

~ The Prologue ~

Monday, September 15, 2008

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

Congregation founded 1949
Welcoming Congregation since 1995
Green Sanctuary since 2007

Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community Changing the World



Sunday, September 21, 2008 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Entering the Gates of Wisdom Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, brother of Unitarian minister Reverend Samuel Longfellow, wrote, "Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody." How do we awaken to our wisdom? This autumnal equinox worship service will explore how to balance the gates of wisdom in our lives. The sermon will include reflections on "The Second Half of Life: Opening the Eight Gates of Wisdom" by Angeles Arrien. The Getting Involved Fair will also be part of this service.

Sunday, September 28, 2008 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Appreciating the Questions

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Bill Breeden

What are the questions that allow us to deepen in our lives? How can a community see itself as a mystery to be embraced? How do we create space together? How does that space provide for respect? How does our experience of the holy enter into that space? This worship service will explore these questions and serve as a Prelude for the Shaping Our Future Together ADVANCE (not a retreat) later in the afternoon.

Wednesday, October 1, 2008 5:30PM Dinner, 6:15PM Worship

Family Worship: Days of Awe Rev. Emily Manvel Leite

People of all ages are invited to celebrate the Jewish High Holidays in an intergenerational setting. We will enjoy stories and reflect together on making mistakes and being our best selves. Both Sally Todd and the UU Children's Choir (directed by Jill Courtney) will provide music. Come when you can: 5:15PM craft, 5:30PM dinner (provided, with a vegan option--\$1 donation per person requested), 6:15PM worship, 6:45PM socializing.



Congo Lunch Fundraiser September 21

Details on Page 6.

Getting Involved Fair September 21

See details on pages 2 and 5.

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From the Ministers

Once again our nation is faced with rescue and recovery efforts after a major storm. Our prayers are with our brothers and sisters on the Gulf Coast. Ironically, this very week a group from our community is in Louisiana working to restore homes from the damage of Katrina. Our thoughts are with them as well. Locally we are looking for ways to address poverty right here at home, and information regarding a new opportunity for service is on Page 7.

While reaching out to the greater community, we also need to consider the long term health and mission of our own congregation. Instead of assigning this task to a small group of “long term planners,” the leadership of this church under the guidance of a consultant, Rev. Barbara Child, initiated a process called Appreciative Inquiry. This is a more organic and bottom-up process designed to evaluate the strengths of a congregation and develop ideas for building upon those strengths. It is a little tricky to describe but here is a definition from one of its pioneers, Mark Branson:

Appreciative Inquiry is...

A way of thinking and seeing. It is both a worldview and a process for facilitating positive change in human systems (such as groups, organizations, congregations). Every human system has something that works right—things that give it life when it is vital, effective and successful. Appreciative Inquiry begins by identifying this positive core and connecting it in ways that heighten energy, sharpen vision and inspire action for change.

Our Board of Directors assigned the shepherding of this process to a committee known as “Shaping Our Future Together.”
On Sunday afternoon, September 28th,

everyone in this congregation is invited to a key gathering which is vital to the Appreciative Inquiry process, the ***Shaping Our Future Together ADVANCE (not a retreat)***. Please see Insert, Side A of this Prologue for more information.

Last week, Reverend Macklin and Shaping Our Future Together leader Melinda Swenson attended a workshop in Indianapolis to further prepare for this ADVANCE (not a retreat). As the co-ministers of this congregation, we strongly urge everyone to attend as we heighten our energy, sharpen our vision, and engage ideas of inspiration. We really do hope to see you there!

Peace—bill and mary ann

Reverend Bill Breeden and

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Getting Involved Fair Sunday, September 21

Looking for a way to get more involved in church activities? Tables will be set up by groups/committees which welcome your participation. Browse the groups, listen to their activities, eat special snacks, meet new friends. 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, Sept.

Near Death Experience

Do you know of someone who has had a Near Death Experience and would be willing to share this experience with one of our Adult Religious Education classes? If yes, please contact Reverend Mary Ann Macklin, 332-3695, macklin@uubloomington.org. Thank you.

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Wildcare, Inc. Brings an Owl to Visit on Oct. 5th



On Sunday October 5th we will have a special presentation at both the 9am and the 11:15am services instead of regular Religious Education classes.

