



Interfaith Inspirer

An Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth News Publication



Leaf-Raking as an Act of Service

By Adam Salomone



Fall is one of my favorite seasons in Michigan – times of transition and change are always so full of opportunity for the unexpected. My house sits on a half-acre that feels like living in the middle of the forest – surrounded by towering oaks and maple trees that have seen many lifetimes of residents come and gone. Watching all those leaves change from verdant green to fiery orange, red, and yellow, I feel blessed to bear witness to this yearly spectacle. Blessed...and at times besieged by the constant need to rake, and rake, and rake as Summer turns to Fall.

But, as I've settled into the yearly rhythms of my new home, I find myself looking forward to this annual ritual. Leaf raking is a quiet, meditative act that calls to mind so many facets of community service.

I often think of community service in a very specific way – you volunteer for an organization or event or specific effort. You put in your time, check the box, go home, and get to feel good about the good you've done. There's absolutely nothing wrong with engaging in community service in this way – these days, showing up at all is something to be commended for.

And, if I'm being honest, there's a part of me (probably the same part that was the A+ student) that likes the commendation! That appreciates being seen for the effort I'm putting in. In that way, there are times when the community service is just as much for me as it is for the community.

But what if we took community service out of this box? What if it became something that we integrated day in and day out?

I live in a neighborhood with a lot of older residents who have been here 40, 50, 60 years. I've come to appreciate the ability to pitch in in little ways – and this season, raking leaves for my elderly neighbor is at the top of the list. It's not something she asked me to do, but one day I noticed it needed doing and I figured she'd appreciate it. It's a small, quiet act, one that doesn't need pre-planning or blocking out of calendars, that doesn't require arranging schedules. It's become a routine for me, not something I seek out, but just something that I do. I've integrated this act of service into the everyday, such that it doesn't feel like anything special – and yet it is one of the most fulfilling and meaningful acts on which I spend time.

My annual leaf raking routine has also expanded my sense of the "community" to which I'm a part. When I think of community service, I picture myself in service to other humans. But what of all the other divine creatures that roam the forest (and at times take up residence in the attic)? Fall is a time when so many of them are preparing for the transition to winter, and I see now that I can be a help as they prepare. In my early years here, I would fastidiously clean up every leaf that fell in my yard.

Nowadays, I leave more on the ground than not, in service to our overwintering animals and insects (and as a good excuse to give myself a break!).

As I lend my ability to both human and non-human alike, I'm reminded of the phrase "it takes a village" – often applied to raising children, but applicable to every facet of life. Now more than ever, we have to look out for each other, and it truly takes all of our efforts collectively to support the communities in which we live. These acts of community service need not be some grand gestures, but, as with most things infused with divinity, often are best witnessed in the smallest details of our everyday lives.

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Meet...

Emily Lieberman

by Norah Reilly

"Start here, go anywhere" is a motivational slogan adopted by many colleges and libraries and it is meant to inspire new

beginnings. Emily Lieberman seems to have been born with the adventurous spirit that the motto encourages.

Emily grew up in a culturally Christian household, celebrating holidays such as Easter and Christmas. As a pre-teen, she became aware of her bisexual identity and felt conflicted about religious messages condemning same-sex attraction. Yet, her desire to connect with something greater never faded.

In high school, she started exploring local spiritual communities. At the Zen Buddhist temple on Packard Street, she was attracted to the compassion and tranquility, but the non-theistic aspect of Buddhism left her still longing for a sense of divine love. That search led her to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, where she discovered a welcoming and affirming environment.

After graduating, Emily attended Earlham College in Indiana, a Quaker liberal arts school, where she majored in Comparative Languages and Linguistics. She returned to Michigan after graduation, working with community organizations that supported immigrant populations. She married her high school sweetheart and later joined the University of Michigan as an International Student and Scholar Advisor, eventually moving into recruitment. While working full-time, she also earned a master's degree in educational leadership from Eastern Michigan University.

After spending a decade in higher education, Emily experienced burnout. Unsure of her next

step, she left her job to become a full-time parent to her two young children. During that time, physical therapy not only helped her physically but also uncovered a deeper desire for more holistic, purpose-driven care.

