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## Sunday Services—10:45 a.m.

For information on attending in-person services, please see page 3. The Zoom link for People's Church services is: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/5527667326>

By phone: 1-646-876-9923, ID: 552 766 7326

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### April 3 "A Declaration of Interdependence" Rev. Rachel Lonberg

As humans we are both independent and interdependent, individuals and part of communities and the interdependent web of all existence. This Sunday Rev. Rachel will explore those dual, sometimes contradictory truths.

### April 10 "Radical Belonging" Rev. Jill McAllister, People's Church minister emerita

Do we belong to this world, when so much has changed? Do we want to belong? And how do we belong to each other, when so much is at stake? In this service we'll consider "radical belonging", in which radical means getting to the root or the foundation, and belonging means an emotional experience of being connected and accepted, at the very least.



This Sunday's service will be led by Rev. Jill McAllister who was the minister at People's Church from 1998 to 2013. She now serves the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis, OR as their senior minister.

### April 17 "Love Letters to the Earth" Rev. Rachel Lonberg and Diane Melvin, Director of Religious Education

We will celebrate Earth Day with an intergenerational service inspired by *Love Letters to the Earth* by Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh. This service will include letters of love and advocacy, meditation, and activities on the church grounds, if weather permits. Please join us on Zoom or in person!



### April 24 "Navigating Conflict" Rev. Rachel and the Dismantling Racism Steering Team

Doing challenging work that matters, whether that is dismantling racism or something else, often leads to conflict and moments of 'creative friction.' How do we live with integrity in these moments? In this service, Rev. Rachel, the Dismantling Racism Steering Team, and other People's people will share some of what they have learned about navigating conflict. Do you have wisdom about navigating conflict to share? Please reach out to Rev. Rachel to have your voice included in this service.



## From the Regathering Team

The People's Church regathering team met on March 23 to review current science and public health recommendations and assess how our

processes and procedures for in-person Sunday morning church attendance has gone so far. It has gone well. People have been great at wearing masks and following our screening procedures. Thank you! Given the high rates of vaccination in our church community and the currently low rates of COVID transmission in Kalamazoo County, we have made some adjustments to our procedures and expectations of one another.

**Singing is back!** People attending worship in person are now invited to sing during services with their masks on. Rev. Rachel and Savannah Ramsey, our music director, will talk soon about possibilities for choir practices and performances. This will continue as long as Kalamazoo County's CDC COVID Community Level remains low. (You can check the county's current status here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>)

**Health screenings at the doors will continue and we will stop asking people to RSVP for Sunday Services.** In our first six weeks of in-person attendance, we have not once reached our in-person attendance cap of 87 people, as many folks continue to prefer to attend services via Zoom or watch them on YouTube. When in-person attendance increases, the regathering team will reassess this. We will continue to screen everyone at the door on Sundays to make sure they are vaccinated, if eligible, and have no symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

**Still no coffee hour or other large group eating and drinking together indoors.** The regathering team has determined that removing masks to eat (and the socializing that happens while the masks are off) is still too risky. Small groups in the church can continue to decide if they want to

eat and drink together. We know there is a party planned for departing administrator Chris Schleuder on April 24. We hope that the weather will be warm enough for the eating to happen outside. The regathering team plans to meet a few days before that event to assess weather and current COVID conditions to offer guidance for that event.

**Masks are no longer required for outdoor activities.** The science shows that the risk of COVID-19 while outside is negligible. We will no longer be requiring masks for gatherings and activities on the church grounds. If people prefer to wear masks, they are welcome to do so.

**Masks are not required for service leaders who show proof of vaccination and maintain more than six feet of distance from others.** Given the ventilation improvements in The Commons, the regathering team does not believe it is necessary for people who remain seated on the stage/chancel/elevated platform in the front of The Commons to be masked if they are distanced from others. This will mainly apply to Rev. Rachel and Sunday Services Committee members who are leading their portions of the service in-person. Of course, anyone who prefers to mask is welcome to do so.

We know that everyone is assessing the risks of this moment differently and making the choices that are right for them. We will continue to offer multiplatform services for the foreseeable future as well as many programs, groups, and meetings on Zoom. We are committed to following scientific and public health guidance as we navigate this moment. We will give people accurate information about what they can expect at church so they can make informed choices. We strive to be as accessible as we can be to everyone in our People's Church community. If you have questions about any of this, please be in contact with the Regathering Team. The members are Marti Peters-Sparling, Donna McClurkan, Rev. Rachel Lonberg, Gary Heckman, Greg Feldmeier, and Melissa Emrich.

