

July 2013

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  
 REV.CYN@UGAALUM.UGA.EDU

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NURSERY & CHILD CARE   Vicki Haynes  
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## BUILDING & GROUNDS

Vic Marshall   vbmarshall@gmail.com

## BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMM

Steve Kish ~ stevekish982@yahoo.com  
 Kerry Hart ~ khart247@sbcglobal.net  
 Grace Mulnix



## Minister's Column

I've just returned from Louisville, Kentucky, where our member Lynn Hightower and I spent several days at the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly (GA). I also attended the UU Minister's Association's Ministry Days preceding the GA. There were several things of interest that happened at GA that I'd like to tell you about.

First, this year we elected a new moderator after ten years with Gini Coulter as our moderator. Moderators usually can only be elected twice for two four-year terms, but Gini Coulter had finished out the previous moderator's term, which is how she got to be in the role for ten years. Our new moderator is Jim Key. Jim Key won a narrow victory (945 to 905) against Tamara Payne-Alex. Everything I heard at GA suggested that this was a very tight race because they were both well-qualified candidates. The moderator chairs the UUA board of trustees, is our highest elected position after president, and is usually a lay person. Interestingly, this is the first time we've had a man in the role since Sandra Caron took over from Joseph Fisher in 1977.

One vote that was really important to us this year at General Assembly was the vote to include the concept of a "region" alongside "district" in the UUA bylaws. As you may recall, our district, Heartland District, along with the Central Midwest District and Prairie Star District, voted to disband the districts and unite together in one region. The biggest question in the discussion of the bylaws was why we couldn't just be one big district instead of having to add regions to the bylaws. Indeed, since the change is a two-year vote, we will be considered a district for one year until next year's GA. Ultimately, however, the General Assembly did pass the vote to include regions.

An exciting part of the plenary sessions, to me, is our voting on Actions of Immediate Witness, or AIWs. From the list of AIWs which get enough signatures, the General Assembly delegates choose three to admit to the agenda. All three AIWs were then passed by the General Assembly delegates. The first one was a statement about corporations not being people and money not being speech, asking us to work for a constitutional amendment to that effect. The third one asks all our congregations to consider divesting from fossil fuels. But the second one was the one that was most exciting to me, since it followed up on our work on *The New Jim Crow*. It was a

Continued on top of page 4...

# Religious Education Report

Will return in August - in the mean time check out the new

## Church Wish Lists on Amazon

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Do you ever finding yourself adding on an item or two to get free shipping? Well, now you can help the church at the same time! We've created Amazon.com wish lists for church items. We may add more wish lists over time, if this proves to be popular with our members, but we're starting with the Religious Education wish list and a couple of items for Worship. Give us a while to get this set up and add items (the ones appearing now are just Rev. Cindy's suggestions, not the ones selected by our RE team, except that Sharon told her they need glue sticks). The wish list can be found at <http://amzn.com/w/266ZXC3M9OM3Y>, or by searching for wish lists of "Universalist Unitarian" and then selecting the one with our church's picture.

## Sharon

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

## New U.U. Class

Are you new to the church? Do you want to learn more about our faith? Please join us **Aug 18** for a class to meet each other and learn about UUism. The class is intended for anyone: newcomers, the curious, and the seasoned and will begin after church at about 12:30. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Cindy, as she along with others in the church will teach the class.— (if you were wondering, the Class that was planned for June 9<sup>th</sup> – well, we forgot – sorry)

# Notes from the Board

I want to send a special thanks to George Haynes for donating and installing the newest Special Needs sign. You can see the "Limited Mobility Parking" sign near the back ramp in our parking area. We now have four spaces dedicated to those with special needs. Another special thank you goes to Dorothy Kerr and Matt Walch for donating and installing a light behind our beautiful stained glass window. Be sure to drive by the church after dark and view the lighted window. You will also notice a new LED light on the Schoolhouse. No more feeling our way into the building because we couldn't see the steps! A huge thank you goes to Paul Jenkins for replacing the bulb in our lighted church sign. This is not a standard light bulb, so Paul spent an extraordinary time searching for the right bulb.

Our first official day of summer is June 21st, and with it comes our summer church schedule. Our summer services will be lay led, and you may be called upon to assist the worship committee with these services. Our annual summer picnic August 4, will be a potluck at Lake Columbia at a park across the street from Alyce Oosting's house which is located at 115 Castlewood. The park has playground equipment, bathrooms, and a swimming area. Hope to see you there!

Jane Volk Board President

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### Minister's Schedule:

#### Minister on Study Leave:

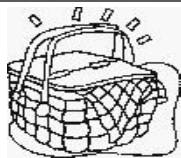
June 25-July 1, and July 8-22

#### Minister on Vacation:

July 8-15, and July 22-29

# Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty



## Annual Picnic

The first Sunday in August is our **Annual Church Picnic**, so after the church service on **August 4** it will be! This year it will be at the park on Castlewood Drive, near Alyce Oosting's home. You can park in her driveway and along the side of the road, or you could carpool from the church. This is on Lake Columbia with tables, playground and bathroom with lots of trees for shade. Please bring a passing dish, and your own plates, silverware and own drinks. Come and enjoy the friendship of others and a good meal and the lake.

