# October 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

#### **S**TAFF

Minister Rev. Cynthia Landrum revCyn@ugaalum.uga.edu

R. E. COORDINATOR ~ SHARON PEDERSEN
S SPEDERSEN@SBCGLOBAL.NET

PIANIST Tom Pepper Pepper 49@comcast.net

Nursery & Child Care Vicki Haynes kermit\_210@yahoo.com

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# Minister's Column

If you thought there wasn't enough going on at church, welcome to October! There are two great conferences this month hosted at or by other UU congregations that I encourage you to take a look at. The workshop on October 26 in Ann Arbor is particularly exciting. This is an opportunity to meet one of our regional staff members that we haven't met yet, Nancy Hegee. Nancy's workshop is on "stuckness" – how to move a congregation past issues they're stuck on. Can you think of any ways our congregation is stuck on an issue? If not, ask me! If you can, I encourage you to register for and attend the October 26 workshop. After all, there's no U of M football game that day, and you can be done and home before MSU's away game even begins! Let me know you're coming, so we can work as a team there. See the enclosed flyer on page 6 for more details.

This month we're having another "Bring a Friend" Sunday. The goal is to think about having these at least once a year, and although we just had one in March, fall is generally a good time for people thinking about making a new start. So please bring a friend on October 20th. Invitations should be out soon for this event, so listen to pulpit announcements if you're wanting to use the paper invitations. This service will be an introduction to Unitarian Universalism, and my goal is to have several voices participating. If you think you might be willing to be one of those people, consider attending my adult RE workshop on October 15th (see page 3 for more details).

Next month we'll be having Planned Parenthood puberty and sexuality workshops again with our adults and children, and we'll be having a special workshop about the "Know Us" project (see page 7). This means there's something after church every week in November, but we know these events don't all involve the same people. Hopefully at least one of them will engage you!

Lastly, a special thank you to Kathy and George Haynes who are once again hosting a venison dinner at our church (see page 4). Their generosity and amazing food is greatly appreciated! We're looking for someone to provide a vegetarian option for the evening, so let us know if you have a great veggie chili or other dish that you'd like to bring.

Peace, Cindy

# Religious Education

#### Report

The kids' lessons in September featured stories on "The Mish-Mash Heart" (ask a child about it!), "Crossing the Finish Line Together," and "Joseph Tuckerman's Revolution." Tuckerman was the Unitarian faith's first community minister, and much like a social worker in Boston around 1826 and for many years afterward—in fact his work lives on through the UUA's Urban Ministry. Kids have enjoyed making hearts, affirmative signs, and tracing their hands to make symbols of their commitment to help others. We also enjoyed teacher trainings and the RE breakfast in September.

We continue a busy fall with service opportunities through the Brooklyn CROP walk, a Bring-A-Friend Sunday on October 20, and preparations for a body/sex education workshop for the K-6th grade age group in November. Remember that each "First Sunday" of the month your RE Coordinator will bring donuts for sale at social hour, and that you can support your church RE program by going to Amazon.com and purchasing some things off our "wish list"—kind of like a shower gift list registry without having to attend the shower. In honor of that we will have a "virtual shower" invitation date soon.

Pretty soon the holidays will be here - whew! The pace never slows. We'll keep you posted on upcoming events!

yUUrs,

## Sharon

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

#### **Planned Parenthood Classes**

Dates for the kids classes, total of 4 hours for the workshops are as follows:

Nov 3 - Parent Orientation- 12:30 -1:00 pm Lunch; 1-3pm for the parent session. Nov 10 - Session I- 12:30-1:00 pm Lunch; 1-3pm for content Nov 17 - Session II-12:30-1:00 pm Lunch; 1-3pm for content

# from the Piano Bench

By now you've heard our new Community Choir, and I hope you enjoyed listening to us. It really is a lot of fun to sing together. It is even more fun when you come and join us! New choir members are welcome at all times, and if you attend practice the day we are going to perform, you are ready to sing for the congregation! Here are our practice times and dates for the next couple of months...

