



Rev. Mandy Beal
Senior Minister

I know it's counterintuitive to talk about joy in January. Ministers typically reserve this time of year to talk about change, introspection, loss—subjects that more readily lend themselves to a landscape muted by snow and cloudy skies. But I think we've had plenty of that in the past 12 months, even in the flush of summer and fullness of autumn. This whole year has been out of whack, so why stop now? Besides, I think we can all use a little more joy these days.

Many of us think about joy as a nice side effect of a good turn of events. That definition is actually better applied to "happiness." Joy lives further into the interior landscape. It is not impacted by external conditions; it doesn't rest on getting what we want or avoiding what we don't want. Joy is a quality of spirit that can be cultivated through practice.

When we do so, we build a reservoir to sustain us in good times and bad.

What's more, joy is innate in all humans. It is our birthright, but many of us have come to see it as frivolous. At a recent BUC committee meeting, someone shared this quote from Krista Tippett: "Joy is not a luxury, it is not a privilege. It is a resilience-giving, life-giving birthright and we can't call forth in the world something we don't believe in and embody... and it is as powerful as anger." This month, we'll shake the dust from our weary hearts and look within to tend that reservoir of life-saving joy. We need joy. The world needs joy. It's going to be a Joyful January.

**Abha Dearing***Co-Director of Music Ministry*

You have heard the complaining, seen the commercials, and read the t-shirt ads on your Facebook page: 2021 has only one way to go, and that's up. 2020 is ending, gone up in flames, good riddance, finally finishing that dumpster-fire of a year. Phew.

And yet... I learned so much from 2020. I learned that I could get through missing important people, but stay connected with them in small ways. I learned that I could grasp new technology, even if it wasn't by choice, and make unifying art with it. I learned new things about my sweet husband of 26 years. I learned about the type of people my kids are becoming. The list goes on. I learned to find joy in surprising places.

We have all heard many entreaties to not squander good things. And in 2021, I intend to do more searching for those good things. During the past months of pandemic, civil unrest, racial injustice, and violent rhetoric and behavior in many arenas, amidst so much loss and pain, loneliness and grief, there have been lessons about rediscovering joy and learning to not take things and people for granted. Easier said than done. However, when I have fewer opportunities for distraction and am confronted by my own self-serving behavior, I notice other perspectives and acquiesce to moments of growth. This brings me great joy. Hope is alive when insight and patience are employed together, inward or outward. When I can refine my most direct interpersonal relationships, these positive vibes spill into the next larger circle, and then beyond that, and then out into the world, even if I am separated from most people by physical space.

So I am lucky and joyful. For one year of my life, I have been given the chance to better myself so that I can be of more use and connect deeper with a world that needs me in whatever capacity I can give. The same is true for each one of us.

So be gone, 2020. Fly away home, and may all of us keep many of your valuable tenets close. May 2021 bring more moments of insight, joy, and learning for me, my circle, our beloved BUC community, and beyond. Joyful New Year!



Steven Dearing

Co-Director of Music Ministry

For some reason, the topic of joy as a state of mind/feeling/emotion is one that tends to fall in the cracks of scarcity. Why is that?

The question is quite easy to answer during a pandemic, simply because lots of the things that we require to bring us joy are gone, such as time with family and friends and being in our sanctuary together on Sunday mornings. But what if we changed our perspectives and thought of other things that we still DO have that are joyous?

For example, if we could allow an “attitude of gratitude” to align with joy, we might feel that the scarcity diminishes, and that JOY feels quite plentiful. The gratitude shift can start with a simple list, like observing a gorgeous sunrise or sunset, or noticing the green grass poking through a soft blanket of white snow. We can observe the laughter of children in the neighbour’s yard, or listen to a podcast with someone

else’s perspective, or a TED talk.

