

August 2012

Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

2231 Jefferson Road

Clarklake, MI 49234

(517) 529-4221

The Bellnote

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

MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: Minister's day off
Tuesday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday: Sermon-writing day,
no office hours
Saturday: By appointment
Sunday: By appointment

STAFF

MINISTER ~ Rev. Cynthia Landrum
revCyn@ugaalum.uga.edu

R. E. COORDINATOR ~ Sharon Pedersen
sppedersen@sbcglobal.net

INTERIM PIANIST ~ Tom Pepper
peppet49@comcast.net

NURSERY & CHILD CARE ~ Vicki Haynes
kermit_210@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT ~ VICE PRESIDENT ~

SECRETARY ~ TREASURER ~

TRUSTEE ~ TRUSTEE ~

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CARING COMMITTEE

Alyce Oosting
oosting115@comcast.net

BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Steve Kish~stevekish2@comcast.net

Kerry Hart~ khart247@sbcglobal.net

Grace Mulnix



Minister's Column

"Love is the water that wears down the rock." These are words from a Brother Sun song. Brother Sun is a musical trio I heard perform at SUUSI, the Southeast UU Summer Institute. As we begin our church year with our water communion, these words bring new meaning to the water ceremony for me.

"Love is the water that wears down the rock." Our loving community is the living water – so what is the rock? The rock can be hearts hardened against other people. The Unitarian Universalist Association's "Standing on the Side of Love" campaign uses love to combat identity-based oppression against people. The rock can also be struggles within our own community, and the song lyrics can remind us to treat each other in loving ways, to follow the Golden Rule.

The other aspect of "Love is the water that wears down the rock," is to be mindful that it's not a sledge hammer that wears down the rock—it's water. It's a process that happens slowly, imperceptibly, and takes a great deal of time—but it does happen. Too often we expect immediate results, and when we don't get them, we give up. The song lyrics remind us that true change takes time. This is definitely true in social action—the early suffragist and abolitionists didn't see the changes they sought in their lifetimes. But it is also true in interpersonal relations. It may not take the decades that social action can sometimes take, but opening a heart that's been hardened from pain and neglect can be a slow and difficult process.

Love is not a magic cure—it's not something where you can add one dose of it and all ills are gone. But it is the water that wears down the rock. Give it enough time, and it will prevail.

Peace,

Cindy

Religious Education Report

"There will be no Religious Education Coordinator's report this month. The budget approved by the congregation did not provide funds for RE work in July. Look for RE programming to start up soon after August 1."

Sharon

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

Notes from the Board

Notes from the Board will return next month as Jane Volk is on vacation and the new board officers will be elected at the next meeting on Aug 1st.

Jane

Submitted by: Jane Volk
Board President

Jesus Seminar

Jackson MI,
Friday and Saturday
September 28-29 2012

UUCEL will be co-sponsoring the Jesus Seminar on the Road again this year. This information can be found at <http://www.westarinstitute.org/Events/JSORs/jackson2012.html> if it's easier to cut & paste from there.

The Fifth Gospel:

The Gospel of Thomas and the Wisdom of Jesus

[Rubén René Dupertuis](#) & [Milton C. Moreland](#)

FRIDAY EVENING LECTURE: **The Gospel of Thomas and the Wisdom of Jesus**

In 1945 a new gospel was discovered that would alter the way scholars look at gospels, the origins of Christianity, even Jesus himself. In this lecture Rubén Dupertuis and Milton Moreland will introduce the Gospel of Thomas and explain how it challenges just about everything we have assumed to be true in the story of how Christianity began.

SATURDAY MORNING WORKSHOPS:

Thomas, Q and the Early Christian Wisdom Tradition & Christianity East of the Euphrates: Thomas at Home

SATURDAY AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS:

Q and the Gospel of Thomas: What do they reveal about Jesus? & Rethinking Early Christianity and What it Means for Today

SPONSORS

Arbor Grove Congregational Church,
Jackson
First Baptist Church, Jackson
Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty,
Jackson

ALL EVENTS AT

Arbor Grove Congregational Church, 2621
McCain Rd., Jackson, MI

MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Westar Institute
Willamette University
900 State Street, Salem, Oregon 97301
877-523-3545, 503-375-5324 fax

Nancy Angelo
Arbor Grove Congregational Church
517-750-9895



Please see the bottom of page 7. The Volunteer Schedule is very blank this month, and your help is needed. Please see what you can do. The sign-up clipboards are on the bulletin board in the social hall awaiting your name. Thanks

Paper copy of "The Bellnote"

It's that time of year again, folks. – This is a friendly reminder to the 30 friends and members who receive the paper copy of The Bellnote. The three Rev.'s receive a copy for free, and 3 others have already paid, so looking for payment for 24 more. The editors will be collecting the \$17.00 per person for the years expenses of printing and postage. – Please give to Kathy Haynes or mail to her (See Supplement Page for more contact information) and she will mark you paid and pass the money on to the church treasurer, Thank you.

