



February 2024 Newsletter

HARBOR Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION

Muskegon, MI 49441-1719
1296 Montgomery Ave. at McGraft

231-755-2932
www.harboruu.org

HUUC Mission Statement:

Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a safe haven inspiring people to seek their own spiritual truths through worship and learning in community as we build a better world together.

HUUC Vision Statement:

The people of Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation envision a community where connections are strengthened and deepened, where families are supported, and where diversity is celebrated.

Sue McIntire, *Music Director*

HUUC Board of Trustees

Poppy Sias Hernandez, *President*
Robin Dennany, *Vice President*
Kurt Troutman, *Treasurer*
Jones Barton, *Secretary*

Members at Large:

Carolyn Holmes • Rebecca St. Clair • Kal Fox

Sunday Worship Services

*Virtual!
or In Person!*

Begin at
10:30am

February 4th

"The Prime of Life"

Dr. Fred Wooden

Thoughts on the spiritual meaning of aging.

February 11th

"The Devil's Advocate"

Dr. Louis Yock

A Devil's Advocate is inclined to test the strength of an argument, sometimes resorting to unpopular or contentious positions. At its best, being a Devil's Advocate is a form of Socratic questioning, where bad ideas can be changed, and good ideas made even better. Dr. Louis Yock has been the Senior Minister at People's Church in Ludington since 2016, having served as the Associate Minister from 2013-2016, and the Director of Religious Education there between 2006-2013. He happily lives in Ludington with his dog and cat, and is especially content when walking the parks and beaches and visiting with fellow wanderers.

February 18th

"Love Anchors & Aspirations"

Poppy Sias Hernandez

Join our HUUC Board President in reflection and praise.

February 25th

"Fill in the _____"

Rev. Matthew Cockrum

What will you do with the space before spring? How is creating and holding space a form of resistance and resilience? What do you fill space with? How are you filled? Join Rev. Matthew Cockrum in this contemplative, embodied worship experience.

Zoom With Us at <https://zoom.us/j/91447658076>



Greetings from the Board of Trustees

Hello All,

Last February 2023, I wrote a HUUC newsletter submission that expressed supreme optimism for the year, and I am glad to report that 2023 was indeed a great year for HUUC!

As we proceed into 2024, the congregation is growing in members and in spirit. Our continued success is due in large part to the sustained leadership of our former consulting Minister, **Rev. Matthew Cockrum**. He has inspired the HUUC Board of Trustees to seek solutions in partnership with the congregation as we all work together to navigate the various joys and challenges of HUUC.

HUUC is a collection of likeminded individuals engaged in spiritual and social community. I am grateful for the enduring orchestration provided by our President, **Poppy Hernandez**. She successfully channels vast amounts of positive energy into our congregation through the Board of Trustees.

David McIntire might be the longest serving bookkeeper in HUUC History. He manages all accounts payable and electronic accounts receivable (PayPal & Venmo). As a past congregational president, David's contributions to HUUC also include being a longtime featured musician, choir member and sound technician.

Did you know that our beloved building was built in 1924, thus we are celebrating 100 years. HUUC traces its local roots back to 1954. We acquired our spiritual home at 1296 Montgomery in 1973. **Nancy Stier** toils dutifully to ensure that our grounds are professionally manicured and adorned with a multitude of flowers for all to enjoy.

Our 100-year-old building remains in great shape due in large part to the work of **Jim Stier**, **Jeffrey Ochsner** and many others who contribute to the ongoing maintenance of the facility. The lift is simultaneously a source of pride and scorn as it remains temperamental, but ... we are optimistic that a permanent fix to this step-saving device is imminent. Thanks to everyone for their ongoing patience.

It is often said that Unitarian Universalism is where you go to get your answers questioned, thus we must all continue to bring our questions to service each week. HUUC welcomes questions, doubts and all individuals. I am grateful to be a member of our spiritual community.