### Annual Committee Reports Due May 1st



It's that time of year again where we need to collect committee reports for the Annual Meeting. Reports should include names of committee members and chairs, the purpose of the committee, what the committee has done this year, and future goals. Reports are due no later than Sunday, May 1. Please send all reports to church administrator, Melissa Emrich at [office@peopleschurch.net](mailto:office@peopleschurch.net).

### Re-igniting the Chalice: The Controversy Over the Proposed 8th Principle

**Saturday April 9, 2022 from 11am-4pm EST via Zoom**

A Convocation Sponsored by The Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council.

A virtual event for UUMUAC members, supporters and potential members and friends.

For the 2 page flyer with full details and schedule write to [uumuac@gmail.com](mailto:uumuac@gmail.com)



**Report from Center for Transformation:** As COVID infections are down, more people are coming to the weekly meetings and the numbers are growing. Returning prisoners need cars to be independent and one volunteer recently donated his Camry to one of the guys. It was a cause for celebration!

### Information about Attending Sunday Services in Person

Beginning on Sunday, February 13, People's Church opened its building to larger in-person attendance at Sunday services. While we allow up to 87 people to attend services in person, our in-person attendance has over the first two Sundays has been about half of that number. Our number of Zoom connections has been about the same as our number of in-person attenders. We are becoming a church that connects on Sundays in multiple ways—and we know some People's people watch services later in the week on YouTube.

#### **What can you expect if you attend services in-person?**

We ask people who attend services in person to RSVP at <https://rsvp.church/r/8chPdBqa>. If you are planning to come, but develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please stay home and participate in the service via Zoom. When you enter the church building, you will be greeted by health screeners, who will remind you that we expect people to be masked for their whole time in the church building, be as vaccinated as it is possible to be, have no symptoms consistent with COVID-19, and tell the church if you develop COVID-19 within three days after attending. (If you would like to volunteer as a health screener, please reach out to Marti Peters-Sparling at [martipeters@yahoo.com](mailto:martipeters@yahoo.com).)



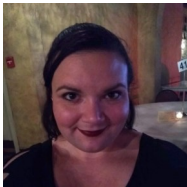
People attending the service in The Commons will then check in to the service at a table in the Foyer. We want to keep track of who is present so we can notify people if we later learn of a COVID-19 exposure.

So far, this process has gone well, with people remaining well-masked for the duration of their time in the building and no known COVID exposures. Thank you to everyone for your care for this community, your flexibility, and patience as we find new ways to be together.



## New Office Administrator

Hello People's people,  
My name is Melissa Emrich and I am delighted to be joining People's Church as the new Office Administrator. With a background in the financial industry as well as management, I am very excited to be bringing my knowledge and experience to this role and the church. I had been seeking non-profit work and was instantly drawn here as soon as I found out about the position opening. I have been blown away with the kindness and warm welcomes I have received so far and look forward to meeting all of you over the next weeks and months!



## Ice Cream Social After Church April 24<sup>th</sup>! Appreciation Sendoff for Chris Schleuder



Please join us to bid farewell to Chris Schleuder, our beloved Office Administrator who has served us loyally for the past 16 years.

We will be serving up plenty of ice cream and an array of toppings for you to make your favorite sundaes.

Please bring a card or mail one to church with your expressions of gratitude and good wishes for Chris to place in the basket.

Location will be weather dependent, but our hope is to hold this in the front door area of the church. Please wear your mask while you drop off your card and make your sundae, and then we will socially distance as needed



## UUA Matters

The General Assembly is going to be held in Portland OR June 22-26 and will be set up in a multi-platform manner. This is a call for members to consider making plans to attend in person or virtually. The link to get more information is: <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration> If you are interested in becoming a delegate for the People's Church, please let the board president know.

Article II of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Bylaws, Principles and Purposes, is the foundation for all of the work of our UUA and its member congregations and covenanted communities. It is the covenant to which all of our congregations and covenanted communities pledge themselves when they become members of our UUA.



