



2017 ~ April

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

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GRACE MULNIX



Minister's Column

Life never goes exactly as planned. The good news was that I had planned very little for my sabbatical period in order to truly refresh myself. And I did indeed find time to relax, refresh, and renew. The negative part of sabbatical was twofold: (1) I spent about half of it sick from colds and the flu, and (2) I was away from all of you while some really amazing things were happening in our church and community! But it was good to have the time to focus on family transition; since it happened that during the sabbatical our family size shrank back down to the three we were before. This was a good and healthy transition, but I'm prohibited from saying much more in a public forum like this.

One of my goals of sabbatical was to spend some time taking some courses on nonprofit management. Seminary teaches many things – theology, pastoral care, Bible, world religions, church and denominational history, preach – but my seminary experience gave short shrift to the fundamentals of nonprofit management. I had planned to take eight six-hour classes (online), and at this point I've completed five and a half of them: Strategic Management, Resource Development, Board Governance, Social Entrepreneurship, Volunteer Management, and I'm halfway through the class on Marketing. Remaining are Mission-Based Management and Strategic Alliances. You don't learn everything about a subject in a six-hour course, but I am finding some useful tips and techniques in these areas.

Speaking of Strategic Alliances, I believe they're the way of the future. We're doing good work already partnering with Arbor Grove Congregational on youth groups and working with numerous other congregations on social justice and mission work. But there's lots more that can be done. To learn more about this concept, I encourage you to come to this year's Regional Assembly! The RA is in the Chicago area at the end of April – more information is on page 2.

As good as it was to have time for renewal; I'm very much looking forward to returning to church work. There is so much happening in our community right now, and I look forward to talking with you about ideas and priorities.

Peace

Rev. Cindy

Notes from the Board

No report this month as the meeting was canceled due to the power outage. Stay tuned for more info next month and please add to your calendar the Annual Auction to be held on **Saturday, May 6** and the Annual Congregational Meeting after the service on the next day of **May 7th**.

Gratia

**Submitted by: Gratia Karmes
Board President**



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.

Notes from Religious Education

Our kids learned about Susan B. Anthony, Mardi Gras and took a UU Pilgrimage this month. We have steady attendance and the kids are adding life to our church.

Church Buddies starts **April 9 – 30** with a light breakfast on the 30th before the service starting at 9:30. Please let Vicki Haynes know if you want to be matched. Our kids love this 4 week long activity. Adults get a kick out of it too! Easter is **April 16** please join us after the service for our Easter Egg Hunt. The April RE topics include: —"Your own celebration", Passover, Earth Day, Buddha's Birthday. RE Wish List Items: Gift cards to: Meijers, Michael's/JoAnn's Fabrics, Gordon's Food Service

Next meeting is 4/11/17 Carnegie Library 6:30pm

Submitted by: The RE Committee

Minister's Schedule

Rev. Cindy concludes her sabbatical with a week of vacation through April 8th, and returns to a regular schedule on Sunday, April 9th.

Regional Assembly



Always wanted to attend the UU General Assembly but never had the time or money? The next best thing is Regional Assembly, which is shorter, closer and cheaper, but still with lots to experience. This year's theme is "Finding Our Partners: Faith in Action" and addresses how we need to make interfaith partners to do the work of justice. Our Regional Assembly is in the Chicago area this year from **April 28-30th**. Most of the events will be on Saturday, April 29th, but there will be a Friday night forum with the UUA Presidential candidates. Registration is \$165 for adults, and \$100 for youth and children. More information can be found at www.midamericauua.org.

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 20** 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 her contact information. ~~ Here is how you can help, by writing a Check made out to Westminster Presbyterian Church, with the words "For Personal Care" written on the memo line. This can be mailed to Westminster Presbyterian Church 2301 Ridgeway Road, Jackson, MI 49203, or handed to Nena Obits. Please note that there are a few other churches involved in the Personal Care Ministry and this church handles the money part.

Submitted by: Nena Obits

Pastoral Care Coverage and Caring Comm.

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**

Children are a Blessing, & We Welcome Them! To the Parents of Young Children, May We Suggest: Relax! The "wiggle" in young children is a natural part of their development; don't feel like you have to suppress it in this church. All are welcome! Please sit where you'll be most comfortable. In the front it is easier for little ones to see what's going on. The back is convenient if you think you may need to step out with your child, or for those arriving after the service has begun. Sitting near the aisle is easier for children who will be leaving for religious education/Sunday school. Quietly explain the parts of the church service and actions of the minister, ushers, choir, piano player, etc. (Let the minister know if any questions!) Sing the hymns and participate in responsive readings and other parts of the service so that your children learn how things work by example. If you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to do so; come back when you can! Remember that the way we welcome children to our church directly affects the way that they respond to the church, to spirituality, religion and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship. Please let your child use the reverse side of this card (found in the pews holders) to draw and doodle. *On most Sundays, children are "sung out" to the nursery or classes about 15 minutes after announcements are completed. Children who do not wish to attend class/nursery are welcome to stay with you. Breastfeeding is also welcome.*

