



March 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

March 3rd

"Friendship"

Christine Cleary

HUUC member speaks on the bonding and fulfillment of friends in everyday lives and within our congregation.

March 10th

"Absolute Absolution"

Jeff Justin

HUUC member shares his insights and observations on release of guilt and forgiveness.

March 17th

"Work and rest, the rhythm of our lives" Robin Dennany

Join our HUUC Board Vice President in reflection and praise.

March 24th

"Restorative Practices"

Anna EldenBrady

Strengthening relationships between individuals as well as social connections within communities.

March 31st

"After Resurrection"

Rev. Matthew Cockrum

As spring comes, and Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus it begs the question... What next? Stories of redemption, liberation, resurrection are not the endings, but merely the beginnings of other chapters, or the continuation of the cycle or spiral. Reverend Matthew Cockrum returns to the pulpit.

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



Greetings from the Board of Trustees

Dear Ones,

One of the best feelings I have had is a great sense of awe in a moment of time where I realize that I am a part of something much bigger, much greater, and much more amazing than my day-to-day conscious mind usually lets me acknowledge. That is an experience I have been able to share several times with other participants of **General Assembly**. And you have that opportunity too! I hope you will give serious consideration to joining in "GA".

The General Assembly of our Unitarian Universalist Association is **June 20-23**. This year it will be a virtual assembly so **no travel will be required!** We need delegates to represent HUUC. (The Board of Trustees has set aside registration fees for two delegates on a first come, first served basis!). Registration fee rates will raise on March 16 and again on May 15.

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. You can join online Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23, 2024 for this 4-day immersive experience where we participate in inspirational worship services and informative workshops, reconvene with friends and colleagues, and explore the virtual exhibit hall. **GA is an unforgettable experience for the thousands of UUs who participate.** You'll leave with renewed energy and innovative ideas to share with our congregation and community-at-large!

The votes that GA delegates cast have a huge impact on Unitarian Universalism. This year there will be a **vote on proposed changes** to the section of the Unitarian Universalist Association bylaws that includes the Principles, Purposes, and Sources. There will also be votes to determine our elected leaders, and shape the justice work that we do as a movement. If you are interested in serving as a delegate from our congregation, talk to a Board of Trustees member (Poppy Hernandez, Jones Barton, Robin Dennany, Rebecca St. Clair, Kal Fox, or Carolyn Holmes). **You can learn more at www.uua.org/ga.**

In addition to General Assembly, the **governance of our congregation** is also a matter to be reflected upon at this time of year. Soon we will be planning a budget for the next fiscal year and preparing to hold our **annual meeting** where we will vote to fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees. Our Leadership Development Committee is currently in the process of seeking out candidates. If approached to serve, please give it your utmost consideration.

Another important **very important** development for the Board is the **resolve to serve our families** that attend HUUC. You may have noticed that we now have a group of children who attend frequently. They deserve a Sunday morning experience appropriate to their age and interest level. Those of us who have had children involved in past Religious



Education programming at HUUC know how valuable it is to families trying to raise UU kids in a very Christian oriented community at large. We will be holding a planning meeting to determine what type of programming we can offer to our young families that goes beyond "child care". This will not be a curriculum planning meeting but a discussion about what a program at HUUC would consist of. *Will it be classes? Will it be more of a social gathering? Will it take place before services? After services? During Services? What has worked in the past? What has not worked? Can we do this with volunteers?* IF you have been involved in Religious Education in the past or have ideas to share or wish to be involved, please plan to attend a meeting to be held following the worship service on Sunday, March 17.

Love and Peace,
- Carolyn Holmes
HUUC Trustee



www.uua.org/ga

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Next HUUC Board Meeting: Monday, March 18 • 6:30 pm
All are welcome!
in person or via zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96744707168>



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:

