

The Bellnote

Universalist Unitarian
Church of East Liberty
2231 Jefferson Road,
Clarklake, MI 49234
(517) 529-4221

Volume 231 Number 4

April 2010

LOCATED 3/4 MILE WEST OF U.S. 127

MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: Her day off
Tuesday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Wednesday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday: Sermon-writing day
Saturday: By appointment
Sunday: By appointment
Cindy works mostly from
her home office

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Minister's Column

There's a lot going on in April, but as May and our annual meeting are just around the corner, I want to take this opportunity to fill you in on what's been going on with the sabbatical planning. All year you've been getting little newsletter articles from the sabbatical committee, but we've focused mostly on the purpose and nature of sabbatical, while all the while the committee of Vic Marshall, Ann Green, Carole Hartsuff, Steve Beison, and myself have been working on some important administrative details, on everything from who will sort my mail to who will check the church voicemail. Much of this we're still working on, but some pieces have fallen into place.

My sabbatical will be for five months, starting in mid-November and going through May 1st, with three weeks of vacation tucked into the middle of it. I'm eligible for six months of sabbatical, but the board and I agreed that I could either take six with no study leave, or take five and my usual four weeks of study leave, so I'll be doing the latter, and will have study leave weeks in July as usual.

One of the biggest concerns, of course, is pastoral care. We have made an agreement with the Rev. Jill Terwilliger, a former interim minister of UUCEL, to be our minister for emergency pastoral care. The Caring Committee is going through training this spring or summer and will be available for non-emergency pastoral care needs, and will have Jill's contact information for emergencies. In the event of a death in the congregation, if it is possible, I will return to do funerals during the sabbatical, and the congregation has reserved some funds for emergency travel if that becomes necessary.

Another big concern is filling the worship calendar. As I preach 30 Sundays a year, five months worth of Sundays is 12.5 Sundays. The sabbatical committee will do the Sunday service on May 1st about what the congregation learned while I was on sabbatical, and I will attend that Sunday as my first Sunday back. We also have 10 other Sundays filled for the sabbatical period. Eight of those will be filled by other UU ministers as part of the agreement we have as colleagues to preach once for each other if possible during sabbaticals and other planned absences. The Revs. Gail Geisenhainer (Ann Arbor), Kim Riegel (Southfield), Alex Riegel (Farmington), Nana' Kratochvil (Mt. Pleasant), Leonetta Bugliesi (Rochester), Fran Dew (Midland), Mark Evens (Ann Arbor), and Kathryn Bert (Lansing), have all volunteered their services. In addition to these volunteers, we will be contracting with the Rev. Jill Terwilliger to preach twice during the sabbatical period.

Continued on next page . . . ~ 1 ~

Lastly, I wanted to share a little of my plans for the sabbatical. I have too many plans, perhaps, but I am excited about this opportunity to do projects which take more time than I can normally give, and which are perpetually on the back burner. A couple of them are writing projects—writing a how-to manual for other churches about our forum process, and creating and editing a collection of sermons. The other project I have in mind is a research project of visiting or contacting congregations which had similar demographics to ours that grew beyond the size plateau that we're at, and learning what I can from their experience. I hope that this will be a project that I'll be able to share the results of with you at the end of the sabbatical, if all goes well. Lastly, I hope to have time to just visit some other churches and learn from what my colleagues are doing, hoping to spark new ideas and innovative practices.

I'm so grateful, as always, for this wonderful congregation, and the experience of being your minister. This process of embarking on sabbatical I hope will be a refreshing time for me and a time for you to have new experiences as well, and I'm grateful to you for providing it to me.

Namaste,



Next Ingathering

On **Sunday, April, 25** we will have our next ingathering of our friends becoming members of the U.U. Church of East Liberty. If you would like to be a part of the ingathering service please talk with Rev. Cindy, Joan Bernstein, Kathy Haynes, Carole Hartsuff or Jann Krupa.

Submitted by: The Membership Committee



Religious Education Report

Ah, Spring. A time of change, a time of renewal.

We extended the Little Ceasar's pizza kit sale for two weeks. This is part of the mandated attempt to raise more money for this year's RE budget. Hopefully the extension increases our chance of selling our goal of 100 units—sorry if this is a big hassle for those of you who diligently turned your money and sales in on time the first time around. Kits will be delivered to "the Green House on South Jackson Road" on Friday, April 9th at 5:30 pm and those who can't pick up the units they sold to distribute can get them from me Sunday April 11; they will be refrigerated or frozen as needed in the meantime. If we don't sell 100, we will need to make the trip to Novi ourselves to pick up the orders.

