

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana
Congregation founded 1949



*Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community
Changing the World*

Thursday, December 21 Pizza Dinner 5:30 p.m., Service at 6:15 p.m.
Intergenerational Solstice Service

Rev. Emily Manvel Leite, Cindy Port, and Beckie Wagner
with Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

Come observe the turning of the season. Our quiet, joyful solstice ceremony is designed for people age 6 and up. We will share a time of growing darkness, then bring back the light together through ritual and song. The children's choir will perform as a part of this service. Child care will be available for children younger than age 6.

Sunday, December 24 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

"The Lightness of Angels" Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

In this morning service, riding on the wings of the Winter Solstice, we will greet the returning light of the sun and ponder the message of angels. Reflections will be offered upon the twelve days of Christmas, the origins of sacred traditions, and the lightness of angels. Special music will include a piece from harpist Erik Appel and selected gifts of music from our pianist, Sally Todd.

"Away in A Manger" 4:00 p.m.

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Cindy Port, Acting Director of Religious Education

Join us for a Nativity Pageant for Young Children. This interactive nativity pageant service will focus on an atmosphere welcoming to small children (infants through age 6) and their families and friends. There will be carol singing throughout this retelling of the familiar Christmas story.

"In Search of Room in the Inn" 7:00 p.m.

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin, Reverend Bill Breeden,
Reverend Barbara Carlson, Minister Emerita

In our annual Christmas Eve service, Reverend Macklin and Reverend Breeden will offer reflections on "In Search of Room in the Inn." We are delighted that our Minister Emerita, Reverend Barbara Carlson, will also join us in this service. Special music will feature a pre-service performance of jazz arrangements of Christmas carols composed by Peter Strickholm, and performed by Jonathan and Nathaniel Elmer; a gift of music from the choir with tenor soloist Tom Gregory, directed by David McIntosh; and a movement from George Crumb's *Little Christmas Suite* by Sally Todd. Candle lighting and "Silent Night" will be part of this service.

"Meditative Service" 9:00 p.m. Reverend Bill Breeden

A service of sharing Christmas joys and memories in an informal style. Candle lighting and "Silent Night" will be included as part of the service.

Sunday, December 24 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

"The Lightness of Angels" Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

Sunday, December 31 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

"Looking Back to Go Ahead" Rev. Bill Breeden

Sunday, January 7, 2007 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin presents her annual Science Review sermon.

Peace from the Ministers

Sometimes there is dissonance in peace. Many messages during this time of year suggest we feel only peace, joy and hope during the holiday season. However, there may be dissonance in our lives that does not encourage these feelings. Some of you are dealing with profound loss due to the death of family members, loved ones, or beloved pets; others are dealing with unexpected change which has resulted in altered plans and expectations; still others are in the midst of other deep transitions. Within our circle of care during this holiday season, may we, as a congregational community, be mindful of those who may be experiencing feelings of loneliness, sadness or dissonance during these days. May we each take time for a moment of kindness (for others as well as ourselves) and be in gratitude for all that gives life its wings.

In this spirit of gratitude, we offer special thanks to our Acting Minister of Religious Education, Reverend Emily Manvel Leite and Acting Director of Religious Education, Cindy Port, for the inspiring "Procession of Giving: Sharing of Gifts" worship services on December 17. Also, heartfelt thanks to all of our friends and members of the congregation who generously gave in this annual intergenerational service. Your contributions added to the spirit of the day and will benefit many in our community and in the larger world. It is truly a gift to have all of us gathered, of all ages, in our worship services periodically throughout the year.

We are also grateful for the ongoing excellence of the music we enjoy every Sunday. The richness of these gifts is beyond words. Of course, ongoing kudos to the staff, board and other volunteers of our congregation. We share the ministry and hopes of this liberal religious community with you as we seek the spirit, build community and change the world. One small "peace" at a time.

We hope many of you will join us this Thursday for a "Winter Solstice Intergenerational Worship Service". We, Reverend Breeden and Reverend Macklin, will join Reverend Emily Manvel Leite, Cindy Port, and Beckie Wagner for this service which honors one of the sources from which our Unitarian Universalist living tradition draws: "Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature." This service begins at 6:15 (pizza dinner at 5:30pm) and is designed for ages 6 and older.