Oct. 6, 10:15 to 10:45

Oct. 20, 10:15 to 10:45 Performance day

Nov. 3, 10:15 to 10:45

Nov. 17, 10:15 to 10:45 Performance day

Many thanks to Nena Obits for leading our choir at this time. She brings musical experience and fun to our practice! We look forward to singing with you and making new friends!

# Tom

Submitted by: Tom Pepper

Jackson Chorale and the Jackson Chorale Children's Choir present a performance on **Saturday Nov. 2, 2013** at 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, in downtown Jackson. They will perform Favorite Grand Choruses from Beethoven, Handel, Mendelssohn, Brahms, and others. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and children.

UUCEL members Gretchen Marshall, Nancy James and Marge Duane sing in the Jackson Chorale.

## Notes from the Board

The UUCEL Board met in September. Staff contracts and job descriptions are being updated. A special collection was approved for Planned Parenthood. Various fundraisers were discussed. Note: the Golf Outing has been scheduled for Oct 6, a venison dinner for Friday, Oct 18, and we will have another Hoe Down on Friday, November 8. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, Oct 2.

# **Gratia**

Submittedby: Gratia Karmes Board President



#### Minister's Schedule

Rev. Cindy will be out of town from October 6<sup>th</sup> following the service through October 10<sup>th</sup> for a UU minister's conference in Indiana followed by an evening event on October 10<sup>th</sup>. She can be reached during this time by cell phone, but will have spotty reception. The best way to reach her is to call her home number and leave a message there, as she will be checking in daily.

#### **Adult RE Opportunities:**

#### What Is Unitarian Universalism?

- Ever wondered what to say when someone asks "What is Unitarian Universalism" or "What do you believe?" Join Rev. Cindy for a workshop where we prepare "elevator sermons" (the idea is to be able to answer in the time it would take for an elevator to reach its destination). We'll share our elevator sermons in the bring-a-friend Sunday service on October 20th, to help introduce our guests to Unitarian Universalism, but participation in the service is not required to attend this workshop. Tuesday, October 15, 6:30pm – 8:00 pm.

#### Music and Meaning, Part 2

- You don't have to have attended part one to come to part two. Join Rev. Cindy for a discussion of the way music provides the soundtrack for our lives. Bring a song that, when you hear it, inspires you to do the work of justice, and a song that invokes feelings of love. You can bring songs on an MP3 Player, CD, or on tape (but have the tape cued up to the song, to save time). You can even bring them on your phone to play.

Thursday, October 17, 6:30-8:30 pm

#### The New Jim Crow

Still haven't read the 2012-2013 UUA Common Read book, *The New Jim Crow?* There's still good reason to read it soon, because there are upcoming events on the book. Our October JXN Community Forum will relate to the book (see page 4), and the Jackson Area Civil Rights Awareness Association's "Freedom Reads" series will feature the book in October along with a showing of *The House I Live In*, October 6, 3:00 p.m., and *Malcolm X*, **October 20**, 3:00 p.m., both at the Michigan Theatre. In addition, Rev. Cindy will be preaching again on this subject on October 13.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

#### Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of E ast Liberty

#### **Golf Scramble**

Golf Scramble to be held on **Sunday, October 6**; we will be meeting at the Clark Lake Golf Course at 1:45 pm, starting the scramble at 2:00 pm. This event is open to all – please contact Betty Gulliver if you would like to play the 9 hole course. The price to play a round with a cart is \$14.00 and \$7.00 to walk the course. After the game is over we will have a bite to eat in the clubhouse. Come out and have some fun. (See Supplements Page for contact information)

Submitted by: Betty Gulliver

#### **Venison Fundraising Dinner**

The Board of Trustee has asked George Haynes if he would host another Venison Dinner. After checking his supply in the freezer he said he would, along with the help of Jason Hinton's surplus. This dinner will be on Friday, Oct 18 at 6:30 pm in the social hall for our members and friends of the church and their families. The menu will be venison chili or venison stir-fry with mushroom gravy on baked potatoes, garlic bread and brownies for dessert. Nena Obits has volunteered to make a pot of vegetarian chili for the dinner also. Please sign up on the sheet in the social hall if you plan on attending. Thanks from the cooks. Come out and have a fun time and make a donation to the church for your meal.

