

# The Bellnote

Universalist Unitarian  
Church of East Liberty  
2231 Jefferson Road,  
Clarklake, MI 49234  
(517) 529-4221  
LOCATED 3/4 MILE WEST OF U.S. 127

Volume 235 Number 8

August 2010

## MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: Her day off  
Tuesday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Wednesday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Friday: Sermon-writing day  
Saturday: By appointment  
Sunday: By appointment  
Cindy works mostly from  
her home office

## STAFF

MINISTER ~ Rev. Cynthia Landrum  
revCyn@ugaalum.uga.edu

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sspetersen@sbcglobal.net

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## CARING COMMITTEE

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## BOARD/ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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Nena Obits  
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## Minister's Column

I've had a good study leave and vacation, and now come back to our fall refreshed and ready to start new potential events and opportunities. Going to General Assembly was a wonderful part of my summer, because it's a strong reminder for me of what unites us, what the purpose of our faith is, and what we are called to do in our communities.

Our congregation has taken strong stands in our community by becoming a welcoming congregation, by hanging the "Standing on the Side of Love" banner, by coming to protests and rallies and school board and town hall meetings. We continue to make a space in the community for reason and education through our Community Forum series. But I think there's still a need for us to do more—my own soul is yearning for us to be making a deeper impact in our community through greater work that we share together. The way I envision this coming to fullness is through a social service program where we partner with different agencies among the ones that we have voted to support, and arranging projects that our members can participate together in. What I need to make this dream a reality is a few interested, dedicated volunteers. If this work is calling you, too, let me know.

At General Assembly I heard the author of *Good Without God*, Rabbi Greg Epstein, speak. I've been following his work as the Harvard Humanist Chaplain for a couple of years, out of interest in the fact that he's a humanist, a chaplain, and a graduate of my alma mater, U of M, as well. He talked about what the Harvard Humanist group is doing, and what brings them together without a shared creed. The answer was that they spend less time talking and more time doing. They do some shared meditation together, but much of their time isn't spent in worship or in business meetings; it's spent out building houses, serving food, mentoring children, and working in partnership with the interfaith community. I didn't agree with all that he said, but his point about getting out there and doing things you believe in together is well taken. I think it could build a more excited, integrated, and dynamic church for us to be doing more of this.

Peace,

# Religious Education Report

I'm looking forward to a little family vacation coming up, and my 30-year high school reunion. Hopefully both will make me feel like a young 'un again!

Well, life is "abuzz" with preparations for the coming RE year, which gets an early start on August 8. Why so early? Well...

1) We always have a lot of kids at church on "Church Picnic Sunday," and

2) We want to give visiting families a taste of the "real deal" school year.

So hopefully we'll get the teachers' schedule filled in, and have some visiting families too! I've been pleased to meet some new folks quite often lately, and some of them do have young ones.

**Teachers, if you haven't gotten your curricula for the year yet, by the time you read this it will be available on the table in the "back hallway," across from the nursery entrance.**

I will have a brochure on our 2010-11 curriculum ready by August 8, and will have met with Rev. Cindy to plan any adult education endeavors, to be announced!

And now...just what you've all been waiting for...a wish list for supplies needed for the preschool and K-5 RE lessons! We need...

- Poster Board
- 12 x 18" construction paper, light colors or multicolored
- Felt and fabric scraps
- clear contact paper
- tissue paper
- tree identification book (to borrow and return)
- assorted nuts

- about 4 beanbags
- masking tape
- balloons
- gift certificates to Meijer, Kroger, JoAnn Fabrics

Thanks again for your support!

Yours TruUUy,

*Sharon*



Religious Education Coordinator

## Visitor Orientation

Question & Answer - If you would like to learn more about the church, please join the minister after the service for a short, informal conversation on **Sunday, August 15**. Meet in the foyer after the service, following the Q. and A.

will be a tour of our buildings.  
Submitted by: the Membership Comm.

I am only one  
But still I am one.