The Article II Study Commission welcomes input from all Unitarian Universalists to inform the reimagining of Article 2 of the UUA Bylaws. The Study Commission has identified four areas of inquiry: Shared Values, Inspirations, Purpose, and Covenant. The [Article II Individual Survey \(linked\)](#) will remain open until April 30, 2022.

Though anyone is welcome to complete this survey at any time, it is encouraged that you engage with <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission> link to allow yourself time and space to think deeply and learn more. In a nutshell article II (part of the UUA bylaws) includes our 7 principles, our covenants and mission. This is what is being reviewed for possible changes and editing planned to be presented for a vote at the 2023 GA (and will be a topic for the 2022 GA in June).



## Green Spot—Kalamazoo County Climate Action

By Tom Hackley and Donna McClurkan

[The Michigan Climate Action Network](#) (MICAN) just released a new report highlighting sixteen state governments that have adopted climate action goals and plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Kalamazoo Charter Township got a mention; our own Nicky Leigh is heavily involved in this critically needed initiative.



To facilitate more such urgent action at the local level, the [Kalamazoo Climate](#)

[Crisis Coalition](#) (People's is among over forty affiliates) began a countywide campaign to engage citizens in collective action, the central aim of which is to support and fund the creation of a Climate Coordinator. The job of this individual would be to assist local governments in formulating aggressive action plans on climate.

You might remember that all three local municipalities - The City of Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Charter Township and Kalamazoo County – passed climate emergency declarations in 2019. And recently Oshtemo Charter Township's also passed a formal emergency resolution.

If you live in any of the 24 governmental units in Kalamazoo County, we invite you to considering joining our team by completing [this form](#). We need to mobilize our voices to be heard.

### Household Items Needed for Refugees

The Interfaith Afghan Resettlement Team is currently helping eight refugee families start a new life here in Kalamazoo. We are requesting donations of toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, liquid hand soap, laundry detergent – preferably Tide Free and Gentle, shampoo and conditioner, and body lotion. These items cannot be purchased with their Bridge cards which only cover food and they tend to be expensive. The donated items can be brought to church and left on the table at the top of the stairs overlooking the lower entry level.



### New Chalice Circles Open

If you would like to get to know a small group of people better and deepen your connections at People's Church, this is the time to reach out. Chalice Circles are small groups that meet a few hours each month (typically on Zoom) with a format designed to provide opportunities for honest sharing and deep listening.

If you're interested in learning more, [please check out our new webpage](#) with more details, FAQ's and testimonials. Email Diane Melvin to get started in a new group today at [re@peopleschurch.net](mailto:re@peopleschurch.net).



## The Special Collection for April will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2022 to benefit Disability Network

As the leading disability social services organization in Southwest Michigan, our goal is to help foster a community where people with disabilities are able to participate fully in everyday life with equal opportunities and self-determination. We also assist organizations, businesses, and government agencies to understand their rights and responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act. We provide workshops and onsite training, technical assistance and support in learning to be welcoming of people with disabilities as customers, clients, patrons, volunteers, or employees. Our goal as a disability rights advocate is to protect the civil and human rights of individuals with disabilities, and make sure that the laws put in place to protect them are vigorously enforced.

We were founded in 1981 by a small group of disability rights activists. Our name at that time was The Kalamazoo County Center for Independent Living. We later dropped the word "County" and were widely known as KCIL. In 2010, to be consistent with a statewide name change, we re-branded ourselves with the name Disability Network Southwest Michigan.



### Stewardship Progress



Our Annual Stewardship drive is under way. The theme for this year is "Weaving Us Together." If you have been to church lately, you know that we have a participatory activity involving weaving in the lobby! Come in

and contribute your talent to the work.

All members should have received pledge information by now. If you have not, please call the office at 269-375-3262 during regular business hours to request a mailing. We face a big challenge for fiscal year 2023-24 as we began to move back toward our former reality, with personnel changes and various new activities.

Please be as generous as you can!

The campaign will end on April 10.

## ISAAC Update - Community March and Rally for Voting Rights

On a blustery, cold Sunday on March 6th, 8 People's people, spanning 8 decades in age, joined our partners from ISAAC, NAACP, and many community members to commemorate the anniversary of Bloody Sunday and celebrate the importance of voting rights against proposals that restrict access to the ballot. Riding buses from Stone's church, we gathered at Verburg Park with a few hundred others to affirm that Black Voters Matter. Joining arms, we walked across the bridge over the

Kalamazoo River in honor of those who risked their lives to protect the vote in Selma nearly 60 years ago. We marched to

Douglass Community Center for speeches from our own Dr. Charlae (ISAAC), Ms. Wendy Fields (Metro Kalamazoo NAACP, our elected local and state officials, and other community leaders to motivate voter turnout and protect full access to voting rights.