As we continue to stay home for safety, we can be grateful for the feeling of being awakened to the things that we never would have had the time to notice during our “normal” lifestyles of running around being busybodies. Something that I constantly think of during this time of less human contact is how I am so darn grateful for the technology we folks of privilege take for granted. When I think of having the world wide web on a device that fits into our pockets, allowing us to gather information and reach out and see others at the push of a button... how could you not feel a sense of gratitude for that? When we take time to think of what we DO have, the gratitude for technology can be a JOY STICK.

As we take the time to breathe into gratitude, we CAN shift our perspective and allow JOY to feel much more plentiful. By starting simple and observing, we often find that we have more than we thought.

**Nico Van Ostrand***Religious Education Coordinator*

I had quite a hard time writing for this month's newsletter. I certainly have lots of joy in my life, but it is a little more complicated to write about than it has been at other points in my life. And so I did what I usually do when I'm not sure about the way forward—I returned to ritual.

The obvious joy-related ritual is Joys and Sorrows, during which congregants share big things of all kinds and we light a candle to indicate that the community is helping hold those big things. Perhaps it's more straightforward to intuitively understand why someone might want help holding grief, loneliness, and other sad things. But I think holding joy together is just as important, and that has been one of the many challenges of this pandemic.

Celebrations like birthday parties or graduation ceremonies are important touchstones for holding joy together. Breaking bread and laughing out loud and welcoming guests are all ways of holding joy together that are fractured now. These are things so many people miss, and try as we might, they just can't quite be replicated virtually.

I've been thinking a lot about why that is such a challenging thing to do. For me, joy is a sensation that starts in my chest and bubbles out until my ribs and my heart can't hold it in anymore. It makes me smile and sometimes laugh, and when I'm with other people my joy connects with theirs and becomes stronger.

I can hold joy by myself, and I do that a lot these days, but it's not quite the same. It can't replace being surrounded by people, everyone excited or celebrating or sharing an experience together. I have not been successful in finding a joy as tangible and strong as shared joy is.

Yet we are all doing our best to find points of connection—little hints at ways of being together to help us manage until those ways of being and sharing are possible again. And at the moment, a ritual that requires coherent words to describe something as complex as joy—made even more complicated now by global grief—is really hard.

Maybe that is what makes Joys and Sorrows all the more important. Maybe this, like all rituals, should be adapted to suit our needs. Maybe I'll take a cue from the kids in my life, who show joy by dancing or singing or drawing sweet little pictures with hearts and smiley faces. Or maybe I'll take a cue from my cats and express my joy by stretching out on the floor with a luxurious yawn and slow, comfortable blinks.

Joy shows up differently right now, and it's held differently. But it's there. I hope you are finding joy too. Wherever you're finding it, I'm holding it with you.



Valerie Phillips
Administrator

The Berkley Holiday Lights Parade is held on the first Saturday in December. It is organized by volunteers and funded by residents and business sponsors. My kids and I have been attending the parade for many years, in several different capacities. Both my children, Trent and Sarah, have walked with their scout troops, handing out candy to parade-watchers. As they got older, we started attending the parade as spectators. Last year, we finally perfected our game. We knew what time to get there, where to set up our chairs, and how long it would take from the start of the parade for it to get to us. Last year, we were more prepared than ever, and it was the first year we managed to stay and watch the lighting of the tree at the gazebo with Santa, and had some hot cocoa.

This year, the Berkley Holiday Lights Parade was cancelled. Of course we were filled with disappointment, but we also knew that there would be no safe way for people to gather to walk in the parade, and they certainly would not have been able to gather on the streets to watch. Fortunately, there are many thoughtful and creative people on the team that organizes the parade. This year, they organized a Drive-By Santa Parade. Santa, on his usual reindeer and sleigh float, would drive down each road throughout Berkley, allowing individuals and families to be able to watch for him and wave as he drives by each home in town.

