



## Monthly Musings [from Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer](#)

**M**y spouse Evin and I often joke that we are experts at misadventure. It seems that our journeys, both little and large, often end up including an unexpected twist or two. Take our wedding, for example. It is a good example as the whole journey contained more than the usual number of twists, even for us. While driving to the wedding location in VT, we stopped at a dog park in Syracuse NY to give our dog a break. Waiting in the road to turn into the park, we were hit by another driver from behind. Everyone was fine, but our car was totaled. The police officer who came to the scene drove us to the airport so we could get a rental car. While Evin stood with the dog waiting for me to get a rental car, a pickpocket took her wallet.

We finally made it to Vermont, a little frazzled for the journey, but happy to have arrived. The wedding was supposed to be outside. On the

morning of the big day, the rain was coming down in sheets. I'm not exaggerating. Sheets of rain poured from the sky. Everyone was so disappointed for us that they kept suggesting that perhaps it would clear. It was clear to me that was not going to happen. People got drenched just coming from the parking lot to the hall where the reception was held. But Evin's grandmother announced she was glad of the rain as she felt we should have been in a church (for better hearing) all along so as far as she was concerned, it was for the best anyway.

We were supposed to go canoeing in Canada on our honeymoon, but without her license Evin couldn't get out of the country. So, we decided to go canoeing in Maine instead. Unfortunately, we didn't think through the challenge finding an open campsite on a Saturday night in Southern ME might present. Eventually we made our way further north

**Sunday Services**

9:45 and 11:30 am

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Tuesday - Friday  
By appointment

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**Office hours:**

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**Deadline:**

The 20th each month



and got out on a river where we spent three wonderful days in our big wedding present, a red canoe.

All in all it was a wonderful journey and the misadventures made it even more memorable. It's lucky for me I view our misadventures this way, as they seem to be a regular feature of all our journeys. Perhaps you have better luck (or better organization), but chances are good you at least occasionally end up with unexpected twists and turns in the journeys you set out to take. I think those twists and turns have the capacity to be our teachers if we will let them, and maybe even occasionally they turn out to be a blessing.

This month at church we will celebrate the power of the journey. In trips far and near and in the journeys of the mind and heart we can learn a lot about ourselves, each other and this world we share. Come join us, explore and celebrate.

In faith.

*Melissa*

## UPCOMING SERVICES

9:45 and 11:30 am

### June 1 - The Journey Through Childhood

*The Children of the Church and their RE Teachers and RE Committee members serving as Worship Associates*

Our annual Religious Education Sunday is the culmination of the church year. The children have prepared presentations to illustrate what they have learned. There will be special music, teacher appreciation and at the 11:30 service, the Bridging Ceremony for our graduating high school seniors. Come join us on this joyful Sunday!

### June 8 - Walked By My Dog: Blessing of the Animals (9:45 ONLY)

*Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer, Director of Religious Education  
Karen Lapidus and Worship Associate Lori McGee*

Back by popular demand, we will once again have a Blessing of the Animals during our annual outdoor service at Plum Creek Park in Kent. We will have one service only beginning at 9:45 am at pavilion number 2. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket to sit on and your cats or dogs or other pets on a leash or in a crate. If you don't think your pet will do well around all those other pets and people, feel free to bring a photograph instead.

After the service we will enjoy a potluck picnic lunch. Please bring your own place setting and silverware and a dish to share. Bring any games you might like to invite others to play and come join in the fun. For directions to Plum Creek Park, visit [tinyurl.com/plumcreekpark](http://tinyurl.com/plumcreekpark)

### June 15 - Generative Journeys

*Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer  
and Worship Associate Sophie Smith*

How have the journeys you have taken shaped your life? What are the journeys that define the experience of a generation? What is it about a journey that creates new possibilities? Come explore these and other questions as we also lift up the celebration of fathers. If you would like to honor your own father or another person in your life who has been a father figure to you, please send a photograph to Melissa by the Saturday prior to this service for inclusion in our Father's Day SlideShow.

### June 22 - Oh, The Places You'll Go

*Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer  
and Worship Associate Bonnie Harper*

Summer is an excellent time for a journey. Whether the journeys you will take this summer will be trips to other places or journeys of your mind and heart, this Sunday will provide you with inspiration for your adventures.

### June 29 - Cooperation, Covenant, Community

*Cal Frye  
with Worship Associate Elaine Bowen*

The story of how the folks in Deadham, MA organized a church (in 1637!) should inform how we approach our covenantal community.



