

# The Bellnote

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

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February 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

## STAFF

**MINISTER** Rev. Cynthia Landrum  
**R. E. COORDINATOR** Sharon Pedersen  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR** Nancy Cooper  
**NURSERY & CHILD CARE** Vicki Haynes

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT** Gratia Karmes  
**VICE PRESIDENT** Jane Volk  
**SECRETARY** Becky Bowen  
**TREASURER** Kerry Hart  
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## CARING COMMITTEE

Alyce Oosting

## BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joyce Weatherwax

Carol Bowen

Nena Obits



## Minister's Column

I write to you from the Potawatomi Inn this month, where I'm at an annual gathering of the ministers of our UUA district. There are new faces and old—former UUCEL minister Richard Venus is one of the people I get to see here, along with the new colleagues and seminarians in our district. Coming to events like this, for me, is a way in which I affirm two things. First, that I am part of an association, a religion. This is something which is continually profound for me, this larger thing that is Unitarian Universalism, which we have in our church, but which is all over this country in different forms and different shapes, but yet nonetheless recognizable as our distinct UU faith. The second thing is that I have a commitment to my colleagues, which is part of what I am called to do as a minister, and part of my commitment to this larger faith, to my collegial association, and also to you as a congregation.

The Unitarian Universalist Minister's Association, which this is a gathering of, might be compared to other professional organizations, like the American Medical Association, or you might compare it to a union like the teachers' unions. It shares some features with each of these—it does create a code of ethics that ministers adhere to and it also works as a collective bargaining unit with the UUA. But it is more than that, to me. Being connected to other ministers is a way we learn and grow—our colleagues are responsible for pushing us when we're stagnating, calling us into awareness when we're transgressing, and supporting us when we're troubled. In a sense, this is where we have many of what I hope each of you has in our congregation—a circle of understanding, of questioning, of challenging, of supporting.

Here at Pokagon this year, we're also doing some interesting learning—media training, learning about the Standing on the Side of Love campaign of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and hearing reports from our District Executive, Lisa Presley, and our District UUA Trustee, Doug Gallager. I hope that the media training, in particular, will help our congregation in our justice work in the community. I'm also connecting with colleagues who you will be seeing in the UUCEL pulpit next year during my sabbatical—eight of them have already indicated that they're happy to come and preach for you during my absence.

Continued on next page . . . ~ 1 ~

It's raining here at the Potawatomi Inn, making me think of some of the things coming up in our February services – a worship service dealing with the Potawatomi beliefs, and a service about love on Valentine's Day, that holiday that for some is so joyful and others so miserable. How do we get through it? How do we get through the dreary month of February? One way is by turning to the warmth of religious community, the love of fellow seekers and travellers on this religious journey.

Namaste,



### Church Buddies

Every February, UUCEL celebrates friendship between the generations by matching adults with children for a month of fun, anonymous note-passing and small gifting. Church Buddies Breakfast will be **February 28**, at which the matches are revealed, and pairs are encouraged to maintain their friendships the whole year through. Around that time the Religious Education program also celebrates what they've learned so far that year by presenting an intergenerational service based on their curriculum.

This year we'll have both halves of the pairs anonymous—in other words, adults won't know exactly who they have been assigned, either! Some folks really enjoyed the two-way gifting that goes on this way. Please limit gifts to \$2.00-\$5.00 at most per week, & \$5.00-\$10.00 for the last week's gift.

A short form helps Sharon make matches and pass on "vitals" about each half of the pairs. The forms will be available at church, or call or email Sharon to request one at [sspedersen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sspedersen@sbcglobal.net). **Assignments will be provide by the 31st.** If you can't make it one Sunday, you can always have Sharon or another friend make a special delivery for you!

Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen

## Religious Education Report

January was nice – lots of RE classes after the New Year. And our attendance has been great—several weeks eight or nine kids came to K-5 class, and one day we had 7 in the youth class!

The K-5 class's transition to the "Wonderful Welcome" curriculum has gone smoothly. Youth are learning about Islam before they go into their Credo-writing. We are also starting to plan next year's curricula for K-5 and youth classes.