That realization prompted her to pursue occupational therapy—a field that integrates physical, emotional, and psychosocial well-being. The profession aligned perfectly with her values and her desire to help others in a more meaningful way. Feeling drawn to this work, she returned to Eastern Michigan University to earn a master's in occupational therapy.

Right out of graduate school, Emily landed her dream role as a pelvic health specialist. She now works with adults of all genders experiencing challenges with peeing, pooping, sex, or pain between the belly button and knees. Her approach is creative and integrative, combining nervous system regulation, manual therapy, movement retraining, exercise, lifestyle education, and even simulated home or work tasks. She's also passionate about training new pelvic health therapists to help fill workforce gaps and reduce patient wait times.

With her career on track, Emily resumed her search for a spiritual community. Nine months ago, she found the Interfaith Center—and has attended almost every Sunday since. From her very first visit, she was drawn to the warmth and inclusiveness of the space. The services complement her regular meditation practice and her connection to nature, giving her a sense of grounded spiritual nourishment. She values the diversity of beliefs represented, the variety of weekly speakers and topics, and the meaningful connections formed in what she affectionately calls "hugging time."

Emily's story is one of continuous growth—fueled by a desire to connect deeply, serve with compassion, and live authentically. For her, "start here, go anywhere" isn't just a slogan—it's a way of life.

**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE
AT ICSG**

Many of you told us in the community service survey that you dedicate some or all of your volunteer time to ICSG—and we couldn't do it without you.

Your contributions help make everything we do possible.

Looking to get more involved? Here are a few current opportunities:

- Serve as a reader or meditation leader during Sunday services
- Volunteer at the Monster Mash on October 31 (see p. 5 for details)

For more ways to lend a hand, contact Annemarie at ahowse21@gmail.com





Ministerial Miscellany

Fearless Peace

by Rev. Annie Kopko

When Randall Counts sent out a welcome note to our Thursday evening ACIM group yesterday, it ended with the words: "fearless peace". I think this is wonderful, not two words I would expect to see together, but definitely something to think about. I began to wonder: how many of us are able to rest in "fearless peace"? Not me, usually, or at least, not often. (I was not even able to go to the Zoom class to ask what he meant, my internet router was completely out.)

Does it take courage to seek peace in our lives, in the present moment that may be fraught with urgent matters? Yes, because it asks us to let go and relax in the present moment. That is one of the hardest things for us to do. The outer world is so much more compelling, because we live according to our senses, and according to our emotions. Am I willing to be happy or do I continue to be anxious or even depressed? For me, it is about all the undone things around me that I have yet to take care of. I simply must turn inward to save myself from despair and to learn how to respond to a world that seems to have completely run amuck.

In the words of Aaron, through Barbara Brodsky, "For the human that says "No, I will not get caught up in this", what is your protection? Your protection is Love. You hear these prophecies, and say to yourself and others, "I will not live my life based on these prophecies of fear." You choose to relate to the world in as deeply loving and open-hearted a way as you can, especially toward those who are negative in the world."

This sounds like "fearless peace" to me.

Many Blessings for Peace,

Annie

Happy Birthday

October 02 Emily Lieberman Thompson

October 13 Marius Nowakowski

October 15 Judy Bell

October 18 Eric Engel

October 21 Lorri Coburn

October 22 Jill Crane

October 23 Dick Durham

October 29 Craig Harvey



Tarot Meet-Up

Sunday, October 26

12:30-1:30 pm

Facilitated by Lyriel Claire



Lyriel has had years of experience giving tarot readings and teaching others how to use the cards easily. There are no books to read or methods to study. The cards will teach you to access your intuition.

Bring your own Tarot deck, pen and paper.

If you need to purchase a deck, Lyriel suggests "Radiant Rider-Waite Tarot" by Pamela Colman Smith

For more information, contact Lyriel at: lyriel.claire@gmail.com.

Love offerings are appreciated.

