



October 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

Kal Fox, *President*

Robin Dennany, *Vice President*

Kurt Troutman, *Treasurer*

Jones Barton, *Secretary*

Members at Large:

Rebecca St. Clair • Christine Cleary

Poppy Sias Hernandez

Sunday Worship Services

*Virtual!
or In Person!*

Begin at
10:30am

October 6th

"Equal Opportunities, Equal Outcomes" Dr. Louis Yock
Grace - Arguments surrounding "grace," as Christians understand it, are as old as Christianity. "Grace" is a word we may use, and coming from many traditions, we may or may not be talking about the same thing. But we generally like it and its implications.

October 13th

"Falling In Love With Being Together - Why We 'Do Church'" February Sky (Phil Cooper & Susan Urban)
Human beings seem to have an innate need for connection and belonging. For many, this is met by family, or by work, or by other activities where people come together for a common purpose. Many Unitarian Universalists harbor beliefs and viewpoints which tend to be a bit out of the mainstream. For us, a church welcoming all, as long as they respect the inherent worth and dignity of every person, can become a place to find support, togetherness and love.

October 20th

"Holding Fast" Jones Barton
The world is a slippery sort of thing. It can be hard, very hard, to hold on to all the many pieces of life. In our days on this earth, we may try new ideas, new plans, new relationships, careers or places to live. No matter how many or how few sorts of things we devote our living to, we can be assured that not all of them will last. There is plenty of trial and error to life; what was familiar and sustaining will sometimes pass away, and what is exciting and new and untested does not always transform into a well-established part of our deeper selves.

Choir Sunday

October 27th

"All Souls Day: Remembering with Gratitude"

David McIntire

We gather today in a unity of spirit and mind to do honor to the lives and memories of the lost. We gather this day because all human life is sacred - sacred in its being born, sacred in its living, and sacred in its dying.

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

Once Upon A Time

CITY of the DEAD MUSKEGON *15th Anniversary*

Evergreen Cemetery

400 Irwin • Muskegon • 49442

Tickets \$7.50

Kids Under 12 Free

One hour walking tours
depart every 15 minutes

Dress for the weather

Let Our City Residents Be Your Guide

Saturday

Oct. 12, 2024

5-8pm

Sunday

Oct. 13, 2024

2-4pm



Brought to you by Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation



HUUC Social Action Committee

The current social action committee began its work in January 2023. We meet on the **fourth Wednesdays at 7:30pm** downstairs.

Tutoring: Our biggest project is organizing tutoring Bunker School students and reading grades 1-3 during the school year. We spend **1-2 hours a week** tutoring students selected by staff. The students really eat up the one-on-one attention.



Supper House: Due to its impressive impact on the food insecure, HUUC commits to this essential program. Dinners are served six days a week to anyone who walks in the door. They are not questioned about their need, just respected and served. Our committee is trying to help Kwame secure volunteers. Our time is the **3rd Friday of the month at 3pm**. Please tell Kwame James or Mary VanSlooten if you want to volunteer.



Gun Safety: Six HUUC members attended the prayer walk on August 25, organized by the Cooperating Churches. We made a connection with their leadership so we can collaborate in the future. We want to do more to directly encourage gun safety legislation, especially a ban on assault weapons. There are differing strategies on how to do that, including postcard writing to encourage our congresswomen and senators to reinstate the former federal ban and laying the groundwork for a Michigan citizens initiative with research about other state initiatives. We can do research until the election, then mount an extensive postcard writing campaign, involving our members and all the groups we associate with.

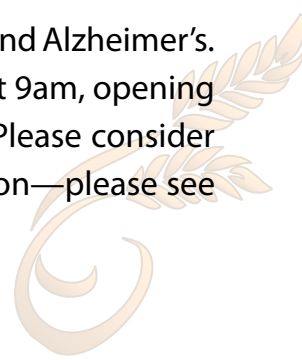


Planned Parenthood: Marcia is pursuing every option to bring back Planned Parenthood because there is so much community support for that, and the need is huge. Telemedicine may have the most immediate opportunity. Marcia will follow up with MCC and Planned Parenthood.

Pride: We supported the Muskegon Pride event in June with funds and marching in the parade.



Alzheimer's Association: We have a team registered for the Walk to End Alzheimer's. This will be held **Saturday, 10/19** at Hackley Park. Registration is at 9am, opening ceremony at 10am, with the 1-mile walk immediately following. Please consider donating and/or joining us at the walk. This is coming up very soon—please see Sue McIntire for more details.



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.

Healing thoughts to **Jerry Bakke**.

Condolences to **Peggy Humphreys** and family on the loss of their husband and father, Dale Humphreys. Dale was a long-time member of HUUC who passed away on August 30, 2024.

We have four 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

IN THIS CONGREGATION, WE BELIEVE:

LOVE IS LOVE

BLACK LIVES MATTER

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL

ALL GENDERS ARE WHOLE, HOLY, & GOOD

WOMEN HAVE AGENCY OVER THEIR BODIES

 UUA.ORG/IMAGES

So Long Old Friend



HUUC member and friend **Jim Thompson** (1933-2024) was praised, celebrated and memorialized by over 100 friends and family at the Coopersville Farm Museum on Saturday, August 24, 2024.

His celebration of life was led by his daughter and featured numerous personal testimonies from family members and friends, sharing the highlights and moments of Jim's life. The open house featured plenty of good food and several hours of live musical tributes to Jim, a long-time blue grass bass player and enthusiast. The entire crowd joined in singing one of Jim's favorite songs, *"Will the Circle Be Unbroken."* He was a regular at the Farm Museum Tuesday night acoustic jam sessions for many years.

Dr. Jim Thompson was a long-time professor of political science at Grand Valley State University prior to retiring in 1999. A proud contrarian, he enjoyed good wine and stimulating conversation.

