

September 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

R. E. COORDINATOR ~ Sharon Pedersen
sspetersen@sbcglobal.net

INTERIM PIANIST ~ Tom Pepper
peppet49@comcast.net

NURSERY & CHILD CARE ~ Vicki Haynes
kermit_210@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT ~ JANE VOLK
gjvolk@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT ~ JACKIE JOHNSON
jsj128@comcast.net

TREASURER ~ HUGH TOMLINSON
ht49203@att.net

SECRETARY ~ ANITA PEPPER
apepper@aiserv.net

TRUSTEE ~ NENA OBITS
nena_obits@hotmail.com

TRUSTEE ~ DONNA HINTON
daisy_lefty@yahoo.com

CARING COMMITTEE

Alyce Oosting
oosting115@comcast.net

BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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



Minister's Column

For years it's been a dream of our religious education program to offer Our Whole Lives (OWL), the Unitarian Universalist sexuality education program. OWL is the successor curriculum to About Your Sexuality (AYS). OWL is available for all age levels from kindergarten through adults. We've received requests over the last few years from parents to offer OWL or something like it. However, the training for OWL is extensive, and we've been unable to find both funds and volunteers to run the program.

This year, we're trying something different, thanks to our connection to Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood will be offering programs at our church that are of shorter duration than OWL, and thereby not as thorough, but which we think will be just perfect for a first-time sexuality education program for our children and youth. Planned Parenthood is also providing a special program for parents, which will talk both about how to talk to children about sexuality and also answer questions about program content. Some of these programs are grant-funded, so we are only paying for the program for the younger children. And there are some great incentives to encourage parents and youth to complete the programs. In order to thank Planned Parenthood and contribute to the program that is not grant-funded, we'll be holding a special collection on homecoming Sunday, one of our four quarterly social justice collections.

For the last few months we've seen amazing statements by politicians at a state and national level that show ignorance about human sexuality. It is as clear as ever how important it is to raise children with accurate information and healthy views about sexuality. I'll be talking about some of this in a sermon series I begin this month, as well. The new study/action issue for Unitarian Universalist congregations that was voted on this year is Reproductive Justice, so as we begin to explore this issue as a congregation, there will be UUA resources coming out to help guide us on the journey.

Namaste,
Cindy

Religious Education Report

This Fall is shaping up to be an interesting and exciting time for the UUCEL Religious Education program. We had our first RE teacher training, for K-6 teachers, on Thursday August 16. With six attendees plus Sharon, it was a good turnout! The make-up session for this is Sunday August 26 after social hour. At this training, we brainstormed goals for the year, discussed the schedule, curriculum and supplies, and took care of paperwork. We'll also have a training for youth teachers and preschool volunteers on Thursday **September 6** at 7pm.

While each of these training sessions will include goal-setting, the first group brainstormed goals such as:

-) Parents, teachers and kids will understand expectations of mutual respect. (In discussion of this goal, we agreed to put a basket by the inside door of the schoolhouse to collect any hand-held games, etc. that kids may bring in to class, so they can pick them back up on their way out of class.)
-) K-6th grade kids will learn about other religions and cultures.
-) We will incorporate RE into services through announcements at the beginning of church service, etc., so parents can ask kids about what they learned in RE.
-) Teachers can arrange for guest speakers on the topic of the week, and classes will be open to other RE teachers who want to learn about that week's subject.
-) RE teachers will continue to learn classroom engagement and management skills.
-) Communication between teachers before classes will increase.
-) Sharon will help frame lesson plans to the amount of time we have for classes. (Reminder: classes will most often end at 12:15pm. This gives kids enough time for their lessons, and gives parents an opportunity to enjoy social hour on their own for a short time, before their children join them.)

I will update this list in the

next newsletter with any goals from the remaining teacher trainings.

In addition to the K-6 classes getting started, we are planning for these fun and educational endeavors:

1) Nursery volunteers are established for the whole school year: no more last minute recruiting, since I've signed up a dedicated cadre of volunteers to take several Sundays in the coming year, in rotation! (I'll try to remind you in advance of your volunteer duty.)

