

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana
Congregation founded 1949

**Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community
Changing the World**



Sunday, August 6, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.
"Drawing from the Sources: The Choosing of Our Faith"
The Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science." (Albert Einstein, 1879-1955). What are the sources from which we draw, as Unitarian Universalists, for inspiration, guidance and renewal of the spirit? What does it mean to embrace religious pluralism in these challenging times? On this August 6th Sunday, we will explore these questions as we also remember and reflect upon the anniversary of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Sunday, August 13, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.
"Unitarian Universalism's Seven Principles: Part I of II"
The Reverend Bill Breeden

As part of the service, Guy Loftman will share his "This I Believe" statement.

Faith in Action Forum

August 27, 10:15am to 11:15am in the Church Library. **Democracy Crisis! Will All Votes Count?**
Note: There will be no time conflict with either the first or second service.



Chalice Circles to Begin in September

The Small Group Ministry Implementation Team has worked hard for over a year to design a small group ministry program for our church. We're coming into the home stretch this summer for our September start date. We have a superb group of enthusiastic Chalice Circles facilitators who will be trained to lead small groups of participants in this exciting new program.

Members of our Team are also creating session plans to give each Chalice Circle participant an opportunity to develop meaningful connections to others.

For more information, watch for a Chalice Circles mailing in early September, followed by a Sunday service on September 10th. Questions? Contact Anne Haynes (336-3221 or anhaynes@indiana.edu) or Carol Parks (336-1592 or pearlparks@gmail.com). --Carol Parks for the Small Group Ministry Implementation Team

MAM's Musings

Through my connections with the Monroe County Religious Leaders (MCRL), I was made aware of the following interfaith gathering invitation for this Saturday evening. I plan to be there, and hope many of you can join me.

A Prayerful Time for Peace:
An Interfaith Gathering

Bloomington Muslims and Jews for Peace and Justice invite the entire community to join us for A Prayerful Time for Peace: An Interfaith Gathering on Saturday, August 5th. We will convene at the Showers Building at 7pm before walking together to the Courthouse Square where we will gather together at about 7:30. Please wear white and bring a flower for peace. In case of rain, we will gather at Trinity Episcopal Church at the corner of Grant & Kirkwood at 7pm.

There is a time for prayer and there is a time for political action. This gathering calls upon us to turn to our sacred texts to help us move toward a greater understanding of and compassion for the other during this very difficult time in the Middle East. We are all pained by the loss of innocent life, the cycle of violence, the destruction of property, and the deep wounds that are left unhealed.

Also, the next "Centering With MAM", a short meditative service, will be Wednesday, August 9 from 6:00pm to 6:45pm in the church library.

In peace, Mary Ann
Reverend Mary Ann Macklin
macklin@uubloomington.org

The West Window

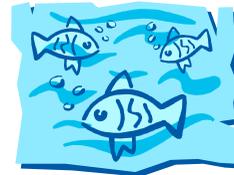
As mentioned in the July 30th service, I consider children to be the living poems of our generation. I encouraged those in attendance, as I do those reading this column, to be poets and play a role in shaping the living poems of children among us. You can do so by volunteering to teach in our Religious Education program. Of course, the relationship between poets and poems is reciprocal. By all accounts it is fun and inspiring, and the children will undoubtedly play a role in shaping the form of your own life. Cindy Port and Rev. Emily Leite will provide you with tools, training and support. Contact them and join the team of life poets that make up our Religious Education teacher corps.

Enjoy the fleeting days of summer, stay cool, work for peace and justice, and as my co-minister exhorts, breathe, breathe, breathe.

Peace--*bill* Reverend Bill Breeden
breeden@uubloomington.org

Water Communion August 27

Remember to bring some water, a stone, a shell, or other object from your summer adventures for our Water Communion Ingathering Services on Aug 27.



Choir Starts August 10

All interested singers are welcome to join the choir. The first rehearsal of the fall is Thursday, August 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room. No auditions; y'all come! Childcare is provided in Room 108.
Susan Swaney, Music Director
music@uubloomington.org

The Prologue July 31, 2006 Page 2

Community Connections Our faith in action in the community

Retired Volunteers Service Program VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) offers a "one-stop-shopping" experience for adults 55+ years of age who would like to volunteer. RSVP can help you to find the perfect volunteer opportunities that best match your gifts, interests, and availability. Call or email us today to learn more about the endless ways that you can serve our community and the many benefits that RSVP offers. Whether you want to start to volunteer in our community or already volunteer, RSVP can help you get the most out of your experience. Please contact Christine McKenna at 876-3383 or e-mail cmckenna@area10.bloomington.in.us.

Team Ministry

Our congregation is served by a ministry team: Rev. Mary Ann Macklin (86%); Rev. Bill Breeden (86%). Each minister serves the entire congregation; each has specific areas of focus.

Ministers' Schedules

Rev. Macklin's regular day off is Tuesday.

Office hours: M, W, Th, F

Rev. Macklin will be away August 13-19

Her mobile number is 322-0205.

Rev. Breeden's regular days off are W, Th

Office hours: M, T, F

Rev. Breeden will be away Aug 2-9.

His mobile number is 360-1779.

Women's Alliance Meets Aug. 3

Come a meet friendly UUs at the Women's Alliance at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, August 3, in Fellowship Hall. Bring a brown bag lunch. Desserts and beverages provided. Childcare in Room 108. Hope to see you there! Special programs begin in September.

--Jean Knowlton

Parent Talk: Parents of Adults will meet on Sunday, August 13, 12:15 to 2:15 p.m. in the church Library. Bring a brown bag lunch and join the discussion. We share ideas and concerns about staying connected with our adult children. Questions, contact Dorothy Sowell 334-0169, d.j.sowell@insightbb.com.



Adult Religious Education News

Saturday, Sept. 9:
Save the date. The Adult Religious Education film series will resume on

Saturday, September 9 with "Times of the Sign." There will be a "Big Name" personality here to narrate this documentary. Potluck at 6:00, Film at 6:30 p.m.

Lunch with a Minister

Have lunch with a minister once a month. Rev. Breeden invites all who wish to attend to bring a brown bag lunch and join him in Fellowship Hall on the following Mondays at 12:00 noon: August 14, September 18, October 16, November 20.

Attendance Figures

Sun, Jul 23, 9:00 – 80; 11:15 – 116; Totl 196
Sun, Jul 30, 9:00 – 92; 11:15 – 126; Totl 218

Sunday Plate Offering Figures

Sun, July 23 non-pledge offering: \$255
Sun, July 30 non-pledge offering: \$284
Total to Stepping Stones Inc.: \$135

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The Prologue July 31, 2006 Page 5



The Problem Has Not Gone Away!

Midterm elections are rapidly approaching! We must act NOW to be sure the October / November elections are secure!

Due to the numerous well-documented cases of voter suppression, ballot fraud, conflict of interests, corruptible electronic voting machines and antiquated voter registration procedures, many millions of Americans have come to distrust our voting and election systems. Ironically, this loss of confidence is occurring precisely when our nation is aggressively attempting to foster democracy in other parts of the world.

So many crises throughout the U.S. and the world keep us distracted from this dire situation of election fraud. **THE PROBLEM PERSISTS!** We have an urgent need for election reforms and must not be distracted from a situation that will continue to repeat itself unless we address such issues as: voter-verified paper ballots, manual audits to be sure the machines are counting accurately, uniform ballots, fair allocation of voting machines/poll workers, uniform standards for vote recounts, elimination of partisan election officials, prohibition of voting machine companies engaging in political activities, and a transparent process throughout.

Excellent candidates and campaigns alone will not always prevail. We must also make certain that elections are free and fair and that all votes are counted accurately. Join us to learn what you can do to prevent further election inequities. Join us for the faith in

action forum, 10:15-11:15 a.m. on Sunday, August 27 in the Library. The forum will end in time for those who wish to attend the second service.

The UU Missing Link

What is missing in your Summer? It started out with such promise, now the heat, the rain, and the World Situations have you down. Not only that, where are your new friends, where is the good food, what do you have to look forward to? That is the UU Missing Link. Be of good cheer. If we can get through August it will soon be September and the Missing Link, the F.D.*, will come to your rescue. If you are stumped, the UU Missing Link can only be the *FELLOWSHIP DINNERS!!! Sign up sheets will be available soon. --Dolores Freiburger

Unitarian Universalist Friends of Lotus: Publicity Opportunity

Join other UUs in supporting the Lotus World Music & Arts Festival, October 5-8, and marketing our UU belief in Lotus's message of diversity. Write a personal check to LEAF (Lotus Education & Arts Foundation), get tax credit for your own donation, and create one united UU contribution to make our church a Lotus Festival Sponsor. . ***Please write "UUs for Lotus" on the memo line! Send to: Deborah Klein, LEAF, Development Director, 103 N College Ave, Bloomington, IN 47402 Questions? Call: Deb Hutton (H: 334-4103; huttond@indiana.edu)



UU Green Moment: The July 31 Prologue uses only one and a half sheets! --cm

The Prologue July 31, 2006 Page 4

Summer Religious Education: Family Social Justice Opportunities

One of the major themes in our children's Religious Education (RE) program is social justice. As Unitarian Universalists, we want our children to feel empowered to make a difference in the world. This summer we are participating in Heifer International's Read to Feed project and we are planning a family day with Habitat for Humanity.

