

The Bellnote

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

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October 2009

LOCATED 3/4 MILE WEST OF U.S. 127

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

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NURSERY & CHILD CARE Vicki Haynes

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Minister's Column

This October, you will have to make choices. You cannot do it all. It is just not possible. The good news is that there are so many amazing things to do at and for UUCEL! And these amazing things are not possible without your help. I urge you to take a look through this newsletter and see if there is an event you can help with, because we need each and every one of you in order to continue making the amazing work of this church possible.

I am personally very excited about some of the conferences going on in October. I have one of my own, my ministerial study group, but there are two other conferences in Michigan that are open to all of you. One is the Jesus Seminar on the Road, which you will find more information about in this newsletter (see attached flyer). The Jesus Seminar is a group of scholars who have done controversial and ground-breaking work on the historical Jesus. Their findings may shock and amaze you, and you can come hear them in person for a very reasonable cost. We also need volunteers for this event, so watch for sign-up sheets.

The second conference is with a group called the Faith Action Network. I met the coordinator of FAN when I was down in Washington, D.C. for the HRC Clergy Call, and am amazed at some of the great work that FAN is doing in Michigan advocating for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender equality. Other UU churches in our state are joining FAN as members, and I hope we can, too. Whether or not you can join this particular conference, FAN is a group that is good to know about and get involved with! If you're interested in being a church liaison to FAN, let me know, because we need someone to help us keep track of lobbying and letter-writing opportunities as they occur.

That's only about a third of what I'm excited about in October. Pore through the rest of these pages and read it all, because there really is something for everyone this month. If you want something scholarly, or fun, or justice-oriented, or family-friendly, or community-building, or tummy-filling, or crafty, or anything else, look no further than UUCEL! We've got it all here and more.

Namaste, *Cindy*

Minister's Schedule

Please note that Rev. Landrum will be away **October 19-22** for her ministerial study group, "Ohio River Group" where she will be presenting a paper on poetry.

UUCEL to Host Jackson Area

Ministerial Association

If you see the parking lot filling up on **Thursday, October 8**, it's because JAMA is meeting at UUCEL. The guest speaker will be Sister Cheryl Liske from Michigan's Gamaliel Foundation (the parent organization of MOSES in Detroit, ONAH in Battle Creek, and ISAAC in Kalamazoo). If you're interested in attending or providing breakfast food for the meeting, contact Rev. Cindy.

Together in Faith

October 16-18 the Faith Action Network is holding a "Together in Faith" conference in Clarkston, MI. The Saturday Summit is open for enrollment and is only \$25. The Faith Action Network (FAN) is an interfaith, multiracial, multi-generational alliance of Michigan People of Faith working to secure positive outcomes on Same Gender Loving, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (SGL, LGBTIQ) policy issues and to shape public opinion in key Michigan areas by organizing and mobilizing progressive clergy, lay people and faith communities to take a firm and proactive stand for Justice. To register for Together in Faith go to <http://www.faithactionnetwork.org/TIFCollaborative.html>, or ask Rev. Cindy for more information

Our Next Ingathering

On **Sunday, October 4** we will have our next ingathering of our friends becoming members of the U.U. Church of East Liberty. If you would like to be a part on the ingathering service please talk with Rev. Cindy, Joan Bernstein, Kathy Haynes, Carole Hartsuff or Jann Krupa.

Submitted by: The Membership Committee

Religious Education Report

We're off to a great start with Religious Education this Fall. I'm very pleased about how the calendar and plans are coming together, from the little ones in the nursery through the adult RE class on Tuesday nights that just got started. It was fun doing colorful bubble paint pictures with K-5 kids on Sept. 20, with teachers Nancy S. and Peg G. The kids were very cooperative and had fun together—we (and their parents) must be doing something right!

I'm finishing a brochure that will help us tell the WORLD about our wonderful RE program, at community forums and other outreach opportunities.

I don't think I've sung the praises of the RE Committee in awhile. Anne, Gretchen, and Michelle come up with so many good ideas, and help follow through with them. For instance, when I suggested we encourage children to bring friends to church, they came up with the great idea of, rather than giving kids a prize for bringing friends, letting them pick a gift to give to their guest. We'll be gathering some inexpensive yet special gifts for this purpose. Kids got a UUCEL pocket card at the RE Breakfast they can use to invite friends.

Thank you to those who helped with the RE breakfast—Anne, Gretchen, Michelle, Pat, and Peg. Also to those who helped with clean up on that very busy Sunday.

Don't forget the Harvest Bazaar, Friday & Sat. **October 23-24**, with just an hour or so after church on the 25th for those who can't make it the other days. This is a major fundraiser for the church. Don't miss the soups and new books for sale in the church, along with pumpkins, crafts, and baked goods for sale in the schoolhouse.

Looking forward to the rest of the year...
IUUV,

Sharon



Religious Education Coordinator

Notes from the Board

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **October 7** at 6:30 pm in the social hall.

Reminder: Please join us for a Congregational meeting directly following the service on **October 11**. We will be discussing the by-law changes handed out last spring, the additional social action agencies nominated to be supported, and the sabbatical resolution from the sabbatical committee.

Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President

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

UUCEL is the Jesus Seminar's Co-Host!

UUCEL is the co-host of the Jesus Seminar on the Road coming to Jackson, an exciting opportunity for our church to co-host a group of revolutionary scholars of the historical Jesus. (See attached flyer for details.) As co-hosts, our name is on the flyers for the event, and we can have a table with brochures for our church at the event. As co-hosts, we also have some duties. We need to provide baked goods for the Friday night lecture (enough for 100 people), and fruit for breakfast for the Saturday morning workshops. We also need to staff the registration table Friday and Saturday. The other co-hosts are First Baptist Church and Arbor Grove Congregationalist Church, and they will also be providing food and staffing tables. Please look for the sign-up sheet in the social hall and sign up to participate. We need your help!

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Sabbatical Leave

The following resolution of affirmation for Rev. Cynthia Landrum's Sabbatical will be presented for a vote at the Congregational Meeting on **October 11, 2009**. This will be presented by the Sabbatical Committee as part of our planning for the Sabbatical Leave. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the Committee: Steve Beison, Ann Green, Carole Hartsuff or Vic Marshall.

Resolution for Rev. Cynthia Landrum's Sabbatical Leave October 11th, 2009

Be it resolved that the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty affirms our agreement with the Rev. Cynthia Landrum for a Sabbatical Leave during late 2010 and early 2011.

The Congregation supports the UUCEL Board appointed Sabbatical Committee, in conjunction with the Board and other committees, to continue planning and budgeting for services and activities during the Rev. Landrum's leave.

Be it further resolved that the Congregation wishes the best for the Rev. Landrum's Sabbatical. We expect this experience will be a time that will provide a revitalized sense of shared ministry for both minister and congregation.

Submitted by: Vic Marshall

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

"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~~ ~ 3 ~

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Spaghetti and Bad Poetry!

On Friday, **October 2** at 6:30 pm the choir is sponsoring the October First Friday dinner. Besides spaghetti, salad, beverages, bread and dessert will be provided. All you have to do is bring money and the very worst poems you can write or steal—no limits or rules. Relative awfulness of the compositions will be determined by ballot and really appropriate prizes will be awarded to the worst.

Get those pens and pencils going!

Submitted by: Nancy Cooper

Golf Scramble

Please join us for an afternoon of golfing fun with our annual golf scramble. Plan to meet at the Hills' Heart O' the Lakes Golf Course in Brooklyn on **Sunday, October 4** at 2:00 pm start time. Contact Betty Gulliver if you would like to play; remember it's a scramble so you do not have to play like a pro. It's all in fun. I will put the teams together. After the teams are through playing please join us in the club house for a bite to eat; you order, you pay. I was quoted approximate fall prices for walking the 9 holes of \$ 6.00 or renting a cart for \$12.00.

Submitted by: Betty Gulliver

Fall Nature Hike

We'll be hiking at the Dahlem Nature Center on **Sunday, October 4**. The Center offers a variety of trails, plus indoor displays and a gift shop. Plan on car-pooling from church at 12:45 pm. Call Nena Obits if you have any questions.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

First Friday Dinners

November 6 dinner will be hosted by Jon Hart and Rob Gaecke. Next year's date of **April 2**, will be hosted by Chris Keith, it will be a "Cook - Off" and voting for the best in different categories. We are looking for others to choose a month and host a dinner.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

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, October 15

JDL/UUCEL Community Forum: "**Ask Not**," an Independent Lens Documentary about the U.S. Military's "**Don't Ask, Don't Tell**" Policy. "Since the implementation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," more than 12,000 military personnel have been discharged including linguists and others whose skills are critical to military operations. In "Ask Not," current and veteran gay soldiers reveal how the policy has affected them during their tours of duty as they struggle to maintain a double life, uncertain of whom they can trust. The film also explores how gay veterans and youth organizers are turning to activism to challenge DADT. The film follows gay former military personnel speaking to communities across the country about their own service histories. Discussion will follow the one-hour film.

Submitted by: Outreach Committee



~The Brooklyn Food Pantry is an organization that we have voted to support under our Social Mission policy~

Brooklyn Food Pantry

It's our turn to have one or two volunteers to work at the Brooklyn Food Pantry, 171 Wamplers Lake Road, Brooklyn. The pantry is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm to fill the orders of those in need of food and restock shelves. Our work date are **Tuesday Sept. 29** and **Thursday, October 1** If you are available to help in this rewarding work please contact Paul Jenkins at church or give him a call. Don't forget to bring canned food or any non-perishable items for donation to the pantry. There is a basket in the foyer under the desk for your contributions.

Submitted by: Paul Jenkins

The Harvest Bazaar

Please keep these dates in Mind!!

Friday, October 23 and Saturday,

October 24 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm both days.

Coffee, tea, cider and donuts will be served in the morning from 9:00 –11:00 in the social hall.

Prices will be listed on a sign for the luncheon items and morning refreshments. Luncheon will be served from 11:00 – 2:00. We will need help in the social hall and in the schoolhouse both days. Baked goods and craft items are very much welcomed and needed. We will need everyone's help to make this a successful sale.

Please help by furnishing items you think will sell. Seasonal and non-seasonal items would be great. Be creative in your packaging, especially the baked items; it helps catch the eye of the buyer. Fall, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas items will sell the best. Please contact Anne Seifert or Rose Ann Pelham to let them know what you are able to do for this large fun fundraiser to support the church.

Submitted by: Anne Seifert

New Book Sale !

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 in the social hall during the Harvest Bazaar (see article above for times & dates). If you're not volunteering for the Harvest Bazaar or the Jesus Seminar, please help us out by staffing the book table! And in between all your other activities, please come by and check out the selection!

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Used Book Sale

Do you have any book to donate to the used book sale? The sale will be in the social hall 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 out.

Church Halloween Celebration

Children (and adults) are invited to come to church in Halloween costumes on **October 25**. UNICEF boxes will be available for trick-or-treaters to take to raise money for UNICEF.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee's next meeting is **October 18** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting

First Aid Kit

We have a new first aid kit donated by Gordon Bernstein. It is located in the kitchen on the north wall, next to the paper towel holder. The kit can be removed from the wall and taken where needed.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

Meetings and Events

not directly affiliated with UUCEL

Join the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism for its biennial Colloquium on **Oct. 23-25**. Our provocative topics will include "Who Are Secular Americans?" "Purpose, Passion and Community Without God", "The New Jewish Diversity" among others. Featured speakers include keynoter Jacques Berlinerblau of Georgetown Univ. (*The Secular Bible: Why Nonbelievers Must Take Religion Seriously*); Ron Aronson of Wayne State Univ. (*Living Without God: New Directions for Atheists, Agnostics, Secularists and the Undecided*); Rabbi Greg Epstein, Harvard Humanist Chaplain (*Good Without God: What a Billion Non-Religious People Do Believe*); Lori Lipman Brown, founding director of the Secular Coalition for America; Caryn Aviv of the University of Denver and Jewish Mosaic (*New Jews: The End of Diaspora*); Rabbi Sivan Malkin Maas of Tmura-IISHJ, Israel; and Rabbi Adam Chalom, Dean of the IISHJ for North America (*Introduction to Secular Humanistic Judaism*). For more information or a registration brochure, please visit http://www.iishj.org/images/09_Colloquium_Brochure_web.pdf. Any questions? Contact info@iishj.org or 248-476-9532.

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 NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER IS:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

uucel_bellnote@yahoo.com

Kathy & Vicki Haynes

or the Bellnote mailbox.

We want to thank: Nancy Cooper, Betty Gulliver, Lynn Hightower, Paul Jenkins, Gratia Karmes, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Vic Marshall, Nena Obits, 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 Thurs.	AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
1 Thurs.	Brooklyn Food Pantry: work day ~ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
2 Fri	1st Friday Dinner ~ Hosted by the Choir
4 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
4 Sunday	Fall Nature Hike ~ 12:45 pm @ Dahlem Nature Center
4 Sunday	Golf Scramble @ Hills' Heart O' the Lakes Golf Course ~ 2:00 pm
6 Tue.	12-week adult R. E. program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm
7 Wed.	Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
8 Thurs.	JAMA Meeting at UUCEL ~ Morning
8 Thurs.	Membership Meeting ~ 1:30 pm
11 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum
11 Sunday	Congregational Meeting ~ After the Service
13 Tue.	Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
13 Tue.	Adult R. E. program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm
14 Wed.	Worship Committee Meeting ~ 5:30 pm
15 Thurs.	JDL/UUCEL commUnity forUms ~ "Ask Not" @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
16 Fri. 18 Sat	Faith Action Network is holding a "Together in Faith" conference ~ Clarkston, MI
18 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Lay Leader - Anita Pepper
18 Sunday	Caring Committee ~ After the Service
20 Tue.	Adult R. E. Program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm
21 Wed.	Religious Education Committee Meeting ~ 7:00 pm
23 Fri. 24 Sat.	Harvest Bazaar ~ In the Schoolhouse ~ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Refreshments will be sold from 9-11 & Luncheon will be sold from 11-2 in the Social Hall
23 Fri. 24 Sat.	Jesus Seminar on the Road @ First Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson Street
25 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Guest Speaker - Clayton Daughenbaugh
27 Tue.	Adult R. E. Program "Harvest the Power: Developing Lay Leadership" ~ 6:30 pm

Upcoming Events

Nov. 6	First Friday Dinner ~ Hosted by Jon Hart & Rob Gaecke
Nov. 20-21	Used Book Sale & R.E. Baked Goods Sale in the Social Hall ~ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Nov. 29	Potluck Dinner & Decorating the Church, for the Christmas Holiday ~ Everyone Welcome
Dec. 13	Holiday Baked Goods Sale and Santa's Workshop ~ After the Service

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sun.	Greeters	Ushers	Social Hour Host	Nursery Helper	R.E. Teachers
Oct. 4	Alyce O.	Gary T. & Steve J.	Jon & Kerry H.	Becky B.	K-5 ~ Anne S. Peg G.
Oct. 11	Grace M.	Gary T. & Steve J.	Open	Chris B.	K-5 ~ Kerry H. Peter M. Y ~ Gretchen M. Alyce O.
Oct. 18	Joan B.	Gary T. & Paul J.	Pat & Peg G.	Jane H.	K-5 ~ Rob G. Peg G. Y ~ Lynn H. Tom P.
Oct. 25	Betty G.	Gary T. & Paul J.	Nancy J.	Open	K-5 ~ Jon H. Jo Y. Y ~ Jackie J. Peggy S.

Reminder to all: Please check regularly the sign-up clipboards in the social hall on the corkboard wall for open dates. **Nursery now starts at 10:50 am** not at 11:15 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.

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

Oct. 4 - "Our UU Sources"

-Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

Our minister will begin a sermon series on the religious sources from which we draw in Unitarian Universalism: direct experience, prophetic men and women, world religions, Jewish and Christian teachings, Humanist teachings, and Earth-Centered traditions. The sermon series will be about once a month over the course of the year.

October 4 is the UUA's "Association Sunday." On this Sunday we will also be honoring our connection to the Unitarian Universalist Association. There will be a special collection to help increase our dues amount to get closer to being a "fair share" congregation.

Oct. 11 - "Standing on the Side of Love"

-Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

We will celebrate National Coming Out Day

with a sermon about marriage equality and how UU churches are "Standing on the Side of Love."

Following the Service: Congregational Meeting

Oct. 18 - "This I Believe"

-Lay Speaker - Anita Pepper

This will be a continuing our "This I Believe" four more people from our congregation will share their own theology.

Oct. 25 - "Nature, Wilderness and Spirituality"

-Guest Speaker - Clayton Daughenbaugh

Clayton Daughenbaugh from the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance will be our guest speaker. He will speak of the connection between nature, wilderness and spirituality.

Rev. Landrum will be preaching in Lansing for the Rev. Kathryn Bert's sabbatical.

Where people care about each other and care about the world.
http://kermi21049203.tripod.com/the_bellnote_uucel.html
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Return Service Requested

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Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

