

# *The BUC Big Picture*

*March 2026*



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## *March Worship*

### *March 1*

#### *“Paying Attention as a Spiritual Practice”*

How can we pay attention to the things we really care about in a world where there are so many competing distractions? A worship service for all ages.

### *March 8*

#### *“Religion and Politics”*

What is the relationship between religion and politics in today’s world?

### *March 15*

#### *“Choosing Happiness”*

What is happiness, and where does it come from?

### *March 22*

#### *“What Ministers Do”*

What can you expect of a minister, and what can a minister expect of you?

### *March 29*

#### *Daffodil Sunday*

An annual celebration as we recount the story of this BUC tradition, with daffodils galore symbolizing the inclusive welcome offered here. If you wear yellow and green, you’ll look like a daffodil, too! Worship for all ages.

## *March Plate Sharing*

### **Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN)**

Our recipient for March is the [Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network](#), also known as MUUSJN (pronounced “moose gin”). MUUSJN is a statewide network of UU congregations, other faith communities, and partners working for social justice. BUC, and some of you individually, are valued members of this network. Mary Jo Ebert serves as its Director and Craig Stroup as Board Treasurer.

One of MUUSJN’s functions is to advocate for legislative change on social issues in alignment with UU principles and values. It also organizes or co-sponsors events to inform audiences about justice issues in Michigan, offers guidance on actions individuals can take, and makes connections among people to build collective power. MUUSJN was started 22 years ago to create synergy in the work that congregations were doing individually. This is a key part of its mission to this day. With your support, MUUSJN can continue to put UU principles and values into action, creating a larger impact for UUs statewide.

Plate donations can be made via cash or check during worship services or at any time via our [online giving portal](#) (choose “Plate Collection” from the drop-down) or [Venmo](#) (send payment to @BUCMI and note “Plate Collection”).

## *Staff “Who to Contact” List / Office Hours*

Do you have an idea, question, or concern and need to know where to direct it? Wondering which staff member handles a particular area? The answers are in our **staff [“Who to Contact” list](#)**, also linked on our [home page](#) in the “Learn About Us” box in the middle of the page. This list has contact information for the minister and staff members responsible for pastoral, financial, worship, program, membership, administrative, and communications issues. **Church office hours** are also included at the top. These hours reflect when the office is open for church business and do not reflect the operating hours of the building as a whole. We kindly ask that you restrict church business (by phone and in person) to the office hours. The working hours of individual staff members, which do not necessarily match the office hours, and are listed on the [Minister & Staff page](#) of our website.

## *Minister's Message*

Rev. Connie Grant

“Looking for a church”

As my two-year gig as interim minister at BUC is coming to an end, I'm looking for a church. This time, I'm looking for a church to belong to, not a church to serve as minister. Spouse John Grant and I are moving to Arizona, and I'm retiring. And figuring out what retirement will look like, for me. I'm pretty sure that church will have a role, but I'm not sure what that will look like, either. I'm not necessarily in a hurry, and I'll probably take some time to sit in the pews (or folding chairs) before deciding.

It's been more than thirty-five years since I looked for a church to belong to. At that time, I already knew I was looking for a Unitarian Universalist church for my children and myself. My son Kevin and I visited three possibilities at a reasonable distance from where we lived in the Chicago suburbs. I quickly ruled out the one where I heard the greeter tell another visitor “If you haven't been to college, you probably won't feel comfortable here.” (Even though I had been to college in that particular college town, the unwelcoming message was off-putting.)

Together, Kevin and I agreed on the church where it felt most like we could belong. Kevin enjoyed his Sunday School classes and came home with lots of questions. I wasn't sure whether I liked the minister of that church all that much, and I didn't think I fit theologically with the majority of the congregation. But on Sunday mornings, I felt both challenged and comforted, and I found ways to be of use. We found a church home.

When I'm ready, I'll be looking for a church that gives me:

- Things to think about
- Projects to do
- People to talk to
- Ways to give back

If those are the things you want from a church, I hope you find them at BUC.