Submitted by: Membership Comm.

## 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 Supplement Page for more 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](http://www.myjdl.com).

The Forum will be on break until August: stay tuned for more information.

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

## Book and Video Sale

Please check out our book and video sale in the Social Hall. Many items are like new and would make good gifts. Thanks,

Submitted by: Nena Obits

## The Attic Sale

The Attic Sale, otherwise known as the annual fundraiser rummage sale, will be **Thursday August 8, 9:00 am-5:00pm -- Friday August 9, 9:00 am-5:00pm & Saturday August 10, 9:00 am-3:00pm** — mark your calendar now and plan on helping to support the sale.

ALL ITEMS will be placed into the schoolhouse, shed, the church's new tent and the social hall by you the week of the sale ONLY. NOTHING GETS DROPPED OFF BEFORE THE WEEK OF THE SALE —Please and thank you!!!!—THIS WAY EVERYONE SHARES THE WORK LOAD —

The plan is to have volunteers on hand on **Sunday, August 4** from

9:00 – 11:00 am Kathy Haynes and  
3:00 – 5:00 pm \_\_\_\_\_

**Monday, August 5** from

10:00 – 12:00 am Gratia Karmes  
and 4:00 – 6:00 pm \_\_\_\_\_

**Tuesday, August 6** from

2:00 – 4:00 pm Ann Green and  
7:00 – 9:00 pm \_\_\_\_\_

I chose these times to have a timeslot at all different parts of the day to fit everyone's busy lives -- now we need volunteers to step up to help us be there. ---- Let Kathy Haynes know if she can add your name to the times above and/or to work the sale on the 8, 9 and/or 10. The volunteers will have information of where your items belong for you to place your items in "their correct spots." Signs will be posted around the buildings also and many items will not be marked with price tags. **Items worth \$1.00 and up** will be marked and if you would do so (the tags/colored dots will be in each area with pricing chart to follow) and if you would do your own items that would be very helpful as you are the best person to know the value of your items. Please, no items come in on that Wednesday, August 7. The packing up of everything unsold will start at 3:00 pm Saturday. The Sign-up sheets are in the social hall. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Haynes. (See Supplement Page for more contact information?)

Submitted by: Kathy Haynes

statement against "stop and frisk" policies and against mass incarceration of people of color. In an amazing show of support for this AIW, there were no delegates who spoke from the con microphone against the AIW, and the vote was overwhelmingly passed. I saw literally only a handful of votes against the AIW, and a hall full of support for this issue. I think the combination of having Michelle Alexander speak on this at last year's GA and so many churches reading *The New Jim Crow* made us educated on the issue and unified in our response.

There's much more I could tell you, such as about the Welcoming Congregation renewal process that Lynn and I learned about, the amazing worship services, and changes to the minister's code of ethics (to make it stricter on sexual ethics, which is a change I'm glad to see). Most of all, however, I want to tell you that General Assembly is a wonderful experience—it can showcase the best of preaching and music in our movement, detail the cutting edge of information on congregational growth and management, and spur us to social action individually, in our congregations, and as a GA. This year's public witness event was the largest ever in Kentucky on energy issues! And there's increasingly good programming for children there, with a "Covenant Camp" that started with fifth graders through junior high this year. I'll be going to GA next year in Providence, and would love to have you come with me!

Peace,

**Cindy**



### **Personal Care Ministry**

The Jackson Personal Care Ministry has been very successful, serving 120-150 Jackson County households per week. Each week the following items are offered: shampoo, lotion, toothpaste, and tooth brushes, deodorant, bar soap, razors, combs, sanitary napkins, dish and laundry soap, all purpose cleaner, toilet paper and paper towels. Donations of products and monetary gifts are needed. Donation baskets are located in the Social Hall and in the church foyer. Checks can be made out to Westminster Presbyterian Church with Personal Care Ministry written on the memo line. Our church has had good participation and I'm encouraging everyone to volunteer. We work on the **Second Thursday** of each month, 4:30-7:00

Submitted by: Nena Obits

### **Committee on Ministry**

The Committee on Ministry (COM) has completed the assessment it conducts every three years on shared ministry; that is, how the Minister and the Laity share responsibility for the leadership and ministry of the Congregation. Congregants returned 20% of the three-question survey and that is a strong return rate. In other words, there was a lot of interest.

The response was overwhelmingly positive. Respondents cited Cindy's work in the community for social justice and members' generous volunteerism as important aspects of the church. They also reported feeling supported by the shared ministry. There were no complaints but a few suggestions for consideration. In sum, our shared ministry is healthy!

