

June 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  
sspedersen@sbcglobal.net

INTERIM PIANIST ~ Tom Pepper  
peppet49@comcast.net

NURSERY & CHILD CARE ~ Vicki Haynes  
kermit\_210@yahoo.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT ~ JANE VOLK  
jvolk@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT ~ NANCY SMITH  
ncyed@modempool.com

SECRETARY ~ ANITA PEPPER  
apepper@aiserv.net

TREASURER ~ HUGH TOMLIMSON  
ht49203@att.net

TRUSTEE ~ CECILY SAVICK  
cecilysavick@hotmail.com

TRUSTEE ~ JACKIE JOHNSON  
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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

Dear UUCEL Members and Friends,

It's a bit difficult to know what to write as I sit here on the eve of our annual meeting. Going into the annual meeting, we had numbers still rolling in of additional pledges because of our matching grant, and in the annual meeting we had still more pledge increases. I don't yet know what the total is, and I can't say definitively before our next board meeting on June 6. I can tell those of you who weren't here that before the pledges that came in during the meeting we had over \$69,000 in pledges without the matching grant, and over \$73,000 in pledges with pieces of the matching grant for added in. Those numbers represent quite a dramatic increase over last year's pledges of \$62,000, and a significant increase over the proposed budget that had \$65,000 in pledge income. The budget passed with the congregation understanding that numbers were still rolling in, and authorizing the board to spend the additional revenue, with the understanding that the first priority after balancing the budget would be to retain as much of our staff as possible. The final numbers, as I said, are not in yet, but I can tell you that things were looking pretty positive as we ended the meeting. I'm feeling extremely optimistic. When we first looked at the numbers for next year, I would never have expected that we would have been able to do what we've done as a congregation. So give yourselves a big round of applause or pats on the back or high fives, because this has been an incredible change around.

It's also still too early to know what this will mean for our summer plans. As we were looking at laying off staff, our committees were readjusting to what the "new normal" would look like. The Worship Committee had made plans to have abbreviated programs rather than worship services for July, and the Religious Education Committee had cancelled summer camp plans. It's too soon to know if we'll be able to bring back any of that summer programming with the time that we've lost, but if we don't, we'll just put that much more energy into creating a fabulous fall. One thing I mentioned that is still a hope for fall is to have sexuality education classes for youth and children. We'll be talking with Planned Parenthood about the possibilities of providing those in October or later into the year. Thankfully, Planned Parenthood is still one of our social justice agencies that we've voted to have quarterly collections for, so this will help us provide them with the

Continued on next page..~ 1 ~

# Religious Education Report

As noted in the Annual Report, we've had an interesting year this year, and very fulfilling, especially for our K-6th grade class, which as many of you know, studied Bible stories. Youth visited the Zen Buddhist Temple in Ann Arbor, and studied Catholicism, on their way to learning about other religions. Three classes dwindled to one, though: the preschool and youth class attendance dropped off, so we stopped planning for those classes after March 1. We still had occasional kids in the nursery, so Vicki's help came in handy, and we appreciated her service.

Thank you also to our RE Committee volunteers, teachers and subs this year:

Steve Beison	Lori Bowden
Becky Bowen	Rob Gaecke
Kerry Hart	Lynn Hightower
Martha Koopman	Gretchen Marshall
Steve Nason	Alyce Oosting
Dee Reed	Cecily Savick
Laura Thurlow	Peter Morrison

Michelle Vanover...and the many nursery volunteers who help "staff" this essential service!

The first week in June is "Flower Sunday," and the second is "Wheel of the Year," both intergenerational services. At the latter we will recognize high school and college graduates, and as Gretchen indicated recently, we have a bunch of them all listed on page 3! We're starting a new season for religious education at UUCEL, so I'm preparing as best I can, getting the Fall curriculum ready ("Holidays and Holy Days" for K-6, movie/discussion nights for youth and adults) and hopefully some time for "spring cleaning"—organization of supplies and curriculum. For the church to thrive with participation from young families, it will be very important to have a full cadre of volunteers on the RE Committee, and for K-6 classes, youth/adult discussion facilitators, and nursery helpers starting in August, so please answer in the affirmative

if you hear from me or a member of the RE Committee, requesting your help.

Yuurs Truly,

**Sharon**

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

## Rev. Cindy's Column Continued...

necessary funds to run this program. In fact, all four of the social justice agencies chosen this year were the same as the ones chosen for the past three years. It seems we're settling into a pattern of knowing that who we most support is the AWARE Shelter, Planned Parenthood, the Jackson Interfaith Shelter, and the Brooklyn Food Pantry.