While waiting for Santa to drive by our home on his sleigh, the sound of banter and laughter between my two teens as they battled one another with light sabers on the front lawn was an unexpected joy in my heart. Other families started to emerge from their homes. There were kids of all ages, from toddlers to teens to adults and all those young at heart. Everyone seemed so lively and worry-free. There was excitement as we watched the city's "Santa Tracker" and saw Santa getting closer to us. People began to comment from their lawns that they could hear him getting near. When he arrived on our street, there was joy in everyone's voice cheering and wishing everyone Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. My kids cheered and waved with their light sabers, and they were acknowledged positively by Santa's police escorts.

It is good to carry joy in my own heart. It is extra good when joy is shared with others. I became aware of this as the community stood on their lawns for their opportunity to see Santa and wish others joy during the season. The recent cookie deliveries and poinsettia donations at BUC were amazing collaborations to spread joy to others. Wherever there is joy, big or small, it opens our hearts to love and our souls can heal.



Marcia Mahood
Rental Coordinator

Joy. As I write this a few days before Christmas, I think of the words from the Christmas story. Although raised in a Unitarian home, I still loved the story of the journey to Bethlehem. As the angel in the Christmas story said, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy that will be for all the people.” I think this year it is the scientists and drug companies who brought us the good news of great joy of the impending vaccines, “for all the people.”

I met an ER nurse last week. I asked her if she was getting the vaccine, and she proudly told me she was scheduled to be vaccinated on Day One.

My eyes welled up with tears, and I felt such pure joy for her. I didn’t even know her, but I won’t forget that she was the first person I met who would get this terrific gift of hope and promise. How many more joyful moments will we have in 2021, as we gradually hear such wonderful news as friends and family start to get protected? I plan to cherish every one of them.

What a great topic to start off a new year. It’s a wonderful feeling to put 2020 behind us, but it’s clear that we still have challenging times ahead. Finding joy is really a form of self-care. It suggests an intent, to look for the things that excite the soul. As we work our way through these final long winter months of staying at home, we need to be intentional about finding joy in our lives.

I am looking for joy this winter. Joy can arrive unexpectedly, like in my conversation with the nurse. It can also be something that I cultivate and nurture. I am actually hoping for snow so I can snowshoe at Cranbrook. Winter berries and cardinals never seem so intensely red as when found in the black-and-white world of a winter woodland. We’ve been visiting on the deck with our son. We are wrapped in heating blankets and sipping tomato soup or hot chocolate and so enjoying his company outside. A full year’s worth of yarn and knitting projects await the wintertime. These are some ways I find joy in my life.

Joy is out there. We just have to look for it, whether it is in the outdoors, a visit with a loved one, or the joy of working with hands. I hope you can find some of life’s small pleasures and take care of yourself. Hope is here, and joy is around the corner.



Sara Constantakis
*Communications
 Coordinator*

As I was thinking about this month's reflection on joy, I remembered the 2015 Disney/Pixar animated film *Inside Out*. The film is set inside the mind of a young girl named Riley who has just made a cross-country move with her family. Inside Riley's mind live five personified emotions who make up the highly entertaining and thought-provoking cast of characters: Sadness, Anger, Fear, Disgust, and—the character that made me think of this movie—Joy. The development of *Inside Out* included consultations with psychologists and drew on real neuropsychological findings, and it is an incredibly creative and thoughtful film with lessons for both kids and adults.



In the film, each emotion character has a corresponding color, and Joy—a pixie-like being with blue hair and a greenish-yellow dress—is yellow. Joy is the protagonist of the story, and she appears to be happy all the time and full of energy. Actor Amy Poehler (a comedy idol of mine) voiced the character of Joy and once described her as follows: “Joy is the engine. She keeps everyone moving and happy. She represents the parts of Riley that are starting to change and become more complicated, and she is reluctant to let that change happen. She may be the most positive, but in many ways, she is the least flexible.”

I like the idea of joy as an engine that keeps everything moving. I also like Amy Poehler's insightful observation that clinging to any one emotion or way of being can make us less flexible and resistant to change. We do need joy to keep everything moving, especially now, in January, heading into the deepest months of winter with the shadow of a pandemic still stretching over our lives. But, as the movie shows us, we need our other emotions to play their parts, too.