I cannot do everything,  
But still I can do something.  
And because I cannot  
do everything

I will not refuse to do the  
something that I can do.

~ Edward Everett Hale

"The difference between the words  
can and can't  
is the letter "T" for TRY!"

~ Jim Meisenheimer



## Notes from the Board

The UUCEL Board met on the THIRD Wednesday of July, due to the holiday and other scheduling conflicts. We had everyone there for the first time in quite a while, which made it fun. One pleasant bit of information shared was that our pledge income is at an astounding 95%! We discussed how surprising this is in today's economy, and how wonderful our church members are.

The following decisions were made:

1) reviewed and approved the charge to the newly formed Building and Grounds committee

2) Approved moving the handicap accessibility sign to the front wall of the church

3) reviewed changes and updates to our website

4) approved hiring a tax lawyer or CPA if needed (Bob Lewis stopped in and provided information on previous financial issues; he said to say "HI" to everyone.)

For a full accounting of this meeting please see the minutes which will be posted in the social hall. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 4th, at 6:30 pm.

Agenda items for that meeting will include decisions on building maintenance issues, compilation of a paper record of our meetings, and budget updates, of course.

Submitted by: Gratia Karmes  
Board President

### Payment for the paper copy Bellnote

The editors are now collecting the payment from those that receive the paper copy of the Bellnote. The price will remain at \$17.00 and be good for the calendar year through June 2011. With our year just starting the editors forgot to put this information in the last month's issue. Three members have already paid, looking for 29 more, or let the editors know if you want to change to the on-line listing free of charge. Also we are mailing to 3 ministers at no charge to them. We are asking that everyone else mail to Kathy Haynes or pay her at church as she will keep track of the list and turn the money over to the church treasurer as payments come in. Thanks.

Reminder we have the paid advertisements page on the back of the supplement page for your personal use. Prices are as follows

1/8 page: \$3.00

1/4 page: \$6.00

1/2 page: \$12.00

and, upon request,

a full page for \$24.00.

Submitted by: the Editors  
Kathy and Vicki

### UU World Magazine and

### Heartland District Electronic Newsletter

A new form has been made and will be added to the new upcoming member packets, asking if you would like to receive either of The UU World Magazine (paper copy) and or Heartland District Electronic Newsletter (e-mail only). This is also available to current members, if you have not already signed up for them. Please give Kathy Haynes your information as she updates these lists twice a year.

Submitted by: The Membership Committee

# Meetings and Events

## U.U. Church of East Liberty

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### Church Picnic

Come join us on **Sunday, August 8**, right after Church Service. Our annual church picnic will be held this year at Swain's Memorial Park in Brooklyn. Please bring your own table service and passing dishes. Lemonade and iced tea will be provided. If you would like you can also bring your lawn chairs and yard games. The park is located in Brooklyn. Take Jefferson Road east to M-50 (Main Street in Brooklyn). Turn left on M-50, drive 1/2 mile and turn right on River Street, which leads into the park. You can't see the park from M-50. We will need a few volunteers to help, so let me know if you are interested, thanks.



Submitted by: Nena Obits

### First Friday Dinner

We would like to have the next First Friday Dinner in September on the second Friday, the **10th of September**. The church is rented on the 1st Friday for a wedding rehearsal (wedding at 3:00 pm on Saturday). Looking for someone to step up and be the host/hostess for this event.

Submitted by: The Membership Comm.

### UUCEL hosting JAMA!

UUCEL is hosting the Jackson Area Ministerial Alliance on Thursday, **August 12**. If you're interested in helping out, Rev. Cindy would love some volunteers for snacks & beverages. This is usually a small gathering in the summer, so nothing elaborate is needed.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy Landrum

### community forums

...are free and open programs to facilitate dialogue about the challenging issues of our time. Forums are usually held at the Jackson District Library, Carnegie Branch, located at 244 W. Michigan Ave. between Blackstone & N. Jackson Street. Forums are usually on the third Thursdays at 6:30-8:30 pm. The forum's are sponsored by the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in conjunction with the Jackson District Library.

