

June 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

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 REV.CYN@UGAALUM.UGA.EDU

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



Minister's Column

Some thank-yous are due for May: Thank you to the auction team, from those who worked on the night of the auction to those who did all the advance work. Our auction was a big success this year, exceeding our budget hopes. We always have to budget for the year based on the previous year's auction, due to the timing of the auction being right before our annual meeting, so these great numbers for this year are not reflected in our budget for next year. Let's hope we can exceed the budget again next year, and keep this trend going! I'm hoping next year, prior to the auction, to write up a list of suggestions for people who can't think of what they might donate. For example, in the auction in the church I served in Texas, somebody donated a ride to the airport. I was happy to bid on that one!

Another round of thank-yous go to our Board of Trustees and Finance Committee. They worked extremely hard this year, particularly our new treasurer, Martha Koopman, who came into the job and had to help create the budget for next year without any experience in how our church's finances usually look. She did a fabulous job, as did our outgoing treasurer, Hugh Tomlinson, in getting the Finance Committee up and running, and helping us to get a handle on what we needed to do with our assets in order to reconcile the past and move forward in such a way that our assets are helping our church.

June is a time for thank-yous in general, as we hold our annual "Wheel of the Year" service in which we recognize volunteers as well as honoring life transitions. Please let me or Sharon know if you have a milestone you wish recognized – a birth, death, graduation, or other major milestone in your life.

Peace,

Cindy

Religious Education Report

We finished formal lessons for the RE school year on May 19 with a fun lesson on Buddha. Sunday of Memorial Day weekend will be a craft day led by me and Janette Mraz. My RE coordination commitment for the year is done at the end of May, followed by two unpaid months off; but I will be volunteering some, and attending the first two services in June because they are two of my favorites: flower Sunday and Wheel of the Year. We will be recognizing graduates, including Michelle Vanover, who is graduating from LCC. (Let me know if there are graduates in your family that you would like recognized.)

The RE Committee will be handling RE activities for Father's Day, and then classes will be done until the 2nd weekend in August, when we start up the UU RE year again. The RE Committee has chosen to use two UUA on-line curricula for the coming year, *Love Connects Us* by Michelle Richards and Rev. Lynn Unger, and *Sing to the Power* by Rev. Lynn Unger, a minister of religious education who Cindy knows. (If you haven't heard the story, ask Cindy about how Lynn almost performed her and Peter's wedding ceremony — almost!) This week I will be contacting people about volunteering for RE in the coming school year. We have envisioned teaching K-8 in the schoolhouse, often split into "younger" and "older" kids' tables, and a new volunteer position that is easy to do, so if one of the RE Committee members call you about volunteering, please give it your consideration.

Expenses for the 2012-2013 RE year were about \$260, plus a few pizzas at movie nights that I got donations to cover. Since I got receipts in late to our new treasurer, the Board did not have the information it needed to adequately budget for the coming year; so I will need to ask the congregation for

donations of supplies and such for the coming year to meet expenses, lest we overspend the budget. I apologize for procrastinating on this detail, and pledge to do better next school year.

Thank you for your support!

Sharon

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

Notes from the Board

Congregational meeting was held on Sunday, May 19. During this time we elected two new Board members - Gratia Karmes and Dee Reed - who will serve for three years. We, also, elected two delegates to the next UUA Conference - Lynn Hightower and Ann Green. We voted that the income generated by the Endowed Trust Fund, the long term savings, and the Capital Campaign Building Fund shall be utilized for UUCEL operations. Additionally, the congregation voted to move our Endowed Trust Fund and our Capital Campaign into a managed account which would provide a better rate of return. The congregation gave unanimous approval for the projected budget for the 2013-2014 church year which begins on July 1st.

Thanks to the many people who worked on our annual Goods and Services Auction, we raised over \$7,400. It was a fun evening beginning with a wonderful meal and ending with many happy faces as we added up our purchases which ranged from homemade goodies, gift cards, plants, gardening, piano lessons, paintings, to mending, etc. There was a fantastic array of items!

Please check elsewhere in the "Bell Note" for important dates coming up for such things as a baby shower for Donna Hinton, our summer church schedule, the annual picnic, etc.

Serving as your Board president for two years has been an honor. These two years have been busy and sometimes challenging, but with the help of Rev. Cindy and the other Board members, we accomplished our goals. I am very grateful to our Board members: Jackie Johnson, vice president; Anita Pepper, secretary; Hugh Tomlinson/ Martha Koopman, treasurer; along with trustees Donna Hinton and Nina Obits. These people are very dedicated and care a great deal about our church. We are, also, pleased to have Ann Green doing accounting for us.