One of the reasons I appreciated *Inside Out* was its thoughtful and creative portrayal of the inner workings of the human mind. It's a film that encourages us to acknowledge and process our emotions, and it's refreshing to see a pop-culture powerhouse like a Disney animated film giving that kind of respectful treatment to mental health.

It's been years since I've seen *Inside Out*, but I do remember that I connected most strongly with the character of Joy, partially because I aspire to be like her (and Amy Poehler, too). I would like to be Joy, the one always happy and full of energy and keeping everything moving. But I can't be her all the time, and both the movie and Amy Poehler say that's OK. Joy is just one of the colors in our palette of human emotions. Let's try to get a lot of it on our canvases in the coming months, but blend it with all those other important colors, too, for a picture of life that's both vivid and true.



Joanne Copeland
Bookkeeper

Joy is an emotion that is so fleeting. It seems the moment you are actually feeling the joy of something, it disappears. But that instant you actually feel the joy, it's such a wonderful feeling. I know for myself, I get great joy out of seeing a beautiful sunset, sunrise, moonrise, the Great Lakes, the woods... you get the idea. Fortunately, I can experience those things without worrying about the dreaded Covid-19.

Now we have a new member in our family. She was born July 1 and is just a sweet, innocent little baby that brings great joy whenever I see her in a picture or perhaps a Zoom gathering. During the summer I was able to see her, from a distance, in person, outside in her grandparents' backyard. Pure Joy! I'm

looking forward to the day when I can really and truly hold her, play with her, and be a part of her life without that lingering fear of the virus.

I am looking forward to experiencing joy once again when we can gather with friends and family to eat, work, play, and laugh! Someday...

Adopt-a-Family

You did it again! BUC members and friends certainly made this 2020 holiday season a wonderful bright spot in a difficult year for dozens of kids at Walt Whitman Elementary School. Together we adopted 147 children from 46 families, providing very generous gift cards for their parents to use in making their holidays happier.

Because of the pandemic, school administrators found it impossible to create a safe system for delivering our usual bags of gifts. At their request, we collected funds from the BUC community, and provided gift cards instead. While we hope to return to our festive gift program in 2021, we were so pleased to be able to offer this option, and we know the families were pleased to receive them.

Thanks again to everyone at BUC—and beyond—who contributed. And thanks to the BUC elves—Cheryl Shettel, Barb Schandavel, Kym Worth, Barbara Robinson, Kimery Campbell, Joanne Copeland, and Valerie Phillips—who helped!

-Jane O'Neil, AAF program coordinator

From the Board

Strong boards do not manage; they govern. So what does that have to do with joy? Well, think about the ways we will transform lives in the next few years. Transformation may bring joy. How do we transform anything, including lives, and how does joy enter the picture?

“Governance is the board’s work, to be accomplished not in isolation but in ‘holy conversation’ among board members, clergy, staff, and congregation...,” according to Dan Hotchkiss, who wrote the book that provides guidance and direction for our work. He also said, “Problems are endemic to congregations, in part because people bring higher expectations and have more freedom than they have in many other parts of their lives...”

“Organized religion is a paradox worth puzzling over, a polarity worth managing, and an oxymoron worthy of a laugh. Congregations can infuriate, amuse, and outrage us—and they can protect the vulnerable, inspire the cynical, and heal the sin-sick soul. Leaders who know how to walk the fuzzy line each day between creative anarchy and excessive order help to transform lives for the better. Sometimes, in the process, their own lives are transformed as well.”

Serving on the board can change one’s life; it can be educational, perplexing, illuminating, demanding, and even joyful. When one of us errs, we listen to the apology. When one of us succeeds, we listen to the kudos. When we come together and complete an objective that supports a goal, we share the collective accomplishment. We did it as a team.