We have an intergenerational service for Easter April 4, and then a "craft day" for the kids on April 11. I hope the weather's good enough then for kids to take a nature walk then.

I'm looking forward to attending the District annual meeting in Ann Arbor. Attending workshops there always gives me helpful ideas, and with my other job I haven't been able to network with my RE colleagues as much as I would like to.

Keep in mind that RE class sometimes lasts until 12:15, in order to have enough time for each lesson. Teachers will accompany the kids to the social hall when they're done. Of course, if you have an urgent need to leave before they arrive at the social hall, you can pick up your child at his or her respective classroom.

We will be starting to recruit teachers for next school year, soon. Adults, I hope you will consider volunteering. We are often short even as our need for new teachers grows. We need to take both a shorter - and longer range look at RE. What is our philosophy of teaching? How does this affect recruitment and training of volunteers? What do we need to plan for differently while Rev. Cindy's on sabbatical? If you have any input, please feel free to email me at sspedersen@sbcglobal.net

Thanks to all who have provided donations of time, talents and \$\$\$ to the RE Program this year. We couldn't do it without you! I want to especially recognize Jann Krupa, who set up a toy box in the social hall so that kids won't get too bored when parents are in meetings there. And also to Diane Langan and others who brought in craft and game items for RE to use.

IUUv,

Sharon 
Religious Education Coordinator

**"No matter how long the winter,
spring is sure to follow."
Proverb from Guinea**

Worship Workshop

Have you been interested in preaching more, but don't feel confident you know enough to do it? Would you be willing to be a worship leader who works with a guest speaker, but would like to know more before you take it on? Come to this workshop led by Rev. Cindy to learn details like helpful web resources for readings and chalice lightings; how to understand the notations and indices in our hymnal; how to smooth over transitions with hymns and joys and sorrows, and preaching tips and techniques. **Saturday, April 24, 1-4:30pm.** Please sign up to let Cindy know how many sets of material to prepare. A sign-up list is posted on the bulletin board.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy Landrum

Spring Conference

10th Annual Meeting &
Spring Conference

*"Ten Best: Celebrating Ten Years
in the Heartland 2001 - 2010"*

April 9 - 11, 2010

*Hosted by:
First Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of
Ann Arbor, Michigan*

The registration form is 5 pages in length; the full version is on the bulletin board in the social hall. Please make a copy as needed and return for others. The full form will also be online at www.heartlanduu.org for more details and registration.

Social Media Webinars

Cindy Landrum is leading a free webinar for our Heartland District on "Social Media for Congregational Life." The webinar will be offered twice on: **April 20, 2010** and **April 29, 2010**. This webinar will focus on how ministers, church staff, boards and committees can use social media to promote their church, connect to their members, and be in touch with the larger movement. The webinar will cover multiple types of social media, with particular emphasis on Facebook and blogging, but also cover other social media. A must for anyone trying to reach out today with confidence and safety. To register, go to <http://www.heartlanduu.org>.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy Landrum

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

First Friday Dinner Information

Cook-Off

April's First Friday dinner, April 2 at 6:30, is the second annual UUCEL Cook-off! You truly vote with your dollars in this competition, since you put money (either cash, coins, or chURch bUCKs that can be purchased at the dinner) into jars by your favorite to show your support for that yummy dish, and for the church at the same time! Categories for this year's competition, in addition to many of last year's categories, will include Best Gluten-Free Dish, Best Kid-Friendly Dish, and, of course, Best Jell-O! You can still sign up on the sheet in the social hall if you would like to make a dish. Winners, who will be announced in church Easter Sunday and in the May Bellnote, will receive a certificate to show off their accomplishment. Last year's event was a lot of fun and a great success. Let's make this year's even better!