Our church could not function without our various committees and their chairpersons. A special thanks goes to Jon Hart and Gratia Karmes, co-chairs of the Worship committee; Vic Marshall, chairman of the Building committee; Sharon Pederson, Religious Education Coordinator, Kerry Hart, Outreach committee; Alyce Oosting, chairwoman of the Caring committee; and Kathy Haynes, chairwoman of the Membership committee. We are very fortunate to have Tom Pepper as our music director along with our choir members, and Vicki Haynes in charge of our nursery and also very fortunate to have Steve Johns, Gary Tripp, Steve Kish, and Paul Jenkins as our faithful ushers. We appreciate the work Lynn Hightower has been doing in dealing with our Sunday bulletins and handling our collections.

I also wish to acknowledge two of our new committees—the Finance committee which consisted of Steve Beison, Martha Koopman, Vic Marshall, Marion Shroyer, and Hugh Tomlinson. This group worked exceedingly hard and came up with a workable plan regarding our finances. The other committee I wish to recognize is Social Events which is co-chaired by Elissa Alden, Betty Gulliver and Donna Hinton. Watch for announcements regarding upcoming social activities.

As you can see, it takes many cooperative people to have a functional church. I am thankful for all of you!

Have a GREAT summer!

Jane Volk Board President

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

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.

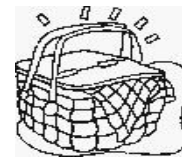
Thursday, June 13 ~ 6:30 pm

“Freedom Forum - Where Are We on Race?”

Please note that this is the 2nd Thursday this month, not the regular 3rd week.

Co-sponsored with the Jackson NAACP. This is one of many events of Freedom Fest Jackson, celebrating the 50th anniversary of important civil rights milestones of 1963. We will discuss the progress or lack of progress on race issues in Jackson. We hope to raise awareness and to encourage each of us to think more closely about racism and the situations we are in daily.

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.



Annual Picnic

The first Sunday in August has been our **Annual Picnic** in the past. So that would be **August 4** this year. Is there an idea of where to have it this year? Should it be at the church or somewhere else, maybe someone's home? ! Would you like to help plan it? If so please let the membership committee know and we will pass on the information. Thank You.

Submitted by: Membership Comm.

Minister's Schedule:

Minister out of town for General Assembly and Ministry Days:

June 17-23

Minister on Study Leave:

June 25-July 1, and July 8-22

Minister on Vacation:

July 8-15, and July 22-29

New U.U. Classes

Are you new to the church? Do you want to learn more about our faith? Please join us **June 9** 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.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Pledge Campaign

Thank you to the generosity of the members of this congregation for their pledges and good wishes for the coming year. We plan to have a thank you event in the social hall after church in the near future.

Submitted by: Ann Green
for the Pledge Campaign

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 "**Bring Friends Sunday**" we had in March was very successful. Our next one will be on **October 20**. The plan for next year's event is we will only have this one time and it will be in the fall.

The Attic Sale

Otherwise known as the Annual Fund-raiser Rummage Sale will be chaired by Kathy Haynes if all are on board with this plan, it does have a few different twists to it. I spoke about my ideas to Rev. Cindy & Jane Volk and I talked about it at the annual meeting, but I'm not sure if everyone was clear about what I meant to say, so here's more information.

First of all we need to set the sale dates within the next few weeks of the Thursday, Friday and Saturday of **August 1, 2 & 3 or August 8, 9 & 10**. Please let me know your pick and I will keep a tally. I'm a 'doer' not a 'speaker' and I heard we did not vote on the date at the meeting sorry about that. - So far the vote is 1 for the first weekend and 2 for the second weekend. I will announce the week of the sale on June 16 so please let me know soon - thanks.

The BIG change is that ALL ITEMS will be placed into the schoolhouse, shed, the new tent and the social hall by you the week of the sale ONLY! We will have volunteers on hand on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday with both day times and evening times available for you to place your items in "their correct spots." Signs will be posted around the buildings and many items will not be marked with price tags. Items worth \$5.00 and up will be marked and if you would do so for your own items that would be very helpful, as you are the best person to know the value of your items. We are asking that no items come in on that Wednesday.

The Sale will be 9:00 am - 5:00 pm on the Thursday, Friday and 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Saturday. We'll be packing up everything unsold starting at 3:00 pm Saturday (this is different than what I said at the meeting; it does make sense to do this on Saturday and not on the following day of Sunday).

