



# Greenleaves

The Newsletter of Eliot Unitarian Chapel

February 2019

Eliot Unitarian Chapel  
100 South Taylor Ave.  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
314-821-0911  
[frontoffice@eliotchapel.org](mailto:frontoffice@eliotchapel.org)

**Office hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
  
Sunday  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Our Mission:**  
Bound by  
courageous love,  
growing in spirit,  
and inspiring  
compassionate  
action.



## Leap of Faith

### THE MINISTRY OF NAPS

The other day, I came across a photograph of my friends Julie and Shelly and me standing in front of our neighbor's station wagon on the first day of kindergarten. You can tell because we are holding the "rugs" we were asked to bring to school to take naps on. Like most kids, I fought taking my nap. I remember some adult would always make the same dumb joke: "Hey, when you're older you'll like naps. I sure do. Ha ha ha." I thought adults must be the most boring people in the world. What I didn't know then was that adults inhabit a world where rest is hard to come by. I didn't know that kindergarten would be the last time in my life when rest was expected, even mandatory.

Naps acknowledge that we have bodies that get tired, worn down, and need to be replenished. We live in a culture that encourages us to discount rest and to skimp on sleep, despite the damage we know sleep deprivation does to our health. Sometimes it's because we think the things we must get done are more important than health. Sometimes lack of rest is imposed on us by having to work more than one job, or taking care of a family and doing full-time work. Whether imposed by self or economic need, rest is indeed a luxury in the grown-up world.

In a few weeks, I will start my sabbatical. Professional ministry is one of the few professions that holds rest and renewal as an expectation. I have a theory of how this came about. I once read a short biography of William Greenleaf Eliot, for whom our church is named. He would

work crazy-hard. In 1849, for example, he spent day and night visiting the bedsides of parishioners facing the cholera epidemic.

There would be multiple funerals within families. It was also the year of the great fire, which took out several homes and businesses in St. Louis. If that weren't enough, that same year, Eliot led the Unitarian Church of St. Louis in canvassing neighbors to support a new property tax to start a public school system. They won! But by the end of that year, Eliot couldn't go on any further. "Sick and exhausted," his biographer wrote, "he took four months in Europe." He came back and worked crazy-hard again: founding what would become Washington University, the First Unitarian Church of Alton, and being elected president of St. Louis' first school board. Then came the familiar refrain: "Sick and exhausted..." Rev. Eliot took off for another four months. He was so enterprising, I wonder if the congregation didn't also get a little sick and exhausted and needed a break from him. Perhaps it was better to just plan for it.

I do not compare my output to our great forebear. But I am grateful that Unitarian Universalism acknowledges and plans for times of rest and renewal for our



Rev. Barbara H. Gadon  
Lead Minister  
[bgadon@eliotchapel.org](mailto:bgadon@eliotchapel.org)

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[www.eliotchapel.org](http://www.eliotchapel.org)

*Leap of Faith, continued from page 1*

ministers. I am in special need of rest for health reasons. As I wrote in **my letter to the congregation**, my pulmonary fibrosis has progressed and I am about to be listed for a lung transplant. I will be preparing for the life-giving surgery. Though not the fun-filled European tour we were planning, it is still a tremendous gift – and one for which I’m deeply grateful.

And I am grateful that you are in very, very good hands while I’m gone. For five Sundays, the Rev. Terry Davis is returning to Eliot Chapel to serve us as a part-time sabbatical minister. Everyone who knew Rev. Terry from her time here has been thrilled to hear of her return. Check out the introduction to her **on page 7**. If you missed out on the sabbatical brochure that explains how things will work while I’m gone, you can **find it online** or in the information centers at Eliot.

Meanwhile, I encourage you to think about what sort of rest and renewal may be missing in your life. What’s one thing you can do to get some? If this seems self-indulgent, think, “What good could I do if I had more energy?” We are meant to serve the world and help others: rest helps to make that possible.