Interfaith Creative Expressions Crafting Group Resumes, October 3 - 1:00-4:30 pm

- Meetings will be held every Friday 1:00 - 4:30 pm
- Bring a project to work on for the October 3 meeting or Marice can help you find one.
- If you would like to learn how to knit or crochet, she will let you know what you need to bring and provide a beginner project if you don't already have one in mind.
- Future projects may include a collage and a scrapbooking workshop. If there are other skills you would like to learn, please let Marice know.
- You may contact Marice at studiosaluki@yahoo.com





Randall Counts - 14 Years of Warm Welcomes

With heartfelt appreciation and warm wishes, we recognize Randall Counts for his 14 years of volunteer service as the Greeter Coordinator at the Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.

For over a decade, Randall was often the first person people encountered upon arriving at Interfaith. His friendly face, kind demeanor, and genuine care made a lasting impression. Whether it was someone's first time or a long-time member returning, Randall made everyone feel seen, welcomed, and valued.

He understood the power of a first impression—not only in personal interactions but also in the physical environment. Randall ensured that the space newcomers entered felt warm and inviting. He paid close attention to details: organizing the welcome table, keeping materials stocked and accessible, and ensuring the chairs in the sanctuary were arranged in those now-familiar, gently curved rows that invite connection. He believed these small touches made a big difference—and they did.

Beyond scheduling greeters, Randall trained new volunteers, provided thoughtful reminders, and, on most Sundays, served as a greeter himself, especially during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many remember him often being the solo greeter, masked and committed, during the uncertain times of the pandemic. His dedication never wavered.

He also had a gift for building community. Randall often used the greeter role to gently invite others into service—bringing newcomers into deeper connection with Interfaith through volunteering.

"Don and I had been attending Interfaith for a few months when Randall approached us and asked if we would consider serving as greeters once a month," shared Annemarie Howse. "We were honored to be asked and were on the schedule for the next few months (before COVID restrictions started)—enough time to let folks know who we were and introduce us to volunteering at Interfaith. Thank you, Randall, for that gift."

Randall's leadership style was marked by kindness, humility, and heartfelt connection. He never demanded—he invited, always with appreciation.

"Working with Randall as a greeter has always been a pleasure," said Røb Fagerlund. "Even when he asked on short notice, he was always so polite, apologetic, and considerate. He was always grateful when I served. More than that, Randall taught me the importance of what greeters do—offering people their first blast of acknowledgment, acceptance, and love. And when the center was in disarray after a previous night's brouhaha, he was right there helping to reset chairs and prepare the sanctuary."

Røb added, "I also find Randall an interesting conversationalist and a funny guy. Thanks, Randall!"

Others shared similar experiences:

"Randall and I greeted together quite a few times," shared Mark Maxwell, "and on each occasion, we had the most remarkable and wide-ranging conversations—surprisingly cosmic at times. Greeting with Randall was always a great pleasure."

From Diane Gladhill: "Thanks, Randall, for being a weekly smile and hug for our members. Everyone appreciates the time and care you gave to the position of head greeter."



Thank you, Randall... continued on p. 8

Volunteering

by Diane Gledhill



Volunteering is part of my deepest being. It gives life purpose, connects me to the greater community and lifelong friendships have been formed.

I found ICSG through Don Allen's drum circle. As a new member, Joy Pendleton approached me to join the greeter team as a great way to get to know people in our community. I quickly got involved, enjoyed getting the important hugs, meeting our members, and creating a welcoming environment for new people. Then Jill Crane got me involved on the sound team. This has been a great learning opportunity which thankfully continues with Don Digirolamo.

This led me to volunteering at The Ark. I originally sought it out to continue my sound education, but the hours didn't fit my work schedule. The Ark volunteers have created a great community. We listen to a lot of great music, but more importantly, we are a family. This led me to volunteering at other entertainment venues around town.

Volunteering is a great way to get involved in your community. Whatever your interests are, look for ways to use them to give your time to your community. You'll be surprised by how it impacts your life and the friendships you make along the way.

WELCOME

Diane Gledhill, our new Interim Greeter Coordinator!

