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Church Office Hours:  
M-Th 10am-4pm



## Sunday Services—10:45 a.m.

### January 5 "Remembering Margaret Fuller" Rev. Rachel Lonberg

Margaret Fuller should be a household name. This service is Rev. Rachel's attempt to make it so. Margaret Fuller was a nineteenth century Unitarian, who traveled in the same circles as Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson. She was considered the best-read person in New England and wrote the first major feminist book in this country. She also worked as a war correspondent. Her personal life included an unlikely love story and a shipwreck. Come learn about this fascinating, often-forgotten character from our history.



### January 12 "That Which Guides and Supports Me" Diane Melvin

We will explore a variety of spiritual sayings often found in popular memes and the role they play in our lives. What spiritual sayings have meaning for you? How has your relationship changed to those you used to believe in? What religious ideas resonate with you now? Come explore these together today.

### January 19 "I Am Willing" Rev. Rachel Lonberg

The focus of this service, co-created by Rev. Rachel Lonberg and the Social Justice Coordinating Committee, is instructions given by lawyer Bryan Stevenson, author of *Just Mercy*, to those who want to make change: get close to people, change narratives, stay hopeful, and be willing to do uncomfortable things. We will explore these ideas in words, music, silence, and conversation.



### January 26 "Shield the Joyous" Rev. Rachel Lonberg

After our joys and sorrows ritual each week, I ask for comfort for those who suffering and for the joyous to be shielded. What does this mean? Why might we, in the words of Kentucky poet Wendell Berry, choose to 'Be joyful / though [we] have considered all the facts?'

### January Worship Circles

(All worship circles take place in Room 9.)

January 12: Third through sixth grades, 10:45a.m.

High School Youth, 12:30p.m. (at the beginning of youth group)

January 19: Kindergarten through second grades, 10:45a.m.

January 26: Nursery and preschool children and their families, 10:45a.m.

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## From the Minister

Dear People's people,

At the December board meeting, your board approved a sabbatical for me. **I will be on sabbatical February 15 to July 15, 2021.**

Why sabbatical?

A sabbatical is a rare and precious benefit that the church, as an employer concerned about the well-being of its staff, offers to program staff. Our religious tradition and others have found that clergy and religious educators avoid burnout and perform their best if they have periods of deep rest, study, and rejuvenation. I am tremendously grateful that you all offer sabbaticals – and I wish others with jobs as demanding (or more demanding) than mine also received this benefit.

### Why 2021?

My letter of agreement with People's Church states that 'The Minister shall use sabbatical leave for study, education, writing, meditation, and other forms of professional and religious growth. Sabbatical leave accrues at the rate of one month per year of service, with leave to be taken after four but before seven years of service. No more than six months of sabbatical leave may be used within any twelve month period.'

The board approved a five month sabbatical in what will be my sixth year with People's Church. I decided on these dates because it feels important to me to be actively serving the church during the 2020 election and its aftermath, whatever that might be. Returning to work in mid-July gives me enough time to get my feet back under me before the program year begins in September.

### What will I do with my sabbatical?

My plans are still taking shape, but this is some of what I am considering:

- Researching my family's history. Since the summer, I have been part of a 'Healing Whiteness through Somatic Experiencing' group through ISAAC. One of the most powerful pieces of this work is

researching my family's story and how my ancestors engaged with (and contributed to) the racial trauma of our country. In doing some basic googling on a handed-down family story, I learned that when my seven-time great grandparents founded the town of Garrettsville, OH in 1804, bringing two enslaved girls with them, ages 6 and 10. That is all I know about this story and I want to learn more.

- I want to read. I have a very long list of books that I want to read. This list spans genres, though theology, history, poetry and fiction predominate.
- I also hope to stretch myself by learning things that I don't know anything about. I might take art, home repair, or dance classes. Taking classes in an area I know nothing about what a source of joy for me before I had children. I hope to return to that.
- I am excited to be present to my family in ways that full-time ministry, with its evening meetings and weekend gatherings, makes impossible. We will spend more time together eat a lot less frozen pizza.

