

# ~ The Prologue ~

December 17, 2007

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana  
Congregation founded 1949



*Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community  
Changing the World*

**Sunday, December 23, 2007 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.**

Our Calling to Work Magic Every Day Rev. Barbara Child

Christmas is a time for a special kind of magic. Ask any child you know who is waiting for Santa's visit. But the magic of Christmas is for all of us. Come and share an hour of magical holiday spirit.

**Monday, December 24, 2007 4 p.m., 7 p.m., and 9 p.m.**

**4:00 p.m. Away in a Manger**, with Cindy Port, Director of Religious Education and Reverend Mary Ann Macklin An interactive Nativity Pageant for Young Children and families.

**7:00 p.m. The Wise Ones Follow a Star**, with Choir and Reverend Mary Ann Macklin, Rev. Bill Breeden, Rev. Emily Manvel Leite, and Rev. Barbara Child.

Special music will feature our choir, conducted by Cary Boyce, as well as a movement from George Crumb's *Little Christmas Suite* by pianist Sally Todd. Candle lighting and "Silent Night" will be part of this service. Childcare provided.

**9:00 p.m. Meditative Service**, with Reverend Bill Breeden

A quiet service of sharing Christmas joys and memories in an informal style.

**Sunday, December 30, 2007 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.**

Left Behind!! Rev. Bill Breeden

No, this is not a frightful scenario of missing the Rapture, but rather a faithful ritual of letting go, and leaving behind unnecessary spiritual baggage.

**Wednesday, January 2, 2008 5:30 p.m.**

A Kwanzaa Feast and Celebration

Rev. Emily Manvel Leite, Cindy Port, Renee Reed

Join us to celebrate Kwanzaa and learn about its rich traditions while enjoying a vegetarian African and Soul food feast prepared by Renee Reed. Wear your traditional African garb if you have it. Plan to help with clean-up afterwards!



**Sunday, January 6, 2008 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.**

The Radiant Signatures of the Infinite Spirit Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin will offer her annual review and reflections on scientific discoveries and advances from 2007. We will explore topics from such areas as human origins, environment, physics and math, health and medicine, mind and brain, and technology...then, as liberal religious searchers, ponder them in our hearts.

## From the Co-Ministers

The holiday season arrives amidst wintry weather mix and the ongoing transitions which life offers each of us on a daily basis. As ministers we invite everyone to pause and take a deep breath (actually maybe two or three deep breaths) on a regular basis during the next of couple of weeks. Come home to yourself. The holidays, from Hanukkah to Solstice and Christmas to New Year and Kwanzaa, can include moments of hectic festivity as well as painful loneliness. Come home to yourself so you can discern what you need in mind, body and spirit in order to participate in this season of light-returning, peace-making, justice seeking, and spirit-renewing opportunities.

As for us, Reverend Breeden (Bill) and Reverend Macklin (Mary Ann), after a sabbatical separation, the co-ministry team is together again. Bill caught the last plane out of a snow-ridden Albany, New York airport last Thursday night and flew down to Philadelphia where Mary Ann had been residing at the Quaker Retreat Center for Study and Contemplation, Pendle Hill, for the last 2 ½ months. From there, we drove back to Bloomington, Indiana, on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. The drive afforded us time to dialogue and begin the careful process of Reverend Macklin's re-entry into post-sabbatical congregational life. Amidst silence, tears, laughter and a bit of Vivaldi and Bach, our conversation often turned to the gratitude we feel for the many folks in our lives.

As part of our holiday celebration, then, we express thankfulness for our partners and families who enrich our lives and ministry to this congregation. We offer gratitude for the staff and lay leadership of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington. Staff and leaders have

worked diligently to allow this sabbatical time to run creatively and as smoothly as possible over the last 4 ½ months. We also appreciate the presence and voice of sabbatical minister, Reverend Barbara Child, and minister emerita Reverend Barbara Carlson; their ministry has been both visible and behind-the-scenes during this time. And our heartfelt appreciations to all who give and receive in order to allow this liberal religious community to thrive. Deep breath. Gratitude.

