

Unconditional Love
Grosse Pointe
Unitarian Church
Radical Inclusivity



Welcome! You have found an oasis of liberal religious and spiritual exploration serving the Grosse Pointes and the surrounding east side communities.
Reverend Dr. Alexander Riegel, Minister

October 2018

Upcoming Services

October 7, 2018

10:30AM

On Turning

Worship Ldr: Rev. Dr. Alexander Riegel Worship Assoc.: Tonya Wells

Autumn is my favorite time of year and always allures me into states of deep reflection. Of course, given the nature of the season it is no surprise that change is often the theme upon which I reflect, watching the leaves turn from green to those gorgeous, earthy hues of burgundy and gold. On this Sunday I will reflect on turning/change, speaking about why change is so difficult to achieve, both personally and for organizations (Yes, I will be speaking of GPUC in this regard.).

October 14, 2018

10:30 AM

President's Address

Worship Ldr: Joseph Buttiglieri Worship Assoc.: Chuck Palmer

Following Dr. Riegel's sermon on change the previous week our church president, Joe Buttiglieri, will address the congregation. He will speak about our congregation - past, present, and future. This is a pivotal year at GPUC and it is important for all of us to hear from our church leadership as we navigate a lot of potential change.

Following this service the Facilities committee will be holding a special meeting in which the architect they have engaged to help us discern possible facilities upgrades/expansion will speak to the congregation about his preliminary ideas for our facilities. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. More information will soon follow...

October 21, 2018

10:30 AM

You Raise Me Up!

Worship Ldr: Rev. Dr. Alexander Riegel Worship Assoc.: Anne Roberts

The title of this sermon comes from the very popular song, *You Raise Me Up*. Dr. Riegel will explore this theme and ask, "What Raises You Up?" Come, be reminded and reaffirm what matters in your life!

October 28, 2018

10:30 AM

Reciprocal Altruism: What It's Like to Be a Bat

Worship Ldr: Rev. Dr. Alexander Riegel Worship Assoc.: Maurya Kay

Cooperation is part of our evolutionary survival strategy but due to the skewed understanding of Darwin in the general population, we tend to think only of competition (and often in the form of aggression) when we think of evolution. But, there are examples of cooperation, practiced by certain animals, that explain why we counterintuitively choose to put others first. Surprisingly, bats are one such animal. Might our Chiroptera friends have something to teach us?

In This Issue

[Upcoming Services](#)

[Alexander's Meander](#)

[Religious Education](#)

[Facilities Forum](#)

[Safety Committee Update](#)

[Meditation](#)

[Resale Shop](#)

[Tutoring](#)

[Dueling Pianos](#)

[Food Sharing](#)

[Pancake Breakfast](#)

[Flowers](#)

[Ushers & Greeters](#)

[Alliance Update](#)

[UU Crafters](#)

[Grounds Cleanup](#)

[Chamber Music](#)

[Women's Book Discussion](#)

[GP e-Library](#)

Upcoming Events

[Tue Oct 2 Alliance Event](#)

[Sun Oct 7 Scarab Concert](#)

[Wed Oct 10 Meditation](#)

[Sun Oct 14 Facilities Vision](#)

[Tue Oct 16 UU Crafters](#)

[Wed Oct 17 Wms Book Discussion](#)

[Sun Oct 21 Pancake Breakfast](#)

[Tue Oct 23 UU Crafters](#)

[Sat Oct 27 Grounds Cleanup](#)

[Sat Oct 27 Dueling Pianos](#)

[Sun Oct 28 Make a Wish Collection](#)

[Sun Nov 4 Spaghetti Dinner](#)

[Forward To A Friend](#)

Alexander's Meander



During my homily a couple of Sundays ago I shared a poem by Hafez:

*How did the rose
Ever open its heart
And give to this world
All its Beauty?*

It felt the encouragement of light against its being,

*Otherwise, we all remain
Too frightened.*

This poem is profound in a number of ways, in part because of the (usually) unrecognized motif of light it contains. While most people identify with the rose in this poem, during my homily I encouraged people to consider identifying with the light.

Think of it this way... There are (famously) two types of people in the world: those who need encouragement to flower and those who encourage others to flower. The former is represented by the rose in Hafez' poem while the latter is represented by light.

Many are the roses in this world. Few are the light. How do (will) you show up for others?

- - - - -

On another note, a number of years ago (while serving my previous congregation) I had coined a phrase that I started habitually using as my Closing Words at the end of Sunday services. While here at GPUC the Worship Associate does the Closing Words, I will now be reintroducing this phrase at various opportunities here at GPUC, for two reasons. In the first place, my son Preston believes these might be the wisest words I have ever uttered. In the second place, I think Preston may be right. Given that, I leave you with the following exhortation...

