



HARBOR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION MUSKEGON • MICHIGAN

August 2026 Newsletter

Sunday Worship Services Begin at 10:30am

August 2

“Let the Spirit Move You!”

Barb Termaat

We will explore how moving and listening to our bodies influences our personal and spiritual growth, with examples from her journey and of others'. There will be several occasions to put these ideas into practice during the service!

Noisy Offering

August 9

“Throwing Dice and Telling Stories: Why Table Top Role Playing Games Matter”

Anna EldenBrady

Maybe you've heard about those folks who meet for hours on end to sit around a table pretending to be Elvish rangers, Dragonborn wizards, or Bards of all proclivities. Maybe you've even heard about the panic caused back when these games came out about them turning kids to devil worship. But have you ever thought about why these games are so beloved by their players and reviled by their [overreacting] critics? Join us August 9th for a service that will talk about just why some of us love to play pretend while tossing our shiny math rocks on a table to determine if we defeat the bad guys or end up running for the hills.

August 16

“Beans are Everything”

Faith Groesbeck

Worship, RE, Picnic & Fun at Beachwood Park!

Beans are a metaphor for literally everything. While our strong opinions about them may separate us, they also remind us of our shared humanity. Bring a dried bean of choice to share for a future soup.

August 23

“Theodore Parker: A Preacher for America”

Rev. Dr. Louis Yock

Theodore Parker was a reforming minister of the Unitarian Church, and one of the earliest ministers to question how the Bible was to be understood and interpreted. A famous abolitionist, his words and popular quotations would later inspire speeches by Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King, Jr.

August 30

“The Good Samaritan”

Kal Fox

We will explore the Good Samaritan through a Unitarian Universalist lens: not as doctrine to accept, but as wisdom to consider together. Jesus is asked, “Who is my neighbor?” Rather than giving a definition, he tells a story about a dangerous road, a wounded traveler, and an unexpected act of mercy. We will reflect on what this story may still ask of us today, while honoring the many beliefs, backgrounds, and experiences present in our congregation.

Meet With Us In-person at 1296 Montgomery, Muskegon, MI 49441
Zoom With Us at <https://zoom.us/j/91447658076>

Greetings from the Board of Trustees

Hello Members & Friends,

Greetings to all of you in this last full month of summer. I hope this summer has provided you and yours with opportunities for rest, relaxation, revitalization and adventure. May you take the time to savor these last days of summer.

As you travel through the month of August remember our upcoming Water Ceremony in September and gather water from your travels if you have not already done so. The water you bring can be literally from a different place or symbolic, using our community pitcher.

We will be having a picnic potluck service at Beechwood Park on August 16. Bring a

chair and a dish to pass. It will be a good time to enjoy our beautiful Muskegon scenery, nature and what will hopefully be beautiful weather. If there is a storm, we will regroup in our building. Be sure to check for updates/notifications from HUUC.

This summer has been a vital and enriching time at HUUC with old friends and members and new friends speaking and sharing their insights, experiences and wisdom. I look forward to more of this in the coming months and to seeing all of you in our beautiful space.

Blessings, Michelle Martin-Mills
HUUC Trustee



If you ever have any questions for the Board you can contact us via e mail at
trustees@harboruu.org

There will be NO BOARD MEETING in August...
Next HUUC Board Meeting: Monday, September 14 • 6:00 pm
Board Meetings are moving to 2nd Monday of the month
All are welcome!
in person or via zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96744707168>

HUUC Board of Trustees

Kal Fox, President
Robin Dennany, Vice President
Kurt Troutman, Treasurer
Jones Barton, Secretary

Members at Large

Christine Cleary, Michelle Martin-Mills, Don Mangione

Music Director Sue McIntire

Director of Religious Education Anna EldenBrady

News from the Director of Religious Education

August 2026 Religious Education Updates

Hello, Harbor UU Friends!

We need volunteers over the summer for our Sunday morning youth craft and faith-formation activities. There is a sign-up sheet on the vertical rack in the social hall. It is also available for you to look over on Google Drive.

Elliot, Neveah, Luci, Mouse, Kwame, and Trinity chalked the front walk on July 26th during RE time and we hope it brought a smile to your face!

In addition to our summer Sunday morning programming, I am still looking forward to Journeys of Deeper Joy Table Top Role Playing Game. I need a general idea of who's interested in learning the game and when folks might be able to attend. There is a sign-up sheet in the social hall. I am planning on running The Love Archipelago 5 session mini campaign, with the opportunity to expand into the full game if folks are interested after. This will be an opportunity for intergenerational play.

I am also going to be presenting a series of webinars over Zoom over the next few months as an addition to our Adult Enrichment opportunities. Thank you to

those who attended the first in this series, "Disability History: Celebrating the Path to the ADA." Future topics will include "LGBTQ 101 & Ask-Me-Anything" on August 4th, "LGBTQueerstory" September 14th, and "Pronouns: Beyond the Binary" October 20th. You can RSVP for these webinars online using the RSVP Google Form, via email (re@harboruu.org), or by leaving your contact information on the RE Opportunities clipboard in the social hall. These webinars are open to trusted individuals and organizations outside of HUUC—you can either have interested people email me or you can send them the link to the Google Form.

If you would like to help with these or any other upcoming opportunities, including our future OWL program, our RE Committee will be meeting next in September after the kids have started back to school.

I'm happy to hear ideas, answer questions, or brainstorm "good trouble," and you can reach me via email at re@harboruu.org or visit me in my office before/after lessons.

Thank you for supporting our RE program!
Anna L. EldenBrady



**Volunteers are needed for summer RE--there is a sign-up sheet in the social hall.
Activities include crafts, storytime, and sidewalk chalk!**



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 **Carolyn Holmes**, who is recovering from surgery.

