

July 2011

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

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Minister's Column

I hope you're having a wonderful summer! I'm gone for all of July, one week for vacation and the rest for my usual study leave. This will be a time for me to plan out the next church year. I can be reached for church emergencies or emergency pastoral care needs — even when out of town I'll be checking my home phone number, so it's fine to leave a message there. As June finishes up, I'm off to the annual Unitarian Universalist General Assembly (GA), this year in Charlotte, North Carolina. This is the 50th anniversary of the merger between Unitarianism and Universalism, so it promises to be a special event this year with some special activities to celebrate. But I'm looking forward to the usual events as well, such as the Ware Lecture, this year with Karen Armstrong; the Service of the Living Tradition, where ministers entering and leaving the ministry get recognized; and, of course, the plenary sessions where we do the work of the association! Now is a good time to start planning to go to next year's GA in Phoenix, AZ, which will be a special justice-focused GA. There's nothing like experiencing doing justice and worshipping with thousands of other UUs.

Meanwhile, this July, remember to gather water from your home or garden or your summer travels. We'll be having our annual water communion service at the beginning of August again. This was a change we made last year, and it went very successfully, so we're doing it again this year. "Homecoming" will still be the Sunday after Labor Day, however that Sunday is September 11th, and is the 10th anniversary of the events of 9/11/01, so our "Homecoming" portion of the service will be shortened so that we focus on the meaning of what that day meant and how our world has changed over the last decade.

I'm planning to rest up this July, and I hope you do, too, because we're going to have an exciting church year! The Jesus Seminar is coming to town again. We'll have a new historical sign to dedicate, and the 50th anniversary of UUism to celebrate. We'll have a new religious education year and forums starting back up. Gather your energy and spirit, and enjoy the lazy summer days of July. I'll see you in August, when I'll be back in the pulpit for the month, probably doing something along pop culture lines, as I often do for August, or starting a new sermon series. See you then!

Peace,

Religious Education Report

Happy Summer!

We've decided to abbreviate the summer RE schedule, but offer RE every week in August after the intergenerational "Water Communion" on August 7 (also Church Picnic Sunday).

We had a productive RE meeting on Wed. June 15. We talked about recruiting another person to the committee, recommending a chair of the committee to the Board for consideration, finalizing summer plans, and recruiting volunteers. We've contacted many of the current teachers and as soon as all volunteer surveys are in, we'll start recruiting new volunteers, as well. We decided to plan a possible Peace Camp for NEXT summer starting around January. We will not meet in July.

Personally I've made some strides with organizing RE materials. I sorted curriculum materials that had been stacking up, and then did some filing June 21. I am in good shape to begin lesson planning and such for the August RE start-up very soon. Look for a list of supplies that we are looking for donations of in the August Bellnote newsletter.

In August we traditionally have a joint RE/ Worship committee meeting, or at least a meeting where I meet with the Worship committee, in order to compare calendars and rough out the schedule of intergenerational services and special events during the coming school year. We also have at least one training session for new and returning teachers, and so those dates will be established soon.

Speaking of Intergenerationals, on July 24 we'll have a church service based on the K-5 class curriculum they just finished, *Honoring Our Mother Earth*. I think you will enjoy this inter-generational service where we will learn about Native American teachings regarding respect for the environment and all living things. The kids sure enjoyed it, and I'm sure you will, too!

~2~

Continued on next column...

Wish me luck as we embark on painting our house this Summer. It will be a lot of work, but worth it! Safe travels, and don't forget to collect some "waters of the world" if you have a chance.

IUUv, *Sharon* 

Religious Education Coordinator

"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--

Church Dues

During the 2010/2011 pledge campaign, 14 people offered to pay the church dues to the UUA along with their church contributions. Thus far, 4 members have paid their dues. Church dues are \$76.00 per member. The Board will be paying the dues to the UUA by the end of June so, if you would like to pay the church dues, please do so prior to July 1. (Editors note: or as soon as you can seeing how this is the July's issue and it's after the 1st.) If you would like to know if you pledged to pay the dues and have paid them, contact me (See Supplements Page for more contact information)

Submitted by: Steve Beison



Our Church Website
www.libertyuu.org

Notes from the Board

Paper Copy Newsletter

A reminder from the editors;
July is the start of
a new calendar year
for our church.

So to the 31
friends and members
on the paper copy list
of "The Bellnote"
it is now time to pay the
\$17.00 fee asked
from each of you.
Please give the payment
to Kathy Haynes,
our newsletter editor,
and she will keep track
of who owes, and the
money will be turned over
to the church treasurer.

Or if you prefer
you can mail
your payment to
Kathy Haynes
3457 Tracey Drive,
Jackson, MI 49203.
There is no charge
for the on-line version
of "The Bellnote"
newsletter.

Thank you from the editors
Vicki and Kathy Haynes
we hope you
enjoy reading
each issue
we enjoy putting it together
and spreading our
NEWS.

Submitted by:
Kathy Haynes

The UUCEL Board met Tuesday night, May 31st. This meeting included three new members (Jackie Johnson, Hugh Tomlinson, and Anita Pepper) who will officially join the board in July. (Note: they are replacing Gratia Karmes, Kerry Hart, and Becky Bowen.) We reviewed the results of the church auction, the annual meeting, and various policies new members might need to know about. The budget was passed, as recommended by the Board, at the annual meeting last week. A slate of officers was developed, and will be voted on at the July meeting. New members of the Board were "ingathered" (and outgoing members were bid good bye) at our Sunday Service on June 12th. The next UUCEL Board meeting will be Wed. August 3rd, 6:30, at the Pepper's.

Respectfully Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President

Offertory Policy

Starting in July, we have a new offertory policy for Sunday services. This was a vote decided at our annual meeting for a one-year trial basis, to be reviewed next spring. All cash received in our offertory is split between the church and social justice agencies that we have voted to support: Planned Parenthood, the Aware Shelter, the Jackson Interfaith Shelter, and the Brooklyn Food Pantry. Checks may also be made directly to these agencies. Checks to the church will be put in the operating budget, unless otherwise designated in the memo line.

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Ice Cream Social /Fundraise

On **Sunday, July 3rd** during the social hour, there will be an ice cream sundae Sunday. Ice cream will be dipped up and you can add your own toppings and add a donation to the money tin. Enjoy.

Submitted by: The Membership Comm.

Annual Church Picnic

This year's annual church picnic will be on **Sunday, August 7th**. It will be a potluck style picnic held at church. Please bring your own tableware, a passing dish along with your outdoor folding chairs you may want to sit on, and stay for an afternoon of fun. We will be asking for help that day to move a few tables and chairs to the backyard. The food table will be inside and we're asking folks to eat in the out of doors. We are also planning a few games for all ages like —tug of war — water balloons toss — clothes pin drop. Come and enjoy the fellowship of others.

Submitted by: The Membership Comm.

First Friday Dinners

Board members are looking for other committees, groups and/or individuals who would like to host the 1st Friday Dinners. We'd like to have one every month since the dinners are an important part of our fundraising. Information can be given to the editors to print in the newsletter and/or communicated by making an announcement on Sunday morning.

Submitted by: Membership Comm.

New Church Year

July 1, is the start of our 2011/2012 church year. Sunday, June 26, will be the last collection for the 2010/2011 church year, and the last contribution update will be available July 3. If you have made a pledge for the 2010/2011 church year and would like to know if you have fulfilled your pledge prior to July 3, contact me. Pledge contributions made after July 1, will be applied to the 2011/2012 church year unless you specify on your check or envelope that the contribution should be credited to the 2010/2011 year. (See Supplements Page for more contact information) Submitted by: Steve Beison

Committee news:

The following is an update of our regular committee meetings now that the "All Committee Night" is over with.

Board Meetings have traditionally met on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the church social hall. NO July meeting; the next is at home of A. Pepper's on August 3 at 6:30 pm.

— President, Jane Volk

The Worship Committee will now be meeting the third Tuesday at 2:30 pm at the Jackson Coffee Company, in downtown Jackson on Mechanic Street. There will be no meeting in July.

— Chair, Lynn Hightower

RE Committee will not be meeting in July and August. — New Chairperson will be announced soon

— RE Coordinator Sharon Pedersen

Membership Committee will be meeting in the church social hall on the 2nd Thursday at 10:00 am.

— Chair, Kathy Haynes

Outreach/JXN Community Forum Committee will be meeting at the downtown Library at 5:30 pm 2nd Wednesday.

— New Chairperson will be announced soon

Caring Committee will be meeting on 4th Sunday after the service through September. The next is July 24, then back to the 3rd Sunday in October - December.

—Chair, Alyce Oosting

YAC Service Project for All!

Join the visiting UU young adults following the service on **July 3** for a special service project in the community, they choose the Big Brothers Big Sisters!

The service project on **July 3**, will take place at the church and will actually be a "game day". We'll be shuttling kids from the Big Brothers Big Sisters office in Jackson to the church and back again and spending the day doing games and whatnot themed towards self esteem and compassion.

For any congregants that would like to get involved, there are 3 ways to help:

1. Stick around after church to play games and interact with the kids (we will provide the games and activities)
2. Bring a dish to pass, as we will need to provide lunch, and it would be great not to have to order pizza
3. Volunteer to drive, as we will need to pick the kids up and drop them back off at the BBBS office in Jackson, which is a 15-20 minute drive.

Please see the full article in the next column about the UU young adults weekend.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy Landrum
and Zach Ashley



JXN 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 co-sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty (UUCEL) and the Jackson District Library (JDL).

The JXN Community Forum does not meet during the summer months. It will return in September.