It's back! Summer Institute is in a new location, but our favorite camp is back for another year. Join 500+ UUs July 13-19 for an intergenerational week of fun, learning, networking and music at Oberlin College. The theme speaker is Rabbi David Horowitz, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Israel. Deadline is July 1st! Details at [www.omdsi.org](http://www.omdsi.org)

## 2014 Annual MEETING



An Informational Meeting was held on  
**Wednesday, May 28 at 7 pm**

Voting Meeting will be held  
**Sunday, June 1 at 12:30 pm**



# Visioning Session for Children and Youth to Begin Summer RE Program

from Karen Lapidus

It is so exciting to be embarking upon our building expansion project! Last month, Matt Slater, member of the Building Expansion Team (BET) met with the members of the Religious Education Committee to hear their dreams and desires for the new RE space. So many exciting possibilities were shared. Matt told us that Mary Lou Holly, another member of the BET, suggested that we get input directly from the children and youth about their dreams and desires for the RE space.

After all, the fifth Unitarian Universalist principle states that all persons should have a voice about the things that concern them!

To kick-off the summer RE program, on June 15th, the children and youth will be guided through a process of envisioning their ideal space (and the space of the children and youth that come after them).

Summer RE will take place at 9:45 am. During the month of July, we will only have services at 9:45. In June and August, we'll have the usual two services at 9:45 and 11:30.

This year we are adding a separate preschool program along with the multi-age group, which includes school-aged children and Middle School youth as helpers.

Nursery care will be available for our youngest UUs during all worship services during the summer. The preschool will meet in the

upstairs classroom while the older children will meet in Fesenden Hall. The "Time for All Ages" portion of the worship service takes a summer hiatus and will begin again with Ingathering Sunday on September 7th.

Our theme for the summer is "Simple Gifts", which will be a series of easy, mostly stand-alone social action and social justice projects. The RE Committee and I are looking for adults to lead a session or two, so please let me know if you are interested.

In faith and with love,

Karen Lapidus  
Director of Religious Education



Mike Lee and Randy Ruhotzke doing some repair work on the annex.





## Outdoor Play Area at UUCK

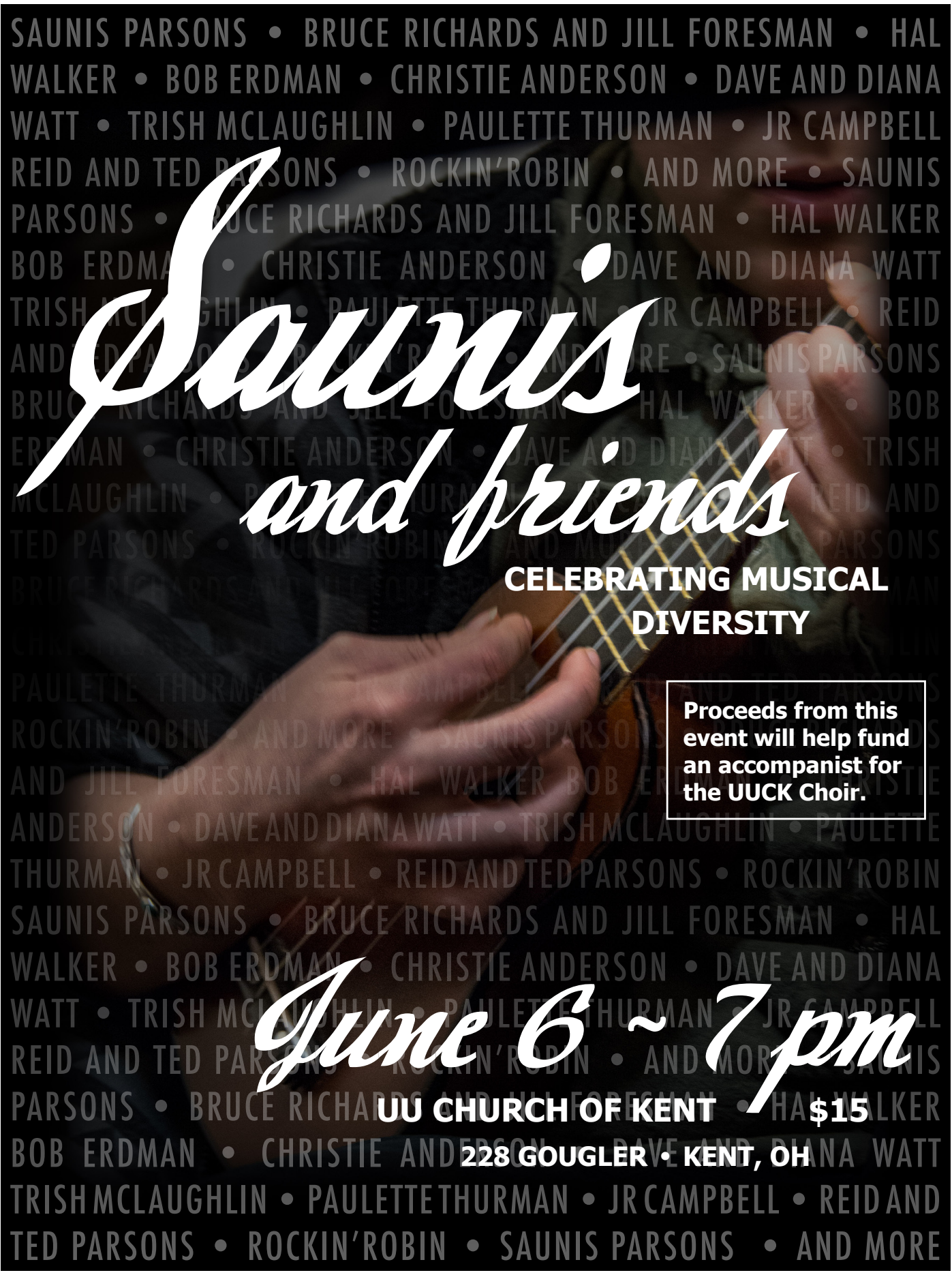
It has been a long time coming, but an outdoor play space for kids at UUCK is now a reality! The space is right behind the church on half of the lot we purchased this past winter.

