



Sunday Services at 10:30 AM

[www.uucgt.org](http://www.uucgt.org)

email: [office@uucgt.org](mailto:office@uucgt.org)

**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation  
of Grand Traverse**

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231-947-3117  
[office@uucgt.org](mailto:office@uucgt.org)  
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**Office Hours:**  
**Monday by appointment**  
**Tuesday - Thursday, 9-4**  
**Friday, 9-12**

**Rabbi**

Rabbi Chava Bahle  
[rabbi@uucgt.org](mailto:rabbi@uucgt.org)

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**February Theme: Social Justice**

“Love is all we have, the only way that each can help the other.” - Euripides

**Sunday, February 7 - Rabbi Chava**

**9:00 AM Contemplative Meditation**

**10:30 AM Service: “Slavery is Not Over”**

As we begin a month of exploring social justice topics, we will examine the topic of human trafficking, locally, nationally and internationally. It is our hope to be joined by TC-CAST, a local organization working to help people in the Traverse City area who have been victims.

**Sunday, February 14 - Rabbi Chava**

**9:00 AM Contemplative Meditation**

**10:30 AM Service: “Share the Love Sunday!”**

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year we once again join with UU congregations across the country to honor Share the Love Sunday. How do you see justice unfolding and how can we be part of it? How do we, as people of faith, respond to inequality and oppression? How do we ensure that the divisions among us—racism, classism, ableism, sexism, heterosexism, and religious plurality—don’t prevent us from reaching for something better? What does it mean that listening is an act of love?

**Sunday, February 21 - UUCGT Members, Paula and Paul Ward**

**9:00 AM Contemplative Meditation**

**10:30 AM Service: “Your Song Can Change the World”**

Exploring music’s role in social justice. How does it help us find harmony, connections and sustain courage during discord?

**Sunday, February 28 - Rabbi Chava**

**9:00 AM Contemplative Meditation**

**10:30 AM Service: “African American Experiences in Northern Michigan”**

Join us for a very special morning of deep listening to our local neighbors on experiences of being African American here in northern Michigan. It is our plan and hope to have several guest speakers join us. \*\* Program Council meeting will follow the service.

**March Theme: Imagine Big Community**

In March, we lift our eyes to see that we are part of intersecting communities that are larger than we ourselves. We honor our sixth principle (“the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all”) and our third source (“wisdom from the world’s religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life”) as we dive into imaging “big community.” Our 9:00 AM learning programming will be an exploration of the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism.

(continued on page 2)

**BEACON Article 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](mailto:beacon@uucgt.org)**

### Sunday, March 6 - Rabbi Chava

9:00 AM Adult Learning Program: "The Seven Sources of UUism" – Part 1

10:30 AM Service: "Our Blue Banner"

We have a gorgeous quilted banner on our pulpit with six religious symbols. We look at it week after week, but what does it represent and why are these symbols displayed in a UU congregation? We are part of a big world. As the UUA writes, describing the General Assembly this coming June, "The religious landscape is increasingly multifaith. Across the globe, 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, humanist, theist and non-theist—are no longer the primary way we define how religion, spirituality, faith, and practice come together. In our quest to bring more love and justice into the world, we find ourselves in partnership with people following different religious and spiritual paths." Come and learn about six of these.

### Sunday, March 13 - To be announced

### Sunday, March 20 - Rabbi Chava

9:00 AM Adult Learning Program: "The Seven Sources of UUism" – Part 2

10:30 AM Service: "Spring Equinox/Ostara: New Beginnings"

"Many Holidays, Many Names: The word Ostara is just one of the names applied to the celebration of the spring equinox on March 21. The Venerable Bede said the origin of the word is actually from Eostre, a Germanic goddess of spring. Of course, it's also the same time as the Christian Easter celebration, and in the Jewish faith, Passover takes place as well. For early Pagans in the Germanic countries, this was a time to celebrate planting and the new crop season." from Patty Wigington. On this Sunday nearest the Spring equinox, we will explore rituals of renewal from the world's traditions. Laughter is one of them ....

### Sunday, March 27 - Rabbi Chava and Sarah Montgomery-Richards

10:30 AM Service: "A Passover and Easter Sunday Rhapsody" (one service only)

Join us for a one-of-a-kind celebration of Passover and Easter through song, symbol and horseradish. Pack lightly for the journey – it's gonna be a long, strange trip ... for members of all ages.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Wednesday Morning Meditation

*"The mind can go in a thousand directions, but on this beautiful path, I walk in peace. With each step, the wind blows. With each step, a flower blooms."*

- Thich Nhat Hanh

Join us for silent, centering meditation each Wednesday morning from 10:00-10:30 in the sanctuary. Please note that Rabbi Chava will be away February 3, but meditation will still take place! All are welcome.

### Brew Crew: Have-A-Java-with-Rabbi-Chava

Rabbi Chava's Brew office hours are Friday, February 12 and a special bonus on Tuesday, February 23 - from 10 AM to 12 Noon. Grab a cup of coffee and let's see where the imagination takes us ...

