



**Adult Religious Education Prospectus**  
**Fall 2010**  
**Unitarian Universalist Church**  
**of Bloomington, Indiana**

**Registration:** To register, sign up on the bulletin board or call (332-3695) or e-mail Ruthann DuBois, Office Assistant, at [office@uubloomington.org](mailto:office@uubloomington.org). You

may also register on Sunday mornings in Room 204. See either Ruthann DuBois or Church Administrator Carol Marks.

**How to purchase texts:** You may be able to purchase texts through our Booktable (chaired by Glee Noble, [gleenoble@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gleenoble@sbcglobal.net)).

**Child Care:** Child care can be arranged for most events if parents reserve by the posted deadline and if **at least two families request child care** for a given class or event. Reserve on the sign-up sheet, call 332-3695, or email [office@uubloomington.org](mailto:office@uubloomington.org).

**Rise Up and Call Her Name** with Ruellen Fessenbecker and Beckie Wagner  
First and Third Tuesdays beginning Sept. 7, 7-9:30PM, Library, Min. 5, Max. 20

During this curriculum we will learn about a variety of cultural traditions that honor goddesses and esteem women. We will also become acquainted with some of the beliefs that are associated with these traditions and how varied spiritual practices stimulate person inner journeys. The journey we are undertaking together will be both an outer and an inner one. We will use ritual, chanting, creative play, storytelling and guided meditation to learn about other cultures, female deities and ourselves. As we meet ancient and modern goddesses, we will examine our own belief systems and our own culture's effect on our lives. With one additional Saturday workshop TBA.

**Unitarian Universalist Yoga** with Shelley Taylor

Tuesdays, Sept. 7-Nov. 23, 7-8PM, Fellowship Hall, Min. 5, Max. 20

This professionally-led yoga class is appropriate for both beginners and experienced yoga participants. You may want to bring a mat or towel. \$5 per session requested.

**Attuning to the Sufi Path**

With Sara Steffey McQueen & Sharon Parsons

Third Thursdays, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16, 7-8:30 PM, rm. 210, Min. 3, Max. 25

These classes are for Unitarian Universalists interested in exploring meditation and practices, including work with the breath, healing, light, and sound. Stories of Sufi masters will be presented to inspire reflection and discussions. Classes will be based on the teachings of the Sufi Order of the West, particularly Hazrat Inayat Khan. The teachings provide insight into the Unity of Religious ideals.

**Belief Buddies & Critical Communities** with Noretta Koertge

Mondays, Sept. 13, 20, Oct. 4, 11, 25, Nov. 1, 6:30-8PM, rm. 207B, Min. 5, Max. 12

Do you or your friends have beliefs that others consider to be weird? When is so-called *stigmatized knowledge* socially useful and when is it a cause for concern? We'll explore these issues using a variety of examples, ranging from Loch Ness monsters to dowsing to concerns about MMR vaccines; from UFOs to Pearl Harbor to the deaths of JFK and Princess Diana. Our goal will *not* be to endorse or denigrate any of these theories. Rather it will be to explore how and why such systems of belief arise and flourish, and how they impact our democratic society.

Readings (Second-hand copies are available on the web and we can also share.):

Jim Marrs, *Above Top Secret* (optional). Marrs is a leading promoter of strange views.

David Aaronovitch, *Voodoo Histories*. British journalist with a cheeky style.

Mark Fenster, *Conspiracy Theories: Secrecy and Power in American Culture*. Fenster is a lawyer and academic – very evenhanded.

**Death with Dignity** with Clarke Miller

Sundays, Oct. 3, 10, 1-2:30PM, room 207B, Min. 5, Max. 30

What practical steps can be taken now to help with a later death with dignity, i.e., with minimized pain and distress? How can we avoid difficulties for ourselves and loved ones at the end of our life?

Information about Living Wills, Health Care Power of Attorney, and legally hastening a difficult death will be provided. Also an update on Oregon's 13-years old Death With Dignity Act. A copy of an Indiana Advance Directives (Living Will and Health Care Power of Attorney) will be provided for each participant.

**What is UU Culture?: Pitch-in Dinner and Discussion**

with Ray Rust and Reverend Bill Breeden

Sundays, Oct. 3 and 17, 5:30-7PM, Fellowship Hall, Min. 3, no Max.

Bring a pitch-in dish, and join our two-session exploration of ideas and issues raised by the UU World article: "What is UU Culture?" appearing on page 30 in the summer 2010 issue. Christopher Walton's introduction to the discussion and links to the responses which make up this article can also be found at [uworld.org/issues/summer2010.shtml](http://uworld.org/issues/summer2010.shtml)

**The Historical Jesus: What Did He Really Say?** with Bob DeVoe

Thursdays, Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, 7:30-9PM, Library, Min. 5, Max. 15

The historical Jesus is the Pre-Easter Jesus. How does one discern this historical Jesus in our only sources of information about him, the gospels written by Post-Easter Christians who were centered on the resurrected Christ? What are the techniques that biblical scholars use to distinguish words that Jesus spoke from words put in his mouth by gospel writers?

Required text: *The Five Gospels: The Search for the authentic Words of Jesus*, by Robert W. Funk et al (2 copies available in the church library)

**Dying Consciously: The Greatest Journey** with Jenae McIlwain

Wednesdays, Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, 7-9PM, Library, Min. 3, Max. 15

This class is designed for all persons involved in the dying process. The message of *The Greatest Journey*, a curriculum created by the Institute for Energy Medicine, is that we can come to the end of life with grace, with no unresolved issues, and can make the journey beyond death in peace and full of light. We will use maps created by cultures that consciously use sacred death rites to release their loved ones, including Buddhist, Earth traditions, and Shamanic maps. We will learn and practice gentle, clear, and simple ways of helping our loved ones (and ourselves) clear our energetic bodies and to gently disengage from the physical body.

Note: Jenae is an Energy Medicine practitioner who came to this work through her work with children with cancer. She has experienced death as a counselor, a hospital social worker, a practitioner of indigenous traditions, as family, and as a friend.

**Questions?** Minister of Religious Education The Reverend Emily Manvel Leite, 333-9822, [mre@uubloomington.org](mailto:mre@uubloomington.org) or Carolyn Emmert, Adult Religious Education Chair, [davidjemmert@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davidjemmert@sbcglobal.net)