

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

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Minister's Column

I'm looking at our September calendar, and we've got an exciting month of opportunities—worship services and religious education, sermon topic discussion groups, the JXN Community Forum kick-off, the Jesus Seminar and karaoke night! I am particularly excited about the karaoke. I had an idea that we would announce a night to go out to karaoke, but at the same time it turns out that a member proposed bringing it to us! I'm not sure what the set-up is, but this may be a new way to use our social hall media set-up, and at the very least we'll have some fun singing and the potluck! I'm going to think about whether you'll get me to sing... Some people are scared of public speaking; I'm scared of public singing. I'm also looking forward to my sermon topic on 9/18 on public education—it's something that I've never preached on before, to my recollection, in ten years of ministry, and what a fun topic for the beginning of the school year! I'm looking forward to the research and learning more.

This month we're going to get more into the immigration topic that I've announced we'll be looking at from a few different angles this year. What I'm hoping for most of all in bringing it to the congregation is that we'll have the opportunity to look into this issue from a number of angles and all get more educated. It's possible that from this, more work in the community or a larger sense of mission may develop about the issue, but I don't take that for granted. What I do know is that it's a big issue that we can all learn more about, and that our Unitarian Universalist Association has a lot of resources we can use for this.

Looking down at my calendar for the next two months I want to say, mark your calendar to be with us as much as possible. We're going to be having a lot of fun together!

Peace,

Religious Education

Report

Plans are coming along for the Religious Education year. I'm getting so excited!

It really feels good when our RE plan for the year is cohesive and coordinated! The K-5 class is learning Bible stories through a UU curriculum called "Timeless Themes," and the youth class is learning about "neighboring faiths" (from Buddhism, Judaism, Catholicism and Islam through the various Christian denominations, partly through actual visits to other houses of worship). Youth will also stay in services for several of Cindy's sermons that have to do with UUism and other faiths.

We had to cut the preschool classes back to once per month due to an overall shortage of volunteers. We can increase this back to twice per month again if we get a few more volunteers, and that dovetails with our goal of recruiting 2-3 more "regular" volunteers and 2-3 more substitute/occasional volunteers beyond our already active recruits. So if you've thought about saying "yes" to our calls to volunteer for the RE program, now is your opportunity!

The calendar has been coordinated with worship plans, and teacher training is taking place on August 21 and (or) the 25th. Then the busy work of filling in the calendar will get finished, and classes will start on September 11. We have an initial teaching schedule for September, but keep in mind that not all teachers have confirmed, so please consider this tentative!

The congregation is invited to share in the **Fall RE Breakfast, September 18**. This is another way we kick off the "school year" and provide an opportunity for the RE children and parents to meet and interact with the teachers. **Join us at 9:45 am for a full and filling breakfast!**

Thank you to those who have already provided some supplies from our RE wish list, including Nancy Cooper, Donna, and Kathy Haynes.

It's going to be a fun year!

YoUUrs trUUly,

Sharon



~2~ **Religious Education Coordinator**

Some friendly reminders/info on policies from

Religious Education staff:

- 1) Remember to fill out a new registration form every year for your child(ren) in RE. This lets us know about allergies etc.
- 2) Permission slips are required for children and/or youth attending and/or getting driven to field trips, and driver information forms are also required.
- 3) Please reinforce with your children that there is no running on ramp to the social hall, please - we do not want children to bowl over frail adults, or get bowled over!
- 4) RE classes end at 12:15 unless the lesson is finished early, but no earlier than noon. If you need to leave before then, you are welcome to pick up your child(ren) from RE.
- 5) If a child is not able to handle an RE activity, and efforts to handle their behavior in house such as with a "time out" has failed, a volunteer will bring the child to the RE Coordinator or a parent.
- 6) During RE classes, children will be supervised by two adults at all times, except if one is briefly gone to deliver a child to their parent or RE Coordinator as described in #4, for brief personal needs, or in case of an emergency situation.
- 7) Responsibility for the RE program to care for children ends when the parent picks them up from RE, or when they are brought to the social hall after the church service is over. RE staff and volunteers are not responsible to monitor what refreshments children partake of during social hour; however, if asked, they will suggest that the child ask for their parents' permission before snacking.
- 8) During social hour children should be supervised by an adult when playing outside. The RE program does not provide staff or volunteers for this—it is up to parents to make sure their children are supervised.
- 9) The RE Committee recently approved a policy that recommends staff members not "friend" minors on Facebook. This policy does not pertain to volunteers.