### What will happen at People's church when I am away?

Things will continue largely as they have been, though there will be a wider variety of people preaching on Sunday mornings. Your board is starting to think about how to make sure essential tasks are completed in my absence. They are figuring out what volunteers can take on, what might go undone, and if we might need to either hire a sabbatical minister or shift the job responsibilities of current staff to take on my institutional leadership roles. We will be in conversation with those of you who were leaders during previous sabbaticals. If you have ideas, please talk to a board member.

See you in church,  
Rev. Rachel

*P.S. A scam where people send emails pretending to be me asking for money and gift cards is making the rounds again. I will never ask you for money or gift cards via email. Please call me if you're in doubt.*

## Social Justice Coordinating Committee Update

### Special Collection—Sunday, January 12

The Special Collection on January 12<sup>th</sup> will benefit Open Doors, a non-profit organization that People's Church is partnering with in our community. For more than 40 years, Open Doors has been helping families achieve housing success through programs, partnerships and advocacy.

Open Doors began as a coffee house/drop-in center offering support to young people in the area. When its founders discovered there were many young men and women who had nowhere to live, they turned their focus to providing overnight shelter. The *Next Door* was the first home for homeless women in Kalamazoo. At the *Open Door* (shelter for men) and *Next Door*, now many years later, this organization continues to develop relationships with its guests, work with them on their employment and personal issues and encourage them to stay long enough to gain stability. On average, two thirds of Open Doors' guests are able to find employment, save for future housing, and maintain sobriety.



For more information about Open Doors; got to: <http://www.opendoorskalamazoo.org/>

### Loaves & Fishes Food Collection

The Loaves & Fishes Express Truck will be at church on January 5th and 12th to receive our non-



perishable food gifts. There is a special need this time of year for kid-friendly foods that can be packed into lunches or

backpacks. A gift to Loaves & Fishes is a great way to begin the new year!

### ISAAC Update

Work is beginning by the two new issue task forces: Gun Violence Prevention and Anti-Racism. A Service and Remembrance Vigil for Kalamazoo Victims of Gun Violence will be held on Sunday, February 16, 2020, at 4 pm at Galilee Baptist Church, co-sponsored by Coalition for Common Ground, ISAAC and others. ISAAC is a key partner in the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation (TRHT) Initiative in Kalamazoo, housed at the Kalamazoo Foundation and funded by Kellogg Foundation. As part of this work, members of ISAAC congregations and organizations are being invited to participate in 3-hour Racial Healing Circles. These will be offered periodically with invitations going out to members as space is available. For more info about these activities, see <https://isaackalamazoo.org/>

### Lincoln School Partnership Update

People's People donated many gifts to the Lincoln School children's Holiday Shop, an event where the students can "shop" for items to give to their family members for Christmas. The gifts were collected at church during the first two weeks of December and at the Holiday Party sponsored by the Social Justice and Membership/Connections Committees.



Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

*Anyone is welcome to sit in on Social Justice Coordinating Committee meetings. The SJCC meets the second Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in Room L1.*

## Getting to Know People's People

By Ardyce Curl

*Following is an interview with a People's person talking about why she came to People's and why she continues to participate.*

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### Suzanne B. Siegel

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Suzanne B. Siegel grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan where she attended Reform Jewish Temple Emanuel. She said she became aware of Unitarianism while living in California in the 1960s where she attended the Unitarian church in Santa Barbara.

Suzanne said, "In the '60s I also began attending the vespers chanting at the SB Vedanta temple and occasionally on Christian holidays attended the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

"In 1971 I was baptized a Christian and two years later I took up transcendental meditation and began to study Vedic philosophy," Suzanne said. "Starting Transcendental Meditation was the best thing I ever did. It changed everything and saved my life." (confirmed by my cardiologist.)

Suzanne said, "Insights gained from my study and the unequalled life-transforming practice of Transcendental Meditation have combined to make up my present spiritual outlook. Thus the ecumenism espoused by my father, and subsequently the UUism, has naturally been very appealing to me"

She began attending People's in the early 2000s after being encouraged by Jan Crosby and Gail Lauzzana.

"It was Rev. Jill who particularly impressed me so that I joined in the spring of 2007. And now Rev. Rachel is a superb exemplar of the Path of the Heart which I've been pleased to notice has been an increasing emphasis in the UU generally over the couple of decades as opposed to a rather chilly, almost militant intellectualism that had somehow taken over what I still think of as Unitarianism. Rev. Rachel really knows how to Say it with Love."