### The Flying Rabbi

Friends, a reminder that Rabbi Chava will be teaching at the Academy for Spiritual Formation near Dallas from January 31 to February 5. Topics include Jewish roots of baptism, the role of silence, rhythms in spiritual life and Jesus in the formative age.

### "Little Spiritual Book"

**Brown Bag Lunch & Learn, 12 - 1:00 PM**

Join Rabbi Chava for this new monthly brown bag "lunch and learn" program. Each month we will read a short, manageable volume of spiritual interest to increase joy, centeredness and peace. Pack yourself a lunch and come with an open heart. You can come to one or all of the lunch & learns. There may be several editions of these books available - all are good!

**February 16:** Eknath Easwaran, "Your Life is Your Message: Finding Harmony with Yourself, Others and the Earth" (may need to be purchased used @ Nilgiri Press)

**March 15:** Rami Shapiro, "Ecclesiastes: Annotated & Explained" (SkyLight Illuminations) Please get **Rami Shapiro's SkyLight version** of Ecclesiastes - any edition of this version is fine.

**April 19:** Robert Lawrence Smith, "A Quaker Book of Wisdom: Life Lessons in Simplicity, Service and Common Sense" (Quill Press)

**May 17:** Brother Benet Tvedten, "How to be a Monastic and Not Leave Your Day Job: An Invitation to Oblate Life" (Paraclete Press)



# Reflection: "The Right Place at the Right Time"

Beloveds, sometimes we just find ourselves at the right place, at the right time.

Recently, at the end of a small group gathering, one of our members said, "This was just what I needed. I wasn't going to come today, but I guess I was just in the right place at the right time." It happened again after a Sunday service with another member who said, "That was just what I needed to hear today ..."

There are moments like that, when we come to the congregation, and just find ourselves in the place to receive what we need, or to give what is needed. It often comes in a quiet moment of hearing something during a service that touches our heart, or a conversation with a friend at a dinner, brew gathering (either coffee or beer!), or during a time of learning ... that is the magic of UUCGT: the right place, right time and right people finding our way together.

More broadly, as a congregation continuing to explore the meaning of deep ecumenism, we are in just the right place and time to be part of a dialogue across a broad spectrum of religious life. The theme of our recent rabbi conference was deep ecumenism, and I was fortunate to present a workshop on being a rabbi leading a UU congregation.

Further still, the theme for UUA's General Assembly this year is [Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect](#). Here's what the UUA says:

The religious landscape is increasingly multifaith. Across the globe, people are crossing borders of religion and spiritual practice to create wholeness in their lives

individually and collectively. ... In our quest to bring more love and justice into the world, we find ourselves in partnership with people following different religious and spiritual paths. The richness of those encounters deepens our faith, strengthens our work for justice, and encourages connections with those who are "spiritual but not religious." ... We will explore what grounding and vision we share across faith traditions, and what particularities of each tradition lend creativity and depth to our work across faith borders. Together, we will move toward a new interdependent vision of faith that responds to the needs of our own time and points us toward the future. How are we crossing faith borders as we bring more love and justice into the world?

I am excited to be part of this gathering, to learn from others and to share what we are doing here in northern Michigan.

In the end, it is not only about global perspective, but about opening our hearts to old friends and new, sharing a cup of coffee and conversation, and realizing that when our hearts are ready, we find ourselves here and now, in the right place, at the right time, with wonderful people.

**In blessing -  
Rabbi Chava**

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### UUCGT Members in the News!

Congratulations to Emmy Lou Cholak, chair of UUCGT Social Justice Action, on the launch of a book club focused on social justice topics.

The next meeting is set for February 1 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the basement of Horizon Books in downtown Traverse City. All are welcome.

There was a terrific write up in the January 17th issue of the Record Eagle which you can read by copying and pasting this link: <http://record-eagle.cnhi.newsmemory.com/publink.php?shareid=13de63098>

### Sunday Services Committee

The Sunday Services Committee would welcome your input. We are always looking for possible readings, quotes and service ideas.

Please share these via email with our office administrator, Susan Sherman, at [office@uucgt.org](mailto:office@uucgt.org). She will file and share them with Rabbi Chava and our committee members when we meet. We always endeavor to build services around a particular theme so even if your ideas are not used immediately, they may be the perfect fit for a service at a later date.

We appreciate your suggestions!

**Nancy Cotcamp and Hal Gurian  
Co-Chairs—Sunday Services Committee**

# COMMUNITY NEEDS COMMITTEE

Your Community Needs Committee recently allocated \$3150 to several local charities thanks to your generosity toward the Sunday Services offerings.

