



## June 2024 Newsletter

# HARBOR Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION

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

231-755-2932  
[www.harboruu.org](http://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**

### June 2nd

*"Love at the Center"*

**Rebecca StClair**

Love is at the very center of our faith... this relates to the upcoming Article 2 amendment at General Assembly. This is also the final choir Sunday of the season. Following the service there will be a talkback to discuss the proposed amendment. We will need to make a decision on how we as a congregation wish our delegates to vote at General Assembly at the end of June.

*\*Choir Sunday\**

### June 9th

*"You Don't Own Me"*

**Amy GSA Brooks**

For better or for worse, the Bible has become a significant text in our world. It has been used as a tool for liberation and it has also been weaponized against marginalized communities of people. In this sermon Amy will take us on a poetic reflection on the good, the bad, and the ugly of this book; and whether it is possible to wrestle it from the hands of those who use it for personal gain at the expense of the powerless.

### June 16th

*"Finding Fathers"*

**Rev. Matthew Cockrum**

Join Rev Matthew Cockrum on this Father's Day morning in an exploration within and beyond binaries.

### June 23rd

*"Enter Summer"*

**Jessica Mae Sheldon**

Welcome Summer by sharing song, poetry, and stories of summer days and nights, please contact Jessica Sheldon to contribute at [gingermajick@hotmail.com](mailto:gingermajick@hotmail.com)

### June 30th

*"Free Speech Sunday"*

**Carolyn Holmes**

Affirms and promotes our freedom to speak our minds and hearts with our annual "Free Speech Sunday" Members and Friends of HUUC will exercise their right to speak from our pulpit. Contact Carolyn Holmes [holmesland58@gmail.com](mailto:holmesland58@gmail.com) if you would like an opportunity to share what is on your mind. There are openings for five more speakers!

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

# Greetings from the Board of Trustees

Hello friends,

This month is an important one full of opportunities to come together. Saturday June 1 is the Pride Parade and Festival. We will be walking in the parade and will have a booth to represent our welcoming faith community and would love your participation in either or both opportunities.

Sunday June 2 I will be leading the worship service, and the topic will be "Love at the Center". I will be talking about how love is at the very center of our faith and how this relates to the upcoming Article 2 amendment at General Assembly. This is also the final choir Sunday of the season. Following the service there will be a talkback to discuss the proposed amendment. We will need to make a decision on how we as a congregation wish our delegates to vote at General Assembly at the end of June.

June 9th is our annual congregational meeting and that will be held after the service. There will be a potluck and then the meeting will happen. We need a quorum of members so please plan to attend. At the annual meeting we will vote to approve the budget, elect board members, hear from the committees on the work they have done over the last year and decide how we will vote on the Article 2 amendment. The annual Berlow/Mason membership award will also be presented to a member of the congregation that has done incredible work for the congregation and the community.

General Assembly is virtual this year and will be from June 20-23. More information can be found at <https://www.uua.org/ga>

In love,  
Rebecca StClair  
HUUC Board Trustee

Next HUUC **Board Meeting:**  
Monday, June 17 • 6:30 pm  
All are welcome!  
in person or via zoom:  
<https://zoom.us/j/96744707168>

## **Annual Congregational Meeting June 9th**

Service, potluck, and annual meeting: we will have a prepared budget to vote on, officers to elect to the Board, Article 2 vote, and more. Please join us, your presence is valued.

***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***

# **VIRTUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JUNE 20 - 23, 2024**



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](http://www.uua.org/ga)**

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## HUUC Social Action Committee

HUUC has had a group of 6 **reading tutors** at **Bunker** our neighborhood elementary school. We tutor 1-2 times per week for one hour and help 2-3 students each time. The kids are eager for one on one attention and help in reading. It has been rewarding for all of us as well. The teachers are appreciative as well.

Our committee has offered the "Pride Committee" some funds and our assistance however they need us for the Pride Festival parade and booth. We may have a vehicle this year. HUUC is registered for the parade and for a booth. **Everyone is invited to join the HUUC contingent in the Pride Parade on June 1, 2024**

We are trying to get more HUUC members to help at the supper house on **third Fridays of the month at 3:00**. A few of us have been able to help. The supper House coordinator is Mary VanSlooten. See her if you are interested in helping serve food at Temple United Methodist church.

On Gun safety, we are trying to connect with the Silence the Violence group in Muskegon Heights to offer our support. There will be another Gun Safety rally in Hackley Park on August 25 at 4:00. The plan is to meet at Hackley Park, walk from downtown church to church, hear a message at each and end at St Pauls. We will take up assault weapons after the elections, depending on the results. There is also an End Gun Violence subcommittee from PDWC which is focusing on the elections for now to get the right people elected.

The HUUC Social Action Committee meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday at 7:30 downstairs.

Marcia Hovey-Wright, Chair

## Membership Committee

### Interested in becoming a voting member of Harbor UU?

Information sessions about joining HUUC as a member will be forming in the near future. If you are interested in becoming a member of HUUC please contact Carolyn Holmes (holmesland58@gmail.com) or Sue McIntire. There are usually 2 sessions which will help you come to an informed decision about whether or not you want to become a voting member at Harbor.



Hi everyone,

Thank you all for supporting me through my yoga journey. I have cherished every class we shared together and to be able to move our bodies and souls together.

As things are getting busy with the farm and other projects, I will be taking a break from teaching this summer, we will resume in the fall. Stay tuned, as we will have some pop-up classes through the summer. If you're looking for a good studio, I highly recommend *On The Path* in Spring Lake.

Also, I will be hosting our first gathering out here on the farm in Bridgeton on May 11th. It's going to be a seed planting, drum and jam party. I will post the event page on Facebook, or feel free to contact me by phone

Namaste,  
Blake Daugherty

# 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.*

Congratulations to **Eli Fox** on her new job.

Healing thoughts to **Jim Thompson, Judy Spitler, and Dale Humphreys**

We have five members:

Sue McIntire, Christine Cleary, 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



## Free Speech Sunday

is an annual opportunity to use our pulpit to speak for 3-5 minutes on a topic of your choosing.

We are planning for the service which is scheduled for **June 30**

If you wish to be included in the service please contact Carolyn (holmesland58@gmail.com).

## Worship & Music Committee

### June 11 at 7:30 pm - Zoom

The Worship Committee plans and presents our services each Sunday. Our next meeting is on June 11 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. Use the link <https://zoom.us/j/91447658076>. If you are interested in helping create meaningful Sunday services and wish to attend, you are very welcome to join us!

Still looking for speakers for the Free Speech Sunday on June 30.

**Sunday June 23** we will welcome Summer by sharing song, poetry, and stories of summer days and nights, please contact Jessica Sheldon to contribute.

**Sunday June 30** will be our "Free Speech Sunday" service. Please contact Carolyn Holmes, [holmesland58@gmail.com](mailto:holmesland58@gmail.com) to participate



# 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](https://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!**



**Choir will be on  
Summer Break  
June and July!**

**Practices Resume  
Late August**

**Thanks to everyone  
who helped make  
the service auction  
a success. We made  
nearly \$2,000 at this  
fundraiser.**

**While you enjoy  
Summer Adventures...**



Remember to gather  
**A SAMPLE OF WATER**  
for our Annual Fall  
Ingathering Service



**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.



Please submit information for the **July Newsletter** by Monday, June 24th to Jessica at [gingermajick@hotmail.com](mailto: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.



