The Bellnote

June 2010

Universalist Unitarian
Church of East Liberty
2231 Jefferson Road,
Clarklake, MI 49234
(517) 529-4221
LOCATED 3/4 MILE WEST OF U.S. 127

Volume 233 Number 6

MINISTER'SOFFICE 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 revCyn@ugaalum.uga.edu

R. E. Coordinator ~ Sharon Pedersen sspedersen@sbcglobal.net

Music Director ~ Nancy Cooper nankjcooper@gmail.com

Nursery & Child Care ~ Vicki Haynes kermit_210@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE
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Nena Obits

nena_obits@hotmail.com



Minister's Column

This year in June I'll be heading off for our General Assembly in Minneapolis. There are a lot of important issues on the table this year, but one of the most interesting and recent developments is a proposal from the UUA Board of Trustees to move our General Assembly out of Phoenix, Arizona, in 2012 because of the recent anti-immigration legislation in Arizona. In recent years many General Assembly locations have been controversial and there have been discussion of similar boycotts, but this is the first one in recent years that the UUA Board of Trustees has acted on, something that is sure to carry some weight. At the heart of the issue for those who believe some sort of protest is in order, is the question of whether or not boycott is the most effective action for us to take, or whether it is more effective to go to Arizona and lobby and protest there. Another issue before the assembly is always what study-action issues are most pressing that congregations want to take on. The choices are 1) Energy, Peace, and Justice; 2) National Economic Reform: A Moral Imperative; 3) Immigration as a Moral Issue; 4) Ending Slavery; and 5) Revitalizing American Democracy. They all sound like good topics, but if one speaks to you in particular, let me know about it and why! Of course, even if it's not selected, that doesn't stop our congregation from studying an issue.

I will try to remember to bring back some water from Minneapolis. Why? Because our annual water ceremony this year is happening earlier than before. The UUCEL board, worship committee, religious education committee, and membership committee have agreed to try a new church year calendar. This will NOT affect our fiscal calendar. The idea is that because August is the largest church-shopping month of the year, we've wanted to have a strong worship presence in August. However, previously our church was in summer mode in August, both in the fact that we didn't have regular religious education classes and because we don't have our water ceremony and homecoming until the fall. I've been preaching in August, taking July for study leave and vacation, but it's still felt like "summer mode." Now, our goal is to have our water ceremony starting off our church liturgical and academic year on the second Sunday in August. On that Sunday we will induct our new religious education teachers for the year. We will also have the church picnic on that Sunday. After that

second Sunday, our religious education classes will be starting. Then, the Sunday after Labor Day, we will still have "homecoming," which will also feature the RE breakfast, although it will not be an intergenerational service and classes will have already started. We're going to try out this new model for a year and see if it helps our parents and teachers to have a better sense of the rhythm of the year. Then, the following year, we may change it again, particularly as the Sunday after Labor Day that year will be September 11, 2011, the tenth anniversary of the 9/11/2001 attacks, and we may want to have our Homecoming on a more joyous Sunday and use that Sunday to remember the tragedy that day and what's happened since in regard to it.

Remember as you take off for summer vacations or spend time in your gardens to collect some water for our water ceremony, and I hope I'll see you at church as we have our year-end celebration.

Namaste,



Minister's Schedule

Rev. Cindy will be gone June 21st through June 28th for the UUA General Assembly in Minneapolis. In case of emergency, she can be reached on her cell phone. Because she may be hard to reach or have irregular coverage, please also leave a message at her home number with her husband.

Religious Education Report

As the school year wraps up I want to reiterate my thanks to all the adults who helped make RE possible this year:

Regular volunteers: Rob Gaecke - Peg Gordon - Jon Hart - Kerry Hart - Lynn Hightower - Jackie Johnson - Gretchen Marshall - Peter Morrison - Alyce Oosting -Tom Pepper - Anne Seifert

Occasional volunteers: Steve Beison - Chris Keith - Molly Marshall - Cecily Savick - Peggy Smith

Also, thanks to our Nursery Caregiver, Vicki Haynes, and the many nursery volunteers.