In an effort to learn more about the local agencies we fund, we invited Emma Moyer, Director of Northwest Michigan Supportive Housing, to present about her agency. They are part of a continuum of care with other agencies that collaborate to address homelessness in our area. NMSH serves those who are both homeless and have a diagnosed mental illness. Currently 61 clients are housed in scattered housing sites – NMSH owns a home, a 4-plex, a condo, and an 11-unit apartment building, and they also work with landlords to lease housing for clients. They have a 92% success rate, using retention as the measure of success. NMSH also provides supportive services including counseling, life skills, budgeting, etc., and works closely with CMH. We gave NMSH \$1000.

- Blessings in a Backpack was given \$500. This program is administered by the Father Fred Foundation and provides backpacks with food to food-insecure families identified by TCAPS.

Backpacks are sent home on Fridays, ensuring that these families have food over the weekend.

- STEP, Students in Transition Empowerment Program, a TCAPS program for homeless youth, was given \$500.

- Safe Harbor was given \$250 to fund UU-provided meals during March.

- We gave \$500 to the Grace Episcopal Food Pantry in memory of Tom Kelly, a Grace Episcopal member and Inland Seas founder.

- Traverse Health Clinic received \$200.

- Youth Health and Wellness Clinic, a GT County Health Dept. program, received \$200 in honor of Anne Hughes, beloved UU member and employee of the clinic.

As always, we welcome your donation requests and feedback. Please look for a request form in the weekly Flash under FYI.

Respectfully,

**Liz Bruning, Chair**

## - BEACON UPDATE -

For those who receive The Beacon through the U.S. Mail, please note:

An annual fee of \$25.00 is requested to cover print and postage costs.

Please submit your 2016 payment to UUCGT, attention: The Beacon

**THANK YOU!!**

## ALL ABOUT US

### We hold in our hearts:

Karen Mars was in the hospital after a temporary stroke revealed that she has a serious blockage in her carotid artery. Surgery is dangerous, but it is the only treatment. She would appreciate your calls.

Stan Cain had surgery this past week on the pinched nerve in his neck.

Joann & Phil Rosi, who grieve the loss of Joann's mother last week. At 93 years of age she was very active and living in her own home.

Harriet Schiff, Rabbi Chava's mother, was hospitalized with pneumonia last week.

### We continue to be mindful of:

Anne Hughes, who is receiving chemotherapy treatments. She has a few good days between treatments.

Bill Wells, who is at home following treatment for Multiple Myeloma and a case of shingles.

### We share in our joys;

William Ward, son of Paul & Paula, who was engaged recently.

Max Old Bear's granddaughter, who was recently hired by CBS news.

**Judith Briggs**  
**jbriggs002@centurytel.net**



# Membership News

## FEBRUARY GREETINGS

### From....

The entire Membership Team — Cathy Annelin, Sherry Davis, John and Pinkie Hoffman, Sue Pyne, Charlotte Shea, Chris Walter, Rick Walter, and Jane Watts — who continue to Welcome, Greet, Facilitate into membership, and Nurture (in Partnership with other groups at UUCGT) prospective, new and current members.

### PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS - IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS:

*Prospective Member Orientation Sessions in 2016:*  
**February 7 & April 24**, 12:00 noon - 1:15 pm: History of UUCGT, Get Acquainted, Brief Q/A about UUism with Rabbi Chava, Board and Membership Committee Reps. Register for child care needs (several week notice required).

**February 14: 15 Minutes With the Rabbi:** 10:00-10:15 am  
Individuals or small groups; informal chats for prospective members interested in learning more about UUCGT.

**FUTURE 15 Minutes With the Rabbi - in 2016:** April 3 & May 8

**New Member Welcome Services:** Will Be Scheduled Soon.  
Please let us know if you are interested in joining.

**GREETER OPPORTUNITIES:** All NEW Members and Current Members are encouraged to sign up to be a Greeter some Sunday for the 10:30 am service. This is an excellent way to meet other members of the congregation and for them to meet you. No committee meetings, could be a one-time commitment. **Just sign up on the bulletin board near the office, or call Charlotte Shea, 883-9357.**

### INVITATION:

.....*To any interested persons - to become a member of our Membership Team.* We have fun meetings, planning for routine and new activities. If you enjoy people, love talking with them, and would like to facilitate their membership in our loving, caring community, then this is the Committee for you!

### Spotlight on New and Not So New Members:

The column “reporters” is taking a vacation this month. We hope to return next month, as we believe it is important to become acquainted with and re-acquainted with all members!

**Chris Walter**  
**Chair, Membership Team**  
[chris9709@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chris9709@sbcglobal.net) or 421-3069

## Workshop Invitation: What's Discernment Got to Do With It?

**Saturday, March 5, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm**  
**Open to Members and Friends**

### Registration is now open, and we can accommodate up to 30 participants

This experiential workshop will introduce the concept of “discernment” and present a model for using the practice in the context of a liberal, religious, community. After a presentation and discussion of the elements of discernment, participants will be engaged with a role play exercise designed to provide an opportunity to practice the technique, followed by an extensive debriefing. A light lunch will be provided.