*Remember to make beauty for one another;
let love have jurisdiction.*

Namaste

Alex



The traditional church school is in full swing and we have started our lessons on our UU Faith. We work hard to empower our young UU's in our classes to care about each other and their community and our world. One of the ways we encourage caring at GPUC/RE program is through a collection of funds at Halloween. We ask each child to come in their Halloween costume the Sunday before Halloween. This year we are collecting for **Make a Wish-Michigan**. We ask the congregation to bring in coins and paper money to place into the children's **Make a Wish-Michigan** bags on Sunday, October 28th.

We all need to inspire caring and the spirit of giving. The **Make a Wish** program's mission is to grant a wish to children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. A wish experience can be a game-changer for a child with a life-threatening medical condition. We want to teach our children lessons of charity as a way of life. We must start while they are young. How does this become a habit to give? This is a good example regarding how to give to other children. The children that are facing life-threatening medical conditions are asked the question, "I wish to go ..., I wish to give..., I wish to have..., I wish to meet..., I wish to be....." The **Make a Wish** program then works to grant them their wish. A few examples are Danny wanting a kitten, Maya wanting to go to the Walt Disney World Resort and Jason wanting to meet a sport celebrity. **Make a Wish** grants a wish, on average, every 34 minutes to a child with a life-threatening medical condition. Wishes do come in all shapes and sizes. Some are heartfelt or jaw-dropping, others funny or tear-jerkers. Be part of this journey with our GPUC students.

On Sunday, October 28 remember to bring your funds to put in the Make a Wish bags. When you give to others you give to yourself and your family.

Religious Education Lessons

Our GPUC Nursery will be open at 10:00 a.m. every week for our young UU's. Remember there is always a pot of coffee for the parents to enjoy and chat with each other.

All classes will be studying our UU Faith. The classes are developing their class rules and setting the stage on how they will treat each other during the year.

Mark your calendars for our annual Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, November 4 starting at 5:00 p.m. The junior class will be making and serving the dinner. This is an event you don't want to miss!!

Dates to Remember:

October 7-RE Committee Meeting at 9:15 a.m., Room 7

October 28-Trick or Treat for Make a Wish-Michigan during the service

November 4-Junior's Spaghetti Dinner

Julie Artis-Director of Religious Education

Congregational Forum for Our Future

Sunday, October 14 following the service

Speaker: John Hill, Consulting Architect

Mr. Hill will discuss the current and future space needs of GPUC, taking into account feedback received from the church community to date. He will offer us his professional opinion of the structural feasibility and relative cost of various building modifications, as well as building code and zoning implications. He will also present slides of various floor plans for the congregation's consideration, followed by Q and A. Please plan to attend this important Forum presented by the Vision Facilities Committee.

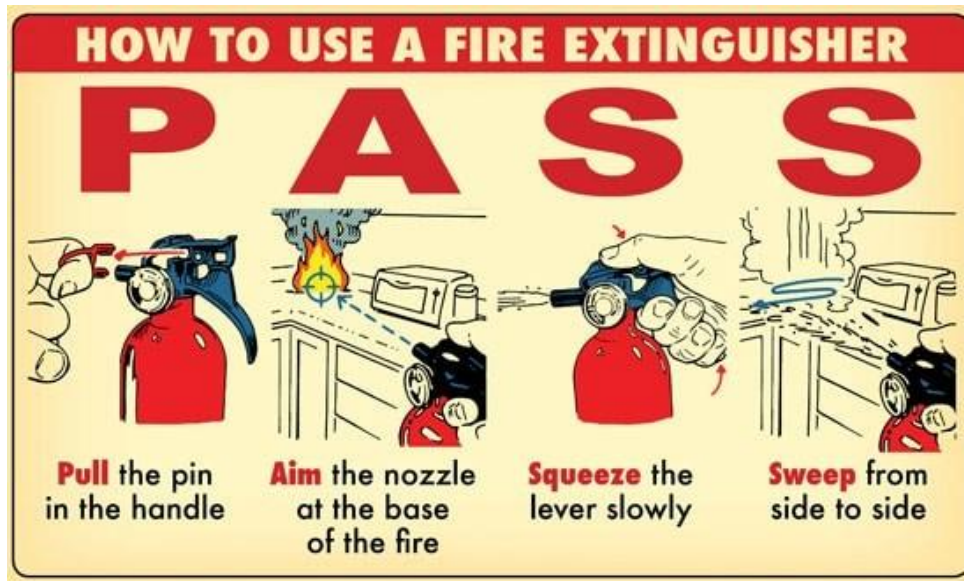
GPUC Safety Committee

From the Safety Committee

Please take note of the exits from the sanctuary. In the event of an emergency, meet up locations are at the corners of Maumee at Neff and Maumee at St. Clair. File down the street and away from harm. The door leading to Alex's office can also be used as an emergency exit. In the event of a tornado, we will take shelter in the basement.

