HARBOR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

MUSKEGON • MICHIGAN

October 2026 Newsletter

Sunday Worship Services Begin at 10:30am

October 4

"Out of Time" **Jacqueline Nicholls**

Our entire lives revolve around the concept of time. But what if our perceptions, ideas, and experiences of time are unreliable, inconsistent, and unhelpful? Set your alarm clock and check your watches - this talk will only be given once… or will it?

Noisy Offering

October 11

"Jesus in Context" **Tom Wagner**

By request we will walk through Hebrew history and geography from the Davidic monarchy, the divided kingdom, and conquests of Palestine by a succession Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, Greek and finally Roman empires. with only brief periods of independence.

October 18

TBD **Robin Dennany**

Potluck

October 25

"This is Halloween!" **Anna EldenBrady**

whimsical celebration of Spooky Season in a service for all ages. Costumes and seasonally themed outfits are encouraged. Trick-or-treating will be a part of the service (stay tuned for details on how to participate!)

November 1

"All Souls Day: Beloved Departed"

Jessica Sheldon

Gather to love, laugh, and honor our beloved departed in a unity of spirit and mind. We will gather share, mourn and celebrate the circle of life.

Choir

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

Dear HUUC,

The arrival of October brings cooler days, changing leaves, and a familiar rhythm of gathering back together at Harbor.

Our new driveway is now complete, improving safety and accessibility for everyone using the back entrance. Beginning October 1, the Endowment Fund will be open for requests to support projects and ideas that help our community grow. Have an idea? Submit your request!

And don't miss City of the Dead, our annual fundraising tradition of theatrically sharing historic perspectives of the men and women laid to rest in Muskegon's Evergreen Cemetery. Join us the second weekend of October for an evening of history, storytelling, and community.

The Board of Trustees is grateful for the many ways members and friends contribute to the life of Harbor. Whether you have time to volunteer, an idea to share, a project you'd like to support, or simply a desire to participate, there are many ways to be part of our community. We hope you'll join us this fall and help make the most of the season ahead.

With gratitude,
The Harbor UUC Board of Trustees

Next HUUC Board Meeting: Monday, October 12 • 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

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

from the Endowment Committee

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR THE CONGREGATION'S ENDOWMENT FUND

Thanks to the generosity of past members, Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation has the opportunity each year to award grants from our endowment fund to support special projects aligned with our mission. The Endowment Committee is accepting grant applications from Oct 1 until Dec. 1. Last year, we awarded a total of about $6,500 in grants, which ranged from social action projects to educational grants and a very comfortable couch for the social hall.

Our mission is to be "... a safe haven inspiring people to seek their own spiritual truths through worship and learning in community as we build a better world together." If you have something you'd like to do that would benefit from our community's financial support, please apply.

Applications can be downloaded at harboruu.org/endowment. Email completed applications to endowment@harboruu.org or deliver hard copy applications to the Endowment Committee's mailbox in the church office off the social hall.





News from the Director of Religious Education

October 2026 Religious Education Updates

Youth RE

Our RE program has stepped back into our curriculum lessons. Our elementary youth will be working on some of the LEGO lessons while our middle/high school classes are exploring a UU Greek Mythology curriculum for the next few months and then a curriculum that explores Beginnings from religions and mythologies around the world.

We need volunteer teachers for these lessons. The October sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall or you can email RE@HarborUU.org to ask about lesson topics and available dates. November's schedule will be available in a few weeks (likely after City of the Dead has passed).

Some of our youth have also made a request as they transform their classrooms into more than just a learning space, but also a hangout space. They would like to find a small mini refrigerator and a medium sized latch-top plastic tub so they can have snacks and cold drinks in their space in a sealed spot. If anyone has a dorm-size mini fridge they are no longer using, our youth would love to incorporate it into the space. They are also currently borrowing a fireplace-style electric heater and would like to consider having one of their own for cozy winter hangouts.

As always, holiday decorations, art supplies, and small lights and lamps are welcome additions to our elementary and middle/high school spaces. Allowing them to decorate to make the space their own is a big part of creating an engaging learning environment over which they feel ownership.

We are also continuing to improve our nursery space for our youngest UUs. We have recently acquired a well-loved grocery store playset that is now in the space in addition to our kitchen playset. We have a few floor puzzles as well. We are currently looking for a classroom-style bookshelf (one that is weighted on the bottom and low to the ground so it won't tip) and some medium sized bins with lids so we can make the toys more accessible to our youngest children. If you have questions about what we are looking for, feel free to reach out.