Diane has recently accepted the position as Interim Greeter Coordinator. If you are interested in serving as a greeter or are currently a greeter and wish to contact Diane, please email her at diane82103@yahoo.com.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth



MONSTER MASH



Friday, October 31, 2025

5:00 – 8:00 PM

At the Center

704 Airport Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Suite 1

WHAT TO EXPECT

- ✓ Games & Fun
- ✓ Costume Parade
- ✓ Music & Dancing
- ✓ Spooky Treats & Drinks
- ✓ Chili Cook-Off Competition
(Vote for your favorite!)
- ✓ 50/50 Raffle & Prizes

ADMISSION

\$10 Adults

\$5 Kids (under 3 FREE)

Includes Chili Cook-Off
plus games & activities

Pizza & drinks available
for purchase



SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

5:00 PM – Welcome, Food & Mingling

7:30 PM – Costume Parade & Contest

7:45 PM – Chili Cook-Off Winner & Raffle Drawing

8:00 PM – Closing

Bring your best costume, your spooky spirit, and your appetite!

All proceeds support ICSG programs

Monster Mash

Volunteer Opportunities & Participation

Prior to the event – Arrive at 3:30 pm to help set up decorations, tables, food stations, game areas and music.

During the event – collect money for entry fee and pizza, serve pizza, help with chili set up and voting, stand at voting booth, help with music.

After the event – assist with clean up.

All attendees are encouraged to:

Take photos during the event

Bring drinks and/or sweets to share

Participate in the chili cook-off competition

For questions or to let us know how you would like to participate contact Parina at pkamdar@med.umich.edu

Registration is encouraged so we can plan accordingly.

[Click here to register](#)



A Diwali Primer

by Susan Slack

What is the biggest, most anticipated holiday for nearly 20% of the world's people? Did you guess Diwali? Yep!

Diwali (spelled with a 'W' pronounced close to a 'V') is THE major annual Hindu holiday celebrated throughout India, including by Sikhs, Jains, and some newer Buddhist groups. This is the annual Festival of Lights that marks the new year, a time for new beginnings, a fresh start. Indian businesses start a new set of financial books and check their inventories. Cities clean up the streets and exteriors. Families clean their homes and give away possessions they no longer need.

This year, Diwali falls on the new moon, Monday, October 20 (also two days before and after if you are really celebrating). The dates are based on the ancient Indian calendar which is lunar, so the date changes within October and November every year.

The new moon holiday commemorates the victory of Lord Rama over darkness and his return home with his consort Sita, after 14 years in exile. Everywhere in India, streets and homes are brightened with rows of small clay candles, called Diyas. "Diwali" comes from root words meaning 'Line of Lights'. Nowadays, there are also electric fairy lights everywhere. And can we talk about the mountains of food? Depending on what part of India you are in, you may be served Samosas, Aloo Tikki, Banda, Murukku, Gulab, Pakoras – the list is both endless and delicious.

Ask any Indian child about the holiday and they will undoubtedly talk about the sweets – piles of sweets – Kaju Katli, Souvik Sarkar, Vach, Dinesh Sharma, in other words: Lots. Yum. More.

Diwali also honors and welcomes Lakshmi, the goddess of good fortune and consort of Lord Vishnu. She is radiantly beautiful, with four arms to bestow more prosperity. A tradition that many Indian households practice is to keep the lights on all night – at least one on every floor, to guide Lakshmi into their home to bring good fortune and prosperity for the year to come.

You may know that India has a vast, spiritual pantheon, and depending upon the area where your family comes from, other deities are also

honored during Diwali. Ganesh is often welcomed into Indian households. His elephant-headed likeness is usually posted at an entrance of a home or place of worship. As the god of new beginnings, wisdom and luck, and remover of obstacles, he is naturally invited to Diwali in the puja or prayer ceremony.

As Michigan psychiatrist Dr. Bal Gupta explains, the importance of the celebration is an opportunity for families and neighbors to gather for a meal and talk and work out differences, a time to forgive, and start the new year with moral goodness; a clean slate. Those who accept invitations to Diwali celebrations, even if there are issues to work out, are expected to do well. Those who hold grudges and animosity may not prosper.

What could be better than cleaning and purifying your home and filling it with family banquets? How about adding fireworks at sundown to add to the beauty of the new beginning?