Joy comes in many forms. It is not always readily apparent, and sometimes it is overly difficult to find what we are looking for in our daily lives. Are you hoping to uncover a little chocolate treat? Are you searching for peace and quiet? Are groceries in short supply? Are you having difficulty paying the rent/mortgage? Are you overwhelmed by all the “-isms” that dominate our planet? Issues big and small. If you need help, BUC is here for you. Please do not hesitate to ask our minister or any member of the board.

No one can fix all the problems resident in our world; but together, we can make a difference. As the song says, if you “accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative,” you will take a step in the right direction. Look for joy—it may be around the corner.



In faith,

Donna Larkin Mohr

President, Board of Trustees

Vespers Service

Tuesday, January 5 | 7:00 pm | [Facebook Live](#)



Join Rev. Mandy on Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00 pm on Facebook Live for our monthly Vespers Service. This is a joyful, yet introspective evening service that centers gratitude for the day that has passed and welcomes the night that is beginning. The service will include candle lighting in remembrance of your beloved dead and any concerns in your heart. Names and information for candle lighting can be submitted via [this link](#) (also on our [website](#) under Worship Links), or shared in the comments on the Facebook Live video.

To view the service live, visit the [Birmingham Unitarian Church Facebook page](#) at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 5. The video will remain on our Facebook page for later viewing.

The Membership Committee presents

Mid-Winter Mixer and Game Nights

Saturday, January 9 | 7:00 pm | [Zoom](#)

Come one, come all to our Mid-Winter Mixer and Game Nights! These will be taking place at 7:00 pm on the second Saturday of the month from January through April. Let's start the New Year with a fun-filled evening of icebreakers and Bingo! We'll laugh and connect... then viciously compete for prizes. Hope to see all your shining faces there! The first event will be Saturday, January 9 from 7:00-8:30 pm. Zoom access info is below and on the [calendar](#):



Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/91506384659?pwd=c2JReFN6Ni9MWWREWkQxZjNKaVh5dz09>

To join by phone:
Dial: 253-215-8782
Meeting ID: 915 0638 4659
Passcode: 178521



As we welcome a New Year, please also welcome a new group: **BUC Environmental Action**.

You probably remember all the activity in 2019 and 2020 from the **Climate Change Resolution Task Force**. We had speakers like **Paul Gross from WDIV**, **Dr. Julia Cole from U of M**, **BUC member Dr. Neb Duric**, an interactive **Project Drawdown** service in December 2019—even **Mother Nature** (aka **Mary Dunn**) made an appearance.

As you know, the [Resolution](#) was approved by 96%! Now it's time for us to start to implement its commitments. Because the Resolution calls for a re-commitment to our Green Sanctuary status, the **Climate Change Resolution Task Force** has merged with the **Green Sanctuary Ministry** committee to form **BUC Environmental Action**, a sub-committee of the **Social and Environmental Justice Committee**.

We are planning a number of projects in the short- and long-term. If you are interested in getting involved with any of these, please contact the project leaders identified:

- **Carbon Footprint:** An exploratory team is studying how to best calculate and then lighten the carbon footprint of our church activities. Another team is working on ways to support individual BUC members and friends to lower their own footprints. (Dave Luckins)
- **Climate Activism:** Offering ways you can help move the needle toward government action (Jane O'Neil)
- **Food Waste:** Looking at food waste as a source of global warming and at ways individuals, corporations, and governments can minimize or eliminate it (Donna Larkin Mohr)
- **Environmental Justice:** Collaborating with the Confronting Racism team on education and action on environmental justice issues (Izzy Khapoya)
- **More . . .** Other topics will arise as we go—we are open to your ideas and suggestions

Green Sanctuary Status: While we had already renewed our commitment to being a Green Sanctuary congregation, there are specific requirements for being “reaccredited” as such by the UUA. Our work will include working toward reaccreditation, with our primary focus being on the environmental work itself.