We hope to hold a fundraiser for RE in March, after Church Buddies and Girl Scout cookie season has passed. In case anyone's giving up sweets or carbs for Lent, we'll have delivery around the beginning of April, and the product is freezable, so you can consume it after Easter.

Check out our new RE brochure! We'll have it in the visitor packets, and you can use it if you would like to place one on a bulletin board or put a stack at an event you're attending where families with kids might pick one up.

Thanks again for your support of the religious education program.

IUUv,



Religious Education Coordinator

### R.E. Supplies

Here is a wish list of items needed for the "We Believe" curriculum that the K-5 class has recently started:

- ~ Watercolor markers
- ~ Transparent/ "Scotch" tape
- ~ Masking tape ~ Glue sticks
- ~ Assorted sizes scissors
- ~ Multi-colored construction paper
- ~ 11 x 17 or larger artists' paper/poster board
- ~ newsprint/flipchart
- ~ business-size white envelopes ~

Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen

## Give food for Lent

Can you help support  
the **Brooklyn Food Pantry**  
during the Lent season?

Can you bring in canned goods?

The church will be collecting  
non-perishable food items

from **February 14th**

(Sunday before the start of Lent  
on the Ash Wednesday the 17th)

through **March 28th**,

the Sunday before Easter.

Can you help out in some way?

Brooklyn Food Pantry

is at

171 Wamplers Lake Road

in Brooklyn and is an organization  
that the church has voted to help  
support under our Social Mission  
policy. We help staff the pantry on  
our assigned workday about  
6 times a year.

Yes, you **Can!**

Please help—bring what you **Can!**

Please put the  
non-perishable food items

in the

box under the table

by the nursery door.

The pantry is open every  
Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00  
am to 2:00 pm to fill the orders of  
those in need of food and restock  
the shelves.

Thank you

Submitted by:

the Membership Comm

## UUCEL On-Line

### Easy On-Line Fundraisers

UUCEL has three easy ways you can  
earn money for the church while going about  
your usual on-line activities. The first is through  
Amazon.com. If you're shopping at  
[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), first go to our church webpage  
at [www.libertyuu.org/shop.html](http://www.libertyuu.org/shop.html) and click on  
the link to Amazon. Once you do that, the  
church will earn a percentage (usually 4%) of  
the amount you spend at Amazon.

The second method is to use  
GoodSearch as your search engine. It works  
like other search engines, such as Google.  
Whenever you're searching the web, go to  
[www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com), enter Universalist  
Unitarian Church of East Liberty as your  
agency you're fundraising for, and then every  
time you search the web we make a penny.

Third, use GoodShop before shopping.  
Go to [www.GoodShop.com](http://www.GoodShop.com) and enter  
Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty as  
your agency, and then click from there to any  
number of on-line business, from e-Bay to  
Orbitz to iTunes, and when you make your  
purchase at the store, UUCEL will earn a  
portion of your sales.

"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.

# Meetings and Events

## U.U. Church of East Liberty

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### First Friday Dinner Information

#### Golumpki

Please join us **Friday, February 5** at 6:30 for a Golumpki dinner provided by hosts Ann Green and Jann Krupa. Golumpkies are meat filled cabbage rolls baked with a tomato sauce. The Polish spelling is Golabki. For those herbivores in our midst, a vegetarian chili will be available. Please sign up in the social hall and indicate if you need a vegetarian entree.

#### Venison Chili

On **March 5** the first Friday will be a Venison Chili dinner. Hosted by George and Kathy Haynes serving at 6:30 pm. You will be served a tossed salad, mild venison chili that you can season to your taste/crackers, bread, brownies and drinks of lemonade and coffee. There will also be a vegetarian chili offered. Please sign up in the social hall of the number attending. Come and join us for fun fundraiser dinners.

#### Cook-off

The Cook-off is coming! The Cook-off is coming! The first Friday dinner in April is the second annual Church Cook-off on **April 2**. Sign-up will begin in March, but now would be a great time to start working on perfecting your recipes to create a winner!