As an artist, Suzanne says she has been impressed with People's Art Wall and how art conscious the congregation is. Her artwork captures most of her time and energy, so she says her participation in the church has centered on art-related events and functions such as the art wall shows and exhibiting at the annual Fine Arts bazaar. She donated to the church a painting of the church as it looked before the addition of the new wing.

Suzanne says she benefits greatly from the fellowship and stimulation of Sunday Services and the potluck meals and musical events.

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*(Suzanne B. Siegel, 75, is an interpretive realist painter.)*



### Reflection and Intentions

The new year always provides an opportunity to reflect upon the previous year and take stock. I like to begin the new year by writing in my journal and setting goals and intentions of how I most wish to live. I often begin by recalling my deepest held values and ideals of how I desire to be and then discerning how I can best live those out in my daily life.

One of the most critical parts of striving to be my best self is maintaining a regular **spiritual practice**. When I make the time to meditate, walk in the woods and read meaningful books, I am better able to live closer to my ideals.

Of course, being human, I frequently fall short of my ideals. One of the lines I love from the Rumi poem that we sing in church is "When I've broken my vows a thousand times..." The reminder I appreciate is to start again and again, to make amends and continue to travel through this often messy and imperfect life as best as I am able.

What are your deepest held values of how you wish to live? What are the ways you try to live into those values? **Where are the places you fall short?** How do you pick yourself back up, make amends and try again?

For myself, I have found cultivating a deep practice of self-compassion has been key to continuing to journey along this often challenging path. By offering myself much **grace** when I fall short, I find I am more able to offer grace to everyone around me.

In the coming year, I aspire to deepen my practice of cultivating compassion for myself, everyone around me and for all beings. **Compassion and wisdom** go hand in hand for me. The more compassionate and understanding I can be, the wiser I seem to respond to all that unfolds within and around me.

In this new year, may each of us experience more compassion and grace in our lives. May we each find the ways to best nurture our own spirits so that we can be our best selves and live up to our highest ideals of how we wish to be.

May our community at People's Church support each of us in these lofty endeavors and to bring more goodness, peace and love into the world.

Blessed Be, Diane Melvin, Religious Education Director

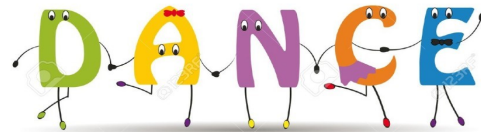
### All-Church Winter Dance

Jan. 25 from 7-10 PM

All ages are invited to enjoy this evening of fun together hosted by the Youth Group. With a **Winter Wonderland** theme, there will be a photo booth, refreshments and of course dancing. Youth will sell baked goods to fund-raise to attend the General Assembly in June 2021. The dance is **family friendly** and we encourage and welcome all to attend!

To create a fun playlist for the evening and are taking **song requests**. What songs were popular when you were in high school? We want to play songs through the decades so please email your favorites to Lilian Gates at [liliangates@gmail.com](mailto:liliangates@gmail.com).

We aspire to have a fun celebration with the entire People's Community so please come and support the high school youth!



### CONscientious

#### Young Adult UU CONFERENCE

Jan. 17-19, 2020 at People's Church

All 18-35-year-olds are invited to participate in this inspirational and informative weekend. Enjoy a variety of hands-on workshops, meaningful worship experiences, games, laughter, connection and a fun coffee house. Register at

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1AWBI2TD2Tc-Vk-bDeDdXH7npBTO0LTZX6dwityBLqyA/viewform?fbclid=IwAR0ipvgVbmIIOnqnJvTo7Aiofr89pcyFftZOijyPSriRHenI9ajrheykg&edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1AWBI2TD2Tc-Vk-bDeDdXH7npBTO0LTZX6dwityBLqyA/viewform?fbclid=IwAR0ipvgVbmIIOnqnJvTo7Aiofr89pcyFftZOijyPSriRHenI9ajrheykg&edit_requested=true)