Wildcare Inc., a nonprofit that rescues wild animals, will bring in

a live owl and provide an educational program. Children in preschool through middle school will be able to meet the owl and learn about how owls fit into our web of life. In addition, we will have owl pellets to dissect. We hope everyone will join us for this exciting day in religious education.

Register for Religious Education

Our religious education classes are mostly full, and they are in full swing for fall semester. If you have not filled out a purple registration form and paid your registration fees please do so. Forms are available in your child's classroom, in the RE office and at the RE table at the Getting Involved Fair on Sept. 21st. In addition we will be emailing forms out to folks we know have been missed.

We want to make sure we have correct contact and birthday information for all the students and families so that you can be contacted about special projects and field trips as well as chalice lighting opportunities. The registration fee helps us purchase curriculum, art supplies, and snacks, but scholarships are available upon request. The volunteer form helps make religious education possible. There are very simple ways that you can help out, as well as exciting ways you can be involved. Even if your family is not able to help out at this time, we would still like to know how to get in

touch with you, and be informed of any allergies or special needs. Thank you for your cooperation!

Cindy Port, Director of Religious Education
Rev. Emily Manvel Leite, Minister of Religious Education

UU Children's Choir Schedule

New singers, Kg-6th grade are welcome any time! See upcoming schedule below.

Unless otherwise stated, rehearsals are from 10:15-11:00am on the scheduled mornings, in the Library. For more info, contact Jill Courtney at jcourtne@mccsc.edu.



9/21 & 9/28: Rehearse

10/1: Sing @ Family Worship service, 5:30p

11/16 Rehearse;

Thurs. 11/20 rehearse 7-7:30pm

11/23: Sing both services

12/7, 12/14, & 12/21 Rehearse

12/21 evening: Sing @ Winter Solstice svc

How Can You Help?

Apply for a Social Justice Grant by October 1—

You have 11 more days!

Applications for members of the congregation for grants for social justice projects in our community are available now from the church office, or by email from Stephanie Estell, nanaysteph@hotmail.com. The deadline for applications is October 1st. For complete information read the article in the August 18 issue of *Common Ground*. ---The Social Justice Funds Committee
Stephanie Estell, Jennifer Blankenship, Joan Caulton, Bob Taylor, Jan Neff, Jerry Neff



Next Veggie Potlucks:

Sept. 28 and Oct. 26

Join us for the next Green Sanctuary Task Force-sponsored vegetarian potluck, Sunday, September 158th @ 5:00 pm in

Fellowship Hall. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share (no meat products of any kind, no seafood, no poultry; dairy and egg products ok; vegan dishes welcome, too), a recipe/label for your dish, and your own reusable, non-disposable place settings. If you need childcare during the movie viewing following supper, please contact the church office, admin@uubloomington.org, two weeks in advance. Following the September and October veggie potlucks at 6:15 pm will be a showing of four segments of "Renewal," (about one hour), a documentary on the vitality and diversity of today's religious-environmental activists, co-sponsored by the Bloomington Friends congregation. Bill Moyers said, "I watched this film with admiration and hope millions of others will have the chance to see it. You will be stirred to discover people of different faiths who are engaged in an exhilarating stewardship of the earth that offers our best chance yet to save creation." Questions? contact jillmcourtney@gmail.com.

Whose Water Is It, Anyway?

On Wednesday, September 24, at 7 p.m. in our Meeting Room. The Green Sanctuary Task Force joins the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in sponsoring a public discussion on The Ethics of Water: Who owns it, and what is a fair allocation of community resources.

Byron Bangert, former Research Associate at the Poynter Center, will lead the panel:

Jack Wittman, President of Wittman Hydro Associates; Rob Fischman, IU School of Law; Bill Jones, SPEA.



Chalice Circles Invites New Members

Chalice Circles, our program of small group ministry, welcomes new members. Groups of up to ten people, including a facilitator, meet once or twice a month with a focus on deep listening and sharing personal experiences. Prepared session plans are used to guide each session, with topics such as forgiveness, gratitude, or saying goodbye. Groups also do service projects for the church and community. Participants find that they get to know themselves, and often others, more deeply in these small groups. For more information please contact Anne Haynes at 336-3221 or Judy Bennett at 331-4181 or judybennett2@gmail.com.