- Sincerely
Kurt Troutman
HUUC Treasurer

A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of human history – Mahatma Gandhi





The Endowment Committee

is pleased to announce we will award \$6,400 to seven applicants
for grant work in 2024. Awards include:

Applicant	Benefit Category	Project
HUUC Social Action Committee	Community Outreach	Community Resource Booklet
HUUC Music Program	Educational Opportunities	AUUMM Conference 2024
Boys & Girls Club of the Lakeshore	Community Outreach	Great Futures - 8 Lifeguard Certifications
HUUC Leadership Development	Educational Opportunities	Spark Retreat 2024 - 2 Admissions
Jamie Huizenga	Educational Opportunities	Medical School - University of Michigan
Lizzie Lam	Educational Opportunities	Bachelor Degree - Hope College
Kaleb Lam	Educational Opportunities	Bachelor Degree - Grand Valley State University

Thank you to the 2024 Endowment Grant Committee:

Eli Fox, Chair

Kwame James, Financial Secretary

Anna Eldenbrady, Nancy Stier, Ange Barnes

For questions or details, please contact Eli Fox, endowment@harboruu.org

FYI! A seat on the 2025 Endowment Committee is opening soon! Are you interested in working to forward HUUC's mission through grant work? Please contact Eli or Board Chair Poppy with interest.



Sunday February 18th Potluck & Fellowship

Please bring a dish to share and a smile
for a potluck of fellowship and food
immediately following service.

In Search Of...

"Sound and Tech" Helpers on Sunday mornings

Social Justice Committee to lead the charge of
social justice work in Muskegon

Kitchen: Bring in treats, Make coffee, or Stay to
Clean up after service

- Contact Robin Dennany
robin.dennany@gmail.com
HUUC Board Trustee

Next HUUC Board Meeting: Monday, February 19 • 6:30 pm

All are welcome!

in person or via zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96744707168>



News from C A R I N G COMMITTEE...

The caring team has become a strong and vital part of our UU experience. We acknowledge the vital and valuable part we play in this sacred space and to that end, we hope that you will turn to us for any issue that is a concern in your life. We are here to help you carry those difficulties that make knots in our lives. We offer a hand, a shoulder or an ear for those times. Please reach out - we are here.

Condolences to **Eli Fox** on the loss of her aunt.

Condolences to **Arionna Huffman** on the loss of her great-grandmother.

Healing thoughts to **Ernie Boone**.

Healing energy to **Dan Martin Mills**.

Condolences to **Susan Fabrick, Joe Glatz, Anna EldenBrady and Family** on the loss of father and friend Eric Glatz.

Caring and comfort and to **ALL our members and friends** who have recently had COVID.

We have five members:

Sue McIntire, Christine Cleary, Chad Axe, Nancy Johnson, and Ange Barnes.

(If you would like to be involved in any way, please let one of us know.)

Contact: Sue McIntire (231) 563-3988

In Memory **Eric Glatz**



***Eric Joseph Glatz, 74,
passed away Saturday,
December 25, 2023.***

Eric was born January 9, 1949, the son of Erich and Sylvia Glatz. He was blessed with two sons in his life. Eric was a member of the Industrial Workers of the World and The United Steel Workers of America. He was a talented guitar player, and enjoyed fishing, train sets and was always known to have some kind of pet reptile. He was a kind, caring man who was always known to have a good story and a laugh. He will be deeply missed.

Eric is survived by: his children, Brendan (April) Glatz, and Joe (Anna EdenBrady) Glatz; grandchildren, Ryan (Hailee), Kayla (Aaron), Jonathan, Nicholas, Emily, Lucy, and Charlie; great-grandchildren, Kennadie, Kaycen, Daytona, and Avalon; and former spouse Susan Fabrick.

In keeping with his wishes Cremation will take place and no services are being planned at this time.



The HUUC Social Action Committee



Feb 1, 2024

The HUUC social action Committee has been pretty active these past few months.

The **reading tutor program** for elementary students at Bunker, our neighborhood school got off the ground in December. The staff wanted to have a well organized and effective program and we reaped the benefit of that. We have 6 tutors who help three students each for 20 minutes each one day a week. We read books chosen by their teacher at their level. They read to us or we read to them, we help them sound out words and ask them questions for content. It is really very easy and the kids love the individual attention. The school is very appreciative of the help we give them. There is lots of room to grow, as so many students need help with reading and it is such a critical skill for success.