### News from the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is proud to announce nominees for People's Board of Trustees and nominees for the Nominating Committee. These nominees serve three-year terms and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting (tentatively scheduled for May 15).

### Alternative Nominating Procedure

If there are any members of the church who wish to self-nominate to the Board or the Nominating Committee, the procedure is as follows: Any member of the church can be nominated by petition containing the signatures of at least five supporting members (the candidates having consented). The petitions must be received by the church administrator at least four weeks prior to the Annual Meeting (the date is April 17). Petitions are available from the church administrator.

**Steven Cavanagh—Nominating Committee**

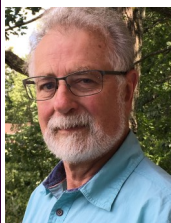
My name is Steven Cavanagh and I have been a native of the Kalamazoo area since grade school. I work as the general manager of Mattawan Artisan Creamery yogurt. My partner Teresa and I have two children that we homeschool and that are involved in the RE program here at People's Church. We have been attending People's since about 2018.

For the past 2 and a half years, I have been serving on the RE committee and will be done with that assignment by the end of the church year. I would be happy to serve on the nominating committee as well beginning next March.

**Lois Loeffler—Nominating Committee**

Being a People's person has been a growing pleasure ever since my husband Roger and I joined the church almost nine years ago. We moved from a farmhouse we renovated near the village of Burr Oak. After retiring from 35+ years as the librarian of Mendon Middle/High School, I had become involved in several clubs and volunteer activities in the Burr Oak/Sturgis area

and was hesitant to be uprooted but it became obvious that it was Time. I became a member in the afternoon Book Club, the Library Committee, and the Discussion Group and eventually joined the Art Wall Reception Committee, evening Book Club and the Membership Committee. As chairperson of the Library Committee I prepare the Library Corner article for the monthly church News & Views. Recently I have been involved in organizing the donated items for the Afghan families, the Interfaith Afghan Resettlement Committee, and the White Elephant Sale Committee. I am now fully immersed in the opportunities for enjoyment, friendship, and personal growth in the Kalamazoo area and am looking forward to experiencing another volunteer activity at People's Church.



Gordon Bolar retired as General Manager of public radio station WMUK in 2016. He has served on the boards of The Kalamazoo Bach Festival, Oshtemo Rotary and the Richmond Center. He is a practicing playwright and has been produced and published. Gordon believes that our creativity is our most important asset. He's been a member of People's Church for more than 12 years.

**Brian Lewis—Board of Trustees**

Brian Lewis arrived in Kalamazoo with husband - Jeffrey Xie - and started attending People's Church in August of 2017. Baptized at the Queen of Peace Catholic church in Salem Oregon, Brian with his family joined the Salem UU Fellowship when he was about 9 years old. Brian has served People's Bylaws committee - leveraging his background in church polity and union work. He has served as People's UUA delegate and writes occasional columns on UUA topics of interest. He has extensively engaged in services to various UU communities, taking active roles in anti-racism & justice work, stewardship to both general fund and capital campaigns, adult faith formation training on "Belief and How to Write a Credo," 8<sup>th</sup> Principal forum, Small Group Ministry coordination - structured like Peoples Chalice Circles, newsletter editor, member of the Coordinating Council, and member of executive board - as operations liaison for building and grounds, safety, legal, rentals and staffing. Served as young adult and youth advisor, helped create the Cascade Connection - integrating youth programming in Oregon and Southwest Washington, and took multiple roles at Eliot Institute (the UU family camps for Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia) to lead activities and programs. It is an honor to be considered for service on the church board of People's Church, and should I be elected will honor the trust you place in me.

