



November 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**

November 3rd

"Democracy Is Not Pretty"

Rev. Fred Wooden

No question we are anxious about the election on Tuesday. Maybe a different perspective will be helpful as we look beyond the numbers and results.

November 10th

"From the Unreal to the Real" Rev. Matthew Cockrum

In the wake of the election the questions continue and the work goes on. How do we discern the unreal from the real? How do we hasten real, Beloved Community? The Reverend Matthew Cockrum returns to the pulpit.

November 17th

Rebecca St. Clair

November 24th

"Why World AIDS Day? An intergenerational perspective"

Anna EldenBrady

Falling on December 1st each year, World AIDS Day was first honored in 1988 during the heart of the HIV/AIDS crisis. But why is it still important now, 36 years later? Join us on November 24th for an intergenerational perspective on the AIDS Crisis and to consider how we might honor World AIDS Day in HUUC.

December 1st

Teresa Folkmier

How do our personal experiences shape our perspective of the world and other people? How and why might others see things differently?

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

If you have any topics or speakers you would like to hear in our Sunday morning services, contact

Carolyn Holmes at holmesland58@gmail.com.

We are always open to suggestions!

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.

HUUC raised \$856 for the Alzheimer's Association and participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Hackley Park on October 19. Big thanks to all who donated to this event that raises awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research.



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 **Linda Squires** and the All Souls Community Church on the sudden loss of their beloved minister, Rev. Colleen Squires.

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

So Long Old Friend

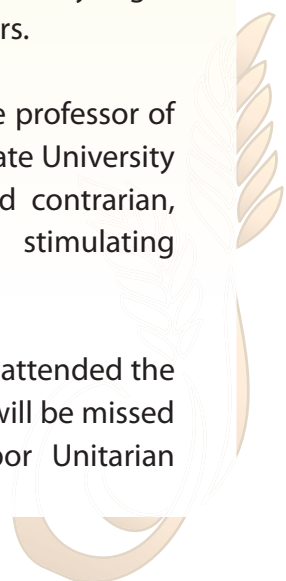


HUUC member and friend **Jim Thompson** (1933-2024) was praised, celebrated and memorialized by over 100 friends and family at the Coopersville Farm Museum on Saturday, August 24, 2024.

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.

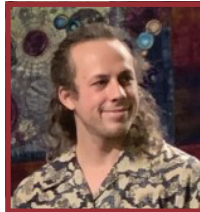


Membership Committee

Are you a frequent attendee at HUUC but have not made the commitment to become a member yet?

Your opportunity to explore what membership at HUUC entails is approaching! Joining HUUC is straightforward and painless! Simply attend two sessions to learn more about HUUC and Unitarian Universalism on Nov. 10 and 17. After completing the info sessions you may choose to formally become a member by signing the membership book in the presence of two Board members. That's it! Contact Carolyn Holmes to be included in the info sessions or to request a different meeting time and/or place. (We are willing to adjust our schedule to fit yours). Email holmesland58@gmail.com or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the social hall.

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

Next HUUC Board Meeting: Monday, November 18 • 6:30 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

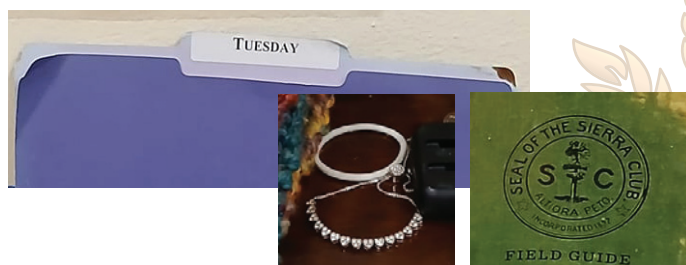


Chalice circles are small groups that gather once or twice a month to discuss topics of spirituality and life. In sharing their stories, deep friendships are formed and community is cemented. This expression of small group ministry is fun, rewarding and helpful for both personal growth and community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

Lost & Found!



Please check our lost and found for items you may have mis-placed! Located in Social Hall



Please submit information for the **December Newsletter** by Monday, November 25th to newsletter@harboruu.org • text or call 231.206.4947



Worship & Music Committee

November 19 at 7:30 via Zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/91447658076>

All are welcome to attend and offer suggestions for Sunday programming.

Thank you to Anna Elden Brady for entering the text of our hymns onto our system for use on Zoom during our Sunday services. Participants in the sanctuary also benefit from being able to read the words on the screen if they desire instead of looking in the hymnal.



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



We are grateful for the energy, time, talent, and support you have given to make this event a gift to our community and something of which we are proud to be a part.

It would not have been the same without you, we hope to see you again next year!



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.





November 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 4:30p 4H Mtg	2
3 10:30a Worship	4	5 6:00p Choir	6 6:00p Yoga	7	8	9
10 10:30a Worship 12:00 Membership Class	11	12	13 6:00p Choir	14 6:00p Yoga	15 3:00p Supper House 4:30p 4H Mtg	16
17 10:30a Worship 12:00 Membership Class	18 6:30p Board Mtg	19 7:30p Worship Committee	20 6:00p Choir	21 6:00p Yoga	22	23
24 10:30a Worship 4:00p Core Circles	25 Newsletter Deadline	26	27 6:00p Choir 7:30p Social Action	28 6:00p Yoga 7:00p Core Circles	29	30

Check Facebook and Social Hall for Updates and Additions