Lastly, due to weather advisories and some nasty weather conditions this past weekend, our congregational choir's premiere of the choral piece "Drawing from the Sources" (composer, Deborah Phelps) was cancelled this past Sunday. It is currently rescheduled for January 13, 2008 at both 9am and 11:15am worship services. As a result of this postponement, we heard impromptu seasonal sabbatical reflections from Reverend Macklin at the worship services on December 16. Many of you asked for the queries she offered during the service--queries gleaned from the workshop she attended with Angeles Arrien (author of *The Four Fold Way*). May you ponder these queries in your heart as part of your discernment during this holiday time.

What made me happy today that was not dependent on another person?

Where did I experience a sense of balance, comfort and refuge?

Who or what inspired me?

Where do I create my circumstances?

What is calling me?

Where was I surprised today?

Blessings for the Season,

Mary Ann and Bill

Reverend Macklin and Reverend Breeden

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## Away in a Manger

Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall there will be a special family worship service entitled "Away in a Manger,"

led by Reverend Macklin.

This worship is an interactive Christmas Pageant targeted to families with young children and to those young at heart.



There will be a few chairs set up but we will invite folks to sit on the floor to create a more relaxed and informal atmosphere.

### What to bring:

- ❖ a stuffed animal or doll to put in the manger and share with the babies and other children
- ❖ soft blankets, pillows or floor chairs
- ❖ a plate of cookies to share

We suggest that certain age groups come dressed for parts:

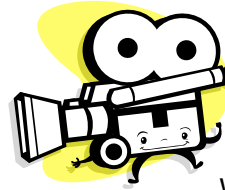
**1 - 3 year olds - Angels** -Wear halos (tin foil twisted till it fits around your head will do) and whatever else you feel makes you angelic.

**4 - 5 year olds - Shepherds** -Wear shepherd hats (towel on head tied with some type of rope or tie) and whatever else would keep you warm if you were a shepherd.

**6 - 8 year olds - Wise Ones** -Wear crowns and other wise-one like garb. During the pageant, the shepherds will share dried fruit as a small snack. We need **Innkeepers** to pass out programs and help serve cider and cookies. Please let me know if an older child, youth or adult in your family can help as an innkeeper. Happy Holidays!  
Cindy Port (dre@uubloomington.org)  
Director of Religious Education

## Our Folks...

Our best wishes for quick healing are with Paul Lane, who was recently hospitalized.



## Film Series Views "Winter Light" January 12

Winter Light was Ingmar Bergman's favorite; he made it in 1962. "The film follows...[a] pastor of a small rural Swedish church as he questions the existence of God and his faith is replaced with doubt, apathy and anger." John Crosby is the presenter.  
Potluck @ 6PM; movie @ 6:30PM  
Saturday, January 12, in Fellowship Hall



## Children's Choir Schedule

Friday, 12/21 Family Winter Solstice Service:  
Dinner for families is at 5:30pm  
Children's Choir will gather at 6pm in the Meeting Room to run through pieces  
Service is at 6:15pm- we will sing 2 songs in the service.  
Watch upcoming Prologues for Jan-May schedule! New singers, K-6 are always welcome! Questions? Contact Jill at [icourtne@mccsc.edu](mailto:icourtne@mccsc.edu)

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

Rev. Emily Manvel Leite, Cindy Port, Beckie Wagner, Rev. Bill Breeden, and Reverend 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. The children's choir will perform as a part of this service. Suggested donation for dinner is \$1.00 per person.



**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](mailto:anhaynes@indiana.edu) or 336-3221) or Carol Parks ([pearlparks@gmail.com](mailto:pearlparks@gmail.com) or 336-1592).

**New Name Tags Coming Soon**

The Connections Subcouncil is making new name tags for everyone in the church. They will be large enough to be seen from a distance. You will be able to clip them on your clothes or wear them/ around your neck. Be aware that they will appear in January 2008.