**Joe Hampel—Board of Trustees**

I'm a data analyst for Charles River Labs in Mattawan and my wife is a counselor at Gull Lake Middle School; she's also wrapping up a term on the RE Committee. Our daughter, Violet, is in RE and OWL. Our family has called Kalamazoo home since 2014 and People's Church since 2017. I've been on the AV team since the late Dave Curl recruited me at the beginning of 2018. I'm excited at the opportunity to get more involved with the church, especially after being away for the last couple of years. In my spare time, I enjoy cooking, playing golf, photography, piano, and spending quality time with my family and friends.

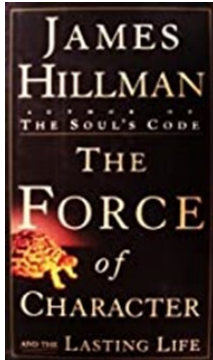
**Gordon Bolar—Board of Trustees**



## Library Corner

### The Force of Character and the Lasting

Life, by James Hillman



The book is about exactly what the title implies: the force of character as we differentiate it into the eccentric, anomalous, sometimes irritable and shocking lively and life-giving wisdom of old age. 'Go on as long as you can' the great composer Verdi once told Toscanini. Although not so much a self-help book in any conventional sense, this brilliant writing does tell you how to do it, 'how to go on to the end' in the way that spending an afternoon in a gallery of Old Masters might, or listening to Beethoven's last symphony: it speaks to the soul, stirs deep reflection, peoples the imagination with imagery, incident and story and leaves the reader brightened the way waking up does after an early morning rain, ready and eager to live one more day.

### Goodness Gracious; a Gratitude Book for

Children, by Kathleen A. Green

Help children cultivate a practice of gratitude and a sense of wonder for the world around them...

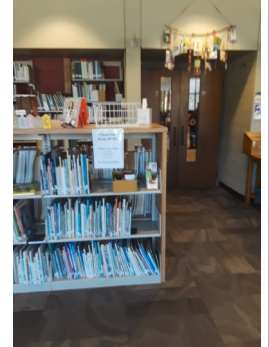
Meaningful, sweet, and sometimes downright silly, Kathleen A. Green's 'thankful thoughts,' her kid-friendly term for expressions of gratitude, help children say thank you for all aspects of their lives, from the earth and their families to their pets, teachers, and even mac and cheese! Perfect for children ages 3–8



*These titles are on display atop the low library shelving and available for check-out.*

### How to Check Out/Return a Book from People's Church Library\*

1. Open the front cover of the book.
2. Note the card in the pocket. Remove the card. Occasionally the card and pocket are inside the back cover of the book.
3. Print the full day's date in the left column of the card.
4. Print your name in the right column.
5. Add your email address and phone number. Use another line if necessary.
6. Locate the open wooden box which is on the window side of the far right bookshelf near the double doors to the Commons. A wire basket is above this shelf.
7. Place the book card in front of the right portion of the box.
8. To return the book, place it in the wire basket above the wooden box. Library committee members will replace the card and re-shelve the book.



\* In observance of National Library Week (April 3-9, 2022)

## Book Discussion

**Sunday, April 10th**  
from 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM on Zoom



Join Faith Alliance from OutFront Kalamazoo for a discussion of this 2020 ALA Alex Award Winner & 2020 Stonewall - Israel Fishman Non-fiction Award Honor Book



**Meeting ID: 851 3017 2711**  
**Passcode: 771707**



## People's Church White Elephant Sale—Saturday, May 14

Have you heard the rumor about a White Elephant sale being planned for Spring? It's not a rumor! The People's Bazaar team met during early winter and decided the pandemic restrictions have eased enough that we can safely offer this to our community, especially given the success of last fall's Fine Arts & Bazaar outdoor event. We're looking forward to resuming this tradition, albeit differently than in years past.



Before sharing a few details from our early planning sessions, we feel it's important to account for the furniture, kitchen and household items that church members and the community at large donated to the Afghan resettlement program during September, 2021. Due to overwhelming generosity, our Commons was filled to capacity for several months. The majority of those donations have been dispersed to several newly resettled families. Most donations received in excess of what was needed were transported to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Portage so that asylee support teams could have a central location to aid in setting up new households. A few pieces of furniture not able to be used by newly arriving families due to size or configuration were sold on Facebook Marketplace,

and the proceeds were deposited into People's Afghan resettlement fund. We did set aside some donated items in Rooms 6/7 that were not able to be used by incoming families either because they were the wrong size (such as bed linens) or culturally inappropriate. Those items will be incorporated into the White Elephant sale. The Afghan resettlement and White Elephant teams, in consultation with Rev. Rachel, have decided the proceeds from the Spring sale will be split 50/50 between the church and the Afghan asylee fund.