In faith,

Connie

## Religious Education Musings

Shannon Snideman, Director of Religious Education

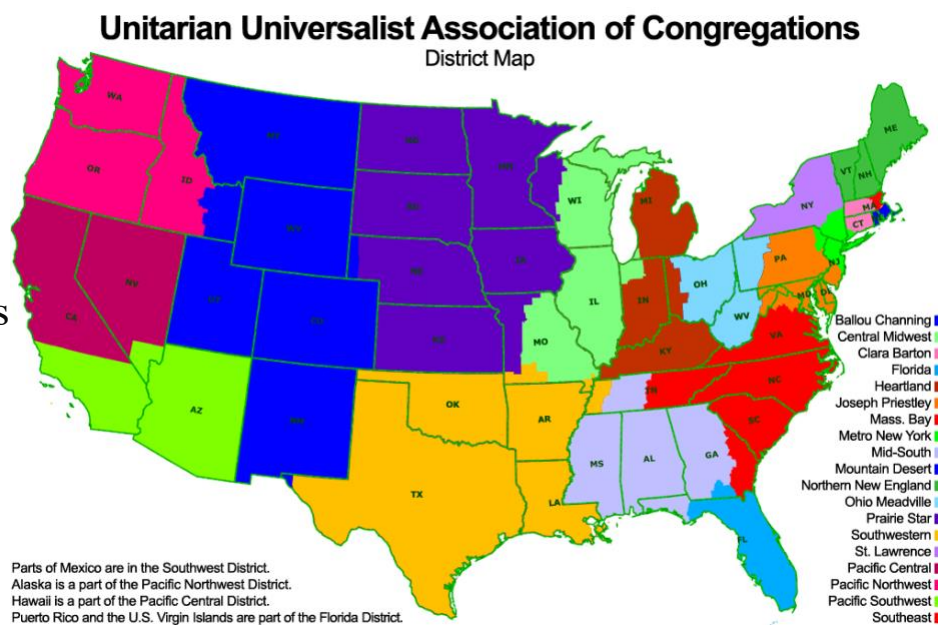
This is not my first time talking about youth empowerment, and it certainly won't be my last. I am writing about it currently in part because I am ridiculously proud of our youth and am honored to be a part of their lives, but primarily because I implore this congregation to become more connected with our young people. It's a lot easier to do than you may think. Let me explain.

But first—a brief history lesson. Prior to 2010, the UUA was organized into several districts across the United States. Each had its own governing body and even hosted “regional assemblies,” similar in structure (though smaller in scale) to General Assembly. These districts weren't strictly defined by state lines; they were shaped by geography and the concentration of UU congregations.

For many years, Michigan's lower peninsula was its own district. In the early 2000s, it merged with the Ohio Valley District to form the Heartland District. Not too long after this is when I entered the scene.

As I became more connected with fellow UU youth, I joined the Heartland District Youth Steering Committee (DYSC, pronounced like

“disk”). Our cohort was mostly youth who represented the different areas of the district, which included Michigan, parts of Ohio and Indiana, and Kentucky. Adults were present to guide us and, yes, to meet legal requirements since we were minors. However, we were the ones doing the bulk of the work, and that was understood by all who were involved. I cannot stress enough that the youth chose this responsibility and the adults supported us. It was not a matter of “the adults didn't



want to do the work.” They were still there for us when we needed them, and when we didn’t, they remained present, steady, and supportive from the sidelines.

DYSC organized youth conferences, or “CONs,” throughout the year. At one point, there were at least ten conferences during a typical school year, with upwards of 80-100 attendees each. You are reading that correctly: that’s at least one per month, sometimes two.



Some of these CONs were for fun, some held special significance like our Social Justice CONs or Bridging CONs, and some were trainings as part of the now-defunct Chrysalis program through the UUA. These trainings included Leadership Development, Spirituality Development, and Chaplaincy. There were also CONs for middle schoolers, similar to the Mystic Lake retreat, but structured to mentor younger youth who would later be elected to serve on DYSC as the Transitional Age Range Representative.

CONs were the pipeline that funneled youth into leadership roles and cultivated empowerment. They connected us with UU youth across the country and created deep, lasting community. I met lifelong friends at CONs—relationships that would never have existed without those intentional weekends of coming together.

If we wanted a CON, we made it happen. From scheduling planning meetings to sanctioning events and everything in between, youth were the ones leading every step. Along the way, we built essential skills that carried into adulthood and our future endeavors: event planning, project management, communications, workshop design, small-group facilitation, right relations, pastoral care, worship planning... you name it, the youth were doing it.



Many people look to New England and Boston as the epicenter of Unitarian Universalism in the United States. But something powerful was happening in the Heartland District. We had all the ingredients for a special kind of magic and others wanted to replicate it in their own districts.