As for Sunday, December 24th, we will have our regular 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. morning worship services, and then our regular Christmas Eve services later that afternoon and evening. Please see Page 1 for details. Of note, we welcome our Minister Emerita, Reverend Barbara Carlson, as a participant in the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service. We look forward to the present of her presence. Reverend Carlson, who served this congregation for 12 years, retired in the summer of 2005. If you read the Sunday Herald Times, you know Reverend Carlson has not been sitting idly by. She is out speaking her truth about injustice and unfair labor practices. Which brings us to this conclusion: "Unitarian Universalist ministers do not retire, they just go out protesting!"

With blessings of peace and warmth in this holiday season, *MAM and Bill*

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and
Reverend Bill Breeden

Spring 2007 Religious Education Teachers

Have you thanked a teacher lately? Our religious education program is blessed to have so many wonderful teachers and facilitators. Check out who is going to be teaching next semester, which starts Sunday, January 21st.

9:00 a.m.

Preschool: Sandy Pate*, Allan Paton*, Cathy Fuentes-Rohwer

K-1st: Laura Mojonier, Diane Monroe, Chris Haynes

2nd-6th: Matthias Weber*, Amelia Davis*, Melissa Keller

11:15 a.m.

Preschool: Glenda Breeden*, Stephanie Kimball, _____

K-1st: Peg Sutton*, Anne Veldman, Kimberly Wagner*

2nd grade: Jennifer Staab*, Carol Hetrick*, Kim Sackman

3rd-4th: Andrew Appel, Denisha Jones, Joan Caulton

5th-6th: Pat Aungst*, Guy Loftman*, Bob Port

Neighboring Faiths: Karen Jewell*, Emily Houlik-Ritchey*, Mary Jane Padron*, Debbie Acito*

YUUMS (middle school): Joanne Henriot*, Martha Nord*, David Lewis*, and Jonathan Elmer*

YRUU (High School): Eve and Sam Cusack*, Martha Oakley*, Adam Leite*, and Rev. Mary Ann Macklin*

Coming of Age: Martha Nord* and Angela Lexmond*

*indicates teaching Fall 2007 semester as well! Please help us thank these teachers and our out-going crew: Mindy King, Leslie Gooldy, Doris Wittenburg, Anne Starace, Dennis Duvali, Cindy Brandes, Ann Kamman, Catherine Gray, Bret Earheart, Sharon Mayell, Mark Veldman, Christine McKenna, and Katie Peebles.

Cindy Port, Acting Director of Religious Ed.



Notably for Newcomers

Social justice is a primary mission of Unitarian Universalists. It is why many of us choose to become involved in the congregation. Our congregation has a particularly healthy list of social justice task forces that are active in the life of the congregation. Consider becoming involved with one of these vital groups as your new year's resolution or holiday gift to your community.

Children's Task Force promotes the welfare of all children in our community.

Civil Marriage is a Civil Right Task Force focuses on opposing Indiana constitutional amendments to ban same sex marriage.

Economic Justice Task Force strives to focus on economic equity both local and global.

Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change strives to reduce the ecological footprint made by the UU Church in Bloomington and also to raise awareness of environmental issues.

Habitat for Humanity Task Force supports decent affordable housing for all members of the community.

Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) Task Force supports the work of MCUM. This includes emergency assistance to families as well as holiday food baskets and regular food drives.

Task Force on a Just Peace explores peace activism within our congregation.

Unitarian Universalists for Alternatives to the Death Penalty(UUADP)/Toll the Bells Task Force brings awareness on issues of the death penalty to the congregation. The Toll the Bells task force initiative hangs a banner every time there is an execution in the US. --Amy Cornell

Connections Subcouncil Busy Helping You Stay Connected

The Connections Subcouncil is made up of representatives from a variety of committees: Membership, Fellowship Hour, Greeters, Stewardship, Chalice Circles, Nominating, Denominational Affairs and RE. It has been meeting monthly and is again organizing a

Getting Involved Fair on January 28. This will be an opportunity for all committees and groups in the church to “advertise” and “recruit” new members. This is a great opportunity for new friends and visitors to see the wide variety of activities available and to talk with folks from these groups. This fun event will take place after each service on Sunday, January 28. All groups in the church are welcome to participate. Please contact Denise Ogren so tables can be set up for you. dogren@insightbb.com.

What About New Name Tags? The Connections Subcouncil is also organizing a small group to study getting **new name tags**. We need a few people interested in “shopping” and researching the possibilities of name tags that are easier to read and with no pins. We will also be looking into ways to store and display them. We will meet in January to begin this process. If you want to join this group or have input about the church name tags, please contact Denise Ogren, dogren@insightbb.com.

