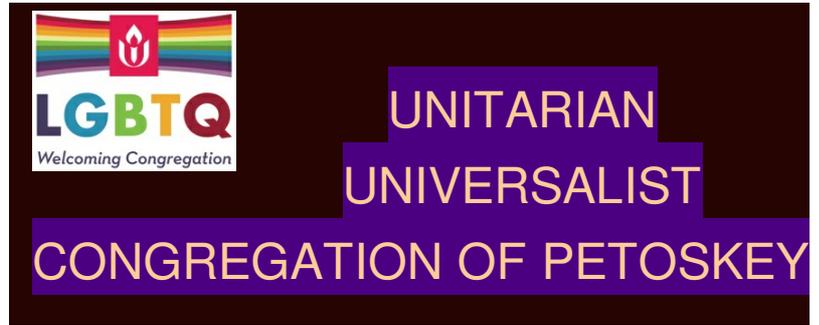


October 2023 Newsletter



Zoom Gatherings:

http://unitarianpetoskey.org/?page_id=6071

Congregational Update

Our Upcoming services

- October 15 - UU and Climate Change: What are UU's doing personally and collectively to reduce our carbon footprint?
- October 22 - Actions of Immediate Witness, Cop City in Atlanta GA
- October 29 - UU Principles 7 and 8
- November 5 - TBD

Musings from the Minister

UUCoP Newsletter, June 27, 2023 – redux September 25, 2023

Musings from the Minister

At the closing worship of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly (GA) the choir sang a beautiful rendition of Bob Dylan's song, *The Times They Are a Changin'*. Indeed they are. As a faith tradition that does not root itself in a creed, Unitarian Universalists are deeply considering how we talk about our faith, who we are, and what we care about. What should change in our language as the times change? I am grateful to be part of a faith that is not rooted in a creed, unchanging and insistent.

For three years, the UUA has been planning possible changes to our current bylaws, known as Article II. This section of our bylaws includes our Purpose, Principles, Inspirations (sources), a statement of Freedom of Belief, and a statement of Inclusion. Most of us are most familiar with our seven Principles. The Board formed an Article II Commission that collected information from thousands of UUs, held many on-line discussions, developed a draft version, collected more feedback, revised the draft and finally brought something to GA for consideration. The draft was amended during the assembly and passed, which means the congregations have a year to study it and suggest other changes. It will receive a final vote in 2024 requiring a 2/3 majority to be adopted.

The changes are substantive and creative. Much of the language of the seven principles was retained but incorporated into a set of six values: Interdependence, Equity, Transformation, Pluralism, Generosity and Justice. Love is the theological value at the center of the values. It isn't perfect. It is changing with the times.

Please engage with this congregation and with the UUA as the changes are more deeply considered in the coming year. For more information, check this link: <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission>.

Other work at General Assembly involves Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW). One of them is, "Protect the Dreamers, the Recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) with a pathway to Permanent Residence." Watch for worship services on this AIW and others as we work together to foster those changing times we want to see.

By Rev. Alice Diebel



Come Join in the Service Planning

We are inviting all of you to take part in suggesting readings and hymns relating to the themes of our services. We know you read -- if you see something that moves you, jot it down and send it in to audreymcmullen@gmail.com.



Co-Presidents' Report, What's "Trending" at UUCOP?

Dear Friends,

It's been a few months since we last completed a newsletter! Personally it has been a busy time through the summer. In this newsletter you have already seen information about the GA in June from our minister. And below you will find further information about happenings within the UUA.

Our special "summer people" have all gone "home." We miss them!

"Summer people": Remember that Zoom link and join us for meetings and Sunday mornings!

Yes, the correct address for our social giving through the summer is, End Gun Violence Michigan. It finally showed up and we were able to make the transfer to them. Many thanks for the strong support of members for a very worthy cause! Their long list of accomplishments points to them as an organization to keep on the books for future monitoring.

The funds for "Teen Crisis" books for the St. Ignace and Presque Isle libraries have been donated and allocated, so we look forward to some positive influences on young people in these small cities represented by those library collections. Stay tuned for future news. Our new and current outside cause is Big Brothers/Big Sisters of NW Michigan.

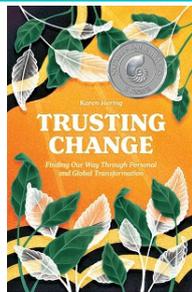
Thanks to the loyal committee members who show up for Board and Committee meetings. It's good to know that you will be there when we click that Zoom button. We need your creative ideas, so when you are just relaxing, be sure to have a notepad and pencil handy so when those ideas for projects and services come to mind, you will be ready.