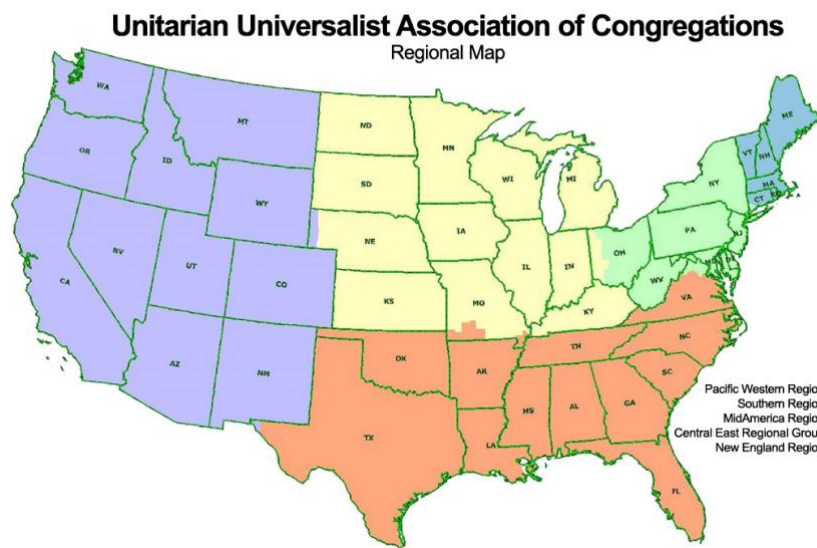
When the UUA merged districts into larger regions, many things changed, including DYSC's name, although the Heartland identity remains relatively the same. DYSC became the Heartland Area Youth Council (HAYC, pronounced "hay-see"). This happened after I bridged into young adulthood. I wasn't involved, so the details are a little fuzzy. But the principles and ideals still applied as the connections continued to grow. The network of youth empowerment and leadership development continued to expand, with youth carrying the torch.

Then came the COVID-19 pandemic.

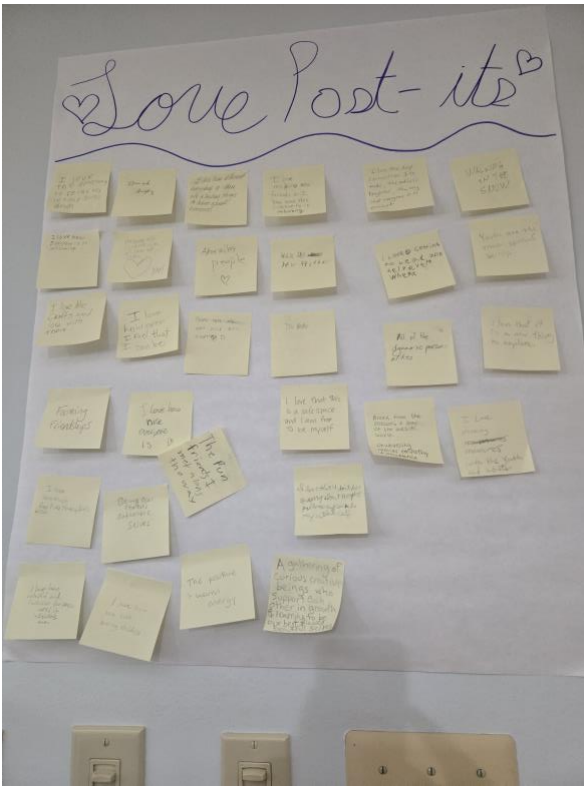
With large-scale gatherings paused for several years, this decades-long vision of youth empowerment was nearly decimated. Without consistent spaces for older youth to mentor younger youth, and without younger youth being welcomed into an established culture, institutional knowledge bridged out alongside those who were entering into young adulthood.

This is when I re-enter the story, now as one of the adults. But I understand my role. I am here to support youth leadership, not replace it.

Over the past two years, we've seen the return of the UU youth CONs we know and love. However, adults have been the driving force for organizing these gatherings—those who remember the magic and those who know it's possible. We've likely been more involved in planning than we ultimately should be. But we are now in a



much better position to hand the reins back, because this generation of youth have begun to experience that magic for themselves.



The CON over Valentine’s weekend was no exception. The theme was “LUUVE,” which was quite fitting for the times we’re living in. We each created our own “mailbags” for people to drop messages in, much like how kids pass out valentines to their peers in school. We shared love for one another, for the world, and for ourselves. It was a respite from the sadness and fear that is ever-present in our wider world. It’s almost like we were surrounded by a bubble that shielded us from the destruction and mayhem, and returning to our lives outside of the bubble was a recovery process.

There were two youth co-deans who took care of business, kept us on schedule, and dealt with any issues that came up, as they inevitably do when a group of people gather together. There were three youth pastoral-care providers, or “Care Bears,” who were trained to listen and help anyone process any feelings coming up for them over the weekend. We had five small group “CON Band” leaders, two of whom were BUC youth (Avery Pulver and Grace Leon), who helped facilitate conversations and connections across the congregations that were present at the CON. We had youth serving as workshop leaders, including our own Jason Pulver, who led a very well-attended workshop on wilderness survival and appreciation for the environment.

