

The Prologue

Unitarian Universalist Church of
Bloomington
2120 N. Fee Lane
Bloomington, IN 47408-1646

812-332-3695
www.uubloomington.org
The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, Minister
The Rev. Bill Breeden, Minister



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The Prologue Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

Congregation founded 1949
GLBTQ Welcoming Congregation since 1995
Green Sanctuary since 2007



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

March 2, 2010
TIME VALUE! Please deliver by March 4
Return Service Requested



Sunday, March 7, 2010

Sabbatical Reflections

9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Reverend Bill Breeden

Last year this church gave me the gift of a sabbatical leave. Glenda, my partner of 40 years and my sabbatical companion, will join me in reflecting on that gift.

Sunday, March 14, 2010

The Transcendentalist Controversy

9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Unitarians Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Margaret Fuller, George Ripley and Theodore Parker were all part of the transcendentalist movement. In Unitarian circles, it was a rebellion against the prevailing systems of theology. "It is no wonder," said George Ripley about the theologians of his day, "that the heart is pulverized, that the freshness of life is exhausted, under their influence". What can these 19th century transcendentalist rebels teach us today about 21st century spirituality?

Sunday, March 28, 2010

Youth-led Worship Service

9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

The Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU), our high school youth group, is preparing to lead the worship service on Sunday, March 28th at 9:15am and 11:15am. Our Congregation is truly enriched by the contributions of youth and our YRUUs; don't miss this great worship.

Clothing Swap March 27

The Green Sanctuary Task Force is hosting a clothing swap on Saturday, March 27 from 9 a.m.-noon in Fellowship Hall. Clear out your closets, and freshen up your wardrobe, all without increasing your carbon footprint. For more information or to volunteer, contact Stephanie Kimball at kimball.stephanie@gmail.com

3/4/2010	11:30 AM	Women's Alliance	3/8/2010	7:30 PM	Voces Novae Chamber Choir
	5:30 PM	Chalice Circle Exec Team	3/9/2010	6:30 PM	Chalice Circle Facilitators - Tues grp
	7:00 PM	ARE Cmte		6:30 PM	Earth Kin Discussion
	7:00 PM	NAMI Class		6:45 PM	Bloomington Chamber Singers
	7:00 PM	UU Choir		7:00 PM	Yoga (\$)
3/5/2010	8:15 AM	Soc. Justice Steering Cmte	3/10/2010	10:00 AM	UU Wednesday Walkers
	10:30 AM	Life Stories Writing Group		11:30 AM	Soup & Sage-ing
	12:00 PM	Super Staff		1:30 PM	Elder Focus Task Force
	12:00 PM	UU Staff		6:30 PM	Denominational Affairs Cmte
	6:00 PM	Montessori School Dress reh.	3/11/2010	3:00 PM	CCMA rehearsal
3/6/2010	9:00 AM	BCS Rehearsal		6:30 PM	A Psychiatrist Views the Feminine
	10:30 AM	Stiglitz: American Free Markets		7:00 PM	Chalice Circle - Wagner/Parsons
	12:00 PM	IU Men's Basketball Home Game		7:00 PM	NAMI Class
	1:00 PM	Montessori School concert		7:00 PM	UU Choir
	4:00 PM	Past Presidents Meeting	3/12/2010	10:30 AM	Life Stories Writing Group
3/7/2010	12:15 PM	Sound Committee		12:00 PM	UU Staff
	12:45 PM	Green Sanctuary Task Force		6:30 PM	Women's Drumming Circle
	1:00 PM	Chal Circle - Knowlton	3/13/2010	10:30 AM	BCS Board Meeting
	4:00 PM	Talent Auction		10:30 AM	Stiglitz: American Free Markets
	6:00 PM	YRUU	3/14/2010	8:00 AM	IU Spring Break Mar 14-20
3/8/2010	3:00 PM	CCMA Rehearsal		10:15 AM	IOTF Bake Sale
	3:00 PM	Mgt Team with President		2:30 PM	Diane Rivera - CCMA concert
	5:30 PM	Stewardship Cmte		3:00 PM	Exploring UU Class
	6:30 PM	Chalice Circle Facilitators - Monday grp		6:00 PM	YRUU

For more event info, go to www.uubloomington.org; click on Full Calendar.

From the Ministers

We like to write columns that contain good news, and this week we get to do just that. First, it is an undeniable fact that Spring is on its way. The sunshine is arriving a bit earlier each morning, bluebirds are seeking nesting areas, and we have flowers sprouting. Before long we will see the flower blooms that are the promise of sunny days. Old Man Winter is an interesting guest, but we will be more than happy to show him the door.

