



The Bellnote

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. DR. CYNTHIA LANDRUM
CYNLANDRUM@GMAIL.COM
R. E. COORDINATOR SHARON PEDERSEN
SSPEDERSEN@SBCGLOBAL.NET
PIANIST TOM PEPPER
PEPET49@comcast.net
NURSERY & CHILD CARE Vicki Haynes
kermit_210@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT GRATIA KARMES
glk222@tds.net
VICE PRESIDENT ELISSA ALDEN
elissa.alden@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

Jane Volk gjvolk@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

I want to take this column to let you know that Tom Pepper submitted his resignation to the Board this month. Tom will keep playing through the end of this church year, but this will be his last year as our regular pianist. Playing often has just become too painful and difficult for his hands. It's been a great joy to work with Tom as our musician, and I'm going to miss the collaboration we had on worship service. He has a wonderful talent and a great spirit. Our board will be talking in February about the search process to find our next church musician or musicians. If you have suggestions or ideas, please submit them to the board.

This month is going to be a fun one at East Liberty. We have a field trip planned to the new Detroit-area aquarium. It's "church buddies" month, and this year we're inviting all adults to be church buddies to each other, while the children will be paired with each other, as well. We'll celebrate at the end of the month in a new way with a pizza dinner instead of a breakfast. And there's also another venison dinner on this month's calendar! Don't forget to go to the fundraiser event for the Jackson Personal Care Ministry, too – the speaker is board member Elissa Alden's brother! And if you have time after all that, start practicing your talent for next month's talent show, which will feature local celebrities as our guest judges. We're not saying who they all are yet, because there's some big names we're still talking to!

I also want to take this space this month to remind you to give me a call! In the last couple of months there have been hospitalizations and other significant events that I've only heard of weeks later. If something significant is happening in your life where you could use some support, please call or have a family member call either me or the Caring Committee. We want to be of service to you in these times.

Peace,
Cindy

In a recent sermon, I apparently confused a lot of people by referring to a conflict at Starr King School for the Ministry, but not explaining what it was about. Here is the short version: The conflict there began with some controversy around the search for their new president. Confidential Search Comm documents were leaked to a wide variety of people. Two students who admitted to receiving the leaked documents had their degrees withheld by Starr King, because they refused to hand over their personal e-mails so that Starr King could investigate who leaked the documents. The students then went public with this information, demanding their degrees. In the aftermath, three faculty members, one staff member, and two board members have resigned from the institution, some with public letters of explanation, and reportedly several students have withdrawn. A number of key leaders, ministers, and UU institutions have made statements of different varieties on the issue, including myself. There was an article in the New York Times about this, and several articles in the UU World online, the latest of which can be read here:

<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/300708.shtml>

—Rev. Cindy

Religious Education Report

We have several fun events planned for February. Like most years, we'll have a "Church Buddies month" in February, and this year we'll have adults providing small "church buddy gifts" for adults, and kids giving small gifts to other kids. I think this will be a nice twist on a fun theme. I'm pleased with the number of sign-ups so far.

We're hoping to take a family-friendly trip to the new Sea Life Aquarium at the Great Lakes Crossing mall in Auburn Hills on **Saturday, Feb. 14**. I hope to get at least 15 RSVPs by January 28.

Our Church Buddies month "reveal party" will be **Sunday, Feb. 22** at 5:00 pm. We'll host a pizza competition and movie night with "The Lego Movie", which I understand has a UU theme embedded in it!

In the early part of the New Year, we also start to look forward to next Fall: recruiting enough volunteers and picking curricula to have a robust RE program. I'll keep you posted about what is decided! Please keep the religious education program in mind when you're thinking about what commitment you'd like to make to your church next year.

See you soon - keep warm!

Sharon

**Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen
RE Coordinator**

Church Buddies

Church Buddies at a February event we do yearly will have a new way of learning who their matches are this year. It will be at a "reveal party" on **Sunday February 22** at 5:00 pm. We will host a pizza competition and movie night with "The Lego Movie", which Sharon, understands has a UU theme embedded in it!

Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen

Notes from the Board

The board met on the second Wednesday this month due to the bad weather. We regretfully accepted Tom Pepper's resignation as our pianist, effective as of July 1st. We are grateful to Tom for all the wonderful music, and also for the lengthy notice he has given us. The search is on! If you know of someone who would like to be hired to play for us regularly, please let any board member know. We had happier news regarding our various fundraisers, all of which have been successful. We are looking forward to several more, including two venison dinners (thank you, Haynes family!) and the much anticipated talent show on March 6. Elissa Alden and her team are hard at work on this project; please contact her to be a part of it. Lastly, we are looking forward to our new playground, which we hope will be installed in early spring. The Board usually meets on the first Wednesday of every month, at 6:30. Please contact a Board member if you have items to be discussed, or would like to attend. Your involvement is always welcome!

Gratia

**Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President**

Joys & Sorrows New Book, Info

Please Note: All Joys and Sorrows are written down by someone. Please help with this task by picking up the New Blue spiral notebook located on the desk in the foyer. There is a change in how this works for those who have done it before. The new book is a 2 page carbon copy. The person writing them for the day is to please remove the white copy ~ (Please check first for its readability before removing the top page) ~ and give/send/call the info to Rev. Cindy and the yellow bottom copy stays in the book for the Bellnote editors. This change is an idea from both the Committee on Ministry and the Caring Committee. Thanks and Please pickup the book.

**Submitted by: the Committee on
Ministry and the Caring Committee**

~~ Upcoming Fund Raisers ~~

Venison Dinners ~ Friday, February 20
at 6:00 pm

Talent Show ~ Friday, March 6

In Good Company Fundraiser ~ for the
new playground fund ~ Wed., April 15

Annual Auction ~ Saturday, May 16 is
the tentative date

Submitted by : The Church Board



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.

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.

Spiritual Exercises for February:

This month our theme is "**Faith.**" Here are three exercises that you can use to explore your faith.

Six Word Faith: Sometimes talking about faith can wind us in circles. Ultimately, our faith is too complex, visceral and personal to be easily shared. But some have tried to sum up their faith in six words alone. It's a practice that clarifies and amplifies what matters most to us. It helps remind us of and hold on to our deepest commitments. This month, try it for yourself. Come to church on Feb. 8 with your six words. Here are some inspiring examples: "Big bang. No God. Fadeout. End." "Born Jewish. Discovered bacon... still Jewish." "Your inner voice waits for expression." "When love dies, let love remain." "I recognize the feeling of unity." "Can you wonder? Yes you could."

Ignore Your Doubts: All of us know what it's like to lose our faith. We've been betrayed by a relationship, let down by our church community, or convinced that life just won't get better. Our greatest faith often involves the belief that life and others don't deserve our faith in them. But sometimes our doubts need to be doubted. Sometimes life and the people around us need to be given a second chance. This month pick an experience, person or group that you've lost faith in and risk giving it/them another try.

Picture Your Faith: Forget trying to explain it. Sometimes faith is best expressed through images. This month think about what faith *looks like* for you. Find or take a picture of yourself or others "living faithfully." Will it be an image of a singular person lost in prayer, a walk in the woods, two people holding hands, or two enemies putting down their guns? Share your picture on social media if you're comfortable with it, or write a journal entry on what it means to you.

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Traveling Deliberately

This event will be a presentation by Steve Bannow, Elissa Alden's brother, titled "TRAVELING DELIBERATELY", at The Michigan Theater, 124 N. Mechanic Street in downtown Jackson. On **Sunday, February 8** at 3:00 pm. *Minimizing Stress and Maximizing Fulfillment During Your Journey*. Steve is a local author and traveler extraordinaire! Admission is by donation to the Personal Care Ministry. First 100 persons will receive a free, signed copy of his book.

Submitted by: Elissa Alden & Nena Obits

Venison Dinner

George Haynes would like to serve up another venison dinner as a fundraiser for the church. It will be on **Friday, February 20** at 6:00 pm in the social hall. The menu will be the same as last month, of venison chili and venison swiss steak with mushroom gravy and potatoes. Come and have a good dinner with church friends and make a free-will-offering to help support the church operating budget. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board if you are planning on attending so we can have a good idea of the number of people attending the dinner, thanks

Submitted by: George & Kathy Haynes

2014 Calendar Year

After the end of December, I will determine everyone's latest donations and get that to you, as usual. On January 5, 2015, I will begin to determine the church contributions by donors for tax purposes. If you would like to know your total amount of church donations for Calendar Year 2014, please let me know you want the information by **February 28, 2015**. You can tell me at church, call me at my home or send your message by e-mail. If I don't hear from you by February 28, 2015, I will not send you 2014 Calendar Year donations.