Scheduling a Meeting or Event?

Consult our excellent new web calendar by clicking on Full Calendar on the right hand side of the front page of our website, www.uubloomington.org, and you can see if the date and time you're interested in is available or not. Then email admin@uubloomington.org to reserve space.

Attendance

Sun, Sept 7, 9:00:	122	11:15:	204	RE:	124	Total:	450
Sun, Sept 14, 9:00:	92	11:15:	205	RE:	149	Total:	446

Sunday Offering

Sun, Sept 7 non-pledge offering:	\$ 573
Sun, Sept 14 non-pledge offering:	\$ 533
Total to Volunteers in Medicine:	\$ 277

**Green Spaces Initiative at
Getting Involved Fair Sept. 21st
Building Renovation and Courtyard
Improvement**



How can we make our space more welcoming, more green, more accessible and family friendly? The Green Spaces Initiative has been pondering these questions for years, and if you haven't heard, exciting things are happening! An energy audit of the entire building was conducted with funds provided by the Green Sanctuary Task Force. Green Spaces Initiative has been meeting with architect Steve Miller to discuss options for necessary repairs as well as exciting improvements to our indoor and outdoor spaces. Look for the Green Spaces Initiative table at the Getting Involved Fair on Sunday Sept. 21st to learn more about what design options we are considering. Some of the windows in our building are over thirty years old and are wasting energy year round. Our courtyard could become a welcoming place that brings generations together. The Green Spaces Initiative wants your ideas and input; we welcome new members to the committee and look forward to speaking with you. --Cynthia L. Port, cport@epi.umaryland.edu.

**You are cordially invited
All Congregational Lunch
October 5 at 1:00 p.m.
Sponsored by the Denominational
Affairs Committee**

The Denominational Affairs Committee invites all members and friends of the congregation to a Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall following services on Oct. 5th starting at 1:00pm. This is an opportunity to give feedback on the UUA's Commission on Appraisal's proposed changes to Article II of the UUA bylaws. Article II houses the Purposes, Principles and Sources of the Unitarian Universalist Association and its member congregations. Come and enjoy good food and friends, learn about what changes are being proposed, and voice your opinion. To see the proposed revisions, visit uua.org/coa, and click on the word "draft" in the first paragraph. For more detailed information, visit us at the Denominational Affairs table during the Getting Involved Fair after either service on Sunday, Sept. 21st. We look forward to seeing you there!

When You Go Away...

When you go out of town for vacation and ask the Post Office to stop your mail, please be sure to let us know when you return, so we can re-start your Prologue. The P.O. tells us when you leave, but they won't tell us when you come back. Thanks!
Carol Marks, Church Administrator,
admin@uubloomington.org

UUs Changing the World

HELP FEED



**OUR HUNGRY
NEIGHBORS**

**HELP FEED OUR HUNGRY
NEIGHBORS**

**Next Bounty-Full Sunday is
October 5**

Current Needs:
powdered milk,
crackers, canned



fruit, jello and pudding mixes, peanut butter and jelly (no expired food please). Thanks to everyone for donations in September: 251 lbs. of food. Remember to bring your garden surplus to share each Sunday. Questions? Contact Mary Blizzard at 333-8957 or mary_blizzard@hotmail.com.

Sign Up For CROP Walk –October 19

This year's CROP Walk (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 at 2 p.m. Walk starts and ends at the Monroe Country United Ministries. Sign up to be a walker and recruit donors or support a walker starting Sunday, September 21 (and the following Sundays, September 28, October, 5, 12 and 19) at the Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors table between and after services. Donations will go to both local and international interfaith agencies helping the hungry. Questions? Contact Harriet Pfister at 339-3364 or at pfisterh@indiana.edu.

