

October 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

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Steve Kish~stevekish2@comcast.net
Kerry Hart~ khart247@sbcglobal.net
Grace Mulnix



Minister's Column

This month marks ten years since my ordination in October 2002 in Gardner, MA. I was ordained in my second year of ministry, so I've actually been in ministry eleven years since graduating from Meadville Lombard Theological School in 2001. It's been wonderful to spend eight of those years here with you, in a shared ministry that I think keeps getting stronger and more focused. In the last eight years I've learned and grown a great deal, and I hope you all can say the same thing. Church should be something that stretches and grows your spirits. Of course, that stretching can sometimes be painful, and sometimes we can overextend, but hopefully the usual feeling is that of a good soul-work-out.

In the next few months, the Committee on Ministry, which consists of Marge Duane, Gratia Karmes, Gretchen Marshall, and Ann Green, will begin an evaluation of our shared ministry to share with me and the board. I hope this process will be an opportunity for me to grow and challenge myself even further, even though sometimes that stretching can be painful for me, as well. One thing I've begun this year, in response to comments to the board and the committee on ministry that there is a desire for greater pulpit presence from me, is volunteering to help with worship components on Sundays when I'm not preaching, such as the recent service with Mark Schauer or the service this month with Davi Trusty. Hopefully this will help you to feel like you're getting to see more of me.

Some of stretching and growing is trying new programs and new ideas. A major new program and idea for this year was our sexuality education programs led by Planned Parenthood for teens, younger children, and adults. I recently had the opportunity to tell the Rev. Debra Haffner of the Religious Institute: Faithful Voices on Sexuality and Religion about our program, and she thought it was so innovative that she suggested I write it up for their blog or newsletter. (See <http://www.religioustheology.org/> for more information about their organization.) The September classes for the adults and younger children went very well, and we're looking forward to the teen program this month. We know we have fewer teens attending, but we've heard that members of the Columbia High School Gay-Straight Alliance will possibly be joining us for the program. It turns out that one of the GSA leaders is also involved with PP. What a natural and great alliance to bring Planned

Continued on next page...

Religious Ed. Report

What a busy September! The last weekend was a good example: we participated in The Jesus Seminar, the HARC AIDS walk, and had a venison dinner fundraiser on Saturday, and on Sunday the children's Planned Parenthood workshop, "Part I" took place. And a busy October is coming up as well!

We had a good turnout from parents at the "Beyond the Birds and the Bees" workshop, and six children participated in the "Puberty, Healthy Relationships, and Self-Esteem: A Sexuality and Reproductive Health workshop for Ages 7-11." I especially appreciate the donations at the special collection for Planned Parenthood that helped make this workshop possible.

Our next phase of this partnership with Planned Parenthood is a workshop for 12-19 year olds in October. "Be Proud! Be Responsible! A Sexuality and Reproductive Health Workshop for 12- through 19-Year Olds" will be held in two parts: **October 14** and **October 21** from 12:30-4:30pm.

We are doing some workshop outreach to a few other churches and the Gay/Straight Alliances at Jackson High and Columbia Central to try to get other like-minded families/youth involved. RSVPs appreciated; parental permission required for children 17 and under. Call 740-2629 or email sspedersen@sbcglobal.net to register/for more info.

We will also be having another "Popcorn Faith with Principled Movies" night at church on the evening of **October 7**, from 5-8pm. Movie TBA; I am screening "The Avengers" and otherwise will show "Save the Last Dance." This movie corresponds with UU Principle 2, Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

Thank you to those of you who have donated craft items for RE lessons, and all your support of the RE program.

Luv,

Sharon

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

Rev. Cindy's Column Continued...

Parenthood, the Gay-Straight Alliance, and our Universalist Unitarian Church together! The GSA will also be hosting a dance at our church on the weekend of our harvest bazaar. If you have left-overs after baking from the bazaar and want to bake some goodies for their dance, leave them labeled in the kitchen for them.

Our Worship Committee is also stretching and growing this fall, and we're trying new worship formats a few times this year. The first one is our Halloween/Samhain service this month, based on Ray Bradbury's *The Halloween Tree*. Let us know what you think! This is definitely a challenge and a stretch for me, because while I enjoy creating ritual, most of my services fall into the genre of sermon-centered worship services. We're still working out the details on how to make this a more participatory and different sort of worship service, and hopefully you'll enjoy the results.

