



2016 ~ August

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

This month we're doing something I've never done in my time here at East Liberty – we're joining together with other churches for worship! On August 14th we'll be worshipping in the park along with the two other churches in our area that are welcoming and affirming of LGBT members. This summer began with a brutal shooting of LGBT people in the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. Later in June, the Unitarian Universalist Association was picketed by the Westboro Baptist Church for our welcoming stance. In July I travelled to North Carolina for summer camp, a state that has made news this year for its regressive bathroom policies for transgender people. While a year ago we were celebrating marriage equality, this summer has shown us that the work is not done. While there's much work to be done, however, this service will be a celebratory service full of love and music. Make sure to note the location and the time, since it'll start earlier than our usual services.

I hope you've had a good summer. As I said, I've just returned from a week of UU camp in North Carolina. While I was there I got to meet with all three of the candidates for UUA president: Alison Miller, Susan Frederick-Gray, and Jeanne Pupke. All three are exciting, dynamic ministers with a great vision for our future. They each led a worship service, and there was a candidate's forum with the three of them, as well. While at camp I did arts and crafts, games, and singing, and it was refreshing for my soul. And I worked in the "artisan's bazaar" selling my Zentangle drawings and the beautiful works of other UU artists. Most importantly, I made new friends and connected with old friends. I hope you've found a way to refresh over the summer as well and connect with important people in your lives.

Namaste,

Rev. Cindy

Notes from the Board

The Board met July 6th, and welcomed new member Tom Pepper. We'd like to thank outgoing member Ann Green for all her hard work. The Board is very excited about the project to pave our parking area. Vic Marshall and Marion Shroyer presented a detailed plan for the paving and other improvements. The Board voted to approve funding this project, and welcomed news of several generous donations toward its completion. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday August 3, 6:30 p.m. at the church. Full minutes of this meeting will be available in the social hall.

Gratia

**Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President**

Minister's Schedule:

Rev. Cindy will
be away from
August 15 to
August 21.

~~ Upcoming Fund Raisers ~~

Annual Attic Sale ~ Sept 15, 16 and 17

Submitted by : The Church Board

Church Parking Lot to be Paved

The Church Board has authorized the Building Committee to proceed with soliciting donations, finalizing plans and continuing the process to get our gravel drives and parking areas paved with asphalt this year. Approximately 25 paved parking spaces will be created including two accessible spots near the rear entrance. All church concrete steps (except front steps) and walkways will also be replaced, including a ramped entrance to the School House.

Last winter, Marion Shroyer and Dolores Karr had a dangerous time navigating our icy parking lot. Since that time, Marion has been a driving force in moving the project forward. The paving is foremost a safety issue, since our drives and parking become very dangerous and difficult to clear in icy weather. But it will also mean that we will not need to rake and shovel gravel out of the grass in the spring. Asphalt will be more manageable to keep ice free during the winter.

The Building Committee has been working with R. W. Mercer Construction Co. (Kirk Mercer) who had the best bid on developing this project. Mr. Mercer emphasized that he is ONLY doing this project, and with no General Contractor's fees because of his appreciation and longtime friendship with Dorothy Kerr. Dorothy first contacted Mr. Mercer about advice for the project last spring.

The Building Committee has received financial commitments to cover a major portion of the \$36,000 estimated cost. Three long time and "mature" church members have generously donated substantial contributions that insured start of the project. Carole Hartsuff offered \$5,000 more than a year ago and Grace Mulnix (\$10,000) joined with Marion Shroyer (\$10,000) to begin initial funding of the project.

Since that time, we have received several more generous donations from church members for the paving. We welcome any additional donations to insure the completion and to reduce the draw-down of the church's savings account. If you would like to be a part of this important addition to our church, please contact Vic Marshall or Marion Shroyer. Please see the Supplement Page for their contact information. **Submitted by: Marion Shroyer**

Love is **Love** is **Love**

First Congregational
Church of Jackson

St. John's United
Church of Christ

Universalist Unitarian
Church of East Liberty

Interfaith Worship Service

**Celebrating the Call of Our Faiths to
Welcome & Affirm All People**



**Sunday, August 14, 2016
10:30 a.m.**

Cascades Park Picnic Shelter
(near Cascades Manor House)

Potluck Picnic to Follow

Please bring lawn chairs or blankets and a passing dish.

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Gramma's Attic Sale

The Annual Gramma's Attic Sale and Baked Goods for Sale will be next month and we are NOW looking for your

GOOD, CLEAN AND SELLABLE ITEMS.

It will be held on ~**Thursday, September 15**
~**Friday, September 16 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm** ~**Saturday, Sept. 17 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon**. Gratia Karmes will be the chair of this large fundraiser and she's looking for more helpers. If you are able to help sort, mark work the days of the sale and/or bake some goodies, please let Gratia know as soon as possible as plans are underway. (Please see the Supplement Page for her contact information). YOU CAN BRING YOUR ITEMS TO THE SCHOOLHOUSE AND THE SHED NEXT TO IT, NOW! The Gramma's Attic Sale is our name for a large yard sale fundraiser held inside and outside the schoolhouse next to the church and also inside the social hall. Save the dates and clean your closets and or attics now. Thanks

Submitted by: Gratia Karmes



Annual Church Picnic

The annual church picnic as in past years is always the first Sunday of August, so this year it would be **August 7** and has been in a few different locations in the past few years. We are bringing it back to the church this year. Please bring a passing dish and your plate/silverware or wash the church's. If the weather is good you can eat outside and we will set up the food inside after the service. Bring a yard game if you like and the new playground is there for the little ones.

Submitted by: the 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 W. 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...