You can also bring your money, remember all these dinners are a fun fundraiser with 100% going to the church.

Still looking for ideas and host/hostess in the month of June.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

### Caring Committee

The Caring Committee's next meeting is **February 21** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting

### *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 commUnity forUm is sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in conjunction with the Jackson District Library.

#### Thursday, February 18

##### **"Community Gardening in Jackson"**

Find out how people in the county, city, and in neighborhoods are growing their own fresh food, and the many organizations and programs that support this local movement. **February 18**, 6:30 pm, Carnegie Library.

#### Thursday, March 18

##### **"Why Fantasy Literature is Good for Children (and Adults Too)!"**

Steve Vander Ark will lead a discussion of fantasy literature as part of March's "Big Read" focus on Ursula LeGuin's *A Wizard of Earthsea*. Books like *A Wizard of Earthsea* and the *Harry Potter* Series often come under attack because of their inclusion of magic and wizardry. The Community Forum will address some of these issues as well as the positive effects of reading fantasy literature on children and adults, such as imagination and insight.

Mr. Vander Ark is a public speaker on works of fantasy and the author of *The Lexicon and In Search of Harry Potter*, and creator and editor of the "Harry Potter Lexicon" website. Vander Ark has been interviewed by the Today Show, A&E, the BBC, the New Yorker and the Guardian. A former school media specialist living in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Vander Ark has been honored by fans of the series who appreciate his insights into the Potter books. The Association for Library Services for Children, a division of the American Library Association, has named the Lexicon website one of 15 "Great Web Sites For Kids."

Submitted by: Outreach Committee





### New U.U. Class / Mini Visitor Q & A Orientation

Mark your calendar for **February 7** for our next New U.U. Class / Mini Visitor Q & A Orientation. Please join us for this mini class to meet each other and learn about Uuism. This class is intended for anyone, new-comers and or the curious. The session will begin after church at about 12:45 pm. Contact Rev. Cindy Landrum for more information.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy Landrum  
and the Membership Comm.



### BIG READ

The Jackson Public District Library is again sponsoring the BIG READ 2010. The events are in March so here is the book information for you to get started;

#### *A Wizard of Earthsea*

by: Ursula K. Le Guin

The following is quoted on the back of the paper back book, of 197 pages all within 10 chapters.

#### —A Wizard of Earthsea

– Ged, the greatest sorcerer in all Earthsea, was called Sparrowhawk in his reckless youth. Hungry for power and knowledge, Sparrowhawk tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tale of his testing, how he mastered the mighty words of power, tamed an ancient dragon, and crossed death's threshold to restore the balance.–

Cindy's service on March 21 will be on the topic of the book with a discussion afterwards.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

### Worship Committee

We have started using a "Worship Associate" on Sunday mornings. This involves a lay person being a part of the service, such as opening and closing or joys, and sorrows and a reading etc. We need 5 people to take one Sunday a month. If you are interested please call Lynn Hightower, or I may be calling you!

Submitted by: Lynn Hightower

### Meetings and Events not directly affiliated with UUCEL

Big Read Kick-Off event (not a UUCEL event) **Friday, Feb. 26**. Details are on a poster in the fellowship hall and on the Jackson District Library webpage, [www.myjdl.com](http://www.myjdl.com).

I thought you might be interested in my book, concerned about women's and family issues, *The Blue Cotton Gown: a midwife's memoir*, (Beacon Press). The Blue Cotton Gown, set in Appalachia, is not about birth but about women giving birth to themselves. It's the story of ordinary women dealing with problems such as postpartum depression, drug abuse, teen pregnancy, menopause, mother-guilt, infertility, cancer, eating disorders, domestic violence, midlife sexuality & keeping a marriage together. Sound like a lot? As you know, it is all in a days work for any one who takes time to listen. The book makes a great discussion tool & Beacon has a special program for book clubs.

The Blue Cotton Gown is a work of the heart, a book of hope and a tribute to all professionals who struggle to survive with their souls intact. It's available now at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and in most major bookstores.

It was featured in People Magazine, was an independent bookstore first pick and was nominated for the Southern Independent Bookstore Alliance non-fiction award of 2009.

Submitted by: Patsy Harman; CNM MSN

#### 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 DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER IS:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[uucel\\_bellnote@yahoo.com](mailto:uucel_bellnote@yahoo.com)

Kathy & Vicki Haynes

or in writing handed to Kathy.

We want to thank: Lynn Hightower, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Alyce Oosting, Sharon Pedersen, Outreach Comm. and the Membership Comm., for their news items this month.

"May it be true that a joy shared  
is a joy doubled and  
a sorrow shared is a sorrow halved"

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#### 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
- ~ 6 ~ 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

## February

Jan. 31	Church Buddies assignments will be given out All month long "Church Buddies" formerly known as Secret Friends
3 Wed.	Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
4 Thurs.	AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
5 Fri.	1st Friday Dinner ~ Golumpkis ~ Hosted by Jann Krupa and Ann Green~ 6:30 pm
7 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. D. Charles Davis, Minister
7 Sunday	New U.U. Class / Mini Visitor Q & A Orientation ~ After the Service
9 Tue.	Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
10 Wed.	Worship Committee Meeting ~ 5:30 pm
10 Wed.	Religious Education Committee Meeting ~ 7:00 pm
11 Thurs.	Membership Meeting ~ 1:00 pm
14 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
14 Sunday	Bring in canned goods --through March 28 ~ <b>Give food for Lent !</b>
18 Thurs.	JDL/UUCEL commUnity forUms ~ <b>"Community Gardening in Jackson"</b> @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
21 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
21 Sunday	Caring Committee ~ After the Service
28 Sunday	Church Buddies Breakfast ~ 10:00 am ~ All are invited to attend, donations are welcomed
28 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum

## Upcoming Events

Mar. 5	1st Friday Dinner ~ Venison Chili / vegetarian chili ~ Hosted by George & Kathy Haynes
Mar. 18	JDL/UUCEL commUnity forUms <b>"Why Fantasy Literature is Good for Children (&amp; Adults Too)!"</b> @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
Mar. 28	Last Sunday to Bring in Caned Goods ~ <b>Give food for Lent !</b>

## WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Feb. 7	Feb.14	Feb. 21	Feb. 28
<b>Greeters</b>	Alyce O.	Grace M.	Joan B.	Gratia K
<b>R.E. Greeter</b>		Sharon P.	Sharon P.	Sharon P.
<b>Nursery Helper</b>	Becky B.	Nancy S.	Sharon M.	Jane H.
<b>Ushers</b>	Steve J. Gary T.	Paul J. Gary T.	Jackie J. Gratia K.	Paul J. Gary T.
<b>Social H. Host</b>	Dale & RoseMary L.	Anita P.	Lori B.	Jane H.
<b>R.E. K-5</b>	Sharon & Peter	Kerry & Sharon	Rob & Peg	Jon & Anne
<b>R.E. Youth</b>	Gretchen & Alyce	Lynn & Tom	Stay in service	Jackie & Peggy

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

## Feb. 7 - "What is Spirituality?"

- Rev. D. Charles Davis, Minister

UU Fellowship of Winston Salem, NC

How do we walk the pathway between certainty and mystery? What is the balance between objective and subjective realities?

## Feb. 14 - "Love"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

A special Valentine's Day service talking about love, why it is so important, and its religious aspects. This service will include information on the Standing on the Side of Love campaign.

## Feb. 21 - "UU Sources Series: Wisdom

from the World's Religions"

- Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

One of our UU sources is "Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life." This service will explore why this is a source we draw religious inspiration from and how it enriches our faith.

## Feb. 28 - "The Cosmology of Native

Americans of Michigan"

- Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

How did the indigenous people of Michigan worship? How is it like the way we worship? Come listen to and experience this auction sermon suggested by Jon Hart.

Where people care about each other and care about the world.  
<http://kermi21049203.tripod.com/the-bellnote-uucel.html>  
[www.libertyuu.org](http://www.libertyuu.org)

Return Service Requested

Clarklake, MI 49234

2231 Jefferson Road

Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