Adult RE

We still have one session remaining in the "With Love at the Center" webinar series. . The final webinar is:

Pronouns: Beyond the Binary on Tuesday, October 20th at 6pm

Those wishing to attend should RSVP using the Google Form or send an email to RE@HarborUU.org or sign up on the clipboard in the social hall on the clipboard and forms rack. Registration is both a security measure and a professional courtesy–it means the Zoom link doesn't get shared publicly with anyone who might consider disrupting a webinar on these topics and it also allows me, as presenter, to anticipate the amount of time that may be needed for questions and the size of audience I'm presenting to.

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

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!

In Memory

Rev. Dr. Nana Kratochvil

HUUC Minister Emeritas



Nancy Kratochvil Obituary
(Published by Legacy on Jun. 16, 2026)

Mrs. Nancy Lee Kratochvil, age 89, of Macon, Georgia, passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 7, 2026, at Arlington Senior Living in Macon.

Born on March 15, 1937, in Centralia, Illinois, Nancy was the oldest of five children born to the late Paul Thomas and Frances Irene (Armel) Wilson. She graduated from Pontiac Township High School in Pontiac, Illinois, in 1954 before continuing her education at the University of Illinois, where she earned her undergraduate degree.

On December 29, 1956, Nancy married Richard Roy Florey. Together they welcomed three children and built a life that took them to many places throughout Richard's military career, including four memorable years in Germany. Nancy found great fulfillment in raising her family and devoted countless hours to volunteer work, generously serving the communities she called home.

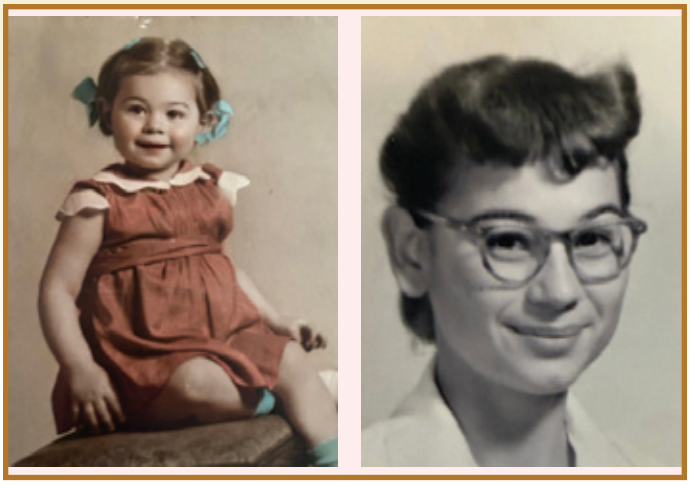
In the mid-1970s, Nancy relocated to Mississippi, where she married Michael True. During this chapter of her life, she embraced her artistic talents by opening her own sewing business. An exceptionally skilled seamstress, she specialized in costume design and intricate needlework, creating pieces that reflected her remarkable attention to detail, organizational ability, and creative spirit.

In 1984, Nancy married John Rogers Kratochvil, II. Their years together were filled with love until tragedy struck in 1990 when John lost his life following injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Following recovery from the accident, Nancy embarked on a new calling by returning to school. She earned her Doctorate of Ministry with Distinction from Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago, Illinois, and went on to serve as a full-time minister for the Unitarian Universalist Church in Muskegon, Michigan. Her faith guided every aspect of her life, and she was known for recognizing the needs of others and quietly stepping forward to meet them with compassion and dedication.

After retiring from ministry, Nancy moved to Macon to be closer to her family. She quickly became an active member of the Arlington Senior Living community, helping establish a resident group through which she formed many cherished friendships. She also became involved with High Street Church, sharing her time, talents, and servant's heart through volunteer work whenever she was able.

Nancy will be remembered for her unwavering faith, her compassionate ministry, and the creativity she expressed through every stitch



of her sewing and needlework. Her generosity, willingness to take charge, servant's heart leaves a legacy to be admired.

