



July 2025

# The Bellnote

UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EAST LIBERTY  
2231 Jefferson Road  
Clarklake, MI 49234  
(517) 295-3290 - New(er again) Church Number  
Located 3/4 miles West of U.S. 127

## Rev. Dan's Schedule

It will vary month to month

### Minister

Rev. Dan Miyake  
UUDJM@YAHOO.COM

## Staff

Pianist: Anita Fobes  
ANITAFOBES@GMAIL.COM

## Board of Directors

President: Ann Green  
GREENANNM@JCCMI.EDU

Trustee: Alice Palmer  
ABPALMER98@GMAIL.COM

Secretary: Nancy Smith  
HEYNANCY2015@GMAIL.COM

Treasurer: Laurie Campbell  
DANDLCAMPBELL@COMCAST.NET

Trustee: Alyce Oosting  
OOSTING115@COMCAST.NET

Trustee: Patty Brue  
BRUECREW@SBCGLOBAL.NET

## Caring Committee

Debbie Hartsuff

## Building & Grounds

Alyce Oosting OOSTING115@COMCAST.NET  
Vic Marshall VBMARSHALL@GMAIL.COM

## Committee on Ministry

Tom Pepper PEPPE49@COMCAST.NET  
Gratia Karmes GKARMES82@GMAIL.COM  
Nathan Close NATHAN.C.5444@GMAIL.COM  
Lynn Hightower LYNNMHIGHTOWER@GMAIL.COM  
Elissa Alden ELISSA.ALDEN@COMCAST.NET

## Board/Elected & Nominating Comm

Steve Kish S.KISH1487@GMAIL.COM  
Tom Pepper PEPPE49@COMCAST.NET  
Debbie Hartsuff



## Message from the Board President

Beloveds,

The summer solstice marks our longest day and shortest night of the year. A moment when we pause to acknowledge that we are at the half of 2025 already. Where did the time go? What's coming up for us to plan? What is happening in our larger world right now and how can we respond to it?

This last question was the theme of the UUA General Assembly this year where I joined almost seven thousand UU people (via Zoom for me; Rev. Dan in person) to "Meet the Moment." This theme recognized that throughout the centuries we UUs "are both deeply grounded in our core values and shared commitments *and* nimble enough to respond to the challenges and opportunities that emerge in rapidly changing times."

How does our faith sustain us in a time of radical change and cruel governmental policies? What do we have to let go and what do we have to do to sustain us moving forward? My eyes were opened. And my heart.

We look backward and forward at the same time. Here is what I heard: We have a messy courageous hope from our ancestors, and we call on them now. We are human together and we journey together when the terrain changes. When we identify needs, we grow strategies.

Nicole Presley said, "we are in a defining moment where how we show up gives meaning to who we are as a people of faith and I have witnessed UUs showing up with prophetic courage in this moment, growing our moral imagination.... We as people of faith refuse to bow down to cruelty. We were created for times just like this; hope lingers on."

Let us speak up and act out for who we are and who we covenant to be.

Ann Green

# Notes from the Board

The Board of Trustees met June 23 at the church. Treasurer Sharon Pedersen summarized the balance sheet and income statement for the month ending May 31, 2025 and is working on finishing out the accounting and shared expenses with Elkhart for this fiscal year.

The board approved a resolution naming Laurie Campbell as the new treasurer. Nancy Smith will continue as secretary and Ann Green as president. The vice-president will be determined at the July meeting. Laurie and Alice Palmer will replace Sharon and Lynn Hightower who are leaving the board. Much thanks to Sharon and Lynn for their years of service. Most of the strategic plan goals have been accomplished and the board will meet to craft the plan for the coming year; all suggestions from the congregation are welcome. The issue of the land acquisition the large shed occupies inches toward completion.

Worship Committee is to confirm a permanent usher to replace Steve Kish who has retired. Much appreciation to Steve. In terms of buildings and grounds, the air conditioning has been inspected and the parking lot has been clear-coated as a gift from Kirk Mercer to his longtime friend, Dorothy Kerr. Future concerns will be included in the new Strategic Plan. Look for an announcement of the annual church picnic from the Membership Committee. The RE Committee is coming together for the next year.