## Race Matters

By Sonja Dean



When I agreed to join the Dismantling Racism Within People's Church Steering Team last fall, I had a very specific idea of what the work would look like and be, relative to my experience as a former Board of Trustees member, Religious Education Committee

member and volunteer, and my 20-year tenure as a participant and member of the church. I have an understanding of our church's recent history with diversity and inclusion visioning, everyday experience in my paid work advancing community development investment in our most under-invested neighborhoods in the city, and a personal moral conviction that we all need to be part of the work to bring equity, inclusion, and fairness to all the places in our lives where we "show up" be they home, church, or broader community. I thought I could bring that understanding, experience, and conviction to help to combat oppressive systems that prevent us all from sharing in prosperity equally. All of that to say, I came to this invitation to our shared antiracism/anti-oppression work with our church community with what I thought and hoped was a clear understanding of what was being asked and needed, and how I could bring my gifts, experiences and knowledge to bear to provide at least some of the answers. I also believed that I understood how I would show up and "help" others in our congregation to show up as well.

I will say, four months into this role, I have far more questions than I have answers about how our

congregation can move forward to answer some really hard questions on how we present as a congregation to our community and how we show up to ourselves and each other. And I am hopeful that my "aha" that I don't actually know what I thought I knew, speaks to a willingness to admit that I daily question my own assumptions about how systemic racism/oppression shows up and pervades many aspects of our congregation and the broader Kalamazoo community. I hope it also means that I am willing to explore where my discomfort and resistance to admitting to my own flaws and mistakes comes from. This realization popped up for me on a recent Sunday, and caused me to catch myself in a "huh, isn't that interesting" moment about my reaction to being called (out) in\* on a mistake I made. In short, I misgendered a congregant in an offline, private conversation with another congregant after church. It was not intentional, it was more of a passing comment, in which I used the wrong pronoun and didn't even realize I had done it, despite knowing what their preferred term was. When it was pointed out to me that I had not used the correct pronoun, I had a rising internal feeling of defensiveness ("I didn't mean to"..."it was an accident"..."that was the gender identity that matched their name and the one I have always used for that person, who I have known for a very long time"..."was my 'oops' really that bad, worthy of being outed on it?"). I took a long pause and a deep breath, and observed my reaction to being corrected and thought "huh, isn't that an interesting response I am having?" before speaking outloud. Why did I feel like I had to be right/correct/justified? Why was I embarrassed to be called (out) in\* on my mistake? Why wasn't my initial response to say, "Yes, I made that mistake and that could have been very harmful to someone I truly appreciate and adore. I am going to be more mindful in the future to make sure I use the correct pronoun when speaking about that person".

We are all faced with opportunities for self-reflection every day in what feels like an

### **All-Church Antiracism Discussion Sunday, January 12 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday) 12:30-2:30 p.m.**

*Topic:* To be determined by attendees.

All are welcome to attend this discussion in Room 19. Please feel free to bring a brown bag lunch. Light snacks will be provided.

This article is continued on the next page.



## Climate Forum in 2020

*The tide is rising, and so are we.  
The task is mighty, and so are we.  
The land is holy, and so are we.  
This is where we are called to be.*

—Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman and Yotam Schachter

2020 is going to be a year for climate action, a time to work toward improved climate resilience in our personal lives and communities, a time to demand meaningful action from our legislators. To create opportunities for education, commiseration, and strategizing, the Green Sanctuary Committee is organizing a Climate Forum after Sunday services, at 12:30pm, on the fourth Sunday of the month. We will begin with three presentations featuring local scholars sharing information about climate change and climate actions.

January 26 - Learn how climate change will affect Michigan from Dr. David Karowe.

February 23 - Learn about the Green New Deal with Dr. Denise Keele.

March 22 – Learn about local food and regenerative agriculture as strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, sequestering carbon, and building a more resilient community.

Based on the conversations and ideas that emerge from these gatherings, we will collectively determine what kinds of additional activities to pursue for the rest of the year.