Recently the board decided to continue our movement toward more in-person services by advocating

recently the board decided to continue our movement toward more in-person services by advocating for at least 1 face to face service each month from April through November. Those services will also include provision for Zooming as well -- a true "hybrid" style of service. Come join in at the Carnegie Building in Petoskey-use the parking lot entrance- or on the usual Zoom link. Our next in-person opportunity is October 22nd!

Let's re-focus on the question that we have considered so many times: How can we grow our congregation? For those of you who attend now and then: a question: what would have you want to participate in ways that you have not yet tried? You can help us out by taking our quick survey, here --> <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHPVZG>

Are all members receiving UU World? Ours showed up this week with lots of information and encouragement for those we "welcome" as a welcoming congregation. If something strikes you in a special way, let us know and we can start a conversation about it.



UUCOP recently began a study group based on the book, [Trusting Change: Finding Our Way Through Personal and Global](#)

[Transformation. https://www.uuabookstore.org/Trusting-Change-P19314.aspx](https://www.uuabookstore.org/Trusting-Change-P19314.aspx)

While this group has started meeting monthly, you can still join us for the final 9 sessions. The next session is Thursday October 19 at 7pm by Zoom using the worship zoom link on our website. If you have questions about this group, please email our minister, Rev Alice, diebelalice@gmail.com.

UUCOP currently has 21 members and another 26 "friends." We continue to be financially solvent with the generous contributions of our members and the fact that we do not own our own building which eliminates the great majority of fixed expenses for congregations. We continue to select a non-profit to support each quarter and request our constituents to donate to that cause. We then match that giving level up to \$200 each quarter.

We received a nice thank you note from the Fiesta event donation we made earlier this fall.

18 Sept 23

Dear friends,

Your generous donation helped make this year's fiesta (#6!) a success. Benito Vasquez of LT tacos catered again, with basketball + soccer (and 100 donated soccer balls) + a x throwing (a

BIG hit). And the love of Christ covering all!!

The guys seemed to have a great time + Mayor Murphy thanked them on behalf of the city. Thank you for partnering with us,

Jan Biddick

Recently the board discussed the need for a second sandwich board sign announcing that we are meeting on Sunday morning. We see a need for two similar signs one for the front and one for the rear of the Carnegie building. Can you build a sign for us? email Mark at mark.kinney@emeritus.utoledo.edu if you can help.

Mark and Nancy Kinney



Fall Quarter Social Giving Focus --

The giving focus for the quarter from October - December is **Big Brothers and Big Sisters of NW Michigan.**

Program Committee News

The Board and particularly the Program Committee look for and joyously welcome your suggestions for planning and conducting our services. For you, which features of a service are most important? Spiritual content? More reverence? New ideas, knowledge, and ways of thinking? More music? Social and convivial atmosphere? More reference to and compatibility with the Seven Principles? Something else? Please keep in mind that UUCOP services are for you, for all of us. So, please speak out.

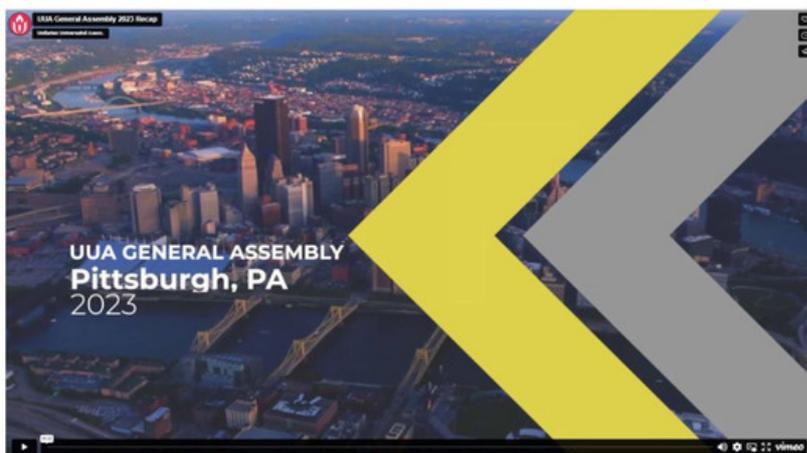
Send an email to petoskeyunitarians@gmail.com.

Current UUA Action Efforts and News

GA 2023 - The Week in Review

More than 4,000 Unitarian Universalists participated in General Assembly last June. 1,800 were online and 2,300 were in-person in Pittsburgh, including over 100 youth and children. Discussion on the GA app was robust, with over 200 active community boards.