Two Grants Awarded From 3% Funds

The Social Justice Funds Committee is pleased to announce that we have funded two grant applications submitted to our committee on November 1. The quality of the applications as well as the benefit to the community of the projects once again demonstrates that we are the “social action church.”

Monroe County United Ministries Task Force -- \$500

The Task Force will organize, produce, and publicize a benefit concert by pianist Sally Todd with admission by donation of food items. They will also organize a Stone Soup Sunday in September 2007 that will benefit MCUM.

New Leaf, New Life and Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) -- \$480

The money will be used to create 240 seasonal craft kits for Monroe County Jail inmates. Inmates will assemble the crafts, personalize them and send them as gifts to their children. Members of the congregation and the larger community will be invited to participate in the creation of the kits.

Two other grants await approval by our Board of Directors because the amounts requested exceed \$500.

The Social Justice Funds Committee:
Joan Caulton and Carol Parks, co-chairs
John Woodcock

Where is the church calendar?

A current church activities calendar is located at: www.uubloomington.org/roomCal/monthFull.php, as well as in every issue of the Prologue.

The Prologue is published on alternate Mondays with exceptions by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana, Inc., 2120 N. Fee Ln, Bloomington, IN 47408-1646. December 18, 2006 Issue Carol Marks, Editor, admin@uubloomington.org.



The Second Saturday Silver Screen Series Continues!
Saturday, January 13
Potluck @ 6 PM, Film @ 6:30 PM;
discussion following movie
"KINSEY"

2004 film written & directed by Bill Condon

Actors: Laura Linney, Liam Neeson,

Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow, Chris O'Donnell, Timothy Hutton, Tim O'Donnell, Oliver Platt (as Herman B Wells)

119 minutes

"larger than life biopic...funny and brutal"—Stella Papamichael

"glowing tribute to Alfred Kinsey, the biologist-turned sexologist"—
hollywoodreporter.com



Sunday, January 14:
Veggie Potluck
plus a Viewing of
An Inconvenient Truth

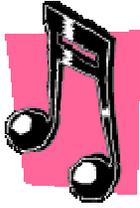
You are invited to our next very special UU Veggie Potluck, Sun. Jan. 14th, where we will share a meal (5:00 p.m.) followed by a showing of An Inconvenient Truth (6:00 p.m.). Even if you have seen the movie, we encourage you to attend and join in discussion about how you can take action to reduce global warming. Bring a friend! Dinner at 5:00 p.m., Movie and discussion at 6:00. Families are encouraged to enjoy the potluck dinner together, and childcare for children under age 13 can be provided from 5:45-8:30 during the movie. **If you need childcare for this event, please call the church office, 332-3695, by Friday, Jan. 5th!** Please bring a vegetarian dish of your choice -- no meat products of any kind, no seafood, no poultry (dairy and egg products are okay, but vegan dishes are welcome, too) -- along with one copy of your recipe. Water and table service will be provided. For info, contact: Jill at jwaggene@mccsc.edu. Sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change. Live Green!

Seeking a Campus Ministry Assistant

Our campus ministry program is looking for a new assistant to work with the university community beginning in 2007. The position (\$8 per hour; approximately 60 hours per semester and 25 hours in the summer, divided weekly) carries the expectation of working Sunday mornings but otherwise flexible scheduling. Responsibilities include active congregational and campus outreach, leadership development, and organizing connections between people and groups. Send a letter and resume to UU Church of Bloomington, Attn: Campus Ministry, 2120 N. Fee Lane, Bloomington, IN 47408.
Inquiries: Katie Peebles (Campus Ministry chair), 812-857-2235, kpeebles@indiana.edu

BULLETIN BOARD

HOUSING NEEDED MAY 3-6, 2007, for graduation weekend for UU grandparents of IU graduating senior. Ed and Edith Savage, Esavage1@gmail.com.



UU Children's Choir Schedule

--Thurs Dec. 21st --

Sing at Intergenerational Winter Solstice Service:
Dinner at 5:30,
Warm-up in Meeting Room at 5:55,
Sing in service at 6:15

Our next singing opportunity will be for the Wed. Feb. 7th Family Worship service. New singers, Kg-8th grade are welcome! Rehearsals will be Jan. 21st, Jan. 28th, and Feb. 4th, all from 10:15-11:00 in Room 212. Questions? Contact Jill at jwaggene@mccsc.edu or 330-8829

Our Folks...

Our sympathy and prayers are with Andrew and Charlotte Appel and their family. Andrew's mother, Lois Appel, passed away on December 7.