The last thing on the schedule for Saturday was a Coffee House... or Kaughy Haus, or Kafuei Haausse. Doesn’t matter how it’s spelled (actually, it does, because it’s spelled differently every time), but we know that it’s a talent show of sorts. It’s a space for all CON participants to shine and share their passions. There’s no pressure to be perfect, and silliness is always encouraged. Jason and Avery were the emcees who introduced us to singers, musicians, poets, and skits, including one that was

born out of the needlefelting workshop. I'd try to explain what it was about, but you kind of had to be there.

And that is my charge to you.

I want you to be there. I want you to feel this same sense of awe and wonder for the children and youth of BUC.

Much to my chagrin, I often hear, "I don't know the youth today." There are also people who will tell me how awesome the children and youth are. And my response is always the same: Did you tell them that? While those compliments warm my heart, I am not the one who needs to hear them. I already know.

They need to hear from you directly.

They need to connect with you directly.

They need to know they are seen and valued by the broader community.

The more that you connect with them on a personal level, the more you will be absolutely amazed to know these intelligent, compassionate, and talented members of this congregation. Feeling recognized as an integral part of a community is what encourages them to remain part of it.

We cannot lament the absence of young people while remaining distant from the ones already here. If you want youth to stay, they must be known. If you want them to lead, they must be trusted. If you want them to belong, they must be welcomed.

Our children and youth are not "the future of the church." They are the church. Right now. Our youth are ready to lead, to create, and to build something beautiful. And I cannot always be the one advocating for them. Empowerment does not grow in isolation. It grows in community.

If you long for a vibrant, multigenerational church, the invitation is simple: move toward our youth and bridge the divide. Learn their stories. Let them learn yours.

If you find yourself asking, "Where are all the young people?" consider your last interaction with one of them. If nothing comes to mind, this is your invitation. The

next coffee hour that you attend, go introduce yourself to a family. Learn a name. Ask a question. Listen and be present.

This isn't necessarily a call to action to volunteer in RE, although we are always in need of volunteers! It is, however, a call to build relationships with our children, youth, and families at BUC.

It would be a gift to this congregation if the phrase "I don't know the youth" disappeared from our vocabulary and it was replaced instead with names, stories, and relationships.

## *Music Memos*

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

Our UU Principles and Values guide us through worship-craft and music choices so we can help our Beloved Community make sense of the world. As your Co-Directors of Music Ministry, this is our overarching goal and we take it very seriously. That said, we try to provide meaningful and supportive music at every turn, especially when the world is cold, dark, dreary, and unjust.

In the last weeks, the BUC Chalice Choir helped get the congregation on its feet to celebrate all of the ways that "We Are Family." Our bold and expressive Pianist, Mira Walker, graced the services with her rich solos and accompaniment. In subsequent weeks, we welcomed back guest vocalist Alison Ristovski to front the Sound Messengers to kick off Stewardship Sunday with Steve's energizing arrangements of some classic hymns. The BUC Chalice Choir sang in service and they continue to prepare for their annual Choir Sunday on May 3 with the theme of "From Bystander to Activist." In this service, we will pose some existential questions, including: How can we move from disillusionment and hopelessness, through apathy, to curiosity, into possibility, and, finally, to activism? The BUC Chalice Choir uses choral music, small group music, reflections, and spoken word to take us all on this journey so we can help heal the world.

Shout out to Maureen Dunphy and Craig Daly for their public declaration of the impact BUC music has had on their involvement and interest in our Beloved Community. They both mentioned the uplifting and meaningful music of the Sound Messengers at their first-ever BUC service and how excited they were to hear and be part of the quality and ethos of our programs. We are so glad they have joined our Chalice Choir and the greater BUC Community.

## *Membership Matters*

Sara Constantakis, Director of Congregational Life

Over the past few months, BUC's Strategic Planning Team has been synthesizing the results from the fall's Values & Vision Listening Labs, when they gathered the congregation's feedback on the values essential to our church to inform their work drafting new values, vision, and mission statements. Recently, they have been presenting those drafts to BUC committees, teams, and staff and gathering more feedback as the next step in this process. Their presentation to our staff team led to a rich and thoughtful discussion about what BUCers are here to do as a congregation and community.