*In Faith,  
Rev. Barb.*



## **MidAmerica Regional Assembly in St. Louis!**

If you attended GA last summer in Kansas City, you remember the warm camaraderie and excitement of gathering with UUs from across the world. Here’s another opportunity to participate in UU workshops, assemblies, singing, and worship with like-minded Midwesterners! Registration for MidAmerica Regional Assembly is now open. It will be held at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel the weekend of April 5 - 7. It would be wonderful for Eliot to have a large presence there so don’t miss this opportunity to be a part of our larger UU world and register now before the early-bird discount ends February 28! Registration link: [www.uua.org/midamerica/ra](http://www.uua.org/midamerica/ra)

## **Sharing Our Bounty**

*In February, we will share our offerings with **Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU)**. Eliot Chapel is a member of this community organization that brings together religious congregations, community groups, and individuals to work for a common purpose: to create a better life for all residents. MCU acknowledges that the racism in the systems that order our society has created what we now understand as the School to Prison Pipeline. MCU has been working to change the policies and procedures of school districts, police departments, and*



*the juvenile courts in the St. Louis metropolitan area. MCU wants to keep our students in school! The work continues with the following task forces:*

- Education Task Force
- Police Reform Task Force
- Juvenile Justice Task Force

*For more information, visit [mcustl.org](http://mcustl.org).*

**In December, Eliot Chapel collected \$1,078.94 for Room at the Inn.**

**We collected \$2,952.59 for the Ministers Discretionary Fun through the Christmas Eve services.**

# Eliot Chapel Religious Education

## New York, New York....Here We Come!

Congratulations and THANK YOU to Eliot youth group members **Lauren Twombly** and **Camille Mussman**, who will represent Eliot at the **UU United Nations Spring Seminar** in New York City in April. The United Nations Spring Seminar, sponsored by the UUA's United Nations Office, is held annually and provides youth and adults with an opportunity to explore global activism and international human rights. The topic for Spring Seminar 2019 is **Equity in Action: Gender in An Intersecting World**. You can read more about the UU Spring seminar at [www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar](http://www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar).



**Lauren** and **Camille** are leaders at Eliot and in the larger UU community. They are recognized as Luminary Leaders, have completed Youth Midwest Leadership School, and represented Eliot at General Assembly. How exciting to have them be the first representatives from Eliot to participate in UU Spring Seminar at the United Nations Office.



## Coming in February: Dr. Seuss and *Inside Out*

In February, Eliot children will continue exploring UU values and principles through the stories of Dr. Seuss. We'll be exploring *The Big Brag* and welcoming Horton (who Hears a Who) to our classes this month. And on February 17, we'll engage in Popcorn Theology with the featured film *Inside Out*. We're excited to share the experiences with Eliot's younger children (K-4) this month.

## Chalice Lighting Reminder

Kids, remember YOU can sign up to light the chalice during Sunday worship services. The sign up sheet is on the Religious Education bulletin board, located across from the elevator. Children in grades 1-5 are particularly encouraged to participate in this UU tradition.



## We Look Forward to Seeing you at Women's Weekend 2019!

Join us for a time of relaxation, rejuvenation, and illuminating workshops to feed the mind, body and spirit.

Please mark May 17-19 in your calendar so you can join us at Toddhall Retreat Center, located in Columbia, IL approximately 20 miles from Kirkwood.

Registration begins in March.



Want to know more about Bergfried? Find us most Sundays at the Bergfried table in Adams Hall or join us on Facebook at [facebook.com/groups/BergfriedForever](https://www.facebook.com/groups/BergfriedForever)

## Connect and Reflect at Bergfried

### Guided Day Trip

Saturday, February 16

Join us for some late winter nature communion. All members and friends are welcome. We particularly encourage those who have not been to the property before to consider attending the day hike to get to know Eliot's 670-acre retreat near Hermann, Missouri. See you there! An optional guided hike or two will be offered, but feel free to come out and do your own thing or do nothing! Bring sturdy shoes and provisions for the day. Meet at the Eliot Chapel parking lot at 9:00 am to caravan or carpool (or come out separately if you prefer). Email [bergfriedinfo@eliotchapel.org](mailto:bergfriedinfo@eliotchapel.org) at least 48 hours to let us know you are coming.