International Outreach Task Force Fundraiser Lunch and Forum for Africa – Sept 21

On Sunday, September 21 the International Outreach Task Force will be hosting a Giving Back to Africa - Congo Lunch and Forum Fundraiser, in Fellowship Hall from 12:45pm - 2:30pm, and will feature a lunch of "traditional" Congolese food (\$5.00 per plate / vegetarian option available), a presentation of artwork by 4th grade students from Kinshasa, and a forum by Giving Back to Africa on the recent history of the Democratic Republic of Congo and their groundbreaking work there. Join us for good food and good discussion at this culturally enriching

event. *****Important Note:** The lunch and artwork presentation portion of this event (12:45-1:15) is for all ages. The forum may include content on recent tragic events in Africa that could be inappropriate for children. Childcare will be provided from 1:00pm - 2:30pm, in Room 108. –Jason Blankenship

Unitarian Universalist Friends of Lotus Fund

Drive The amazing Lotus World Music and Arts Festival (Oct 2-5) is right on our doorstep. In support of our shared values regarding cultural diversity, acceptance, and love, you may wish to join the International Outreach Task Force, along with other UU Friends of Lotus in our efforts to become an official Lotus Sponsor. Write a personal check to LEAF (Lotus Education & Arts Foundation), get tax credit for your donation, and create one united UU contribution (free UU advertising!) Put "UU Friends of Lotus" in the memo line to insure UU support for this event is recognized. Send donations by September 30 to: Deborah Klein, LEAF, Development Director, 103 N. College Ave., Bloomington, IN 47402. Questions? Deb Hutton (344-4103/ huttond@indiana.edu)

Celebrate the Equinox with Earth Kin September 20

Autumnal Equinox Celebration. Saturday, Sept. 20th at 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Join Earth Kin for the second harvest festival of the Pagan Wheel of the Year for 2008. In addition to celebrating the grain and fruit harvest, we will acknowledge the balance of light and dark as we look toward the longer dark time of the year. Bring something you have harvested from your own gardens or other local gardens to share with the group after the celebration. Come prepared to celebrate, dance and sing in gratitude for all the richness of our lives. Questions to Beckie Wagner: elmbeckie@yahoo.com

Community Connections

Our faith in action in the community

Tenshug Nadaam Celebration at the Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center

Sept 19-22 From September 19 through September 22, the Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center, 3655 Snoddy Road, is hosting an international long-life festival to honor the 58th birthday of its Director, Arjia Rinpoche. The name of the event is Tenshug, the Tibetan word for "Long Life," and Nadaam, the Mongolian word for "Celebration." (free and open to the public on the TMGCC grounds: \$5 parking fee) For schedule of events, go to www.tmbcc.net

Voces Novae chamber choir and an orchestra of guest instrumentalists will perform a program in celebration of the opening of the special exhibition, The Grand Tour: Art and Travel, 1740-1914, at the IU Art Museum this Friday, September 19, at 6:00 p.m.. The 45-minute program will be followed by a reception. Both the concert and reception are free and open to the public.

Want to End Poverty in Monroe County? Here's How:

Last Sunday I addressed the issue of poverty and promised to provide information about an opportunity to volunteer in a program addressing poverty right here at home. It is a program called Monroe County Circles, coordinated by the South Central Community Action Program. There are many ways you can help. Call Bonnie Vesely for further information. Ph. 812-339-3447 ext. 218.

Peace—Reverend Bill

Lunch with a Minister Bring a brown bag lunch and have lunch and conversation with Rev. Bill Breeden and others, Tuesday, October 14 at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall.

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' Availability

Rev. Macklin's regular day off is Tuesday.

On call M, W, F afternoons, and Thursdays
macklin@uubloomington.org
mobile phone: 322-0205

Rev. Breeden's regular day off is Thursday.

On call M, W, F mornings, and Tuesdays
breeden@uubloomington.org
mobile phone: 360-1779

Women's Alliance Meets October 2

The Women's Alliance will be meeting October 2 in Fellowship Hall. The meeting begins with a brown bag luncheon at 11:30 a.m.; beverages and desserts will be available. The program is from 12:00 - 12:30 with David Parkhurst speaking on his recent trip to New Orleans. Hostesses: Jean Knowlton and Jan Skinner. Guests are always welcome.