Notes from the Board

Jane Volk, the president of the board, will begin writing articles for the Bellnote starting in October.

Jesus Seminar Sign-Up

We are looking for volunteers to help at the Jesus Seminar on Friday, September 23 and Saturday, September 24th, and to bring snacks. If we have enough volunteers working at the event, volunteers can take shifts and attend portions of the program for free. Please look for the sign-up list in the social hall, or see Rev. Cindy for details.

Piano Update:

If you have heard rumors, it is true—the worship committee has a proposal about what to do with our piano. It still needs to be approved by the board, but what I can tell you is this: First, and most importantly, the proposal calls for nothing to happen until the congregational is fully informed and has a congregational vote on the issue. Second, whatever the congregation decides, I think it's likely that we'll have a much better instrument at the end of the process, so it'll be great! We'll most likely have a couple of good options before us to choose from. The proposal is going before the board this month, and then the board, if it chooses, will be calling a congregational meeting for some time in late September or (more likely) October, or even later. Because details are not all finalized by the date of this newsletter edition, I'm talking with our gracious newsletter editors about putting out a "Special Piano Edition" newsletter issue in mid-September, so watch for it!

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Jesus Seminar

Our church is once again joining in co-hosting the Jesus Seminar on the Road! We will have sign-ups in September to help with tasks. Registration for the Jesus Seminar is available now:

Friday and Saturday September 23-24

Re-Imagining the Death of Jesus
Hero, Martyr, Sacrifice?

Arthur J. Dewey (Th.D., Harvard University) is Professor of Theology, Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio, and **Perry Kea** (Ph.D., University of Virginia) is Associate Professor of Biblical Studies and the chairperson of the Philosophy and Religion Department at the University of Indianapolis.

LECTURE - **Did Jesus Die for Us?** A New Look at the Classical Notion of Atonement: From Anselm to Billy Graham. How do we make sense of the death traditions about Jesus in the twenty-first century? — Friday, 7:30–9 pm

WORKSHOPS - **A Creative Moment: The Pre-Pauline Tradition** How did the early followers of Jesus make sense of his shameful death? — Saturday, 9:30–10.30 am **Paul's Break-through Insight** A crucified messiah?! How did he understand the folly of God? — Saturday, 11:00 am–Noon **Mark's Contribution to the Tradition** Why does Mark present Jesus as a martyr? Did Mark expect martyrdom for his audience as well? Why does Mark tell the death story of Jesus in the way he does? — Saturday, 1:30–2:30 pm **Re-Imagining Atonement for the 21st Century** What metaphors and images will be meaningful for 21st century people? If Jesus "died for us," what might this mean today? — Saturday, 3–4 pm

SPONSORS: Arbor Grove Congregational Church, First Baptist Church 517-784-3151 & Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

ALL EVENTS AT - First Baptist Church
201 S. Jackson Street, Jackson, Michigan 49201

FEES & REG. - from \$20.00 - \$75.00 Register by mail using the [printable registration form](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Nancy Angelo, Arbor Grove Congregational Church 517-750-9895

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Potluck Dinner and Karaoke

We will be having our 1st fun fundraising dinner of the church year on the 2nd Friday of September, due to the Labor Day holiday weekend. Please join us on **Friday, September 9** at 6:30 pm. There has not been a host or hostess volunteer for this dinner, so we are looking for someone to please help clean up. This will be a simple potluck dinner; bring a passing dish, and share an evening with church friends. For the entertainment Lauralynn Browning will have her Karaoke machines set up. She has songs of different categories for all ages from pre-schoolers to adult. If you have a Karaoke CD you may bring it with you. Sing and eat, eat and sing and have some fun!

Submitted by: Membership Comm.