Submitted by: the E ditors

Illuminations: A Unitarian Universalist App

Illuminations, the Unitarian Universalist Association's (UUA's) first app is now available for free in the [iTunes App Store!](#) This version runs on iPhones, iPod Touch, and iPads. The Android version is right around the corner.

Illuminations has over 350 Inspirational Words, a Chalice Lighter with several chalice options, and a Seven Principles Guide in English and Spanish, along with examples of the Principles in action. The Chalice Lighter comes with five chalice designs. Tap the screen to light it and tap it again to extinguish the flame. Alternatively, you can blow near the microphone to extinguish the flame. Inspirational Words and the Seven Principles can be shared via Facebook, Twitter, and email.

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Grandma's Attic Sale

and

Baked Goods

Our Annual Attic Sale will be

Friday, August 17 -- 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Saturday, August 18 -- 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Sunday, August 19 -- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
with a bag sale from noon to 3:00 pm

Save your previously-loved good items for Grandma's Attic Sale at the church August 17-19. It would be wonderful if we could make enough money to cover the cost of the new water pump at the church! Bring your items to the schoolhouse anytime up till the 15th and volunteer to work a few hours for a good cause.

Come shop our Grandma's Attic Sale. Find lots of great bargains. Bring a friend to shop and look for the "Back to School Specials" and buy some homemade treats at the baked goods table, and lots more. We are looking for some good cooks to bake a few cookies or brownies and have them packaged ready to sell - thanks.

Co- Chairs are Kathy Haynes, Vicki Haynes, Donna Hinton, Ann Green and Elissa Alden for this large church fundraiser.

Submitted by: Kathy Haynes

JXN Community Forums

..are free and open programs to encourage dialogue about the challenging issues of our day. The series is sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty and the Jackson District Library. All forums are held at the JDL, 244 West Michigan Ave., Jackson, MI and they are usually on the third Thursdays at 6:30-8:30 pm. Childcare may be available for a modest donation: (See Supplements Page for contact information) to RSVP for childcare. Call Debby Sears at the library at 517-788-4087 ext. 234 for more information or see the JDL website at www.myjdl.com...

Will be back in September

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

End of Year Pledge Summary

The 2011/2012 church year ended June 30, 2012, and the new church year began on July 1.

If you pledged a church contribution for the past year, you should have received a summary of your contributions for the entire year.

If you have not fulfilled your pledge and are willing and able to do so, please write on your check or envelope that the contribution should be directed to the 2011/2012 church year. Thank you, Submitted by: Steve Beison

Caring Committee

The following is a list of Caring Committee members, please contact them as your needs arise: ~ Alyce Oosting, chair-person,

Nena Obits, Gretchen Marshall,

Jane Volk, Martha Koopman,

Jann Krupa, Peg Gordon, Mindy Radseck

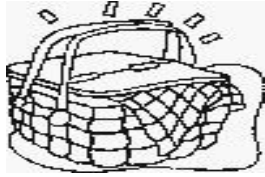
This is a short explanation of what our committee does: We support and meet the needs of our church community by doing such things as; - driving people to appointments

- delivering meals - making phone calls

- friendly visits - listening - sending out cards.

The next Caring Committee meeting will be **August 19** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting



Church Picnic

Our Annual Church Picnic—will be on **Sunday, August 5** after the service at the home of Dee and Harry Reed. This is 5 minutes from the church; maps will be passed out that day (See Supplement Page for more contact information). Please bring a chair or two, and/or blanket to sit on and to eat on outside under the many shade trees, along with a passing dish for this potluck dinner picnic. The food will be set up inside their kitchen. Dee and Harry will provide a sliced ham and the plates, cups and silverware along with a few lawn games. The Reeds live on Crispell Lake, so you can row a boat, use their sailboat, canoe or have the use of their two paddleboats, and of course you can swim. It is highly recommended to wear water shoes, or old tennis shoes when in the water, due to the number of sharp shells on the bottom. Note to all parents; you must watch your own children as no lifeguard is on duty. Don't forget the beach towel and life jackets. The Reeds have a shared driveway with their son who lives next door so there is room for parking but being so close to the church please think about carpooling! If the day is pouring rain the dinner will be inside the church.

Submitted by: Dee Reed & the Editor

"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~~

RE Supplies List - needed for K-6 RE class - contact Sharon if you can help with any of the below items;

- Glue sticks
- 4 candles in holders
- cardboard box (approx. 12 x 12 x 18") and additional cardboard pieces
- 12 plastic champagne glasses
- Red and yellow tissue paper
- Orange and yellow felt
- Silver, gold, and brown kraft wrapping paper
- Scotch and masking tape
- Construction paper, multiple colors
- Popsicle sticks
- 2 1/3 yds 42-45" wide brown cloth
- 2 yards or more cotton rope
- Brown crepe paper
- Old ladders, broom sticks/wood, and/or chicken wire to make small enclosure
- Kroger/Meijer/Polly's gift cards for refreshments and/or supplies
- Also, let me know if I can get from you willow boughs, pine boughs, corn stalks, straw, cranberries, fall fruits or vegetables from your garden for a fall harvest activity around end of September.