So mark your calendar for a joyful, outdoor shopping event on **Saturday, May 14** (rain date May 21). We'll be announcing dates and times for dropping off donations soon. In the meantime, please start setting aside new or gently loved items such as books, toys, games, household decor, kitchenware, etc. Contact either [Donna McClurkan](#) or [Colleen VanSlambrouck](#) if you have questions/comments.

## Virtual MidAmerica Regional Assembly Saturday, April 30, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Registration to virtual Regional Assembly is [now open](#)! We are thrilled to announce our keynote speaker, [CB Beal](#). Their topic is "**The Glass Is Refillable: Pandemic exhaustion, Lifelong Faith Formation, and Preemptive Radical Inclusion.**"



Please join us for opening and closing worship, the keynote, our business meeting, and social break out time. We have a sliding fee scale based on ability to pay, and scholarships are available.

## Earth Day Celebrations

Brainstorming ideas for our Earth Day Intergenerational worship service has me excited about all the possibilities. **Earth Day Sunday** is one of the **High Holy Days** of the church year for me. My reverence for nature and our Mother Earth combined with the desire for sustainability is a core religious value I try to live into daily.

One of the unique gifts our *Keepers of the Earth* religious education classes, offered on Sunday mornings, is the weekly fostering of an environmental ethic that values people as one strand in the interdependent web of life.

Our capitalist system falsely values and ranks nature according to how well the individual parts serve humans. These messages are pervasive and impossible to avoid; unfortunately, there are few places where these ideas are challenged, especially in popular media.

Hearing stories and messages each week that center the value of healthy and intact ecosystems for their own sake regardless of how they serve humanity are imperative to counteract and dismantle the dominant paradigm.

Participating in hands-on nature activities helps to nurture a relationship with the natural world. When combined with ideas around respect and reciprocity, it forms a foundational understanding of humanity's true role.

Would you like a taste of these experiences? We will have opportunities as part of the interactive stations at our Earth Day service. We are fortunate that several of the kids who have been engaged in these RE lessons this year have agreed to lead folks on short walks on the trails around the church grounds during our Earth Day Service on 4/24.

I'm excited to gather together inside the commons as an intergenerational community for the first time in over two years to worship together and celebrate Earth Day. Halfway through the service, participants will be invited to head outdoors to participate in a variety of activity stations designed to foster deeper connections, learning, exploration and artistic expression.

I hope to see folks of all ages back at People's Church to enjoy in person connections, inspiration and celebration! Plus I'll need some kids present to help me tell the story.

Blessed Be, Diane Melvin, Director of Religious Education

## Peace and Nature Camp Save the Date: June 20-24, 2022

Back by popular demand! At People's Church day camp, kids will enjoy a week of outdoor activities exploring our church grounds, building forts in the woods, science experiments, music, art and lots of fun with church friends.

Laura Bultman will serve as the new camp director with Dolores Strom as her able Assistant Director. Camp will be held from 9-4pm M-F, with before and after childcare available. We are also launching a New morning only camp for kids entering Kindergarten and 1st grade from 9-noon each day.

High school youth interesting in serving as **Jr. Counselors** are encourage to let Laura know of your interest at [RE\\_Assist@peopleschurch.net](mailto:RE_Assist@peopleschurch.net).

Please let us know whether you may be interested in having your kids participate in summer camp by completing this form: <https://forms.gle/ZE1rdv9LpUCRZFSt5>



Millie,  
Sadie and  
Dottie  
enjoying  
the swing  
together.

## High School Youth Group

April 10, 2022 - 6:00-7:30 pm

All are invited for fun and connection

## Judaism, Christianity and Islam: How do our Faiths Shape our Prejudices and our Ideals?

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 :

2:00pm: *Race and Religion, in History and Today*

7:00pm: *Anti-Judaism Past and Present*

Where: Grand Valley State University –  
Loosemore Auditorium—401 Fulton St W,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

**This event will be available both virtually and in-person. It is free, but registration is required.**



## Memorial Service for Eric Zelder Saturday, April 9, 3 p.m.

We will celebrate the life and mourn the death of Eric Zelder, who was raised in People's Church and died a year and a half ago. This service will be multi-platform. People are invited to attend in-

person (following COVID precautions) or via Zoom.