October is my favorite month of the year, and there's a lot to look forward to this month. Come join us!

Namaste,

Cindy

Reflections

The Rev. Francis C. Anderson Jr.

I never found religion
In a holy book
Or nesting in a mossy creed
Or flashing in a neon Christ is coming...

I found religion
When you listened to my crazy talk...
Or took me on a mountain walk...
When it was your hand that helped me stand...
Or turned me to horizons grand...

I found religion
When I watched truth trampled in the dirt...
Or, helpless, saw another's deepest hurt...
When I heard a song of twilight thrush...
And felt a full and universal hush...

Everywhere we stand is holy ground
And everywhere we dare to look
Religion can be found.

Notes from the Board

Fall is here. School is back in session and Religious Education and the nursery are back in session thanks to the generosity and support of our wonderful congregation. I am so proud to serve as a board member for such a kind, loving and liberal church. The board meeting this month focused a lot on building issues. With the arrival of cooler weather the board decided to postpone repairs to the air conditioner. We plan to have the repairs completed by an insured professional so parts will be under warranty. By waiting until early spring to complete the repairs we will test out the system closer to the repair date and insure any warranties are in effect when the air conditioner is most used. The second building issue addressed this month has to do with alterations to our buildings. We have beautiful, historic buildings. That being said, the buildings are also old and need tender care. The board would like to remind everyone to please consult the building and grounds committee before making any changes (additions or subtractions) to our buildings and grounds. Simply putting a nail in to brittle plaster can leave a gaping hole. Holes in the exterior provide great places for moisture to take hold, expanding and contracting with the weather. We really want our historic buildings to be around for many generations to come. Please, please, please talk to the buildings and grounds committee before doing anything to the buildings.

Jackie

Submitted by: Jackie Johnson
Board Vice President



Be Proud! Be Responsible!

The City of Jackson has the second highest teen pregnancy rate in the state of Michigan. Thanks to a grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health, Planned Parenthood Mid and South Michigan is able to provide an evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education program for teens age 12-19 years old. Be Proud! Be Responsible! is an eight hour activity-driven program that covers contraception, teen pregnancy, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections/diseases. Every teen that completes the entire eight hours will receive a \$50.00 Target gift card for their participation. Lunch will also be provided. This program will be offered on **October 14th** and **21st** from 12:30-4:30pm at UUCEL. All teens are welcome to attend, register by calling or e-mailing Amber Duddy at amber.duddy@ppmchoice.org/ 734-926-4766. For more information on this program please join us at the Beyond the Birds and Bees parent program.

Movies Night

We will also be having another "Popcorn Faith with Principled Movies" night at church on the evening of **October 7**, from 5:00-8:00 pm. Movie TBA; and screening "The Avengers" otherwise will show "Save the Last Dance." This movie corresponds with UU Principle 2, Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

New Fund Raiser

We will be asking for donations of books, DVDs, videos, music CDs, and magazines that you think other church members would be interested in purchasing. Prices range from .50 to \$3.00 and can be found on the book shelf in the Social Hall by the stairs. All proceeds will go into a fund for purchasing needed items for the congregation. More electronic hearing devices and a digital recorder are the first things we will be trying to get. If you have any questions? Contact Nena Obits
Submitted by: Nena Obits

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Fall Bazaar

Will be **Friday, October 26th** and

Saturday, October 27th from 9:00-5:00

We are looking for bakers to furnish baked goods – please package them ready to sell, and also fall items. Please come on in - shop the fall bazaar inside the school-house. There will be a luncheon both days; this will be chaired by Dorothy Kerr, Carole Hartsuff and Elissa Alden.

Submitted by: Dorothy Kerr

Golfing Outing

Members and friend of UUCEL are invited to attend our annual golf scramble. This will take place on October 7 at Clark Lake Golf Course tee time of 2:00 pm. Lets meet at 1:45 in the clubhouse and have a bite to eat afterwards. If others would like to come for only the food meet with the golfers around 4:30. The price is \$9.00 to walk and \$16.00 for the cart. Contact Betty Gulliver if you would like to play in the scramble. All golfing levels of ability are welcome.