### The Bergfried Cottage

Remember that the Bergfried Cottage is available for rent by Eliot members and friends at \$35 per night and upcoming weekends are open for reservation. The cottage features: a bedroom with double bed, a day room with 2 twins, and 3 movable floor mattresses; fully equipped kitchen; 1 bathroom; heat and A/C. Write to [bergfriedreservations@eliotchapel.org](mailto:bergfriedreservations@eliotchapel.org) to make arrangements.

–Shawn Cummings for the Bergfried Stewardship Team

## Fire of Commitment – Lighting Our Way

When you hear the word “commitment” what comes to mind? We may think of our devotion to family and friends, our job responsibilities, and promises we have made to pay our bills on time. A commitment is a pledge we make to people and causes that are important to us. And Fire of Commitment implies passionate involvement and engagement.

As members of Eliot Chapel, we are passionate about welcoming people of all walks of life, and being a beacon of hope and justice. That makes Eliot a special place. That's truly important in our world today when commitments are routinely broken. But at Eliot Chapel we live our commitment through all we do, from hosting displaced families, to holding weekly vigils for hope and healing, to educating our children to be accepting of others, and bringing people together to share ideas, joys and sorrows.

As the song says,

*When the fire of commitment sets our minds and souls ablaze  
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way  
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within  
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.*

We will kick off our canvass campaign on Sunday, March 17. As you consider your financial support of Eliot, think about what it takes to keep Eliot strong enough to meet the challenges ahead.

Please pledge generously so our future can begin!



**THE FIRE OF  
COMMITMENT**

# Music Notes



## Tribute to Leon Burke

Sunday, February 10

We plan to thank Leon for his many years of service to Eliot Chapel and wish him well in his new position. All will have a chance to sign a card for him at coffee hour after each service. If you have a special memory of Leon, or a photo or story to share, please send it to Jan Chamberlin by February 3. These may be added to a memory board that will be given to Leon. He plans to retain his Eliot Chapel membership as a UU. We hate to see Leon go, but offer congratulations and best wishes to him and his family!

Contributions to a gift for Leon can be given to the office. Please clearly mark your gift for "Leon's Farewell."

[music@eliotchapel.org](mailto:music@eliotchapel.org)



Jan Chamberlin,  
Music Director



## Music Sunday

Sunday, February 17 at 9:30 and 11:00 am services

Dr. Leon Burke, III will conduct the combined choirs of Eliot Chapel in a program called "Psalms of Praise." With texts drawing from the biblical book of psalms, the program will include music by Leonard Bernstein (Chichester Psalms), Jean Berger (Psalm 86), Pachelbel (Psalm Fantasia), and Heather Sorenson (Psalm 24).

This will be Leon's last Music Sunday at Eliot Chapel. He will take our choirs and this program, along with additional Eliot favorites, to Unity Temple UU in Oak Park, Illinois for the second half of our Choir Exchange on March 3. Leon will then begin his new position as Music Director and Organist at First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, United Church of Christ.

## Friends of Music Present

A Free Concert on Sunday, February 24 at 3:00 pm

This concert will begin with the Brahms's Sonata in e minor, opus 38 featuring Beverly Field, cello and Toni Pearson, piano. The second half will feature the Missouri Women's Chorus, directed by Scott Schoonover. For more information: [www.fomcstl.org](http://www.fomcstl.org).

**COMING UP**  
 Featured Musicians in Worship

**Sunday, February 3**  
 Ken Kulosa, cello and Women's Chorale

**Sunday, February 10**  
 "Home Remedy" and Chamber Singers  
*(Tribute to Leon Burke)*

**Saturday, February 17**  
 Music Sunday: Psalms of Praise

**Sunday, February 24**  
 "No Strings Attached" and Women's Chorale

# Within – a Family



Todd Stark,  
Board of Trustees  
Chair

[eliotboard@eliotchapel.org](mailto:eliotboard@eliotchapel.org)

We are a family. We support each other. We lift each other up. We are resilient.