Submitted by: George & Kathy Haynes

#### **Harvest Bazaar**

Our Harvest Bazaar will be again in the schoolhouse on **Friday October 25** and **Saturday the 26**, open from 9:00 am to 5 pm to the public. Doors will also be open on **Sunday the 26** for our church friends that could not make it out sooner. This Bazaar is full of good quality items for your Fall, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas shopping needs. Don't forget about the baked goods going on sale also – Lots of great bakers needed to make this a great success. If you have any questions and/or are able to help contact Carole Hartsuff or Dorothy Kerr.

Submitted by: Carole Hartsuff

#### **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, October 10 The New Jim Crow and Incarceration

Jackson area residents have a deep relationship with the prison system and can not ignore its effects on society. Join us for a presentation and panel discussion about the drug war's impact on incarceration trends. Panelists include Will Riley, assistant MDOC warden, Joe White who serves with the Michigan Justice Commission, and others to be announced.

Note: While forums are generally hosted on the third Thursdays, please notice that the October, November, and December forums will be held on the 2nd Thursdays in 2013 due to scheduling conflicts. Mark your calendars!

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

#### Jesus Seminar on the Road

The Jesus Seminar returns again to Jackson with our church as a co-sponsor on November 8-9 at First Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson St., Jackson. This year's topic is "Reframing Christian Beginnings and Christian Scriptures" with Dennis Smith of Philips Theological Seminary and Hal Taussig of Union Theological Seminary. Early registration discounts are available through October 25. For all sessions, the rate is \$75 (\$60 before Oct. 25), or individually they are \$20 for Friday evening and \$30 each for Saturday morning and afternoon. For more information, see <a href="http://www.westarinstitute.org/events/reframing-with-vision-

<u>christian-beginnings-and-christian-scriptures/.</u>
Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

#### **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. Our team will volunteer at the Personal Care Ministry on the third Thursday of the month from 4:30-7:00. Submitted by: Nena Obits

#### 2013-2014 UUA Common Read

The 2013-2014 Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Common Read is Behind the Kitchen Door by Saru Jayaraman (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2013). Rev. Cindy will be preaching on this book later in the fall, so now is a good time to get one and read it. The book reveals how restaurant workers live on some of the lowest wages in America and how poor working conditions—discriminatory labor practices, exploitation, and unsanitary kitchens—affect the meals that arrive at our restaurant tables. The author tells the stories of ten restaurant workers in cities across the United States as she explores the political, economic, and moral implications of eating out. The book invites follow up action by Unitarian Universalist individuals, groups, and congregations that choose to include advocacy for just working conditions for restaurant workers as part of a commitment to ethical eating.

Behind the Kitchen Door can be purchased from the UUA Bookstore or from Amazon via the link on our webpage at <a href="http://www.libertyuu.org">http://www.libertyuu.org</a>.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

#### **Conference on Mass Incarceration**

Mass incarceration is draining energy and driving exorbitant financial and social costs throughout our community, state and country. There are various policies and programs that have proven to influence effective positive changes. Woodside Church, Motherly Intercession, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Flint and Greater Galilee Baptist Church of Flint will hold events on mass incarceration in October.

A day of presentations and discussions to help people understand the issue and explore the solutions will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Oct. 26.** Conference speaker will be La'Ron Williams, former Flint resident, internationally acclaimed storyteller and social activist.

Panel presentations providing information and offering solutions, and displays with representatives from organizations in Genesee County and Michigan will be presented. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Admission is free, but reservations are required. Call (810) 265-7052 for more information and to make your reservation, including childcare arrangements.

