



2015 ~ April

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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Minister's Column

I feel like this spring of 2015 has been shaping up to be a really special season. In March, our talent show, organized by Elissa Alden, was a huge success and great fun. The month-long theme on the 50th anniversary of Selma had some really special moments with the special display on Viola Liuzzo thanks to Rose Mary Lemming, and the tribute for Viola Liuzzo created by Representative Earl Poleski. I felt like we created an experience, thanks to many team members, that was the next best thing to being down in Selma for the 50th anniversary itself.

This month we have two big events that I'm also really excited about. The first one at the beginning of the month is our spring break science camp. Thanks to some grant-funded programs of the Jackson District Library and a lot of hard work by the Religious Education committee, we'll be holding two half-days of science camp during spring break. (See pages 2 and 4 for details.) We still need some volunteers to help be additional adults in the room, so see Sharon if you're available to help out.

The second thing I'm really excited about is the Pioneering Voices photo display (see page 3 for details). This is a ground-breaking display that can really raise the awareness of transgender issues in our community. I'm working to get the word out to LGBT student and community groups, but if you know a group that would like to have a special time at the church to view the exhibit, please contact me to schedule it.

Lastly, take a look at the information on our Regional Assembly. It's not too far away, and it's not too late to register! I would love to have a couple of members there with me! There will also be portions you can view online, so if you can't be there in person, you can still mark your calendars and see the best parts from home.

One more thing – the work we've started in the community of raising awareness of racism isn't done yet. I'm going to be getting a few handfuls of "Black Lives Matter" buttons, courtesy of Rev. Gail Geisenhainer of the Ann Arbor UU church. Members of the Ann Arbor congregation have been wearing them and they've been an opening for some really powerful conversations, I'm guessing. If you would like to have a button, see me. It's a great way to start conversations, show your commitment, and keep the issue in front of you – literally.

Namaste,

Cindy

The **Annual Meeting** of the Congregation will be Right After the Service on **Sunday, May 31**. Please plan on attending this short meeting. Your Vote Matters. **Submitted by: the Church Board** ~ 1 ~

Religious Education Report

so that organizers can plan for materials. Attendance is limited to 30 children plus nursery schoolers.

Take a **peep** at Science! Spring Break STEM Camp at the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

Grades 3-7

Wed. April 1

1:00-2:00 – Robotics
2:00-3:00 – Germs
~snack break~
3:00-4:45 – Movie: Big Hero 6

Thurs. April 2

1:00-2:00 – Fossils
2:00-3:00 – Magnets
~snack break~
3:00-4:45 – Movie: Mr. Peabody & Sherman

Simultaneous Program for PK-2nd Grade.

Nursery Care Available.

Cost: \$5 per day for grades 3-7; \$2 per day for grade 2 and under; Scout "Fun" patches: \$2 additional

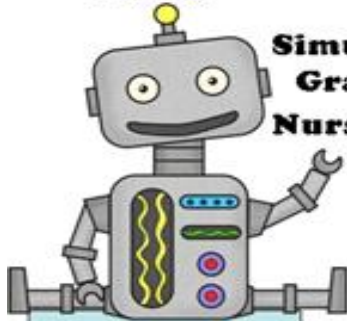
Registration Required; Limit: 15 for grades 3-7; 10 for PK-2



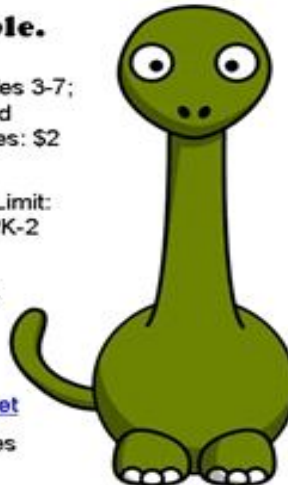
Location:
2231 Jefferson Rd.
Clarklake, MI
www.libertyuu.org

To Register: e-mail
sspedersen@sbcglobal.net

Children with food allergies should pack a snack.