## Mindfulness Meditation Group 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Come participate in this group designed to share our wisdom about how to keep our mindfulness and

meditation practices in the forefront to help us remain fully present in each moment of our lives. This month we will be gathering over

Zoom at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84377653719?pwd=dEp5Q0VydWkrcVlyMXRob0toZk1OZz09>



Questions? Please contact Diane Melvin at [re@peopleschurch.net](mailto:re@peopleschurch.net).

## Lincoln School's Kid's Closet Needs

We have received a request from the Communities in Schools Kids Closet for donations of clothing and shoes. They need boys and girls sweaters and shoes. The sizes needed are boys tennis shoes are size 3, 4, & 5 and girls tennis shoes sizes 1, & 5. Also woman sweatshirts or sweaters size L & XL. If you wish to donate any of these needed items, please bring them to church to Rev. Rachel's office.

Alternately, donations of Walmart Gift Cards are very welcome so that Joseph, the CIS Lincoln representative, can purchase the needed clothing items and shoes.

## Registration Now Open for UU Family Camp July 8-10, 2022

Registration for this summer's Chalice Sparx Family Camp & Retreat for Unitarian Universalist families is now open. Join us July 8-10 in Cassopolis, Michigan for an amazing all-ages experience at lovely Camp Friedenswald in southwestern Michigan—only 90 miles from Chicago, 120 miles from Ann Arbor and 195 miles from Indianapolis.



At Chalice Sparx camp and retreat for families, you will experience a truly multigenerational community. There are no camp counselors here to whisk away the children separate from their families. Here, we learn together, worship together and explore together in a community of all ages—including elders who complete our multigenerational village. As an intentional UU covenanted community, we are especially welcoming to Trans children, youth and their families.

We also have fun together. Swimming, hiking or riding a wagon through the trails, canoeing, archery, popcorn popped in a kettle over an open fire, and of course, s'mores and singing camp songs.

Check out the website of our non-profit organization run by Unitarian Universalist religious educators, ministers, and lay persons from all over the Midwest:



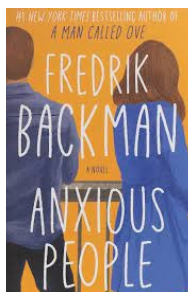
## Evening Book Club

Thursday, April 14, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

This month we are tentatively planning to start meeting in person. (Watching CDC recommendations for the area.) Lois Loeffler is hosting, as well as reviewing this month's selection, **"Anxious People" by Fredrik Backman.**

Anyone is welcome to any meeting -- let Lois know if you would like to attend and/or to get directions. ([loisloeffler@gmail.com](mailto:loisloeffler@gmail.com)) She lives very near church.

If you would like to get on the email list for reminders/any updates, contact Pat Nelson ([patnelson348@gmail.com](mailto:patnelson348@gmail.com))



## Facing Life, Facing Death

Tuesday, April 26 1:30-3:00pm, on Zoom

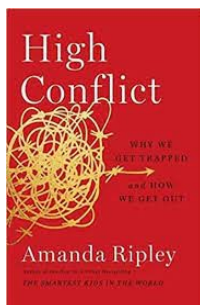
For this month's session, we will be joined by a representative from the body donation program at WMed. Come learn more about donating your body to science after your death and have any questions you might have answer.

If you have questions about this group or would like to be added to our email list, please contact Rev. Rachel at [minister@peopleschurch.net](mailto:minister@peopleschurch.net) or 269-389-9721.

## Study Group

Monday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

The Study Group will be meeting on Monday April 25 at 7:30, via Zoom, to discuss "High Conflict: Why We Get Trapped and How We Get Out", by social science journalist Amanda Ripley. The Study Group meets monthly to discuss a wide variety of books dealing with issues in philosophy, religion, science, history, and current affairs. New members are welcome! For more information, or to get the Zoom address for the meeting, contact Kay Spade at [jkspade@charter.net](mailto:jkspade@charter.net).



## Discussion Group

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.  
on Zoom

4/2: How school fights, from evolution to anti-racism, pit parents against the state, from the March 21, 2022 issue of the New Yorker, entitled, "Why the School Wars Still Rage", by Jill Lepore.