We are planning some ways to get together virtually during this upcoming winter season and hope you'll join us for some learning and action. If you want more information in the meantime, please reach out to any of us.

BUC Environmental Action:

Jane O'Neil, Chair; Anne Calomeni; Cindy Clement; Mary Dunn; Mary Jo Ebert; Izzy Khapoya; Sharon Kirchner; Donna Larkin Mohr; Dave Luckins; Annis Pratt; Karen Stankye; Kurtis Zetouna

Kiss & Tell: Film Discussion

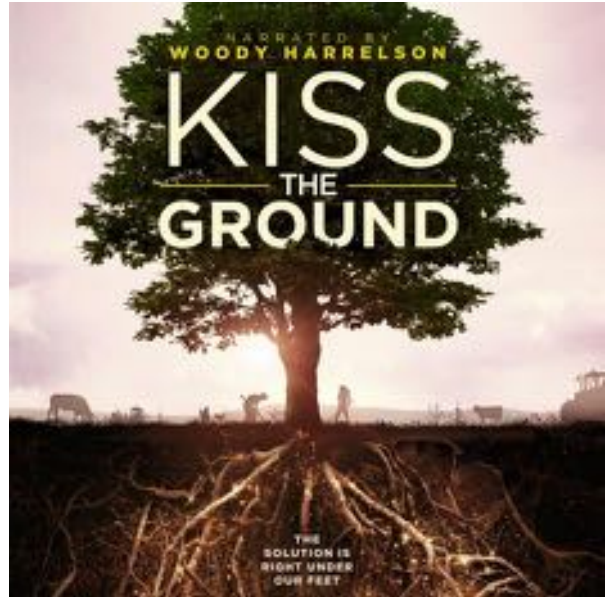
Tuesday, January 26 | 7:00 pm | Zoom



BUC Environmental Action invites you to “Kiss & Tell”!

Kiss the Ground is a full-length documentary narrated by Woody Harrelson that sheds light on a “new, old approach” to farming called “regenerative agriculture” that has the potential to balance our climate, replenish our vast water supplies, and feed the world.

You are invited to view the film—that’s the “KISS” part—and then join us on Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00 pm to “TELL” us what you thought about it and how you might put what you learned to work.



There are two ways to watch: stream the film on [Netflix](#) (subscription required), or create a free account on [Vimeo](#) and rent it for \$1.

After you’ve watched the film, join us on Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00 pm. Zoom access info is below and on the [calendar](#):

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/91514122999?pwd=RDNwTlc1V1VhNUNrdk4vc3hNeHM2QT09>

To join by phone:
Dial-in: 253-215-8782
Meeting ID: 915 1412 2999
Passcode: 699769

For more information, contact Jane O’Neil at janeaoneil@gmail.com

Social and Environmental Justice

Confronting Racism



Our Confronting Racism work continues in January. All BUCers are welcome and encouraged to participate in the important work of understanding the history, drivers, and impacts of systems of racism and white supremacy and actions we can take to confront these realities and build an equitable and loving community for all. Check the calendar of events in this newsletter for date and time (third Tuesday of the month) and Zoom information.

MUUSJN – A Statewide UU Social Justice Network



The Michigan UU Social Justice Network (“moose-gin”) is a statewide coalition of UU congregations working together to foster the worth and dignity of all people by promoting social justice. Its work includes providing education on issues, informing members of public-policy needs and actions, and promoting activism to support calls for changes needed to address social issues. In some areas, MUUSJN partners with other faith communities and justice-serving organizations.

How can I participate?

1. Join the MUUSJN contact list to receive news and action alerts. Visit uujustice.org and click “Get Action Alerts.”
2. Contact MUUSJN Board members Mary Jo Ebert (maryjoebert@gmail.com) or Marti Szilagyi (marthaszilagyi13@gmail.com) to learn about MUUSJN projects you may join.
3. Support MUUSJN’s work through membership or other donations. Visit uujustice.org and click “Join Now.”