To the Members of our Church, May We Suggest: The presence of children is a gift to the church, and a reminder that the church is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to parents. Leave seats in the back open for any latecomers and parents with little ones. Remember that the way we welcome children to our church directly affects the way that they respond to the church, to spirituality, religion and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship. **Kids:** Please feel free to draw or write on the back! (found in the pews holders)

Meetings and Events

U.U. Church of East Liberty

Auction

We are going to have the Annual Fundraising Auction on **Saturday May 6**, rather than on Friday the 5th that was first noted. There will be a light supper at 5:00 pm with actual bidding beginning at 6:00 pm upstairs in the sanctuary. Silent auction items may be brought on 1 week (April 30) before the main auction. We will be asking for items to be donated in early April so be thinking what you would like to donate. The items that get the most bids (\$\$) are parties, dinner get togethers, baked goods, homemade food items, services, flowers and gift cards. But be creative and have fun thinking about interesting items!

Save the date: Saturday May 6!!

Submitted by: Elissa Alden

The Annual Meeting
will take place
after the service on
May 7th.

Please plan to attend.
Your voice and vote matter,
Thank you.

Committee Activities Needed

Chairpersons of the following committees: Caring Committee, Building Committee, Ministry Committee, Worship Committee, Forum Committee, Membership Committee, Religious Education Committee and the Nominating Committee. Please submit a short summary of your committee's activities for the 2016-2017 year for inclusion in the annual meeting report. Papers are needed by **April 23, 2017**

**Submitted by: Debbie Hartsuff,
Board Secretary**

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...

World War I & America: America's Place in the World

April 20th, the 3rd Thursday

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the United States entry in World War I, the JXN Community Forum will host a panel discussion on Woodrow Wilson and the continuing impact of his policies in foreign affairs and military engagements. "Woodrow Wilson was one of the most influential Presidents and thinkers in American history. Besides his several legislative achievements at home. Wilson both inspired and frustrated Americans with his vision of the United States as a global power. Our roundtable will consider the political, economic and religious roots of Wilson's new world order, its reception and impact in his time, and its continuing meaning for today." Prof. Mark Edwards and Prof. Mark Correll from Spring Arbor University will be joined by SAU students in the discussion.

This forum is co-sponsored by Ella Sharp Museum, Spring Arbor University, Jackson College Veteran Resource Center, League of Women Voters and UUCEL

Submitted by: Outreach Committee

~Upcoming Fund Raisers ~

Annual Auction ~ May 6 ~ 6:00pm

From: The Board

Worship News

Three guest ministers have provided their sermons if you would like to see/hear/read them again: The Rev. Kathryn Bert, "Change and Difference" – email or paper copy available. The Rev. Daniel Kidder-McQuown, "Was MLK a Unitarian?" – paper copy available. The Rev. Colleen Squires, "Tell Me Where It Hurts" – video available at www.allsoulscommunity.org/ then click on "sermon" and select 08 28 16.

Members of the Worship Committee are in the process of moving photographs from the sanctuary and foyer to the social hall for a more complete and coherent display of our history.

Submitted by: The Worship Committee

Dear Friends,

The Jackson Personal Care Ministry will be holding a fundraiser at Finley's on **Tuesday, April 25**. This is a request to please help us make this a success by getting the word out to your congregation! I think you are aware of how this works, but just this quick reminder. We will receive 10% of Finley's business for the evening, **between 5 pm and 10 pm**. To qualify we need to show that we've brought 30 people into the restaurant, but that does not mean we need to have 30 coupons turned in (see to the right - cut it out and take with you). One coupon per table is enough, and showing that to the server also works. These fundraisers have helped immensely in supporting the JPCM. Nancy Connell, 962-5087. **Submitted by: Nena Obits**

Photo Directory Book

Lights, Camera, and Action. . . . As you know we are making our own U.U.C.E.L. Photo Directory Books, full of your photos, names and addresses **(if any of your information has changed and not already given to Kathy please do so ASAP)** of members and church friends that would like to be a part of this new project. We have **around 60 photos** as of March 19 with one more planned photo shoot day on March 26, with all being taken by Rob Gaecke. He is doing a wonderful job with his camera, please thank him. Rev. Cindy and family will have their photos taken in April along with anyone else that has not already done so; this date will be announced soon. With Cindy's knowledge, she will make this all come together. Extra hands might be needed to assemble the directories together, we will keep you posted on this. We are hoping that this project will be done before the annual meeting May 7. At this time we are thinking they will be in black and white for suggested donation of around \$6.00 per book, or a color copy for about \$10.00 in printed book form and/or a file you can download. **Submitted by: Kathy Haynes and Rob Gaecke**



Sabbatical Update

A slide show of pictures will be shown before the service on April 9 for Rev. Cindy's return. There will be a potluck dinner after the service. The board has asked that this be a planned dinner, meaning that a sign-up sheet will be posted for you to write down what you plan to bring. A special cake in Cindy's honor will be ordered for this meal.

Submitted by: The Sabbatical Comm.

Church Website
The Bellnote Newsletter
Church's facebook page
Forum facebook page

<http://www.libertyuu.org>
<http://www.libertyuu.org/newsletter.html>
<http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu>
<http://www.facebook.com/JXNCommunityForum>

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 May ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:

SUNDAY, April 23. ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: UUCEL_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM OR IN WRITING TO KATHY OR VICKI, THANK YOU —

WE WANT TO THANK; REV. CINDY LANDRUM,, SABBATICAL COMM., RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMM., WORSHIP COMM., NENA OBITS, EISSA ALDEN, JANE VOLK, GRATIA KARMES, OUTREACH COMM., CARING COMM. AND MEMBERSHIP COMM. FOR THEIR NEWS

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.



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

April's UUCEL Calendar

All events are at the church, unless otherwise noted



2 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ Lynne Loftis and Diana Agy ~ 11:00 am
5 Wed.	Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
6 Thurs.	AUUV Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
9 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
9 Sunday	Potluck Dinner after the Service
9 Sunday	Caring Committee Meeting ~ After the Service
11 Tue.	Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
11 Tue.	RE Meeting ~ 6:30 pm @ Carnegie Library
	Membership Meeting ~ Will meet as needed on Sunday's
13 Thurs.	Outreach Committee ~ Jackson District Library 2:30 pm
16 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
16 Sunday	Rental ~ Hartsuff Family Dinner ~ 1:00 pm
20 Thurs.	JXN Comm. Forum ~ "WW I & America: America's Place in the World" ~ 6:30 pm @ JDL
20 Thurs.	Personal Care Ministry ~ @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
23 Sunday	The Bellnote Newsletter ~ Submissions Due
23 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
30 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ Marge Duane ~ 11:00 am

A Sunday to be Announced of Date ~ Portraits being Taken for the New Directory ~ In Schoolhouse

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 6	Annual Fundraising Auction
Sunday, May 7	Annual Congregational Meeting ~ After the Services

Weekly Volunteer Schedule

Sunday, Apr 2 ~~~ Greeter, Alyce O ~~~ Nursery Helper, Kathy H ~~~ Usher, Gary T ~~~ Social Hour Host, Carole H & Team # 3 ~~~ R.E. K-12, Jon/Kerry H, Gratia K, Your Own Celebration ~~~ R.E. Youth, Youth stay in the Service

Sunday, Apr 9 ~~~ Greeter, Grace M ~~~ Nursery Helper, Jackie J ~~~ Usher, Gary T ~~~ Social Hour Host, Nena O & Team # 4 with a Potluck Dinner ~~~ R.E. K-12, Rob G/Nancy S, Donna H, Passover (4/10-18) ~~~ R.E. Youth, Elizabeth W, Lynn H, Poetry & Music on Faith & the Journey

Sunday, Apr 16 ~~~ Greeter, Joan B ~~~ Nursery Helper, Joan B ~~~ Usher, Gary T ~~~ Social Hour Host, Jane V & Team # 5 ~~~ R.E. K-12 Intergenerational ~~~ R.E. Youth, Intergenerational, *Peter M (Easter)*

Sunday, Apr 23 ~~~ Greeter, Betty G ~~~ Nursery Helper, Nena O ~~~ Usher, Gary T ~~~ Social Hour Host, Sue R & Team # 6 ~~~ R.E. K-12 ~~~ Peter M, Kristina M, Earth day (4-16) ~~~ R.E. Youth Gretchen M, Alyce O, Heeding the Call: the Call for Imagination

Sunday, Apr 30 ~~~ Greeter, Carole H ~~~ Nursery Helper, Open ~~~ Usher, Gary T ~~~ Social Hour Host, Joan B & Team # 7 ~~~ R.E. K-12 Janette M, Cecily S, Buddha's Birthday (5/3) ~~~ R.E. Youth Elizabeth & Lynn Poetry & Music on Identity & Diversity

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

Apr 2 - “Family Ancestors, Spiritual Ancestors” — Lynne Loftis and Diana Agy

Lynne, former Executive Director of Ella Sharp Museum, and Diana, Maher Endowed Chair for Regional History at Jackson College, share their findings about pioneers of Liberty Township that they and their students have been researching. These are the people who founded our church and whose descendants are members.

Apr 9 - “The Heart of Our Faith”

— **Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum** — Rev. Cindy returns from sabbatical with a service where we explore what she – and our congregation – have learned about who we are as minister and congregation, as Unitarian Universalists and as citizens in this place.

Apr 16 - “Winter to Spring Again”

— **Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**

The story of Easter is a story of life after death, a story of winter turning to spring. Join us on Easter Sunday as we connect the age-old story to our lives. And join us after the service for an Egg Hunt!

April 23 - “Remembrance & Resistance”

— **Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**

On the eve of Yom Hashoah, the Holocaust Memorial Day, our service will talk about acts of resistance to oppression from WWII to the present day.

Apr 30 - “This Church is Bigger Than Us: JXN Forum, Then and Now”

— **Marge Duane**

As UUCEL sponsorship of the JXN Forum draws to a close, reflections on history and meaning.

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