Ann attended the General Assembly via Zoom and found it inspirational. Look for the new virtual hymnal we plan to acquire. The speech of Imara Jones, Founder of TransLash Media, was so pertinent to our current national situation that we hope to be able to view it.

The fact that so many people were ill after last Sunday's social hour is of deep concern. We will work with the social hour teams to promote safe food handling. The next meeting is Monday, July 14th at 5:30 at the church.

**Ann**

**Submitted by: Ann Green  
Board President**

# Notes from Religious Education

## **Call for Volunteer(s)**

UUCEL proudly offers nursery care for babies and preschool children every Sunday. We have a roster of adult volunteers who kindly give one Sunday a month to make this happen (really, it's only about 45 minutes per month!). We need two adults per Sunday. We now have two openings, with one more person needed for the 3rd Sunday to accompany Kathy Haynes. Also with Sharon Pedersen moving away one more person is needed for the 4th Sunday to accompany Donna Hinton. Please consider signing up for this fun and easy role to support UUCEL. (Keep in mind, sometimes no kids attend, so you can stay in church. And if a conflict arises where you can't make it on your day, it's easy to switch with one of the other volunteers.)

**Submitted by Nancy Smith, RE 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!**



## Once Upon A Time Our Historical Photos

### Rev. Dan

Is on Vacation from July 1-31.

Submitted by: Rev. Dan

Watch on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LibertyUU>

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.



### 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 in person 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. Dan Miyake or a member of the membership committee.

# Meetings and Events for UUCEL

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## Summer Time Potluck

After the Church Service on July 27<sup>th</sup>

Please Bring food to Share

All Food will be Set Up Inside

Weather Permitting you can  
Eat Outside or Inside

You Provide your Own Outside  
Chairs Please

Outside Games Bring Please

Fun Time ~ See You There

## Quarterly Donations

The Social Mission Designee for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter is Jackson Personal Care Ministry – It is a cooperative mission of 14 area churches. That offers a weekly pantry of personal care and cleaning products to anyone residing in Jackson County. Please, give by using the donate button on our website or by contributing with a check with Jackson Personal Care Ministry in the memo.

**Submitted by: Gretchen Marshall**

## Soul Matters

The Soul Matters Group will be meeting once a month on the Sunday Rev. Dan is speaking from the pulpit. They will meet in Social Hall after social hour. The next meeting will start up again in the fall with no date set.

**Submitted by: Rev. Dan**

## UU Younger

The UU Younger group (known as YUUMM) will be starting recurring meetings the first Sunday of every month at 12:30 pm in the school house. It will include snacks, board games and conversation. **Submitted by: Scott Reese**

## The Covenant of UU

CUUPS meets the fourth Sunday after church in the Social Hall. Thank you all for your interest.

**Submitted by: Lori Athey**

## Jackson Personal Care Ministry

JPCM is a cooperative mission of 14 area churches. We offer a weekly pantry of personal care and cleaning products to anyone residing in Jackson County. Our team, (First Congregational, St. John's UCC, and UUCEL) works the first Thursday of the month, and that would be July 3rd. Because we are serving more people, the number of volunteers needed has grown from 3-4. Please let me know if you can help. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 4:30 pm. JPCM is held at: First Baptist Church 201 S. Jackson St., Jackson 49201, Thursday 5:00- 6:30 pm. It's an excellent way to meet the community and give back! If you'd like to work or have any questions. Nena's contact info is on the top of the. Supplement Page.

**Submitted by: Nena Obits**

## Ladies' Lunch

The Ladies Lunch will be meeting on Thursday July 12 at Lucero in Vandercook next Klavon's 12:00 /noon, If you are not on Joan's list and want to come, please call her by Wednesday morning. Please see Joan's contact information on the top of the Supplement Page.

