

The Bellnote

Universalist Unitarian
Church of East Liberty
2231 Jefferson Road,
Clarklake, MI 49234
(517) 529-4221

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MINISTER'S OFFICE 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

R. E. COORDINATOR Sharon Pedersen

MUSIC DIRECTOR Nancy Cooper

NURSERY & CHILD CARE Vicki Haynes

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Alyce Oosting

BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joyce Weatherwax

Carol Bowen

Nena Obits



Minister's Column

As I write my column this month, I'm away at one of two conferences I'll be attending this fall. In November I'll be attending "Convo," which is a gathering of UU ministers across the continent that happens only once every seven years. This may also be the last Convo, as our ministerial association is changing models. The conference I'm at now is my study group, Ohio River Group, something that gives me a short time each year to dive into a subject with some depth and explore new ideas. It's been something of a tradition for UUCEL ministers to be part of Ohio River Group—Jill Terwilliger, Susan Smith, and Richard Venus, and perhaps others.

And as I write this I'm thinking of something that I haven't had a chance to express to you in person that I want to share, which is my incredible gratitude for the support that you, the congregation, are offering me in voting in October to affirm my sabbatical next year. In ministry we are always hoping from one sermon with its subject to the next, without the time to study deeper any particular issue. I use my yearly study leave to prepare on a handful of subjects that I know will require some background work each year, and to prepare papers that I'm giving, such as the one I present at Ohio River Group tomorrow. My sabbatical will give me time to go deeper into a subject, or to do a longer writing project, as well as giving me a Sabbath—a time of rest and refreshment, renewal and then return. So thank you for showing me this support and trust in offering me a sabbatical. I hope to come back a new minister in many ways. We continue on the Sabbatical Committee to look at ways to make the months of my absence flow smoothly, so if you have suggestions or concerns, please let me or one of them know.

As I do this thinking of ways that I get refreshed and renewed, I hope that I can help you if you are needing to be refreshed or renewed. Some things that are always good for me are poetry, song, and worship. If you need a boost this month in particular, as we head into the holiday season, come join us in worship!

Peace,

Cindy

Religious Education Report

The Harvest Bazaar is this weekend, and that means the advent of "good eats" season. I'm looking forward to the First Friday home-made pizzas, too – yum! A special thank you to all who give time to help the church raise needed funds through these events. Isn't it great that the Elements bookstore owners donated so many used books?

There are still things we could use for supplies for religious education classes, so I thought I'd just mention a few:
"newsprint pads" (also called flipcharts)
glue sticks

The kids are amazing the teachers with their wisdom and insights in both the K-5 and youth classes. The youth will save information in personal folders all year long, available to them when they are writing their credos toward the end of the year. And we are benefiting so much from the variety of experience that teachers bring to the classroom.

The RE Brochure has been updated with this year's curriculum information, so it is a good public relations tool for when we're at community events. Call me if you know of places that may be good for displaying these brochures, from family-friendly community events to literature racks.

At the October RE Committee meeting, the Committee set its goals for the year, including:
Regular committee notes
Review or develop job descriptions for RE Coordinator, Nursery Provider, Acting RE Coordinator (for when Sharon's out of town). Michelle Vanover will be Acting Coordinator at the end of November. The RE Coordinator and Acting RE Coordinator will act as an ambassador for RE each week, telling visiting families about their RE options.

Speaking of options, make sure to read the Order of Service each week, which will tell you whether the youth and younger ones have a lesson that day.

The Adult RE class on Tuesday nights has been very fun, as well as thought-provoking.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to the holiday season with you and the young ones of UUCEL!

Yours trUULy,

Sharon



Religious Education Coordinator

~~A reminder to those that help with social hour and/or if you or your child is a messy eater: "Please sweep the floor." The broom & dustpan can be found in the small closet on the other side of the kitchen door on the stairs. This is asked by the cleaning person who comes only once a month and by then it is ground in and hard to remove. Thank you. ~~

Please welcome our
newest member

**Lori Bowden
and her daughter Brianna**

who joined our church
on October 4

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, Jann Krupa, and Carole Hartsuff.

Notes from the Board

The board would like to thank everyone who participated in the Congregational Meeting on October 11th. Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 4 in the social hall.

Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President

Checking E-Mail

The church is looking for a person to volunteer to check the e-mail of the churches e-mail account. This person will open messages sent to the person that would need the information, if you are able to help with this task please contact Rev. Cindy, thank you.

Adult Religious Education Opportunity

Join us on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm, started on September 15th, for a total of **12-weeks** adult religious education program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" led by our minister. Sign up on the bulletin board in the social hall, or contact Rev. Cindy. It is not necessary to make a commitment to all 12 weeks to attend.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Reminder to all: Please check regularly the sign-up clipboards in the social hall on the corkboard wall for open dates. For Ushers, Social Hour Host and the Nursery Helper of the day. **As you know Nursery starts at 10:50 am.** So the nursery worker Vicki and the helper for the day need to be with the children under age 5 before the service. The volunteer list needs to be full each month.

