new fiscal year and I'm happy to announce your Board of Trustees! You will be hearing from us each month in *The Beacon* and welcoming you at Sunday Services.

Becky Somsel, President

Mike McDonald, Treasurer

Gail Trill, Secretary

Jerry Beasley, Trustee

Shelley Burnes, Trustee

Marco Cabrera, Past President

Nick Erber, Trustee

Board Actions

- **Election** of Officers for the Board of Trustees.
- **Approved** the additional paved parking spaces: A "blessing of the tar" may be coming to a parking lot near you!
- **Approved** the direction the Ministry Team is headed with details to be nailed down soon! Kudos to the creative team of Chava, Nancy, and Sarah for their extensive efforts to address our growth yet keep the small congregation feel, not an easy task!
- **Approved** new title to more accurately reflect the scope of work Nancy does. Nancy Flannigan, Director of Music.

- **Resolution** to support Sarah in her new role as adjunct professor at NMC, teaching a World Religion course for the upcoming academic year.
- **Update** on Copyright Task Force. Thanks to Maura Brennan and Marcello Betti who led us down the legal pathway to obtaining license agreements which have been drafted. Soon they will be enacted allowing us to distribute our weekly teachings in various forms.

We invite you to attend our monthly Board Meetings and we offer time in our agenda to allow for public comment. Committee chairs are encouraged to submit a written report or to attend if you have an item needing to be discussed. Please send any request to board@uucgt.org 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

Our next meeting is:

Tuesday, August 18, 2015 12:30-2:30 in the sanctuary.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Somsel

President of your Board of Trustees

Announcements (continued)

UU Brew Crew Coffee House Office

With the Fall we will resume offering a monthly gathering at Brew on Front Street. Join Rabbi Chava and an assortment of UU friends for casual discussion and great coffee. September 11 and October 9, from 10 to 12 Noon. Watch the Flash and Face book in case there are any changes.

UU Book Club

It has been a very busy July with both the Cherry Festival and the Film Festival. I have to admit that it has been hard to find any time to read. But August is coming and

things are slowing down a bit. Time to get back to the comfy chair and curl up with a book. Our August selection is "The Cats Table" by Michael Ondaatje. The group will meet August 9th at 2 pm at the home of Bonnie Mathias (810 Cottageview Dr., #202) at Grand Traverse Commons. Please let Bonnie know that you will be able to attend (392-6953). If you are new to UUCGT and are interested in giving the Book Club a try, you are welcome to attend. Happy reading to all!!

Karen Mars

karen.mars.tc@gmail.com

Stewardship Committee

The UUCGT Stewardship Committee is looking for a co-chair for the 2016-17 year. The current chair person, Judy Myers, committed to a two year assignment, but would like to get somebody ready to take it over after next year's Pledge Drive. This is vitally important work to our congregation and we need someone who is well organized and committed to the mission of our beloved community. Please contact Judy at tcjlm@aol.com or at 231-409-7644 if you are interested. Thanks,

Judy Myers

tcjlm@aol.com

Membership News



The entire Membership Team — Cathy Annelin, Lee Edwards, John and Pinkie Hoffman, Sue Pyne, Chris Walter, Rick Walter, Jane Watts, and Karen Williams — hopes you are having a fantastic, fun summer so far.

There is so much going on in our beautiful area, and we hope you are enjoying some of these great activities.

Our Team is looking for more members to help staff the Welcome Table on Sunday mornings, organize Orientation sessions for prospective new members, and coordinate New Member Joining Services. Anyone wishing to be part of this vibrant, friendly, welcoming group that promotes membership development, please contact me, or visit any of our members at the Welcome Table on Sunday mornings.