4/16: TBA

Topics are chosen by participants, with input from the group. Contact Pat Nelson, [patnelson348@gmail.com](mailto:patnelson348@gmail.com) if you would like to get on the email list to receive reminders and recommended background resources. Anyone is welcome to attend any meeting.

## Afternoon Book Club

Thursday, April 21, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.  
on Zoom



The book for April is *Transatlantic* by Colum McCann. Susan Stafford will facilitate the discussion.

We hope to meet at Friendship Villages Clubhouse. Directions will be sent out the week of the meeting. Contact Marj Lightner, [marjlightner56@gmail.com](mailto:marjlightner56@gmail.com) for further information.



## Film Discussion Group

Wednesday, April 27, 3:00 p.m.

Continues on Zoom on the 4th Wednesday of the month, 3-4:30.

Participants take turns suggesting 3 titles; highest vote getter from the group as a whole becomes the choice for the month.

Watch weekly emails for options/choice, or get on the email list by contacting Pat Nelson, [patnelson348@gmail.com](mailto:patnelson348@gmail.com).

Day	Date	Event	Time	Place
Saturday	April 2	Discussion Group	10:30am	Contact Pat N. for Mtg ID
Sunday	April 3	Sunday Service: "A Declaration of Interdependence" Rev. Rachel Lonberg	10:45am	The Commons & Zoom
Monday	April 4	Social Justice Coordinating Committee	3:00pm	Meeting ID: 552 766 7326
Tuesday	April 6	Bell Choir	5:30pm	Room 12
Thursday	April 7	Mindfulness Meditation Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm 7:00pm	Room 19 Meeting ID: 991 1122 5182
Saturday	April 9	Memorial Service for Eric Zelder	3:00p.m.	Meet at church or on Zoom
Sunday	April 10	Sunday Service: "Radical Belonging" Rev. Jill McAllister, People's Church minister emerita Antiracism Discussion Group High School Youth Group	10:45am 1:00pm 6:00pm	The Commons & Zoom Contact Carolyn Heineman Meet at church
Monday	April 11	Chalice Circle (Stafford)	6:00pm	Room 19
Tuesday	April 12	Building & Grounds	10:00am	Meet at church
Wednesday	April 13	Bell Choir Peace and Nature Camp Meeting White Elephant Meeting Membership/Connections Committee	5:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Room 12 Contact Diane Melvin Meet at church Contact Rev. Rachel for ID
Thursday	April 14	Evening Book Club Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm 7:00pm	Contact Pat N. for Mtg ID Meeting ID: 991 1122 5182
Sunday	April 17	Sunday Service: "Love Letters to the Earth" Rev. Rachel Lonberg and Diane Melvin, Director of Religious Education	10:45am	The Commons & Zoom
Tuesday	April 19	Building & Grounds	10:00am	Meet at church
Wednesday	April 20	Bell Choir RE Committee Meeting	5:30pm 6:30pm	Room 12 Outside or Room 19
Thursday	April 21	Afternoon Book Club Mindfulness Meditation Choir Rehearsal	2:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Contact Marj L. for Mtg ID Room 19 Meeting ID: 991 1122 5182
Sunday	April 24	Sunday Service: "Navigating Conflict" Rev. Rachel and the Dismantling Racism Steering Team Ice Cream Social for Chris Schleuder	10:45a.m. 12:00pm	The Commons & Zoom Meet at church
Monday	April 25	May Newsletter Deadline Study Group	12:00p.m. 7:30p.m.	news@peopleschurch.net Contact Tim B. for Mtg. ID
Tuesday	April 26	Building & Grounds Facing Life, Facing Death	10:00a.m. 1:30p.m.	Meet at church Meeting ID: 985 4649 8359
Wednesday	April 27	Film Discussion Finance Committee Bell Choir	3:00p.m. 3:00p.m. 5:30p.m.	Meeting ID: 860 6956 0716 Meeting ID: 552 766 7326 Room 12
Thursday	April 28	Chalice Circle Facilitator Circle Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm 7:00p.m.	Contact Diane Melvin Meeting ID: 991 1122 5182

People's Church  
News & Views  
1758 N. 10th St.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Check us out on the web!  
[www.peopleschurch.net](http://www.peopleschurch.net)



## **People's Church Mission Statement**

**"People's Church: A beloved community  
embracing and serving our diverse world."**