JXN Community Forum is taking the month of August off. In September we will be co-sponsoring, along with the Jackson League of Women Voters, two Forums. The first one is on **September 15**: with the topic about "Local offices, including contested County Commission seats, Prosecutor and Treasurer." Then on **September 29**: it will be the "Candidate forum for 7th Congressional Seat, State House 64th and 65th seats".

Submitted by: Outreach Committee

~Visitor Tips for Everyone~~

Here are some ways to make people feel welcome that everyone can follow:

- Introduce yourself and get to know a visitor by name.
- Invite a visitor to social hour.
- Wear a nametag.
- Sit toward the middle of the pew or nearer to the front of the church so visitors can be more anonymous if they choose.
- Watch for people who may be alone during social hour and ask them about the sermon or their faith journey.

Thank you!

**Lead Poisoning Presentation
a Requirement of
Spring Arbor University
for Amy's RN to BSN Degree**

Steve and Peg Beison's daughter, Amy Beison-Schoening would like to invite you to a presentation of a discussion on Lead Poisoning on **Sunday, August 28**. This will be after the social hour and starting approximately 12:30 pm in the social hall. Amy is entering the final semester at Spring Arbor University's degree completion program, RN to BSN. They require an informal research project that coincides with the final senior presentation, which they consider the capstone presentation. Upon completion of this presentation Amy will be able to move forward with working on the final "research" paper and prepare a presentation to present to the Director of Nursing and colleagues. With completion and passing of the final presentation and paper, Amy will have successfully earned a BSN degree. So please come if you can and hear this informative presentation that will last about 20 minutes and will be helping Amy. It will include causes, symptoms, complications and methods to protect against lead poisoning. A small amount of data will be given regarding the lead levels of children living in the city of Jackson. Included with the presentation will be a short pre and post survey for anyone over 18 who attend to fill out. Thank you in advance.

Submitted by: Amy Beison-Schoening

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 18** from 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 Supplement Page for more contact information.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

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 as chair.

Submitted by: Jane Volk

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.



Sabbatical Notice

The Board has approved a plan for Rev. Cindy to take a three month sabbatical beginning after Christmas 2016 or starting in January 2017, which will be taken along with two or three additional weeks of vacation and study leave. While she is eligible for one month per year of service up to six months, this is a sabbatical planned to be shorter than her previous sabbatical of five months in 2010-2011, with the thought that trying shorter but more-frequent sabbaticals may prove to be a better model for our church. Vic Marshall, Joan Bernstein and Kathy Haynes have agreed to serve on a sabbatical committee. They will plan for how to best handle Cindy's absence.

\$ - \$

Paper copy payment due for— “The Bellnote”

It’s that time of year again, folks. – This is a friendly reminder to the 29 members and friends who receive the paper copy of The Bellnote. **Only 11** of you have paid. **15 more need to contact me ASAP.** 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. Please give to Kathy Haynes or mail to her (See Supplement Page for more 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.**

Submitted by: the Editors

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 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 21. ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:
 UUCEL_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO

KATHY OR VICKI, THANK YOU –

WE WANT TO THANK; REV. CINDY LANDRUM, NENA OBITS, JANE VOLK, GRATIA KARMES 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 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
- 4 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 7 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 7 Sunday Church Picnic ~ After the Service
- 9 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 14 Sunday Service is at Cascades Park Picnic Shelter today ~ 10:30 am
- 14 Sunday Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
- 16 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ Meets at Members' Homes in the Evening
- ?? Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 2:00 pm- The date will get changed
- 18 Thurs. Personal Care Ministry ~ @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
- 21 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Lay Leader: Chris Bernstein ~ 11:00 am
- 21 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 28 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
- ?? Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee @ JDL ~ 1:00 pm

Upcoming Events

- Attic Sale ~ Sept 15 ~ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Attic Sale ~ Sept 16 ~ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Attic Sale ~ Sept 17 ~ 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Weekly Volunteer Schedule

Sunday	Greeter	Nursery	Ushers	Social Host	R.E. K-5	R.E. Youth
Aug 7	Alyce O	Vicki H & Kathy H	Gary & ___	Donna H & Team #1/ Potluck Dinner		IG
Aug 14	Grace M	Vicki H & Gratia K	Gary & ___	Sue R @ Park Team #6		IG
Aug 21	Joan B	Vicki H & Joan B	Gary & ___	Joan B & Team #7		IG
Aug 28	Betty G	Vicki H & Nena O	Gary & ___	Nancy S & Team #8		IG

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

Aug 7 - "Water Communion"

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Bring waters from your summer or year's travels as we celebrate the annual gathering of the waters of life.

Aug 14 - "Love Is Love Is Love"

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum Rev. Kerry Taylor-Snyder & Rev. Patti Kenney

Join us for a special worship service in the park at 10:30 at Cascades Park Picnic Shelter as our three congregations, UUCEL and St. Johns UCC and First Congregational UCC, come together to celebrate the call of our faiths to welcome and affirm all people..

Aug 21 - "EDS"

– Lay Leader: Chris Bernstein

This is Chris's story about her genetic condition Ehlers Danlos Syndrome (pronounced AY-lerz DAN-lowz) also known as EDS. Many of you have wondered about her absence from church and why she needs all these surgeries. Chris will share with us her struggles, accomplishments plus why she wears all her crazy braces.

Aug 28 - "Extending Empathy & Blessing the Backpacks"

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Jeremy Rifkin says, "Empathy is the opposite of utopia." In this dystopic and divided world, how do we cultivate empathy? How do we extend our empathy? This service will include a blessing of the backpacks as our children return to school.

Where people care about each other and care about the world.