The SPT's draft values, vision, and mission statements (which you will see soon if you haven't already) helped me see a common thread in the context of my staff role in fellowship, engagement, and membership, especially when our discussion naturally turned to outreach and how we "get the word out" about BUC to the wider world. Membership and growth have been an ever-present source of thought, discussion—and yes, anxiety—in recent years and are a significant driver of the SPT's work. It was thinking about the revamping of our values, vision, and mission that helped crystallize my view of what BUCers are here to do in the world.

Our liberal religious faith calls us to take care of each other and be of service in making the world a better place. These ideas infuse everything we do, from worship, Religious Education, and music to fellowship groups, small groups, pastoral care and the BUC Caring Network to Rummage, plate sharing, and Social

and Environmental Justice. If you think about each of those things individually, you can see a common thread running through them. Our mandate, our calling—taking care of each other and being of service in making the world a better place—should be the primary reason we want to get the word out about BUC. Attracting new members—and I say this gently and with love—should be secondary. The good news is that if we do the primary, we will accomplish the secondary. People will see who we are, and that will inspire them to join us. And spoiler alert: we're already doing it! So let's keep being in fellowship with each other (I'll be talking about fellowship opportunities during the March 8 worship service), treasuring our existing connections (see Tanya Nordhaus's wonderful Flamekeeper series of congregant interviews and Shannon's reflection earlier in this issue on our amazing BUC youth), and making new ones (our next Getting to Know UU session is planned for April). In other words, we can keep being who we are and doing what we do, and growth—of different facets, all of them important—will follow. May it be so.

## *Board of Trustees Update*

The minister search process is moving ahead quickly. We have eight ministerial candidates who requested to interview with us. The Search Committee has been conducting interviews which take more than three hours and will be working hard through mid-March. In exchange for the packet of information we provided about our congregation, the minister candidates have provided information about themselves and sermons for the search team to watch in preparation for their interviews.

The Strategic Planning Team has reached a milestone in completing drafts for BUC's Values and Vision as well as a new Mission statement. All are based on the team's evaluation of a wealth of input from 75 Listening Lab participants plus a refresher on the guiding principles of Unitarianism, Universalism, and the UUA. Now testing these drafts with groups of lay leaders and members of BUC

committees, the team will report on this early feedback in presenting their recommendations to the Board and congregation at large.

Year-end pledge statements have been sent recently. Please look over your statement to be sure you are on track with your payments for this year and to be sure to fulfill your pledge commitment for 2025-26 before the end of the fiscal year in June. If you are now unable to make your planned pledge payment, please let Rev. Connie know as soon as possible. If you haven't yet completed the skills inventory survey, it's not too late. We have received 68 responses, but it would be great to have more members complete it. The survey helps church leaders and committees learn about the skills and knowledge that exist among our members so that we can tap into our own local experts for guidance on projects. Click [here](#) to fill out the skills inventory.

In faith,

Your BUC Board of Trustees for 2025-2026

President Mary Jo Ebert, Vice President Harper West, Treasurer Keith Ensroth, Secretary Bill Fox, Trustees: Donna Cunningham, Art Hillman, Claudia Kocher, Tanya Nordhaus, Brian Schandavel



BUC's 2026-27 Stewardship Campaign launched on Tuesday, February 10, and wraps up on Sunday, March 15, with desserts after the service.

Pledges have been rolling in nicely (please see the weekly communications for updated figures and, when you go to church, look at the “thermometer” in the Pavilion for even more current information). Everyone's pledge commitment is necessary to permit BUC to finalize a balanced budget that supports BUC's community vision and plans for 2026-27.

***If you've not done so already, please submit your pledge by March 15.***

To submit your pledge online, click [here](#).

To download and print a pledge form, click [here](#) and mail to:

Birmingham Unitarian Church  
38651 Woodward Ave.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

To view “The BUC Stops Here: Why Our Shared Investment Matters,” a presentation by Keith Ensroth, Board of Trustees Treasurer, click here for the [video](#) and [here](#) for the slides.

You can find all of this information and more, including Frequently Asked Questions, on [this page](#) of BUC's website. You can also contact any of us on the Stewardship team with any questions or concerns.

*Your 2026-27 Stewardship Committee:*

*Jane O'Neil, Mary Dunn, Walli Andersen, Soren Andersen*

## *Meet BUC's Flamekeepers*

By Tanya Nordhaus

As many of you know, I have interviewed congregants about their connection to BUC and their lives over the last six months. Each month, I introduce you to three congregants. This month, meet Marilyn Mast, Annis Pratt, and Karen Stankye.



