



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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Grace Mulnix



Minister's Column

Ten years! It's hard for me to believe it's been that long, but I'm so excited that we've reached this milestone together! It's an accomplishment for me to have had this kind of tenure, and an accomplishment for our church, after two previous decades (1981-2004) of tenures of five years and less. And to celebrate our years together, we have a few things planned. First, there's a celebration party hosted by Elissa Alden (see page 4 for details). Secondly, I'm reprising some favorite sermons this month, based on the ones people have told me they particularly enjoyed. Lastly, I'm planning to purchase a gift for the congregation to celebrate this anniversary, namely a bench or two for our future playground area. Hopefully, if there's somewhere to sit and talk, adults will have a more pleasurable time being outside with our church children. To see the church's gift to me, you'll have to come to my house, because Elissa Alden is working on making over our bathroom there (my least favorite room in our house). Between the party Elissa is hosting and the church picnic that Alyce Oosting is hosting, it looks like a fun month!

Meanwhile, it feels like I've been away forever, even though I'm back in town after summer travels, and was able to get to church last Sunday. It seems like our summer Principles series has been going well, and we'll be concluding that in this month. I've been two places over the summer – Providence for General Assembly, and Water Vliet, Michigan for "Chalice Sparx" camp. An update on some of what happened at General Assembly is on page 3. I wish more people from our church were able to go to General Assembly. If you would like to give feedback to the UUA on how to make GA more democratic, the UUA would like to hear from you on their survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GatheringforPurpose>. Meanwhile, Chalice Sparx camp, a new UU camp right here in Michigan, was a good success. They're looking for a new location for next year probably, but I'm sure it will still be here in our general area, and is a great opportunity for families and individuals to connect to our faith in a fun and rewarding way. I don't know who next year's theme speaker is, but I've heard it's someone really good. Peter and I had a good time, but the best time was had by our daughter, who had great fun hanging out with a bunch of junior high kids from the Elkhart, IN congregation and grade schoolers from Kalamazoo, MI and Madison, WI. Between those and her friends from GA, she has quite the "pen pal" list (although these days people use e-mail, not actual pens, apparently).

I hope your summer has been as rewarding and engaging and faith-filled as mine has, and look forward to seeing you in August as we celebrate a decade together!

Namaste,

Cindy

Religious Education Report

Planning for this year's RE curriculum presents a challenge of a new sort: for the first time in a long time, the greatest number of our children are in 6th through 8th grades. This calls for a curriculum for that age group, and a "back-up" curriculum for younger kids that may attend and/or visit from time to time.

Our primary curricula will be from the UUA's "Tapestry of Faith" on-line offerings, both by Richard S. Kimball, a veteran curriculum writer. The first half of the year will be spent on *Amazing Grace: Exploring Right and Wrong*. This program guides this age group through ways to determine right from wrong with a Unitarian Universalist perspective, and to act on their new understandings.

The second half of the year will find RE children studying *Riddle and Mystery*, also by Richard S. Kimball. The purpose of *Riddle and Mystery* is to assist this age group in their own search for understanding. Each of the 16 sessions introduces and processes a Big Question. The first three echo Paul Gauguin's famous triptych: Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going? The next ten, including Does God exist? and What happens when you die?, could be found on almost anyone's list of basic life inquiries. The final three are increasingly Unitarian Universalist: Can we ever solve life's mystery? How can I know what to believe? What does Unitarian Universalism mean to me?

As usual we will have two teachers each Sunday. However we will also have a younger children's curriculum "at-the-ready" to use at the second table in the schoolhouse for when we have two or more younger children; then one of the teachers will switch over to teach this younger group. This will take an "agile" volunteer corps, but I know we can do it! The second curriculum will likely be one we've taught before, and one that is fairly easy to prepare for and teach.

Thank you to the teachers and nursery volunteers who have renewed their commitment to volunteering again this school year, and those who are new recruits. Watch for our start-up training for "

newbies," and our **all-church gathering on the topic of RE in September.**

Here are some supplies we could use donations of this coming school year:

Newsprint/flip chart

Tape - masking and scotch and Painter's Glue Sticks

Markers

UU World back issues

Gift cards for Office supply store

Thanks again for your support!

Sharon

Sharon Pedersen, RE Coordinator

New Name Tags

Your new name tags are at church and they look wonderful. Thanks to our newest member Dave LaRowe who made them. If you have not seen yours yet, come and take a look. If it's not there please fill out a name tag request slip in the foyer and one will be made for you. There are also cut, colored ribbons of the rainbow there if you would like to change your name tag from a clip-on holder into the kind you can slip over your head. If you have any questions see Kathy Haynes and she will pass on the word to Dave.

Submitted by: Kathy Haynes

Like and Share!