Sunday Morning Greeters, another function of the Membership Team, is coordinated by Charlotte Shea. We all appreciate seeing a smiling, friendly person when we enter the building on Sunday

mornings, and Charlotte understands this crucial need. To join this important cadre of Greeters, please contact me, anyone at the Welcome Table or Charlotte directly. The main ingredients for service are friendliness, welcoming people and handing them a service program. Greeters also assist with collecting Offering. You can be paired with a veteran Greeter if you wish. Charlotte can be reached by phone 883-9357 or email charshea35@gmail.com. Thank you So Much Charlotte!

For Prospective Members, please stay tuned for news of the next Orientation Session. The Membership Team will meet August 31 to plan the next session. In the meantime, Membership is open to anyone who is 16 years of age or older who find value in the purpose of the congregation and have signified their commitment by first having an appointment / discussion with Rabbi Chava Bahle. Members also actively support the operation of the Congregation through attendance, service and an annual monetary pledge commitment. We look forward to you joining!

Chris Walter
Chair, Membership Team
chris9709@sbcglobal.net or 421-3069



Leadership Development Committee

The purpose of the Leadership Development Committee is to identify and develop members and friends of the congregation in positions of leadership within the UU community and in the public arena.

I would like to introduce you to the Leadership Development Team for 2015-2016:

- Dottie Cain, Chair
- Ann Swaney, Vice Chair
- Nancy Doughty, Secretary and members
- Tom Darnton
- Solveig Gufstason

The committee would like to add one more member to fill the remaining vacancy. To learn more about the work of the committee, please go to the UUCGT.org website and look at About Us, Board, Manual on Board, Staff and Committees, page 35. Please contact me directly at sdcelk@yahoo.com (938-1506) if you are interested in joining us or if you have any questions.

We are currently working with UUCGT Board President, Becky Somsel, to design and carry out an extended board meeting focused on governance fundamentals and discernment. We are also planning to facilitate a meeting with committee chairs to expand on the topic of conducting effective meetings that we introduced earlier this year.

Dottie Cain, Chair
Leadership Development Committee
sdcelk@yahoo.com

Social Justice and Action

Over this past weekend, July 24- 26, the Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN) had a retreat in St. Ignace. I am on their Board from our congregation. I learn a lot from our meetings, ideas of what to do and how others are doing things, support for the activities and actions we need to carry out, and much more. Meeting in Lansing leaves a lot of us northern Michiganders out of closer getting-to-know each other work. So we decided on a retreat up here for us northerners. It was a great meeting!

We reviewed our major focuses of social actions. Income Inequality includes classism, racism, and income inequality meaning hourly pay discrepancies and unequal pay for woman and men, etc. LBGT / Reproductive Rights /Woman's Rights. This is another major focus that is under constant attack. Environmental Justice includes Water Justice as in Detroit, the threatening water shortfalls throughout the state and nation, the threat of Enbridge 5 Pipeline in Mackinac Straits, the Enbridge cleanup still going on in Kalamazoo, even 5 years after that spill.

These areas that need attention are large and need constant vigil. The work of a group like MUUSJN is to keep their eye on all the activities of the legislature, their potential attacks against human rights, and notifying us in as timely a manner as possible for direct action. Their web page is a source of good information:

<<http://www.ujustice.org>>.

You can sign up for email reminders for action. Or if you prefer, please tell me you want to know of potential action that con-

cerns us, and I will send notices directly to you. Am glad to do that, just tell me you want to be on that list. It is easier than looking it up, and I will notify you.

The activities of this fabulous Board director, Randy Block, and the assistant, Jen Teed, are supported thru grants and volunteer donations. Several of our congregation are members, but not very many. Several years ago, Randy Block, was here to talk with us on a Sunday. We donated a Plate collection to MUUSN at that time. We as a Congregation can donate a plate several times a year, or make it a line item on our budget. The basic suggested dues for a congregation are \$100. At this point we have lapsed in our congregational support for this excellent, statewide, UU organization. I hope we change that and that more individual members will also join.