**Book Signing and Gumbo with  
George Taliaferro -  
Sunday, January 13, 12:30 pm**

Co-hosts Sandy and David Hill and Rev. Barbara Carlson, in collaboration with the Booktable, cordially invite you to join us for this event in Fellowship Hall. After Sam Cusack's famous Gumbo, George will read from his autobiography -- "Taliaferro - Breaking Barriers from the NFL Draft to the Ivory Tower" -- recently published by Indiana University Press. George will sign books (available for sale) including those previously purchased. Gumbo and bread, or David's Scottish Potato Soup (vegetarian) will be available for \$4.00.

**Music and Diversity Concert  
February 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.**

Mark your calendars! This year's Music and Diversity Concert will be held here in our Meeting Room on Friday evening, February 8, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. Music for the evening will be provided by the Moroccan Andalusian Classical Orchestra of Bloomington (Arab-Andalusian Tradition), Colleen Haas and Women of Mass Percussion (Afro-Brazilian religious and secular music) and Sheasby Matiure's music groups the Mbira Queens and the Mutinhimira Marimba Ensemble (Traditional and popular music from Zimbabwe). Sponsored by the Celebrations Committee, this event is free to the public and designed to promote tolerance for all religious and cultural traditions and to offer an enjoyable evening of culturally diverse music for the larger community.



## Earth Tips:

### **Make Some of Your Holiday Feasts Delicious with Locally Grown Food**

Buying locally grown food has many benefits: to your health, the local economy and the community. In addition, it benefits the environment through improved land stewardship, reduced fossil fuel use, and biodiversity. [www.localgrowers.org](http://www.localgrowers.org) has information about sources for locally grown, in-season food, as well as restaurants that use locally grown products as much as possible. Check it out! (Also, many locally grown products make excellent gifts!) –Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change

## **Jan Skinner Speaks To Women's Alliance January 3**

Jan Skinner, President of our congregation, will speak to the Women's Alliance at their first meeting of the New Year, Thursday, January 3, 2008 in Fellowship Hall. Jan's talk, entitled "Memories from Jan," will include tidbits about her coming to Bloomington, her work, and how her beliefs led her to the Unitarian Universalist Church. A brown bag luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m., with beverages and desserts offered by the hostesses, Velma Harrison and Julie Lawson. The program begins at 12 noon. Dues of \$15 are still payable; see the Alliance Treasurer, Judy Bennett. Guests are welcome and are encouraged to attend to mingle with friends and to learn more about our congregational president.

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## **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](mailto:edevoe@indiana.edu) .



## **Jan. 27th Veggie Potluck & Scott Russell Sanders**

On Sunday, Jan. 27th, the Green Sanctuary Task Force Global Climate Change invites you to our first vegetarian potluck & program of 2008. The potluck will begin at 5:00 p.m., followed by a presentation by Scott Russell Sanders entitled "Wild and Scenic Indiana" at 6:15 pm. Details in Common Ground and January 7 Prologue. (There will be childcare available during the presentation if requested--contact the Church office by January 15 to request childcare.)



## **Book Sale Success...**

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Holiday Bazaar Book Sale a great success. We received wonderful book donations and had great book movers, book arrangers, book sellers and book packers. Thanks to all. --Joanna Clees

## 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.

**T H A N K   Y O U**

A warm feeling we may carry with us this holiday season is knowing that we were able to help The Monroe County United Ministries in a significant way in 2007.

**2837 POUNDS OF FOOD** were donated through our Bounty-Full Sunday food collections the first Sunday of each month in 2007. The next Bounty-Full Sunday will be January 6.

**41 HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS** were delivered to needy families via MCUM; that's 41 families who now will be able to have a special meal and more during the holidays.

**\$1564**

was donated to MCUM in December from our sale of McMufflers, McHats, and other cozy McWearables.

We've had a very successful year in helping to feed our hungry neighbors. Through our efforts, we've been able to not only ease suffering in our community, but have been given the opportunity to reflect on our blessings.

**T H A N K   Y O U   &  
H A P P Y   H O L I D A Y S**

## 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. 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 23 and write a letter to IDEM. We'll make it easy.

**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](mailto:jmhall@indiana.edu).  
**January 6, 2008 – Congregational Study Action Issues: Ethical Eating and Nuclear Disarmament**, with Iris Kiesling. See the CSAI page on the UUA website for text of the Study issues.  
**January 13, 2008 – 9/11: Pressing for the Truth**, with Chris Haynes and Byron Bangert. "The public record and unanswered questions about September 11, 2001"

## 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.

## Connections Subcouncil Helps You Get and Stay Connected

The Connections subcouncil is made up of representatives from: Membership, Fellowship Hour, Greeters, Stewardship, Chalice Circles, Nominating, Denominational Affairs and Religious Education. It has been meeting monthly. It is once again organizing a **Getting Involved Fair January 20**. 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 between the two services and after the 11 o’clock service. All groups in the church are welcome to participate. Please contact Denise Ogren so tables can be set up for you. [dogren@insightbb.com](mailto:dogren@insightbb.com).

## Denominational Affairs Forum on January 6

Please join us Sunday, January 6th at 10:00 am in the Library for a panel discussion forum 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.

## 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’s regular day off is Tuesday.

Office hours: M, W, F

Available by email after Dec. 24 at [macklin@uubloomington.org](mailto:macklin@uubloomington.org)

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

Office hours: M, T, F

His mobile number is 360-1779.

[breeden@uubloomington.org](mailto:breeden@uubloomington.org)

## Lunch With a Minister Jan 8

Join Rev. Breeden for a brown bag lunch on Tuesday, January 8 at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall.

## Administrative Notes

### Upcoming Prologue Deadlines:

Monday, Jan. 7, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 22, 10 a.m.

### 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 16, 9:00: 58 11:15: 140 Tot: 198

### Sunday Offering

Sun, Dec 16 non-pledge offering: \$293

Total to Martha’s House: \$74

**The Prologue**

Unitarian Universalist Church of  
Bloomington  
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The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, Minister

The Rev. Bill Breeden, Minister



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December 17, 2007 (mailed on Dec. 18)

**TIME VALUE! Please deliver by December 19**

Return Service Requested



		December 2007 and January 2008					
			19 1:00pm Chal Cir - Holl 7:00pm UU Board	20 7:00pm UU Choir 7:00pm Chal Cir 8:30pm String Band	21 10:30am Lifestory 12:00pm UU Staff 5:30pm Winter Solstice Family Worship	22	
23 6:00pm YRUU	24 4:00pm Away in a Manger 7:00pm The Wise Ones Follow a Star 9:00pm Meditative Christmas Svc	25 Church Office Closed Dec 25-Jan 1	26	27	28	29	
30 6:00pm YRUU	31	1	2 1:00pm Ofc Hrs Resume 1:00pm Chal Cir 5:30pm Kwanzaa Feast & Celebration-Family Worship	3 11:30am Women's Alliance 7:00pm UU Choir 8:30pm String Band	4 10:30am Lifestory 12:30pm UU Super Staff 2:30pm Facilities Use	5 1:00pm Facilities Use	
6 10:00am Forum- Social Action Issues 11:15am YRUU 12:45pm Green Sanctuary Task Force	7 10am Prologue Deadline 6:00pm O.W.L. 6:30pm Chalice Circle Facilitators 7:30pm Voces Novae	8 6:30pm Chalice Circle Facilitators 6:45pm BCS Rehearsal 7:30pm Quarryland Men's Chorus	9 7:00pm Membership Cmte. 7:00pm Exec Cmte 7:00pm Bazaar Cmte.	10 7:00pm UU Choir	11 10:30am Lifestory 12:00pm UU Staff	12 6:00pm Film Series	



## **UU Board of Directors**

Jan Skinner, President,

pres@uubloomington.org

GK Rowe, Vice President,

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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

macklin@uubloomington.org

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

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Childcare Coordinator: Adrienne Summerlot

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Pianist: Sally Todd, pianist@uubloomington.org

Children's Choir Director: Jill Courtney,

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