Our church has two main ways that people learn about us – word of mouth, and the internet. Those on Facebook can help us combine the two through two easy things: "like" our church status updates, and "share" the pictures and status updates the church posts. This lets your friends see your activity, and maybe they'll like what they see! We've been hard at work, mostly thanks to the help of Martha Koopman, creating special graphic images for our church Facebook page to share, and we hope you'll find them interesting enough to pass on. A special thank you to Martha for engaging in this digital outreach ministry! Rev. Cindy went to a workshop on how to increase a church's effectiveness in web outreach, and this was the #1 thing we can do, but it's up to you to do the next step: like and share!

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Notes from the Board

The board met on Wednesday, July 2. We welcomed Elissa Alden, and said good bye to Jackie Johnson. This year's officers are: Dee Reed, Secretary, Martha Koopman, Treasurer, Elissa Alden, Vice President, and Gratia Karmes, President. Donna Hinton and Nena Obits are Trustees. We discussed many issues related to building and grounds, and plan to have a meeting in the fall devoted to preparing our campus for winter. A calendar of events is being developed to keep our members better informed of the many activities of the church. The next board meeting will be the first Wednesday of August, 6:30, at the church.

Gratia

**Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President**

Personal Care Ministry

The Jackson Personal Care Ministry provides personal and household products to those in need in Jackson County. An average of 150 guests are served weekly. Our team works at the distribution on the third Thursday of each month, **August 21** 4:30-6:30 pm. Financial support and donations of new and gently used products are greatly appreciated. For more information, contact Nena Obits. See Supplements Page for more information.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

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Paper copy payment due for "Bellnote"

It's that time of year again, folks. – This is a friendly reminder to the **28 members and friends** who receive the paper copy of The Bellnote. The three Rev.'s on our list receive a copy for free; the editors will be collecting the \$17.00 per person for the year's expenses of printing and postage. See Page 6 for more information in the box "From the Editors". Make checks payable to UUCEL. Please give to Kathy Haynes or mail to her (See Supplement Page for her 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 Editors



Music Notes

This year we're trying a new arrangement with Tom. Because the limiting factor is the wear and tear on his hands that rehearsal of new music requires, we're repeating hymns more often, but having him more often behind the bench. For every three Sundays he plays, you'll hear a total of six hymns and four prelude/offertory pieces, with the rest being repeats. Our new system we're trying of theme months for worship services will make this easier to do, since hymns on the theme will work with multiple services. We hope the result will be a more enjoyable worship experience with more live music.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy



General Assembly Update

Every year at General Assembly, the delegates from UU congregations vote social justice issues that we encourage our congregations to take action on. Our new study/action issue is "Escalating Inequality" — the description is at <http://www.uua.org/statements/current/290506.shtml>. The study/action issue on reproductive justice is still continuing. We passed three new Actions of Immediate Witness:

1) Support the "Pray for Relief" Faith Summit on Stopping Deportations

2) Affirming Congregational Commitment to Gun Violence Prevention

3) UUA Support for "Uganda New Underground Railroad" to Safely Extract LGBTQ People from Persecution in Uganda

Lastly, the delegates voted for the UUA to divest from fossil fuels. Our church uses the UUA's Common Endowment Fund to manage our funds, so this will mean our funds will be divested from fossil fuels, too, if I understand the ramifications correctly.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Update for our Annual Picnic - the Location had moved-

Our Annual Church Picnic will be held on **August 3** at the home of Alyce Oosting, (See the Supplement page for her contact information) not at the park on near her place. So after the church service, we will all travel to Alyce's and she has enough tables; you bring your chair or blanket to sit on the ground. Please bring a passing dish and your dinner plate and silverware for this fun potluck dinner. You can swim if you would like to get into the lake and a few kayaks will be available to be used. Please bring your own life jacket. Parents must watch their own children as no life guard is on duty. Come one, come all, and have some fun at the lake with church friends. **One more thing** if it's a rain kind of day the annual picnic will be at the church!

You are invited to a Party

We will be celebrating 10 years of wonderful Cindy with a party on **Saturday, August 23** at the home of Elissa Alden from 7:00 – 9:30 pm. If you are willing to help with refreshments or other party arrangements please call Elissa or just talk to her at church. (See the Supplement page for her contact information).

Please mark your calendar with the date and see you there.

Submitted by Elissa Alden

Caring Committee

~~The Caring Committee chair, Jane Volk will be out of town till October 1st. So I'm asking you to contact other members of the caring committee if the need arises. – Thank you in advance ~ Jane
Caring Committee monthly meeting will generally be held on the 2nd Sunday of the month after church at 12:30 in the Nursery. If you are aware of any issues or concerns involving any of our church family for which the Caring Committee can lend a helping hand, please contact any member of the Committee. Those serving on the Caring Committee are: Debbie Hartsuff, Debbie and Fred Marshall, Gretchen Marshall, Alyce Oosting, and Jane Volk.

