

September 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

## STAFF

MINISTER REV. CYNTHIA LANDRUM  
REV.CYN@UGAALUM.UGA.EDU

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

PIANIST TOM PEPPER  
PEPPET49@comcast.net

NURSERY & CHILD CARE Vicki Haynes  
kermit\_210@yahoo.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT GRATIA KARMES  
glk222@tds.net

VICE PRESIDENT JACKIE JOHNSON  
jsj128@comcast.net

TREASURER MARTHA KOOPMAN  
koopman9@live.com

SECRETARY Dee Reed  
hd1reed@comcast.net

TRUSTEE NENA OBITS  
nena\_obits@hotmail.com

TRUSTEE DONNA HINTON  
daisy\_lefty@yahoo.com

## CARING COMMITTEE

Alyce Oosting oosting115@comcast.net

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

Vic Marshall vbmarshall@gmail.com

## BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMM

Steve Kish ~ stevekish982@yahoo.com

Kerry Hart ~ khart247@sbcglobal.net

Grace Mulnix



## Minister's Column

Welcome back! Fall is my favorite time of year – probably because I always loved school growing up, and couldn't wait to go back and see my friends and meet my new teachers. I loved getting new school supplies and fresh new clothes to wear for the year. This fall means going back to school for me again, too. After taking a year and a half off from adjunct teaching, I'm teaching again this fall. But this time instead of teaching English, I'm teaching communications. That means no papers to grade, but a new course to prepare for, which should be a fun challenge for me.

This fall we're planning another bring-a-friend Sunday, probably in October, so watch for more information about that. We know it's fairly soon after the last bring-a-friend Sunday, but fall is a good time for new beginnings for people who might be interested in finding a church. If you brought a friend in the spring, we encourage you to bring the same friend back!

Other things that we're working to get scheduled include perhaps starting a covenant group, or covenant group leader training (if you're interested in that, please see me), another set of Planned Parenthood classes in puberty and sexual education for our children and youth, and hopefully some fall outings. If you have an idea for a workshop or class or outing that you'd be interested in coordinating, let me know. A lot of times all it takes for us to have a fun activity with great participation is one person who is interested in seeing it happen.

Meanwhile, this month I've decided to offer two one-session adult religious education programs that I've been thinking of. Both of these can be expanded into more sessions, but we'll see where the interest of those who sign up lies. I've found that doing a regular class for weeks in a row is difficult with my schedule, because there are regular meetings on every day of the week that I would schedule a class for, making it impossible to both go to meetings and keep a regular class schedule if I'm the solo teacher. One session workshops mean a lot more flexibility, and so, hopefully, if these are popular, I'll be doing more of them over the year. If you have a subject you're interested in, let me know! And, again, if there's something you're interested in leading or teaching, please have a conversation with me about that!

Namaste,

**Cindy**

# Religious Education Report

Hasn't the weather been lovely? I've been enchanted with church since attending the July services and starting up the children's religious education (RE) classes again this month. Must be being around so many friendly people, some I've known for years here and some I've only recently met. It's a nice feeling that the world is basically good.

The RE curriculum for the Fall is on love - reminds me of the words carved on the altar. It's *Love Connects Us* by Michelle Richards and Rev. Lynn Ungar. *Love Connects Us* celebrates important ways Unitarian Universalists live our faith in covenanted community. Children have activities involving movement, a story, and crafts. It's been fun already! For instance, our stories so far have been about Noah's Ark (on covenants/promises) and on Judith Sargent Murray (*A Heritage of Love*), with activities including making a rainbow banner out of ribbons and making friendship bracelets. And I am thankful for our team of volunteers who help RE function smoothly.

Teacher and volunteer training will be **Thursday September 12**, 6:30-8pm OR **Sunday September 8**, 12:30-2pm. Attending one of these sessions is mandatory for teacher volunteers (including nursery and our new RE "monitors"), or you can schedule a make-up time with me. Please let me know which of these two possibilities you can attend, or make arrangements for a make-up session. Thank you in advance!

We welcome the whole church to our RE Breakfast, **Sunday, September 8** at 9:45a.m. Donations are welcome but children, their parents and teachers are free! Happy Fall to come...!

yUUrs,

**Sharon**

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator



## 's from the Piano Bench

My very favorite part of playing piano is listening to our congregation sing hymns! Boy, do you raise the roof when you like a song! I am struck by how many beautiful and enthusiastic voices I hear, and wish that more of the congregation could be in the choir.

When I first came to UUCEL, participating in the choir was the perfect way to get to know people and feel more connected to the church. Sadly, our choir has dwindled to a handful of members, and we are hoping to revive and transform it with a few changes.