Fall RE Breakfast

There will be a RE Breakfast on **Sunday September 18**. This event is open to the whole congregation to share in. This is another way we kick off the "school year" and provide an opportunity for the RE children and parents to meet and interact with the teachers. Join us at 9:45am in the social hall for a full and filling breakfast!

Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen



Webpage Redesign

Our webpage at

<http://www.libertyuu.org>

has been undergoing some changes.

If you haven't been there in a while, check it out! We're looking for members who would be interested in helping with adding podcasts/MP3s or doing webpage updates. If this might be you, talk

~ 4 ~ to Rev. Cindy for more information.

JXN 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 Forum's are co-sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty (UUCEL) and the Jackson District Library (JDL).

JXN Community Forum for **September 15** is "**LOOKING FORWARD**": Jackson's new City Manager and County Administrator. Join us to meet Larry Shaffer, the new Jackson City Manager and Michael Overton, the new Jackson County Administrator. They will share their visions and views on Jackson's present and future. The audience will then have the opportunity for questions and comments. The JXN Community Forums are free and open programs to facilitate dialogue about challenging issues of our time. The forums are co-sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty and the Jackson District Library. For more information, please call Debby Sears at the Jackson District Library, 517-788-4087.

Childcare may be available for a modest fee. Contact Nancy Smith (See Supplement Page for more contact information) if you need childcare.

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

First Friday Dinners

Board members are looking for committees, groups and/or individuals who would like to host the first Friday Dinners. We'd like to have one every month since the dinners are an important part of our fundraising. Information can be given to the editors to print in the newsletter and/or communicated by making an announcement on Sunday morning.

We have an offer from Lauralynn Browning to help set up a musical kind of entertainment and or karaoke to go with a first Friday dinner. Please contact Lauralynn (See Supplement Page for more contact information) when thinking of hosting our next fundraising dinner. Submitted by: Membership Comm.

Discussion Opportunities:

This month the sermon topic to discuss is the DREAM Sabbath (on Sunday Sept. 25), and with it we will also begin to discuss our "Common Read" book for Fall 2011, *The Death of Josseline*. Because of the DREAM Sabbath, our service for looking at the Death of Josseline specifically will be moved to later in the year, and if you haven't read it, there will be plenty to discuss without it. For discussion about the DREAM Act and immigration issues, we will have three opportunities:

- 1) Join Cindy and others for this per-sermon discussion at 1:00 pm Tuesday 9/20 at the Jackson Coffee Co. on Mechanic Street (prior to the Worship Committee).
- 2) Join the online discussion on the church's Facebook page. The link for the discussions page is found in the left column.
- 3) Following the service on Sept. 25, join in the discussion group.

Common Read Book:

The UUA announced that in 2011, the "Common Read" book for UUs is *The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands* by Margaret Regan, which ties into the Standing on the Side of Love social action initiatives on immigration and the "Justice GA" — our General Assembly themed on immigration justice issues in June 2012. We will be having several opportunities this year to discuss immigration and our theological and social mission responses to immigration, beginning this month. A link for purchasing the book using the church's Amazon Associates number (for the church to get credit) can be found on the church webpage.

"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~~

UUCEL Has Gone Mobile!

About a quarter of people viewing our webpage are doing it from mobile phones. In response to this, UUCEL is now one of the first UU churches to have a separate webpage designed specifically for mobile phones! It's been tested on Android and iPhone phones, and has features like a phone number that you can click on, a map that works with some navigation applications, and a smaller size designed to fit on a phone screen. We're still working out the details of how to route people there directly instead of through our regular site, and we're hoping to add videos and podcasts over time, but meanwhile the site is up and operational. To see the page, use your phone's browser to go to <http://www.libertyuu.org/mobile/>, or scan the QR Code here with your phone's barcode scanner!