STEM Programs presented by:



The highlight of our March activities was of course RE Sunday and our Church Buddies month "reveal party," both on March 1. Thanks to all who made pizzas or brought other food. I didn't realize a movie about Legos could be so HIGH ENERGY! I loved the talent show in March, too! And the youth's curriculum has led to very stimulating discussions—even worthy of some additional intergenerational services, I'd venture!

In April we'll channel some of our enthusiasm for young people's learning into a Spring Break science day camp, from 1:00 to 5:00pm on **April 1 & 2**. Called "Take a PEEP at Science," the program is aimed at preschoolers through 7th graders, and will be held at UUCEL in conjunction with the Brooklyn Branch, Jackson District Library. It's important to pre-register for this event by emailing sspedersen@sbcglobal.net or calling 517-740-2629

Younger children will enjoy similar programs, and will join the older kids for the movies. Snacks will be provided; please provide a snack for your children if they have allergies. Parents are welcome to stay with their children, or register and drop them off/pick them up. Nursery care is available for infants through age three with participating parents and family members. A nominal fee of \$5 per student for third through eighth graders and \$2 per student for preschoolers through 2nd graders will pay for materials, though scholarships are available for low income families. This is a program provided by the library, and is not faith-based.

"Unitarians have always believed in the scientific method when trying to answer questions about the universe and our place in it. One of our principles is 'a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.'" said Rev. Landrum. "We're excited to be providing a space for science and technology during spring break."

April showers (but hopefully not too many of them) will bring May flowers. And also with May comes the church auction, and to accompany

that, the children's activities — we open the nursery for kids to "bid" on small gift items to take home, and to watch one or more fun movies, usually animated. This year's auction is **May 8**.

Soon many of you will be approached by the RE Committee to see if you can help us with religious education next school year, starting as early as August. As all things must change, so must we cultivate a dynamic set of volunteers (some new, some ongoing) who can help deliver our mission of acquainting children with diverse themes around religion and spirituality, and hopefully, interest the kids in life-long UUism! Please consider strongly the call when you are asked.

Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen

Notes from the Board

The Board met with the specific goal of preliminary budget planning. Various requests were considered from each of our committees. The final budget will be presented at our Annual Meeting (May 31 right after the service) We have lots of fun events coming up including our Annual Auction, to be held May 8. See you there!

Gratia

Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President

Pioneering Voices: Portraits of Transgender People



Join us for our Photo Exhibit Opening, Saturday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.! Please see the sign-up sheet in the social hall if you can help by being a reader or bringing appetizers.

Our church is hosting a special photo display to be housed in our Social Hall in April, featuring photos of transgender individuals and families. The display is titled “**Pioneering Voices: Portraits of Transgender People**” and is a project of the organization Family Diversity Projects. Pioneering Voices is a museum-quality traveling exhibit including 15 photographs and accompanying text panels of interviews with people of all ages who are transgender and some of their partners and children. Through first-person accounts and positive images, this exhibit seeks to challenge damaging myths and stereotypes about transgender people and to educate people about this marginalized, and often invisible group of people. Pioneering Voices celebrates a range of views, opinions, and experiences that are unique and empowering to transgender people everywhere. At the most basic level, Pioneering Voices combats transphobia by breaking silence and making the invisible visible. By encouraging people of all ages to affirm and appreciate diversity, this traveling exhibit contributes to the process of dismantling the destructive power of prejudice and intolerance.



’s from the Piano Bench

Our Community choir will meet and practice on **April 12** and practice and perform on **April 19** this month. We would love to have you sing with us! Come on down!

Tom

Submitted by: Tom Pepper



Minister’s Schedule

Rev. Cindy will be out of town for the Regional Assembly in Naperville, IL and preceding minister’s meeting from April 15-19. In case of emergency, please call the board president or caring committee chair, and call her directly on her cell phone at 517-879-9565. Rev. Cindy will also be out of town April 25-27 when she will be in New York for the installation of Rev. Joe Cleveland, where she is giving the “Charge to the Minister.” For that trip she will also be reachable by cell phone.