Going from Episcopalian to Methodist to Congregationalist, **Marilyn Mast** thought she was being “rebellious” when she became a UU in 1970. Little did she know that one of her grandmother’s uncles was a Unitarian minister in Chicago long, long ago. Unitarianism was in her genes all along. Marilyn has been a busy woman at BUC through the years. She served as the Board President, was active on the Religious Education Council and taught RE classes throughout the years, where she herself learned a lot about UUism. She sat on the Nominating Committee and some Long Range Planning committees, now known as Strategic Planning. Marilyn admires younger women

who balance raising children, working full-time, and taking leadership roles.

Speaking of, Marilyn and her husband, Tim, raised their son and daughter here at BUC while she was working as a teacher and then as a librarian. One thing you may not know about her is that she likes to scuba dive, which she says is like going to Mars.

If I had to describe **Annis Pratt** in one word, it would be “firecracker.” She and her late husband, Henry, were kicked out of the Southern Presbyterian Church. They said they were too feminist. Annis said, “The Unitarians rescued us. No question about it. They called us up and asked us to come, and



we never looked back.” She deeply values the companionship and inspiration of our beloved community. Having attended BUC since 1980, Annis has a long social justice history at BUC. She actually wrote the chapter on BUC’s history with social justice in *Birmingham Unitarian Church First 50 Years*. Annis, a former English professor, has chaired the Plate Collection Committee, the Membership Committee, the Green Sanctuary Committee, the Worship Committee, and the Social Justice Committee. The Welcome Inn is her current passion. Whether it’s fighting for feminist rights, racial justice, the environment, or the unhoused, Annis has always walked her talk. Firecracker!



Current Ministerial Search Committee member and former chair of the Green Sanctuary Committee, **Karen Stankye**, is a world traveler. She has visited at least 59 countries so far. Karen has a mission to see all the penguin species. She has spent time with 12 of 18 so far and will take an expedition to the interior of Antarctica this year to see emperor penguins. Needless to say, she is quite excited. She has also had the privilege of going on safari and seeing baby whales and polar bears in their natural habitat. Karen has long been inspired by Jane Goodall, whom she saw speak just two weeks before her death. But it hasn’t been all vacation all the time

for Karen. She worked hard in the food service industry, in management and systems sales, throughout her career... well, except for that paper route she had with one of her girlfriends when she was a teen. Karen has been active for over 10 years with Citizens Climate Lobby, including numerous sessions of in-person lobbying with our federal Representatives and Senators in DC about the climate.

## *Program News & Info*

### *Social and Environmental Justice*

Through our Social and Environmental Justice program, BUC ministers to the needs of our communities; promotes social, economic, racial, and environmental justice; addresses the climate crisis; offers opportunities for civic engagement; and serves as an agent of social systemic change. Our Plate Sharing supports a different charitable organization each month, supporting one of these goals. To nominate an organization, fill out the form on [this page](#).

Social Justice is a core component of Unitarian Universalism and BUC's identity. We are called to put our UU principles into action to build a world that embodies justice and compassion for all people. This includes serving communities in need, advocating for reforms, and bearing public witness. We are lifelong learners, striving for greater understanding and adapting our actions as we gain new perspectives and experiences.

Our priority issues at present are [Racial Justice](#), [Environmental Action](#), [Civic Engagement](#), and [Economic Justice](#). There are hands-on things to do, and you are invited to join any group.

To join our email list, please send an email to [BUCSEJ@gmail.com](mailto:BUCSEJ@gmail.com) asking to be added. You are also welcome to use this email address to reach us for other reasons.

### *Urgent Need from Lighthouse*

*[Lighthouse](#) has reached out to their partners with an urgent and very tangible need at their Family Shelter. From Community Partnership Specialist Ali Mangiapane:*

Right now, we are welcoming several large families, and our essential household supplies are moving much faster than usual. We are grateful these families are here

and safe, but items like bedding, infant supplies, and basic kitchen goods are being depleted quickly.

At the moment, we are especially low on:

- Twin & queen sheets
- Pillows
- Shower curtains
- Pots & pans
- Dish sets
- Brooms
- Garbage bags
- Onesies & infant footed sleepers
- Pacifiers and baby essentials

Whether a family is just arriving or preparing to move into permanent housing, these basics matter deeply, and we try to supply each family with the resources they need.

To make it simple, we've updated our Amazon Wishlist. Items can be ordered and shipped directly to our shelter—no drop-off coordination required. If you would like to host a drive, please let us know!

 <https://a.co/0bTCL4ic>

If your congregation is looking for a meaningful way to serve right now, this is one of the most immediate ways to support families staying with us. Please let me know if you have any questions.