Please join me in thanking all the people who worked on this project. Randy Ruchotzke has taken the lead and he has been assisted by Larry Johnson (who donated the fencing), John Brovarone and Michael Lee (who helped install it), Ian Hogan (who cleaned out locust bushes), Kevin Kerns (who identified the species of bee back there) Jennifer Gregg (who encouraged those docile bees to relocate and who, with her husband Don, rolled a big magnet over the property to get up all the nails and other bits of metal) Colleen Thoele (who is organizing our play equipment collection), Angela Barzizza-Young (who started the Facebook organizing group and contributed ideas) and Noah and Alan Kerns and Kim, David and Jack Homsher (who came out to help build the little path to the play area.)

We want you to be aware that the church is not supplying a play space monitor. Adult supervision is required for kids playing in the space at all times. We hope children and families will enjoy this space and find it a great addition to their time at church!







# *Saunis and friends*

**CELEBRATING MUSICAL  
DIVERSITY**

**Proceeds from this  
event will help fund  
an accompanist for  
the UUCK Choir.**

## *June 6 ~ 7 pm*

**UU CHURCH OF KENT**

**\$15**

**228 GOUGLER • KENT, OH**

# Saunis and friends

## Saunis and Friends: Celebrating Musical Diversity

Would you like to enjoy a night of great music all and help fund an Accompanist to the Choir at the same time? If so, please come to the Saunis and Friends of the UU Church of Kent concert on June 6 and enjoy an evening of music provided by many of our talented Friends of the UU Church of Kent. I love to make music with all of the various musicians this church has been blessed with, but it's hard to make that happen very often. So I decided to invite all kinds of musicians to join me for a night of music- making to benefit the church and a bunch of them said "Yes! Let's do it!" Some of the songs will be ones chosen by the folks who bought choosing-rights and front row seats during the Service Auction in November. So far I know there will be a wide variety of songs including: funny songs, sad songs, naughty songs, Celtic songs, folk songs, blues, and some ragtime. Audience participation is encouraged. During intermission there will be goodies. The concert starts at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary of the UU Church of Kent. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Spread the word.

An event like this needs lots of folks to help make it happen, and this one is no exception. I could really use some volunteers to bake goodies, set up and clean up for the snacks during intermission, maybe record or film the concert, put up a couple of posters and anything else I've forgotten to mention or even think of that you might know will need to be done for something like this. If you can help, please contact Saunis Parsons.