One of the problems that the Board discussed was getting members of the congregation involved. We all have the same problem. Many congregations did similar to what we do with Tuesday Lunch and Safe Harbor. But beyond that there seems to be difficulties. I commented that we have many members doing many different things in our community, but we do not do a lot as a unit in the name of UU. Is that necessary? Is that what we want? Or how do you feel?

The marches for Marriage Equality were an area-wide activity, drawing on not only UUsers, but also other faith organizations and the general caring public. This is what I feel we should do; not just do things as UUsers alone. But what do you think? I feel that when we do things publically, like the

marches, we are helping make the larger public aware of the issues and hopefully alerting them to injustices where their actions might be helpful. There were people who stopped to ask us about Marriage Equality during some of the marches, so we know we made some impact. Can we do that for other issues too? Which ones are you interested in and what would you like to do about it?

In addition to these actions, I would like to do what a few other congregations have done. That is they have drawn up *social justice resolutions*. These were approved by those involved and interested and not necessarily by the whole congregation. That would expedite passage of such resolutions. For example, I wrote a resolution for our UUCGT Board, suggesting our building be a safe gun-free area. Could that become a *social justice resolution* that we could adopt? Does anyone disagree with that statement? At this point the resolution just sits, un-voted on, even though it was requested. Are we at a point in our re-organization that we could begin to really organize for social justice actions including resolutions, with each person responding at their own level of interests and abilities?

Something else I learned: Going to church every Sunday doesn't make you a Christian or religious person, just like sitting in a garage all day doesn't make you a car.

Emmy Lou Cholak,
sjatcmi@gmail.com

(continued from back page)

07 **Mon** UU Men's Group Dave Halsted Minerva's 5:30 PM 7:30 PM
 07 **Mon** AA Open Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM
 08 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM
 09 **Wed** Silent Meditation Rabbi Chava 10:00 AM 10:30 AM
 09 **Wed** Wednesday Night Supper Sandra McDonald, 6:00 PM 7:30 PM
 09 **Wed** International Folk Dancers Richard Fidler 7:00 PM 9:00 PM
 10 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM
 10 **Thu** CUUPS 6:00 PM 7:00 PM, Classroom
 11 **Fri** Friday Night Out Sarah Montgomery-Richards 5:30 9:00 PM
 11 **Fri** Musicians' Potluck - All Welcome! Nancy Flanagan Home of Nancy Flanagan 6:00 PM 8:30 PM
 12 **Sat** LGBTQ Support Group Nick Erber & Rachel Snyder 1-2:30 PM

13 **Sun** Resumption Sunday", Rabbi Chava - All Congregation Svc
 13 **Sun** Arline Howe 90th Birthday Celebration, 12:30 PM 2:00 PM
 14 **Mon** AA Open Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM
 15 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM
 16 **Wed** Silent Meditation Rabbi Chava 10:00 AM 10:30 AM
 16 **Wed** Wednesday Night Supper Sandra McDonald, 6:00 -7:30 PM
 16 **Wed** International Folk Dancers Richard Fidler 7:00 PM 9:00 PM
 17 **Thu** Pastoral Care Arline Howe 1:00 PM 2:00 PM
 17 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM

Lifespan Religious Education Update



Religious Education and Programming for Children, Youth, and Families!!

- “Specialty Class Summer” runs through Labor Day Weekend. In this format we will combine the youngest three classes into one group and explore a variety of engaging, interesting, and fun topics including nature walks, art, pets, music, meditation and much more! Our oldest group – the Susan B. Anthony Youth are invited to either participate in the regular service in the sanctuary or join the younger children for play and a chance to mentor.
- Please watch for information later this month regarding registration for programs for children and youth for the 2015/2016 Congregational year!
- “Friday Night Out” for August is 08.14.15. Please call the office and register by 08.10.15– thank you.

Family Potluck Gathering!