In June I'll be leaving for General Assembly, our "Justice GA" in Phoenix, Arizona. This year two people can go with me—virtually. If you're interested in being a virtual delegate to the General Assembly and attending plenaries and voting online, let me or the board know before our June board meeting, which is the day before registrations are due. Registration to be a virtual delegate is \$100, and we can have two. This is an exciting move from our denomination towards more democracy, and so I'll pay \$100 (\$50 each for two delegates or \$100 toward one) out of my own professional expenses to have two virtually at General Assembly with me! Once again, amazing work, UUCEL members and friends! It's never a dull moment around here!

Peace,

**Cindy**

## Minister's Schedule:

Rev. Cindy will be leaving for General Assembly in Phoenix on Sunday, June 17 and returning on Sunday, June 24. She will be following that with three weeks of Study Leave through July 15 and two weeks of vacation from July 16 through July 29. During all these times, please feel free to contact her for pastoral emergencies. Her cell phone number is 517-879-9565.

# Notes from the Board

Our annual Congregational meeting was held on Sunday, May 20. At this time, two new Board members were elected to replace the Board members who terms of office have expired. These two members, Cecily Savick and Nancy Smith, served us well as church leaders, and we are very apprecia-tive of their time and efforts given to our church. The newly elected members, Donna Hinton and Nina Obits, will both serve three year terms. We are looking forward to another year of cohesive and cooperative efforts by the Board to best lead our church.

Despite the fact that major personnel cuts were made in next year's budget, we are now feeling optimistic that we might well be able to restore these positions to the level we now have. A very generous unknown benefactor who cares deeply about our church has don-ated matching funds up to \$5,000 for any new or increased pledges we collect between now and July first. If you are able to pledge or increase your pledge, this information may be given to Hugh Tomlinson, Steve Beison, any Board member, or Rev. Cindy. I am happy to say that, with the additional monies and donated funds, we are very close to adding back the positions that have been eliminated. We are hoping to have a handle on this within the next month, so watch and listen for the announcement.

The Board wishes to thank Kathy Haynes, and her daughters, Vicki and Donna, for stepping up to be in charge of our annual Attic/ Garage sale. Along with contributing our gently used items, volunteers will be needed to assist before, during and after the sale. Watch for the soon to be announced date and where and when we can help to make this Sale as profit-able as other years' sales have been.

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The next Board meeting will be on June sixth at 6:30 pm at which time we will firm up summer plans for the church, and continue to work with both the Finance committee, and the Fundraising committee. Announcements will be forthcoming regarding our summer schedule.

## Jane

Submitted by: Jane Volk  
Board President

### List of our UU Graduates

#### High School

Emily B.  
Misty E.  
Anthony K.

#### College

Darcy Bowen  
Austin Brue  
Nathan Breu  
Mindy Radseck  
Jenna Thurlow

### 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,  
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 **June 17** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting ~ 3 ~

# Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

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## Annual Attic Sale

A message from the newly appointed chair of the Church's Annual Attic Sale, Kathy Haynes and her daughters Vicki and Donna. I want to let everyone know I did not jump up and volunteer to chair this task. The board president asked me if I would think about it, in the meantime Madam Jane had told a few others that I was asked to think about it...one told another and another and so on.

So out of the kindness of my heart I could not say no, after so many knew I was asked, Thanks Jane. I do see it, (our Members/Friends Large Yard/Rummage Sale) as an important part of church budget along with a great social event of members and friends having fun working together to make it a success. I have BIG shoes to fill after all the years Dorothy Kerr and Joan Bernstein co-chaired the Attic Sale, and a very BIG thank you to both of them for carrying on the yearly tradition. My daughters and I have helped many years with the sale so I know what kind of work/task it is.

With that being said, I have a few ideas of changing some things from the past years and more will come I'm sure.

1<sup>st</sup> change is the date; we are thinking of **Friday, August 17; Saturday August 18 and Sunday August 19**

2<sup>nd</sup> change is the times; having the sale starting later in the morning and staying open longer - not confirmed yet, but maybe something like 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> change signage; signs would be placed around the schoolhouse and you the person dropping off your STUFF would put your items under the correct category sign - if no sign for your item, take it home

4<sup>th</sup> change pricing; not pricing every item - we can use a colored dot system I've seen at other church sales

5<sup>th</sup> change, and maybe the most important; it to sell Attic Treasures that are worth a few dollars or more and not something worth only a quarter

We will have a sign-up sheet for helping set up and working the sale. Watch for more info in July newsletter. LETS ALL WORK TOGETHER AND FIND GREAT TREASURES IN YOUR ATTIC, GARAGE, YOUR BASEMENT AND EVEN YOUR YARD. Would someone like to step up and be in charge of the advertizing? To be place in the Brooklyn Exponent, make signs and have them posted that weekend, even on Craig's list. If anyone has questions or comments feel free to share. I know some items have already been placed inside the small shed, that's fine I guess, I'm not the holder of the shed, we all are.