Submitted by: Chris Keith

Remember to bring your money, this dinner is a fun fundraiser with 100% going to the church. Still looking for ideas and host/hostess for upcoming months.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee's next meeting is **April 18** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting

Jackson Rose Parade

If you would be interested in helping put together a church float for the Rose Parade in June or helping with the church entry in the Raft-o-rama, please let Chris Keith know

Submitted by: Chris Keith

commUnity forUms

...are free and open programs to facilitate dialogue about the challenging issues of our time. ForUms are usually held at the Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch, located at 244 W. Michigan Ave. between Blackstone & N. Jackson Street. ForUms are usually on the third Thursdays at 6:30-8:30 pm. The forUm's are sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in conjunction with the Jackson District Library.

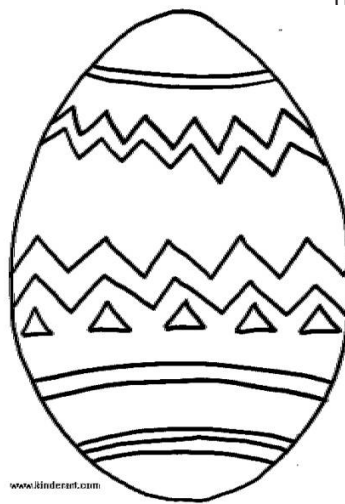
Thursday, April 15; CommUnity ForUm the topic will be on **"Landscaping for Wildlife"**

Does your backyard have what it takes to attract birds, butterflies, and more? Learn the benefits of native plants in our landscape from naturalist Gary Siegrist of The Dahlem Conservancy. At least 5000 alien plant species have been introduced to the United States, either intentionally or by accident. Explore with Gary why it is so important to incorporate native alternatives into our yards and landscapes.

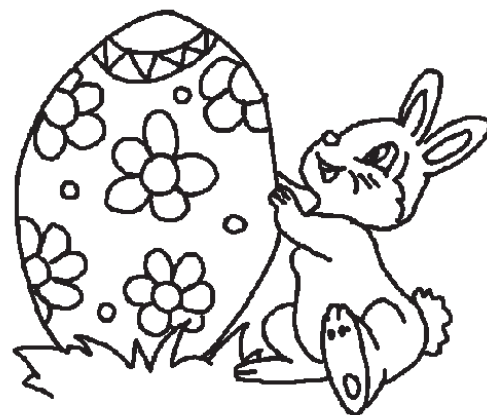
Thursday, May 20;

At the time of printing, there was no information available on this forum.

Submitted by: Jann Krupa and the Outreach Committee



Join us for our Easter Egg Hunt after the service on April 4th! :-)



www.lucylearns.com

\$\$ Auction \$\$

Auction May 1st ~ May Day

Food and Fun ~ Fun and Food

Goods and Services Auction

Huge Church Fundraiser

It's that time of year again. Our annual goods and services auction will be **Saturday, May 1**, in the church sanctuary. Dinner will be served at 5:00 P.M. in the social hall followed by the auction at 6:00 P.M. Invite your friends and relatives to join us in the fun. Child Care will be provided, so bring the kids too! The items listed below are a sample of those offered for bid during the past few years. Typically over 100 items are donated. Some items may be offered for a silent auction if they are delivered to the church by Thursday, April 22. Members of the auction committee will be making calls by early April seeking donated items. If you would like to contribute to our auction items before hearing from a committee member, contact Carole Hartsuff, Debbie Marshall or Steve Beison. Donated items do not need to be recently made or purchased, but please be sure they are in very good condition. The auction committee reserves the right to return any item to the owner or ask permission to add it to our Grandma's Attic sale in June.

Framed poems & pictures - Comic book packs - Maple syrup - Yoga lessons - Cakes & pies - Flowers & potted plants - Jars of cookies & butter pickles - Shopvac - Bicycles - Serving trays - Silk flower arrangements - Raft rides with dinner - Movie tickets & dinner - Cookies - Fudge - Lawn mower - Kayak - Ceramic figures - Music CD's - Child care - Personalized business cards - Local fishing trips - Puzzles - Rocking chair - Nature walks - Weeks or week ends at vacation homes - Bird houses - Handcarved figures - Hand-made jewelry - Homemade breads - Piano lessons - Artist painting materials - Handmade quilts - Sewing alterations - Bath products - Biscotti & coffee - Dishes - Glassware

- Homemade dinners - Lamps - Vases - Assorted gift certificates - Sermon of your choice - Handyman work - DVD movies - Cosmetics - Handmade pillows - Bar stools - Blankets - Silver platter - Tea pot - Birdwatcher's kit - Homegrown canned vegetables - Brass candelabra - Roto tiller - Garden basket - Knitting lessons - Handmade afghan - Lawn ornaments - Costume made to order - Garden wagon - Pizza party - Ceiling fan - Massages - Numerous gift cards & Much More!
Submitted by: Steve Beison

The US Social Forum

Is Coming to Detroit in June 22-26 at the Cobo Hall www.ussf2010.org 1-877-515-ussf.