This church year as your chair I have been preparing for Barbara to be on sabbatical. Preparing to keep the ship sailing straight from mid-February to mid-May. I gave little thought to potential rough seas and storms - confident in the buoyant, sea-worthiness of Eliot Chapel. Now – here in our current 2019 Eliot Chapel – we have extreme cold and we have choppy and uncertain waters. I am still confident at the wheel, but we are not sailing straight. We are navigating to starboard and back to port accommodating Barbara’s health and her journey, our journey too. No, it is not smooth sailing for Eliot but that is ok. We can take it.

Under Barbara’s leadership we have grown stronger in both muscle and bond. Eliot has demonstrated an ability to come together even over long-standing, internal rifts. We have with squared shoulders and determination faced social justice issues within, among, and beyond. We have been moved and challenged and inspired. Faith abounds in many, many ways.

So keep the faith. We will steer around the storms we can, but for weather that cannot be avoided? We will be fine. We can take it. We are a family. We support each other. We lift each other up. We are resilient.

## 2018-2019 Board of Trustees

- Todd Stark,  
Chair
- Brian Krippner,  
Chair-elect
- Ken Denson,  
Treasurer
- Katrina Priese,  
Secretary
- Karen Fuchs
- Cathy Converse
- Jon Spiesman
- David Cox

### Eliot Chapel End Statements

The people of Eliot Unitarian Chapel of all ages and walks of life will:

- care for and connect with one another within our shared covenant, even when it is uncomfortable;
- achieve greater spiritual maturity;
- deepen our Unitarian Universalist identity;
- nurture leadership and service in all;
- create a more just society, further dismantle racism, and improve the environment.

We aim to make a positive difference within, among, and beyond ourselves.

## Sexton Change for Events

The Eliot administration has made the decision that all future large events will need to have a sexton on duty during the events, plus a half-hour before and after the event. The hosting group will be charged the sexton fee of \$30 an hour.

## Understanding Systems

The Nominating Committee is offering a leadership development session based on the UUA’s *Harvest the Power* leadership training series on **Saturday, February 3** at 8:30 am in Adams Hall. Current leaders and those interested in exploring leadership opportunities are encouraged to attend. Sign up on the bulletin board.

## Rev. Terry Davis, Our Sabbatical Minister



Terry pursued Unitarian Universalist ministry after a 25-year career in corporate communications consulting, where she worked with Fortune 500 companies and nonprofit organizations. She earned her Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology in Atlanta in 2008. She was ordained at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta in 2010, where she was a 20-year active member.

Terry began her ministry in 2009 as the resident chaplain for the maternity center and neo-natal intensive care unit at Emory University Hospital. From 2011 to 2012, she served as the interim minister of pastoral care for Eliot Chapel. From 2012 to 2017, she was the full-time solo minister for Northwest Unitarian Universalist Congregation, a 200-member congregation in Atlanta.

Terry currently serves as a Transitions Coach for the UUA Southern Region, where she works with congregations that are in search for a new settled minister. She recently served as a consultant for the UUA office, where she assisted in the search process for our association's new Director of Stewardship and Development. Previously, she has held regional and national roles to support our UU faith movement and professional ministry. These included serving on the boards of the UU Women's Federation and the southeast UU Ministers Association.

A native of Washington, DC, Terry and her spouse Gail Hyde have been together for 24 years and were legally married in 2013. They divide their time between Asheville and Atlanta, where they share their lives with their adopted Husky mix, Miles.

## Meet the Eliot Staff



### Meet Scott Stewart

Scott Stewart has served as Eliot Chapel's Director of Religious Education since 2009. Prior to his work at Eliot, he became certified as a high school social studies teacher and student taught at Webster Groves High School.