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SAVE the DATE!
Shaping Our Future Together
All-Church
ADVANCE (not a retreat!)
Sept 28 (12:45-4:30)
Fellowship Hall

The Shaping Our Future Together process is moving forward! We are planning an ADVANCE event to begin work on Innovative Ideas generated from our stories of highlights in our church lives. We have worked for nearly two years to develop a culture in our church that will ADVANCE our future growth and connectedness. We have been using Appreciative Inquiry as a means of grounding this work in the stories of our members that describe what works in our church and what we want more of. Appreciative Inquiry involves the deliberate discovery of everything that gives a congregation "life." Positive change begins with comprehensive inquiry into a church's "positive core": its unique set of strengths, resources, values, capabilities, assets, and competencies. We have identified three Core Positive Values: INVITING, INQUIRING, and INSPIRING. The next step is the development do-able Innovative Ideas that are grounded in our values.

Please join us for a FREE PIZZA lunch after Second Service on Sunday, September 28th. After the meal, we will work together to identify and focus on the real ways we can preserve and enhance what works in our church. Idea groups, large and small, will be formed and encouraged to generate ideas generated around our three Core Positive Values. These new ideas will guide our congregational life, now and in the future.

Please join us for this ADVANCE toward Shaping Our Future Together!

Questions? Melinda Swenson
mswenson@iupui.com, 332-1020.
RSVP and RESERVE CHILD CARE -- please contact Elizabeth Lion, and provide the AGES of the children: lion@indiana.edu

**Additional Adult Religious
Education Offering:
Breathing for Life**

One Sunday session October 5, 2:00 to 4:30 p.m., in the Library. Facilitated by Chris Haynes. This workshop explores how breath profoundly affects our body, mind, and spirit. A variety of breathing exercises are presented that promote health and spiritual growth. Techniques recommended by holistic-health author Dr. Andrew Weil to almost all of his patients are included, along with some other traditional forms of Pranayama – a fundamental aspect of yoga. Enrollment: minimum - 5, maximum - 12 Register on the bulletin board or send email to admin@uubloomington.org.

**"What a Way to Go: Life at the
End of Empire" September 28**

The showing of the documentary "What a Way to Go", and discussion and tabling on September 28 at 1:30 pm at the MCPL following will kick off the Cut Your Carbon workshops.

Earth Care's Cut Your Carbon Workshops

An intensive program sponsored by Earth Care to reduce your carbon footprint while saving money.

In these workshops, learn how to calculate, monitor and reduce your carbon footprint while also reducing your energy bills.

Using a nationally tested program and workbook, you will choose what you want to do to reduce your carbon footprint and how to put your choices into action.

To participate, pick the workshop that fits your schedule and contact the facilitator. A \$10 suggested donation to cover the cost of the workbook can be given to the facilitator at the workshop.

Monday evenings (10/6, 10/20, 11/3, & 11/17) from 7:30 to 9 pm at First United Church, 2420 East Third St. Call or email Stephanie Kimball at 333-9324 or Kimball.stephanie@gmail.com.

Tuesday lunch hour (10/7, 10/14, 10/28 & 11/11) from noon to 1:30 pm at First United Methodist Church (219 East Fourth St.). Bring a bag lunch. Call or email Anne Veldman at 988-6241 or anneveldman@yahoo.com.

Wednesday evenings (10/29 & 11/12) from 6-8 pm at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 3800 East Third Street. Call or email Benjamin Schultz at 855-5130 or schultzb@indiana.edu.

Saturday afternoon (11/15) from 1-5 pm at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 3800 East Third Street. Participants in this power version (the full workshop in one session) of the class will need to contact Benjamin

Schultz in advance for instructions on information that attendees will need to bring with them to the workshop. Benjamin can be reached at 855-5130 or schultzb@indiana.edu.

By internet starting on 10/6 for people who are extremely disciplined. Please email Benjamin at schultzb@indiana.edu. (Our Green Sanctuary Task Force is a member of Earth Care, a local interfaith environmental group.)

UU Board of Directors

(Creating Policy, Envisioning our Future)

GK Rowe, President,

pres@uubloomington.org

Andrea Murray, Vice President,

vicepres@uubloomington.org

John Lawson, Treasurer,

treasurer@uubloomington.org

Chris Haynes, Secretary,

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(Daily Management of Church Operations)

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, Co-minister

Rev. Bill Breeden, Co-minister

Carol Marks, Church Administrator

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