

The Prologue

Unitarian Universalist Church of
Bloomington
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812-332-3695
www.uubloomington.org
The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, Minister
The Rev. Bill Breeden, Minister



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The Prologue

Monday, March 15, 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 15, 2010
TIME VALUE! Please deliver by March 17
Return Service Requested



Sunday, March 21, 2010

9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

New Seeds from Times Past

Reverend Bill Breeden

In the restored Goose Pond wetlands near Linton, Indiana, they are seeing plants that have not been seen for over one hundred years. Perhaps we need to restore some political and cultural wetlands and provide space for some old ideas.

Sunday, March 28, 2010

9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Youth-led Worship Service

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.

3/17/2010	10:00 AM	UU Wednesday Walkers	3/24/2010	10:00 AM	UU Wednesday Walkers
	6:00 PM	Nominating Cmte		7:00 PM	Chalice Circle - Crane
	7:00 PM	Cakes for the Queen of Heaven		7:00 PM	UU Board of Directors
3/18/2010	7:00 PM	Attuning to the Sufi Path	3/25/2010	6:30 PM	A Psychiatrist Views the Feminine
	7:00 PM	NAMI Class		7:00 PM	Living the Welcoming Congregation
	7:00 PM	UU Choir		7:00 PM	NAMI Class
3/19/2010	10:30 AM	Life Stories Writing Group		7:00 PM	UU Choir
	12:00 PM	UU Staff	3/26/2010	8:30 AM	Center Stone Breakfast Series
3/20/2010	10:30 AM	BCS Board Meeting		10:30 AM	Life Stories Writing Group
	10:30 AM	Stiglitz: American Free Markets		12:00 PM	UU Staff
	7:30 PM	Spring Equinox		6:00 PM	New Member Potluck
3/21/2010	2:15 PM	A Year to Live Class		7:30 PM	UU Coffee House
	3:00 PM	Exploring UU Class	3/27/2010	9:00 AM	BCS Rehearsal
	6:00 PM	YRUU		9:00 AM	Green Sanctuary Clothing Swap
3/22/2010	3:00 PM	Management Team		10:30 AM	Stiglitz: American Free Markets
	6:30 PM	RE Committee		12:15 PM	Weatherization - entire building
	7:00 PM	How to Read a Poem		12:30 PM	BCS potluck lunch
	7:30 PM	Voces Novae Chamber Choir		5:00 PM	Facilities use
3/23/2010	6:45 PM	Bloomington Chamber Singers			
	7:00 PM	Membership Cmte			
	7:00 PM	UU Men's Group			
	7:00 PM	Yoga (\$)			

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

Heartland UU District Annual Meeting in Ann Arbor, April 9-11

Represent our congregation at the Annual meeting of the District in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Some financial support available for delegates. There will probably be carpooling. Info: Iris Kiesling 332-5224 or Amy Taylor 331-7449

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.

From Our President Update on Governance –

In order to support one another on our spiritual and ethical paths, work for justice, dignity and respect for the web of life, inside and outside these church walls, we have had to update how the board governs and how the church operates. The Board's vision is driven by our mission and vision that encompasses a self-supporting community as a welcoming community with a healthy ministry.

Thanks to the work of many Past Presidents, Lay-Leaders, Task Forces and Committees, we have made necessary changes to our governance structure to support the members of our growing community. A church of our size (just over 400 members) needs to redefine responsibility and authority to carry out the work that supports our mission. Our vision, mission and strategic plan were adopted by the congregation, which also elects the Board.

For the past year, the Board has been focusing on completing a new set of policies that will direct and authorize staff and volunteers to carry out the shared ministry and administration of the church, rather than micromanaging committees and staff. We have been making progress in this area and are pleased to share our new set of policies which can be found on our church website at: www.uubloomington.org (under "Our Congregation" and "Bylaws and Governance").

A continuing high priority for the Board is to communicate better. There is a lot of work still to be done to reach our potential and to achieve an understanding of

acceptance for our new way of doing the work of the congregation. We understand that this is a work in progress and work we must do together to effectively meet the needs of a growing congregation.

The Board has decided to take the next six months to consciously focus on "transition" to reflect and review our current changes and strategically determine the next step – together. We believe this transition is necessary and positive to support our church's ministry in allowing us to fully live our mission and vision.

Part of our focus on "transition" will include a visit from Reverend Laurel Hallman in late April. Reverend Hallman, a former minister of this church, will offer her wisdom regarding our governance change. As part of our congregation's leadership development, she will lead a workshop on Saturday morning April 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on "The Role of Lay Leaders in Policy Governance." All are welcome. Please mark your calendars!

If you have questions regarding our new governance structure, please contact me at: pres@uubloomington.org | 317-370-2002

In Your Service,
GK Rowe
President of the Congregation

Attendance & Offering

Sun, March 7, 9:15:	97;	11:15:	223;	RE:	135
				Total:	455
Sun, March 14, 9:15:	62;	11:15:	150;	RE:	49
				Total:	261
Sun, March 7 non-pledge offering:					\$533
Sun, March 14 non-pledge offering:					\$432
Total to Crestmont Boys & Girls Club					\$241

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Community Connections Our faith in action in the community

25% Fund Nominees Due March 31

From July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, Crestmont Boys and Girls Club is our 25% of Sunday Plate Fund recipient. Because of the generous non-pledge Sunday offerings of our community, we have been able to donate a total of \$5,038.00 to Crestmont so far. Nomination forms for the organization to receive this funding July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 are due to Jennifer Blankenship by March 31, 2010. See related article on Page 6.

Our Folks...

Our comforting thoughts are with Colleen Haas and Mary Boutain and family; Colleen's father died in late February. The funeral took place in Minnesota.

Our thoughts of comfort and healing to John Hicks who recently had heart surgery in Indianapolis. John is doing well and hopes to be home soon.



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 away from the office March 12-20. She will respond to emails or phone messages when she returns.

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
Reverend Macklin will be away from the office March 19-26. Please contact Rev. Breeden if there is a pastoral emergency. Rev. Breeden's regular day off is Thursday. On call M, T, W, F breeden@uubloomington.org, mobile: 812-360-1779

Class Reminder: Live to 100 and enjoy it.

Although the class is oriented to mitigate problems of aging, it also has relevance to those of age 20 where decisions made now affect whether one will dance to celebrate one's 100th birthday. For those with scientific curiosity, it also explores the physicist's explanation of life, and what keeps it evolving. Any one 20 or older will benefit from the information gained from this course. Class dates are April 3-May 8. Questions? Contact Al Strickholm 339-5440 Email: strickho@indiana.edu.

UUs Changing the World



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

Crackers, one pound bags or boxes of rice, canned veggies: potatoes, beets, carrots, mixed vegetables.



25% Sunday Plate Collection for Social Justice: Applications for 2010-11 Due Mar 31

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 workroom (Room 204) 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 on June 6.

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.**

Matching Funds In March, April For Donations To MCUM

Every year, Rhode Island philanthropist Alan Feinstein donates \$1 million to agencies working to fight hunger across the U.S. The percentage of the \$1 million that Monroe County United Ministries will receive depends on the food and financial donations they collect in March and April. Please remember to bring food donations (and/or cash if you prefer) to the next Bounty-full Sunday which is April 4. Thank you in advance from the Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force!



Weatherization Project Mar 27

The Green Sanctuary Task Force (GSTF) has a work day

scheduled on Saturday, March 27 from 1 - 5 pm. Dick Stumpner and Bill Corcoran will lead volunteers in completing weatherization 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. We would like to know how many people are planning on working, so please contact Marcia at marciaveldman@gmail.com or 988-4956 to volunteer.

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Inter-age Enjoyment

Spring Break is definitely a part of the year when families spend time enjoying having kids of different ages and adults together. As part of our "Vacation Religious Education" program, kids of all ages (and a few of their parents) had the opportunity to enjoy Storytime Yoga with Sakshi this past Sunday. The leadership of the older kids and the concentration and participation of the youngest preschoolers were impressive as everyone tried the yoga, which was new to nearly all of them. It was clear that adults were the least flexible, but it was good to learn together!

Upcoming inter-age events for your calendar:

Tuesday, March 30, 6-8 PM: Intergenerational Seder Dinner

Come and hear the story of the exodus from Egypt and enjoy traditional (but not at all kosher) Passover foods. Tickets will be available on Sundays March 21 and 28 at church (\$7 adult, \$3 kids), or contact Emily if you are interested.

Wednesday, April 7, 5:30-6:45PM: Celebrating Memories Family Dinner and Worship

We will be honoring our church elders at this special family worship event. People of all ages are encouraged to attend and to bring an object that recalls an important memory. Details in Mar 29 Prologue. Hope you can join us!

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 (Room 210)
-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 Sunday Services: 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: jcourtne@mccsc.edu

Pocket Gallery Features Photos by Jack King



Check out Jack King's photos of the Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill in the Pocket Gallery this month, in the hallway outside the

north 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 show your work.

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MAM's Musings

Part I. As I said in the worship service on Sunday I am not a pacifist, albeit of Quaker ancestry. However, I keep hearing those haunting words spoken by Martin Luther King, Jr. "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death". Currently, the average annual cost per US soldier in Afghanistan is \$1 million – in a country, Afghanistan, where GNP per capita is \$800. Meanwhile, budget cuts continue in our education systems and the health care crisis carry on.

Part II. I read the Sunday Herald Times on Sunday afternoon. This Sunday, in Section E, I learned about the case of one of our country's soldiers. Air Force Sergeant Jane Newsome, who for nine years played by the rules of the "don't ask, don't tell" gay policy in our armed forces, was handed an honorable discharge. Why? Good question. She never told anyone in the military that she was a lesbian. Turns out that some South Dakota police officers saw an Iowa marriage certificate at her home and reported it to her Air Force Base. So we lose another soldier who was serving our country honorably.

Part III. Let us continue to support the liberal religious presence and voice of our congregation in Bloomington and beyond.

Peace, MAM

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin



Stewardship Testimonial from Andrea and Scott

We pledge more than \$200 a month to the congregation every year.

We also volunteer our time in work such as coffee hour cleanup, committee work and special projects such as Christmas gifts and the building upkeep.

As UU's we believe that the congregation needs and deserves both our time and our money to be the best it can be.

Our ministers and staff are an incredibly hard-working bunch who deserve better wages and benefits than our group has been able to offer over the years.

We pledge money to them and their service to the congregation. We pledge to the wonderful building that is constantly in need of upkeep. We pledge to the ever-important utility bills.

We pledge because there are things our volunteer hours cannot cover.

--Andrea Murray and Scott Burgins



Donate Spare Clothes To Childcare

We have run out of spare clothing to give to children who have accidents while in our care. Unisex clothing in infant through kindergarten sizes are needed, mostly toddlers sizes. Some stains or out of style is okay. Stretchy type unisex clothes that can fit different sizes are most useful. Underwear and training pants are needed too. Bring to Cindy's office, Room 203 or the childcare room, Room 108. Thank you!

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\$10,000 Made at Art and Talent Auction

Thank you to so many of you who assisted with the Auction on March 7. In addition to the hard working committee, volunteers cooked the delicious pasta dinner, donated art and talent, set-up tables and chairs, monitored the silent auction, auctioneered, presented the art work, bid for others, collected money and much more. Again, thank you. This could not happen without your assistance.

There are some items remaining that will be available on Sunday, March 21 between the services. Bring your cash or checkbook and you too can be a part of this fundraiser for the church. Funds raised go directly to the operating budget. --Art and Talent Auction Committee

Women's Alliance Announces Donations

The Women's Alliance usually budgets \$1000 annually for support for community outreach. At the March 4 meeting, three donations were approved:

\$250 for Habitat for Humanity to support UU women participating in the Habitat Women's Build on May 18.

\$250 for the International Outreach Task Force to use in the congregation's efforts to support relief efforts in Haiti or for support of women's programs in Africa.

\$250 to Middle Way House for use in the YES! Program – the Youth Empowerment Services program - to purchase a group membership to the YMCA to enable mentors and their mentees to work together in activities at the Y. An additional \$250 will be given during the next fiscal year of the Alliance

for this purpose as the group membership costs \$600.

\$250 was given earlier this year to support David Parkhurst's Katrina Task Force fall trip to New Orleans for rebuilding work. Additional donations have been made for this program in the past several years.

This money comes to the Alliance from proceeds of the Bazaar. Thanks to all of you who support the Bazaar and make this work of the Alliance feasible.

--Diane Gregory, Alliance President



Earth Kin Celebrates Spring Equinox March 20

Earth Kin will gather on Sat. March 20th in

the Fellowship Hall to welcome and observe the Spring Equinox. Begin gathering at 6:30pm to help set up, get a fire going, and set up the kitchen for the feast afterwards. We may even be coloring eggs for the celebration. I regret that there will be no childcare for this ritual. But children who are old enough to appreciate what is going on are welcome, with a parent in attendance. Bring food to share, flowers and other signs of spring for the circle and altar. Ritual starts at 7:30pm. All church members, families and church friends are invited to attend. Welcome Ostara! Goddess of Spring! Questions should be addressed to elmbeckie@yahoo.com. --Beckie Wagner



UU Seder March 30

The UU Passover Seder will be held Tuesday, March 30 at 6:00 p.m.

This beloved ritual of freedom and rebirth will be celebrated with a UU influence. Rev. Emily Manvel Leite will be the Seder leader. Traditional, but not Kosher foods will be served as well as a full dinner. Vegetarian option is available. Cost of the dinner is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children with a \$20 limit for a family. Tickets will be available on Sunday March 21 and 28 between the services. A few volunteers will be needed to help with clean up and will not be charged for the dinner. Questions? Ruellen Fessenbecker 837-9550, rfessenb@indiana.edu



UUA General Assembly June 23-27, 2010

Represent our congregation at the conference in Minneapolis. Let our voice be heard. Last year we had a full

delegation of nine members attending GA: Kevin Woodruff, Amy Taylor, Carol McCord, Andrea Murray, Jackie Hall, Lloyd Orr, David Keppel, Kevin Rottet, and Phil Cooper, as well as our ministers and several staff members. Iris Kiesling 332-5224 ifikiesling@aol.com or Kevin Woodruff 331-7449 or krw@inbox.com.

Staff Security is a Priority

1) Please be sure to check every exterior door of the building after each meeting, especially in the evening, to be sure all doors are locked and latched. When doors are found unlocked in the morning, staff members have the option of going home instead of working their scheduled hours, rather than enter an unsecured building.

2) When you enter the building downstairs using a church key you have borrowed, and staff are in the building on weekdays, please go upstairs to the office area and let us know you are here.

--Carol Marks, Church Administrator

UU Coffee House Friday March 26TH



If you haven't tried it yet it is time you did! The last coffee house of the season is Friday March 26th at 7:30pm. Join us for a fun evening listening to music and poetry while you sip coffee and nibble on

snacks. Featured musicians include: Reverend Bill Breeden on guitar with Glenda singing some of their own compositions, Bob Port, the Two Tones (Tom Yeiser and Beth Brown), and the Small Cave Farmers. Bob Taylor and Ian Woollen will be sharing some of their poetry. Children are welcome! A freewill donation is requested to cover costs. Any questions, please contact Dave Sharp dsharp@sharpdesigns.net.

The Prologue March 15, 2010 Insert Side A

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

UUA General Assembly 2010 Minneapolis MN June 24-27

Registration now open. www.uua.org/ga

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

The Program Team and Management Team has provided committee chairs with the information they need to prepare budget proposals for 2010-11. The budget toolkit is also posted online and is available 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).

The Prologue March 15, 2010 Insert Side B