Here are some facts about the forum:
*it evolved from the Global Social Forum, Brazil (2002+) to challenge the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland * is a movement building process to explore solutions to the economic, social and ecological crisis from a grass roots level * values local and global connections, community building & practical hands-on efforts, diverse & inclusive * Project South of Atlanta, GA held the first US Social Forum in 2007 with world-wide attendance of 10,000 + * Detroit was chosen for 2010 conference because it is "ground zero for the economic crisis facing millions" * a wide range of groups are co-sponsoring this event including Hush House, urban garden orgs, musicians & artists *people of color and youth are among the main organizers & are trained to facilitate inter-active events such as work brigades to invite conference participants to join in painting murals, planting gardens, etc. before, after or during conference * planners are preparing for 10,000-20,000 attendees from around the world * if one person from an organization registers, 2 others can attend FREE * this could be an opportunity for local groups to find ways to dialog concerning a mutual vision! Let Jann Krupa know if you would be interested in attending and she will put you in touch with other local people planning to attend.

Submitted by Jann Krupa
for Marijo Grogan of CANOPAS
(Chelsea Area Network of Peace Activists)

Meetings and Events

not directly affiliated with UUCEL

Open Your Heart & Home to a German or South Korean exchange student for the coming 2010/2011 School Year. Caring host families (with or without children) as well as single people are needed to provide food, a bed and a loving home for the 2010/2011 school year or fall semester starting in late August. EMF students have medical insurance, spending money for their personal expenses and expect to share their host family's daily life including household responsibilities. They speak English, are well screened and eager to experience life in America. Their stay here is sponsored & supervised by EMF (Educational Merit Foundation), a non-profit, educational exchange program. For more information on EMF students, please call Marie-Claude Dijoud now at 1-800-467-8363 or visit our web site at www.emfusa.org

Submitted by: Marie-Claude Dijoud

Our link to the Church's Facebook page is: <http://www.facebook.com/LibertyUU>
We're now tweeting @LibertyUU rather than @UUCEL for a consistent web presence with our Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/LibertyUU>) and webpage (<http://www.libertyuu.org>). This was a simple name change, so if you're already following us on Twitter, no need to change over, it'll be automatic.

Thanks to Chris Keith, Michelle Vanover, Vicki Haynes and Rev. Cindy Landrum who are now adding posts/status updates to the Church's facebook page. We currently have 88 FANS on Facebook!

Also thanks to Chris Keith for checking the church's e-mail account, after George Tramp wanted to pass down the task to someone else. Thanks, George, for doing this task as long as you did.

"Go now and live your religion.
Its truth reflect in all you do.
Go, may love's presence ever guide you.
Live the good life the whole day through."
~~ Our Closing Song ~~

We Welcome Your Membership Not a member? We'd love to have you join our spiritual community. New members signify their commitment by signing the Membership Book during a scheduled church service. It is understood that members actively support their congregation through attendance, service and financial commitment. To start your process of becoming an official member of our lively, compassionate and challenging congregation, speak with Rev. Cindy Landrum, (517) 529-4221, or a member of the membership committee, including Kathy Haynes, Joan Bernstein, Jann Krupa, and Carole Hartsuff.

FROM THE EDITOR:

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST COPY OF THE CHURCH'S NEWSLETTER "THE BELLNOTE" WELCOME ABOARD, AND HAPPY READING. OUR CHURCH CALENDAR YEAR RUNS FROM JULY 1-JUNE 30, THE CHURCH BOARD ASKS THOSE THAT RECEIVE THE PAPER VERSION OF THE NEWSLETTER TO PAY A \$17.00 PER-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION FEE AND WE STARTED THIS IN AUG., 2007. NEW VISITORS WILL GET 3 MONTHS FREE, AFTER THAT A SUBSCRIPTION FEE WILL BE ASKED FOR, OR CHANGED TO AN ON-LINE VERSION THAT IS NO CHARGE.

