

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

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Pick up a button and engage!

The group planning our celebrations of Bill's ministry invites you to kick off his retirement year by engaging in social justice work in Bill's honor. Pick up a button Sunday, January 12 or 19, then wear it while working for a better world. Opportunities abound, but we particularly hope you'll consider gathering a group of church friends and engaging with Bloomington's Martin Luther King "Day On". Visit the website at <http://www.bloomingtonvolunteernetnetwork.org> and wait for the photo at the top to show MLK day. Then click on it to see many possibilities for justice work.

Hope to see you there! from the "Bill Committee" (Ann Kamman, chair)



Sunday, January 12 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Scientific Inquiry: The Annual Science Sermon Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Reverend Macklin will offer her annual review and reflections on scientific discoveries and advances from 2013 as well as some thoughts on Bill Nye the Science Guy. We will explore topics from such areas as human origins, environment, physics, math, astronomy, health, mind and brain, and technology. Then we will ponder these things in our hearts in the spirit of inquiry.

Sunday, January 19 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

"Where Shall We Go?"

Reverend Bill Breeden

An inquiry into the demands of justice in our time with reference to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s prophetic voice.

No Tickets, No Bus

Unfortunately we were not able to secure tickets for the Feb. 4 debate at the Creation Museum featuring Bill Nye the Science Guy. We are very sorry.

--Reverend Macklin & Reverend Breeden

Our Folks...

Our sympathy is with Deborah Rush, Matt Rush, Emma Rush, and Noretta Koertge upon the passing of Deborah's father just before Christmas. A memorial service was held on December 24.

Our sympathy is also with Mary Mahern, Clark Brittain, Robyn Brittain and Leon Brittain, upon the passing of Mary's mother in December.

Our best wishes for quick healing to Gabriel Langdon who underwent surgery a few days ago. Cards are welcome, mailed to her home.

MAM's Musings



Baby, it's cold outside! Or at least it was at the beginning of the week. Meanwhile my reception, as I return from sabbatical, has been filled with warmth. Once again I offer my gratitude for this sabbatical opportunity and to everyone who helped move things along smoothly in my absence. As I have said to many of you, the experience was *integrative* in the best sense of that word. The quality time with my family was priceless.

While on sabbatical three books that influenced my journey profoundly. These are not large books in terms of word volume, but each invited deep exploration. I read a page or two from each book in the morning and allowed those pages to 'work on me' throughout the day. When I returned to the same passages at night, I experienced their meaning in a richer way. I appreciated this opportunity to explore the depth grammar of a text as opposed to a breadth reading, to which I am most accustomed. What were the three books? The I Ching or Book of Changes, translation by Brian Browne Walker. It is said to read one chapter (one or two pages) a day for a year and it will change your life. I am beginning to understand that statement.

The Second Half of life: Opening The Eight Gates of Wisdom by Angeles Arrien. Although I have led a retreat on this book, the more I explore, the more I glean its wisdom. How to Be an Adult: A Handbook on Psychological and Spiritual Integration by David Richo. I love this book.

I have returned to a congregation engaged in many changes and transitions. According to the Book of Changes we are always engaging change and transition, sometimes it's just more visible. One of those visible changes is shared below by my dear friend and colleague, Reverend Barbara Carlson, our Minister Emerita.

In gratitude, Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

(photo by John Woodcock)



From Our Minister Emerita, Reverend Barbara Carlson

Friends,

It is with a heart that both aches and rejoices that I have said Yes to my daughters, Laurel and Dawn, and their families, who for some time have been urging me to "come home" to Baton Rouge, LA, a home I left in 1987 to go to Starr King School for the Ministry, our Unitarian Universalist Seminary in Berkeley.

For the past twenty years I have been grateful that this congregation called me to serve you from 1993 through my retirement in 2005 A thriving, wonderful congregation in a great town! I dearly love my colleagues and friends as well as the privileges of living in a community that offers a great university, vibrant arts, music and theater, along with natural beauty and many civic-minded, politically aware and active people. Thanks to so many for your love and support and friendship that have been sources of strength and inspiration for the past twenty years.

Part of my heart will remain here with you, even as I am so grateful--at this stage of my life--for the opportunity to be close to my beloved family. My plans are to begin the moving process in early spring. I will cherish these next few months in Bloomington and with this congregation.

Reverend Barbara Carlson, Minister Emerita

(Please note that my correct e-mail is barbaracarlson5@gmail.com The address in the current directory is no longer valid.)



Intersession Begins!

Our children are enjoying engaging with the congregational theme of Inquiry by hearing stories from the Islamic tradition and exploring them through cooking, drama, and Spirit Play (which includes cultural explorations, science, and art). We will continue this exploration throughout January.

High School Youth Group

Our high school youth are busy planning their Youth Sunday service this month. All high school age youth are invited to join them. Sundays, 12:30-2:30PM in Fellowship Hall.

Save these Dates!

Friday, January 24th- 6-8pm Fourth Friday Fellowship

Saturday, February 8th- 6-8pm Soul Food Dinner

Interfaith Connections:

Celebrating the Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr: Sunday, January 12th, at 3:00. You are invited to join this interfaith gathering sponsored by the faith communities of Bethel AME, Beth Shalom, First United Church, University Baptist Church and our own Unitarian Universalist Church. H. Timothy Lovelace, of IU's Maurer School of Law will be the guest speaker. If you wish to join the "pick-up" choir for the service, please be there at 2:00. It is a family friendly celebration and children are very welcome. –Reverend Breeden

Calling all UU Artists, Artisans and Craftspeople!

The Elder Focus Task Force (EFTF) is planning a tour of UU artists' homes and studios on the afternoon of Thursday, March 27, 2014. If you would be interested in demonstrating/displaying your art to a group of appreciative fellow UUs in your studio or home, please contact Judy Allensworth at jallensworth@bluemarble.net. UU musicians, painters, actors, potters, sculptors, writers, weavers – we know you're out there. Join the EFTF's inaugural UU Artists' Tour and help enrich our UU community!

–Barb Backler

Martin Luther King Day Celebration

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (Photography on Display)

Our UU Church Choir, under the direction of Dr. Susan Swaney, traveled to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility—on Father's Day the first year and on the Saturday preceding MLK Day the following seven or eight years—to celebrate the worth and dignity of our brothers imprisoned there.

These celebrations drew the highest attendance of prisoners of any religious services offered at Wabash Valley and our congregation was honored to receive an award for the "Most Outstanding Religious Program" at the facility.

It is difficult to say who benefited most from these wonderful celebrations, the incarcerated or the visitors. For a few hours, the razor-wire could not separate brothers and sisters, and the light of love brightened the lives of all.

These photographs were captured by Rich Remsberg in January 2001, the year that Dr. Mellonee Burnim and members of the Community Christian Chorus joined us. Members of the African American Choral Ensemble also joined our choir for several of these concerts, first under the direction of Dr. James Mumford, then Keith McCutchen. Guy Loftman and Jack Harlow helped with arrangements and coordination with the prison administration.

*Sometimes I think that this whole world is one big prison yard.
Some of us are prisoners, the rest of us are guards.—Bob Dylan*

Glenda Breeden

Green Sanctuary - Coffee Coordinator Volunteer Opportunity

Here's a great way to contribute to the work of the Green Sanctuary that can be done on your own schedule, no meetings required. We're looking for someone to coordinate the purchasing and stocking of the coffee beans and chocolate and the scheduling of volunteers to sell the product as a fundraiser for the Green Sanctuary between services each Sunday. It's a fun, valuable and flexible volunteer opportunity. Please contact Marcia at marciaveldman@gmail.com if you are interested. Complete training will be provided.

