



**Minister's Column**

It's been a couple of years since I last did a sermon series. This month I'll be doing a three-part sermon series on the voting rights march in Selma, and its legacy and impact. Why does this subject deserve so much attention? There's so much to say on the issue that it simply can't all be said in one sermon. To begin with, I'll talk about how the civil rights struggle of fifty years ago is still relevant and important today. How does the issue of voting rights still matter? How does the death of Jimmie Lee Jackson connect to some of the deaths last summer in places like Staten Island, Ferguson, and Cleveland? Next, I'll share some of why Selma matters so much to Unitarian Universalism, because of the hundreds of Unitarian Universalists who went and marched in Selma, and those who were killed, and how the death of UU minister James Reeb changed the nation. Lastly, I'll turn to our Michigan civil rights activist Viola Liuzzo, and talk about who she was and what her legacy is. See page \_\_\_ for more information on the exhibit that will be on display at our church this month about Viola Liuzzo, courtesy of her sister, Rose Mary Lemming. I've also included a book list on page \_\_\_ if you're interested in reading more. I highly recommend Mark Morrison-Reed's book on Selma, which I have been re-reading lately myself. And I have an extra copy of the book on Viola Liuzzo that can be shared.

While we're on the subject of people whose very lives are in danger in America... I took a break to think of  
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**Calendar - March**

- 1 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Sharon Pedersen ~ 11:00 am
- 1 Sunday The Church Buddies "Reveal Party" Pizza & Movie Night ~ 5:00 pm
- 1 Sunday Choir Rehearsal ~ 10:15-10:45
- 4 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee @ JDL ~ 5:15 pm
- 4 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
- 6 Friday Talent Show ~ 7:00 pm
- 8 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~ 11:00 am
- 8 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 10 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 12 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 1:00 pm
- 12 Thurs. JXN Comm. Forum "Voting Rights from Selma to Today" @ Library Carnegie ~ 6:30 pm
- 15 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~ 11:00 am
- 17 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- 19 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
- 22 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~ 11:00 am
- 22 Sunday Choir Performing during the Service
- 22 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- 29 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Jon Hart ~ 11:00 am

**Sunday Services at 11:00 am ~ Theme: Resilience**

**Mar 1 - "RE Sunday" – Lay Leader: Sharon Pedersen**

**Mar 8 - "Selma Sunday I: From Selma and Jimmie Lee Jackson to today" – Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister** The death of Jimmie Lee Jackson at the hands of law enforcement was a pivotal point in the history of Civil Rights. Today, with the deaths of black men at the hands of law enforcement, are we on the cusp of a new Civil Rights movement? How has the context changed? What is the response of liberal religious groups like ours? Come and examine the questions with us.

**Mar 15 - "Selma Sunday II: James Reeb and Why Selma Matters" – Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister** Why does Selma matter? Selma had a profound impact on our Unitarian Universalist movement from the ministers who went there to the UUA board itself. Come hear about the impact of Selma on Unitarian Universalism.

**Mar 22 - "Selma Sunday III: Viola Liuzzo and Her Legacy" – Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister** Viola Liuzzo was a Michigan woman who was killed in Selma fifty years ago. This service will focus on her seldom-told story and her legacy.

**Mar 29 - "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.

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

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how to transition subjects in this article, and opened Facebook, and there in my feed was the story of the death of yet another transgender person – the sixth who has been killed *this year*. 22-year-old Bri Golec was stabbed to death recently, allegedly by her father, in Akron Ohio. Our church has been a leader in LGBT rights in our community, and so it's with great excitement that I announce we're going to be hosting a special transgender photo display in our social hall, tentatively scheduled for April. The board has approved the display, and I've been working with the organization that owns the travelling display, which was at the UU church in Southfield earlier this year and is currently on display at the UU church in Flint. See page \_\_\_ for more description of the display.

Between March and April, our church will have made some real stands for justice in our community!

Namaste,

**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).

### **Thursday, March 12**

Our JXN Community Forum will be on the **SECOND** Thursday this month, March 12, at 6:30pm at the Carnegie Branch of the Jackson District Library. This month's topic: Voting Rights from Selma to Today. Our guest sponsors for the forum this month include the Jackson Area Civil Rights Awareness Association and the Jackson Branch of the NAACP. The forum will feature Dr. Jerome Reide, Region III Field Director, NAACP, who will be addressing the audience regarding recent attempt to curtail voting rights in the U.S.

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