As I noted in the annual report, I hope everyone will consider taking a stint as an RE teacher, whether for a once-a-month "gig" or as an occasional volunteer/sub. You're what makes our RE program "tick," and even "hum!"

We're offering a **Workshop** (see page 6) for teachers (mandatory) and for parents of 0-17 year olds (optional) at church on **Thursday** June 3, from 6-8 pm, with light snacks offered. The subject will be teaching our UU values to our young ones. Psychologist and church Friend Dee Reed will be a guest speaker for this workshop, and dialogue will be encouraged.

During the Summer, our attendance of kids goes down, so we are going to experiment with making the services "intergenerational" for K-12 kids from Memorial Day through July.

We'll start holding RE on Church Picnic Sunday, August 8 and continue through next Fall/Winter. Next year's classes for all ages will be on Social Action, supplemented by a nice curriculum for "No Formal RE" days about evolution. We hope to offer a preschool class for 3-4 year olds twice per month, and split the K-5 class into two age groups (at least within the school house classroom, as well as offering the youth class for 6th grade on up.

I am so glad that we have a thriving, multigenerational community at UUCEL—it's one to be proud of!



Religious Education Coordinator

Notes from the Board

- The budget was approved for the 2010-2011 year at the annual meeting held on May 16th and the Social Mission Agencies were voted on, the recipients were the same as last year. Re-Elected to the Board; Members are Jane Volk, a 3 year term and Gratia Karmes, a 1 year term. The Standing on the Side of Love banner was approved to be displayed. A few extra reports are available at the church if you would like a copy.

Submitted by: the Editors

Pledge information

Our present church year will end on June 30. If you would like information about your contributions before June 30, contact Steve. Any contributions made after June 30, will be credited to the 2010/2011 church year unless you indicate otherwise.

Submitted by: Steve Beison

Steps to Success

Our annual church auction on May 1 was again a success as we generated over \$7,200 to support our church. Fifty-seven people donated cash or items for the auction and 51 purchased those items through bidding. Without their generosity and participation, we would not have come close to meeting our goal.

We should also recognize, however, the people who volunteered to help assemble each little step to the auction. The individuals listed below carried out one or more of the tasks described in the last two paragraphs.

Rose Pelham, Carole Hartsuff, Dorothy Kerr, Ruth Davis, Steve Johns, Joyce Weatherwax, Margaret & Lyle Johns, Joan Bernstein, Nena Obits, Walter Cramer, Debbie & Fred Marshall, Vic Marshall, Ben Brue, Sharon Pedersen, Gary Tripp, Vicki Haynes and her boyfriend Jeff Wisniewski. If I left anyone out, I apologize.

The auction started with making phone calls seeking contributions. Items offered were added to the "Auction List." Items designated for the silent auction were

displayed in the schoolhouse for early bidding. The day of the auction required setting up the social hall and sanctuary for the main event. Our pre-auction dinner involved several people who prepared the food. Bidders were given a number to help the recorders identify them. 50/50 tickets were sold.

Our auctioneer got the auction underway by announcing the highest bidders for the silent auction. Several times throughout the evening, numbers were drawn for door prize winners. The church and one lucky winner split \$196 during the 50/50 drawing. While most adults were making their bids in the sanctuary, several others were in the parsonage with our youngsters who had fun with their own silent auction and watched movies. Like all events, the evening ended with the cleanup crew getting our church ready for the next day's service.

Thanks to everyone who participated in our steps to success.

Submitted by: Steve Beison

Personal Paid Ads from Church Friends to Church Friends

We will be trying something new on the back of the "Supplement Page." Starting this month, the Bellnote will be publishing paid advertisements in this space. Policy to place an ad: You must get the information to the editors Kathy & Vicki either by e-mail

uucel_bellnote@yahoo.com

or written clearly along with payment prior to printing. Prices are as follows

-1/8 page: \$3.00

-1/4 page: \$6.00 -1/2 page: \$12.00

-and, upon request,

a full page for \$24.00

— this will be on a first come, first serve basis and is limited to one page per month. Advertisements must be in good taste and consistent with the goals and principles of our church; examples are: items for sale, your yard sale, an upcoming party, and/or a personal message. The editors have the right to not print if they feel it is not appropriate or detracts from or conflicts with the church's mission. Payments for unprinted advertisements will be returned.