Read to Feed is both a motivation to read and a chance for kids to learn about diverse cultures and the importance of food, water, and hunger issues around the world. Children get sponsors, so that the more they read, the more money they raise for Heifer International to provide farm animals for hungry families around the world. Please contact us if you are interested in sponsoring a child in the congregation or if your family needs more information to participate. We are planning our celebration of this project for the end of the summer.

Save the date for Saturday, September 16, which will be our Family Day with the Habitat for Humanity project. Families with children of all ages will meet at the church in the morning to make lunch for the volunteers on the work site. Volunteers 16 years old and up are needed to help paint the house that day.

Cindy Port
Acting Director of Religious Education
dre@uubloomington.org

Important Religious Education Dates

August 6 – Rainforest Celebration
August 13 – Grades 7-12 Canoe Trip
August 27 – Water Communion
August 26 – Teacher Training
September 10 – First Day of RE
fall semester



Notably For Newcomers

The Rev. Dr. Paul Rasor, a Unitarian Universalist minister, is director of the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom

and professor of interdisciplinary studies at Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk, Virginia. His recent book, *Faith Without Certainty: Liberal Theology in the 21st Century*, available in our Library, explores the dynamic tensions of religious liberalism. The book identifies the characteristics of liberal theology, delving into its historical, intellectual, and social context.

In the final chapter he writes, "Liberal theology is not for the faint of heart. It points us in a general direction without telling us the specific destination. It refuses to make our commitments for us but holds us accountable for the commitments we make. The liberal religious tradition is an invitation, not a mandate. It invites us to live with ambiguity without giving in to facile compromise; to engage in dialogue without trying to control the conversation; to be open to change without accepting change too casually; to take commitment seriously but not blindly; and to be engaged in the culture without succumbing to the culture's values. Liberal religion calls us to strength without rigidity, conviction without ideology, openness without laziness. It asks us to pay attention. It's an eyes-wide-open faith, a faith without certainty."

Paul Lane, for the Membership Committee

Our Folks...

We draw a circle around all the members of our community who are in need of healing. Our thoughts are with them and with all those who are traveling far from home.

The Prologue July 31, 2006 Page 3

Silence in the Meeting Room

Appreciated Please observe silence in the Meeting Room on Sundays until 15 minutes before each service, to allow our musicians and worship presenters to prepare for the service.

Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of our Board of Directors meetings are posted on the bulletin board in the Courtyard entrance after they have been corrected and approved. The Board meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

Women's Alliance Meetings

The Women's Alliance will meet at noon on August 6 for its monthly meeting. A brown bag lunch begins at 11:30am; drinks and dessert provided. August's hosts are Joan Hongen and Sylvia King. Child care is also provided. Come this month to meet and socialize with other UUs.

August – Joan Hongen and Sylvia King
September – Edrice Baker and Joan Bennett
October – Cookie Lynch and Tommie Owens
November – Katherine Hopkins and Susan Bucove
December – Jean Anderson and Dorothy Davis
January – Velma Harrison and Elizabeth Lion
February – Julie Lawson and Lee Strickholm
March – Kay Harris and Dee Lane
April – Roberta Watson and Dolores Freiburger

UU Board of Directors

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Bobbi Lahre, GK Rowe

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Office Assistant: Louis Tenney
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Sound Manager: Tom Yeiser
soundmgr@uubloomington.org
Cleaning Services: Commerical Cleaners, Inc.

Large Print Materials Available Each Sunday

Large print orders of service and large print hymnals are available at all of our Sunday services. Hearing assist devices are also available. Please see the Greeters for any of

these items. Large-print versions of the Prologue are available upon request to Carol Marks, admin@uubloomington.org.

Postings to Office First, Please

If you have an item of community interest to post on our bulletin board in the Courtyard entrance, please bring it to Room 204 and the administrative staff will see that it is posted.

Parking Options on Sundays

Please remember that, in addition to parking on all sides of our building, we can also park on Jordan Avenue, just a short walk to the south of the church property, on Sundays. The IU police do not ticket us on Sundays.