NOTHING GETS DROPPED OFF BEFORE THE WEEK OF THE SALE —Please and thank you!!!!—THIS WAY EVERYONE SHARES THE WORK LOAD. Everyone's lives are busy; in the past this sale has been over a month in the making. This uses our RE space longer than needed, and we have many unable to lift larger items---- No more moving items more than once! -----

Continued on top of next page ...

No more covering outdoor items up with large' heavy and many times wet tarps!

Yes, some items can be moved closer to the street on the day of the sale to catch the eye of the cars going by.

Many other places have sales in this style – it's our turn to try something new – The Question is, are you on board? A Sign-up sheet will be posted soon in the social hall soon.
Submitted by: Kathy Haynes

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

"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~~

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.

SAVE THE DATE!

As you know, Donna & Jason Hinton are expecting their first baby this summer. We will celebrate this and shower them with baby goodies after church on **June 2** for Thomas Michael Hinton who will be called Tommy. Tommy's due date is July 8th. Please plan on this opportunity to wish them well and help them stock up with essentials and frills for their baby boy. They are registered at Target (<http://alturl.com/z74y7>) (this goes straight to Baby Hinton listing) & the Toy House and Baby Too! They would also love Meijer gift cards (Meijer unfortunately does not offer a registry any longer – boo!) See you there!!

Submitted by E lissa Alden
and Cindy Landrum

2 Baby Boys Arriving this Summer

Welcome Kemry!

UUCEL has a tradition of doing baby showers for first babies, and we have one scheduled for Donna and Jason Hinton's baby boy (see article above). Many people in the congregation have noticed that we're expecting a second baby boy this summer, as well, and have asked if they can help welcome Elizabeth & Tim Walker's baby boy, Kemry. The answer, of course, is yes! While Elizabeth & Tim have many items left from their other children, this is their first boy, and so there are still many things they could use. We'll have a bin placed in the social hall beginning in May that you can leave items in during May and early June to welcome Kemry. Kemry's due date is June 24th. Elizabeth and Tim are registered at Amazon (<http://alturl.com/kgwip>) and at Target (<http://alturl.com/4omsi>) (this goes straight to Baby Walker listing). Please leave items by Sunday, **June 9th**.

Submitted by: Cindy Landrum



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.

• Church Website	http://www.libertyuu.org
• The Bellnote Newsletter	http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html
• Church e-mail	EastLibertyUU@yahoo.com
• Church's facebook page	http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu
• Forum facebook page	http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum

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 23. ~~~~~ 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, Elissa Alden, 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

June

- 2 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 2 Sunday Baby Shower for Donna & Jason Hinton ~ During Social Hour
- 5 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
- 6 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 6 Thurs. RE Meeting @ Carnegie Library, MacIntyre Room ~ 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- 9 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 9 Sunday Elizabeth & Tim Walker's Baby Boy ~ Please Leave Items in the Plastic Tote by Today
- 9 Sunday New UU Class After the Service
- 11 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 12 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting @ JDL ~ 5:30 pm
- 13 Thurs. Membership Committee ~ 10:00 am
- 13 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ 4:30-6:30 pm @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson, Help Distribution
- 13 Thurs. JXN Community Forum **"Freedom Forum - Where Are We on Race?"**
@ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
- 16 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 17 - 23 Minister out of town for General Assembly & Ministry Days
- 18 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- 23 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- 23 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Jon Hart ~ 11:00 am
- 23 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 25 - July 1 Minister on Study Leave
- 30 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, Becky Bowen ~ 11:00 am

Upcoming Events

- July 8-22 Minister on Study Leave
- July 8-15 Minister on Vacation
- July 22-29 Minister on Vacation

Sunday	June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
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	Joan B	Joyce W	George H	Donna H	Steve B
Ushers	OPEN Gary T	OPEN Gary T	OPEN Gary T	OPEN Gary T	OPEN Gary T
Social H. Host	Elissa A	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	Sue R Margaret J
R.E. Pre.					
R.E. K-5	Intergenerational	Intergenerational	Michelle V Dee R	Michelle V Gretchen M	Craft Day Janette M & Sharon P
R.E. Youth					

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

June 2 - "Flower Communion"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

Bring a flower as we celebrate our annual festival of the flowers.

June 9 - "Wheel of the Year"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

On this day we will honor life passages, graduations, and thank our volunteers.

June 16 - "Father's Day"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Unitarian Universalists have been claiming Mother's Day as a day for peace and justice. It's time we claimed Father's Day, too.

Starting June 23, during the next 6 weeks 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.

June 23 - "Evensong: Religious and Spiritual Experiences"

- Lay Leader, Jon Hart

June 30 - "Evensong: The Divine"

- Lay Leader, Becky Bowen

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