Submitted by: Betty Gulliver



Common Read Book 2012

The UUA's Common Read book for 2012-2013 is Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*. If you missed Rev. Cindy's sermon on this book last year, this is an excellent time to catch up on the conversation. We'll be holding a book discussion group in November, so start reading in October! Previously a pulpit announcement was made by Rev. Cindy about the possibility of ordering books at a discount through the UUA. As it turns out, the UUA discount is almost completely offset by the shipping, so we're leaving it to individuals to purchase their own books (it does not appear to be in the Jackson District Library's collection... yet).

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.

Thurs., October 18

"A Review of Michigan Ballot Proposals" will provide an opportunity to learn about and discuss three of the proposals on November's ballot. Proposal 1: A Referendum on Public Act 4 of 2011 - The Emergency Manager Law. Proposal 2: A Proposal to Amend the State Constitution Regarding Collective Bargaining. Proposal 3: A Proposal to Amend the State Constitution to Establish a Standard for Renewable Energy. Speakers will present information and be available for audience questions. Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

Personal Care Ministry

Our church, along with many other churches in the area, is taking part in the Jackson Personal Care Ministry. The ministry has a weekly distribution at a downtown location that supplies shampoo, soap, tooth paste, toilet paper, sanitary napkins, cleaning products, etc., to needy Jackson County residents.

There are three ways you can participate.

1) Donate items. They can be dropped off at church anytime.

2) Sign up to help with the distribution. Our church works the second Thursday of each month, 4:30-7:00 pm. Distributions take place at First Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson.

3) Donate money to help buy supplies. Checks are made out to Westminster Presbyterian Church, MEMO: Personal Care Ministry. Items can then be purchased from the S. Central Food Bank very reasonably by the case.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

Proceeds will benefit the Parkside Media Center Project

Some of you may know the Heather Albee Scotts who have been visiting our church since moving from Utah two years ago. When we hired Steve Albee Scott in Biology at JCC, we got a double gift in that his wife Heather is a lovely woman who immediately committed herself to leadership in community projects to make Jackson a better place. She has spear-headed the Parkside Media Center Project, an effort to bring much needed renovation and a librarian to Parkside Middle School. The library has fewer than 2000 books (there are 1000 students!) and hasn't had a librarian on staff for 5 years. We can certainly do better than this in Jackson.

On **Saturday, October 6th**, from 6-8pm, Parkside and U of M alum Debra Goldstein will be at Parkside for a fundraiser for this project. A \$35 ticket gets you appetizers, the chance to mingle with other education-oriented Jackson-ians, a signed copy of her debut mystery novel *Maze in Blue* (which won an Independent Book Publisher award this year), and the chance to hear her speak at 7pm. What a deal! The author is coming up from Birmingham, Alabama for this event, and a great turnout would really raise awareness of this worthy project. If you are interested in buying a ticket, send an email to me (thurlowlauram@jccmi.edu) with your address, and I will get a brochure about the event to you. You can also log on to parksidemeidacenterproject@gmail.com. Whether you are blue or green (or some color Michiganders do much less fighting about!), I know we all realize Jackson would be a better place with robust school libraries.

Submitted by: Laura T hurlow

"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 --

District & Denominational Meetings and Events

Protecting Access to Health Care

Mark Saturday, October 27th (9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) on your calendar as the day you go to Lansing to attend a very affordable UU conference "Protecting Access to Health Care". This conference, sponsored by the Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN), UU Church of Greater Lansing, Citizens for Affordable Quality Home Care and the Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, will be held at the Red Cedar Friends Meeting House located at 1400 Turner Street, Lansing, MI 48906.

Highlights include:

- Keynote: Rev. Jill McAllister, an activist minister of People's Community Church in Kalamazoo.
- Learn about Reproductive Justice, the new UUA Study/Action Issue. Enhance your RJ awareness and skills through workshops from Mothering Justice and Planned Parenthood staff.
- Learn about threats to Medicare and Medicaid and what you can do about them.
- Hear how two UU congregations make "Ethical Eating" happen.
- Learn more about the "Keep Home Care A Safe Choice" proposal on this fall's ballot.
- In-gathering and closing services planned by two creative UU ministerial interns.
- Continental breakfast, lunch and opportunities to celebrate life with other justice loving UU's.
- Child care available if reserved by 10/17/12. A \$10/child reservation fee is requested.