Submitted by: Steve Beison

Visitor's Orientation

Question & Answer

Would you like to learn more about the church? Please join the minister after the service for a short, informal conversation about any of your questions; Rev. will have the answers. On **Sunday, February 8** meet in the foyer after the service. Following the Q. and A. we can have a tour of our buildings if you would like. We will also be having a new member(s) joining service soon. Please let us know if you would like to be a part of that joining service.

Submitted by: Membership Committee

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. Call Debby Sears at the library at 517-788-4087 ext. 234 for more information or see the JDL website at www.myjdl.com

Thursday, February 19 ~ 6:30 pm

Cradle 2 Career

Irene LeCrone, Cradle 2 Career Coordinator, will bring us up to date on Cradle 2 Career initiatives to address the social, financial and academic barriers to student successes from birth to career.

Submitted by: Outreach Committee

Trip to Aquarium

We are hoping to do a group "field trip" to the new aquarium at Great Lakes Crossing Outlets in Auburn Hills on **Saturday February 14**. We'd leave in the morning and head back by late afternoon.

Group Tickets

(15 or more individuals)	Price Per Person
Adult (13+ years)	\$13.50
Child (3-12 years)	\$12.50
Under 3's (0-2 years)	FREE

If we don't get 15 individuals to go, then we can still get a pre-opening price of \$17.50 per ticket if we buy tickets before 1/29. After that the Website says \$23.50 for adults, \$18.50 for children.

Please RSVP if we can count you "in"—let me know how many tickets you will need. Also let me know if you will be driving, need a ride, or have seats available for additional children and/or adults. Thanks - looking forward to this road trip!

Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen

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, **February 19** 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**



Talent Show ~ March 6th

Attention all talented and/or fun loving folks! Our Talent Show (fundraiser) is approaching and we need to know your intentions for performance. The show will be on **Friday, March 6** at 7:00 pm. It will be held in the sanctuary with concessions sold down stairs during intermission. Admission to watch the show is \$5. with children accompanied by adults free. The entry fee for each participant is \$10. (it is a fund raiser after ALL) ! :) And have a winter blast! We will have local "celebrity" judges who will award nominal prizes to different category winners (children under 10, songs, duets, creative acts, etc). Should be a hoot. —oh yes, and this is open to anyone, not just our congregation. - See Ann Green, Lynn Hightower or Elissa Alden for details or to sign up! **Submitted by: Elissa Alden**

Annual Auction will be in May

In May we will celebrate many ways of giving thanks in support of our church by giving items for our annual auction. It's not really that far away. Please put **Saturday, May 16**, on your calendar as a tentative date for food and fun. That gives us four months to gather great items to donate!