The COM would like to thank everyone who wrote and commented on our shared ministry.

Submitted by: Ann Green, Marge Duane, Gratia Karmes and Gretchen Marshall

## Looking for the Missing Painting!

The night of May 10 was our church annual auction and the editors have been asked to spread the word. Someone has mistakenly picked up and taken home a painting donated and hand painted by Dee Reed, it is titled **"Autumn Homes" and about 6" by 6" in size.** This was purchased by Gratia Karmes and she would love to have it in her home. If you have it, or know anything about it would you please contact Gratia. (See Supplement Page for more contact information?) Thank You.

Submitted by: The Editors

"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 --

**Welcome two Baby Boys due very very soon; Kemry Walker: End of June and Tommy Hinton: First week of July. Congratulations to the parents! ☺ Tim & Elizabeth Walker and Jason & Donna Hinton!**

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.

## District & Denominational Meetings and Events

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**SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK**

### Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church Gift Impacts Reproductive Justice

A generous and timely gift from the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church (GPUC) of \$1,400 has made it possible for the Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN) to offer its all day July 13th "Standing Up for Reproductive Justice" conference at the low price of \$15 - or \$5 for students and those in economic hardship. This interfaith conference to strengthen the voices of women, men and gay people, will be held at the First Unitarian Church of Detroit located at 4605 Cass Avenue, Detroit. To register on-line, go to: [www.uujustice.org/conferenceregistration2.html](http://www.uujustice.org/conferenceregistration2.html) or call Randy Block at 248-549-5170.

MUUSJN is grateful to the support provided by GPUC and eleven other UU congregations so far this year to sustain its work for reproductive justice, LGBT rights, health reform, immigration reform, etc. To learn more about how your congregation can share a collection plate with MUUSJN, call 248-549-5170.

Submitted by: Randy Block

**~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!**

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• <b>Church Website</b>	<a href="http://www.libertyuu.org">http://www.libertyuu.org</a>
• <b>The Bellnote Newsletter</b>	<a href="http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html">http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html</a>
• <b>Church e-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:EastLibertyUU@yahoo.com">EastLibertyUU@yahoo.com</a>
• <b>Church's facebook page</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu">http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu</a>
• <b>Forum facebook page</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum">http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum</a>
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**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 AUGUST ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY: SUNDAY, JULY 21. ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: UUCEL\_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO

KATHY OR VICKI. THANK YOU –

**We want to thank;** Rev. Cindy Landrum, Nena Obits, Committee on Ministry, 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

25 - July 1 Minister on Study Leave  
 4 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm ~~ Not meeting in July  
 4 Thurs. RE Meeting @ Carnegie Library, MacIntyre Room ~ 7:00 – 8:30 pm ~ Not meeting in July  
 7 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, TBA ~ 11:00 am  
 8-15 Minister on Vacation  
 8-22 Minister on Study Leave  
 9 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am  
 10 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting @ JDL ~ 5:30 pm ~~ Not meeting in July  
 10 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:00 pm  
 11 Thurs. Membership Committee ~ 10:00 am ~~ Not meeting in July  
 11 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ 4:30-6:30 pm @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson, Help Distribution  
 14 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Gratia Karmes ~ 11:00 am  
 16 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening  
 21 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Dee Reed ~ 11:00 am  
 21 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due  
 22-29 Minister on Vacation  
 28 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Anita Pepper ~ 11:00 am  
 28 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service

## Upcoming Events

Aug 4 Picnic ~ After the Service @ Castlewood Park  
 Aug 8 Attic Sale ~ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
 Aug 9 Attic Sale ~ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
 Aug 10 Attic Sale ~ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
 Aug 18 New UU Class ~ After the Service

### WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
<b>Greeters</b>	Alyce O	Grace M	Joan B	Betty G
<b>R.E. Greeter</b>	(Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P) - Not in July
<b>Nursery Helper</b>	Steve B	Jackie J	Becky B	Joan B
<b>Ushers</b>	OPEN Gary T	OPEN Gary T	OPEN Gary T	OPEN Gary T
<b>Social H. Host</b>	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	Betty G
<b>R.E. Pre.</b>				
<b>R.E. K-5</b>	Intergenerational	Intergenerational	Intergenerational	Intergenerational
<b>R.E. Youth</b>				

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

For the month of July the UUCEL's Worship Committee will be leading participatory worship services on spiritual themes using a curriculum called "Evensong." If you know you are going to be present, pick up an advance worksheet in the social hall, but they will also be available on Sunday morning. Each Sunday will be led by a different committee member. This program will be interactive and the subject for discussion will be chosen during the service.

**July 7 - "Evensong"**

**- Lay Leader: TBA**

**July 14 - "Evensong"**

**- Lay Leader, Gratia Karmes**

**July 21 - "Evensong "**

**- Lay Leader, Dee Reed**

**July 28 - "Evensong"**

**- Lay Leader, Anita Pepper**

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