Personal Care Ministry Project

Help Wanted. Jackson's new Personal Care Ministry is scheduled to open in June. First Congregational Church (FCC) has invited the Universalist Unitarian Church and St. John's UCC to work with them in support of this ministry that will supply those in need with personal care items and cleaning supplies. The ministry is scheduled to open in June and will be open each Thursday at the First Baptist Church downtown Jackson, 5:00-7:00 pm FCC has taken the second Thursday of each month and asks for volunteers to help. Contact Ed or Christine Peterson to express an interest in volunteering; 517-522-4021 or edpeterson@live.com

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Summer Staffing

Those who have been following church events for the last few months will recall that our board proposed a budget this year that cut all of our staff members from the budget. Following that announcement, an anonymous donor gave a \$5000 matching donation. The congregation passed the budget with the assumption that the money that was already coming in for the matching grant, along with any additional money raised, would go to balancing our budget, with a priority for restoring staff positions. At the June board meeting, money was still coming in to match the \$5000, and the board voted to restore our staff as of September 1st, thanks to the incredible generosity that had already been shown by our members as of that meeting date. This has meant, however, that we have had no staff members in July, which resulted in our having our shortened "This I Believe" series in lieu of full worship services. In August we go back to full worship services, but with guest musicians and no childcare and religious education coordinator. As a result, we'll be needing double the number of volunteers for the nursery in July, or we may have no nursery care provided in July as an alternative. What is still possible, however, is that the board may, at the August 1st board meeting, either restore staffing for August, or slide our ten months of staff forward into August so that our religious education program is better able to get under way. We realize this ambiguity makes it difficult for our staff members, minister, and volunteers, but we're also pleased that our congregation worked so hard to restore our staff to the levels that we have. Lastly, it may be possible that we will finish the year with a surplus. Should that happen, this may help us to bridge the gap into the next year, where our matching grant will no longer be a part of our budget. Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

• Church Website	http://www.libertyuu.org
• The Bellnote Newsletter	http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html
• Church e-mail	EastLibertyUU@yahoo.com
• Church's facebook page	http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu
• Forum facebook page	http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum

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/or 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 and Carole Hartsuff.



FROM THE EDITOR:

"THE BELLNOTE" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF UUCEL. IF THIS IS YOUR 1ST COPY OF THE CHURCH'S NEWSLETTER, WELCOME. OUR CHURCH 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. NEW VISITORS WILL GET 3 MONTHS FREE, AFTER THAT A SUBSCRIPTION FEE WILL BE ASKED FOR, OR CHANGE TO AN ON-LINE VERSION THAT IS FREE OF CHARGE.

THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 19 ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:
 UUCEL_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO

KATHY OR VICKI. THANK YOU -

We want to thank; Steve Beison, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Sharon Pedersen, Dee Reed, Jane Volk, Caring Comm., Outreach Comm. and 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

August

- 1 Wed. Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- 2 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 2 Thurs. RE Meeting ~ 6:30 Pm
- 5 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 5 Sunday Annual Church Picnic at Harry & Dee Reed home after the church service
- 8 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting. ~ 5:30 pm
- 9 Thurs. Membership Committee 10:00 am
- 12 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 14 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 17 Fri. Grandma's Attic Sale and Baked Goods 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
- 18 Sat. Grandma's Attic Sale and Baked Goods 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
- 19 Sun Grandma's Attic Sale and Baked Goods 9:00 am to 3:00 pm bag sale from noon to 3:00
- 19 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Jon Hart ~ 11:00 am
- 19 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service
- 21 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ 2:30 pm at the Jackson Coffee Company
- 22 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter Submissions Due
- 26 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am

Upcoming Events

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Aug 5	Aug 12	Aug 19	Aug 26
Greeters	Alyce O	Grace M	Joan B	Betty G
R.E. Greeter	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P
Nursery Helper				
Ushers				
Social H. Host				
R.E. Pre.				
R.E. K-5				
R.E. Youth				

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

Aug 5 - "Water Communion"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Bring a small container of water from your tap or travels as we join in our annual celebration of the "waters of community."

Guest Musician: Marge Duane

Worship Associate: TBA

Aug 12 - "Superheroes"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Summers in recent years have meant a season of blockbuster movies featuring superheroes. What does this phenomenon say about our culture?

Guest Musician: TBA

Worship Associate: TBA

Aug 19 - "1000 cranes, Mt. Fuji, & our wishes"

- Lay Leader, Jon Hart

How we view the world forms our wishes, our future, and our lives. Hear these ideas explored through the lives and visions of bomb victim Sadako Susaki and artist Hokuzai.

Guest Musician: TBA

Worship Associate: TBA

Aug 26 - "Hunger Games"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Dystopian novels like *The Hunger Games* provide a critique of our society. This service will explore the messages of economic justice and our first principle of inherent worth and dignity in relationship to the film and book.

Guest Musician: Gaea Gaecke

Worship Associate: TBA



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