Condolences to **Marcia Hovey-Wright** on the loss of her sister.

Condolences to **Anna EldenBrady** on the loss of her dear friend, Nycki.

We have four members:
Sue McIntire, Christine Cleary, Deborah Margules, 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



Nancy Stier with Robin Dennany

In recognition of outstanding fellowship, **Nancy Stier** was presented the *Ruth Berlow and Lucile Mason Award* during Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation's annual meeting. Each year, one congregation member is selected to receive this honor. Nancy has contributed to our fellowship numerous ways throughout the years: touching almost every HUUC (or affiliated) endeavor, commitment, and fundraiser. More recently she serves co-coordinating Social Justice, caring for our garden with love and patience, and stepping in and stepping up whenever requested.

Gather A Sample of Water!

**Annual Water Communion
September 13th!**

**All are welcome to bring a sample
of water to add to our collective.**



Sunday August 16th 10:30 Worship Service & Potluck Picnic AFTER

at Beachwood Park
3157 Dune St • Muskegon 49441

The August 16th Service will be held at Beachwood Park in Muskegon with a potluck picnic after. (We have the picnic shelter reserved until 3pm.) **Please bring a dish to pass, your own drinks, and your own table service.** Children's RE will also take place at the park.



Located in the Beachwood-Bluffton neighborhood near Lake Michigan, Beachwood Park is a 3.4-acre park that maximizes the natural beauty of the sand dunes while providing active recreational facilities for families.

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.

Choir is on Summer Break!

**Choir will resume sometime
in September...stay tuned for
an exact date, but it will be
Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm**

**If you have any interest in
choir, please join us!**

HUUC WEBINAR SERIES

With Love at the Center

Webinars begin at 6:00pm via Zoom. Please RSVP in advance for the join link.

MON JULY 27 Disability History: Celebrating the Path to the ADA

TUES AUG 4 LGBTQ 101 & Ask-Me-Anything

MON SEPT 14 LGBTQueerstory

TUES OCT 20 Pronouns: Beyond the Binary



RSVP online at:

<https://forms.gle/TZcbzYkDHa6sSmVj7>
or sign up on the clipboard in the Social Hall

Webinars are open to HUUC members and friends, community partners, and invited individuals. Those eager to learn are welcome!



IMMIGRANTS

& WE GET THE JOB DONE! &

Evergreen Cemetery • Muskegon • 49442
Historical Walking Tours

Saturday
Oct. 10, 2026
5-8pm

Sunday
Oct. 11, 2026
2-4pm



Tickets \$5.00
Kids Under 12 Free

- Wear Walking shoes
- Dress for the weather
- "After Dark" tours: bring a flashlight
- Tours last approximately 1 hour

Join Us On YouTube and FaceBook



Brought to you by Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation

THIRD SPACE

An exciting new idea for a recurring community event emerged this spring from the Social Justice Committee. Called **Third Space**, it's a physical place that's not work or home, where connections can be made in real life among young people concerned about this country's current politics.

As described on the Third Space monthly flier, it's *"a place for Millennials and Gen-z in the Muskegon community to gather with progressive peers and elders to do arts and crafts, discuss our grief, our hope, and how to get involved."* It was created out of a dire need for community expressed by three of the SJ Committee's younger members (Aubri Carrell, Annie Tymensky, and Melrose McQueen). This need for community, and one including elders, is especially acute for young people who are estranged from their families because of their politics, or for being queer, or both.

Third Space happens on the **third Thursday evening of every month** in the social hall. Five have been held so far; attendance has been between 16-35, with some new people each month and also, now, regulars. "Elders" from the SJ Committee have maintained the generational mix. It has become a treasured space for members of Indy Next Gen, a progressive West Michigan community for "the young and young at heart." At Third Space, these young activists

can regroup and restore. One of them was quoted recently as saying *"Third Space is the best thing to happen in Muskegon in years."*

There is no formal structure to the evening. People drift in, groups form, conversations begin. Food is either provided by the SJ Committee or potluck. Crafting is big—some crafting supplies are provided; many folks bring their own. In May there was a group making political buttons for Indy Next Gen. Although a motivating factor in creating Third Space was finding tools to fight fascism, the SJ Committee is letting Third Space evolve organically **rather than setting agendas or trying to steer it in any particular direction.**

There is one thing that does happen regularly: the **Joys and Concerns** ritual, borrowed from the UU Sunday service. It began as a spontaneous idea, something to try, at the first Third Space, and proved popular. Almost everyone in attendance has something to share. It's been a feature each month except for June's Third Space, in which a smaller than usual group enjoyed a game of **Queer Trivia.**

While intended as a place where Millennials and Gen Z can mix with each other and elders, Third Space has no age requirements and doesn't check I.D. **So, come check it out!**



AUGUST 2026 Calendar

Check Facebook and Social Hall for Updates and Additions

HARBOR Unitarian Universalist CONGREGATION

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10:30a Worship	31	1 5:30p COTD 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	2	3	4 4:30p 4H Mtg	5
6 10:30a Worship Incoming Water Service Noisy Offering	7	8 5:30p COTD 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	9	10	11	12
13 10:30a Worship 12:15p Worship Committee	14 6:00p Board Mtg	15 5:30p COTD 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	16 Choir TBA	17	18 3:00p Supper House	19
20 10:30a Worship 12:00p Potluck	21	22 5:30p COTD 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	23 Choir TBA	24	25	26
27 10:30a Worship	28 Newsletter Deadline	29 5:30p COTD 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	30 Choir TBA	1	2 4:30p 4H Mtg	3
Check Facebook and Social Hall for Updates and Additions						