From the training materials:

"When members of church communities are faced with the most challenging of circumstances, whether collectively or as individuals, the decision-making skills we have learned through business or secular life often are not sufficient. As religious people, we can respond with deeper insight and make better decisions by engaging the practice of religious discernment, informed by and grounded in our UU principles and values."

Sponsored and presented by the UU Leadership Development Committee. To register, send email or text message to Tom Darnton, [tdarnton@me.com](mailto:tdarnton@me.com) or 231.675.9787. A registration form will be forwarded to you to complete the process.

# Announcements

## Benzie Doings!

The Benzie UU Satellite meets at Michigan Shores in Frankfort. Potluck supper starts at 6:30 and program begins at 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 3:** Jan Robb will give a program titled, "Thoughts About Terrorist Tragedies"

**Wednesday, February 17:** Al Bryant will share his findings from his extensive research of Benzie County cemeteries.

**Mary Lee Orr**  
[orrmma57@yahoo.com](mailto:orrmma57@yahoo.com)

## Rabbi Chava at NMC

New Course Offering: "Meeting Jesus in His Jewish Context"

Join Rabbi Chava as she shares thoughts on the Jewish context of Jesus. Explore why knowing this can help to deepen your understanding of the ministry of Jesus. By looking at Jewish approaches to God, sacred text, and cosmology, you will discover how Jesus taught and why his message was both timely and timeless.

3 Tuesdays: February 16, 23 & March 1, 3-5 p.m.

University Center Room 215

(#EESA584, Code: 3596, \$59/\$49 with LIFE Discount)

## Magic happens at UUCGT!

Magic truly did happen at UUCGT recently. Real magic. I saw it with my own eyes.

The Memorial Service and Reception for Arline Howe was scheduled for the afternoon of January 3, 2016. Rabbi Chava and others on the Pastoral Care Team bravely stepped into Arline's shoes; contacted the family and began planning for the service. I was notified so that I could plan and organize the Reception to follow.

Over the past few weeks, I have been thanked over and over, and congratulated on a 'job well done'. While I appreciate the sentiments, I have also felt a bit guilty – it was not just I who pulled off a Reception for about 200 people – it took a hard-working team of about 2 dozen people to do it. I would love to present you with a list, thanking and honoring each person individually, but I am terrified I will forget someone, which wouldn't be right. So just look around you the next time you are at UUCGT, and know that someone who is near you pitched in so that everyone was able to share their memories and honor Arline in a beautiful and serene setting.

Some people contacted me with an offer to help as soon as they heard the news of Arline's passing; some people contacted me the day before the Service and Reception. Some people simply showed up at the Reception and asked, "What can I do?" I received emails and phone calls, and many offers in person. Some folks had enough time to offer to stay through a few shifts, some had only fifteen minutes or so. All contributed, all are due thanks for our success.

And here was the Magic: no matter what differences anyone had with anyone else, no matter that we might have long discussions over other issues, when all these people came to the kitchen and Fellowship Hall, it was a highly skilled Team which was called to

the field. Many hands pitched in to do something, each a small piece of a much larger whole – and Magic came about in the beautiful setting, the warmth of the community, the apparent ease of the work – no one had to do everything, no one had to bear the full responsibility or do all the work – it was a beautiful, heart-warming experience.

I will, at this point, tip my hat to one I'll name personally, because she deserves it: thank you to Solveig Gustafson, who began the Reception traditions, laid out the process in careful notes, and fully believes (agreed!) that everything for a Memorial should be beautifully presented – in the details, we honor and enjoy the beauty of the life we celebrate.

Any of us may need such a Service and Reception at any time — we never know. Our last two Receptions have indeed been large with community and congregational attendees – honoring people who gave much during their lifetimes. This is a wonderful thing we can do for ourselves and our community.

Folks, I'd like to invite anyone and everyone to become part of The Magic. Perhaps you do not feel that Memorials are something you wish to be a part of; but there are many, many teams/committees at UUCGT – no matter your interests, your talents or skills, there is a niche for each one of us. It takes a community to create *community* – if you are new, and wondering how you can begin to feel 'at home', if you've been coming for a while, but think you have no time or no energy – why, there is a Magic place just for you, just the time and the need that you can provide. And, in return, you get the warmth and caring that only being part of *community* can give.

Blessed be,

**Lauren Keinath**  
**(Co-Chair, Memorial Reception Team)**

## Social Justice and Action

We live in Michigan, the illustrious home of a man made disaster. The question becomes obvious, would this disaster been allowed to happen in Grosse Point, home of white wealthier people? I doubt it. It happened in Flint, home of many poor and black, people of color. Why? Conservatives always need to "save" money and are bent on not raising taxes. G- -forbid, they might have to raise taxes to help for the public good. Does the "public good" even count any more? Perhaps not for Flint, but it probably would have for Grosse Point.

This is allowed to happen in Flint, due to the distortion of thinking of some of our leaders. Now it has become a national beacon of neglect, and public awareness is not going to allow the further debasement of people of color and poor, at least not in this instance, we hope. Who will pay for it? Probably all of us in our taxes. We could have saved money by spending money in the beginning. But that is not the "conservative" way of thinking. Public good vies with less government and

"saving" money for being front and foremost.

A related and important issue is the incarceration of people of color, way beyond their proportion of our population or even crimes committed in our nation. Why is that? Again, it is a way to control and devalue the persons of color. They don't matter. New York City is doing something we can all follow. They are looking at their crimes and changing their definitions.

For example, some non-violent crimes are not even a misdemeanor. They become one where merely a "slap on the hand" is considered sufficient. For example, littering. They get a ticket, but it is served with a reasonable fine or community service, whatever, and no lasting record limiting their future. Once incarcerated, a person usually has lost the right to vote, yes, vote! And also the punishment, incarceration, must be stated on job applications, so getting a job is harder. With that also comes the denial of public housing, food stamps, and other ben-

efits we try to give to the poorer. Making a misconduct act a slap on the hand changes that person's future for the better rather than incarcerating him. It also saves money by beginning to clear our jails. We have the most people incarcerated than any other country.

What are we doing? We are ignoring, and even persecuting, the minority people of color in our society. What do you think? Should we change this? Come to our Social Justice Book Discussions. We will be meeting once a month and learning. We will be looking at different issues in our nation and seeing what suggestions and solutions we can enact or help empower. Watch for times and places of meeting in the Flash and elsewhere. Thank you!

**Emmy Lou Cholak**  
sjatcmi@gmail.com

### Green Sanctuary



### Flint Support March!

The march on Saturday, January 23 from 12:30-1:30 in support of the people of Flint asking questions of our government officials went very well. About fifty people attended, one fifth of them being UUs, all carrying signs. We met across from Horizon Books and marched down to Union and the Parkway where we spread out on all four corners. Passing cars honked and honked, people shouted; the support from the vehicles was outstanding!

There will be another march in two weeks. Stay turned to the Flash for date and time. Misty is in contact with the Flint UU Church to find out how we can help them.

**Misty Sheehan, mistysheehan@yahoo.com**

### Program Council - It's a PC You'll Want to See!

The UUCGT Program Council is made up of representatives from our committees, coming together to share ideas, inspiration, problem solving process and above all CLEAR COMMUNICATION. The Program Council met again in January to share our highlights, opportunities and challenges.

What did we learn? **When we simply sit face to face and talk to each other, we can get a great deal done.** We emerged from the meeting with solid plans for improved coordination across committees. A simple example? When a committee is holding a meeting or event after a Sunday service, it is hard to both prepare for the meeting and provide food. Committees will work together to provide help for OTHER committee's meetings and trade assistance. Another example: doing a better job welcoming our families with children by ensuring that we all take responsibility for thinking ahead about child care for our events. (We are going to create a brief study session based on an article provided by DLE Sarah Montgomery-Richards from "*Essex Conversations: Visions for Lifespan Religious Education*," a UU book.)

Our next PC meeting will be Sunday, February 28 following the service, in the back classroom. If you are a committee chair, please plan to attend or send a representative. Also, if you'd like to read the article for study, "Making Sure There is a There There," please stop by the office for a copy. More to come ....

**Rabbi Chava Bahle**



# Lifespan Experience

## Greetings Friends,

What a wonderful journey we've had together since the start of 2016! I particularly have enjoyed the creativity that so many have brought to our Sunday Services as well as what has been brought into our classrooms. Together, we have explored reason and science as they are celebrated in our 6th UU Source, and have each learned something about the world around us, and about ourselves.

As we look to February, our theme is Social Justice, in particular the work we are called to by our 2nd UU Principle: "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations". Consider how you act with compassion in your interactions with others. Are you mindful? Are you acting in such a way that you are promoting equality and finding opportunities to combat oppression in big ways and in the multitude of little ways we are presented with daily?

Consider the Dr. Seuss story "Yertle the Turtle". Old King Yertle achieved great success, and "high heights" built literally on the backs of the other turtles. All this would have gone on if it weren't for a little turtle named, Mack, who spoke up for all of them. Are you a King Yertle who takes your human relations for granted, perhaps unintentionally? Are you a plain little turtle named Mack who, in your ordinary ways, looks for justness in how you relate to people? These are the types of questions our

children will consider this month, and I would encourage all ages to ponder them in the interest of Lifespan Education. Perhaps you could reflect on these when you participate in Contemplative Reflection? (9:00 am, every Sunday morning in February)

Looking to the idea of human relations and moving forward programmatically, we are excited to announce that we will soon be offering a UU Parents' Chalice Circle. This will be an opportunity for UU Parents to get together, share their thoughts and musings, support one another, build community, and perhaps discuss a shared reading. More on this will be announced closer to the Sunday, March 20th launch. The group will gather between the 9am program and the 10:30 service – a short 30 minute connecting time (9:45am-10:15am) weekly that will simply support connection.

In closing, I would offer that we could each consider this month's focus as an opportunity to be more compassionate in our world, and more compassionate with ourselves.

Be kind to yourselves, kind to each other, and send loving kindness out into the universe.

In Peace,

**Sarah Montgomery-Richards**  
**Director of Lifespan Experience**  
[dle@uucgt.org](mailto:dle@uucgt.org)

## UUA News!

Friends, as you know our congregation is part of a network of over 1000 congregations world wide who make up the Unitarian Universalist Association or UUA. The magazine published by the UUA, *UU World*, is available in our library. You can learn more about what is going on across the country and around the world for UUs like you!

But there is more to the UUA than just the magazine. This June, Rabbi Chava and Director of Lifespan Experience, Sarah Montgomery-Richards will attend the General Assembly, the annual gathering of UUs from around the world, in Columbus, Ohio. The theme for GA 2016 will be **Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect**. We have some

scholarship money available for members wishing to represent UUCGT at the GA. Learn more about it here: <http://www.uua.org/ga> - ROAD TRIP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Also, February 14 is national Standing on the Side of Love Day, a Sunday celebrated by UU congregations to honor themes of compassion and social justice. We will draw sources for our service, under the expert guidance of Max Old Bear, from materials provided by the UUA.

Also, a shout out that Rabbi Chava was invited by her history professor, Dr. Kathleen Parker, from Starr King Seminary (a UU seminary), to submit a book review to the Journal of UU History, of which Dr. Parker is the editor. According to the Journal's website, "the *Journal of Unitarian Universalist History*

(formerly the *Proceedings of the Unitarian Universalist Historical Society*) is published annually by the Unitarian Universalist History and Heritage Society ... Journal seeks to preserve and celebrate original scholarship that relates to any aspect of the history of the Unitarian Universalist religious traditions, or related liberal religion."

Rabbi Chava reviewed Brycchan Carey's "*From Peace to Freedom: Quaker Rhetoric and the Birth of American Antislavery, 1657-1761.*" The review will be published in the Journal in 2016.

**Rabbi Chava Bahle**  
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# Financial Summary

As of December 31, 2015  
(50% of fiscal year)

	Current Year		Prior Year	
<b>Budgeted Income Received YTD</b>	<b>\$166,073</b>	<b>51.8%</b>	<b>\$170,195</b>	<b>65.1%</b>
<b>Budgeted Expenses Paid YTD</b>	<b>\$148,523</b>	<b>46.3%</b>	<b>\$123,753</b>	<b>47.4%</b>
<b>“For Those in Need” YTD</b>	<b>\$ 10,173</b>		<b>\$ 9,750</b>	

Budgeted income includes the total of all pledged, unpledged and loose offerings and miscellaneous income including building rent, etc. “For Those in Need” collections are in addition to Budgeted Income Received and are disbursed quarterly to worthy causes. The percentage reflects the portion of the total amount of income or expense budgeted for the fiscal year.

At the half way point in our fiscal year income exceeds expenses and that is always good. We would ask that you try and keep your pledges current during the winter months, especially if you plan to be out of town for an extended period. As you can tell, our cushion going into the second half of the year is not as great as it was last year.

Questions can be directed to your Finance Committee Chair, Mike McDonald ([m\\_mcdonald@charter.net](mailto:m_mcdonald@charter.net)) or to other members of the Finance Committee.

(Calendar continued from last page)							
02	Wed	Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends	10:00 AM 10:30 AM	15	Tue	UUCGT Board Meeting	5:30 PM 7:00 PM
02	Wed	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM	16	Wed	Leadership Development, Ann Swaney	9:30 AM 11:30 AM
02	Wed	Sunday Services Committee, Nancy Cotcamp/Hal Gurian	1-3:00 PM	16	Wed	Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends	10:00 AM 10:30 AM
02	Wed	Wednesday Potluck, Sandra McDonald	5:30 PM 7:30 PM	16	Wed	Wednesday Potluck, Sandra McDonald	5:30 PM 7:30 PM
02	Wed	International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler	7:00 PM 9:00 PM	16	Wed	International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler	7:00 PM 9:00 PM
03	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers	1:30 PM 3:30 PM	17	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers	1:30 PM 3:30 PM
03	Thu	Vocal Ensemble	7:00 PM 8:30 PM	17	Thu	Vocal Ensemble	7:00 PM 8:30 PM
04	Fri	Facilities Committee, Dave Halsted	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	20	Sun	<b>Adult Learning Class, Rabbi Chava</b>	<b>9:00 AM 9:45 AM</b>
05	Sat	LDC Discernment Workshop, Tom Darnton	9:30 AM 2:00 PM	20	Sun	<b>UU Parents Chalice Circle</b> , Sarah Montgomery-Richards	9:45 AM 10:15 AM
06	Sun	<b>Adult Learning Class, Rabbi Chava</b>	<b>9:00 AM 9:45 AM</b>	20	Sun	<b>Sunday Service</b>	<b>10:30 AM 11:30 AM</b>
06	Sun	<b>Sunday Service</b>	<b>10:30 AM 11:30 AM</b>	20	Sun	Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown	5:00 PM 7:00 PM
06	Sun	Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown	2:30 PM 6:30 PM	21	Mon	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM
07	Mon	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM	21	Mon	Open Gay AA Meeting	7:00 PM 8:30 PM
07	Mon	UU Men's Group, Minerva's	5:30 PM 7:30 PM	22	Tue	Bridge Group, Paul Christ	1:00 PM 4:30 PM
07	Mon	Open Gay AA Meeting	7:00 PM 8:30 PM	23	Wed	Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends	10:00 AM 10:30 AM
08	Tue	Staff Resources Committee, Karl Love	12:30 PM 1:30 PM	23	Wed	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM
08	Tue	Bridge Group, Paul Christ	1:00 PM 4:30 PM	23	Wed	Wednesday Night Supper-\$5 donation, Sandra McDonald	5:30 PM 7:00 PM
09	Wed	Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends	10:00 AM 10:30 AM	23	Wed	Colloquium, Sarah Montgomery-Richards	7:00 PM 8:00 PM
09	Wed	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM	23	Wed	International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler	7:00 PM 9:00 PM
09	Wed	Membership Committee, Chris & Rick Walter	4:00 PM 5:30 PM	24	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers	1:30 PM 3:30 PM
09	Wed	Wednesday Night Supper-\$5 donation, Sandra McDonald,	5:30 PM 7:00 PM	24	Thu	Brewing Community, John Hoffmann, TBA	5:00 PM 7:00 PM
09	Wed	Colloquium, Sarah Montgomery-Richards	7:00 PM 8:00 PM	24	Thu	Vocal Ensemble	7:00 PM 8:30 PM
09	Wed	Finance Committee, Mike McDonald	7:00 PM 8:00 PM	25	Fri	Death Café, Donna Stein Harris	10:00 AM 12:00 PM
09	Wed	International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler	7:00 PM 9:00 PM	27	Sun	<b>UU Parents Chalice Circle</b>	9:45 AM 10:15 AM
10	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers	1:30 PM 3:30 PM	27	Sun	<b>Sunday Service</b>	<b>10:30 AM 11:30 AM (one service)</b>
10	Thu	Brewing Community, John Hoffmann, TBA	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	27	Sun	Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown	5:00 PM 7:00 PM
10	Thu	Vocal Ensemble	7:00 PM 8:30 PM	28	Mon	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM
11	Fri	Friday Night Out, Sarah Montgomery-Richards	5:30-9:00 PM	28	Mon	Open Gay AA Meeting	7:00 PM 8:30 PM
13	Sun	<b>Sunday Service</b>	<b>10:30 AM 11:30 AM</b>	29	Tue	Bridge Group, Paul Christ	1:00 PM 4:30 PM
13	Sun	UU Book Club, Emmy Lou Cholak	2:00 PM 4:00 PM	30	Wed	Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends	10:00 AM 10:30 AM
13	Sun	Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	30	Wed	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM
14	Mon	Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs	11:00 AM 12:00 PM	30	Wed	Wednesday Night Pizza, Sandra McDonald	5:30 PM 7:00 PM
14	Mon	Open Gay AA Meeting	7:00 PM 8:30 PM	30	Wed	International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler	7:00 PM 9:00 PM
15	Tue	Little Spiritual Book Brown Bag Lunch, Rabbi Chava	12-1 PM	31	Thu	Peacemakers Needleworkers	1:30 PM 3:30 PM
15	Tue	Bridge Group, Paul Christ	1:00 PM 4:30 PM	31	Thu	Vocal Ensemble	7:00 PM 8:30 PM

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## the BEACON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Volume 53, Issue 2