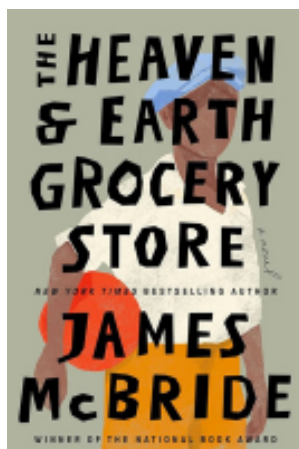
## Upcoming Events



# HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

Join us this Sunday for a coffee hour celebration... with cupcakes!

Join us in Hodas Hall on **Sunday, March 1** during coffee hour for our monthly all-ages community birthday celebration! If your birthday is in March, you're invited to come forward for special recognition. There will be cupcakes!



## BUC Racial Justice Book Club

March discussion:  
*The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride

**Monday, March 9**  
**6:00-7:30 pm**

The BUC Racial Justice Book Club returns in March! This group began with alumni of the Living the Pledge workshop and is a way learn more about racism as we continue our individual and group work to end racism. All are invited to join the discussions.

March's book is *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. Join us on Zoom for the discussion on **Monday, March 9 from 6:00-7:30 pm**. For questions and/or more information, contact book group coordinator Mary Masson at [mmasson@wowway.com](mailto:mmasson@wowway.com) or (248) 568-6544.

# BUC Alliance

Tuesday, March 10

12:00 noon in the Pavilion

“Buzz, Hum and Hover” presented by Maud Lyon



Join the BUC Alliance for their first spring program on **Tuesday, March 10 at 12:00 noon in the Pavilion**, with presenter Maud Lyon on “Buzz, Hum and Hover.” Insects are essential to the web of life, yet we rarely notice most of them. Why do we need them? Why are insect populations crashing around the globe? How can we help insects to survive? Learn interesting facts about these fascinating creatures and how biodiversity and the ecological functioning of our environment depend upon them.

When Maud retired from her long career in arts and culture nonprofits, she had more time for gardening—and for learning about the urgency of biodiversity loss and the importance of native plants. She has transformed her front and back yards into native plant oases in St. Clair Shores, and is a frequent speaker for garden clubs and civic groups on how all of us can significantly impact the environment right in our own homes and communities.

12:00: Bring-your-own lunch (coffee, tea, and dessert provided)

12:45: Speaker

Contact: Carole Wiseman (586-446-0165)

## ***BUC Family UU Network (FUUN)***

**BUC FUUN is excited to announce our March event - Pancake Breakfast at Jess & Kevin's before service on Sunday, March 15!**

**What?** Join us for a FUUN Pancake Breakfast and hangout. We will have pancakes, gluten-free pancakes, bacon, egg bake, coffee, and tea.

**When?** Before church on Sunday, March 15. Doors open at 8:00 am with breakfast served around 8:45.

**Where?** Jess and Kevin's house - 421 Madison St. in Birmingham (a 4-minute drive south on Woodward from BUC). Park in the driveway or on the street.

**RVSP:** Please [RSVP here](#) so we have the right amount of food and can track all dietary restrictions.

**What can I bring?** If the spirit moves you, something easily transportable like an egg bake or pre-cooked sausage would be awesome. Zero pressure, but shoot Jess an email if the idea of cooking for this sparks joy.

**Contacts:** Jess ([jessica.m.newman@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.m.newman@gmail.com), 224-229-7868) and Kevin ([kevin.kozlowski@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.kozlowski@gmail.com), 248-930-7485)

A huge thanks to Jess and Kevin for hosting this event and for bringing us all together!

--BUC FUUN coordinator Jordan Schwarz ([jbschwarz@gmail.com](mailto:jbschwarz@gmail.com))



## **COME WITH BUCers TO THE DIA!**

*Sponsored by the Racial Justice Committee*

**When: Sunday, March 15**

**Time: Leave BUC parking lot at 12:00 noon**  
(Meet by front doors if you want to carpool)

**Where: [Detroit Institute of Arts](#) (5200 Woodward, Detroit)**

**What: “Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation”**  
(*Anishnaabe are Indigenous people of the Great Lakes*)

**More: *We will meet by the DIA cafeteria at 12:25 and share lunch and then view the exhibit***

Curated with the guidance from an advisory council of Ojibwe (Chippewa), Ottawa (Odawa), and Potawatomi (Pottawatomi) artists, “[Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation](#)” presents more than 90 diverse works by over 60 Anishinaabe artists—spanning basketry, beadwork, painting, sculpture, and more—in an exhibition highlighting the perspectives and ongoing creativity of Anishinaabe artists. Through their art, many artists share their history and life experiences, including racial injustices, love of nature, and family connections.