The Unitarian church will hold a dinner and showing of *The House I Live In*, the 2012 Sundance documentary award winner, that examines the mass incarceration and the failings of the "war on drugs" Oct. 25. E-mail Office@UUflint.org for more information.

Save the date for our next Fundraiser Dinner and Hoe Down Square Dancing on **Friday**, **November 8**. More info will be in the next issue of the Bellnote newsletter.

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 signup clip-boards are on the bulletin board in the social hall awaiting your name. Thanks.

# Cluster Workshop Saturday, October 26, 2013: Will We Ever Be Able to Move Beyond This Issue? Why Are We So Stuck?

Do you sometimes feel that your congregation is going around in circles, discussing the same issue over and over? Does it seem impossible to move on to a decision? Perhaps you're confronted by an adaptive challenge, rather than one that can be fixed by a technical solution. Using some real-life examples, participants will learn how to distinguish between technical and adaptive challenges, as well as techniques for helping their congregations to resolve them and move on. Included will be a short segment on leaders'role in handling anxiety during times of change.

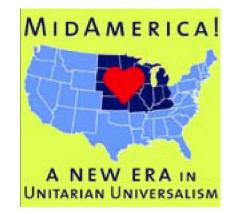
Who should attend: congregation leaders, both lay and clergy

Location: First UU Congregation of Ann Arbor

4001 Ann Arbor Saline Road Ann Arbor, MI 48103-8739

Attn: Maria Thomas

Times: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., including a light lunch



Facilitator: Nancy Heege, Congregational Life Consultant with MidAmerica Region

Cost: \$15 per person. Includes morning coffee and snack and lunch. We appreciate your registering as soon as possible, but registrations will be accepted at the door. Please try to arrive no latter than 9:30 am for same-day registration.

#### **REGISTRATION:**

Register below, and send along with your check for \$15, to Maria Thomas, at the address above by 5:00 pm, Monday, October 21. Please make out check to UUAA, with SE MI Cluster Workshop in the memo line.

CLUSTER WORKSHOP	REGISTRATION: OCTOBER 26, 2013 IN ANN ARBOR
Name	Email address
Cell phone	Your congregation
Your position in t	the congregation
Dlease describe	in issue vour congregation is gurrently working on.

# WHAT IS KUP?

The KNOW US PROJECT® (or KUP) is an educational program of the Michigan Project for Informed Public Policy (www.mpipp.org).

This Training is designed for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people, their friends and straight allies, and those who want to become active in this important social justice issue. Its Primary focus is to teach effective ways to discuss your personal stories of LGBT Stigma and discrimination with others or to express personal or moral values or your faith in order to help change public opinion - One conversation at a time.

These Conversations can empower you to change public policy by building support for equality at the grassroots level.

#### WHY ARE THESE CONVERSATIONS IMPORTANT?

Consider these consequences of anti— LGBT prejudice on young people:
☐ Bullying Of LGBT Young people has consequences, including depression, anxiety and suicide.
☐ More than 60% Of LGBT Young people feel unsafe at school and nearly 20% have been assaulted because of their sexual orientation or gender identity/gender expression.
☐ Supportive families, school environments, and communities significantly lower risks for LGBT Young people.

Social Science research tells us that the more LGBT People talk about their experiences and beliefs, the more likely it is that changes in prejudices will occur.

Research also tells us that LGBT Allies are significant change agents as they discuss their personal reasons for supporting equality with others. This means that everyone is empowered to make a difference in the lives of people throughout our communities.

For More information on KUP, Go to www.knowusproject.org

Mark your calendars now!

**DATE:** Sunday, November 24, 2013

**TIME:** 1— 4 p.m. (potluck Lunch for church members at 12:00)

**PLACE:** Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

#### **Support Our Church While Shopping Online!**

UUCEL has a new Amazon Store where every purchase benefits our church. This is an even easier way to shop on Amazon and support our church. Simply go to <a href="http://astore.amazon.com/libertyuu-20">http://astore.amazon.com/libertyuu-20</a> and search for items like you would on Amazon. All the same items are there at the same prices. When you go to check out, you'll be directed to Amazon's usual secure check-out area. If you bookmark this page in your browser, and use it every time you shop on Amazon, you'll be amazed at how much the church can earn! With only a few people participating, we've already been making enough per year to replace one small fundraiser. Share this link with your friends and family and ask them to participate, too!