Another item of good news is the report from the Green Spaces Feasibility Study which follows. We are excited that it provides us with a positive assessment of our ability to go green with a green light.

Finally, it is good news that the annual Stewardship campaign "We Are Moving Forward" is kicking off, and we believe that we will once again rise to the occasion and provide for the economic health of this congregation. This pledge campaign provides the lion's share of the funds needed to underwrite the ministry of this church, and we believe that ministry to be vital to our community and the larger world. We also believe in 100% participation when it comes to our Stewardship Campaign. We ask everyone who believes in our shared ministry as a congregation to pledge in the upcoming Stewardship Campaign. Commitment Sunday will be April 11, 2010. We are moving forward.

Peace, MAM and bill
Reverend Bill Breeden and Reverend
Mary Ann Macklin

Green Light for Green Spaces!

Members of the Green Spaces Initiative, Board and Management Team, have reviewed the feasibility study of the Green Spaces Initiative capital campaign proposal, (i.e., the proposed fund raising campaign aimed at improving our indoor and outdoor spaces and creating a Green Building Maintenance Fund). The congregation requested the study and the consulting firm of Jessica White Associates (JWA) completed the work. Thirty-nine members from 24 households were interviewed.

The study indicates that fund raising goals are within reach and there is sufficient support for the project. Interviewees were particularly supportive of replacing deteriorating windows and improving Meeting Room acoustics. There was also support for a green fund and courtyard changes, but more information about costs/benefits and return on investments was desired regarding these aspects of the plan and their specific components.

Finally, interviewees expressed concern about fundraising during the current weak economy and maintaining clarity in the decision-making process while we continue our transition to the large church governance model.

A summary of the report created by JWA will be available by March 5th and will be posted online. JWA will discuss the report and answer questions at a meeting to be held after our annual stewardship campaign completes in early April. The date of this meeting will be announced in the next Prologue. Special thanks to those who took part in the interviews, and thanks to all who have shared their ideas and concerns with the committee. We continue to seek input as we move toward these needed improvements to our spiritual home (contact Cynthia Port at: cport@epi.umaryland.edu).

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Membership Coordinator Availability

Membership Coordinator Judy Bennett will be available at church in the meditation room (207b) on Thursdays 9am-11am. If you have questions please come by. Her email is memcoord@uubloomington.org. Availability in March: Judy will be out of town from March 12 - 20. She will respond to emails or phone messages when she returns.

Our Folks...

Robin Halpin Young has recently completed a 1-year memorial blog for Scot Halpin; memories and Scot's artwork can be viewed at tscotalpin.blogspot.com.

Our thoughts of comfort and sympathy are with Lois Hutter-Pishgahi and Reza Pishgahi, upon the death of Lois's father in February.

Our comforting thoughts go out to Susi Miller and Robert Shull, Susi's mother, Glendora Swaim, died last week.

Thoughts of healing are with Sandy Taylor who is home recovering from recent surgery.

Barb Schwegman would personally like to thank the UUs who supported MCCSC teachers and children during the School Board's controversial budget at vote. Please inform yourselves of a possible referendum on the spring ballot, the School Board members, and the state budget.

Grocery Cards Available

Cash or checkbook ready? Don't forget to bring cash or a check to church to purchase your grocery card. Remember 3-5% of the amount goes directly to the church.

Some of Our Newest Members

Elof Carlson is a 78-year-old retired geneticist from Stony Brook University who has returned to Bloomington, where he got his PhD in 1958. He is also a historian of science and a writer. He has had 11 books published, four of them since he retired from Stony Brook University. He writes a newspaper column, Life Lines, that appears in 7 newspapers on the north shore of Long Island in NY. He became a Unitarian in 1961.

Nedra Carlson is a retired clinical embryologist at an IVF facility on Long Island, NY. She is the mother of five children and grandmother of 12. She loves to design quilts, read, cook, travel, support good causes and go on learning. She grew up in Fulton County and attended Mishawaka High School and IU where she met her husband.

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: 812-322-0205
Rev. Breeden's regular day off is Thursday. On call M, T, W, F breeden@uubloomington.org, mobile: 812-360-1779

UUs Changing the World



Feed Our Hungry Neighbors
Next Bounty-Full Sunday is Apr 4
 Current needs at Monroe County United Ministries:

canned meat - chili, chicken, hash, etc.
 canned fruit - peaches, pears, mixed fruit
 canned veggies - mixed, potatoes, beets, carrots.