- Families are invited to join us on Sunday, 08.23.15 for what is becoming a fun annual event hosted by John and Pinkie Hoffmann! Mark your calendar for this friendly potluck that provides families the opportunity to meet each other and build community! The Hoffmann’s have an incredible yard for playing in, and there are always plenty of toys! Gathering time will be between 4:30-5:30pm, with dinner around 6pm. Brats and hot dogs will be provided, please bring a dish to pass, table setting and beverages of your choice (you may bring something else to throw on the grill if you wish). We will gather rain or shine, and registration information for the 2015/2016 programs will be on hand. Please RSVP by 08.16.15.

Summer Camp at UUCGT!

- We are looking forward to a great time at Shining Star Puppet Camp here at UUCGT August 17th-21st. Campers may con-

tact the office with questions. We look forward to sharing stories and pictures from camp with everyone next month!

Brewing Community/Wednesday Supper:

- Brewing Community has switched to its summer format – this is when we move to the last Wednesday of the month and follow the “Brewing” gathering with dinner at a restaurant. We will gather on Wednesday, 08.26.15 at Rare Bird Brewing for Brewing Community at 4:30pm. We will reconvene at Blue Tractor between 6-6:15pm for dinner. Please contact John Hoffmann by 08.23.15 if intend to join us for dinner.

CUUPS - Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans:

- This CUUPS Chapter (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) will take the month of August OFF. We are working toward hosting an event this fall – look for more information to come on our “Pagan Fair”!

Closing Thoughts...

What would you wish for if you could wish for anything? Would you be content with a sunny field? Would being present in the moment be enough? My wish for you in these days (that we all try to cram the last ounces of summer into) is that you find one of those honey-gold moments that can fill your present, and sustain you in the future.

“I almost wish we were butterflies and liv'd but three summer days - three such days with you I could fill with more delight than fifty common years could ever contain.”

— [John Keats](#)

Sarah E. Montgomery-Richards, Director of Lifespan Experience: dle@uucgt.org



Sally Mitchell and The Human Landscape

We, at the UU, are graced with the vital and energetic paintings of our own "Grand Dame", Sally Mitchell.

Sally, at 87 has painted a good deal of her life and her creative endeavors show a variety of moods and materials from paintings and drawings to sculpture as well as ceramics, which have a wonderful sense of humor. The current exhibition in the Sanctuary and in the Corridor Gallery, entitled The Human Landscape are acrylic paintings with a focus on movement, whether the scenes are more intimate of people and family members or movement of machinery or the cosmos.

Sally has come to art with a colorful background. She was married for 45 years and has three children. Her daughter, Emily lives in Traverse City and is an active member of UUCGT.

Sally was in high school during the post World War II years and became interested in history. Her educational pursuit led her to University of Michigan where she was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. Her continuing interest in history led her to Harvard where she studied for her first semester pursuing a MA in American History. However, life intervened and her professor, Arthur Schlessinger, advised her to follow her heart. And so she did.

Some highlights of Sally's background is that she worked as a Curator of Social History at the Historical Museum of Detroit. Later travels took her to Egypt, Turkey and Hawaii.

In following her many pursuits, one of the things she has focused on was a series of paintings of the history and people of the Unitarian Universalist movement. Those paintings have recently been hung in the Sanctuary of UUCGT.

A reception for Sally is planned for August 16, following the Sunday service. An invitation is extended to the congregation to view the paintings, come and say hello to Sally, sign the guest book and honor this creative artist.

-Gloria Katz



The Cosmos

Sally Mitchell

Fall Kayak/Canoe Trip on the Platte River

Saturday, September 19

(Sunday September 20th will be the rain day)



Water, autumn leaves, friends, community

Enjoy the **fall scenery** with the fall UUCGT Kayak and Canoe Trip on the Platte River. If you have your own canoe or kayak, bring it; if you don't, then you can rent them at the Riverside Canoe Rentals on M-22. We will meet at 2:00 PM –those renting boats at the Riverside Canoe Rentals; those with their own boats, just north of the river off Lake Michigan Dr.