Sit back and enjoy this captivating [2023 General Assembly recap video](#), skillfully crafted by Jay White Media and featuring photography by Nancy Pierce, Chris Northcross, and Lamar Davis.



GA Recap video: <https://vimeo.com/863993069>



Public Videos from GA 2023

Regardless of registration status, everyone can view and share the **[Public Videos from GA 2023](#)**. Public Videos include all General Sessions, plus three mainstage worship services: Service of the Living Tradition, Synergy Bridging Service, and Sunday Worship.

Public videos from GA: <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2023>

Full Moon Gathering



Saturday October 28, 7- 8pm ET/ 6pm CT/ 5pm MT/ 4pm PT

Join UU Ministry for Earth each month so we may all find time to ground, recenter, and imagine what is possible in a world in need of repair. There are readings, a short reflection, time for individual contemplation, and sharing in small groups. Together, we nourish our spirits for the work of environmental justice. To draw us more closely into alignment with Earth-based philosophies, we follow the Lunar Calendar and gather, via Zoom, on (or near) the Full Moon. The Zoom link to join will always stay the same, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3248332840pwd=SVScW1ESzJILy9PMWIkTXVkTnpjZz09>.

Registration is encouraged. It helps us keep track of how we can serve you and helps us get to know you. Click on the button below to register

Active link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3248332840pwd=SVScW1ESzJILy9PMWIkTXVk>



**Greetings from Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network
(MUUSJN)!**

Our Mission:

To foster the worth and dignity of people by promoting social justice.

Our Vision:

Michigan faith communities connected and empowered to create a more just and caring world.

Here is the announcement for their next event.

**October 20th Conference Brings People of Faith
Together to Build Inclusive Justice**



Pursuing Inclusive Justice
Crisis Moments | Responsive Movements

Faith Summit: Inclusive Dialogue for Clergy, LGBTQI+, & Justice Leaders



Keynote Speaker
 Rabbi Alana Chaya Alpert
 Congregation T'chayah

October 20th, 2023
 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Zion Lutheran Church
 143 Albany St, Ferndale, MI 48220

REGISTER TODAY!
bit.ly/44ReiaP



Sponsored by:



“Pursuing Inclusive Justice: Crisis of the Moment, Impact for the Movement”

Friday, October 20 from 9am – 3:30 pm

Zion Lutheran Church

Use the QR code above to register.

Local Events of Interest

An Interfaith
Peace Vigil
 for
Israelis & Palestinians
 a time of prayer, singing, and silence
 First Presbyterian Church of Petoskey
 7:30pm - Tuesday - Oct. 17th



Northern Michigan Interfaith Common Ground monthly meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of each month,

- 11:00 AM
-
-
-
-
- First Presbyterian Church of Petoskey, 501 E. Mitchell St.
-



The Gathering

2nd & 4th
Tuesday each
Month

7-8p
The Carnegie
Building

Creating an
inter-spiritual space:

- for our stories to be shared
- our beliefs to be explored
- and community to be nurtured



A Walk For Hate, sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League and Temple B'nai Israel in Petoskey, will be held Oct. 22. Walkers will proceed from the gazebo in Pennsylvania Park at 2 p.m., and walk to the park behind the fire station at the waterfront. Refreshments available.

park behind the fire station at the waterfront. Recommendations available.

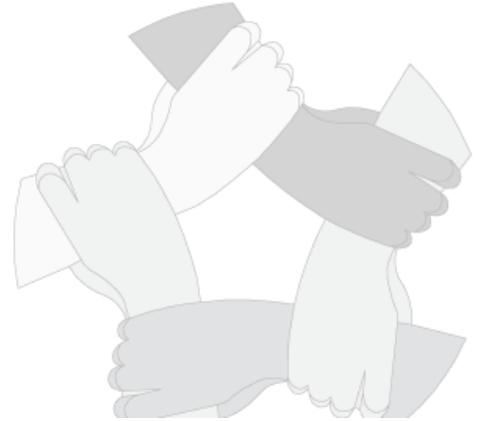


Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Petoskey

We currently meet via [Zoom](#) and the occasionally in person.

email us at: PetoskeyUnitarians@gmail.com

Snail mail us at:
UUCOP
P.O. Box 873
Petoskey, MI 49770



[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Petoskey
P.O. Box 873
Petoskey, Michigan 49770
US

vertical DELIVERED BY
response
Try It Free Today!