2) "Popcorn Faith with Principled Movies." Starting **September 9** we'll have monthly adult and youth (7th grade on up) discussion groups meet separately after watching a movie together. We are also inviting the two high school Gay/Straight Alliances and a few other churches' youth groups. Gretchen Marshall and Alyce Oosting will lead the youth discussion, and Sharon and Rev. Cindy will lead the adult discussion group. We'll start at 6:00 pm on **Sept. 9** with a pizza dinner, wrapping up by 9:00 pm. This timeframe may be moved in October. First movie is "The Yellow Handkerchief", PG13, with discussion topic "the inherent worth and dignity of every person."

3) "Sex Ed" comes to UUCEL: Events in September and October:

September 9: parent training, "Beyond the Birds and the Bees," 12:30-2:30pm

"Puberty, Healthy Relationships, and Self-Esteem: A Sexuality and Reproductive Health workshop for Ages 7-11:" Two Parts: **Sept. 23rd & 30th**, 2012, 12:30-3pm

"Be Proud! Be Responsible! A Sexuality and Reproductive Health Workshop for 12-through 19-Year Olds." Two Parts: October 14 & 21, 2012 from 12:30-4:30pm

RSVPs appreciated; parental permission required for children 17 and under. Call 740-2629 or email sspedersen@sbcglobal.net to register/for more info.

4) RE Breakfast: we'll have a breakfast for RE participants (children, parents, teachers) and others who would like to join us on Sunday **September 16** at 10am.

Sharon

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

Notes from the Board

Congratulations to those who worked so diligently and effectively on this year's Attic Sale—Kathy Haynes, Donna Hinton, Vicki Haynes, Elissa Alden, Ann Green, Becky Bowen and others. It was a huge success bringing in a little more than \$1,500. Since we had budgeted only \$1,000.00, we are thrilled to learn we have an extra \$500.

Our annual picnic was held at the home of Dee and Harry Reed. The weather was perfect, and it was a beautiful Sunday afternoon. As always, the potluck was delicious. Thanks to Dee and Harry for opening their home and their beach to us.

Thanks to Matt Walch, we no longer have to use an extension cord to power our digital piano. Matt installed a proper outlet—for which he did not charge us. We are very grateful for his donation, although, we do not expect him to do work for us for free. Should any of us need electrical work done, I heartily recommend giving Matt a call. The editors were asked to include his business card info as a thanks to Matt; please see page 6 for more information.

We have a committee working toward the hiring of a musician to play and/or direct choir. In the meantime, we are very pleased to have Tom Pepper as our pianist. It is our hope that he will continue with us.

Thanks to Vic Marshall for taking care of our broken water pump by replacing it with a new pump. If the air conditioner hasn't already been repaired, it soon will be.

We are in the process of planning for Fall. The RE program began this month. We will also be acknowledging our beautiful stained glass window donated by the Smith family in September. Watch for the date.

Jane

Submitted by: Jane Volk Board President

Beyond the Birds and Bees:

Bringing up the topic of sexuality with your child can be difficult, but we know parents play a vital role in youth sexual decision making. This session will review the sexual and reproductive health offerings that will be offered at UUCEL in the fall, and provide tips and tricks that will help parents engage youth in life long conversations about sex and other difficult topics. We will discuss modern teen culture, practice simple techniques to keep conversations open, and link parents to medically accurate resources on reproductive health. If that hasn't sold you there will also be food and a gift card raffle. Join us on **September 9** at 12:30 pm

Puberty, Healthy Relationships, and Self Esteem:

Puberty can be an exciting and confusing time for younger youth. Thanks to a partnership with Planned Parenthood, UUCEL will be providing a two session reproductive health program for youth age 7 to 11 on **September 23rd** and **30th** from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. This activity-driven session will cover friendship, relationships, male and female anatomy, puberty and self-esteem to help prepare young people for the journey ahead of them. For more information on this program please join us at the Beyond the Birds and Bees parent program.

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.

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty



This year the worship committee will be conducting some special services. Our first special service will take place near the end of October and it will be based on *The Halloween Tree* by Ray Bradbury. The service will be intergenerational, and its format will be fully experiential and stray away from the regular format we use every Sunday. This format will occur approximately every four months and will be formed around a seasonal theme or current event.

With our great diversity of beliefs, the worship committee feels it is a fitting time to test out more diverse formats of worship. As the year progresses the worship committee will listen to your concerns and take suggestions for future programming.