## June 6 ~ 7 pm

## Capital Campaign Team re-convenes.

The CCT, Capital Campaign Team, of the UU Church of Kent has recently begun meeting again. Our basic charge from the Board is to raise funds for our expansion project. Members of the CCT are Kathy Kerns and Marion Yeagler, co-chairs, J.R. Campbell, Kay Eckman, Randy Leeson, and David Smeltzer. Our Board liaison is Sandy Eaglen, church treasurer. Rev. Melissa is also involved.

We are in the process of organizing tasks and sub-committees, and will soon begin inviting members of the congregation to join us in this exciting work. If you have a special interest and would like to be a part of making this happen, please contact one of us. We plan to involve as many of you as possible. Many hands make light work!

## Simple Gifts received...

### Anonymous

in honor of Esther Duncan

### J. Benson

no dedication

### Anonymous

no dedication

### Bob Erdman

in honor of Becky Haines

### Elaine Bowen

In appreciation for the Board service of Chris Hurlbut, Secretary and Randy Ruchotzke, Trustee for Building & Grounds. Thank you.

Our Simple Gifts program is designed to encourage everyday giving. If members and friends of the congregation continue to remember the church with regular gifts, we will be well on our way to building the kind of endowment that can help ensure our congregation's continuing health and vitality.

No gift is too small or too large. Donations can be made in celebration, in honor of someone or something, in appreciation or to note a special occasion. If you would like to participate, the blue Simple Gift envelopes can be found in the pews; please include your dedication and name so we can provide you with a donation credit. Thank you.



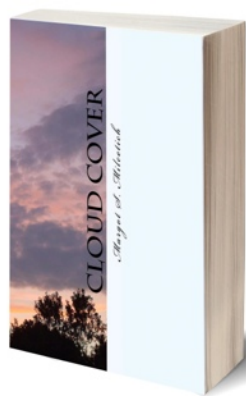
## Literary Liner Notes

### Cloud Cover

The Patricia Pownall UU Book Group will be meeting on Tuesday, June 10 at 7 pm in the home of Mary Ann Kasper. This month we are reading *Cloud Cover: A Memoir of Perseverance and Transformation* by Margo Milcetch.

Born in Boston in 1953, traveling the world, eschewing a college career at Brown University in Rhode Island, in the '70s, Margot Milcetch turns her focus to meditation for peace of mind. Eventually, she lands in Kent, Ohio, in a home by a lake, married with two children, trying to find herself, and creating an extraordinary life in an ordinary "householder" package. Meditation and yoga help her to heal herself, living in the beauty of nature, enabling her to transcend a devastating diagnosis, become an equal, loving partner to her spouse, find meaningful work and ultimately expressing her voice. She integrates within herself what felt unmoored and fractured. Today's yoga practitioners will especially appreciate this account of how yoga and meditation transcend our circumstances.

In July we will be reading *The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution* by Alex Storozynski. If you have any questions you may contact Bonnie Harper. All are welcome.



### Words to Live By...

"Let us step into the night  
and pursue that flighty  
temptress, adventure."

— J.K. Rowling

## Ohio Meadville District News

### Goldmine Youth Leadership Training

Are you a youth who is interested in developing leadership skills? Do you know a youth that would like to develop leadership skills? Goldmine is for you. Two offerings in CERG this year. Goldmine West at East Shore UU Church in Kirtland, OH on July 6-12, 2014 (the week before SI). Goldmine East at Unitarian Church of Staten Island, NY on August 17-23, 2014. Learn more at [www.cerguua.org/programs/goldmine](http://www.cerguua.org/programs/goldmine)

### Young Adult Programming in the OMD

This year OPUS, the continental gathering of young adults will take place in the OMD. Registration is open and details are on the [OMD website](http://OMD website). OPUS will take place August 12-17, 2014 at Nuhop Center for Experiential Learning on Ohio. [ohiomeadville.org/omdevents/736-opus14](http://ohiomeadville.org/omdevents/736-opus14)

### General Assembly 2014: Love Reaches Out

Registration and housing are now open for General Assembly 2014 in Providence, RI. The meeting will take place June 25-29, 2014. The month of March is when individuals can apply for scholarships and to be volunteers. In addition, this year congregational presidents who attend will receive a \$100 rebate. Learn more at [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga)





For a complete and up-to-date church calendar, please visit [www.localendar.com/public/uukent](http://www.localendar.com/public/uukent). If you are unable to access our electronic calendar, please contact the church office and we will gladly provide you with a paper copy.