~~The forums are not held in the months of June, July and August. Stay tuned for more information about the **September 16** forum.

Submitted by: Outreach Comm.

### Caring Committee

The Caring Committee's next meeting is **July 18** after the service.

Submitted by: Alyce Oosting

### Minister Out of Town:

Rev. Cindy will be out of town performing a wedding from August 26 through August 29. In case of emergency, please call her husband Peter Morrison at her home number, and he will see that messages are sent to her.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy Landrum

### Worship Associates Training

The worship associates training is being rescheduled. If you're interested in attending, please sign up in the social hall and we will notify you when a new date is chosen.

Submitted by: Rev. Cindy Landrum

**"Sunday at the Movies"**

**Labor Day Party**

Rev. Cindy and Peter  
are holding a  
Labor Day picnic/cookout  
at their house.

Tickets were available  
at the auction held in May,  
and 8 were purchased that night  
at \$20.00 each.

There are only 12  
"Dinner Spots" available,  
first come first serve.

To purchase one,  
see Cindy or Peter  
or a member  
of the auction committee—

Steve Beison,  
Vic Marshall,  
or

Carole Hartsuff.

Submitted by:  
Rev. Cindy Landrum

On **Sunday, August 22**, Rev. Cindy will give a sermon based on which movie you "buy" the most tickets for, and the movie will be shown at the church on **Friday, August 20** at 6:30 p.m. To buy your ticket, cut or copy the ticket below and insert your choice of the films listed below, and give the ticket and \$1 (to benefit the church and buy popcorn) to Rev. Cindy on or before **Sunday, August 15**. You can purchase as many tickets as you wish, but each one costs one dollar.

Choices:

**Sci-fi: "Avatar"** – Sci-fi epic with themes of environmentalism, colonialism, and Paganism.

**Drama: "The Soloist"** – Based on the true story of an LA Times columnist and a street musician he befriends.

**Documentary: "Capitalism: A Love Story"** – Michigan's own Michael Moore's latest—the title says it all!

**Comedy: "Monty Python: Not the Messiah"** – The oratorio version of Monty Python's "Life of Brian," a story about a man who is mistaken for the Messiah.

Submitted by:  
Rev. Cindy Landrum

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**Jesus Seminar Returns!**

The Jesus Seminar is coming back to Jackson **September 17-18**, and we're planning on helping out with the hosting like we did last year. Mark your calendar now and plan to help out and attend these fabulous lectures representing the cutting edge in liberal theology and historical Biblical criticism.

Submitted by:  
Rev. Cindy Landrum

<p>Film Choice: _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Friday, August 20, 6:30 pm/ Sunday, August 22, 11 am</b></p>	<p><b>Admit One</b></p>
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If, recognizing the interdependence of all life, we strive to build community,  
the strength we gather will be our salvation.  
If you are black and I am white, It will not matter.  
If you are female and I am male, It will not matter.  
If you are older and I am younger, It will not matter.  
If you are progressive and I am conservative, It will not matter.  
If you are straight and I am gay, It will not matter.  
If you are Christian and I am Jewish, It will not matter.  
If we join spirits as brothers and sisters, the pain of our aloneness will be lessened,  
And that does matter.

~ Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley

“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.”  
~~ Our Closing Song~~

**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 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, including Kathy Haynes, Joan Bernstein,  
Jann Krupa, and Carole Hartsuff.