February, 2016

### Calendar

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

#### February 2016

- 01 **Mon** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 01 **Mon** UU Men's Group, Dave Halsted, Minerva's 5:30 PM 7:30 PM  
 01 **Mon** Open Gay AA Meeting 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 02 **Tue** CUUPS, Sarah Montgomery-Richards That's a Pizza, 12-1 PM  
 02 **Tue** Bridge Group, Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM  
 03 **Wed** Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends 10:00 AM 10:30 AM  
 03 **Wed** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 03 **Wed** Sunday Services Committee, Nancy Cotcamp/Hal Gurian 1:00-3:00 PM  
 03 **Wed** Wednesday Potluck, Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM 7:30 PM  
 03 **Wed** International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler 7:00 PM 9:00 PM  
 04 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM  
 04 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 05 **Fri** Facilities Committee, Dave Halsted 10:00 AM 11:00 AM  
 07 **Sun** **Contemplative Meditation, Rabbi Chava 9:00 AM 9:45 AM**  
 07 **Sun** **Sunday Service 10:30 AM 11:30 AM**  
 07 **Sun** Prospective Member Orientation, Rabbi Chava 12:00-1:15 PM  
 07 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown 2:30 PM 6:30 PM  
 08 **Mon** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 08 **Mon** Open Gay AA Meeting 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 09 **Tue** Staff Resources Committee, Karl Love 12:30 PM 1:30 PM  
 09 **Tue** Bridge Group, Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM  
 10 **Wed** Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends 10:00 AM 10:30 AM  
 10 **Wed** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 10 **Wed** Membership Committee, Chris & Rick Walter 4:00-5:30 PM  
 10 **Wed** Wednesday Night Supper-\$5 donation, Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM 7:00 PM  
 10 **Wed** Colloquium, Sarah Montgomery-Richards 7:00 PM 8:00 PM  
 10 **Wed** Finance Committee, Mike McDonald 7:00 PM 8:00 PM  
 10 **Wed** International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler 7:00 PM 9:00 PM  
 11 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM  
 11 **Thu** Brewing Community, John Hoffmann, Rare Bird 5:00-7:00 PM  
 11 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 12 **Fri** Brew Crew, Rabbi Chava, Brew Cafe 10:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 12 **Fri** Friday Night Out, Sarah Montgomery-Richards 5:30-9:00 PM  
 13 **Sat** Singing Sisters, Linda Hebert 9:30 AM 3:00 PM  
 14 **Sun** **Contemplative Meditation, Rabbi Chava 9:00 AM 9:45 AM**  
 14 **Sun** **15 Minutes with the Rabbi, Rabbi Chava 10:00-10:15 AM**  
 14 **Sun** **Sunday Service 10:30 AM 11:30 AM**  
 14 **Sun** UU Book Club, Mark Gustafson 2:00 PM 4:00 PM  
 14 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown 5:00 PM 7:00 PM

- 15 **Mon** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 15 **Mon** Open Gay AA Meeting 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 16 **Tue** Little Spiritual Book Brown Bag Lunch, Rabbi Chava 12-1 PM  
 16 **Tue** Bridge Group, Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM  
 16 **Tue** UUCGT Board Meeting 5:30 PM 7:00 PM  
 17 **Wed** Leadership Development, Ann Swaney 9:30 AM 11:30 AM  
 17 **Wed** Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends 10:00 AM 10:30 AM  
 17 **Wed** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 17 **Wed** Wednesday Potluck, Sandra McDonald 5:30 PM 7:30 PM  
 17 **Wed** International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler 7:00 PM 9:00 PM  
 18 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM  
 18 **Thu** Endowment Committee, Joe Cook 7:00 PM 8:00 PM  
 18 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 21 **Sun** **Contemplative Meditation 9:00 AM 9:45 AM**  
 21 **Sun** **Sunday Service 10:30 AM 11:30 AM**  
 21 **Sun** Committee on Ministry, Small Groups 11:30 AM 12:30 PM  
 21 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown 5:00 PM 7:00 PM  
 22 **Mon** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 22 **Mon** Open Gay AA Meeting 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 23 **Tue** Brew Crew, Rabbi Chava, Brew Cafe 10:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 23 **Tue** Bridge Group, Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM  
 24 **Wed** Meditation, Rabbi Chava & Friends 10:00 AM 10:30 AM  
 24 **Wed** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 24 **Wed** Wednesday Night Supper-\$5 donation, Sandra McDonald, 5:30 PM 7:00 PM  
 24 **Wed** Colloquium, Sarah Montgomery-Richards 7:00 PM 8:00 PM  
 24 **Wed** International Folk Dances, Richard Fidler 7:00 PM 9:00 PM  
 25 **Thu** Peacemakers Needleworkers 1:30 PM 3:30 PM  
 25 **Thu** Brewing Community, John Hoffmann, Rare Bird, 5:00-7:00 PM  
 25 **Thu** Vocal Ensemble 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 26 **Fri** Death Café, Open Meeting, Donna Stein Harris 10:00-12PM  
 28 **Sun** **Contemplative Meditation, Rabbi Chava 9:00 AM 9:45 AM**  
 28 **Sun** **Sunday Service 10:30 AM 11:30 AM**  
 28 **Sun** Program Council, Rabbi Chava 11:45 AM 12:45 PM  
 28 **Sun** Mindfulness Meditation, Fleda Brown 5:00 PM 7:00 PM  
 29 **Mon** Stretch & Exercise, Judith Briggs 11:00 AM 12:00 PM  
 29 **Mon** Open Gay AA Meeting 7:00 PM 8:30 PM  
 01 **Tue** CUUPS, Sarah Montgomery-Richards, That's a Pizza, 12-1 PM  
 01 **Tue** Bridge Group, Paul Christ 1:00 PM 4:30 PM

#### March 2016

(March Calendar continues on previous page)