**Submitted by: Jane Volk
Chair**

Attic Sale

The dates have been set for the Grandma's Attic Sale it will be on **August 21 – 22- and 23**. The sale will be from 9:00 to 6:00 on Thursday and Friday and 9:00 3:00 on Saturday with a \$2.00 bag sale on Saturday. The same set up will be used as last year; you place your own items into the correct location as indicated by the committee of Debbie Hartsuff, Gratia Karmes and Jackie Johnson.

The dates and times to take your items to the church will be

Sunday the 17th from 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Monday the 18th from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Tuesday the 19th from noon - 4:00 pm and also

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm on the 19th

- NO ITEMS ON WEDNESDAY

- SO, start cleaning your closets to find good donations of furniture, books, clothing, sporting goods, holiday items, toys, bedding and other goodies to make this a great fundraiser for the church. If you can help on this sale please contact one of the 3 names above See Supplements Page for their information.

**Submitted by : committee of
Debbie Hartsuff, Gratia Karmes
and Jackie Johnson**

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.

The JXN Community Forums will be taking a break for the summer months and will return on **Thursday, September 18** and it will be The "Anchor Initiative" in Downtown Jackson A consortium of businesses (Consumers, Allegiance and others) has bought the former Woolworth Building on Michigan Ave. and South Jackson Street. What are they up to?

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

Playground Equipment Fundraising at 'In Good Company' Restaurant

Please mark your calendar for **Wednesday, September 10**. This is the date set for the Church's Playground Equipment Fundraising at the 'In Good Company' Restaurant. Our church will get 15% of all sales of drinks, dinner and desert. Yes, anything ordered between the hours of 4:00 and 9:00 pm. This restaurant is on US 127, just north of Jefferson Road on the right hand side if you're going north. If you cannot be there on the 10th at that time, please pass the word on to your friends. The more that eats at 'In Good Company' the more our church gets back to help our new playground get new equipment. Thanks in advance see you there.

Submitted by: Jackie Johnson

~~Upcoming Fund Raisers~~

Attic Sale ~~ August 21-22-23 The sale will be from 9:00 to 6:00 on Thursday and Friday and 9:00 to 3:00 on Saturday.

Playground Equipment Fundraising ~~ Wednesday, September 10 at 'In Good Company' Restaurant ~ between the hours of 4:00 and 9:00 pm.

Holiday Baskets, Silent Auction ~~ Starting on November 16 ending December 14.

Submitted by : The Church Board

Golf Scramble

The church Golf Scramble will be on **Sunday, September 21**. Please meet at Hills Heart of the Lake Golf Course in Brooklyn on Cass Road at 1:45 pm and we will starting playing a 2:00 pm. The cost to play is \$10.00 per person to walk course and \$18.00 per person to rent a cart. All are welcome. The golfers will have lunch afterwards in the clubhouse. Contact Betty Gulliver if you would like to play, as she will be setting up the teams. (See the Supplement page for her contact information). To golf with this scramble you do not have to be a good golfer to play, your teammates all work together to get the score.

Submitted by: Betty Gulliver

UUCEL is a non-creedal church

Even though we hold many differing beliefs, we love and support one another. And we respect, even cherish, our differences. As we embark on the political season, let us remember that we do not all agree on political matters, as well. In particular when speaking in the sanctuary, let us show the same respect for those differences. Thanks!

**Submitted by: Committee on Ministry
Marge Duane, Ann Green, Gretchen Marshall**



Our Closing Song

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.

Pastoral Care Update from the Minister

This month I met with the Committee on Ministry to discuss the ministry of our church and how to best respond to pastoral needs in our community. My method when it comes to pastoral care has always been to respond whenever requested, but to usually wait until requests are made to reach out, with the exception being hospitalization, death, or other emergencies. Even then, I sometimes don't hear about illnesses or hospitalizations until they're over. That happened once last month. So the best way to let me know you need me or would like to discuss something is always to let me know. But the Caring Committee, Committee on Ministry and I are also aware that sometimes people don't or can't reach out when they would like a call or a visit, and identifying those needs is something we're working together on to do. And we're working on strengthening our channels of communications, so that when a Caring Committee member makes a visit to a member or friend of our congregation, that they will hopefully identify themselves as a Caring Committee member, so that it's clear the outreach is part of our ministry program, and then also ask people if they would like a visit or call from me, and then report those back to me. This will make it possible for me to hear of needed or wanted outreach efforts in an indirect way, as well as the direct way. We hope that working together people will feel more connected and more cared for by our church.