Dr. and Mudha Gupta also shared that Diwali is celebrated here in the US by a majority of first-generation Indian Americans, although to a lesser extent. The social support isn't here, though there are many strong Indian communities that celebrate together. And there are differences, of course. Here, instead of whole cities gathering together with all the fancy homemade goodies, it is families who gather together. Children get chocolates, money, and presents. It is a time to be generous, but the idea of giving up what you no longer need has sometimes changed into buying more and creating a bigger mess. This may just be the way of America.

We all have the opportunity, right here and now, whether we have direct Indian DNA or not, to take as much time as you would like during the next new moon on October 20 and aim toward new beginnings. Maybe the week before you perform a level two house cleaning, you know – actually moving that dresser and cleaning behind it? Wash the floors? If not now, when?

Have dinner with family and close friends, talk, clean your heart, forgive, apologize. Pass on the **unused** possessions. Light candles.

And that night, remember to leave a light on, at least one on every floor, so that Lakshmi can find **your home** and lavish you with light and blessings.

Thank you to Dr. Bal Gupta and Madhu Gupta for sharing.

Susan Slack, musician, author, and proud grandmother. She leads Dances of Universal Peace at ICSG

Thank you, Randall... continued from p. 4



And from Bethany King:

"There have been so many times when he helped me to be in good headspace upon entering that building—especially when I was feeling rushed for being late—and he'd reassure me that it was ALL good. It felt like, 'Just leave that shame right outside the door!'"

That's the kind of welcome Randall offered—not just a greeting, but a gentle reminder that you were already enough, just as you were.

Randall officially resigned from his role as Greeter Coordinator in August, but his legacy will continue to be felt through every smile, handshake, and heartfelt "welcome" given at Interfaith. He helped set the tone for what this community represents—acceptance, connection, and spiritual belonging.

Thank you, Randall, for your years of dedicated service and for being a true ambassador of the Interfaith Center spirit.



With love and appreciation,

Your Interfaith Family

"A Time of Remembrance"

Sunday Celebration Service

November 2
10:45 am – 12:00 pm

led by Rev. Delyth Balmer

Join us on November 2nd during our regular Sunday Celebration Service as we honor our ancestors and former ICSG family members who have passed on. We will set up an altar on which to place a photo or other small token of remembrance for our deceased loved ones. We will also acknowledge former ICSG members who have passed in recent years and add a jewel to Indra's Net for those members not yet represented. You are invited to bring your own remembrances or photos to add to the altar as part of the ceremony this day.

October Possibilities

by Jean Wilson



When Norah asked me about writing again for the newsletter, and said October was 'rich' with possibilities for topics, she wasn't kidding!

I've been thinking about all the options – harvest, fall, Halloween. And so I jotted down ideas, and notes, and more ideas about cleaning and purging and saying Boo to my fearful pesty demons and the beauty of the season, and the meaning of it all! It became overwhelming!

And it's not that my thoughts were unique either. We probably all ponder these things every year, and maybe every season. Bah....

But a few weeks ago, I did have a wonderful Aha moment, at least for me, so I'm sharing that.

It's been an overwhelming year, to say the least, and on top of that, there's this season. Taking everything into consideration, what do I really, really want to do? And it came to me... Climb out the window!

That was it! A joyful thought! So I closed the door (literally and figuratively), climbed out my mind's window, went Outside and wandered off and lost myself in the beauty of the details. First, hello Spirit! Let me open my most important eye and entertain You for as long.....

Blades of grass, leaves waving hello in high vibration, sky, cloud, wind. And this so slowed me down, to what I think was the real speed of the Universe. I even danced! (No one saw me, I think) Ahhhhh. Big Ahhh.

So, I've made this my newest mantra. Climb out the window! Maybe it will help you? Make it whatever you want!

When I slow down, I remember to do the important things, and everything else, somehow, beautifully, falls into place.

Wooooo.



Community Service

by Bethany King

Anyone who lived in Florida during the 2000s is familiar with the 2004–2005 hurricane season, commonly called “Charley, Frances, Jeanne.” In 2005, southeast Florida added Wilma to the lineup, so it became “Frances, Jeanne, Wilma”. The damage was extensive. But what makes that season unforgettable isn’t just the destruction—it’s that it happened before iPhones, before home generators became common, and before many gas stations or grocery stores were required to have backup power. Imagine losing power in 90-degree heat and not being able to leave your house for weeks. Roads were blocked, stores dark, credit card machines useless—survival depended on what was already in your home and in your neighbors’ hearts.

To this day, what people who lived through these storms seem to remember most and smile about when they recall is what happened after the storm—how the world felt still, and how they came to know and live with their neighbors. You hear again and again about how everyone pulled their grills to the curb, opened freezers, and shared food, water, and cold drinks. Neighbors worked together to clear debris so help could arrive. Someone with a small generator for their refrigerator stored insulin for a neighbor they didn’t know. Homes were made livable again by neighbors helping neighbors.

It’s strange how often it takes a disaster like this or September 11, 2001, for many of us to realize we’re all in this together. When our infrastructure fails and our sense of security feels shattered, our world can feel smaller, more immediate, and we focus on the needs of those around us. Reflecting on those storm seasons, I wonder if in times of uncertainty, tending to the needs of our small world – our neighbors – may be the most meaningful way to steady both our hearts and our world.

*“Individually, we are one drop.
Together, we are an ocean.”*

— Ryunosuke Satoro

Acts of Kindness in Action: Survey Recap







We know you’re out there making a difference in your community, and we appreciate the responses we received to our request for your acts of community service over the past year. Here’s what you told us. The first is a list of where we serve our community (below), and the second is a list of how we serve our community (on the next page).








Where You Serve Your Community

- American Association of University Women
- Ann Arbor 50501
- Chelsea Material Girls
- Crazy Wisdom online
- Delonis Center
- Dispute Resolution Center
- Dress for Success, Ann Arbor
- Ele’s Place
- Food banks
- Friends of the Ann Arbor District Library
- Helps on the Way, Dearborn
- Hope Clinic
- In my country
- In my garden
- In my neighborhood
- Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth
- League of Women Voters
- Local Nursing Home
- Michigan Theater
- Money Out of Politics
- Ozone House
- Saline (wood) Carvers
- Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy
- SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice)
- The Ark
- The Encore (Musical Theater Company)
- The Purple Rose Theater Company
- Traumatic Incident Resolution Association
- UM SMTD (School of Music, Theater & Dance)
- UMS (University Musical Society)
- Undaunted Elders Team
- Washtenaw County Emergency Services Division
- Yankee Air Museum
- Ypsilanti District Library

The Ways in which You Serve Your Community

- Annual park clean-up
- Assist clients with computer use to find employment 
- Assist with hosting the Ann Arbor Death Café
- Attend meetings with Braver Angels
- Attend rallies and town halls
- Author of Ford Lake Nature Notes
- Blog contributor
- Bookseller/librarian 
- Bought and brought groceries for a sick friend
- Bring flowers, set up for the potluck, reorganize the kitchen, and serve on committees at ICSG.
- Bringing Amazon packages to the doors of other residents
- Buying extra food for food banks
- Camera and Zoom host for Café 704
- Camera operator for Sunday service at ICSG
- Caring for a friend's cat even though I'm allergic
- Clean a family member's house who was not able
- Cleaning up trash 
- Community peace sing alongs
- Connect with people that are homebound
- Content manager for newsletter
- Dances of Universal Peace
- Donate clothing to churches
- Donate food etc.
- Drove a friend to get meds and to doctors' appointments 
- Editing and posting Sunday service videos
- Fundraising
- Gather ballot petition signatures for both Ranked Choice Voting and the Voters Not Politicians campaigns 
- Gave books to kids
- Giving rides to the airport
- Greeter at ICSG
- Helping a neighbor bring in groceries
- Helping neighbors manage packages
- Helping with medical appointments
- I showed up and spoke up about the destructive course the US is embarked on
- I took a friend to a doctor's appointment
- Layout editor for newsletter
- Lead the ICSG Leadership Team
- Litter Lady /Pick up litter
- Maintained trails and monitored for hazards in a nature preserve
- Make soup for seniors or individuals in need
- Making crafts to sell to raise money for Chelsea charities 