Traditionally, the choir has been for people who like singing complicated harmonies, requiring a more advanced level of musical knowledge and time commitment. This leaves out many members of the congregation who sing beautifully but don't read music well, or may not be able to attend practices every week. So, the choir is going in a new direction this fall, with the idea that we would really enjoy having you participate. Our "Community Choir" will be a friendly, fun experience for people who enjoy singing, with the following guidelines:

- Everybody is welcome.
- We will sing familiar songs from the hymnal. You can sing the melody, as the congregation does in church, or you can choose to sing harmony if willing and able.
- We will meet 2 times a month, from 10:15 to 10:45, just before the church service.
- We will sing for the congregation after the second practice session each month.

Give us a try! You don't have to read music to fit in. If you do read music, we would value your contribution. Let's get together musically, for the joy of it as well as enriching our church services.

**Tom**

Submitted by: Tom Pepper

# Notes from the Board

The board met on Wednesday, August 7th. We discussed the need for new playground equipment, and a new committee is being created for that purpose. Some old/broken equipment is being sold or scrapped. Board liaisons were suggested for existing committees:

Worship Committee—Gratia Karmes  
RE & AAUW—Dee Reed  
Membership & Social Events—Donna Hinton  
Caring & Building Committees—Nena Obits  
Community Forum & Auction—Jackie Johnson  
Finance & Pledge—Martha Koopman

Two new listening devices are being purchased by UUAW and its members. We have secured a new housekeeping service. Full minutes of Board meetings, as well as Treasurer's reports and financial statements, are available each month in the plexi-glass container to the left of the kitchen door. The Board usually meets on the first Wednesday of every month, at 6:30 in the social hall. Items for consideration are welcome; please submit them (written and signed) to any Board member no later than the Sunday proceeding Board meeting.

## Gratia

Submittedby: Gratia Karmes  
Board President

### Book and Video Sale

Please check out our book and video sale in the Social Hall. Many items are like new and would make good gifts. Thanks,

Submitted by: Nena Obits

### Harry Reed's Memorial Fund

The Board would like to thank the people who made generous contributions to our Trust Fund in memory of our beloved member, Harry Reed. The UUCEL Trust Fund provides a permanent method of recognition of families, individuals, or groups within the Church community who make financial contributions to the Church. It provides a stable source of funds for Church operations, in addition to the annual membership pledge and other fund raising activities.

Following a vote at the annual meeting, our Trust Fund is being moved to an account with the Unitarian Universalist Association. People donating to the Trust Fund will be recognized in a bound volume in the lobby, as well as in the annual report.

Submittedby: Martha Koopman

"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~~



"You are important.  
Without "U" we can't spell CH\_RCH, or  
AD\_LT, or YO\_TH.  
Without "U" we can't have M\_SIC, S\_NDAY,  
or S\_CCESS.  
Clearly, our church needs "U".

# Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

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## September Adult

### Religious Education Opportunities:

**Tuesday, September 10, 6:30-8:30** – The Meaning in Music – Bring two songs on CD or MP3 – one that you associate with love, and one you associate with a particular memory – and join Rev. Cindy for a discussion about music in our lives. Sign up on the bulletin board in the social hall.

**Thursday, September 26, 6:30-8:30** – Spiritual Journaling and Zentangling – bring a notebook, pen, pencil, and fine-tipped black marker, and join Rev. Cindy to learn about spiritual journaling and the spiritual doodling practice of Zentangle. Sign up on the bulletin board in the social hall. Please note that Rev. Cindy is not a certified Zentangle teacher, and there are such things. For black markers, Rev. Cindy uses Faber Castell black artist pens like these:

<http://tinyurl.com/me57ba3>

Both of these Adult RE Classes will begin with one session with a limited number of spots, but if there is interest we will schedule further sessions either for more people or to go further into the topic or both.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

### 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 [http://](http://www.westarinstitute.org/events/reframing-christian-beginnings-and-christian-scriptures/)

[www.westarinstitute.org/events/reframing-christian-beginnings-and-christian-scriptures/](http://www.westarinstitute.org/events/reframing-christian-beginnings-and-christian-scriptures/).

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

## 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](http://www.myjdl.com).

Please join us for a forum on Human Trafficking at the Carnegie Library on **September 19:** at 6:30 pm. The following panelists will provide information and an opportunity for discussion: Jeremy Norwood, Associate Professor of Sociology, Global Studies, & Criminal Justice, Spring Arbor University, Spring Arbor, MI; Member, Jackson County Task Force on Human Trafficking Stephen Flavin, Chair, Jackson County Freedom Coalition, Co-Pastor, 1208 Greenwood Church, Jackson, MI Andrew Van Valin, Member of Jackson County Freedom Coalition, Set Free Movement.

JXN Community Forum is sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty and the Jackson District Library. 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.

### 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, 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. 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.

**Starting in September our team will start volunteering 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 <http://www.libertyuu.org>. Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

## District & Denominational Meetings and Events

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### “Beyond the A Word: Defining Reproductive Justice”

**Saturday, September 28th**, 9am - 4pm  
UU Fellowship of Midland, MI

What is Reproductive Justice? What would it look like if we had reproductive justice for all people? Participate in discussions that go beyond the abortion debate and seek real justice.

REGISTER ONLINE at [www.uujustice.org/conferenceregistration2.html](http://www.uujustice.org/conferenceregistration2.html)

Featured Speakers:

Ann Coburn-Collins, Director of Academic Programs, Saginaw Valley State  
Susan Demas, MLive Political Correspondent

Brynn McDonnell, Co-Chair, ACLU CMU Campus

Sister Song and MORE

Panel discussions by advocates, young adults, and activists. Co-sponsored by the UU Fellowship of Midland Reproductive Justice Team, MUUSJN, and the UU Fellowship of Midland. Funding provided by the UU Funding Program and the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church.

### The Attic Sale

A big thanks you to all of the helpers at the Attic Sale held in August. We raised around \$1,300.00 including a few unpaid IOU's that I'm sure will be coming in soon.

Submitted by: Kathy Haynes

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.

## UUCEL On-Line Easy On-Line Fundraisers

UUCEL has three easy ways you can earn money for the church while going about your usual on-line activities. The first is through Amazon.com. If you're shopping at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com), first go to our church webpage at [www.libertyuu.org/shop.html](http://www.libertyuu.org/shop.html) and click on the link to Amazon. Once you do that, the church will earn a percentage (usually 4%) of the amount you spend at Amazon. The second method is to use GoodSearch as your search engine. It works like other search engines, such as Google. Whenever you're searching the web, go to [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com), enter "Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty" as your agency you're fundraising for, and then every time you search the web we make a penny. Third, use GoodShop before shopping. Go to [www.GoodShop.com](http://www.GoodShop.com) and enter Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty as your agency, and then click from there to any number of on-line business, from e-Bay to Orbitz to iTunes, and when you make your purchase at the store, UUCEL will earn a portion of your sales.

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• Church Website	<a href="http://www.libertyuu.org">http://www.libertyuu.org</a>
• The Bellnote Newsletter	<a href="http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html">http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html</a>
• Church's facebook page	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu">http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu</a>
• Forum facebook page	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum">http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum</a>
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**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, SEPTEMBER 22. ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: UUCEL\_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO KATHY OR VICKI. THANK YOU –

**We want to thank;** Rev. Cindy Landrum, Nena Obits, Committee on Ministry, 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 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~Lay Leader: Jon Hart ~ 11:00 am
- 4 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 7:30 pm
- 5 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 7 Sat. Social Hall ~ Rental
- 8 Sunday RE Breakfast ~ 9:45 am
- 8 Sunday R. E. Teachers and Volunteers Training ~ 12:30 -2:00 pm
- 8 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 10 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 10 Tue. Adult Religious Education Opportunities; The Meaning in Music ~ 6:30-8:30
- 11 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting @ JDL ~ 5:30 pm
- 12 Thurs. Membership Committee ~ 10:00 am
- 12 Thurs. R. E. Teachers and Volunteers Training ~ 6:30-8:00 pm
- 15 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~11:00 am
- 17 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- 19 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ 4:30-6:30 pm @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson, Help Distribution
- 19 Thurs. JXN Community Forums "**Human Trafficking**"  
@ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
- 22 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- 22 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 22 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 26 Thurs. Adult Religious Education Opportunities; Spiritual Journaling and Zentangling ~ 6:30-8:30
- 29 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: TBA ~11:00 am

## Upcoming Events

- Oct. 10 JXN Community Forum ~ 6:30 pm -- 2nd week not the 3rd

### WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Greeter	R.E. Greeter	Nursery Helper	Ushers	S.H Host	R.E. K-5	R.E. Monitor
Sept 1	Alyce O	Sharon P	Donna H (Tentative)	OPEN OPEN	RE Comm	Sharon P ?	Sharon P
Sept 8	Grace M	Sharon P	Steve B (Tentative)	OPEN OPEN	Pat G RE Breakfast	Sharon P Laura T	Sharon P
Sept 15	Joan B	Sharon P	Becky B	OPEN OPEN	Nena O	Kerry H Peter M	Sharon P
Sept 22	Betty G	Sharon P	Joan B	OPEN OPEN	Nena O	Gretchen M Alyce O	Steve B
Sept 29	Carole H	Sharon P	George H (Tentative)	OPEN OPEN	Nena O	Sharon P Jennette M	Elizabeth W ~ 7~

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

**Sept 1 - "Labor Day"**  
- Lay Leader: Jon Hart

**Sept 8 - "Homecoming"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
Join us for our annual Homecoming Sunday as we "call the generations" and commission our religious education teachers and board members for the year. The annual Religious Education breakfast will be before the service.

**Sept 15 - "Awe and Wonder"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
The days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are known as "The Days of Awe." On this Sunday, we'll explore awesome things.

**Sept 22 - "Equinox and Apples"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
We'll celebrate the fall season and the balance of light and dark at the Pagan harvest festival of Mabon.

**Sept 29 - "To Be Announced"**  
- Lay Leader: To Be Announced

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www.unityeth.org  
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