UU Forum: Water in Detroit

Please join regional UUs in the sanctuary of First UU Detroit (4605 Cass Ave, Detroit MI) at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday July 30th**, for a forum to discuss our response to the Detroit Water Department's delinquency collections and shutoff programs, as well as efforts to protect and support our most vulnerable citizens. There has been a great deal of national attention around the issue, but many voices within our congregations have been lost in the intensity of media interest. What do we, as Detroit area UUs, want to say about the issue? The goal is to create a consensus among ourselves as we address the issue in public. Please share this announcement with your churches and local UU friends. In the interests of the right of conscience and observance of democratic process, we want the broadest spectrum of perspectives to be heard. Thank you!

Additional information on the water issue: The UU Service Committee and Michigan UU Social Justice Network are both advocating to end the water shut-offs in Detroit. There is a petition online at <http://www.uusc.org>, and Rev. William Schulz, director of the UUSC, and Rev. Peter Morales, president of the UUA, have written a letter that they have asked area clergy to sign, which our minister has done.

<p>•••••</p> <p>• Church Website</p> <p>• The Bellnote Newsletter</p> <p>• Church's facebook page</p> <p>• Forum facebook page</p> <p>•••••</p>	<p>http://www.libertyuu.org</p> <p>http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html</p> <p>http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu</p> <p>http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum</p> <p>•••••</p>
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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.

FROM THE EDITORS:

"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 SEPTEMBER ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY: SUNDAY, AUGUST 24. ~~~~~ 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, Gratia Karmes, Nena Obits, Jane Volk, Elissa Alden, Alyce Oosting, Betty Gulliver, Jackie Johnson, Committee on Ministry, Committee of Atititc Sale, Outreach Comm., Caring 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

August

- 3 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, TBA ~ 11:00 am
- 3 Sunday Our Annual Church Picnic @ Alyce Oosting home on the lake
- 6 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
- 7 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 7 Thurs. Membership Committee ~ 11:00 am
- 10 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 10 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 12 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 14 Thurs. Outreach/Forum Committee @ JDL ~ 5:30 pm
- 17 Sunday Take your sale items to church in between 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- 17 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~11:00 am
- 18 Mon. Take your sale items to church in between 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- 19 Tue. Take your sale items to church in between noon - 4:00 pm
- 19 Tue. Take your sale items to church in between 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- 19 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- 21 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
- 21 Thurs. Grandma's Attic Sale from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- 22 Fri. Grandma's Attic Sale from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- 23 Sat. Grandma's Attic Sale from 9:00 am 3:00 pm
- 23 Sat. Party Celebrating 10 years of Wonderful Cindy @ Elissa Alden home ~ 7:00 - 9:30 pm
- 24 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 24 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- 31 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader, TBA ~ 11:00 am

Upcoming Events

- 10 Wed. In Good Company ~ Playground Equipment Fundraising, 15% of all sale ~ 4:00 to 9:00 pm
- 18 Thurs. JXN Community Forums "Anchor Initiative" @ Jackson D. Library, Carnegie Branch ~ 6:30 pm
- 21 Sunday Golf Scramble at Hills Heart of the Lake Golf Course ~ 1:45 pm

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Greeter	R.E. Greeter	Nursery	Ushers	Social Host	R.E. K-5	R.E. Monitor
Aug 3	Alyce O	Sharon P	Vicki H	Open	RE Comm		
Aug 10	Grace M	Sharon P	Vicki H	Open	Open		
Aug 17	Joan B	Sharon P	Vicki H	Open	Open		
Aug 24	Betty G	Sharon P	Vicki H	Open	Open		
Aug 31	Betty G	Sharon P	Vicki H	Open	Open		

Names of R.E. Teachers and Nursery Helpers will be posted soon and will be added to the weekly Order of Service.

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

Aug 3 - “Summer Principles Series, Part 7:
Respect for the Interdependent Web of All Existence
of Which We Are a Part”

– **Lay Leader: TBA**

Our summer principles series concludes with our seventh principle – a perfect opportunity to get out in nature for our church picnic following the service!

Aug 10 - “Water Communion”

– **Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**

Bring water from your summer locations for our annual gathering of the living waters.

Aug 17 - “10th Anniversary Sermon Reprisal”

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum –

For her tenth anniversary, this sermon’s a repeat. “What is it?” you ask, not missing a beat. Well, I’ll give you a clue, if you’ll give me the time: This sermon is one completely in rhyme.

Aug 24 - “Art and Religion”

– **Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**

August is “Art Appreciation Month.” For this sermon, and in keeping with the 10th anniversary sermon reprisals of most-requested sermons, Rev. Cindy will bring highlights from last year’s three-part sermon series on art and share some of her colleagues’ work from last year’s Ohio River Group papers.

Aug 31 - “To Be Announced”

– Lay Leader:

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