Some of the major highlights of his job include:

- Recruiting, developing, and supporting volunteer leadership teams for the program, including both youth and adults
- Coordinating the Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education program
- Coordinating and directing the youth program
- Ongoing publicity about program events and activities
- Youth leadership development and advocacy for senior high youth, including serving as the Co-Dean of the UU Youth Midwest Leadership School in Decorah, IA, as a Youth Conference (CON) consultant for the MidAmerica Region, and sponsoring youth at the UU General Assembly, and in 2019, attending the UU United Nations Spring Seminar in New York with two Eliot youth.
- Serving as a member of the Chapel staff team, supporting the ministry efforts of his colleagues, and representing Eliot Chapel in the wider UU community.

Scott and his wife Jennifer have been married for 17 years and live with Mr. Fitz, their cat of almost two years. He enjoys reading, traveling throughout the country, playing games with family and friends, hiking, viewing wildlife, and bird watching. Scott is also an avid supporter of the St. Louis Cardinals and the St. Louis Blues.

**Availability:** Scott is usually in the office on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. His day off is Wednesday. To make an appointment, please contact Scott at [scott@eliotchapel.org](mailto:scott@eliotchapel.org) or 314-821-0911.

# Working for Eliot, Our Community, and Our World

## Take the Lead!

Your Social Justice in Action committee is always looking for new members and leaders. We currently are looking for persons or teams to lead action on issues related to LGBTQ issues, reproductive rights, democracy and government issues, and economic justice. The UUA has a very helpful website, [www.uua.org/justice](http://www.uua.org/justice), with lots of resources for taking action. For instance, Eliot Chapel could renew its Welcoming Congregation designation using the guidelines provided. If you have decided to be more active at Eliot this year, please consider joining the SJA committee as either a member or a leader. We'd love to have you. Contact us at [socialjustice@eliotchapel.org](mailto:socialjustice@eliotchapel.org).

## Green Sanctuary

The Environmental Justice Team will meet on Monday, February 18 at 7:00 pm in Room 005. We will be considering projects for our Green Sanctuary work. New members are always welcome. For more information, please contact [environmentjustice@eliotchapel.org](mailto:environmentjustice@eliotchapel.org).

## Chemicals in Your Home

How many chemicals are in your home? How many could you live without? Many cleaning products have chemicals that are unnecessary to clean well. Consider replacing harsh cleansers with safer products like vinegar and baking soda. Check the internet for some simple recipes, or stop by the Social Justice table in Adams Hall and talk to a member of the Environmental team for recipes and suggestions.

## Upcoming Movie Potluck

On behalf of Women's History Month and Black Lives Matter, we will be holding a potluck dinner and enjoying the beautiful movie *Hidden Figures* in Adams Hall on Saturday, March 30. Watch for more info to come!

## MIRA Lobby Day

Join Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates (MIRA) for 2019 Lobby Day at the State Capitol in Jefferson City on Wednesday, February 20 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. This is a time to be emboldened to advocate for the rights of immigrants & refugees. We need your help to counter the growing trend of hatred in our nation. MIRA's lobby day is a day when you can do just that by having one-on-one meetings with elected officials, and becoming civically engaged. Transportation, lunch, and training will be provided. Please register at [actionnetwork.org/events/miras-lobby-day-2019](http://actionnetwork.org/events/miras-lobby-day-2019).

MIRA is a coalition of community, labor, faith, business, and direct service organizations that recognizes the intrinsic value of all people and advocates for the basic rights of all immigrants and refugees.

To hear about upcoming and late-breaking social justice opportunities, keep an eye on "This Week at Eliot" and be sure to sign up to receive emails in your interest area:

[eepurl.com/QlcFv](http://eepurl.com/QlcFv)

You will always be given the chance to update your profile and subscription preferences at the bottom of each email.