### Race Matters...continued from page 6

increasingly more complex world where experiences as white, cis-gendered, economically middle class people are the “norm” and other ways of being and identifying in the world are seen as “other”. We cannot always control our initial responses to being called (out) in\* when we are wrong, but we can be open to the possibility that our responses are not normal, or the way that will be most conducive to forging the inclusive, antiracist and anti-oppressive communities that we want to foster, grow, and cultivate in our congregation and wider world. I challenge us all to continue to be reflective, to dispassionately question how we respond to being questioned/corrected, and to

remain soft and open to the possibility that we can and will grow as people and as a church community the more we question our assumptions about what is true, real and honest about ourselves and our community.

\*A call-in is when you talk with someone privately about their behavior (or, you wait to talk in person), and is considered a less reactionary route to work through conflict than calling people out. Calling in is a practice of loving each other enough to allow each other to make mistakes; a practice of loving ourselves enough to know that what we’re trying to do is unlearn many things that we have been taught to believe are normal.

## **BIG Thanks to ALL for Our Best-Ever Bazaar**

This year was even more successful than last year in gross sales and in a spirit of joy and teamwork that was palpable. Our Bazaar has become a beloved event in the community and a special way for us all to lean in and accomplish this miracle for our church. It is a profound teaching to see what we can do we come together in unity and offers a glimpse of our potential in living out our mission.

Special thanks are due to the co-leaders who led each area of the Bazaar and all who served with them:

**People's Signature Pasties:** Bob Friedel, Andrea Huff, Joe Friedel, and all the weekend crews of choppers, dough makers, assembler/bakers and wrappers. These were a big success, once again, and brought many new and old folks together to do Bob's pasty ministry together in the kitchen.

**Buildings & Grounds and Set Up Crew:** Gary Leadley, Catherine Niessink and all the willing workers who decorated and cleaned the building, moved ALL the furniture, and set up for the Bazaar in record time!

**White Elephant:** Nicky Gates, Sheila Reuther, Ann Murray and Colleen Van Slambrouck led the way with a week full of volunteers who organized, priced and sold all the treasures that so many people donated for this big effort. With clever sales efforts, the leftovers hauled to Goodwill were far fewer this year!

**People's Café:** Sandy Steele and Ann Feldmeier led a sell-out performance in our café this year, with help from contributed foods, new cashiering system, shift leaders, shift workers and servers of all ages. Beautiful food and special service delivered what people look forward to enjoying in our café each year.

**Public Relations and Communications:** Rick Johnson, Chris Schleuder, Deb Beyer and Mary Kate Webster planned and executed our communications using all media, and with everyone's help got the word better at a lower cost! The number of people increased this year, with many first timers attending.

**Cashiering and Finance:** Megan Reynolds and Barb Davis led these critical operations with many talented volunteers to accurately receive and account for all the sales and all our vendors' earnings and payments. Two new charge stations were added this year and the lines moved quickly!

**Peoples' Specialties Foods and Goods:** Kat Westphal, Nancy Stern, Martha Beverly, Donna McClurkan along with Kimberly Payne, Carolyn Heineman and all who staffed these loaded tables, arranged and sold more of your beautiful frozen entrees, pasties, baked goods, jams, and handcrafted items than ever! This year we made about \$7,500 from your contributed homemade goods!!

**Greeters:** Julie Schneeberger and Karen Friedel organized, trained and led all the diligent and charming folks who volunteered and carried out their Greeter roles with care and welcoming hospitality, cookies and smiles. You set the tone and kept it humming from start to finish.

**Artists and Vendors:** Emily Sipsma began in late spring to recruit a spectacular and diverse mix of 31 talented artisans and provided thoughtful guidance to help them succeed and enjoy our show. These vendors earned a total of \$4,000 more in gross sales over last year.

**Shuttle Van Service:** Gary Leadley and all the volunteer drivers carried our folks back and forth to Center Point from dawn to dark, making more room for our customers to park and shop.

**Clean-Up:** Energetic, diligent youth and weary, determined adults (and vacuum cleaners) jumped in to transform our entire building in record 90 minutes time to be ready for the Peter Mayer concert at 7pm!

**Shoppers and Weather:** We are all very thankful for those who shopped local and the beautiful weather!

With much gratitude,  
*Rochelle Habeck Hunt and Chris Schleuder*



## People's Potluck Sunday, January 12

There will be a potluck held in The Commons after the Sunday service on January 12.



Please bring a dish to pass and plan to stay and enjoy good food, friends and conversation.