**Submitted by: Joan Bernstein**

## Social Hour Team Schedule

The second half of the year listing has been posted on the Kitchen's corkboard. A reminder; if your team is running low or out of a product/supply item(s) that is normally at church, please write it down on the pad of paper on the frig, so the UU buyers: Joan Bernstein, Vicki or Kathy Haynes can get it. Also, a friendly reminder that only drinks can be left over till the following week in the frig. YES, we have church mice and they like to eat too! So please take everything home. If you would like to join a team contact Kathy. Thank You.

**Submitted by: Kathy Haynes**

## NEW Information for Social Hour Host

Those on the team of the **1st Sunday of Each Month** - Please READ the NOTE that has been added to the paper copy on the corkboard in the KITCHEN. - With NEW directions YOU need to KNOW. **Thank you From the Board**

## Build a Community of Hope at the 17<sup>th</sup> UU Women's Retreat this September

Women of all Michigan UU Congregations are invited by the Ann Arbor congregation to attend their 17th WomUUn's Retreat, Sept. 26-28, at YMCA Camp Copneconic in Fenton, MI. Last year, over 70 women from 7 congregations attended. --- The theme for this year's retreat is Community of Hope. The retreat begins Friday evening with a pot-luck Community Café, book and jewelry exchanges, sale of woman-made products, Welcoming Session and a bonfire with storytelling Saturday will be packed with small group gatherings; social justice and heart-healing workshops, good food; fun craft workshops; outdoor activities such as zip lining, archery and high ropes course, and plenty of joyful singing. The retreat wraps up Sunday morning with the closing Community Celebration. **Registration materials are available at: <https://uuua.org/womuuns-community/>. Women should register and pay by June 30 to receive early bird pricing.**

### 2025 WomUUn's Retreat Brochure:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YiEt8oLJ-AH69dLyDdAGPAFGuEm95whK4dcuzztJGKU/edit?tab=t.0> Online registration:

<https://forms.gle/jkqW6mF5kNUqqiYu5>

2024 Photo book : <https://www.mixbook.com/photo-books/interests/>

[blankcanvas34648109?vk=dFGt1EGeqcWkNvYF9kKd](https://www.mixbook.com/photo-books/interests/blankcanvas34648109?vk=dFGt1EGeqcWkNvYF9kKd)

Questions? Email [womuunsretreat@uuua.org](mailto:womuunsretreat@uuua.org).

**Submitted by: Judi Lintott** [jlintott@comcast.net](mailto:jlintott@comcast.net)

## Reminder to all Social Hour Teams

When done with the regular social hour duties, please make sure the following are done:

- ~Open all registers in social hall
- ~Close the doors that go upstairs to sanctuary

**Submitted by: Alyce Oosting**

~~ Celebrating Over 167 Years of Liberal Religion ~~  
All Sunday Services Start at 11:00 am

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**July 6 - "Voters, Not Politics"**

- Led by: **Becky McKenney**

Masks are optional. In person or live on Facebook.  
Focusing on voter rights.

**July 13 - "The Ladybug Hour"**

- Led by: **Patty Brue**

Masks are optional. In person or live on Facebook.  
Your offerings of special, funny stories of your times at UUCEL.

**July 20 - "Universalism in America"**

- Led by: **Cory Page**

Masks are optional. In person or live on Facebook.  
Ruth Smith's sermon delivered by Cory.

**July 27 - "Getting to Know You"**

- Led by: **Cory Page**

Masks are optional. In person or live on Facebook.  
An interactive, sharing time followed by a Potluck.

**Payment due of \$18.00 for The Bellnote Newsletter paper copy**

A Reminder to all, that it's that time of year again folks. There are now 23 members and friends who receive the papers copy of The Bellnote. There are also 2 Rev's on our list that receive a copy for free. One had moved to on-line = 22 now. The editors can collect the money per person for the year's expenses of printing and postage. Please give the \$'s to Kathy Haynes or mail to her, in a check made out to UUCEL and write paper copy on the memo line. See the Supplement page for her contact info. The money will get marked paid and passed on to the church treasurer. If you want to change over to the on-line version there is no charge,

# July 's UUCEL Calendar

All Events are at the church Unless Otherwise Noted



3 Thurs	Personal Care Ministry @ 1st Baptist Church, 201 S. Jackson ~ 4:30-6:30 pm
6 Sunday	~~ Service ~ Led by: Becky McKenney ~ 11:00 am
6 Sunday	YUUMM Meeting ~ School House ~ 12:30 pm
10 Thurs	Ladies Lunch @ Lucero in Vandercook ~ 12:00 am
13 Sunday	~~ Service ~ Led by: Patty Brue ~ 11:00 am
14 Mon	Church Cleaning ~ by: Vicki Haynes
14 Mon	Board Meeting ~ 5:30 pm
20 Sunday	~~ Service ~ Led by: Cory Page ~ 11:00 am
21 Mon	The Bellnote Newsletter, Submissions Due
27 Sunday	~~ Service ~ Led by: Cory Page ~ 11:00 am
27 Sunday	Potluck Dinner After the Service
27 Sunday	CUUPs Pagan Group meets ~ After Social Hour
28 Mon	Church & School House Cleaning ~ by: Vicki Haynes

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## Weekly Volunteer Schedule

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**Sunday, July 6** ~~ Greeter, Alyce O ~~ Usher, Paul J & Helper Needed  
~~ Social Hour Host, Nancy S & Team 4  
~~ Technology Streaming, Mike B ~~ Worship Associate, Lori A  
~~ R.E. K-5, Classes w/ Intergenerational ~~ Nursery w/ Nena O & Sue R

**Sunday, July 13** ~~ Greeter, Lori A ~~ Usher, Paul J & Helper Needed  
~~ Social Hour Host, Lori A & Team 5  
~~ Technology Streaming, Tom P ~~ Worship Associate, Nathan B  
~~ R.E. K-5, Classes w/ Intergenerational ~~ Nursery w/ Alyce O & Alice P

**Sunday, July 20** ~~ Greeter, Joan B ~~ Usher, Paul J & Helper Needed  
~~ Social Hour Host, Liz W & Team 6  
~~ Technology Streaming, Mike B ~~ Worship Associate, Bert S  
~~ R.E. K-5, Classes w/ Intergenerational ~~ Nursery w/ Kathy H & Helper Needed

**Sunday, July 27** ~~ Greeter, Jackie J ~~ Usher, Paul J & Helper Needed  
~~ Social Hour Host, Alice O & Team 7 w/Potluck Dinner  
~~ Technology Streaming, Rob G ~~ Worship Associate, Non Needed  
~~ R.E. K-5, Classes w/ Intergenerational ~~ Nursery w/ Donna H & Helper Needed

**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



Church's Website ~ <http://www.libertyuu.org>  
 Church's E-Mail Address ~ [uuliberty@gmail.com](mailto:uuliberty@gmail.com)  
 Wednesday's Chimes ~ [WednesdayChimes@gmail.com](mailto:WednesdayChimes@gmail.com)  
 Church's Facebook Page ~ <http://www.facebook.com/libertyuu>  
 The Bellnote's E-Mail Address ~ [UUCEL\\_Bellnote@yahoo.com](mailto:UUCEL_Bellnote@yahoo.com)  
 Bellnote Newsletter ~ <https://libertyuu.org/category-newsletter/newsletter>

**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 1st-June 30th. The church board asks those that receive the paper version of the newsletter pay a \$18.00 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.

For the August issue, the information is needed by: Monday, July 21 ~~ send submissions to: [uucel\\_bellnote@yahoo.com](mailto:uucel_bellnote@yahoo.com) or in writing to Kathy or Vicki, thank you. We want to thank Rev. Dan Miyake, Ann Green, Nancy Smith, Gretchen Marshall, Darrin Palmer, Deb Hartsuff, Nena Obits, Lori Athey, Scott Reese, Vicki Haynes, Tech Comm., and Worship Comm., for their news items this month.

**Where People Care About Each Other And Care About The World.**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
 CLARLAKE, MI 49234  
 2231 JEFFERSON ROAD



UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EAST LIBERTY