Thanks, Submitted by: Jon Hart
Worship co-chair



Caring Committee

The following is a list of Caring Committee members, please contact them as your needs arise: ~ Alyce Oosting, chair-person, Nena Obits, Gretchen Marshall, Jane Volk, Martha Koopman, and Mindy Radseck

This is a short explanation of what our committee does: We support and meet the needs of our church community by doing such things as; - driving people to appointments - delivering meals - making phone calls - friendly visits - listening - sending out cards.

The next Caring Committee meeting will be **September 16** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting

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 modes 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., Sept. 20**

"A Vision for Downtown Jackson"

A look at diverse perspectives of a plan for our city, including ideas on current large vacant properties (old Consumers building, Riverwalk Hotel, etc). A panel including Jonathon Greene of the DDA and Amy Torres of the Enterprise Group, someone from the County, and others will present their points of view, followed by discussion.

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

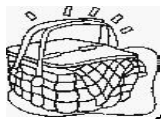
Visitor Orientation

Question & Answer - If you would like to learn more about the church, please join the minister after the service for a short, informal conversation on **Sunday, September 16**. Meet in the foyer after the service. Following the Q. and A., you can have a tour of our buildings if you would like.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

Jesus Seminar Volunteers Needed:

The Jesus Seminar is coming again to Jackson for registration information you can go to <http://www.westarinstitute.org/Events/JSORs/jackson2012.html> or contact Nancy Angelo of the Arbor Grove Congregational Church 517-750-9895 this event is sponsored by Arbor Grove Congregational Church, First Baptist Church, Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty. **ALL EVENTS AT** —Arbor Grove Congregational Church, 2621 McCain Rd., Jackson, MI ----Our church is once again a co-sponsor of the scholarly workshops. Our job is to staff the book table—UUs love books, right? If you're able to staff on Friday evening, Sept. 28 or Saturday morning or afternoon, Sept. 29, please contact Gratia Karmes by phone or e-mail.



Church Picnic

Our Annual Church Picnic—that was held on **Sunday, August 5** at the home of Dee and Harry Reed ----- WE THANK YOU, GREAT FOOD, GREAT WEATHER, GREAT HOSPITALITY !

Submitted by: the E ditor

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 supply's 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 purchases from the S. Central Food Bank very reasonably by the case.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

RE Supplies List - needed for K-6 RE class Contact Sharon if you can help with any of the below itms:

Glue sticks (-) 4 candles in holders (-) cardboard box (approx. 12 x 12 x 18") and additional cardboard pieces (-) 12 plastic champagne glasses (-) Red and yellow tissue paper - Orange and yellow felt (-) Silver, gold, and brown kraft wrapping paper (-) Scotch and masking tape (-) Construction paper, multiple colors (-) Popsicle sticks - 2 1/3 yds 42-45" wide brown cloth (-) 2 yards or more cotton rope (-) Brown crepe paper (-) Old ladders, broom sticks/wood, and/or chicken wire to make small enclosure (-) Kroger/Meijer/Polly's gift cards for refreshments and/or supplies (-) Also, let me know if I can get from you willow boughs, pine boughs, corn stalks, straw, cranberries, fall fruits or vegetables from your garden for a fall harvest activity around end of September.

Goodshop/Goodsearch and Amazon Associates:

Our church can earn money while you browse or shop online. To help while you surf the web, use <http://www.goodsearch.com> as your search engine after entering our church as your agency of choice to support. To help while you shop, go through the links at <http://www.goodshop.com> (again, after entering our church as your agency), to any number of different online sites. If shopping at Amazon, first click on one of our links on our webpage at <http://www.libertyuu.org/shop.html>. These will take you to Amazon, and then we'll earn a percentage of the total cost of your purchases.

\$ - \$

Paper copy payment due for--- "The Bellnote"

It's that time of year again, folks. – This is a friendly reminder to the 30 friends and members who receive the paper copy of The Bellnote. The three Rev.'s receive a copy for free, and 10 have already paid, so looking for payment for **17 more**. The editors will be collecting the \$17.00 per person for the year's expenses of printing and postage. – Please give to Kathy Haynes or mail to her (See Supplement Page for more contact information) and she will mark you paid and pass the money on to the church treasurer.

If you want to change over to the on-line version that is no charge, just send a message to uucel_bellnote@yahoo.com -- this may be your last newsletter if we do not hear from you soon. --Please and Thank you.