# Social Justice in Action at Eliot Chapel

## Documentary film screening *For Ahkeem*

Friday, February 22 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Join us to see the award-winning documentary *For Ahkeem*, a coming-of-age story of a 17-year-old North St. Louis girl set against the backdrop of the Ferguson protests. *People* magazine describes the film as a "deeply moving personal tale of one young student as she experiences loss, love, and dreams that never fade." *The Los Angeles Times* says it is "a bracing story of grit in a world of social injustice." Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice, Vision for Children at Risk, and Eliot Chapel are co-sponsoring the screening. Don't miss this opportunity to see *For Ahkeem*.

The event is free and open to all. Space is limited to this popular event so sign up today.

RSVP link: [www.facebook.com/events/2224656521082363](https://www.facebook.com/events/2224656521082363)



## Former Missouri Senator Joan Bray to address Clean Missouri Challenges at Eliot Chapel Social Justice in Action Assembly

Missouri voters overwhelmingly approved Constitutional Amendment One (Clean Missouri) at the polls in November but now Gov. Mike Parson has declared his intention to “repeal and replace” the voter-approved process for redistricting.

On Tuesday, February 5 at 7:00 pm, former Missouri State Senator Joan Bray will speak on these challenges at Eliot Chapel’s Social Justice Assembly:

“Missouri voters must be very clear and very strong now in letting legislative leaders know that the era of corruption and secrecy in the Legislature is over!” Bray said. “The will of the voters in adopting the CLEAN Missouri amendment to the Constitution must stand.”

Joan Bray is a former teacher, journalist, and union leader. She represented mid-St. Louis County in the Missouri House, then Senate, from 1993 to 2010. Members of the Eliot congregation worked on voter education on behalf of Clean Missouri during the campaign. This topic is important to Eliot Chapel because, as a component of our faith, Unitarian Universalists affirm and promote the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

This event is free and open to the public.  
Please RSVP to [goo.gl/forms/9fJAtD8kGMRGY05Z2](https://goo.gl/forms/9fJAtD8kGMRGY05Z2).



**Vigil for  
Hope & Healing  
Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm**



## Spring All-Read Discussion Groups Forming Now!

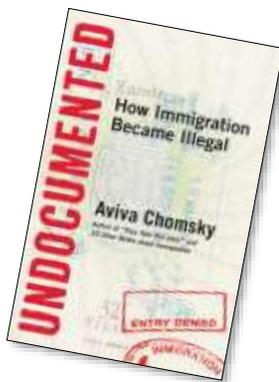
Stop by the Social Justice table after services on Sundays to see the next All-Read selection for Eliot! Sign-ups will be in early February. Discussion groups will meet in March and April. If you’re interested in becoming a Discussion Group facilitator, please contact Mary Meihaus at [socialjustice@eliotchapel.org](mailto:socialjustice@eliotchapel.org).

### **Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal**

by: Aviva Chomsky

Overview: Explores what it means to be undocumented in a legal, social, economic and historical context.

In this illuminating work, immigrant rights activist Aviva Chomsky shows how “illegality” and “undocumentedness” are concepts that were created to exclude and exploit. With a focus on US policy, she probes how people, especially Mexican and Central Americans, have been assigned this status—and to what ends.



Blending history with human drama, Chomsky explores what it means to be undocumented in a legal, social, economic, and historical context. The result is a powerful testament of the complex, contradictory, and ever-shifting nature of status in America.

## A King Size Thank You

Appreciation is extended to Bob Becker, Betsy Comfort, Barbara Harris, Susan Hayman, and Claire Robertson for being loving partners with the Meacham Park Neighborhood Improvement Association (MNIA) at their fifth annual Martin Luther King Celebration that was held at Kirkwood High School on January 21. Special recognition is extended to Barbara Harris and Susan Hayman for their faithful four years of volunteering at this event. Our volunteers represented Eliot Chapel well to the public and shared hand-outs promoting our social justice in action program, upcoming events and our Pledge to End Racism classes. Additionally, there was a poster affirming the dignity of black lives and inviting everyone to Vigil. Raphael Clark, a Meacham Park resident, also helped. Our church provided cookies and lemonade raising \$81.00 for MNIA. Hopefully, this work breaks down racial barriers.

--submitted by Janet Solecki, liaison to MNIA



## Kirk Care News

Kirk Care is the food pantry serving those living in the Kirkwood R-7 School District. It was formed by the Kirkwood Ministerial Alliance in 1982, and Eliot Chapel supports this cause. In addition to having two Eliot representatives on the Board of Kirk Care (Teri Nicely and Karen Gender), Eliot continuously collects non-perishable food items for the Kirk Care pantry. Donations can be put in the little cart near the Adams Hall entrance. Kirk Care delivers food to between 130 and 160 families per month, so the food goes quickly! In addition to donating food, Eliot members can help Kirk Care by volunteering to make food deliveries (this can be a regular thing or an occasional one). Currently, we are also looking for a volunteer to pick up bread from Panera on Manchester on Sunday night at 8:50 pm and take it to the pantry at Webster Hills Methodist Church (Berry and Lockwood) on Monday morning so it can be delivered to our clients. This commitment could be once a month, more or less. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Karen Gender at: [kirkcare@eliotchapel.org](mailto:kirkcare@eliotchapel.org).



## Fire Sale for Fair Trade

**Buy Fair Trade products every Sunday for 50% off while supplies last.**

When Eliot Chapel started selling Fair Trade products after Sunday services, finding Fair Trade Certified goods that supported responsible companies, empowered farmers, workers, and fishermen, and protected the environment were not widely available in our community. Many of our local grocery stores now carry Fair Trade Certified goods, making access to these products, and supporting the Fair Trade market more convenient.

We are phasing out selling Fair Trade Certified products at Eliot and will not be selling them after the current stock has been sold.

Starting Sunday, February 3, purchase any Fair Trade product in stock at 50% off its normal price. See Heather in the front office. Please pay in exact cash or write a check with "Fair Trade" written on the check's memo line.



## The Montgomery Trip

Join Eliot Chapel for the March 22-24 bus trip to Montgomery, Alabama to visit the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, The Legacy Museum, Rosa Parks Museum and the Freedom Rides Museum.

We will be taking a 55-passenger bus and staying downtown at the Double Tree by Hilton which is within easy walking distance of all the major museums and freedom and justice sites. There is a restaurant at the hotel and Friday night's dinner is included in the price as well as both breakfasts.

You are invited to join members of Eliot Chapel on this meaningful trip. The price of the trip is \$350 for double occupancy or \$500 for a single room. If you're interested, please download the form from Eliot's website ([www.eliotchapel.org/montgomerytrip](http://www.eliotchapel.org/montgomerytrip)) and send it with your check to: Eliot Chapel, 100 S. Taylor Ave., Kirkwood, MO 63122, ATTN: Montgomery Trip. Checks should be made payable to "Eliot Chapel" with "Montgomery" on the memo line. If you have any questions, contact [March22@eliotchapel.org](mailto:March22@eliotchapel.org).



# Recognizing Eliot's Superheroes

Each month Eliot recognizes individuals who have done something to inspire us with their faithfulness, hard work, and committed joyful spirits! If you have someone to nominate for Volunteer of the Month, let us know at [frontoffice@eliotchapel.org](mailto:frontoffice@eliotchapel.org).



Sometimes, only a team of superheroes will do. For our **February Volunteers of the Month**, that's just what we needed: the Sabbatical Planning Six featuring **Janis Cox, Kay Boyd, Bob Boyd, Gary Gray, Barb Jones,** and **Bruce MacKenzie**. Like Clark Kent in his glasses, the team is reluctant to take much credit but they guided and assisted the important work of preparing Rev. Barbara and Eliot for her sabbatical.

Work began in early November for the team. The position was alluring because it was a task with a time limit and a way to give back. It also dovetailed with skills and experience that the team members had. And really, who can say no to Rev. Barbara?

They produced a handy **brochure** to help members and friends understand the scope of the sabbatical as well as a booklet with more detailed instructions for the staff, Board of Trustees, and the Sabbatical Executive team to follow.

Members of the team joined in the common goal to benefit both Rev. Barbara and the Eliot community. "I was guided by a desire to ensure that Barbara's time was uninterrupted and restorative, and for the congregation, a time of growing and developing deeper relationships," Bruce MacKenzie said. The work was not without its perks. "It was also a good chance to get more time with Rev. Barbara. She did an excellent job in preparing for it," said Barb Jones.

While the details of Rev. Barbara's sabbatical have changed, the preparation is as important as ever. We must thank the volunteers who acted with care and commitment. **Thank you, Sabbatical Planning Team!**



## Weather Policy Reminder

While Eliot Chapel strives to be open and available, there are times when it is unsafe to do so. In inclement or extreme weather, the decision may be made to close the church and cancel activities. Check the Chapel's voicemail and/or website for news of closings. Information will also be shared on Facebook and with the local media. All members, friends, and staff are urged to use discretion when making choices about traveling in times of hazardous weather conditions.



# Welcome

**Eliot Chapel welcomes our newest member!**



**Ginger Johnson**

## Sunday Services

**9:30 and 11:00 am  
September – May**

**10:00 am only  
Memorial Day through  
Labor Day**

*Eliot Chapel Clergy*

**Rev. Barbara Gadon,**  
Lead Minister

**Rev. Jim Crawford,**  
Minister of Pastoral Care

**Rev. John Robinson,**  
Minister Emeritus

*Eliot Chapel Staff*

**Scott Stewart,**  
Director of Religious Education  
**Christie Lee,** Asst. Director of  
Religious Education

**Jan Chamberlin,**  
Music Director

**Dr. Leon Burke III,**  
Choir Director

**Pianists:**  
Dr. David Nalesnik  
Gail Hintz

**Camille Novak,**  
Director of Finance and  
Operations

**Christie Lee,**  
Administrative Assistant

**Debby Lovell,**  
Communications Specialist

**Myron Simms,**  
Facilities Manager

**Ed Liebman,**  
Sunday Custodian

**Heather Flick,**  
Sunday Front Office Assistant

**Jeanne Olson,**  
Volunteer Office Assistant

# February Worship

*February's worship theme is Trust.*

**Sunday, February 3 – 9:30 and 11:00 am**

***And All Shall Be Well. Oh Really?* – Rev. Barbara H. Gadon**

Julian of Norwich is best known for saying: "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." What we don't realize is that St. Julian didn't write these words - God did! In the book she wrote about her 16 visions or "sightings," she spends thirteen chapters arguing with God. What does a 15th century mystic have to teach Unitarian Universalists about the nature of trust? Come find out!

*Featured Musicians: Ken Kulosa, baroque cello and Women's Chorale*

**Sunday, February 10 – 9:30 and 11:00 am**

***Deep Gladness, Deep Needs* – Rev. Barbara H. Gadon**

Frederick Buechner describes ministry as the place where our "deep gladness meets the world's deep needs." This Sunday, we begin to say farewell to Dr. Leon Burke, our beloved choir director, honoring his 25 years of music ministry at Eliot Chapel. We will also send Rev. Barbara Gadon off on her sabbatical. What is ministry, and how do we recognize its many forms? How do we celebrate and nurture the ministry of all of us?

*Featured Musicians: "Home Remedy" and Chamber Singers*

**Sunday, February 17 – 9:30 and 11:00 am**

***Music Sunday: Psalms of Praise* – Dr. Leon Burke and Jan Chamberlin**

"Psalms of Praise" including "Chichester Psalms" by Bernstein. Description.

*Featured Musicians: Combined Eliot Choirs*

**Sunday, February 24 – 9:30 and 11:00 am**

***Learning from Moral Failure* – Rev. Jim Crawford**

Our month long worship theme on trust continues today as we look at the dynamics of becoming and being trustworthy. Specifically, we'll reflect upon times when our failures teach us and strengthen our character.

*Featured Musicians: "No Strings Attached" and Women's Chorale*