In addition, the locations of the fire extinguishers are posted on the bulletin board in the lobby. Please familiarize yourselves with their locations. An AED unit is located on a wall in the lobby, near the basement stairs.

How to Use a Fire Extinguisher



1. Pull the pin.
2. Aim the nozzle at the base of the fire. Hitting the tops of the flame with the extinguisher won't be effective. ...
3. Squeeze the trigger. In a controlled manner, squeeze the trigger to release the agent.
4. Sweep from side to side. Sweep the nozzle from side to side until the fire is put out.

As always, members with ideas, questions, concerns or issues they would like the committee to follow up on are encouraged to speak to any of the safety committee members.

Members of this committee include:

Lynn Rehahn	Dr. Alex Riegel
Bill Rehahn	John Engstrom
Sonja Franchett	Karen Valliere
Carol Ghesquiere	

The committee continues to coordinate and address specific issues within the RE wing with RE Director, Julie Artis and the Property Council: Veronica Smith, Building; Russ Chavey, Grounds.

Meditation Class

Monthly Meditation Class
 [free and open to the public]
 Lead by Dr. Alexander Riegel
 Second Wednesday of
 the Month
 Grosse Pointe Unitarian
 Church Library
 7:30pm - 9pm
 [For more information contact
 Dr. Riegel at:
 alexgpuc@gmail.com]

Announcements

GPUC RESALE SHOP

The resale shop is looking for a volunteer relief, cashier for Wednesdays. The shop is open from 10 am - 3 pm. Join us - meet new friends and share in delicious soup and dessert lunches!

Contact Margo, Juli or Amy by leaving a message with the church office 313-881-0420

Returning & Prospective Tutors Invited to Lunch Tuesday, October 9

The Schools Tutoring Committee will host a luncheon at the Cabbage Patch Cafe in the Park on Tuesday, October 9 at noon to discuss the options for the coming year. Our guest will be Sandra Martin, principal at Detroit Merit Academy, who will inform us of opportunities at the school. Tutors also will declare their preferences for grade levels, days and times to tutor at Detroit Merit or chose programs at other schools. Please RSVP to Susie Boynton or Candy Dunn at the church office for the lunch or call for further information about this rewarding and important outreach program.

MUSIC NEWS

Joseph Palazzolo and Anne Roberts will perform an exciting DUELING PIANOS concert on Saturday, October 27, at 4 p.m. featuring "An American in Paris" by George Gershwin. Tickets are \$20 presale, and \$25 at the door. Tickets may be purchased after church each Sunday. Tickets are available at the church office during business hours for cash or check or from the church website <http://www.gpuuc.org/upcoming-events.html> by credit card with PayPal.

Our next Food Sharing will be SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

With each new month comes a new opportunity to contribute to the food pantry at Crossroads East! Please consider bringing canned, boxed or bagged foods to church with you on that day. Cereals, soups, prepared meals, peanut butter, pasta... any non-perishable foods you would like to donate will be gladly received. Also accepted are toiletry items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap, and deodorant. Your contributions are taken to Crossroads East, located in Salem Lutheran Church on Moross. Our next Food Sharing will be Sunday, October 7.

Monetary donations are also very gladly accepted 😊. If you are not able to get out to shop, no problem! If you do not like shopping, no problem! If shopping has slipped your mind, no problem! Milk, eggs, fruits, vegetables, and bread are purchased with the money that you donate. They are delivered to Crossroads East on a (most) weekly basis, and are very much appreciated by the staff and clients.

Fellowship Committee News

Something New!

Please join us after church on Sunday, October 21 for a Pancake Breakfast prepared for you by your Fellowship Committee. Breakfast will be served in the Annex right after church...coffee will be waiting for you there! The menu is pancakes...gluten free available, scrambled eggs, bacon and fruit. We'll have milk for the kids.

This is a fundraiser for the RE students' trip to Boston and will be a free-will donation, so Eat Heartily and Give Generously!

Sunday Morning Flowers

We welcome donations for fresh flowers in the Sanctuary on Sundays mornings. Take a moment to recognize or honor someone dear or to commemorate a special occasion by providing fresh flowers for the Sanctuary. Flowers add significantly to the ambience of the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Please use the yellow insert in the Sunday order of service or contact the church office and sign-up for a Sunday or two.

Let us know if you will bring your own arrangement or provide a check or cash (minimum cost \$25) for Susan Hartz, our talented flower chairperson to purchase and arrange the flowers.

If you have questions, please feel free to email or call the church office at gpuc@gpuc.us or (313) 881-0420. Thank you for sharing your remembrances of special occasions and important people in your life.

Ushers & Greeters Needed for Sunday Services

No experience necessary. On the job training offered. Flexible scheduling. Maximum benefits for minimal time invested. This is a great way for new members to meet the congregation and an easy way to start volunteering in this necessary function of the church - your time is so appreciated!