Congratulations to Teal Larsen, who was recently named a Wells Scholar at Indiana University. Teal grew up in our congregation and is currently part of our paid childcare staff.

Harvest for Hope Will Meet January 7

The "Harvest for Hope" adult religious education class will meet next on Sunday, January 7, 2007, 3:00-4:45 p.m. Bring a healthful snack to share. --Mary Ann (Reverend Mary Ann Macklin)

Alliance To Have "Sociability" Meeting January 4

The Thursday, January 4, 2007, meeting of the Women's Alliance will be devoted to "sociability," with no formal program planned. A brown bag lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, with beverages and dessert to be provided by hostesses Elizabeth Lion and Harriet Pfister. Everyone is welcome to attend this first meeting of the New Year--including children with their mothers or fathers.

Bazaar Book Sale Thanks

Thank You! Thank You!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the Bazaar Book Sale. We had nearly record sales due to the good quality book donations and the help of everyone who assisted with set-up, bringing the books to the church and the sales table. Thanks again. Joanna Clees

Attendance Figures

Sun, Dec. 10, 9:00--166; 11:15--292; Totl 458

Religious Ed.: 9:00-- 24 children, 8 adults

11:15-- 54 children, 13 adults

Sun, Dec. 17, 9:00--99; 11:15--174; Totl 273

Religious Ed.: numbers not available

Sunday Plate Offering Figures

Sun, Dec 10 non-pledge offering: \$483

Sun, Dec 17 non-pledge offering: \$292

Total to Stepping Stones Inc.: \$194

Community Connections
Our faith in action in the community

Hoosier Hills Food Bank Seeking Volunteer Crews to volunteer for our upcoming CSFP (Commodity Supplemental Food Program) packing. Is there a group of UUs interested in helping once a month for an hour or so to support nutrition assistance to seniors in our area? [Chalice Circles might be a possibility. –Ed.] Contact Stephanie Solomon, volunteer@hhfoodbank.org, 812.334.8374

Dec. 31, 2006 - New Year's Eve Extravaganza to benefit Middle Way House beginning at 9 p.m. at the Fourwinds Resort & Marina, 9301 Fairfax Road. The Fourwinds on Lake Monroe is hosting the event and providing robust hors d'oeuvres and champagne toast at midnight, and Craig & the Crawdads are providing dance music. For event ticket information – Toby Strout, Middle Way House, 812-333-7404

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) thanks the congregation for its generous \$480 Social Justice Grant. These monies allow them to start "Crafting Bridges." "Crafting Bridges" will be a collaborative effort between the UU Church, RSVP, and New Leaf-New Life. They will organize craft projects to be given to inmates at our local jail who will create gifts for their children. Volunteers will design the projects, help inmates create the gifts, and get the packages sent. This will help:

- * Bridge the parent/child gap
- * Parents develop healthy ways of relating to their children
- * Children feel cared for and loved
- * Prepare the inmates to reenter into their role as mother or father once released

To volunteer, contact Christine McKenna, 876-3383, 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
Her mobile number is 322-0205.
Rev. Breeden's regular days off are W, Th
Office hours: M, T, F
His mobile number is 360-1779.

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 Monday, January 15 at 12 noon.

Faith in Action Forums

Take place in the Library on Sunday at 10:15-11:30 a.m. (Contact Jackie Hall, jmhall@indiana.edu, to schedule a forum.)
Forum topics are listed in *The Prologue* as scheduled.

Commitment Sunday: April 1 **“We’re All in This Together!”**

--The Stewardship Committee

Chalice Circles Always Open

If you would like to join our Chalice Circles small group ministry, be sure to contact the church office. You may join a Chalice Circle at any time.

Thanks To Chalice Circle Leaders! Our Board of Directors voted on December 13 to officially thank the Chalice Circle facilitators and leadership team for the dedication and efficiency with which they established the Chalice Circles. It is a very successful aspect of our shared ministry. This is, in part, due to the diligence that Carol Parks and Anne Haynes have given to the project. Many thanks to Carol, Anne and the committee. --UU Board of Directors



Thanks from the MCUM Task Force MANY THANKS to the congregation from the MCUM Task Force:

* 1000 pounds to the MCUM Food Pantry from our Bounty-Full Sunday collections this year. Our kick-off was October 1.

* 48 Holiday Baskets to MCUM. They collected a total of 70 baskets.

* Mary Blizzard and all of the knitters of hats and mittens sold at the Bazaar. \$1000 was contributed to MCUM as a result.

* Bob and Sandy Taylor for their generous donation to the Food Pantry
Reminder: BOUNTY-FULL SUNDAY is January 7. The need is great.

Earth Tips for the Holidays

Need a last minute gift idea that helps the environment? Try giving a gift donation to an environmental organization. For example, at Defenders of Wildlife and National Wildlife Federation you can adopt or protect animals like wolves and manatees, and at Carbonfund.org you can give a virtual "stocking stuffer" for as little as \$5.50 that helps to offset carbon emissions! As a bonus, when you shop for gifts like these on-line, you are reducing your own carbon emissions by not driving or contributing toward shipping.

Live Green, Give Green!

The Green Sanctuary Task Force

Welcome to Our Newest Members, who signed our Membership Book on December 17:

Lori Carmichael-Howell

Jonathan Elmer

Raymond Rust

Pete Venstra

Deborah Zera

Interested in knowing more about Unitarian Universalism, or this congregation? Then sign up for the January Exploring UU class! The sign-up sheet is at the Newcomer Welcome table in the foyer. The Exploring UU class will be held at a new time, from 3 - 5 pm on Sundays, January 14 and 21.

This class is open to anyone - interested new members, long-time friends and even current members who would like a refresher. The class fills up quickly, so put your name on the list today. For questions, contact Stephanie Wilson at 812-339-1246 or stephw7@sbcglobal.net.

Want to Become a Mediator?

The Community Justice & Mediation Center (CJAM) is sponsoring a basic community mediation training January 18-28, 2007. The 32-hr. training will be held on evening and weekend hours in downtown Bloomington. The registration deadline is January 10. For details, e-mail cjam@bloomington.in.us or call (812) 336-8677.

The mission of the Community Justice & Mediation Center is to promote a civil and just community through mediation, education and restorative justice.

Wheelchair Needed for Use at Church We could use a new folding wheelchair for use at church. Contact Carol Marks, 332-3695 or admin@uubloomington.org if you have one to donate.

FELLOWSHIP DINNERS - JANUARY

#18-HOST-GEORGE & MARYANN CUSACK

GUESTS-Marjorie & John Crosby

Dolores Freiburger

Elizabeth Lion

Lloyd Orr & Jackie Hall

Dave Parkhurst

Louis & Emily Tenney

#19-HOST-JUDY BENNETT & KAREN

DESSAUER

GUESTS-Paul & Dee Lane

Cookie & Bill Lynch

Peggy & John Woodcock

#20-HOST-LIBBY & BOB DEVOE

GUESTS-Jean Knowlton & Velma Harrison

Steven Lessmann

Vern & Judy Peterson

Raymond & Rita Rust

Ann Watzel

#21-HOST-TOM & DIANE GREGORY

GUESTS-Bob & Laura Campbell

Scott & Rhonda Clower

Jan Skinner & B.J.Lawrance

#22-HOST-KATHERINE HOPKINS

GUESTS-Joan Caulton & Ed Greenebaum

Paul Petersen

Mark Day & Jean Sebeok

#23-HOST-KARLA & HUGO KUNOFF

GUESTS-Mary Andrus Overley & Don

Halford

Cathy & Dick Hiatt

Ted & Diann Lock

#24-HOST-GLEE NOBLE

GUESTS-Klara Cook

Rob & Joan Hongen

Tommie & Walt Owens

Kevin Rottet & Dave Crane

#25HOST-HARRIET & DICK PFISTER

GUESTS-Jennifer & Jason Blankenship

Susan Bucove & Elizabeth Pitts

Sandy & Bob Taylor

#26HOST-DENISE & HAROLD OGREN

GUESTS-Pat Aungst

Kathy & Craig Barton

Bill Baus

Rick & Lois Holl

It's not too late to join this merry group. Start 2007 by enjoying a good meal with a lot of good folks.

Call Dolores, 331-2611.

UU Board of Directors

Jason Hill, President,

pres@uubloomington.org

Jan Skinner, Vice President,

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Lloyd Orr, Treasurer,

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Dorothy Sowell, Secretary,

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Chris Clothier, Past President,

pastpres@uubloomington.org

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The Rev. Bill Breeden

breeden@uubloomington.org

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dre@uubloomington.org

Acting Minister of Religious Education:

The Rev. Emily Manvel Leite

mre@uubloomington.org

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rea@uubloomington.org

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music@uubloomington.org

Pianist: Sally Todd, pianist@uubloomington.org

Children's Choir Director: Jill Waggener,

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Sound Manager: Tom Yeiser

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Cleaning Services: Commercial Cleaners, Inc.