## Potluck Dishes Needed for Young Adult Con

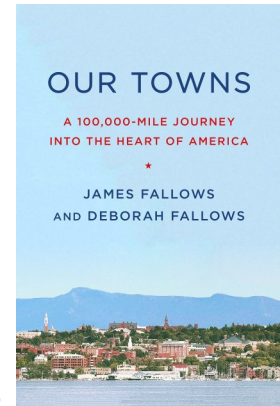
Please bring labeled vegetarian and vegan dishes to church on **Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>** to feed the young adults dinner on the first night of their UU conference.



There are usually around 40 young adults who gather MLK weekend at People's Church each year. They really appreciate our church community rallying to feed them one night. Thank you!

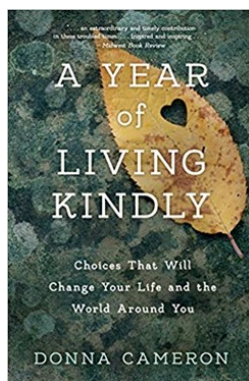
## Study Group Monday, January 13, 7:30p.m.

The Study Group will be meeting next on Monday, January 13, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 18. We will be discussing the book Our Towns: A 100,000 Mile Journey into the Heart of America, by James and Deborah Fallows. Written by two well-known journalists, "Our Towns" recounts visits they made over 5 years to communities all over the U.S., in an attempt to see whether some of the divisions and inaction at the national level is being overcome by creative solutions in local communities.



The Study Group meets monthly to discuss a variety of books, dealing with religious, philosophical, historical and scientific issues of common interest. Newcomers to the group are welcome! For more information, contact Tim Bartik at [bartik@upjohn.org](mailto:bartik@upjohn.org), or 269-806-1904.

## Library Corner



*A Year of Living Kindly; Choices That Will Change Your Life and the World around You*, by Donna Cameron

Being kind is something most of us do when it's easy and when it suits us. Being kind when we don't feel like it, or when all of our buttons are being pushed, is *hard*. But that's also when it's most needed; that's when it can defuse anger and even violence, when it can restore civility in our personal and virtual interactions. Kindness has the power to profoundly change our relationships with other people and with ourselves. It can, in fact, change the world.

## Facing Life, Facing Death January 28, 1:30-3:00pm, Room L1

Topic: **Climate grief**

Facing Life, Facing Death meets monthly to discuss issues of living, dying and mortality. In January, we will discuss climate grief – depression, anxiety, and mourning related to climate change. How can we cope with these feelings? What might other experiences of grief teach us about living in this time of uncertainty?



This group is facilitated by Rev. Rachel. Please contact her if you have questions.

## Discussion Group 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

The Discussion Group meets each 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, during the regular church year, in Room 6/7. Anyone welcome to any meeting. We take turns bringing 'treats'; bring your own drink. To be added to the email list, to receive all recommended readings (usually brief popular media) in advance, contact Pat Nelson at [patnelson348@gmail.com](mailto:patnelson348@gmail.com).



## Need Childcare for an Upcoming Church Event?

Did you know People's Church offers free child care for all church events by request? Really! Just ask the event coordinator. We'll find babysitters to come to the church to watch your little ones so that you can participate in any church-related activity. Or are you a sitter interested in caring for our young people? We'd love to hire a few more people for occasional work. Contact Elizabeth Huff Willis (734-272-5045) or Annie Hampel (608-239-9363) for more information.



## General Assembly 2021 Informational Meeting Sunday, January 19, 12:30-1:30 p.m. in The Commons



Anyone interested in attending the Unitarian Universalist Assembly's General Assembly in Milwaukee June 23-28, 2021 is invited to attend this informational meeting.

## Chalice Circles



Chalice Circles offer an opportunity to meet with others around a commitment to practice listening and sharing in ways that allow us to be real and honest, and have the kind of deeper conversations that can be difficult to make during coffee hour on Sundays. In Chalice Circles, we focus on topics from our life experience. Readings address spiritual topics, such as gratitude, balance, nature, or God. Other readings reflect themes such as listening, loss and grief, forgiveness, or friendship. Members respond to the topic questions by sharing personal experiences and feelings.

Please express your interest by writing your name and contact number on the sign-up sheet in the foyer. Circles are scheduled to accommodate those who sign up.

Meetings are generally two hours, once per month. We ask participants to make a 3-month commitment; at which point the group will decide whether or not to continue.

More information is at the sign-up table. If you have other questions, feel free to contact Membership/Connections Committee adjunct for ongoing groups, Pat Nelson ([patnelson348@gmail.com](mailto:patnelson348@gmail.com)).

## Anti-Bias, Anti-Racist Education workshop

**Saturday, February 15**

(Exact time TBD, likely to be either  
9a.m.-4p.m. or 10a.m.-5p.m.)

This one-day workshop facilitated by ERACCE provides an introductory process for developing greater understanding and awareness of how systemic racism and bias affect children and youth. This workshop will introduce the four goals of anti-bias and anti-racism (ABAR) education and look at some basic steps to bring these goals into parenting and other interactions with children.

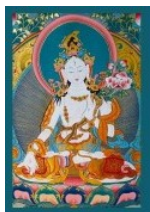
Rev. Rachel writes, "this workshop has made a tremendous difference in my comfort with and ability to talk to my children about race and racism. I am thrilled that we are offering it to People's people and the wider community."

This workshop is typically \$150, but the church is committed to making sure cost is not an obstacle for People's people who want to attend. For more information or to register, please contact Rev. Rachel.

## Accessibility Note

A People's person recently shared that stapling the center of her printed copy of the newsletter would make it much easier for her to read it. If that is true for you too, please tell Chris in the church office and we will staple your mailed newsletter going forward.

## White Tara Meditation for Healing Thursday, January 16th, 6:30-7:30 p.m.



Instruction and practice of White Tara, a Tibetan Buddhist deity associated with physical/emotional healing for oneself and others. We meet in Room 9. This class is FREE and sponsored by Jewel Heart.

## Mindfulness Meditation Class

**1st and 3rd Thursdays**

6:30-7:30 p.m. in Room 9



Everyone is invited to participate in this class to practice both silent and guided meditations in addition to

discussions of how to bring more mindfulness into our lives. Contact Diane Melvin for more information at 269-686-6031.

## The 3 Principles of the Path to Enlightenment Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. in Room 9

This ongoing class is based on a text by 15<sup>th</sup> century master and founder of the Geluk school of Tibetan Buddhism, Je Tsong Khapa, outlines the main tenets associated with progressing on the spiritual path, from how to inspire oneself to embark on and stay motivated with one's path, the importance of universal compassion, and the development of the wisdom that understands the nature of reality and the root causes of our suffering.



*No class the week of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's.*

Class hosted by Jewel Heart West Michigan. FREE but donations are accepted. Call 734-368-8701 or 269-944-1575 or email [westmi@jewelheart.org](mailto:westmi@jewelheart.org) with questions or go to [www.jewelheart.org/chapters](http://www.jewelheart.org/chapters), for more information.

## Square Dance at People's Church Monday, January 13th, 7:30 p.m.

Come ring in the New Year!

Join us January 13th, 2020 for a dance held at the People's Church in The Commons.



Doors @ 6:30pm

Lesson @ 7:00pm

Dance @ 7:30pm

\$8 to dance or more if you can. ALL AGES!

Caller: Mike Clark

Band: Aaron Jonah Lewis and Friends

## Stress Relief through Sound Therapy

People's special: schedule a \$40 session (\$10 per donated to People's).

Su Cutler of Whispering Frog Sound Health (Portage) Fridays.

By Appointment. 269-353-3654.  
suacutler@gmail.com.  
Must be 18.



Day	Date	Event	Time	Place
Wednesday	January 1	New Year's Day—OFFICE CLOSED		Whole Church
Thursday	January 2	OFFICE CLOSED Mindfulness Meditation	6:30p.m.	Whole Church Room 9
Saturday	January 4	Discussion Group	10:30a.m.	Room 6/7
Sunday	January 5	Loaves & Fishes Food Collection Sunday Service: "Remembering Margaret Fuller" Rev. Rachel Lonberg Dismantling Racism Implementation Team Bazaar Debriefing	10:45a.m.  12:15p.m. 12:30p.m.	Pickup truck near entrance The Commons  Room LI Room 19
Monday	January 6	OFFICE CLOSED		Whole Church
Tuesday	January 7	Building & Grounds Work Group Talking Pots	10:00a.m. 3:00p.m.	Meet at church Kitchen
Wednesday	January 8	Staff Meeting Membership/Connections Committee Religious Education Committee	2:00p.m. 5:30p.m. 6:30p.m.	Room 19 Room LI Room 8
Thursday	January 9	Bell Choir Rehearsal Dismantling Racism Steering Team Choir Rehearsal	6:00p.m. 6:30p.m. 7:00p.m.	Room 12 Room 18 The Commons
Saturday	January 11	Social Justice Coordinating Committee Meeting Young Adult CON Planning Meeting	10:30a.m. 6:00p.m.	Room LI Room 18



Day	Date	Event	Time	Place
Sunday	January 12	<i>Loaves &amp; Fishes Food Collection</i>	10:45a.m.	Pickup truck near entrance
		Sunday Service: "That Which Guides and Supports Me" Diane Melvin		The Commons
		Worship Circle: 3rd-6th Grades	10:45a.m.	Room 9
		Special Collection: Open Doors		
		People's Potluck	12:15p.m.	The Commons
		Anti-Racism Discussion	12:30p.m.	Room 19
Monday	January 13	H.S. Worship Circle / Youth Group	12:30p.m.	Room 9 / Room L2
		Board Meeting	2:00p.m.	Room L1
Tuesday	January 14	Bazaar Debriefing	4:00p.m.	Room L1
		Chalice Circle	6:00p.m.	Room 9
		Study Group	7:30p.m.	Room 18
Wednesday	January 15	Building & Grounds Work Group	10:00a.m.	Meet at church
		By-Laws Task-Force	6:30p.m.	Room 19
Thursday	January 16	Staff Meeting	2:00p.m.	Room L1
		Committee on Ministry	7:00p.m.	Room 18
Friday-Sun.	January 17-19	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:00p.m.	Room 12
		Mindfulness Meditation	6:30p.m.	Room 9
		Choir Rehearsal	7:00p.m.	The Commons
Saturday	January 18	CONscientious 2020 - Young Adult CON	7:30p.m.	Whole Church
		Discussion Group	10:30a.m.	Room 6/7
Sunday	January 19	Sunday Service: "I Am Willing" Rev. Rachel Lonberg	10:45a.m.	The Commons
		Worship Circle: K-2nd Grades	10:45a.m.	Room 9
		Music Committee	12:15p.m.	Room 18
		Informational Meeting on General Assembly	12:30p.m.	The Commons
Monday	January 20	Newsletter Deadline for February	12:00p.m.	news@peopleschurch.net
		Green Sanctuary	4:45p.m.	Room L1
Tuesday	January 21	Building & Grounds Work Group	10:00a.m.	Meet at church
Thursday	January 23	Chalice Circle Facilitators' Circle	6:00p.m.	TBD
		Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:00p.m.	Room 12
		Choir Rehearsal	7:00p.m.	The Commons
Friday	January 24	Newsletter Mailing	10:00a.m.	Room 8
Saturday	January 25	Chalice Circle (Miller)	10:30a.m.	Room 6/7
		All-Church Winter Dance	7:00-10:00p.m.	The Commons
Sunday	January 26	Sunday Service: "Shield the Joyous" Rev. Rachel Lonberg	10:45a.m.	The Commons
		Worship Circle: Nursery and Preschool Families	10:45a.m.	Room 9
		Environmental Film Series	12:30p.m.	Room 19
Tuesday	January 28	Building & Grounds Work Group	10:00a.m.	Meet at church
		Library Committee	10:00a.m.	Foyer, Room 1
		Facing Life, Facing Death	1:30p.m.	Room L1
Wednesday	January 29	Staff Meeting	2:00p.m.	Room 19
Thursday	January 30	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:00p.m.	Room 12
		Lojong Study Group	6:00p.m.	Room 18
		Choir Rehearsal	7:00p.m.	The Commons

The Calendar of Events can be viewed online at <http://www.peopleschurch.net/calendar-of-events>.

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."**