Submitted by: the E ditors

Matt Walch is married to granddaughter of our church member Wes Smith. You may recognize his name as a great local singer. His business is a licensed Master Electrician. Matt rewired the church upstairs by the new piano recently without taking any pay; this is our thanks to Matt by advertising his business.

Blake Electric Inc. is owned and operated by **Matthew Blake Walch**, a third generation master electrician and contractor. Matt has been working as an electrician since 1989 and the idea of continuing the tradition of quality and building relationships like his Father and Grandfather did, has always appealed to him. With a small shop and low overhead, Matt is able to offer his services at competitive prices. Blake Electric Inc. offers service for Residential, Commercial, and Industrial locations, specializing in small to medium sized Commercial work and Troubleshooting in general. We also offer the following -Services and Upgrades - Emergency Backup Systems -New Construction and Remodel - Lighting Maintenance and Efficiency Upgrades

Blake Electric Inc. is licensed and insured. **For a free estimate, contact Matt at (517)795-5183 or email at Matt@BlakeElectricCo.com**

-
- **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 OCTOBER ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY: SUNDAY, SEPT. 23 ~~~~~ 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, 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

September

- 2 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 5 Wed. Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- 6 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 6 Thurs. RE Meeting ~ 6:30 Pm
- 9 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 9 Sunday Beyond the Birds and Bees: will be offered at UUCEL 12:30 pm
- 9 Sunday "Popcorn Faith with Principled Movies" ~ 6:00 pm with a pizza dinner, wrapping up by 9pm.
- 11 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 12 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting @ JDL ~ 5:30 pm
- 13 Thurs. Membership Committee 10:00 am
- 13 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ 4:30-7:00 pm @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson help distribution
- 16 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, ~ 11:00 am
- 16 Sunday Visitor Orientation- Q. and A. ~ After the Service
- 16 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service
- 16 Sunday RE Breakfast for RE participants: children, parents, teachers and others ~ 10:00 am
- 21 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ 2:30 pm at the Jackson Coffee Company
- 22 Sat. Wedding Rental
- 23 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter Submissions Due
- 23 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 23 Sunday Puberty, Healthy Relationships, and Self Esteem ~ 12:30pm to 3:00pm
- 30 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 30 Sunday Puberty, Healthy Relationships, and Self Esteem ~ 12:30pm to 3:00pm

Upcoming Events

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Sept 2	Sept 9	Sept 16	Sept 23	Sept 30
Greeters	Alyce O	Grace M	Joan B	Betty G	Carole H
R.E. Greeter	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P	Sharon P
Nursery Helper	George H	Donna H	Steve B	Jackie J	Becky B
Ushers	Gary T Steve J	Gary T OPEN	Gary T OPEN	Gary T OPEN	Gary T OPEN
Social H. Host	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
R.E. Pre.					
R.E. K-5	Sharon P Martha K	Kerry H Joyce K	Sharon P Janette M	Sharon P Kelley E	Michelle V Nancy S
R.E. Youth					

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

Sept 2 - "School Days"

-Lay Leader – TBA

Join us on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend and bring your school memories. We'll share stories of school days from far away and from—literally—next door.

Sept 9 - "Ingathering & Homecoming"

-Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

On our annual homecoming service we call the generations and invest our teachers. This Sunday we'll also have a special collection for one of the agencies we've voted to support this year, Planned Parenthood

Sept 16 - "New Year, New Beginnings"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum – Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is a time for remembrance, atonement, casting off sins of the past, and beginning fresh. How do we let go of the past? This service will explore themes of forgiveness and atonement.

Sept 23 - "BlueGreen Alliance's Jobs21"

- Mark Schauer, Guest Speaker

Mark Schauer, former U.S. Representative and National Co-Chair of the BlueGreen Alliance's Jobs21! Initiative will share with us information on his views and work.

Sept 30 - "Sexuality Sermon Series Part 1: Sexuality Education"

- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Rev. Cindy begins a three-part fall sermon series. Part 2 on Reproductive Freedom will be in October, and then Part 3 on World AIDS Day will be at the beginning of December. In this first piece, we'll talk about why it's an important part of our religious mission to provide sexuality education.

www.guyton.org

http://www.guyton.org

W h e