January 10: During coffee hour, stay on Zoom to hear more about MUUSJN and its work.

Join the UU Film Crew

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit invites area UUs to join their social-justice film crew. The role includes selecting films, hosting livestreams and discussion sessions, and scheduling facilitators for film discussions. We aim to build a metro Detroit-area film discussion series, fostering interaction and job sharing among UU congregations in southeast Michigan. Interested parties can contact Mary Jo Ebert (maryjoebert@gmail.com), who will connect you with the First UU team.

Around the Campus...

Renovation: the Commons becomes the Purple Door



A period of little, if any, building use is usually a good time for renovations. The bad news is that the lack of use was due to a pandemic; the good news is that we got the renovation done. The Commons was identified by Rev. Mandy as in dire need of a refresh, as it was not included in the 2015 campus renovation/expansion project and was definitely showing its age.

After Jim Shettel was named “project foreperson” by Rev. Mandy, the project scope was determined: carpeting, ceiling tile, LED lighting with dimmer switches, wood base trim and chair rails, closet doors, and wall and door paint refresh.

Contractor bids were solicited from late May through early July (a slow process during a period when so much construction activity restarted in Michigan), and a contractor was selected in mid-July. Demo work began shortly thereafter. One part of the project was removed from the scope of the vendor’s work: the LED lighting, wiring, and switches. Our staff handyman, Jim Dean, took this piece on and completed it for less than half a contractor’s cost. A new drop ceiling replaced the old glued-on ceiling tiles and made the lighting install much more straightforward.

Complications arose when the old carpeting was removed. The carpeting was glued on top of what appeared to be the original tile flooring, the latter proving quite difficult to remove in some sections of the floor. Tiles in these areas ultimately could not be removed but were “leveled” prior to laying the new carpeting. After some initial difficulties in acquiring carpet that matched what was used in the prior renovation project, we were eventually able to purchase directly from the manufacturer and combined the new tiles with some of the maintenance extras we still had on hand from 2015 (and saved a little \$).

Choosing the room’s color scheme was a collaborative effort that included members of the Aesthetics Committee (Barb Eschner and Teresa Honnold), staff (Marcia Mahood, Joanne Copeland, Valerie Phillips, and Jason MacDonald), and the project foreperson and his significant other. White was chosen for the walls (including the formerly yellow raised-floor area); black for the new closet doors (which replaced the bi-folds); and after many comparisons and discussion, a light purple was chosen for the doors leading in from the corridor, prompting a new name: the Purple Door Room.

The Purple Door renovation project was completed in early October, at a total cost of approximately \$14,000. Jim Dean provided invaluable assistance to Jim Shettel in technical consultation and project oversight. Special gratitude goes to Rob Davidson, who made a major donation to make this project possible!

-Jim Shettel, Foreperson, Purple Door Renovation



Calendar of Events

The events listed here can always be found on our [website](#) under [calendar](#). Events are also announced in the weekly email, Sunday service announcements, and our [BUC Community private Facebook group](#).

The [calendar](#) also lists Zoom information for committee and group meetings.

To join an event or meeting, simply click on the Zoom link. If you're not using a computer to access Zoom, you can dial into meetings with your phone by calling the number and entering the meeting ID and passcode.

Weekly Events

Worship Services

Sundays | 10:30 am

January theme: Joy

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/196899450?pwd=RXJuNFpHdWMraENaZmFDWFVaSExqUT09>

To join by phone:

dial: 253-215-8782

meeting ID: 196 899 450

passcode: 882131

Sunday Discussion Group

Sundays | 3:00 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/96501517735?pwd=Yy9NSUg3TGRHUGxjNDY5VzRtT0dzZz09>

To join by phone:

dial: 253-215-8782

meeting ID: 965 0151 7735

passcode: 047076

Living by Heart

1st Mondays | 7:00 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/99983328991?pwd=N1cybVdKYXhWSE9PVEZDSVo3Y1VxQT09>

To join by phone:

dial-in: 253-215-8782

meeting ID: 999 8332 8991

passcode: 569485

2nd-4th Mondays | 1:30 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/92103015538?pwd=YzVMZzFpQTThhb0lFUUVhYYlk5Vy8vZz09>

To join by phone:

dial: 253-215-8782

meeting ID: 921 0301 5538

passcode: 016260

January Events

Vespers Service

Tuesday, January 5 | 7:00 pm

Live on the
[Birmingham Unitarian Church](#)
[Facebook page](#)

Mixer and Game Night

Saturday, January 9 | 7:00 pm

[https://zoom.us/j/91506384659?
 pwd=c2JReFN6Ni9MWWREWkQx
 ZjNKaVh5dz09](https://zoom.us/j/91506384659?pwd=c2JReFN6Ni9MWWREWkQxZjNKaVh5dz09)

To join by phone:
 dial: 253-215-8782
 meeting ID: 915 0638 4659
 passcode: 178521

Confronting Racism

Tuesday, January 19 | 7:00 p.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/93729325877?
 pwd=MIJkMUNIZE4zQmtrT3VNbHJ
 2Ti8xdz09](https://zoom.us/j/93729325877?pwd=MIJkMUNIZE4zQmtrT3VNbHJ2Ti8xdz09)

To join by phone:
 dial: 253-215-8782
 meeting ID: 937 2932 5877
 passcode: 570711

Issues and Ale

Friday, January 8 | 6:00 p.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/94752053975?
 pwd=bjcxclorN0NCZEV5amdzSStP
 RFNQZz09](https://zoom.us/j/94752053975?pwd=bjcxclorN0NCZEV5amdzSStPRFNQZz09)

To join by phone:
 dial: 253-215-8782
 meeting ID: 947 5205 3975
 passcode: 634808

Humanists of BUC

Sunday, January 10 | 7:00 p.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/94700997168?
 pwd=UXdrVFpwcVJoQndiT09tVitJd1BDZz09](https://zoom.us/j/94700997168?pwd=UXdrVFpwcVJoQndiT09tVitJd1BDZz09)

To join by phone:
 dial: 253-215-8782
 meeting ID: 947 0099 7168
 passcode: 786726

Topic: [“The Ten Commitments”](#) document from the American Humanist Association’s Center for Education. Five speakers will present this document, allowing time for comments and discussion. How do you live your values?

Kiss & Tell: Film Discussion

Tuesday, January 26 | 7:00 p.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/91514122999?
 pwd=RDNwTlc1V1VhNUNrdk4vc3hNeHM
 2QT09](https://zoom.us/j/91514122999?pwd=RDNwTlc1V1VhNUNrdk4vc3hNeHM2QT09)

To join by phone:
 dial: 253-215-8782
 meeting ID: 915 1412 2999
 passcode: 699769

Coming up...

Join us for the next session of our 4-part virtual class series

Getting to Know Unitarian Universalism

Four Sundays in February and March

12:00-1:30 pm

(right after worship and coffee hour)

February 7: “Getting to Know U: Our Own Spiritual Paths”

February 21: “Getting to Know UU: History of Unitarian Universalism”

March 7: “Getting to Know BUC - Part I: History of BUC”

March 21: “Getting to Know BUC - Part II: BUC Now...w/ Special Guests!”

Everyone is welcome! GTKUU is great for newcomers and/or those considering membership. Classes are sponsored by the Membership Committee and run by Rob Davidson and Brianna Zamborsky with Zoom Host Kris Schreck.

This interactive, introspective, informative, and fun set of four non-sequential classes has been adapted from our in-person course to a virtual model this year. Great for anyone interested in learning more about their own beliefs as well as those of others in this faith, and this community.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Rob Davidson at kathy8082@gmail.com, but you can also just show up.

Birmingham Unitarian Church
38651 Woodward Avenue
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
www.bucmi.org