THANK YOU – KATHY AND VICKI
THE MAY ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:
SUNDAY APRIL 18 ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:
UUCEL_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM
OR IN WRITING HANDED TO KATHY OR VICKI

We want to thank; Steve Beison, Marie-Claude Dijoud, Chris Keith, Jann Krupa, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Alyce Oosting, Sharon Pedersen, Outreach Comm. and the Membership Comm., **for their news items this month.**

OUR 7 PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES

WE, THE MEMBER CONGREGATIONS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION, COVENANT TO AFFIRM AND PROMOTE:

- ~ THE INHERENT WORTH AND DIGNITY OF EVERY PERSON
- ~ JUSTICE, EQUITY, AND COMPASSION IN HUMAN RELATIONS
- ~ ACCEPTANCE OF ONE ANOTHER AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN OUR CONGREGATIONS
- ~ A FREE AND RESPONSIBLE SEARCH FOR TRUTH AND MEANING
- ~ THE RIGHT OF CONSCIENCE AND THE USE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATIONS AND IN SOCIETY AT LARGE
- ~ THE GOAL OF WORLD COMMUNITY WITH PEACE, LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL
- ~ RESPECT FOR THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB OF ALL EXISTENCE OF WHICH WE ARE A PART

The Bellnote Calendar

All events are at the church, unless otherwise noted

April

1 Thurs.	AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
2 Fri.	1st Friday Dinner ~ 6:30 pm ~ Cook-Off ~ Hosted by Chris Keith
4 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
4 Sunday	Easter Egg Hunt ~ After the Service
9 Fri.	Pick-up Pizza Kits ~ 5:30 pm @ the "Green House" on South Jackson Road
11 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
11 Sunday	Pick-up Pizza Kits ~ After the Service if you did not get on the 9th
13 Tue.	Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
13 Tue.	Membership Meeting ~ 1:00 pm
14 Wed.	Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
14 Wed.	Worship Committee Meeting ~ 5:30 pm
15 Thurs.	JDL/UUCEL commUnity forUms ~ "Landscaping for Wildlife" @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch in the McIntyre Room ~ 6:30 pm
18 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Guest Speaker; Rev. Kelly Asprooth-Jackson
18 Sunday	Caring Committee ~ After the Service
21 Wed.	Religious Education Committee Meeting ~ 7:00 pm
22 Thurs.	Have Silent Auction Items at the Church
24 Sat.	Worship Workshop ~ 1:00-4:30 pm
25 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
25 Sunday	Next Ingathering during the Service

Upcoming Events

May 1	Church Auction
May 8	Mother's Day Tea
June 6	Church Float in the ~Jackson Rose Parade

Sunday	Apr. 4	Apr.11	Apr. 18	Apr. 25
Greeters	Alyce O.	Grace M.	Joan B.	Betty G.
R.E. Greeter	Sharon P.	Sharon P	Sharon P.	Sharon P.
Nursery Helper	Open	Open	Nancy S.	Open
Ushers	Paul J. Gary T.	Lynn H. Gary T.	Lynn H. Gary T.	Paul J. Gary T.
Social H. Host	Nancy J. Lynn H.	Carole H. Jean H.	Open	Lori B.
R.E. K-5	Intergenerational	Craft	Rob G. & Sharon P.	Anne S. & Joh H.
R.E. Youth	& Egg Hunt	Day	Youth stay in Worship	Tom P. & Lynn H.

All Sunday Services Start at 11:00 am ~ Celebrating Over 150 Years of Liberal Religion

April 4 - "Easter Service: Resurrection?"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

Come join us for our Easter service as our minister asks the question "What really *did* happen on that Easter morning?"

April 18 - "Holding Fast"

- **Guest Speaker; Rev. Kelly Asprooth-Jackson** -

Rev. Asprooth-Jackson is the consulting minister of the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church in Albion, NY.

April 11 - "Interdependence and Our Free Faith"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

A constant struggle in our society and in our churches is the balance between individual rights and the needs of community. We'll look at our faith's perspective on this delicate balance.

April 25 - "Earth Day Service"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

Join us as we celebrate the beauty of the earth and focus on how to sustain it for future generations.

Ingathering service also today of friends becoming members.

Where people care about each other and care about the world.
<http://www.libertyu.org/newsletter.html>
www.libertyu.org

Return Service Requested

Clarklake, MI 49234
2231 Jefferson Road

Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