Submitted by: The Editors ~ 3 ~

Meetings and Events U.U. Church of East Liberty

First Friday Dinner

The next dinner is **Friday**, **June 4** with a "Potluck Dinner & Movie." Bring a passing dish; we'll eat at 6:30 pm. Come and watch a movie on the new donated 56" flat screen TV. It is mounted within the new entertainment/ storage unit on the back wall. There is no host/hostess in charge of this dinner; come and have fun and help clean up. We are still looking for ideas and host/hostess for upcoming months for the first Friday dinners.

Submitted by: The Membership Comm.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee's next meeting is **June 20** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting

Attic Sale

Our annual rummage/yard sale will be 9:00 am -4:00 pm Thursday, June 24 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Friday, June 25 and 9:00 am-12:00 pm Saturday, June 26. We will be accepting good clean items for sale starting Sunday, June 13 after the service in the schoolhouse. Many helpers will be needed to set up tables, sort items for the sale, work the sale, and box up unsold items on Saturday afternoon. A sign-up sheet for workers will be in the social hall. All the unsold items go to St. Vincent De Paul in Jackson. Last year many very nice items were donated, let's keep up the good work and make this another great fundraiser. Any questions, contact the co-chairs of the event Joan Bernstein and Dorothy Kerr.

Submitted by: Dorothy Kerr

The US Social Forum

Is Coming to Detroit in June 22-26 at the Cobo Hall www.ussf2010.org 1-877-515-ussf (8773). Ask Jann for more information or check last month's issue for the full list of what the forum is all about. Submitted by Jann Krupa for Marijo Grogan of CANOPAS

(Chelsea Area Network of Peace Activists)

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.

~~The forums are not held in the months of June, July and August. Stay tuned for more information about the **September 16** forum. Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

Rose Parade and Raft-O-Rama

No plans were made for the Jackson Rose Parade this year, so maybe we can try again before next year! We were hoping to have a raft decorated for the Raft-O-Rama on Clark Lake. The parade is held on the first Sunday of August, normally, but this year it is the 2nd Sunday (August 8) due to the fact that the Clark Lake Run is the first Saturday of the month and the Raft-O-Rama is the day after. We have changed around a few church events to be in the parade, thinking it was the 1st Sunday. The theme this year is "Anything Gold" if anyone is interested. The Raft-O-Rama organizers are asking for local business and originations to be in it. Please let Chris know if you are able to do this, or maybe start to plan for next year also. Submitted by: Membership Comm.

Worship Associates Training

The worship associates training is being rescheduled. If you're interested in attending, please sign up in the social hall and we will notify you when a new date is chosen.

Submitted by: Rev Cindy Landrum

Gardening

Gardening Support Group, meeting **Tuesday June 8th**, 5:00 pm at Jo Yonan's home. Jo has a unique lakeside garden. Contact Nena for more information.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

Lost and Found

Clothing left at the church, the following items have been "hanging" around for a long, long time: green knit scarf ~ gray sweater ~ red, white & blue jacket ~ they are at the back ramp entrance, and ~ a ring, in an envelope on the cork board. If not claimed in the next few weeks they will be sold at the annual Attic Sale the 24-26 of June.

Submitted by: Dorothy Kerr

District & Denominational Meetings and Events

Dear UU Church of East Liberty,

The Southeast Michigan Dyke March is an organization with the goal of promoting visibility of the area's lesbian, transgender, bisexual and queer community. Our main event is the Southeast Michigan Dyke March and Rally, a first for Southeast Michigan and the surrounding area.

The Southeast Michigan Dyke March and Rally will be held on **June 5**, **2010**, in Ferndale. It includes a March down Nine Mile (moving west from the service drive behind the buildings on the northwest corner of Nine Mile and Woodward) and a Rally at Geary Park. The March begins at 2:00 pm, and the Rally begins at 3:30. The event is scheduled to conclude at 7:30 pm.