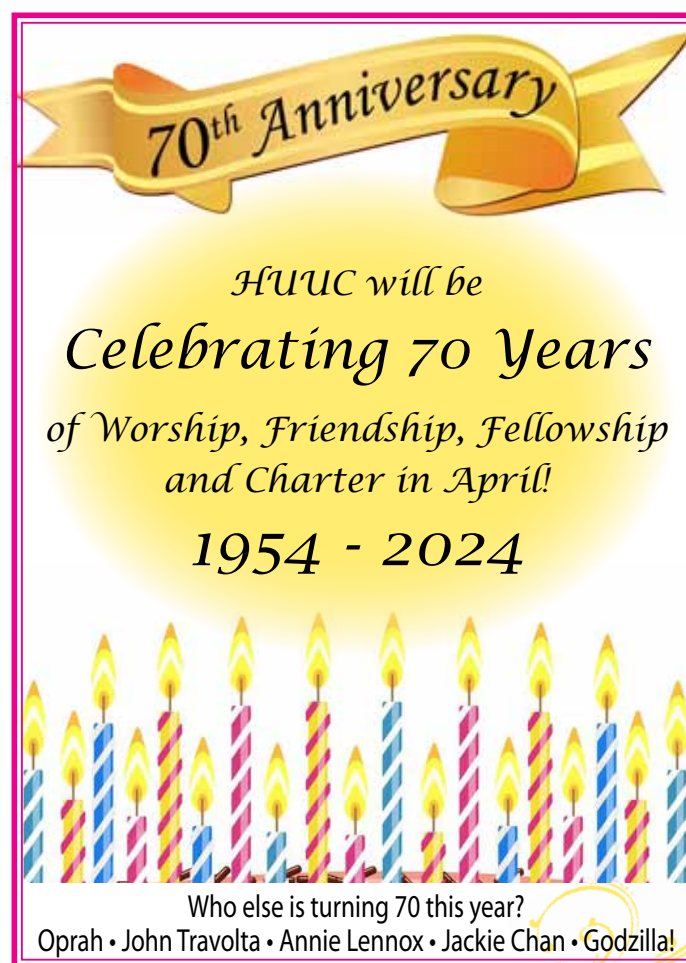
Eli Fox, Chair

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.



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.

Welcoming bundles of joy!

Congratulations to **Jim and Nancy Stier** on the birth of their granddaughter, Ahri Lynn Levine, born January 31.

Congratulations to **Ty and Sue Newton** on the birth of their granddaughter, Eleanor Sue Burgam, born February 16.

(See grandparents for proud photos!)

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**.

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



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celebrated.

Earth-Based Spiritualists Ritual

**Sunday, March 24th @2pm
location TBD**

**Direct interest and inquiries to
Jessica:
gingermajick@hotmail.com
or text/call 231.206.4947**

See you there!



Child Care Provider

HUUC is in need of a responsible person to act as a Child Care Provider during our Sunday morning services. If you know of such a person please refer them to Poppy Hernandez for information.



REALLY REALLY FREE MARKET

Take what you need, donate what you don't.

**SATURDAYS
MARCH 23 • APRIL 20 • MAY 18
2PM TO 5PM**



**1198 SPRING ST
MUSKEGON**

**NO CHARGE TO
PARTICIPATE**

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

*Clothing, Shoes, Cold Weather Wear,
Household Items, Personal Hygiene Items,
Craft Supplies, and More!*



Robin's Custom Cards...



Cards are for sale in the social hall
for \$4 each or 3 for \$10

"I love doing commissioned work"
and will create a themed set of 4 for \$20.

Custom portraits and other commissions start at
\$30 depending on size and complexity.

Your support is much appreciated!

I accept cash and Venmo @robin-dennany



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

VIRTUAL GA • JUNE 20 - 23, 2024

 Theme:

Love Unites, Stories Ignite

Unite with fellow UUs as we explore the boundless power of love in our faith community. Ignite your spirit with the incredible stories that shape our faith and inspire change. Dive into the rich tapestry of narratives that have the potential to ignite a brighter future for us all.

Virtually Uniting Our Faith Community

Join the 2024 UUA General Assembly! Dive into a groundbreaking experience from the comfort of your own space. The 2024 UUA General Assembly is going virtual, opening the doors to an incredible opportunity for all to come together, share ideas, and unite our faith community like never before. Experience the warmth and camaraderie of fellow UU members, ministers, and leaders from around the world. This fully virtual event allows us to transcend borders and celebrate our shared values.

Inspiring Workshops and Soulful Worship

Gain insights from influential voices in the UUA community and beyond. Be inspired to make a difference in the world. Explore important topics, share your perspectives, and learn from others to deepen your spiritual journey. Be a part of the change we want to see in the world. Discover opportunities for meaningful engagement on social justice, climate justice, and other initiatives. Celebrate the beauty of UU worship through dynamic virtual services that will uplift your spirit.

When

June 20 – 23, 2024

Where

Your Home, Your Space,
Your Connection!

Engaging Discussions

Participate in meaningful dialogues on issues that matter. Engage with thought-provoking workshops and seminars led by visionary leaders. Explore your faith and perspectives with fellow attendees. Let's prove that distance can never dim the power of our collective spirit.

Register Now

Don't miss out on this remarkable gathering of minds and hearts. Secure your spot today to connect, engage, and empower yourself with like-minded individuals who share your faith. Registration is available at uua.org/ga. Register before March 1 for the lowest rate. Rates will increase on March 1 and again on May 15.

Join us at the 2024 UUA General Assembly and be a part of this transformative virtual gathering!



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!



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.

BE a Peace-Maker!
“PEACEFUL RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE”
TRAINING

Saturday, April 13, 2024

Training will take place at First Congregational UCC
1201 Jefferson St. Muskegon, MI 49441



Gathering &
Registration at 9:30 AM
Training 10:00 AM-2 PM



The Meta Peace Team from Lansing, MI
(MetaPeaceTeam.org)
will offer Violence De-escalation Skills Training.

Topics to be addressed include:

The power and efficacy of Nonviolence	Systematic Causes of Violence
The Spirituality of Nonviolence	Creating Resiliency in a World of Conflict

The training will begin and end with spiritual centering. The session will be tailored to the needs of our community as we learn to be peacemakers in an assertive, loving, and peaceful manner. A boxed lunch will be provided.

MCCC is supplementing the cost of the training. Donations are appreciated.
The cost to MCCC is \$45 a person (including lunch).

“BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS,
FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD”
MATTHEW 5:9 NRSV

Sponsored by
The Peace and Justice Committee of
Muskegon County Cooperating Churches
120 W. Apple Ave., Muskegon, MI 49440
231-727-6000 office.mccc@frontier.com





REGISTRATION FORM
“PEACEFUL RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE” TRAINING

Saturday, April 13, 2024
First Congregational Church U.C.C.
1201 Jefferson, Muskegon, MI 49441
Registration at 9:30 AM
10 AM-2 PM

Name of Participant: _____

Contact Information:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Church or Organization (if relevant): _____

Number of people Participating from your group: _____

Any special dietary needs:

Contact Muskegon County Cooperating Churches:

Email: office.mccc@frontier.com

Phone: (231) 727-6000



MCCC is asking for a suggested donation of \$10 to hold your spot.
Advanced registration is required for lunch and materials,
and also to ensure the necessary number of trainers.

Please reserve your place by April 1 at 12 PM.

Please feel free to copy this form for each person registering
from your church or organization.





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



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]



MICHIGAN
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
SOCIAL
JUSTICE
NETWORK

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!



The 8th Principle

of UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALISM

www.8thprincipleuu.org

"We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions."

Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for Newsletter is the last Monday of the month prior to Newsletter month.
for example: April Newsletter Deadline is the last Monday of March

Newsletter Submissions

can be made to Jessica Sheldon at
gingermajick@hotmail.com or 231.206.4947

HUUC is looking for Speakers!
Looking for persons to present a
Sunday morning service

**Contact a member of worship
committee to sign up today!**

Carolyn Holmes • Anna EldenBrady • Marcia
Hovey • Eli Fox • Jessica Sheldon
Sue McIntire • Kwame James • Rebecca St. Clair
email Jessica at gingermajick@hotmail.com



YES, TWO FB PAGES!

In addition to our public page: Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation, we have a PRIVATE **GROUP Facebook page**. "Harbor UU News and Events" can be typed on the Facebook search bar, when page comes up... ask to be a member. If you like FB, this is a good way to notify members of events along with emails we already send out.

Please submit information for the **April Newsletter** by Monday, March 25th to Jessica at gingermajick@hotmail.com • text or call 231.206.4947



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

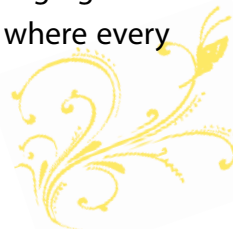
Above all, we empower and support individuals who have experienced harassment, abuse, or policy violations to establish and assert personal boundaries that ensure their safety. This may include asserting their right to ask the perpetrator to cease, discontinuing any interactions on social media platforms, 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.





March 2024 Calendar

H A R B O R
Unitarian Universalist
CONGREGATION

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 4:30p 4H Mtg	2
3 10:30a Worship	4	5 6:00p Choir	6 5:30p Yoga	7 5:30p Yoga	8	9
10 DST Begins 10:30a Worship *Choir Sunday*	11 5:30 COTD Lead- ership Mtg	12 6:00p Choir	13 5:30p Yoga	14 3:30p Supper House 4:30p 4H Mtg	15	16
17 10:30a Worship 12:00p RE Discussion	18 6:30p Board Mtg	19 6:00p Choir	20 5:30p Yoga	21	22	23
24 10:30a Worship 11:30a Potluck 2:00p Earth Based 4:00p Core Circles	25 Newsletter Deadline	26 7:30p Worship Committee -Zoom-	27 6:00p Choir	28 5:30p Yoga 7:00p Core Circles	29	30
31 10:30a Worship						
Check Facebook and Social Hall for Updates and Additions						