- Meditation leader at ICSG
- Monthly "Peace Generator" meditation at ICSG
- Mow neighbor's lawn 
- Newsletter Diva
- Newsletter editor at ICSG
- Outreach and education about becoming a U.S. citizen
- Paid for someone's meal at a restaurant without them knowing
- Pick up trash on the side of the road 
- Plant pollinators
- Praying for people when their cars have broken down
- Provide free sessions of Traumatic Incident Reduction
- Provide rides for those whose car is broken, need to pick up meds, seniors without a car.
- Provide rides to and from the airport and for medical appointments 
- Putting the grocery carts back in order
- Reader (select and give a short reading during Sunday Service at ICSG)
- Represent welcome table at ICSG
- Saying hello to everyone who walks on my street 
- Senior Advisory Group Member
- Set up monthly meetings for seniors to gather and create community
- Sharing my tomatoes which did not get eaten by critters
- Sing at ICSG
- Sing for hospice residents
- Sitting with a friend who is ill so their caregiver has some respite
- Skywarn storm spotter 
- Snow removal of neighbor's sidewalk and path to house
- Sound technician
- Spreading Joy and Laughter with dancing
- Support people emotionally when possible
- Taking a senior to church
- Taking care of a neighbor's flowers and garden while they're on vacation
- Thanking people for just doing their jobs
- Video recording/editing for local non-profits
- Visit seniors in nursing homes/assisted living homes
- Volunteer to help grieving children
- Weekly visiting with a 6-year-old neighbor with neurodiverse needs
- Work to reduce racial discrimination



October Special Events

QCC- Quarterly Conversation in Community Meeting

Sunday, October 5 - 1:00-3:00 pm

- Discuss whatever is on the minds of those present.
 - Share ideas, concerns, and kudos with the Board of Trustees and the Administration.
 - Agenda items are generated by those present.
- All are welcome and encouraged to attend.**



Community Sing

with Matt Watroba

the voice of folk music in Michigan

Wednesday, October 8

7:00-8:30 pm

Your donations make this event possible.

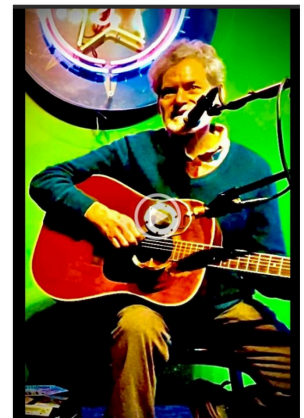
Cafe 704 Presents... Ben Seguin

Saturday, October 11 - 7:00-9:00 pm

Ben Seguin writes songs from real life experience, with the humor rising from the ironies that life presents. Sometimes touching on current politics but usually veering into more uplifting topics like dysfunctional families, alcoholism, cheese fires and weeds. Audience members will also be enlightened with the ancient secret to love and harmony encoded in laundry tags.

Tickets: \$10.00-\$20.00 (sliding scale). If attending in person - pay at the door.

Doors open at 6:30. If attending on zoom - purchase tickets online at <https://interfaithspirit.org/cafe-704-coffeehouse/>



Drumcommunity Drum Circle with Lori Fithian

Saturday, October 18

7:00-8:30 pm

Donations are appreciated.



Tarot Meet-Up

Sunday, October 26

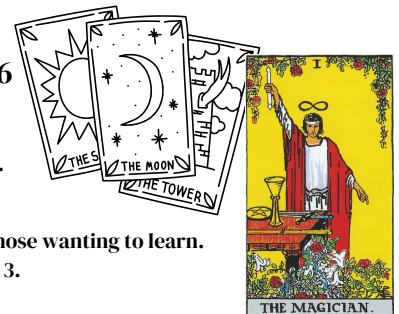
12:30 pm

Facilitated by Lyriel Claire.

Open to avid tarot readers or those wanting to learn.

For more information see page 3.

Love offerings appreciated.



Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth



Friday, October 31, 2025
5:00 - 8:00 PM

- Bring your best costume, your spooky spirit and your appetite!
- Suggested donation: \$10.00 adults, \$5.00 kids (under 3 free)
- For more information see page 5 or look for flyers at the Interfaith Center.

This is a fundraiser. All proceeds go to the ICSG.