Nancy is survived by her children, Richard Roy Florey, II, and Tina Shoemaker; adopted daughter, Stacy Kawamura; step-children, John Rogers Kratochvil, III, and Melanie Kratochvil; siblings, Terry Wilson (Connie), Ron Wilson (Mary Louise), Thomas Wilson (Lou), and Rohamah Canfield; grandchildren, Bradley Truett, Richard Roy Florey, III, Ashleigh Ann Florey, Michael Florey, Anthony Florey, and Aaron Kawamura; great-grandchild, Angelina Parker; and a host of nieces, nephews, and members of her extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Irene; loving husband, John Rogers Kratochvil, II.; beloved daughter, Kathleen Ann Florey; and stepson, Andrew Kratochvil.



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 **Barb Termaat** and her husband, **John Matthews**, on the loss of John's mother.

Condolences to the family of **Ruth Zook**, former member of HUUC for many years, who died Sunday, September 27th.

Healing thoughts to **Sue McIntire**, who is recovering from surgery.

Healing thoughts to **Carolyn Holmes**, who is recovering from surgery.

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

IMMIGRANTS

We Get the Job Done!

City of the Dead 2026 Muskegon

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

Local Musicians and Bake Goods

Interested in being a member of HUUC?

What is a Unitarian Universalist?

How did Harbor UU get started?

How do we keep operating?

What does it mean to be a member?

Do UUs always ask a lot of questions?

All recent visitors or those who have been with us for a while are invited to a **"New Member Orientation"** following the potluck on **Sunday, October 18**. This is an opportunity to learn more about membership at HUUC.

Please contact Carolyn Holmes, holmesland58@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to arrange an alternate meeting time.



Core Circles

The **Fourth Sunday** of every month at 4 PM in the church social hall **(October location TBD!)**, we will gather to discuss interesting and relevant topics and get to know each other a little more deeply. Group size is 8 to 10 and if we grow larger than that we'll divide into two groups in order to ensure that everyone can participate fully.

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.



Let's Craft Together!

Now that we are turning our attention indoors, it is time to start crafting again. If you like to knit, paint, crochet, cross stitch, do "diamond art" or any relatively portable craft and are available during a weekday, let's meet to craft together at **1:00 on October 6** at HUUC in the social hall.



Get Your HALLOWEEN ON!

October 25th

Wear your favorite fall attire or costume to service





Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for Newsletters is the last Monday of the month.

Newsletter Submissions

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

space left blank
to remind you:
take a moment
...and breathe

Submissions may be used for in monthly newsletter, facebook and website promotions, and weekly service announcements

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 2026 Calendar

HARBOR
Unitarian Universalist
CONGREGATION

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:30a Worship *Choir*	28 Newsletter Deadline	29 5:30p COTD 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	30 6:00p Choir	1	2 4:30p 4H Mtg	3
4 10:30a Worship *Noisy Offering*	5 5:30p COTD Dress Rehearsal	6 1:00p Craft Together 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	7 6:00p Choir	8	9	10 5:00p City of the Dead Tours
11 10:30a Worship 2:00p City of the Dead Tours	12 6:00p Board Mtg	13 6:00p Worship Committee 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	14 6:00p Choir	15 6:30p 3rd Space	16 3:00p Supper House	17
18 10:30a Worship 12:00p Potluck	19	20 6:00p Adult Enrich-ment Webinar 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	21 6:00p Choir	22	23	24
25 10:30a Worship 2:00p Private Event 4:00p Core Circles	26 Newsletter Deadline	27 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	28 6:00p Choir	29	30	31

Check Facebook and Social Hall for Updates and Additions

NOVEMBER 2026 Calendar

HARBOR
Unitarian Universalist
CONGREGATION

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30a Worship *Choir*	2	3 1:00p Craft Together 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	4 6:00p Choir	5	6 4:30p 4H Mtg	7
8 10:30a Worship *Noisy Offering*	9 6:00p Board Mtg	10 6:00p Worship Committee 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	11 6:00p Choir	12	13	14
15 10:30a Worship 12:00p Potluck	16	17 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	18 6:00p Choir	19 6:30p 3rd Space	20 3:00p Supper House	21
22 10:30a Worship 4:00p Core Circles	23	24 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	25 6:00p Choir	26	27	28
29 10:30a Worship 12:00p Hanging of the Greens	30 Newsletter Deadline	1 7:00p Trans/GNC Group	2 6:00p Choir	3	4	5

Check Facebook and Social Hall for Updates and Additions