Service Project: The Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore has been pleased to agree with our suggestion to clean up the river as we paddle down.

After the trip, Riverside Canoe Rentals will provide food for us at an extra cost, while we sing and respond to nature in the picnic area.

PARTICIPANTS: BRING YOUR NATIONAL PARK PASS, WATER AND APPROPRIATE CLOTHES – PREPARE FOR COOLING TEMPS TOWARDS TRIP'S END. SUN SCREEN RECOMMENDED. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A PARK PASS TO DISPLAY ON YOUR WINDSHIELD, YOU MAY BE ASKED TO PAY A FEE TO PARK

We will travel in three groups and we will need two volunteers from each group to help with the portage around the weir.

Those renting boats meet at Riverside Platte Rental Office next to the Platte River. Boat owners turn right off M22 just north of the river on Lake Michigan Road.

Since this is a U/U event; it is fitting that we keep in mind one of our principles: “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” We share this tradition with the spiritual teachings of Earth-centered religions which celebrate the sacred circle of life, and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Allow periods of companionship with nature during your paddle; let your mind and body be acutely aware of the natural beauty, and the many forms of life that surround you; be inspired! What words describe your thoughts, your feelings, as you progress down the river? What three words describe your state of mind? Remember and share them with the scribes after we've landed; they will be spoken as our grace before we eat.

Misty Sheehan
mistysheehan@yahoo.com



I will go on the Fall Kayak/Canoe Trip

Name _____

Email _____

Number of people _____

_____ I will bring my own boat and flotation device

_____ I will rent my boat and flotation device

canoe \$43 - number _____

kayak \$35 - number _____

2 person kayak \$58- number _____

tubes \$16-number _____

I would like the following food

_____ roast beef sandwich, drink, chips, candy bar \$6.50

_____ cheese sandwich, drink, chips, candy bar \$6.50

_____ turkey sandwich, drink, chips, candy bar \$6.50

or

7 oz "stub"

_____ roast beef sandwich, drink, chips, candy bar 4.05

_____ cheese sandwich, drink, chips, candy bar 4.05

_____ turkey and cheese sandwich, drink, chips, candy bar 4.05

Send enrollment form and check for the cost to UUCGT at the following address:

UUCGT

6726 Center Road

Traverse City, MI 49686

Attn.: Benzie group

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Grand Traverse**
6726 Center Road
Traverse City MI 49686-1802

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

the BEACON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Volume 52, Issue 8

August, 2015

Calendar

All events and programs take place at UUCGT unless otherwise noted and are open to everyone.

August 2015

- 01 **Sat** LGBTQ Support Group Nick Erber & Rachel Snyder 1-2:30 PM
01 **Sat** Wikle/Trill Wedding Rabbi Chava, 1:00 PM 4:00 PM
- 02 **Sun** Sunday Service at UUCGT 10:30 AM 11:30 AM
02 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation Fleda Brown 2:30 PM 6:30 PM
03 **Mon** UU Men's Group - Ruby Tuesday's Dave Halsted Ruby Tuesdays 5:30 PM 7:30 PM
- 03 **Mon** AA Open Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM
04 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM
05 **Wed** Silent Meditation Rabbi Chava 10:00 AM 10:30 AM
05 **Wed** Exercise Class 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
05 **Wed** Sunday Svcs. Committee Nancy Cotcamp/Hal Gurian 1 3PM
05 **Wed** Art & Exhibition Group Beryl Striewski 3:30 PM 4:30 PM
05 **Wed** Wednesday Night Supper Home of Mike & Sandra McDonald 6:00 PM 7:00 PM
- 06 **Thu** Pastoral Care Arline Howe 1:00 PM 2:00 PM
06 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM
07 **Fri** Ahavat Shalom Terry Tarnow 4:30 PM 9:30 PM
08 **Sat** LGBTQ Support Group Nick Erber & Rachel Snyder 1-2:30 PM
- 09 **Sun** "The Traverse City Film Festival. So what's a good movie?", Mark Gustafson, Service @10:30
09 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 6:30 PM 8:30 PM
10 **Mon** AA Open Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM
11 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM
12 **Wed** Silent Meditation Rabbi Chava 10:00 AM 10:30 AM
12 **Wed** Exercise Class 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
12 **Wed** Wednesday Night Supper Home of Marco & Claire Cabrera 6:00 PM 7:00 PM
- 13 **Thu** Death Cafe Donna Stein Harris 10:00 AM 12:30 PM
13 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM
14 **Fri** Friday Night Out Sarah Montgomery-Richards 5:30 9:00 PM
15 **Sat** LGBTQ Support Group Nick Erber & Rachel Snyder 1-2:30 PM
- 16 **Sun** "Harmony", Rabbi Chava, Service @10:30
16 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 6:30 PM 8:30 PM
17 **Mon** Puppet Summer Camp Sarah Montgomery Richards, 8:00 AM 5:00 PM
17 **Mon** AA Open Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM
18 **Tue** Puppet Summer Camp Sarah Montgomery Richards, 8:00 AM 5:00 PM
18 **Tue** UUCGT Board Meeting Becky Somsel 12:30 PM 2:30 PM
18 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM

- 19 **Wed** Puppet Summer Camp Sarah Montgomery Richards, 8:00 AM 5:00 PM
19 **Wed** Leadership Development Committee 9:30-11:00 AM
19 **Wed** Silent Meditation Rabbi Chava 10:00 AM 10:30 AM
19 **Wed** Exercise Class 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
- 19 **Wed** Wednesday Night Supper Home of Price & Jane Watts 6:00 PM 7:00 PM
20 **Thu** Puppet Summer Camp Sarah Montgomery Richards 8:00 AM 5:00 PM
20 **Thu** Pastoral Care Arline Howe 1:00 PM 2:00 PM
20 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM
21 **Fri** Puppet Summer Camp Sarah Montgomery Richards, 8:00 AM 5:00 PM
22 **Sat** LGBTQ Support Group Nick Erber & Rachel Snyder 1-2:30 PM
23
24 **Sun** "Humanity for Prisoners", Rabbi Chava Service @10:30
23 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 6:30 PM 8:30 PM
24 **Mon** AA Open Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM
25 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM
26 **Wed** Silent Meditation Rabbi Chava 10:00 AM 10:30 AM
26 **Wed** Exercise Class 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
26 **Wed** Brewing Community Rare Bird Brewery 4:30 PM 6:00 PM
26 **Wed** Wednesday Supper Out Sarah Montgomery-Richards Blue Tractor 6:30 PM 7:30 PM
- 27 **Thu** Restorative Arts Group Karen Williams, Pat Light 10:30 AM 12:30 PM
27 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM
29 **Sat** LGBTQ Support Group Nick Erber & Rachel Snyder 1-2:30 PM
- 30 **Sun** "Interbeing", Rabbi Chava Service @10:30
30 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation 6:30 PM 8:30 PM
31 **Mon** AA Open Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM

September 2015

- 01 **Tue** Bridge Group Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM
02 **Wed** Silent Meditation Rabbi Chava 10:00 AM 10:30 AM
02 **Wed** Sunday Services Committee Nancy Cotcamp/Hal Gurian 1:00 PM 3:00 PM
02 **Wed** Art & Exhibition Group Beryl Striewski 3:30 PM 4:30 PM
03 **Thu** Pastoral Care Arline Howe 1:00 PM 2:00 PM
03 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM
03 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble Nancy Flanagan 7:00 PM 9:00 PM
05 **Sat** LGBTQ Support Group Nick Erber & Rachel Snyder 1-2:30 PM
- 06 **Sun** "What Does it Mean to be a UU Seeker? What Exactly are We Seeking?", Rabbi Chava
06 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation Group Fleda Brown 2:30 PM 6:30 PM

(continued on page 7)