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

YA Conference

YAC (Young Adult 18-35) Conference will be taking place at our church this year from **Friday, July 1 at 5:00pm to July 4 at 4:00pm**

Remember Con songs by the fire, drum circles, massage trains, and Rule #4? I do too, and for me those were some of the most formative experiences of my life, not to mention possibly the most fun. In that spirit, the Young Adult Collective brings you ReUUnion! A four day conference held over fourth of July weekend where we will reminisce, bond in solidarity, worship together and even get out into the community for a good old fashion UU service project. I can't wait to see you there!

Just a couple things to know – How Much: \$70-\$95 Sliding Scale. A limited number of scholarships are available, apply in advance by contacting Zach Ashley: zach.ashley@yahoo.com. To Register: Go to http://connectuu.com/events.php?action=view&event_id=1249

Please pay in advance if you are able, money up front means more scholarships! For instructions on where to send a check or to pay using Paypal, go to <http://cbdmslair.com/reunion/>

Spread the word! We want to see as many familiar and unfamiliar faces as possible at this event. Please send word of this event to former con friends, and friends who might be interested in becoming future con friends. A good showing at this event will allow YAC to put on similar programming in the future!

Volunteer: WE NEED HELP! Plan a kick @\$\$ workshop, an enlightening worship, dominate the kitchen realm, or coordinate childcare. If you are interested in helping out contact Julie Brock: julieelizabethbrock@gmail.com

Child Care: This will be a family friendly event and childcare will be provided on a volunteer basis. Family: Don't know what YAC is? "Like" us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/YACollective>

Submitted by: Zach Ashley
Kevin Leininger,
and Julia Pulver



~~Visitor Tips for Everyone~~

Here are some ways to make people feel welcome that everyone can follow:

- Introduce yourself and get to know a visitor by name.
- Invite a visitor to social hour.
- Wear a nametag.
- Sit toward the middle of the pew or nearer to the front of the church so visitors can be more anonymous if they choose.
- Watch for people who may be alone during social hour and ask them about the sermon or their faith journey.

Thank you!

Rev. Cindy's book,

An Extremist for Love & Justice

is now available! She'll be bringing copies to purchase, but it is also available online at <https://www.createpace.com/3593257>. Use the coupon code 88R6LTTM for \$3.00 off at CreateSpace. It is also available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



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 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 AUGUST ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY: SUNDAY, JULY 24 ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: UUCEL_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO

KATHY OR VICKI. THANK YOU -

We want to thank; Steve Beison, Kathy Haynes, Gratia Karmes, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Sharon Pedersen, 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

July

3 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Ann Green ~ 11:00 am
 3 Sunday Ice Cream Social /Fundraiser ~ During Social Hour
 6 Wed. Board Meeting ~ Not Meeting in July
 7 Thurs. AUUW Metting ~ 12:30 pm
 10 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Guest Speaker, Debbie Sears ~ 11:00 am
 12 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
 14 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 10:00 pm
 15 Fri. Regional "Cluster" Meetings of Religious Educators ~ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
 17 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Guest Speaker, Roger Maufort ~ 11:00 am
 24 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Sharon Pedersen and Barbara Hill ~ 11:00 am
 24 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service
 31 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Lynn Hightower ~ 11:00 am

Upcoming Events

Aug. 7 Annual Church Picnic ~ After the Service held at Church this year

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
Greeters	Alyce O	Grace M	Joan B	Betty G	Carole H
R.E. Greeter	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P
Nursery Helper	-	-	-	-	-
Ushers	Steve J Gary T	Steve J Gary T	Steve J Gary T	Steve J Gary T	Steve J Gary T
Social H. Host	Ice Cream Social /Fundraise	Dee R Harry R	-	Grace M	Peg B Steve B
R.E. Pre.					
R.E. K-5	No RE in July				
R.E. Youth					

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

July 3 - "Poetry Sunday"

- Lay Leader, Ann Green

Please bring your favorite poem that you wrote or one from your favorite author to share with everyone.

July 10 - "The Library is My Church"

- Guest Speaker, Debbie Sears

Debbie will talk about her workplace, the Jackson Public Library. She is also on the Outreach Committee that co-sponsors the JXN Community Forums.

July 17 - "Medical Marijuana"

- Guest Speaker, Roger Maufort

Roger is from the Jackson County Compassion Club.

July 24 - "Honoring Our Mother Earth"

- Lay Leader, Sharon Pedersen
and Barbara Hill

Native American leaders throughout history have taught their people to respect the earth, and care for it as if it was their Mother. The K-5 class used the curriculum to learn about the environment and Native American wisdom and customs. Some of their learnings will be shared with the congregation in this intergenerational service.

July 31 - "Artist Sunday"

- Lay Leader, Lynn Hightower

Please bring and share a piece of your art work, in any form of artist that you may be.

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

Return Service Requested

2231 Jefferson Road
Clarklake, MI 49234

Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty



