

~ The Prologue ~

December 10, 2007

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana
Congregation founded 1949

*Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community
Changing the World*



Sunday, December 16, 2007 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Drawing from the Sources Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Bill Breeden
Special Music from The Choir, directed by Susan Swaney
Music by Deborah Phelps

Join us for our annual All Music Sunday as we celebrate the festivity of this season and our liberal religious tradition. Special music composed by member Deborah Phelps will highlight the sources we draw from for inspiration as Unitarian Universalists within the living tradition we share. As part of this seasonal celebration we will also welcome Reverend Macklin as she returns from her sabbatical leave.

Friday, December 21, 2007 Intergenerational Solstice Service 6:15 p.m.

Rev. Emily Manvel Leite, Cindy Port, Beckie Wagner,
Rev. Bill Breeden, and Rev. Mary Ann Macklin
Pasta Dinner 5:30 p.m., Service at 6:15 p.m.

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. Suggested donation for dinner is \$1.00 per person.

Further Upcoming Services

Sunday, December 23, Our Calling to Work Magic Every Day - Rev. Barbara Child

Monday, December 24 4:00 p.m. Away in a Manger (especially for young children and their parents), with Cindy Port, Director of Religious Education and Rev. Mary Ann Macklin
7:00 p.m. The Wise Ones Follow a Star, with Choir and Rev. Macklin, Rev. Breeden, Rev. Carlson, and Rev. Child. Childcare provided.

9:00 p.m. Meditative Service, sharing Christmas joys and memories, with Rev. Breeden

Sunday, December 30, Bringing in the New Year – Rev. Bill Breeden

Wednesday, January 2, Kwanzaa Celebration -- Family Worship and Dinner



Children's Choir Schedule

Sun. 12/16: Sing end of first service, beginning of 2nd service. Rm. 212 at 9:30am.

Fri. 12/21: Sing @ 7pm Winter Solstice Service. Rm. 212 @ 6:40pm for rehearsal.

Questions? Contact Jill: jcourtne@mccsc.edu *The Prologue December 10, 2007 Page 1*

The West Window

By the time you are reading this, I will have returned with my colleague, co-minister and very good friend, Rev. Mary Ann Macklin. Keep us in your thoughts as we cruise back to Bloomington as she returns from her Sabbatical. She will be with us on Sunday, December 16 to celebrate the premiere of Deborah Phelps's new music, performed by our wonderful choir. It will be a celebration, and I hope you all will be there.

As I take leave this early Monday morning, my thoughts and prayers are with all those who must face this season of joy with the pain of violence and alienation. Whether it be senseless church shootings, school shootings, domestic violence or the absurd decriminalized violence of war, this world needs the message of peace more than ever. Carry that message in your hearts. Wear it on your faces. Let us be the bearers of the good news, the gospel of universal love and acceptance to a world ready to hear and receive such good tidings. See you on Sunday.

Peace—bill

Rev. Bill Breeden, Minister

Pictorial Directory Coming

Soon We have included one last address and phone number update for our October 2006 directory in this issue of The Prologue. Our new pictorial directory proof book has been meticulously reviewed and was express mailed back for printing on Friday, December 7. We will mail a copy to everyone as soon as the new directories arrive.

Sabbatical Scoop

Welcome, and Thank You!

We have reached the end of Rev. Mary Ann Macklin's sabbatical and she will return to us for some remarkable ministerial remarks on Sunday, December 16th. We will welcome her back that day between services during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall.

The following Sunday, December 23, is the Rev. Barbara Child's last scheduled day in our pulpit. There will be a reception between the services, again in Fellowship Hall. At that time we will thank her for the time she has spent with us during Rev. Mary Ann Macklin's sabbatical.

The Sabbatical Committee would like to thank Rev. Child, Rev. Breeden, and the many other people who have made the time of Rev. Macklin's sabbatical so rich, meaningful, and rewarding. We have, indeed, spent valuable time exploring "Our UU Identity," our theme for this sabbatical.

We would also like to welcome Rev. Mary Ann Macklin back to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington. Welcome back, MAM!

--The Sabbatical Committee

Our Folks...

Best wishes for quick healing to

Lorraine Hawking, recovering from oral surgery

Diane Port, recovering from knee replacement surgery

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Winter Holiday Religious Education Events

December 21, 5:30pm, Dinner and Intergenerational Winter

Solstice Service with Rev. Leite. Join us for a family worship style service celebrating the Winter Solstice, pasta dinner provided at 5:30 (\$1.00 suggested per person.) Worship at 6:15pm

December 16 and 23, 9am and 11:15am

Religious Education Classes

December 24, 4pm "Away in a Manger" Family Worship with Rev. Macklin



A casual Christmas Eve service; young children are encouraged to dress up for this interactive Christmas Pageant.

Contact Cindy Port for details about how to dress up and what to bring.

December 24, 7pm Traditional

Christmas Eve service, "The Wise Ones Follow a Star." Childcare provided for younger children.

December 30, 9am and 11:15am New Years Vacation Religious Education and childcare, join us as we celebrate the turning of the year with our fire ritual

January 2nd, 5:30pm, Kwanzaa Family Worship Feast. Join us for a

traditional Soul Food dinner cooked by Renee Reed in celebration of Kwanzaa and African American Heritage. Wear African clothing if you have it. Please plan to help with clean-up afterwards!



Cindy Port, Director of Religious Education, dre@uubloomington.org
Rev. Emily Manvel Leite, Minister of Religious Education, mre@uubloomington.org

Last Chance for Spring Adult Religious Education Proposals

Have you ever wanted to lead a discussion about a religious topic with folks who share your interests? The Adult Religious Education Committee (ARE) invites you to propose a course offering for this coming winter or spring, 2008. Popular topics have included exploration of the world's religions, UU history, and what it means to be a UU. A proposal form with guidelines is available from the ARE box in the workroom or from the church office. Please return completed forms ASAP to the workroom ARE box, or email it to devoe@indiana.edu.

Faith in Action Forums are held at 10:15 a.m. in the Library on Sundays. To schedule a faith in action forum, contact Jackie Hall at jmhall@indiana.edu.

Chalice Circles Enrollment



Chalice Circles, our program of small group ministry, gives participants an opportunity to get to know others and themselves more deeply by sharing their lives in small, facilitated groups. Groups of no more than ten meet once or twice a month in members' homes to focus on deep listening, and groups do service projects for the church and community. Prepared session plans are used to guide each session. New members are welcome. If you would like to participate in a Chalice Circle, please contact Anne Haynes (anhaynes@indiana.edu or 336-3221) or Carol Parks (pearlparks@gmail.com or 336-1592).



Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar Kudos and Thanks to All!

The 49th annual Art Fair and Bazaar is now a sweet memory. It was a financial success, but much more than that, it was a testament to our spirit of community. The Bazaar Committee would like everybody to know that almost 100 people signed up for and worked one or more volunteer shifts during the two-day bazaar, and dozens and dozens more baked cookies, bread, and cakes, pickled green tomatoes, processed persimmons, made tubs of soups and tons of pies, donated books, knitted hats and scarves, dug up wonderful White Elephant treasures, pushed brooms, put up flyers, and helped in so many other small and large ways. We wish we could thank you all personally. And we wish we could tell you how many visitors we had, but everyone agrees it was certainly many hundreds, and for many of them it was a happy discovery of UU hospitality. So warmest thanks to all who worked, played, purchased, or just hung out – And greetings of the season from your Bazaar Committee.

Lost Jewelry Box at White Elephant – Sold by Mistake

Dear hearts & gentle people: please help fix last year's White Elephant's Trunk jewelry box mix-up. Last year in the excitement of final Saturday sales we sold a small wooden jewelry box with a pink velvet ring compartment that still contained a number of rings not meant to be sold. The rings are of great family

sentimental value to an older couple of our congregation. If you are the woman, or you know the woman, who purchased this box, please talk to Helen or Mitch at 812-337-1306 as soon as possible, so that we can work out some way of returning these items of the heart to their family.

Cookie Walk Thanks Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Cookie Walk a success--the dozens and dozens of you who baked cookies (by the dozens and dozens), the cheerful volunteers who worked at the table, and the lucky customers who purchased and enjoyed our cookies. We couldn't have done it without you!

---The Cookie Walk Committee (Mary Bent, Karla Kunoff, and Jane McLeod)

Gourmet Galaxy Says Thanks

Thank you to all who contributed their excellent culinary specialties to make this year's Gourmet Galaxy a great success! We also want to thank all of you that worked in the booth during the Bazaar. It takes a lot of folks' combined efforts to create such a success. Every person's contribution was appreciated.

--Co-chairs Kay Harris, Judy Bennett and Karen Cassidy

Scheduling a Meeting?

Be sure to refer to our church activity calendar online at uubloomington.org to see if space is available. Then email admin@uubloomington.org to schedule your event.



Earth Tips: Low-Energy is Good When it comes to Holiday Lights!

The newest energy-saving stars on the holiday scene are Christmas lights made with light-emitting diodes, or LEDs. First introduced in 2001, LEDs incorporate the same computer-chip technology used to light calculators and watches. The lights, which use semi-conducting material rather than incandescent filaments, are 90 percent more efficient than traditional Christmas lights. According to one U.S. Department of Energy study, if we all replaced our conventional holiday light strings with LEDs, at least two billion kilowatt-hours of electricity could be saved in a month. LED lights are available at most home stores (like Menards and Lowes). (Source: National Geographic News online)
—Green Sanctuary Task Force

**Exploring UU Class Offered
January 13 & 20** Want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and this congregation? Then sign up for the January Exploring UU class at the Welcome Table in the foyer. The class will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sundays January 13 and 20. This class is open to anyone: visitors, newcomers, long time friends. Free child care is available with advance notice. For questions, contact Libby DeVoe 336-8688 or edevoe@indiana.edu .

BULLETIN BOARD Visiting professor seeks house, condo, or apartment to housesit or sublet beginning January 2008. Please call 502-553-0614.



Now Is the Time: The Stewardship Committee wants to hear from you!

During the holidays, we reflect on the events of the past year and begin to make plans for the year to come. Reflecting back on this year's stewardship drive, we are delighted and grateful for generosity and commitment demonstrated by this congregation. Not only do yearly pledges continue to increase, receipt of pledged amounts is on the rise as well. Looking ahead to the coming year, we, the members of the Stewardship Committee, are excited for what is to come. The theme of this year's drive is "Now is the time" – working along with the UUA's national campaign. Our collective work as stewards of this community is driven by our vision for its possibilities. When you reflect on this wonderful community, what do you dream of us doing next? What is it time for?

We will be collecting these vision statements from individuals and committees over the coming months. Please share your vision with us! We will be discussing this theme in upcoming services, but for eager "visionaries" among us – email us your thoughts now. Complete the statement "Now is the time for _____" and send them to us. Our work is your vision.

Send completed vision statements to:
Cynthia Schultz, cschultz@alumni.iu.edu.

UUs Changing the World



**HELP FEED OUR
HUNGRY NEIGHBORS**
Next Bounty-Full
Sunday is January 6

Current needs at the Monroe County Ministries (MCUM) Food Pantry include fruit, dried and canned; tuna, salmon, and other canned meats; canned tomatoes; and canned beans. Please, **NO EXPIRED PRODUCTS**.

Thanks to all who brought groceries on December 2; total was 148 pounds.



UU T-shirts Available at Church

The Public Relations Committee is offering UU Church of Bloomington T-shirts for a donation of \$10 for adults and \$8 for children's sizes. They will be available in the Commons between services throughout December. The beautiful design by Mary Blizzard features a flaming chalice superimposed on the Earth and the words "Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, The Uncommon Denomination".

Stop Duke Energy from Increasing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Duke Energy's request to build a 630 MW coal fired power plant has been approved by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, putting them a step closer to building the Edwardsport coal gasification plant. Their next step is to seek approval from the Indiana Dept of Environmental Management (IDEM) to increase pollution. Not only will this plant bilk ratepayers, but it will result in a huge increase in CO2 emissions. The Green Sanctuary Task

Force on Global Climate Change invites you to stop by their table after services on December 16 and December 23 and write a letter to IDEM. We'll make it easy.

Make the Connection, Live Green



Calling All Artists and Expressionists

Save the date, the afternoon of February 10, 2008, for the UU Sources Art Exhibition. Last Spring, Rev. Macklin charged us all to create a work of art inspired by one of the UU Sources of Wisdom. Whether or not you consider yourself an artist, you are an expressionist and are urged to participate. All forms of visual art are encouraged; paintings, photos, sculpture, fabric art, collage. The UU sources are listed here to inspire your creativity. –Ruellen Fessenbecker

1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.

2. Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love

3. Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life

4. Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves.

5. Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science; and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit.

6. 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.

Community Connections

Our faith in action in the community

Items of Interest to the congregation regarding volunteer opportunities and other ways of helping are regularly posted on the bulletin board at the Courtyard Entrance.

Denominational Affairs News

Please join us Sunday, January 6th at 10:00 am in the Library for a panel discussion on the UUA's Congregational Social Action Issues:

1. Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice
2. Nuclear Disarmament.

After a General Assembly vote next June, one of these will become a 2-year study item for all UU congregations to discuss and work on.

Also, please consider attending our District and National meetings in 2008. We can send eight delegates and there is money in the budget to cover most expenses.

- Heartland District Annual Meeting: April, 4 - 5 in Louisville. Most of the activity is on Saturday.

- UUA General Assembly: June 26-30 in Ft. Lauderdale; General Assembly is the annual meeting of representatives from all UU congregations in the United States.

--Iris Kiesling, Denominational Affairs

Team Ministry

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

Ministers' Schedules

Rev. Macklin returns from sabbatical 12/16

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

Office hours: M, T, F

His mobile number is 360-1779.

Rev. Breeden will be away 12/10-12/14.

breeden@uubloomington.org

Administrative Notes

Prologue Publication Deadlines:

Monday, Dec. 17, 10 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 7, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 22, 10 a.m.

This info is also on the website calendar.

Office Hours for Holidays:

Church office closed Dec. 24-Jan. 1 but answering machine will be checked often.

End of Year Pledge Payments:

If you wish to make an end of year pledge payment for tax purposes, please be sure we have your check by December 23.

--Carol Marks, Church Administrator

Attendance

Sun, Dec 2, 9:00: 88 11:15: 184 Tot: 272

Sun, Dec 9, 9:00: 89 11:15: 199 Tot: 288

Sunday Offering

Sun, Dec 2 non-pledge offering: \$432

Sun, Dec 9 non-pledge offering: \$867

Total to Martha's House: \$325

Young Adult Holiday Party

December 14 UU Young Adults ages 18-35 will hold a holiday party on Friday, Dec. 14, 7-9 p.m. at Kelly Rauch's home, 412 W Howe St. Bring a white elephant gift and snacks to share. RSVP Melissa Barlett, 330-221-3312 or mbarlett@indiana.edu.

UU Board of Directors

Jan Skinner, President,

pres@uubloomington.org

GK Rowe, Vice President,

vicepres@uubloomington.org

Lloyd Orr, Treasurer,

treasurer@uubloomington.org

Chris Haynes, Secretary,

secretary@uubloomington.org

Jason Hill, Past President,

pastpres@uubloomington.org

At Large Board Members: David Cox,

Steve Dillon, Karen Jewell, Chris Judge,

Bobbi Lahre, Amy Taylor, Shari Woodbury

Ministers and Staff

The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin—on sabbatical

The Rev. Bill Breeden

breeden@uubloomington.org

Director of Religious Education: Cindy Port

dre@uubloomington.org

Minister of Religious Education:

The Rev. Emily Manvel Leite

mre@uubloomington.org

Religious Education Assistants.:

Adrienne Summerlot, Addie Hirschten

rea@uubloomington.org

Childcare Coordinator: Adrienne Summerlot

Music Director: Susan Swaney

music@uubloomington.org

Pianist: Sally Todd, pianist@uubloomington.org

Children's Choir Director: Jill Courtney,

jcourtne@mccsc.edu

Campus Ministry Coordinator: Susan Blake

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Church Administrator: Carol Marks

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Sound Manager: Tom Yeiser

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