Submitted by: Steve Beison

Social Hour Teams with your Hosting Dates

Ann Green & Red Team ~ 1~

1-4 / 3-15 / 5-24 / 8-2 / 10-11 / 12-20

Martha Koopman-Elizabeth & Tim Walker-
Sharon Pedersen

Nancy Smith & Rob G & Orange Team ~2~

1-11 / 3-22 / 5-31 / 8-9 / 10-18 / 12-27

Lynn Hightower-Kathy & George Haynes-
Marge Duane

Gretchen & Vic Marshall & Lime Team ~ 3~

1-18/ 3-29 / 6-7 / 8-16 / 10-25

Robin Wormser-Liz Webb-
Betty & Ted Gulliver

Peg & Steve Beison & Teal Team ~ 4 ~

1-25/ 4-5 / 6-14 / 8-23 / 11-1

Nancy James-Chris & Gordon Bernstein-
Joyce Kelley

Donna & Jason Hinton & Magenta Team ~ 5 ~

2-1/ 4-12 /6-21 / 8-30 / 11-8

Elissa Alden-Jackie Ellerthorpe-
Alyce Oosting & Lynn McLean

Kerry & Jon Hart & Coral Team ~ 6 ~

2-8/ 4-19 / 6-28 / 9-6 / 11-15

Paul Jenkins-Dee Reed-Jackie Johnson-

Carole Hartsuff & Yellow Team ~ 7 ~

2-15/ 4-26 / 7-5 / 9-13 / 11-22

Dorothy Kerr-Debbie Hartsuff-
Margaret & Lyle Johns-Steve Kish

Nena Obits & Green Team ~ 8 ~

2-22/ 5-3 / 7-12 / 9-20 / 11-29

Nancy Cooper-Cecily & David Savick-
Sharon & Doug Myers

Jane Volk & Blue Team ~ 9 ~

3-1/ 5-10 / 7-19 / 9-27 / 12-6

Debbie & Fred Marshall-Gratia Karmes-
Rose Mary Lemming-Jann Krupa

Sue Rainey & Purple Team ~ 10 ~

3-8/ 5-17 /7-26 / 10-4 / 12-13

Joan Bernstein-Grace Mulnix-
Anita & Tom Pepper

Submitted by: Membership Comm.

Regional Assembly 2015

April 17-19

“The ‘New’ in the New Era of Unitarian Universalism.”

KEYNOTES:

Rev. Marlin Lavanhar and Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt
One location: Marriott Hotel in Naperville, IL (near Chicago)

In addition to the two outstanding keynote speakers, there will be workshops addressing our theme, worship services, entertainment, and the Annual Business Meeting.

Limited number of partial scholarships available. #UUNewEra2015

An entire weekend full of events for everyone!

Register online at <http://www.midamericauua.org/RA>

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• Church Website	http://www.libertyuu.org
• The Bellnote Newsletter	http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html
• 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.

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 MARCH ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:
 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15. ~~~~~ 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, Elissa Alden, Steve Beison, George Haynes, Committee on Ministry, 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



February

- 1 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Jon Hart ~ 11:00 am
- 1 Sunday Choir Rehearsal ~ 10:15-10:45 and Performing during the Service
- 4 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee @ JDL ~ 5:15 pm
- 4 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
- 5 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 8 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~ 11:00 am
- 8 Sunday Visitor's Orientation Question & Answer ~ After the Service
- 8 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 8 Sunday *Traveling Deliberately @ The Michigan Theater* 124 N. Mechanic Street ~ 3:00 pm
- 10 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 12 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 10:30 am
- 14 Sat. Family-Friendly trip to the new Sea Life Aquarium @ Auburn Hills
- 15 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~11:00 am
- 15 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- 17 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- 19 Thurs. JXN Community Forums "Cradle 2 Career" @ Library Carnegie ~ 6:30 pm
- 19 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
- 20 Fri. Venison Dinners ~ 6:00 pm
- 22 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~ 11:00 am
- 22 Sunday The Church Buddies "Reveal Party" pizza & movie night ~ 5:00 pm
- 28 Sat. Last day to ask for Church Contributions by donors for Tax Purposes from Steve Beison

Upcoming Events

- April 17-19 UU Regional Assembly ~ Marriott Hotel in Naperville, IL
- March 6 Talent Show

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Greeter	R.E. Greeter	Nursery	Ushers	Social Host	R.E. K-5	R.E. Monitor
Feb 1	Alyce O	Sharon P	Vicki H Joyce W		Donna H & Megenta Team	Rob G Nancy S	Sharon P
Feb 8	Grace M	Sharon P	Vicki H Nena O	Gary T	Kerry H & Coral Team	Gretchen M Alyce O	Sharon P
Feb 15	Carole H	Sharon P	Vicki H Kathy H	Gary T	Carole H & Yellow Team	RobG Nancy S	Sharon P
Feb 22	Kathy H	Sharon P	Vicki H George H	Gary T	Nena O & Green Team	IG	Sharon P

February Worship Theme: Faith

Feb 1 - "Radical Hope"

– Lay Leader: Jon Hart

Radical Hope and the Civil Rights Movement what did it take for people in the civil rights movement to carry on? Join lay leader Jon Hart to explore the concept of radical hope, how it influenced the movement, and can inform our present social justice struggles.

Feb 8 - "Six Word Stories of Faith"

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

Rev. Cindy will share six words about her faith, and give you time to share yours – in six words only. How does the experience of summing things up in only a few words help or hinder the exploration of faith?

Feb 15 - "Faith and Doubt"

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

The relationship between faith and doubt is more complex than simply opposites. Rev. Cindy will explore their complex connection.

Feb 22 - "Mystical Whispers"

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

Does something in you or outside of you whisper, "There is more" or "Love" or "Try Again" or "Trust"? Rev. Cindy will explore the yearning for something greater, something *more*.