Volunteer Schedule

Please see the bottom of page 7. The Volunteer Schedule is very blank this month, and your help is needed. Please see what you can do. The sign-up clipboards are on the bulletin board in the social hall awaiting your name. Thanks

Paper Copy Newsletter

A reminder from the editors; July was the start of a new calendar year for our church. To the 34 friends & members that receive the paper copy newsletter; three issues go to a minister for free, one has changed to the on-line version at no charge, 22 subscriptions have been paid for the up-coming calendar year. Now I'm looking for payment from the **last 7 names on the list and you could know who you are!** The \$17.00 fee is asked from each of you. You can pay by cash or make your check payable to UUCEL and write 'newsletter' on the memo line. Please give the payment to Kathy Haynes, our newsletter editor, and she will keep track of who owes, and the money will be turned over to the church treasurer. Or if you prefer you can mail your payment to:

Kathy Haynes 3457 Tracey Drive Jackson, MI 49203

Thank you from the editors, Vicki and Kathy Haynes; we hope you enjoy reading each issue as we enjoy putting it together and spreading our news.

Submitted by: Kathy Haynes



Rev. Cindy's book,

An Extremist for Love & Justice is now available! She'll be bringing copies to purchase, but it is also available online at <https://www.createpace.com/3593257>. Use the coupon code 88R6LTTM for \$3.00 off at CreateSpace. It is also available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

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 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 OCTOBER ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:
UUCEL_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO

KATHY OR VICKI. THANK YOU -

We want to thank; Kathy Haynes, Rev. Cindy Landrum, Sharon Pedersen, 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

September

- 1 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
 1 Thurs. RE Meeting ~ 6:30 Pm
 4 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
 7 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
 8 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 10:00 pm
 9 Fri. Potluck Dinner and Karaoke ~ 6:30 pm (2nd Friday Dinner)
 11 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
 13 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
 14 Wed. Outreach/Forum Comm. ~ Downtown Library ~ 5:30 pm
 15 Thurs. JXN Forums **"LOOKING FORWARD: w/new Jackson City Manager & County Administrator"**
 @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~6:30 pm
 16 Fri. Regional "Cluster" Meetings of Religious Educators ~ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
 18 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
 18 Sunday RE Breakfast ~ 9:45 am
 20 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ 2:30 pm at the Jackson Coffee Company
 23 Fri. Jesus Seminar on the Road! ~ at the First Baptist Church
 24 Sat. Jesus Seminar on the Road! ~ at the First Baptist Church
 25 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
 25 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service

Upcoming Events

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25
Greeters	Alyce O	Grace M	Joan B	Betty G
R.E. Greeter	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P
Nursery Helper	Gretchen M	-	-	-
Ushers	-	-	-	-
Social H. Host	-	-	-	-
R.E. Pre.		Sharon P Jane H		
R.E. K-5		Kerry H Nancy S	Sharon P Michael V	Peter M Rob G
R.E. Youth		Lynn H Gretchen M	Stay/Service	Stay/Service

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

Sept 4 - **"Songs of Dissent"**

- Jon Hart - Lay Leader

We will explore songs of protest from over the centuries (including the topics of labor, politics, social movements, and civil rights) through singing them and hearing brief explanations about their context and origins. If you have a song you want to explain and sing, there will be a brief time for songs from the congregation.

Sept 11 - **"Homecoming and September 11th Anniversary"**

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

We celebrate our annual "Homecoming" Sunday this year, as always on the Sunday after Labor Day. This year, however, the Homecoming portion of our service will be shorter, as we turn our attention to the 10th anniversary of September 11th, 2001, and the tragic events of that day. Our service will look back at the past at the tragedies and triumphs — the lives lost and the heroic actions and stories that were told, and look at our world has changed and grown as a result of those events.

Sept 18 - **"Public Education and Liberal Religion"**

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Public Education and Liberal Religion have some shared history. This service will celebrate some of this history and some of the figures that created it, such as Horace Mann, Catherine Beecher, Bronson Alcott, and the Peabody sisters.

Sept 25 - **"DREAM Sabbath"**

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

On this day we will join with other religious organizations to celebrate the "DREAM Sabbath". The DREAM Sabbath is "an initiative enlisting churches, synagogues, and mosques around the country to dedicate time during their regular weekly worship service to a conversation about the DREAM Act." The DREAM Act would provide an immigration path for undocumented young adults who have been raised in the U.S. since childhood.

Where people care about each other and care about the world.
<http://www.libertyu.org/newsletter.html>

Return Service Requested

Clarklake, MI 49234
2231 Jefferson Road

Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty