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Helpers needed Please

Take a Peep at Science Spring Break STEM Camp ~ Will be held on **April 1 and April 2**, from 1:00 pm - 4:45 pm at the church. Volunteers are needed to help by being additional adults in the room, so please see Sharon if you're available to help out. Think about it – it will be fun and you just need to be there to see the children grow with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). **Submitted by: Sharon Pedersen**

ANNUAL AUCTION ~ MAY 8th

It's Auction Time: Friday, May 8 with dinner at 5:30 pm, and the auction will be starting after that. It is right around the calendar corner – our biggest fundraiser of the year! So gather your donations and let Carole Hartsuff, Deb Hartsuff, Elissa Alden, or Ann Green know what you'll be contributing. One-of-a-kind items, home-made and hand-made items, baked goods, events and experiences, gift cards, jewelry, art work, plantings, offers to help with housework or yard work – all are desirable and welcomed. We will give updates at church and many of you will probably get a call from a committee member. There will be a silent auction and the youth will participate in their own mini auction. Put your thinking cap on for your contribution ideas and mark your calendar for what is always a fun event on **Friday, May 8th**. Editor's note: the date of the auction has been changed from last printing of the 16th of May to **May 8th**.

Submitted by: the Auction Committee

Social Hour Teams

There is a page of Social Hour Team Leaders and Dates posted on the corkboard in the Kitchen as a reminder of when your next turn will be. Please note your upcoming dates. And great big thanks to Rev. Cindy for seeing this idea from another church and it seems to be working for us.

Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

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, April 9 ~ 6:30 pm

JXN Community Forum: Consumer Privacy

Join us at the Carnegie Library for a conversation on the growing concern for consumer privacy and protection in the ever-growing electronic age. John Shea of the ACLU will be speaking on issues of consumer privacy, including police surveillance systems and government tracking of individuals through cell phones on **Thursday, April 9** at 6:30 p.m. in the Carnegie Library's auditorium.

Submitted by: Outreach Committee

New Playground Fundraiser News

Please mark **April 15th** in your calendar for a celebration at In Good Company restaurant for our New Playground Fundraiser from 4:00 pm to closing. We will get 15% of your total bill back to the church towards our new playground. Come have fun and make sure to order dessert!

---Speaking of the playground, we are ready to move ahead with an old fashioned "playground" raising. Take a look at the plans in the social hall. Use your skills to adopt a project. We have plans for a cement tunnel, outdoor chalk board, music station, weaving station, "Toad" stool (made out of the older wooden salad bowls and more. Talk to Jackie Johnson (See the Supplement Page contact information). Let's make this a church family project.

Submitted by: Jackie Johnson



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.

Spiritual Exercises on Revelation:

Option A: Your Book of Revelation - Religions across all time and places have located revelation in a book. Unitarian Universalists are famous for saying we don't have 'one' book but many. What book has recently come to you as a revelation? Or what book do you hold on to because it contained a revelation you don't want to forget? Write a journal entry telling the story of what it revealed that "opened your eyes."

Option B: Sharing Your Revelation - Look back over your own life and notice when you have suddenly become privy to some kind of truth or illumination that changed the direction of your life? Has there been a pattern of similar contexts? Have you been able to share with others the illumination that you received? How did you keep it fresh when others remained unaware of your experience or transformation? Did you try to share this revelation? Why or why not? If so, were you successful? Share with a friend or loved one your story of looking back.

Option C: Risk The Revelation of Your Horoscope - Many of us don't take them seriously. But what if you took them seriously for just one week? Try it this month! Download an app or pick up the paper every morning for a week. Journal about how it altered your days!

Option D: Keep Your Eyes Out For The Face of God - Our Christian friends and many Christian UUs see God reflected in the life and person of Jesus. Many of us believe God and the Divine shows up in the face and person of others as well. This month put that lens on as you look around. Journal about the name and story of one person through whom the divine was revealed this month.

Caring Committee

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**

District & Denominational Meetings and Events

The New Era of Unitarian Universalism

Regional Assembly 2015

April 17-19

KEYNOTES:

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

An entire weekend full of events
for everyone!

"The 'New' in the New Era of Unitarian Universalism."

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

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

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, **April 16** 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

~~ Upcoming Fund Raisers ~~

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

Annual Auction ~ Friday, May 8

Submitted by : The Church Board

Greater Irish Hills Historic Churches Driving Tour – Travel and Enjoy

I would like to share with you the information on a flyer I saw about the Historic Church Tours with 7 Historic Church on the listing located in Brooklyn, Onsted and Clarklake areas ~ Our Church is 2nd on their list, of the 5 **“Other Historic Churches in the Area”** It is Very Cool that the Brooklyn-Irish Hills Chamber of Commerce included us on their Tour. The card flyer is on the bulletin board in the social hall if you would like to see it.

Submitted by: Gretchen Marshall

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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 MAY ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:

SUNDAY, APRIL 19. ~~~~~ 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, Jackie Johnson, 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



April

- 1 Wed. Take a Peep at Science Spring Break STEM Camp ~ 1:00 pm - 4:45 pm
- 1 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee @ JDL ~ 5:15 pm
- 1 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
- 2 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 2 Thurs. Take a Peep at Science Spring Break STEM Camp ~ 1:00 pm - 4:45 pm
- 5 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~ 11:00 am
- 5 Sunday Easter Egg Hunt ~ After the Service
- 9 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 1:00 pm
- 9 Thurs. JXN Comm. Forum "**Consumer Privacy**" @ Library Carnegie ~ 6:30 pm
- 12 Sunday Choir Rehearsal ~ 10:15 am -10:45 am
- 12 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Jon Hart ~ 11:00 am
- 12 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 14 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 16 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
- 17-19 UU Regional Assembly ~ Marriott Hotel in Naperville, IL
- 19 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister ~11:00 am
- 19 Sunday Choir Performing during the Service
- 19 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- 21 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- 26 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Jon Hart ~ 11:00 am

Upcoming Events

- May 8 Annual Dinner and Auction ~ 5:30 pm
- May 31 Annual Meeting ~ Right After the Service

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Greeter	R.E. Greeter	Nursery	Ushers	Social Host	R.E. K-5 IG	R.E. Monitor
Apr 5	Alyce O	Sharon P	Vicki H Kathy H	Gary T	Peg B & Teal Team	IG	Sharon P
Apr 12	Grace M	Sharon P	Vicki H George H	Gary T	Donna H & Magenta Team	Cecily S Sharon P	Sharon P
Apr 19	Joan B	Sharon P	Vicki H Donna H	Gary T	Kerry H & Coral Team	Kerry/Jon Rob/Nancy	Sharon P
Apr 26	Betty G	Sharon P	Vicki H Joan B	Gary T	Carole H & Yellow Team	Gretchen M Alyce O	Sharon P

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

April Worship Theme: Revelation

Apr 5 - “Easter Sunday: Revelations”

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Join us for Easter Sunday with egg hunt following the service. Rev. Cindy will talk about rolling away the stone for new beginnings and new revelations in our lives.

Apr 12 - “Jazz into Earth Day”

– Lay Leader: Jon Hart

Join lay leader Jon Hart for a celebration of Earth Day and Jazz Month as the worship committee presents a service with Gary Snyder poems read by random members of the congregation, a brief homily by Jon Hart, and jazz performed by church pianist Tom Pepper and special guest musician Dave LaRowe. This service promises to be meditative, upbeat, and fun.

Apr 19 - “Life Speaking! Universe Unfolding!”

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister

The UCC tradition has a slogan “God is still speaking.” In the UU faith we say, “Revelation is not sealed.” This service will explore the ways the universe is still unfolding.

Apr 26 - “Zens with a Touch of Jazz”

– Lay Leader: Jon Hart

Join lay leader Jon Hart for a service celebrating the zen tone of Miles Davis’s Kind of Blue. Live band the Trent Harris trio will play three key songs from the album and Jon Hart will discuss creativity and calmness through Davis’s music. A celebration of creativity and Jazz month.

M 4