Please contact David Biernat with questions or to volunteer.

Alliance Event

The Alliance is pleased to present an evening with Suzanne Ross on **Tuesday, October 2 at 7pm in the Annex**. Suzanne went to India not once but twice. Her journey to Shantivanam, an ashram in Southern India began with the words of Sufi poet Hafez "This sky where we live is no place to lose your wings, so love, love, love." Suzanne will tell her stories, why she went, what she found and didn't find, and most of all what she brought back. Wine and cheese refreshments will be served.

RSVP to the GPUC office or Mary Morshead

UU Crafters

UU Crafters plan on meeting in October on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in the Annex 7-9 pm. In October, we will meet **Tuesday, October 16 and 23**. We will take a Holiday Break in November and December and resume again in January. All are welcome to join in for an evening of social stitching (knit, crochet, quilting, needlepoint, etc.) and other small crafts. Also, if you like to color and haven't tried the new adult coloring books there are books and markers for anyone who would like to give it a try. Check the church calendar on the website and the weekly email for any changes. Please contact Ann Helm with any

questions.

Fall Grounds Cleanup

Fall is upon us and with it comes several things. One of those things is the fall yard cleanup at GPUC. Each fall the congregation is invited to come together for a couple hours on a Saturday morning to clean up and help put to rest our wonderful church grounds. Many hands make light work as we trim bushes, rake leaves, cut back weeds and branches, clean gutters and do a few other small tasks to help maintain our grounds. No special skill or experience is needed and this is a family friendly affair. It can be one hour or three hours, it is up to you. Please join us at **10 am on Saturday, October 27** (November 3 will be a "rain date"). Bring rakes, tarps, gloves, clippers, pruning shears if you have them, but mostly your enthusiasm. Russell Chavey for the Grounds Committee

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club Presents: FAURE PIANO TRIO AND MORE! Sunday, October 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at The Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club will kick off its 21st season with a concert at the beautiful Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church. This exciting and varied program, performed by local chamber musicians, includes a piano trio by the celebrated French composer Gabriel Fauré and a work for piano, flute, violin and cello by another less well-known French composer, Florent Schmitt. In addition, the concert features a richly beautiful string quartet written by Austrian composer Egon Kornauth, and a lively trio for flute, violin and cello by the contemporary American composer Michael Gandolfi.

As always, each piece will be introduced by one of the musicians and the concert will be followed by a delicious and friendly reception. Church members pay only \$18 for adults, \$10 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

For more information: 248 921- 3193

chambermusic@scarabclub.org www.scarabclub.org/chambermusic

PROGRAM: Piano Trio in D Minor - Gabriel FAURE (1845-1924), Mary Siciliano - piano; Velda Kelly - violin, Nadine Deleury - cello

Kleine Abendmusik - Egon KORNAUTH (1891-1959) John McLaughlin Williams - violin, Velda Kelly - violin, Romona Merritt - viola, Nadine Deleury - cello

Jigsaw Patterns - Michael GANDOLFI (b. 1956) Dennis Carter - flute, Velda Kelly - violin, Nadine Deleury - cello

Pour presque tous les temps - Florent SCHMITT (1870-1958) John McLaughlin Williams - piano, Dennis Carter - flute, Velda Kelly - violin, Nadine Deleury - cello

Women's Book Discussion Group

The women usually meet on the third Wednesday of the month in the church library. We serve refreshments and divide the cost between the attendees. Our first meeting of the church year begins in October. Please check in the foyer for a list of books for the coming church year.

All are welcome to attend!

Wednesday, October 17, 5:30 p.m. Church library

Bonfire of the Vanities by Tom Wolfe

A satirical novel about ambition, racism, social class, politics and greed in 1980s New York City, and centers on three main characters: WASP and bond trader Sherman McCoy, Jewish assistant district attorney, Larry Kramer, and British expatriate journalist, Peter Fallow

Grosse Pointe Residents

Instantly borrow eBooks, music & movies--even learn a new language. Did you know you can instantly download music, books, movies and more with your library card? You can also learn another language. All you need is your GP Library card!

Click here: <http://www.gp.lib.mi.us/elibrarian/ebooks-and-other-digital-collections/>

and scroll down to see all of the amazing digital resources your Library offers.

Newsletter Deadline

Please submit your contribution to the next newsletter by **Friday, October 19 at noon.**

They should be sent to **THE NEW NEWSLETTER EMAIL ADDRESS: newslettergpuc@gmail.com**

Contact Information

Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church
17150 Maumee Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
Phone: 313-881-0420 Fax: 313-881-6430

Email: gpuc@gpuc.us

Website:

www.gpuuc.org

Editor: Rudy Wedenoja newslettergpuc@gmail.com