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](http://www.myjdl.com)...

### Thursday, July 19 "Local Ballot Issues"

The two local ballot issues to be voted on in the August 7th primary are both millaages. One is for Special Education through the Jackson Intermediate School District. The other is for senior citizen programs in the county. Look for more details in the July newsletter.

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

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

## General Assembly

Interested in taking part in the General Assembly without traveling to Phoenix? There will be a lot of coverage on the General Assembly Blog at <http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/184707.shtml>. But, even better, much of the General Assembly will be broadcast in live streaming videos, particularly plenaries, where the business is done, and special services like the Service of the Living Tradition and the biggest lecture, the Ware Lecture. Live streaming will be done at <http://www.livestream.com/uuaga>. Here's a list of events and times (all times listed in Eastern Daylight Time):

----Wednesday, June 20, 10:30 pm to 12:30 am Opening Celebration/Plenary  
-Thursday, June 21, 10:45 to 11:30 am Plenary II  
----Thursday, June 21, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm Worship: May All Beings Be At Ease: On Co creation  
----Thursday, June 21, 8:00 to 9:30 pm "Synergy Worship: The Call Across All Ages"  
----Friday, June 22, 10:45 to 11:30 am Worshiping Together, Working Together for Social Justice  
----Friday, June 22, 11:30 am to 1:15 pm Plenary III  
----Friday, June 22, 1:45 p.m. to 3:00 pm Candidates Forum  
----Friday, June 22, 8:00 to 9:15 pm [Service of the Living Tradition](#)  
----Saturday, June 23, 10:45 to 11:30 am Worship: 50 Ways to Cross a Border  
----Saturday, June 23, 4:00 to 6:30 pm Plenary IV  
----Saturday, June 23, 7:45 to 8:15 pm Sing for Justice!  
----Saturday, June 23, 8:15 to 9:15 pm [Ware Lecture](#)  
----Saturday, June 23, 10:30 to 11:45 pm Saturday Evening Worship  
----Sunday, June 24, 9:00 to 10:15 am Sunday Morning Worship  
Sunday, June 24, 5:15 to 9:00 pm Plenary V  
----Sunday, June 24, 10:00 to 11:30 pm Closing Celebration

## 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](mailto:edpeterson@live.com)  
Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

"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~~



It isn't enough  
To talk about peace.  
One must believe in it.  
And it isn't enough  
To believe in it.  
One must work at it.  
-Eleanor Roosevelt

## ~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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• Church Website	<a href="http://www.libertyuu.org">http://www.libertyuu.org</a>	•
• The Bellnote Newsletter	<a href="http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html">http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html</a>	•
• Church e-mail	EastLibertyUU@yahoo.com	•
• Church's facebook page	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu">http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu</a>	•
• Forum facebook page	<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 JULY ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:  
SUNDAY, JUNE 17 ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:  
UUCEL\_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO

KATHY OR VICKI. THANK YOU –

**We want to thank;** Rev. Cindy Landrum, Sharon Pedersen, 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

## June

- 3 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 6 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at the church
- 7 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 7 Thurs. RE Meeting ~ 6:30 Pm
- 10 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 12 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 13 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting. ~ Olive Garden ~ 5:30 pm
- 14 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 10:00 pm
- 17 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader; Ann Green ~ 11:00 am
- 17 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service
- 17 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter Submissions Due
- 19 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ 2:30 pm at the Jackson Coffee Company  
JXN Forum --- next forum will be July 19  
@ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~6:30 pm
- 24 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader; Lori Bowden ~ 11:00 am

## Upcoming Events

- Aug 5 Annual Church Picnic at Harry & Dee Reed Home

### WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>June 3</b>	<b>June 10</b>	<b>June 17</b>	<b>June 24</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Alyce O	Grace M	Joan B	Betty G
<b>R.E. Greeter</b>	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P
<b>Nursery Helper</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Ushers</b>	Gary T Martha K	Gary T -	Gary T -	Gary T -
<b>Social H. Host</b>	-	-	-	Joan B Joyce W
<b>R.E. Pre.</b>				
<b>R.E. K-5</b>	To Be Announced			
<b>R.E. Youth</b>				

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

## June 3 - "Flower Communion"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Bring a flower to give away as we celebrate our annual flower communion service where we honor the beauty in the diversity of flowers and people.

## June 17 - "Poetry Sunday"

- Lay Leader, Ann Green

## June 24 - "Summer Solstice Service"

- Lay Leader, Lori Bowden

## June 10- "Wheel of the Year"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Join us as we celebrate life's transitions and the end of a church year. We'll honor outgoing board members, religious education teachers, and other leaders, and celebrate milestones such as graduations. P.S., if you know someone in our church who has a milestone to be honored, please pass that information on to Rev. Cindy or to Sharon Pedersen!

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