25% Sunday Plate Collection for Social Justice: Update and Plans for Next Year

The process for selecting an agency to receive the 25% Sunday plate collection for the next fiscal year is underway. An application form and a set of guidelines are now available for those who would like to submit the name of an agency that you would like these funds to support. The applications can be found in a folder in the Social Justice Coordinating Council mailbox in the volunteer workroom of the church. You can also request the application electronically from Jennifer Blankenship (blankenship.jennifer@ymail.com). After the applications are submitted, a short list of up to three applications will be chosen for a final vote at the spring congregational meeting.

Those who submit applications must be able to meet the following obligations: (1) contact the agency you support to gather the information necessary to complete the application; (2) provide written information for *Common Ground*; (3) be available with

information about your agency for the congregational meeting on Sunday, June 6th. **The completed applications must be submitted no later than Friday, March 31st, to be considered. Completed applications can be returned in the SJCC mailbox in the workroom or submitted electronically to Jennifer Blankenship at blankenship.jennifer@ymail.com.**

UU Weatherization

The Green Sanctuary Task Force (GSTF) has a work day scheduled on Saturday, March 27 from 1 - 5 pm. In 2008 the GSTF funded a professional energy survey, in part to assist with assessments related to the Green Spaces Initiative. The findings of the audit identified a number of low cost, high return projects that will improve the energy efficiency of the Church. On March 27, Dick Stumpner and Bill Corcoran will lead volunteers in completing those projects and we would love your help, even if you can only make it for part of the afternoon. This is a great opportunity to learn from the pros while further greening our Church. Some of the work will require getting into and working in confined areas. Ideally we would like to know about how many people are planning on working, so please contact Marcia at marciaveldman@gmail.com or 988-4956 to sign up.

Attendance

Sun, Feb 21, 9:15:	89;	11:15:	179;	RE:	126
				Total:	394
Sun, Feb 28, 9:15:	110;	11:15:	220;	RE:	136
				Total:	466
Sun, Feb 21 non-pledge offering:				\$	476
Sun, Feb 28 non-pledge offering:				\$	760
Total to Crestmont Boys & Girls Club				\$	309



Storytime Yoga: Special Spring Break Religious Education program

On March 14, there will be a special Spring Break Storytime Yoga program for the 9:15 and 11:15 services. The program will be for all ages.

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

UU Children's Choir

Upcoming Schedule:
 -Sun. March 28th: 10:30-11:00 Rehearse for 4/11 (Library)
 -Sun. Apr. 4th: 10:30-11:00 Rehearse for 4/11 (Library)
 -Sat. April 10th: mid-late morning (time TBA) - Short rehearsal in Meeting Room w/orchestra
 -Sunday April 11th: Commitment Service
 Sunday: Kids will sing end of 1st service and start of 2nd service. Meet at 9:30 am. New & returning Kg-6th grade singers always welcome! Questions? Contact Jill: icourtne@mccsc.edu



Pocket Gallery

Hopefully you have noticed John Woodcock's photos of church scenes that are hanging in the Pocket Gallery in the hallway outside the side door to the Meeting Room. The frames will remain available for members and friends to hang photos, poetry, bits of

writing, quotes you want to share, etc. --- be creative! The size of the window of the frames inside the mat is 7 1/2 X 9 1/2 inches. Please call Sandy Taylor (336-1234) to sign up for a time to your work.



Join us for a spiritual evening of drumming and fellowship!

Dorothy Sowell, Chris Clothier, Jeanette Miller, and Nancy Richman will host a drumming circle for women on Friday, March 12 2010 in Fellowship Hall at the church from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. All levels of drumming experience and non-experience are welcome. We encourage you to bring drums and other percussion instruments (instruments will not be provided). Dancers are welcome.



Women's Alliance March 4

The Women's Alliance will meet on Thursday, March 4. Our speaker, Reverend Bill Breeden, will share some of his Sabbatical Memories with us. The meeting begins with a brown bag luncheon at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Guests are always welcome.

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Stewardship Testimonial

Having been asked to put down my thoughts concerning the reasons why I support the Bloomington UU church with dollars and deeds, these words came to me.

In 2009 we celebrated 60 years of being a liberal voice in our community. Have we and other progressives made a difference in that time? Sometimes it's hard to see change because it doesn't happen fast enough. We're impatient and have much on our agenda. But, let's take a closer look.

Sixty years ago Bloomington's theaters and restaurants were segregated. Homosexuality was a forbidden topic and something to be ashamed of. Women with limited income had few choices regarding their decision to have one or two children. There was little interest in abolishing the death penalty and the predominant religious voice was a conservative one. Today, segregation in public places has vanished; discrimination regarding sexual preference is on the decline; Planned Parenthood is a vital service in our community (largely from efforts of UUs); there is growing interest in abolishing the death penalty; and Bloomington, that college town, has a reputation in the state as a liberal, progressive stronghold.

Would all this have occurred anyway? Perhaps. Perhaps not. It takes people (plural) united in a cause to accomplish something one person cannot do alone. I am happy to be a part of that initiative for what we have accomplished and for what we have to accomplish in the future. That is why I gladly make a financial pledge to this church each year.

-Marjorie Crosby

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Chalice Circles, the exciting program of small group ministry in our congregation, is

looking for a few deep listeners. The focus of each Chalice Circle meeting is a topic that serves as a springboard into reflection on deeper issues of who we are and what gives our lives meaning. At the core of each session is deep listening. Questions are posed and each person responds in turn. The other participants provide the speaker with rapt attention. They don't ask questions; they don't give advice – they listen deeply.

More from Chalice Circles

Members of our congregation are actively involved in helping others in the denomination with small group ministry, also called covenant circles. Anne Haynes and Judy Bennett, both currently serving as Chalice Group Facilitators, are involved with the UU Small Group Ministry Network (<http://www.smallgroupministry.net/>), which supports member congregations by providing planning, training, and publications. Anne is in her third year on the Network Board of Directors. The Board meets monthly by conference call and in person at UUA General Assembly. Both Judy and Anne are on the Network's Membership Committee. They meet regularly by conference call with others from around the country to recruit new member congregations. In addition, on a more local level, Anne worked with the UU Church of Indianapolis (UUI) in November 2009, where she co-taught an all-day Facilitator Training workshop with Rev. Barbara Child. UUI began their Chalice Circles program last month. For info, contact Alan Backler, 340-1323 abackler@aol.com

Commitment Sunday is April 11

Commitment Sunday this year is April 11, when we will have two wonderful services with opportunities to sign our pledge cards for the coming year. The full UU Choir will bring us Bach's Mass in A Major with accompanying orchestra made up of UU members and friends. An excellent free breakfast will be served between the services as well. Don't miss this heartwarming Sunday!

UUA General Assembly 2010 Minneapolis MN June 24-27

Registration now open.

Attention Committee Chairs – Budgets for 2010-11 Due April 12

The Program Team will soon provide you with the information you need to create your budget for the coming year, July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011. The budget toolkit will also be posted online and is available now via email from Church Administrator Carol Marks, admin@uubloomington.org. Budget proposals are due by April 12 to your Program Team member, or direct to Treasurer John Lawson, treasurer@uubloomington.org if your committee has oversight by the Management Team (Aesthetics, Grounds, Building Oversight, Sound). If you have questions about the materials or the budgeting process, please contact your Program Team member, Carol Marks, or John Lawson.

UU Art and Talent Auction is Coming! March 7, 4:30 p.m.

Ways to participate:

- a.. Volunteer to help
 - b.. Attend the auction and bid.
 - c.. Bring friends and neighbors.
 - d.. Bake dessert(s) to sell at the dinner after the auction.
 - e.. Stay for the pasta dinner to socialize
- Questions? Contact a member of the Auction Committee at the table in the Commons between services. Thank you. Jan Skinner, Talent Auction Chair jan.skinner1@comcast.net

U.S. Census 2010

Where you sleep April 1, 2010 will be recorded for the next ten years. Please make out the form when you receive it and put it right back in the mail! 10 questions—10 minutes—that's all it takes. For more info/questions: Iris Kiesling 332-5224 or ifkiesling@aol.com

Bulletin Board

Would like to form a monthly reading group of about 12 people. Read alternating months of fiction and non-fiction, chosen by the group. I have led such a group for 40 years and would be willing to get it started. Email Elof Carlson at ecarlson31@netzero.com if interested.

Looking for loving adult to care for our infant 2-3 afternoons/wk, in our home. Must be non-smoker and familiar with or willing to learn how to feed expressed breast milk. Email Shari Woodbury at wmshari@gmail.com

Interested in sharing 37 ac. with 4 other families to build small encl garden. Big, close to east side of town. For more info, email Silja at svweber@indiana.edu

ARE Prospectus—Spring 2010
Unitarian Universalist Church
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March 2, 2010



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**Adult Religious Education Prospectus
Spring 2010
Unitarian Universalist Church
of Bloomington, Indiana**

Registration: To register, sign up on the bulletin board by the courtyard entrance or call (332-3695) or e-mail

Ginger Ko, our Office Assistant, at office@uubloomington.org.

How to purchase texts: You may be able to purchase texts through our Booktable (chaired by Glee Noble, gleenoble@sbcglobal.net).

Child Care: Child care can be arranged for most events if parents reserve by the posted deadline and if **at least two families request child care** for a given class or event. Reserve on the sign-up sheet, call 332-3695, or email office@uubloomington.org.

Unitarian Universalist Yoga with Shelley Taylor

Tuesdays, until April 27 (except March 16) from 7-8PM, Fellowship Hall, Min 5, Max 20
This professionally-led yoga class is appropriate for both beginners and experienced yoga participants. You may want to bring a mat or towel. \$5 per session requested.

Book Discussion: “Freefall: American Free Markets and the World Economy”

with Jim and Tomi Allison and Reverend Barbara Carlson
7 Saturdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 10, 17, 24, 10:30AM-noon, Library, Min. 5, Max. 20
Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz’ “Freefall” offers a clear accounting of why so many Americans feel disillusioned today after watching Wall Street and our governments’ handling of recent financial crises, and how we can realize a prosperous economy and a moral society for the future. Please join us for reading and discussion. Required text: “Freefall” by Joseph Stiglitz

Soup and Saging with Barb Backler and Ruth Sanders

Wednesdays March 10, April 14, May 12 from 11:30AM-1PM, Fellowship Hall
The Elder Focus Task Force is sponsoring this soup lunch and book/discussion group each month where we examine the role of elders in our church and in society.
March 10: “Prime Time” by Marc Freedman (on the effective use of experienced people)
April 14: Each person brings a synopsis of an appropriate book, video, poem, or short story
May 12: We’ll reflect on all we’ve heard and decide where we want to go next.

A Psychiatrist Views the Feminine with Bob Taylor

4 Thursdays, March 11, 25, April 8, 22 from 6:30-8PM, Room 207B, Min. 5, Max. 12

In this class, we will explore a noted Jungian author's discussion of feminine consciousness. She is concerned with the experience of women in a culture dominated by male values. Her writing illuminates topics including masculine imagery in women's unconscious, and women's roles in relation to work, love, children, and aging. Required text: "Knowing Woman" by Irene Castillejo.

Attuning to the Sufi Path with Sharon Parsons and Sara Steffey McQueen

3 Thursdays, March 18, April 15, May 20, from 7-8PM, Room 207B, Min. 5, Max. 15

"Sufism is the religion of the heart, the religion in which the most important thing is to seek God in the heart of mankind." This experiential class will explore Sufi Practices including Breath, Light, Sound, and meditations. Exploring avenues that bring the mystery of life into our midst.

How to Read a Poem (or at least some poems) with Jack Carpenter

2 Mondays, March 22 and 29, from 7-8:30PM, Library, Min 5, Max 12

We will read and discuss a number of poems (provided by the facilitator). The goal is to demystify poetry and increase our understanding and enjoyment of it. NOT English 101!

Living the Welcoming Congregation with Phil Cooper and Kevin Woodruff

15 Thursdays, March 25-July 1, from 7-9PM, Room 105, Min. 6, Max. 25

The UU Church has been a Welcoming Congregation for some time. What does being a Welcoming Congregation mean in terms of what we know, what we do, how we are? Exploring in the context of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Questioning, Ally concerns.

Live to 100 and Enjoy it! with Al Strickholm

6 Saturdays, April 3-May 8, 10:30AM-noon, Room 210, Min. 6, Max. 20

Be physically and mentally active throughout your years and still be able to raise hell at meetings with your age-old wisdom! Find out what a living system is and how to preserve yours! Covered: biophysics of what is life and why we age, practical approaches to minimize the complications of aging using diet and plant based nutraceuticals. \$5 per person requested to cover copying costs

Artful Everyday Compositions: the World as Art Museum with Beau Vallance

2 Mondays, April 19 and 26, from 7-8:30PM, Room 212, Min. 5, Max. 12

We will explore some principles of artful composition through familiar and unusual works of art in museum collections, and then explore some possible parallels visible in everyday life, including shop window design, "street furniture", rural mailboxes, and (the most fun) found

arrangements. With slides and discussion, and an invitation to bring your own photos to the second session, when we will discuss found arrangements.

Questions? Contact our Minister of Religious Education
The Reverend Emily Manvel Leite, 333-9822, mre@uubloomington.org

Book Group Forming:

If you are interested in being part of an ongoing book discussion group exploring both fiction and non-fiction titles, a group is forming now. Contact Elof Carlson: ecarlson31@netzero.com