*Exhibit entrance is free with general admission, which is always free for Tri-County residents, and free with tribal-issued identification during the run of the exhibition (through April 5).*

## *MAMA's Coffeehouse*

a monthly acoustic music concert series

Saturday, March 21, 7:30 pm

*Good Trouble: An evening of folk songs, woke songs, likely-to-provoke songs*  
featuring *All About Eve* with special guest *Chris Buhalis*

**Admission:** \$20 regular | \$18 student/senior

No advance sales; cash or check at door only



Close harmony vocal trio **All About Eve** (Katie Geddes, Mary Fithian, and Eric Fithian) offers up a repertoire of traditional and contemporary songs encompassing folk, country, pop, and gospel genres, with an emphasis on edgy lyrics and topical content. This evening will feature repertoire chosen especially for these times!

Singer/songwriter **Chris Buhalis** is a compelling live performer, known for his acerbic wit and powerful vocal performance. A staunch union supporter and political activist, he can make you smile and think and be outraged all at once.



*Income from MAMA's Coffeehouse (after operating expenses) benefits BUC*



## Donate \* Volunteer \* Shop

**Donation intake April 26-28**

**Sorting & pricing April 27-30**

**Sale days April 30-May 2**

### **Mark your calendar!**

The BUC Rummage Team is happy to announce the dates for the spring rummage sale:

Donation intake April 26-28

Sorting & pricing April 27-30

Sale days April 30-May 2

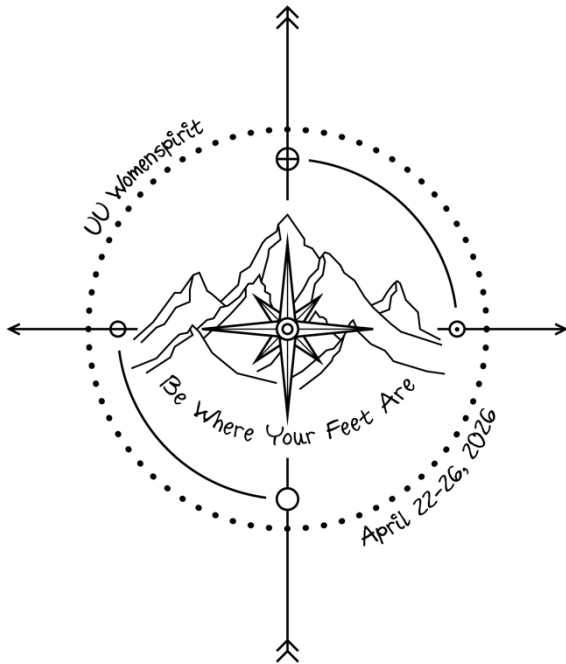
As always, the time and talent of many BUCers will be needed to ensure a successful sale. Watch for more information on volunteering in future weekly updates. In the meantime, please begin gathering your high-quality donations. A good rule to follow: *If you wouldn't buy it, we probably can't sell it!*

# Come to The Mountain for Spiritual Retreat in Sisterhood

## All Women are Welcome!

Join us for the Spring 2026 UUWomenspirit Institute & Gathering!  
April 22-26 at The Mountain in Highlands, NC.

### ***Be Where Your Feet Are***



The Mountain is such a magical place! We'll connect with the fires that forged these mountains, the gems underground, the stone of the boulders, and the winds that shaped this unique ecosystem. We will appreciate the unique dwarf white oaks, the ancient mosses, the waters of local ponds, creeks, rivers, and waterfalls, and the wildlife that calls The Mountain its home. We will open our hearts to receive love and support from The Mountain, Mother Earth, the Natural World, and One Another. And, perfectly, April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day!

A variety of workshops will be offered, e.g., poetry, sound healing, birding, making altar cloths, and *Feldenkrais® Awareness Through Movement®*. Registration is open Feb 11<sup>th</sup> - Apr 1<sup>st</sup>.

UUWomenspirit is a volunteer-led organization that has provided a semi-annual retreat for women since 1987. We gather in a beautiful location at the summit of Little Scaly Mountain and deepen our connection to Spirit through theme-related workshops and worship services, quiet reflection, and fellowship. We embrace the Feminine Divine and Earth-centered spirituality, as well as all spiritual beliefs and journeys.



UUWomenspirit events are open to all interested women. We encourage and affirm diversity.

For more information: [www.uuwomenspirit.org](http://www.uuwomenspirit.org).