**FROM THE EDITOR:**

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST COPY OF THE CHURCH’S NEWSLETTER  
“THE BELLNOTE” WELCOME ABOARD, AND HAPPY READING.  
OUR CHURCH CALENDAR 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 AND WE STARTED THIS IN AUG., 2007. NEW  
VISITORS WILL GET 3 MONTHS FREE, AFTER THAT A SUBSCRIPTION  
FEE WILL BE ASKED FOR, OR CHANGED TO AN ON-LINE VERSION  
THAT IS NO CHARGE. THANK YOU – KATHY AND VICKI

THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE, INFORMATION IS NEEDED BY:  
SUNDAY AUGUST 22 ~~~~~ SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:

UUCEL\_BELLNOTE@YAHOO.COM

OR IN WRITING HANDED TO KATHY OR VICKI

**We want to thank;** Gratia Kames, Rev. Cindy Landrum,  
Nena Obits, Alyce Oosting, Sharon Pedersen, Outreach  
Comm. and the 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

July 31	Rental - Ruth Davis
1 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Lay Leaders - Gretchen Marshall & Peg Gordon
4 Wed.	Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm
5 Thurs.	AUUW Meeting ~ 12:30 pm
8 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
8 Sunday	Annual Church Picnic ~ After the Service, at the Swains Memorial Park in Brooklyn
10 Tue.	Meet Your Neighbor Coffee ~ 9:00 - 11:00 am
11 Wed.	Worship Committee Meeting ~ 5:30 pm
12 Thurs.	JAMA at UUCEL ~ 9:00 am
12 Thurs.	Membership Meeting ~ 1:00 pm
15 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
15 Sunday	Caring Committee ~ After the Service
19 Wed.	Religious Education Committee Meeting ~ 7:00 pm
20 Fri.	Movie Night at church. you "buy" the tickets; see page 5 ~ 6:30 pm
22 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum - topic the above movie "buy"
29 Sunday	~~~~ Service ~ 11:00 am ~ Lay Leaders - Elissa Alden & Lynn Hightower

## Upcoming Events

To be Announced

**Reminder to Everyone** Please check regularly the volunteer sign-up clip-boards in the social hall on the corkboard wall of "Open" dates. You are needed to be an **Usher**, **Social Hour Host** and the **Nursery Helper** of the Day. The Nursery starts at 10:50 am so the nursery worker Vicki and the helper for the day need to be with the children under age 5 before the service. The volunteer list needs the open dates filled in each month for everything to run smoothly.

## WEEKLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Sunday	Aug. 1	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 22	Aug. 29
Greeters	Alyce O.	Grace M.	Joan B.	Betty G.	Carole H.
R.E. Greeter	Gretchen M.	Sharon P.	Sharon P.	Sharon P.	Sharon P.
Nursery Helper	Open	Open	Sharon M.	Nena O.	Open
Ushers	Steve J. Gary T.	Steve B. Gary T.	Jon H. Gary T.	Steve J. Gary T.	Steve J. Gary T.
Social H. Host	Harry & Dee R.	Picnic	Open	Barbara H. Anthony K.	Open
R.E. K-5	Intergenerational	Open	Anne S. Barbara H.	Open	Open
R.E. Youth	Intergenerational	Open	Open	Lori B.	Chris K.

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

**Aug. 1 - "Children's Stories & the UU Principles"**  
- Lay Leaders - Gretchen Marshall  
and Peg Gordon

**Aug. 8 - "Ingathering and Water Communion"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

This year we are trying out a new church year format where we start our religious education and worship year in August, so our annual water communion will be on this Sunday. Bring water re-presenting your summer locations as we come together as one religious community bringing together the waters of the world.

**Aug. 15 - "Zombies!" (Auction Sermon)**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

This unusual topic is this year's auction sermon, purchased by a member of the congregation. Does the recent pop culture explosion of movies, books, graphic novels, and other forms of media about zombies, vampires, and other supernatural undead creatures tell us about a void in people's spiritual lives? Is it a way we are searching, as a culture, for life after death?

**Aug. 22 - "Sunday at the Movies"**  
- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

See details on page 5 about this service.

**Aug. 29 - "Humor Sunday"**

- Lay Leaders - Elissa Alden  
and Lynn Hightower

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Where people care about each other and care about the world.  
<http://www.libertyu.org/newletter.html>  
[www.libertyu.org](http://www.libertyu.org)

Return Service Requested

Clarklake, MI 49234  
2231 Jefferson Road

Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty

