

**Minister's Column in Brief**

Given how long it took before this winter seemed to get underway, I don't even need to hear if the groundhog saw his shadow to know the results. I think our winter is only beginning. And our board has discussed many winter-related proposals about the church budget, from moving all winter meetings off site to holding church downstairs in the winter or closing church in the coldest time periods. We haven't resorted to any of these, but the cold months bring increased fuel costs not only to our church building but to our church families, and this is going to be a tough winter, despite how warm it was in December and early January.

When we're stressed financially at church or at home, it can be hard to see beyond that stress. I've heard families say things like, "I'm just so busy that I feel like I don't have time for church now." Of course, I'm obviously biased, but I know when I'm busiest and most stressed, that's when I most need church, or something like it, in my life. When I'm stressed and have no time, that's when I need to take time for spiritual practice — meditation, singing, journaling, yoga, or whatever it may be. If you're finding yourself stressed and strapped this winter, come join us and sing or pray or laugh until your heart feels whole and free again.

With Peace and Love,  
**Cindy**

**Calendar**

- 1 Wed. Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at the church
- 2 Thurs. AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
- 2 Thurs. RE Meeting ~ 6:30 Pm
- 5 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Peg Beison Lay Leader ~ 11:00 am
- 8 Wed. Outreach/Forum Committee Meeting. ~ Downtown Library ~ 5:30 pm
- 9 Tue. Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
- 9 Thurs. Membership Meeting ~ 10:00 pm
- 12 Sunday Church Buddies through March 4th
- 12 Sunday ~~~~ Service -Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 16 Thurs. JXN Forums "Anti-Bullying Part 2" @ Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch ~6:30 pm
- 19 Sunday The Bellnote Newsletter Submissions Due
- 19 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- 19 Sunday Caring Committee ~ After the Service
- 21 Tue. Worship Comm. ~ 2:30 pm at the Jackson Coffee Company
- 26 Sunday ~~~~ Service ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum ~ 11:00 am
- March 2-3 Book Sale in the schoolhouse ~ 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
- March 4 Church Buddies Breakfast

**Sunday Services at 11:00 am**

Feb 5 - **"On Certainty and Uncertainty"**  
- Lay Leader, Peg Beison  
Peg will explore what neuroscience tells us about the way humans arrive at a feeling of certainty, and she will challenge us to see the value in uncertainty.

Feb 12 - **"Standing on the Side of Love"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
For Valentine's Day we'll catch up with what the Standing on the Side of Love Campaign has been doing and turn our thoughts again to living our religion and being guided by love's presence.

Feb 19 - **"Growing the Church Universal"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
This Sunday we'll look at membership and growth issues through the framework of being a visitor-oriented church.

Feb 26 - **"Hope & Change"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
Our hymn says, "Don't be afraid of some change," yet we often are. This Sunday we'll look at the relationship between finding hope and the possibility of change.

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

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## JXN Community Forum

...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 Supplements Page for 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)...

JXN Community Forum **Thursday, Feb. 16**

### Where Soldiers Come From

February's JXN Community Forum will be a screening of the documentary **"Where Soldiers Come From."**

This is an apolitical documentary about a close knit group of young men growing up and coming of age in a small town in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The film focuses primarily on three young men who join the Michigan National Guard. It covers their deployment to Afghanistan and follows them when they return home and try to adjust back to civilian life. This film was aired nationally on PBS in a POV documentary series last November of 2011.

For this Forum we suggest that attendees donate items for care packages that will be sent to deployed soldiers.

6:30 pm, Jackson District Library  
Carnegie Branch, Sergeant Auditorium

## Winter Book Sale

U U Church of East Liberty Winter Book Sale  
This will be held in the Old School House  
next to the church

**Friday and Saturday March 2-3.**

From 9:00 am -5:00 pm

\*Book dealers welcome the second day\*

Come browse our large selection of used books over wide categories: non-fiction (history, philosophy, religion, sports, biography, etc.) fiction (all genres), and coffee table books in paperback, trade paperback, and hard cover.

- Paperbacks \$.50
- Trade paperbacks \$1
- Hardcover \$2
- Coffee table books \$3
- Children/youth books \$.25 --

A variety of baked goods and coffee on sale,  
For directions or more information about the church, visit: [www.uuliberty.org](http://www.uuliberty.org)

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Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