The Southeast Michigan Dyke March is based on a worldwide movement that strives to promote lesbian visibility and inclusion. We use the term Dyke March as a means of identifying with other Dyke Marches around the world. While the word dyke can be offensive, using it in a context that promotes visibility, rights and inclusion can actually be empowering.

We feel that it is extremely important for members of the faith community to participate in events that benefit the LGBT community. The U. U. Church has a particular reputation for including and supporting LGBT persons. This event is inclusive of everyone, including our straight allies; so feel free to invite the entire congregation. semidykemarch@gmail.com

Submitted by: Eric Folkmire

Here is a letter from MUUSA President Pamela Hermann. Please post her message in your newsletter! Please post the YouTube link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNWMdbrjxuE Dear MUUSA Friends,

We are very excited that the Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly is less than 2 months away! Camp will be hosted at Trout Lodge outside Potosi, MO from July 4-10th. I am pleased to share two very exciting announcements. First, we know that the economy has hit our community hard and in addition to the reduction in registration fees that we made from last year, we are announcing that the late fee deadline has been extended to June 15th. Also, the late fee will be waived for any first time campers! Second, our Marketing Consultant, Karen Peck, compiled a wonderful video about MUUSA that is available on youtube at http://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=QNWMdbrjxuE. Please enjoy the video, and then pass it along to all your friends. We took a wonderful opportunity to expand our camp housing this year, and I hope you will come grow with us! Learn more about the great plans we have for MUUSA 2010 at www.muusa.org And on behalf of the planning council, I hope to see you "next week!" Sincerely, Pamela Hermann - 2010 **MUUSA** President

> Submitted by: Karen Peck Marketing Consultant for MUUSA

"Travelling with Unitarians"

Like Water for Spices: A Unitarian Journey to South India, from the Bay of Bengal to the Arabian Sea. March 11 - 17, 2011. Experience fabulous temples, meditate in captivating locations, attend a Sunday service at the Unitarian Christian Church in Chennai, visit an ashram in Pondicherry, cruise the backwaters of Kerala, learn about Tanjore painting, enjoy a Kerala cooking demonstration, and watch a Kathakali Dance presentation. Led by Rev. Wayne Walder. See all details at

www.nuuc.ca/ Journeys/ india2011. htm Submitted by: Beverly Carr bgcarr@rogers.com

June R.E. Workshop

I am pleased to announce a learning and dialogue opportunity on **Thursday June 3**, from 6-8pm at the UUCEL. The workshop, led by Sharon Pedersen, Gretchen Marshall, and Rev. Cindy Landrum, with guest speaker Dee Reed, psychologist and UUCEL friend. We will discuss the purpose of religious education at UUCEL, with lots of opportunity for dialogue. The first hour is designed for input from both parents of pre-k-12th grade children and our Fall RE teachers/nursery care provider, and the second hour is for 2010-2011 teachers only.

6-7pm: parents and teachers:

- 1) The purpose of RE; what is our teaching goal:
 - a. Explore ideas around religion & spirituality;
 - b. Understanding our beliefs and UU principles
 - c. Impart UU values hope they become UUs
 - d. Relating ourselves to, inspiring to social justice
- 2) Guidelines that help us accomplish this Dee Reed will be there for discussion

7-8pm: Teachers only:

3) Finding the balance between letting the children explore and leading them through "lessons." Dee Reed will talk for 10 to 20 minutes, with time for questions and dialogue following.

Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen

"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~~

Thank You

A Big Thank you to the following people Steve Johns, Gary Tripp, Paul Jenkins, Nancy Cooper, Carole Hartsuff, Dorothy Kerr, George, Kathy and Donna Haynes and Rob Gaecke. They recently had their hands in helping to beautify our sanctuary and social hall. They took down/hung back up items for the hired painters, removed some pews for the ladders to fit then retightened to the floor, they painted, stained and varnished, they donated a TV and other items, installed the TV, connected the power for the entertainment center, and much more. Also a big thanks to Dorothy for making the connection to Tim Pewe, the contractor. He did a great job of finishing off the back wall.

Submitted by: Building Committee

I want to thank Gary Tripp for his donation of our new Graco Pack n' Play Bassinette Playpen that he gave the church recently. It is a welcome addition to the Nursery.

