



### Minister's Column in Brief

I'm on study leave and vacation for the month of July, and out of town July 10-15 at the Chalice Sparx Camp (which is in Michigan, so I am available in case of emergency). Meanwhile, part of what I do during July is create plans for the next year. And we've got some good plans already beginning. With Sharon Pedersen and the RE Committee, we're talking about having an "RE Summit" in the late summer or early fall. This would be a time to brainstorm and strategize how to strengthen and grow our RE program. We're also looking at starting up some covenant groups in the fall. We'll be asking for who is interested in being in or facilitating such a group in the fall. In September I'm also beginning with a new theme-based approach to the Sunday services, and the covenant groups will hopefully tie in with those, as well.

There are other big changes and plans ahead for the summer and fall. The worship committee is talking about some technological changes that will enhance our services. The board authorized the removal of our swing set and has been working on new playground plans.

In August, we'll be celebrating 10 years together! Look for details for a party on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Meanwhile, I'm planning to do something I've never done before – repeat a sermon! After leading over 300 worship services at UUCEL, I'm going to pick one or two sermons for August that are repeats, and I'm letting you pick which one(s)!

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### Calendar - July

- 2 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
- 3 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 6 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Jon Hart and others~ 11:00 am
- 10 Thurs. Membership Committee ~ 11:00 am
- 10 Thurs. Outreach/Forum Committee ~ Not Meeting this Month
- 13 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Jon Hart and others~ 11:00 am
- 13 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 15 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 15 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- 17 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
- 20 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- 20 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Jon Hart and others ~11:00 am
- 27 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~Lay Leader: Jon Hart and others ~ 11:00 am

### Upcoming Events

- Jul. 7 - Aug. 1 "Peace Camp" Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at St. John Church
- Aug 3 Our Annual Church Picnic at Castlewood Park on Lake Columbia
- Aug 23 Celebrating 10 years of Wonderful Cindy

### Sunday Services at 11:00 am

**July 6 - "Summer Principles Series, Part 3: Acceptance of One Another and Encouragement to Spiritual Growth in Our Congregations" – Lay Leader: Jon Hart, and others** - Part three in our summer series on the UU principles focuses on acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations. What does that mean to you?

**July 13 - "Summer Principles Series, Part 4: A Free and Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning" – Lay Leader Jon Hart and others** - Part four in our summer series on the UU principles focuses on a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. What does that mean to you?

**July 20 - "Summer Principles Series, Part 5: The Right of Conscience and the use of the Democratic Process Within our Congregations and the Society at Large" – Lay Leader: Jon Hart and others** - Part five in our summer series on the UU principles focuses on the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and the society at large. What does that mean to you?

**July 27 - "Summer Principles Series, Part 6: The Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty and Justice for All" – Lay Leader: Jon Hart and others** - Part six in our summer series on the UU principles focuses on the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all. What does that mean to you?

# Meetings and Events: at or affiliated with U.U. Church of East Liberty

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As you receive this newsletter, I will be on the road back from General Assembly, where I'm packing to head off to as I write this. This year I'm a bit more involved there than usual, since during the ministry days I'm a technical support person, and as a MidAmerica Board member I have some obligations as well. I'll be looking for new resources and new ideas while I'm there, and look forward to sharing them upon my return.

In Faith,

**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).

The JXN Community Forums will be taking a break for the summer months and will return on Thursday, **September 18**. Watch for more information to come.

## Annual Picnic

Our Annual Church Picnic will be held on **August 3** at the same place as last year. So after the church service we will all travel to Castlewood Park on Lake Columbia near Alyce's home. The park has a few tables and Alyce will bring over a few of her tables. Please bring a passing dish and your dinner plate and silverware for this fun potluck dinner. We are asked to bring our own chairs or blankets to sit on the ground. The park also has a nice playground, and bath house for changing into your swim suit so you can jump in the lake. Parents must watch their own children as no life guard is on duty.—Alyce will have parking passes at church. You must place one on the dash of your car, thanks. Come one, come all, and have some fun at the lake with church friends.

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