Many HUUC members and friends attended the celebration of life. Jim Thompson will be missed in our community and at Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

Membership Committee

Interested in learning more about UU or becoming a member of Harbor UU?

Join Us By Making a Commitment to HUUC:

If you have ever considered making the move to become a full member of Harbor UU or would just like to learn a bit more about HUUC and how it functions, consider attending orientation sessions which will be scheduled for November. New members of HUUC are expected to attend 2 sessions which will allow them to determine if HUUC is a good fit for them. Joining as a member is easily accomplished by attending the sessions and then signing our membership book in the presence of at least two Board of Trustees members. Attendance at the sessions does not obligate you to become a member. If you have any questions about our process or what will be included in the sessions, contact Carolyn Holmes at Holmesland58@gmail.com. There is a sign up sheet posted near the calendar in the social hall. Please sign up and leave your contact information so that we will know who is interested.

Sunday, November 10 and November 17
following the worship service at
12:00 noon until 1:30 p.m.



Yoga will be resuming this Thursday, October 3rd, at 6 p.m. down in the basement. This summer was a busy one, and I am looking forward to slowing down and focusing on self-care with my fellow yogis of all levels. Each session will be tailored to who is participating. I do my best to create space for you to discover what you need in that moment. Yoga is the science of internal awareness, and we use movement, breath, and meditation to go deep within, and to free up those sticky areas within one's self. Come join us and stretch your mind and body towards a healthier you. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions. Donations are welcome, but never expected.

Namaste,
Blake Daugherty
231-750-0064

Worship & Music Committee

October 15 at 7:30 via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/91447658076>

We meet monthly to plan worship services and welcome any participants to meet with us in the social hall. If you would like to stop in to observe or participate by offering suggestions for service topics or speakers, or if you would like to become a member of the committee, we would be delighted to have you join us! Get more information by reaching out to Carolyn Holmes at Holmesland58@gmail.com.

Next HUUC Board Meeting: Monday, October 21 • 6:00 pm

All are welcome!

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

Get Funding for Your Vision!

Thanks to the inspired giving of past members and the continuing stewardship of present members, Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation is blessed with the opportunity to award grants from our endowment fund annually to support special projects aligned with our mission. The Endowment Committee is accepting grant applications from now until December 1.

Our church values statement reads the congregation "is our spiritual home where we practice our values of Acceptance, Compassion and Social Justice in the wider world." If you are aware of a relatively inexpensive social action project we could fund to express those values in the community, please apply! Annually, we normally have a total of about \$6,500 to offer in grants, some of which has funded internal church or member needs, like attendance at UU workshops.

Applications and a detailed description of projects eligible for consideration can be downloaded at harboruu.org/endowment ("opportunities" tab). Email completed applications to (endowment@harboruu.org or deliver hard copy applications to the Endowment Committee's mailbox in the church office. Members of the committee this year are: Nancy Stier, chair; Jeff Ochsner, financial secretary; Ange Barnes, recording secretary; and members Kwame James and Anna Eldenbrady.

Chalice Circles



Chalice circles are small groups that gather once or twice a month to discuss topics of spirituality and life. In sharing their stories, deep friendships are formed and community is cemented. This expression of small group ministry is fun, rewarding and helpful for both personal growth and community relationships. 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.



<https://www.facebook.com/harbor.congregation>



Please submit information for the **October Newsletter** by Monday, October 28th to Jessica at gingermajick@hotmail.com • text or call 231.206.4947



ATTENTION COTD CAST AND CREW!

September 2, 2024 at 9:30 am, parade line up downtown

September 3 at 6pm at the church FULL CAST REHEARSAL

September 8 at 4pm at the church TOUR STOPS

September 8 at 5:30 research assistance with Anna at the church

September 9 at 6pm at the cemetery, TOUR GUIDES

September 16 at 6pm at the cemetery, TOUR GUIDES

September 18 at 6pm at the church, TOUR STOPS

September 23 at 6pm at the cemetery, FULL CAST

September 30 at 6pm at the cemetery, FULL CAST

October 7 at 5:30 at the cemetery FULL CAST DRESS REHEARSAL

October 11 at 5:30 at the cemetery RAIN date for dress rehearsal

October 12 show time! Call time is 4pm at the cemetery

October 13 show time! Call time is 1pm at the cemetery

October 20 at 5pm at the church POSTMORTEM Dessert Potluck

**Save
the
Dates!**



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.



October 2024 Calendar

H A R B O R
Unitarian Universalist
C O N G R E G A T I O N

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00p Choir	2 6:00p Yoga	3 4:30p 4H Mtg	4 5:00p COTD Tours
5 10:30a Worship	6 5:30p COTD Dress R	7 6:00p Choir	8 6:00p Choir	9 6:00p Yoga	10 3:00p Supper House	11 4:30p 4H Mtg
12 10:30a Worship February Sky 2:00p COTD Tours	13 7:30p Worship Committee	14 6:00p Choir 6:00p COTD Stops	15 6:00p Choir 6:00p COTD Stops	16 6:00p Yoga	17 6:00p Yoga	18 9:00a Walk to End Alzheimer's
19 10:30a Worship 5:00p COTD Potluck	20 6:00p Board Mtg	21 6:00p Private Event	22 6:00p Choir 7:30p Social Action	23 6:00p Yoga 7:00p Core Circles	24 6:00p Yoga 7:00p Core Circles	25 5:00p COTD Tours
26 10:30a Worship 4:00p Core Circles	27 Newsletter Deadline	28 6:00p Private Event	29 6:00p Choir 7:30p Social Action	30 6:00p Yoga	31 6:00p Yoga	26 9:00a Walk to End Alzheimer's

Check Facebook and Social Hall for Updates and Additions