Submitted by: Vicki Haynes

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 JULY ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:

SUNDAY JUNE 20 ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:

UUCEL_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM

or in writing handed to Kathy or Vicki

We want to thank; Steve Beison, Vicki Haynes, Dorothy Kerr, Jann Krupa, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Nena Obits, Alyce Oosting, Sharon Pedersen, Building Comm., 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
- $\sim 6 \sim ~$ Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

The Bellnote Calendar

June

All events are at the church, unless otherwise noted

2 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm3 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm

3 Thurs. Workshop for RE teachers ~ 6:00 -8:00 pm

4 Fri. 1st Friday Dinner ~ 6:30 pm

5 Sat. The Southeast Michigan Dyke March ~ in Ferndale ~ 2:00 - 7:00 pm

6 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum

8 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am

8 Tue. Gardening Support Group Meeting ~ 5:00 pm at Jo Yonan's home.

9 Wed. Worship Committee Meeting ~ 5:30 pm

10 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 1:00 pm

13 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Sharon Pedersen, Lay Leader

13 Sunday Bring items for the Attic/rummage/yard Sale
16 Wed. Religious Education Committee Meeting ~ 7:00 pm
20 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum

20 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service

21 -28 Rev Cindy will be at the UUA General Assembly in Minneapolis

24 Thurs. Attic rummage/yard Sale ~ 9:00 am- 4:00 pm
 25 Fri. Attic rummage/yard Sale ~ 9:00 am- 4:00 pm
 26 Sat. Attic rummage/yard Sale ~ 9:00 am- 12:00 pm

27 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Sharon Pedersen, Lay Leader

Upcoming Events

Aug 8 Annual Church Picnic ~ After the Service, at the Brooklyn Park

Reminder to Everyone Please check regularly the volunteer sign-up clip-boards in the social hall on the corkboard wall of "Open" dates. You are needed to be an Usher, Social Hour Host and the Nursery Helper of the Day. The Nursery starts at 10:50 am so the nursery worker Vicki and the helper for the day need to be with the children mostly under age 5 before the service. The volunteer list needs the open dates filled in each month for everything to run smoothly.

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	June 6	June 13	June 20	June 27
Greeters	Alyce O.	Grace M.	Joan B.	Betty G.
R.E. Greeter	Sharon P.	Sharon P.	Sharon P.	Sharon P.
Nursery Helper	Open	Open	Kathy H.	Joan B.
Ushers	Open Gary T.	Open Gary T.	Open Gary T.	Open Gary T.
Social H. Host	Lori B. & Anita P.	Jane H. & Kathy H.	Barbara H. & Anthony K.	Betty G. & Gretchen M.
R.E. K-5	Intergenerational Intergenerational Intergenerational			

R.E. Youth

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

June 6 - "Flower Communion" - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister Bring a flower for our annual Flower Communion service. If you've never experienced flower communion before, it's a distinctly UU ritual that honors our diversity and our coming together in community at the

June 13 - "Youth Sunday"

same time.

- Sharon Pedersen, Lay Leader **Religious Education Coordinator**

Our youth have been involved in many exciting activities over the last year, both inside and outside of religious education classes. They will share some of their efforts with you, giving you an idea about what their lives are like, and what they have been talking about in RE. The sermon today will be about efforts to curb bullying in schools.

June 20 - "Profiles of UU Forefathers" - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister On Mother's Day I shared about the role of our Universalist foremothers in shaping our faith. In this counterpart father's day service, I will focus on a few key Unitarian forefathers and their roles in the same.

June 27 - "Standing on the Side of Love, w/Pride" - Sharon Pedersen, Lay Leader

Our church voted to hang a banner on the outside of the building for the month of June, proclaiming the simple message "Standing on the Side of Love." This refers to the national campaign to promote respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person, believing that no person should be dehumanized through acts of exclusion, oppression, or violence based on identity such as race, culture or sexual orientation. The campaign addresses antiracism, immigration reform, and gay marriage. Sharon Pedersen and others will talk about what LGBT families are looking for—just like all others, to share love and acceptance.

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Return Service Requested

CISTKIAKE, MI 49234 2231 Jefferson Road