Registration forms are available on-line (www.uujustice.org) and through congregational justice leaders. Early bird registration fees: - \$20 (before October 17th). After October 17th, \$25. FREE TABLE DISPLAYS for justice activities.

Call Randy Block at 248-549-5170 or randyblock@yahoo.com.

Doctrine of Discovery

At the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly in June, the delegates voted to formally repudiate the "Doctrine of Discovery." Our resolution read, *"BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates of the 2012 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association, repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery as a relic of colonialism, feudalism, and religious, cultural, and racial biases having no place in the modern day treat-ment of indigenous peoples."* The Doctrine of Discovery is a principle of international law that is woven into our U.S. laws that dates back to the 1500s and is the basis by which the U.S. continues to violate its own treaties with Native Americans. To understand more about the Doctrine of Discovery, visit the UUA's webpage on it at <https://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod/index.shtml> where you will find videos and a study resource, among other items.

• 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 NOVEMBER ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY: SUNDAY, OCT 21. ~~~~~ 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, Jon Hart, Nena Obits, Betty Gulliver, Dorothy Kerr, Laura Thurlow, 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

October

- 3 Wed. Board Meeting 6:30 pm
 5 Thurs. AUJW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
 5 Thurs. RE Meeting ~ 6:30 Pm
 7 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Davi Trusty, Guest Speaker~ 11:00 am
 7 Sunday Annual Golf Outing ~ 1:45 Clark Lake Golf Course
 7 Sunday "Popcorn Faith with Principled Movies" ~ 5:00 pm
 9 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
 11 Thurs. Membership Committee 10:00 am
 11 Thurs. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting @ JDL ~ 5:30 pm
 11 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ 4:30-7:00 pm @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson help distribution
 14 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
 14 Sunday "Be Proud! Be Responsible! A Sexuality and Reproductive Health Workshop" 12:30-4:30pm
 18 Thurs. JXN Community Forum **"A Review of Michigan Ballot Proposals"**
 @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
 21 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
 21 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service
 21 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter Submissions Due
 21 Sunday "Be Proud! Be Responsible! A Sexuality and Reproductive Health Workshop" 12:30-4:30pm
 23 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at members' homes in the evening
 26 Fri. Fall Bazaar and Baked Goods ~ 9:00-5:00
 27 Sat. Fall Bazaar and Baked Goods ~ 9:00-5:00
 28 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am

Upcoming Events

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28
Greeters	Alyce O	Grace M	Joan B	Betty G
R.E. Greeter	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P
Nursery Helper	Joan B	Joyce W	George H	Donna H
Ushers	Gary T Steve J	Gary T Becky B	Gary T OPEN	Gary T OPEN
Social H. Host	Donna H Kathy H	Becky B	Jane V	Kerry H
R.E. Pre.				
R.E. K-5	Kerry H Dee R	Sharon P Laura T	Intergen.	Sharon P Kelley E
R.E. Youth				

Oct 7 - "The Sacred Doctrine of Discovery"

- Davi Trusty, Guest Speaker

Ever wonder how Native Americans feel about Columbus Day (Hint: Some call it "Indigenous Peoples' Day")? Davi Trusty, a local Native American, will share his thoughts by speaking to us about the Doctrine of Discovery, which the UUA formally repudiated this past spring. For more on the Doctrine of Discovery, see page 6.

**Oct 14 - "Sexuality Sermon Series Part 2:
Reproductive Freedom"**

-Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

The new UUA study/action issues is on reproductive freedom, and the issue is a timely one, particularly here in Michigan. But what is the theological basis for reproductive freedom? Why is this issue so core to the liberal church? Rev. Cindy will explore these issues in part 2 of her sexuality sermon series.

Oct 21 - "UN Sunday"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum -

At this time of the year, it's a tradition in many UU churches to celebrate the United Nations. We'll look at the history of the UN and what is going on currently in this service, and have UNICEF boxes for the children.

Oct 28 - "The Halloween Tree"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

& the Worship Committee

Intergenerational experiential service **The Halloween Tree** - 1st Experimental Worship Service based on the work by Ray Bradbury Join Mr. Moundshroud as he and a group of Trick-or-treaters travel through the different cultural traditions that have been melded over the years to form our modern Halloween, and help find their friend PIP as he travels through the Undiscovered Country. This service will take place throughout the whole hour and will discard the traditional worship practices.

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