**Church Website** 

The Bellnote Newsletter

Church's facebook page

Forum facebook page

http://www.libertyuu.org

http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html

http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu

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, OCTOBER 22. ~~~~ 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, Nena Obits, Betty Gulliver, Carole Hartsuff, George & Kathy Haynes, 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**

2 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 7:30 pm3 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm

3 Thurs. Outreach/Forum Committee @ JDL ~ 5:30 pm

6 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am

6-10 Rev. Cindy will be out of town for a UU minister's conference 6 Sunday Golf Scramble ~ Meet at the Clark Lake Golf Course ~ 1:45 pm

8 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am

10 Thurs. Membership Committee ~ 10:00 am

10 Thurs. JXN Community Forums "The New Jim Crow and Incarceration"

@ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm

13 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am

15 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening 15 Tue Adult RE ~ What Is Unitarian Universalism? ~ 6:30pm - 8:00 pm

17 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ 4:30-6:30 pm @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson, To Help

17 Thurs. Adult RE ~ Music and Meaning, Part 2 ~ 6:30-8:30 pm

18 Fri. Venison Fundraising Dinner ~ 6:30 pm

20 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum "Bring a Friend" Sunday ~11:00 am

20 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due

25 Fri. Harvest Bazaar and Baked Goods Sale in the Schoolhouse ~ 9:00 am to 5:00 pm 26 Sat. Harvest Bazaar and Baked Goods Sale in the Schoolhouse ~ 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

27 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Worship Committee ~ 11:00 am

27 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service

## **Upcoming Events**

Nov. 3 Parent Orientation- 12:30-1pm Lunch; 1-3pm for the parent session Nov. 8 Friday Dinner and Hoe Down, Square Dancing Fundraiser ~ 6:00 pm

Nov.10 Session I- 12:30-1pm Lunch; 1-3pm for content Nov.17 Session II-12:30-1pm Lunch; 1-3pm for content

#### WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Greeter	R.E. Greeter	Nursery Helper	Ushers	Social Host	R.E. K-5	R.E. Monitor
Oct 6	Alyce O	Sharon P	Kathy H	OPEN	RE Comm	Sharon P Kelley E	Sharon P
Oct 13	Grace M	Sharon P	Donna H	OPEN	OPEN	Kerry H Lynn H	Sharon P
Oct 20	Joan B	Sharon P	Becky B	OPEN	Cecily S Gretchen I	Sharon P M Nancy S	Kathy H
Oct 27	Betty G	Sharon P	Joyce W	OPEN	OPEN	Gretchen M Alyce O	Sue R

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

# Oct 6 - "Association Sunday: Join the Move" - Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum

The Unitarian Universalist Association is moving from its historic location and has invited churches this year for Association Sunday to "Join the Move." Learn about our associations past, present, and future in this special service.

The board has authorized a special collection for **Planned Parenthood** on this Sunday. This special collection will fund our payment for the programs on puberty and sexuality provided at our church.

# Oct 13 - "Trayvon Martin & the New Jim Crow" - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Rev. Cindy revisits Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*, this time incorporating what we've learned since the death of Trayvon Martin about how gun culture and violence is seen through racial lenses

# Oct 20 - "Bring a Friend Sunday: "Uni-What?" - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Bring a friend to this special service introducing what Unitarian Universalism is, how we worship, and how we live our faith.

# Oct 27 - "The Halloween Tree" - Lay Leader - Worship Committee

The Worship Committee reprises last year's "The Halloween Tree" service with an interactive, intergenerational service based on the book by Ray Bradbury. Come in costume!

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alounytrelia. www