Angie did a great job with the **Christmas Families** from Every Women's Place. HUUC members were again generous with gifts to two EWP families identified as needing help. All the things requested were bought, wrapped and taken to EWP. The families were very appreciative.

The HUUC commitment to **Supper House** occurs on the third Friday of the month 3:45-5. **Mary VanSlooten** coordinates this effort to try to involve more HUUC members to help serve supper at Temple United Methodist Church. Someone will show you what is expected when you show up. Residents come from the neighborhood by Muskegon Heights High School, and nearby and some are homeless. Let Mary VanSlooten or **Kwame James** know if you plan to volunteer on one of our Fridays.

We discussed the needs of HUUC members and ways they could be helped.

A printed directory of area services for the poor was being put together from an online version from EWP. **Chad** agreed to produce a document with phone numbers and addresses instead of websites. We asked the Endowment committee for \$1000 to print them, but only got half of that. Currently we have no one to continue the hard work Chad was doing, so we are putting that project on indefinite hold until we have the volunteer and financial backing to complete the project.

The HUUC social Action Committee is encouraging members to donate to MUUSJN, the "lobbiest" for UU legislative priorities. I have seen their effectiveness in supporting choice, gay rights, non-discrimination, and other UU principles. There should still be forms on the counter for donating. Any amount will help.

We also discussed inviting former members back to HUUC who were or are interested in social action. We also want to involve more of our current membership. We meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30.

Our next meeting is Feb 28 at 7:30 downstairs.



Marcia Hovey-Wright, Co-Chair

Nancy Stier, Co-Chair



CITY of the DEAD MUSKEGON

IN NEED OF Rehearsal Director for 2024 Event Season

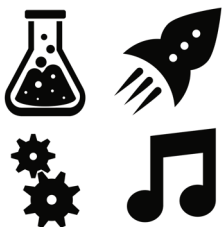
City of the Dead is an on-site outdoor **historical reenactment tour** taking place at Muskegon's Evergreen cemetery the second weekend in October annually. Rehearsals take place at Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Muskegon or at the cemetery. **Harbor UU is the sponsoring organization** for this event. The Rehearsal Director needs to be able to get to these locations.

Responsibilities will include attending meetings with the planning team starting in the spring, scheduling and managing regular rehearsals in August, September, and October with a cast of around 20-25 people (not all cast members need to be at every rehearsal) and coordinating with the tour guide group lead to make sure all cast members are well prepared for their roles as either tour stops, host ghosts, or guides. Preparing cast members and coordinating with the crew organizers for the event taking place the second weekend in October.

Because this is an all volunteer event, we are unfortunately not able to pay for this position. We wish we could, as we understand that this is a big ask of anyone who has experience in this area. Our entire cast, crew, and planning team are volunteers.

Video of previous years' events are available at www.youtube.com/CityoftheDeadMuskegon. Questions or interest can be directed to cityofthedeadmuskegon@gmail.com.

For Science!



4-H Club

Is your child or a child you know interested in joining a 4-H club that isn't just "sows, cows, and ploughs?" What about one that's centered on STEAM--science, technology, engineering, arts & architecture, and

mathematics? Well then it's your lucky day, because the For Science! 4-H Club meets at Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation and Love Community Garden (weather permitting) on the first and third Fridays of every month and we are open to new members year-round!

The club explores various STEAM fields with youth ages 5-19 through hands-on projects based on youth interests. Michigan 4-H does not collect participation fees and enrolled members are able to take part in special events throughout the year, so this youth development program is free! 4-H is one of the nation's oldest youth development organizations and is administered by land-grant universities across the country.

Club leader Anna EldenBrady invites anyone interested to get in touch at for.science4h@gmail.com for more information on the club and on how to enroll.



Harbor UU Member **Anna EldenBrady** encourages everyone to save the date for the Virtual Rainbow Summit, a unique opportunity for queerfolx and their allies to come together as a community. Anna is a passionate member of the planning and moderation team for this event and would love to see zir HUUC family in the Zoom room at the conference!

THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS IS OPEN!
Virtual Rainbows Summit 2024:
Tenacious Joy: Reaching for a Rainbow Sky
April 25-27, 2024

We invite youth, university and college students/faculty/staff, professionals, and community members to present at the Virtual Rainbow Summit 2024. There will be spots available all three days for 60 minute presentations. Submissions on all topics relevant to the LGBTQ+ community are welcome, especially those related to affirming and celebrating identities, promoting joy and wellness in the face of adversity, and building community and solidarity including (but not limited to):

- Mental and physical health and wellness for members and allies of the LGBTQ+ community.
- Creative solutions for building community within the LGBTQ+ population including:

online (or in person) activities to be shared with families, entertainment, or adaptations made to everyday activities.

- Advocacy and Allyship - How to organize, lobby, present issues, political engagement
- LGBTQ+ community and political and social engagement (i.e., environment, food sovereignty, Black Lives Matter)
- Intersectionality (affirming all identities – age, religion, race, disability, politics, profession, family, etc.)
- All topics for youth and families - Coming out and finding your community, how to advocate for self and others, working with schools, safe and respectful relationships.
- Resources for parents/families
- Resources for professionals
- Resources for educators
- Many others – be creative!

Submit your proposal electronically. (Fill out a separate form for each proposal)
You will be asked to provide:

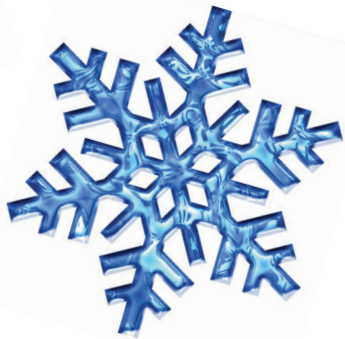
- Primary presenter information
- Other presenter(s) information
- Presentation type
- Presentation title
- Presentation description
- Preferred date(s) and time(s)
- Accommodation needs

Submissions are due by Monday 11:59pm on February 12th 2024.

https://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/.../SV_6A9sHLbUXsSsXjg

Submit proposals at this link: https://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6A9sHLbUXsSsXjg

If you have questions regarding proposals, please email Dani Dávalos (they/she) at davaloda@oregonstate.edu



Inclement Weather
Please check for cancellations
on HUUC's Facebook
group and pages



Cozy Craft Circle

meets every-other Monday 6:30-8:30pm in the social hall. Bring a work-in-progress, something new, or just a notebook to brainstorm and collect inspiration. You are encouraged to bring a beverage of choice and snacks to share. This is a welcoming space to stretch your creativity and socialize. We'll use the side door, but if you need the front door available for accessibility, message Robin at 2482291601. Join our FB group, via the HUUC News and Events page - Cozy Craft Corner. Happy Crafting!

YOGA ALL WELCOME!



Thursdays 5:30-6:30
1296 Montgomery • 49441
Bring a Mat & a Friend!

Chalice Circles



Chalice circles are small groups of 8-10 people that gather once or twice a month to discuss topics of spirituality and life. Do you think it might find a home at Harbor UU? If you think you would like to be part of a group or be a group leader, or if you have any questions feel free to reach out to me at angebarnes70@gmail.com or 303-717-6366.

Please submit information for the **February Newsletter** by Monday, February 26th to Jessica at gingermajick@hotmail.com • text or call 231.206.4947

MUUSJN

To: MUUSJN Board and UU Social Justice Leaders

The MUUSJN team requests your help in publicizing our \$4k Matching Grant Challenge to your congregation or fellowship. Our work is funded by congregational and individual donations, as well as grants. Please include news of our \$4k Matching Grant Challenge in your church newsletter, Facebook page, or other communication channels. ***Following is text and graphics for you to copy for this purpose.*** Please contact us if we can help with other formats for you to use (see contact information below).

The **Michigan UU Social Justice Network (MUUSJN)** is a statewide alliance of UU congregations. Its director and consultants help to leverage expertise, coalition-building among UUs and partner organizations, and the strengths of congregational social justice efforts to expand the impact of our collective justice-making.

MUUSJN is excited to announce a **\$4k Matching Grant Challenge**. The Unitarian Universalist Funding Program will match all contributions to MUUSJN up to a total of \$4,000. Your support will go twice as far in creating positive change!

Donate Today: Click [here](#) or scan the QR code, then click the Donate button to pay via Paypal or credit or debit card. [This QR code links to the MUUSJN website]



Matching Grant Challenge

DOUBLES Your Donation!

GIVE NOW



uujustice.org

Your generosity will fund:

- **Educational Workshops:** Equipping individuals with the skills and knowledge to be effective allies for LGBTQ+, BIPOC, and other historically marginalized communities. MUUSJN is also working to educate UU's and advocate for the dignity of Native Americans.
- **Policy Change Campaigns:** Influencing policy changes that address systemic inequalities and promote justice. From ending child marriage and protecting reproductive rights to reforming the cash bail system and enacting sensible gun reforms, MUUSJN will continue to push for legislative action that reflects our UU values and those of our justice partners.
- **Support for UU Congregations and Partner Organizations:** Providing resources in support of anti-racism and anti-oppression work that will help to build the Beloved Community throughout our UU movement and beyond.

Donate today and your dollars will be doubled thanks to a matching grant from the UU Program Fund!





Safe Congregation Policy

Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Statement of Commitment

We, the Board of Trustees of Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation, wholeheartedly commit to fostering a Safe Congregational Space that is unwaveringly free from harassment, abuse, and discrimination. Our primary aim is to ensure the safety, well-being, and dignity of all members, visitors, and staff.

Code of Conduct

Acceptable behavior and interactions within our congregation are grounded in respect, inclusivity, and the nurturing of a vibrant community atmosphere. We affirm the values and principles espoused by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), and we warmly welcome all individuals who share a commitment to living in harmony with these principles.

Reporting Procedures

We recognize the importance of promptly addressing any incidents of harassment, abuse, or violations of this policy. We strongly encourage anyone who witnesses or experiences such behavior to report it to the Board of Directors. Timely reporting is encouraged, and we assure confidentiality and unwavering support for those who come forward.

Protection

Above all, we empower and support individuals who have experienced harassment, abuse, or policy violations to establish and assert personal boundaries that ensure their safety. This may include asserting their right to ask the perpetrator to cease, discontinuing any interactions on social media platforms, and making the choice to disengage from the individual involved. Furthermore, we encourage our members and guests to explore all available legal avenues for protection, which may include seeking Personal Protection Orders or other legal remedies.

Statement of Inclusion, Diversity, and Non-Discrimination

Inclusion, diversity, and non-discrimination are not only fundamental principles of our faith but also the cornerstone of this policy and our communal interactions. We affirm our commitment to embracing and celebrating the rich tapestry of humanity. We are resolute in our stance against discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, ability, socioeconomic status, or any other characteristic. We pledge to create a community where every individual is valued and respected, and where their unique contributions enrich our shared experience.

Conclusion

By upholding these principles and values, we reaffirm our dedication to creating a sanctuary of safety, respect, and belonging for all who seek solace and spiritual growth within Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Together, we aspire to build a congregation where love, compassion, and justice flourish, and where every member can thrive in an environment of trust and support.





February 2024 Calendar

H A R B O R
Unitarian Universalist
CONGREGATION

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5:30p Yoga	2 4:30p 4H Mtg	3
4 10:30a Worship	5	6	7 NO CHOIR	8 5:30p Yoga	9	10
11 10:30a Worship	12 6:30p Craft Corner	13	14 6:00p Choir	15 5:30p Yoga	16 3:30p Supper House 4:30p 4H Mtg	17
18 10:30a Worship 11:30a Potluck	19 6:30p Board Mtg	20 7:30p Worship Committee -Zoom-	21 6:00p Choir	22 5:30p Yoga	23	24
25 10:30a Worship	26 6:30p Craft Corner	27	28 NO CHOIR 7:30 Social Action	29 5:30p Yoga		