Cindy's Sabbatical Leave

At the meeting on Sunday, October 11th the congregation voted unanimously to approve the resolution affirming the Rev. Cindy's sabbatical leave. Victor Marshall spoke about his academic sabbatical which allowed him to return refreshed to teaching. Earlier in the month Ann Green spoke about her sabbaticals which profited her, JCC, and the community. The sabbaticals were not vacations but times to separate themselves from their daily routine so they could reflect, study, learn, and return with excitement to their duties. Thanks to the congregation for their affirmation of the Rev. Cindy's sabbatical.

~ from the Sabbatical Committee:
Steve Beison, Ann Green,
Carole Hartsuff and Victor Marshall



Definition of Sabbatical

The Handbook on Sabbatical Leaves provides us this definition of ministerial sabbaticals: "Sabbaticals are neither extended vacations nor tightly-structured, highly-focused study leaves. Sabbaticals are designed to foster rest, reflection and renewal, a respite in depth, to provide an opportunity to break away from established routine and the press of heavy responsibilities, a chance to experience different cultures and be stimulated by new learnings, and time and space to reflect on the meaning of it all. Sabbaticals typically include study and/or travel, and provide the opportunity not only for formal learning and cultural enrichment but also time for receptivity and reflection. We are able to be receptive only when we have let go of our normal regimen. Receptivity opens the way to interior healing, fresh insight and perspective, and possibly a new energy that is less driven, more balanced and productive." Submitted by: Ann Green

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

First Friday Dinner

On Friday, **November 6** please come to the church and enjoy a homemade pizza and salad dinner. This will be made and served by Jon Hart and Rob Gaecke, the guys will be serving at 6:30 pm bring your money, as you know this is a fundraising dinner. There will be a few different pizza toppings to choose from. The **December 4**, first Friday dinner, the hostess has something in the works, with information coming soon. In January it will be the 2nd Friday of the month, **January 8** with a "12th Night Dinner Theme" and we are still open for ideas and host/hostess in February, March and June.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee's next meeting is **November 22** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee's next meeting is **Tuesday, November 17** at 1:30 pm a different day than the usual scheduled 2nd Thursday of the month. This meeting/workbee will be to setting up for the used book sale, please come join us.

Submitted by: Kathy Haynes

Worship Committee

We have started using a "Worship Associate" on Sunday mornings. This involves a lay person being a part of the service such as opening and closing or joys and sorrows and a reading etc. We need 5 people to take one Sunday a month. If you are interested please call Lynn Hightower, or I may be calling you!

Submitted by: Lynn Hightower

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 commUnity forUm is sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in conjunction with the Jackson District Library.

Thursday, November 19 "EAT"

We will show parts of the recent documentary *Food, Inc.*, with discussion following. *Food, Inc.* exposes America's industrialized food system and its effect on our environment, health, economy and workers' rights. This movie tackles many of the same issues examined by author Michael Pollan in his bestselling books, Omnivore's Dilemma and In Defense of Food. We all need to eat, and most of us love to eat. But are we always eating food? And is it good for the earth or other people? Learn to see food in a more intelligent way.

Submitted by: Outreach Committee



Used Book Sale

Bring books to the church starting November 8. The sale will be in the social hall and will be open to the public on Friday and Saturday, **November 20 and 21** from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm the books maybe still be around on Sunday the 22nd but no public hours. We will need workers to sort and sell books please contact Cindy if you can help. We also have Hundreds of new books have been donated to UUCEL from a store in Jackson that went out of business. These are books on spiritual themes, including Paganism and Wicca, Chakras, I Ching, Feng Shui, Freemasonry, Homeopathy, Kundalini, Reiki, and more, as well as some popular fiction such as the Southern Vampire Mysteries series. We're going to be selling these books at a steep discount at the sale.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

~~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!

Church growth is everyone's responsibility

Potluck Dinner

After the service on **Sunday, November 29** please join us for a potluck dinner and stay to help decorating the church, for the Christmas Holiday. Everyone is welcome to help. The annual Hanging of the Greens is to decorate the social hall and sanctuary with a Christmas tree and garland and more. Please bring a food dish to share, along with your plate or wash the one you use of the churches.



On **Sunday, December 13** we will be have a Holiday Bake Sale during the social hour, so think about what you can making. Please label your dishes (to get them back from the one who bought it) or use disposables products. Remember to you of packaging your baked goods to catches the eye of the buyer, have fun with it and this is a fundraiser with 100% going to the church.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

UUCEL On-Line

Easy On-Line Fundraisers

UUCEL has three easy ways you can earn money for the church while going about your usual on-line activities. The first is through Amazon.com. If you're shopping at Amazon.com, first go to our church webpage at www.libertyuu.org/shop.html and click on the link to Amazon. Once you do that, the church will earn a percentage (usually 4%) of the amount you spend at Amazon.

The second method is to use GoodSearch as your search engine. It works like other search engines, such as Google. Whenever you're searching the web, go to www.GoodSearch.com, enter Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty as your agency you're fundraising for, and then every time you search the web we make a penny.

Third, use GoodShop before shopping. Go to www.GoodShop.com and enter Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty as your agency, and then click from there to any number of on-line business, from e-Bay to Orbitz to iTunes, and when you make your purchase at the store, UUCEL will earn a portion of your sales.



Wish List for RE Fall/Winter 2009-2010

Newsprint/flipchart pad and glue sticks

"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~~

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 DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER IS:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

uucel_bellnote@yahoo.com

Kathy & Vicki Haynes

or the Bellnote mailbox.

We want to thank: Ann Green, Kathy Haynes, Lynn Hightower, Gratia Karmes, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Alyce Oosting, Sharon Pedersen, Outreach Comm. and the Membership Comm., for their news items this month.

"May it be true that a joy shared
is a joy doubled and
a sorrow shared is a sorrow halved"

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

1 Sunday	Daylight Saving Time Ends
1 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
3 Tue.	Election Day ~ Reminder to Vote
3 Tue.	12-week adult R. E. program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm
4 Wed.	Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
5 Thurs.	AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
6 Fri.	1st Friday Dinner ~ Hosted by Jon Hart & Rob Gaecke
8 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ To Be Announced
10 Tue.	Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
10 Tue.	Adult R. E. program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm
11 Wed.	Worship Committee Meeting ~ 5:30 pm
11 Wed.	Religious Education Committee Meeting ~ 7:00 pm
15 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Lay Leader - Nancy Cooper
15 Sunday	Caring Committee ~ After the Service
17 Tue.	Membership Meeting ~ 1:30 pm (book sale set up)
17 Tue.	Adult R. E. Program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm
19 Thurs.	JDL/UUCEL commUnity forUms ~ "EAT" @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
20 Fri.	Used Book Sale & R.E. Baked Goods Sale in the Social Hall ~ 9:00 - 4:00 pm
21 Sat.	Used Book Sale & R.E. Baked Goods Sale in the Social Hall ~ 9:00 - 4:00 pm
22 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
24 Tue.	Adult R. E. Program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm
26 Thurs.	Thanksgiving Day
29 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Guest Speaker - Pat Forsberg-Smith
29 Sunday	Potluck Dinner & Decorating the Church, for the Christmas Holiday ~ Everyone Welcome

Upcoming Events

Dec. 13 Holiday Baked Goods Sale and Santa's Workshop ~ After the Service

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Nov. 1	Nov. 8	Nov.15	Nov. 22	Nov. 29
Greeters	Alyce O.	Grace M.	Joan B.	Betty G.	Carole H.
R.E. Greeter				Michelle V.	
Nursery Helper	open	open	Jane H.	Nancy S.	open
Ushers	Steve J. Gary T.	Steve J. Gary T.	Paul J. Gary T.	Paul J. Gary T.	Paul J. Gary T.
Social H. Host	Jane H.	Joan B. Margaret J.	Lori B. Sue R.	Jane V.	Pot Luck Dinner
R.E. Teachers	K-5 Peter & Jon Youth	Sharon & Kerry Jackie & Gretchen	Rob & Jo Tom & Lynn		Jon & Anne

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

Nov. 1 - "UU Sources: Mystery and Wonder"

-Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

One of our UU Sources from which we draw is "Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life." How does this source feed and nourish you? We will explore this topic together.

Nov. 8 -

To Be Announced

Nov. 15 - "Unitarian Hymn Writers"

-Lay Speaker - Nancy Cooper

Several years ago we celebrated Universalist history with a Sunday service devoted to Universalist hymns and their writers. Today we will do the service for Unitarian hymn writers, singing their hymns and learning a bit about their lives.

Nov. 22 - "Ethical and Spiritual Food"

-Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

Food nourishes the body and nourishes the spirit, but different foods do each differently, and some foods may be more or less in keeping with other ethical values. As we move into a season wherein we often celebrate with ritual foods, this service will explore these different aspects of our holiday plates.

Nov. 29 - "Beliefs and Practices of Buddhism"

-Guest Speaker -Pat Forsberg-Smith

Pat Forsberg-Smith from the KTC Tibetau Buddhist Meditation Center in Ann Arbor will be our speaker. She will present "Beliefs and Practices of Buddhism" and give us an opportunity to ask questions. Pat has been a Buddhist for 25 years.

http://kernit_21049203.tripod.com/the-bellnote-ucel.html
www.libertyuu.org
Where people care about each other and care about the world.

Return Service Requested

Clarklake, MI 49234
2231 Jefferson Road

Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