The Reproductive Justice Task Force, January 27th

The Reproductive Justice Task Force resumes meeting on January 27th in the UUCB Library at 7:30pm. Our agenda includes planning for our next film presentation, a project with Planned Parenthood to provide snacks for their patients one day a week (in collaboration with other area churches), update on our "Rolling Resource Center" and other potential projects. Everyone interested in reproductive justice for men, women, and families is welcome. Contact Melinda Swenson for further information: [812-332-1020](tel:812-332-1020) or mswenson@iupui.edu.

Support Iran Diplomacy

The Just Peace Task Force invites you to call Senator Joe Donnelly ([202.224.4814](tel:202.224.4814)) and Senator Dan Coats ([202.224-5623](tel:202.224-5623)) and ask them to support diplomacy with Iran. Both are among the co-sponsors of a bill, the Nuclear Weapons Free Iran Act (S.1881), that President Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry warn would torpedo diplomacy and lead to war. The bill toughens already harsh sanctions unless Iran meets humiliating conditions, such as completely renouncing even civilian uranium enrichment, to which it has a right under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The bill also says the U.S. should provide military support if Israel attacks Iran in the name of self-defense. S.1881 is strongly opposed by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, former National Security Advisors Brent Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski, and nine former U.S. Ambassadors to Israel and Under Secretaries of State. Congress hears from a small number of wealthy lobby groups; it needs to hear from the rest of us, who know the tragic cost of war and the folly of scuttling a major opportunity for diplomacy. For more information, please contact David Keppel keppel@sbcglobal.net.

Affordable Care Act info Available

Info for insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act is available on the social justice table.

Thanks from the Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force

A huge heartfelt thanks to all of the UU knitters, weavers and crocheters who helped make the Fiber Arts Booth at the Holiday Bazaar the most successful ever! We were able to raise \$2139 for MCUM's Emergency Services, beating all previous year's totals. Thanks again and it's never too early to start thinking about knitting for next year!



Getting Involved Fair, Sunday, February 9th

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, meet new friends. This is a great opportunity for everyone 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 Sunday, February 9th. Judy Bennett, Membership Coordinator

Join The UU Fellowship Dinners. These dinners are held in homes of Unitarian Universalists and are the perfect way to meet fellow UU. Everyone is welcome. Participants contribute food and conversation. Want to know more? Want to sign up? Check it out and/or register by going to www.uubloomington.org and click on "Getting Involved/Social Activities" and click on the link to the form under Fellowship Dinners. You may need to "enable editing" then complete the form, save it, and attach it to an email to fwpdinners@uubloomington.org or look for the Fellowship Dinner brochures in the literature racks at church. You can complete the paper form and leave it in Room 204.

Our Congregational Themes for 2014



January: Inquiry
February: Connection
March: Generosity
April: Honesty
May: Beauty
June: Love

July: Hospitality
August: Creativity
Sept: Deep Listening
Oct: Inheritance
Nov: Possibility
Dec: Hope

We are invited to consider these themes in all areas of our congregational life: worship and music, education, fellowship, small group ministry, and social justice. How do you use INQUIRY to Seek the Spirit, Build Community, and Change the World?



UU Humanist Discussion Group Meets on Alternating Sundays

Our Humanist Discussion group meets on alternating Sundays at 12:45 p.m. in Room 210. This group is an opportunity for regular, open, wide-ranging discussions of issues relating to morality and ethics, human development, and the nature of the universe.

Tai Chi Class Starts Saturday, January 11

Tai Chi class starts Saturday, January 11, 10:15-11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. This class is being offered as part of our Adult Religious Education program, and all are welcome. Info, Christy True, soulcat39@hotmail.com



**Endings, Beginnings: A Congregational Workshop
with the Reverend Dr. Laurie E Proctor
January 25, 2014, 8:30 – 3:00 ~ Lunch and refreshments provided**

“Each day begins, new in what we must do without;
yet old in what we can never forget.” ~ Unknown

Endings and beginnings are important times in our lives, be they individual or in the shared life of a congregation. In June a ministry, yours with the Reverend Bill Breeden, will end and you will both move on to new beginnings. The end of a ministry has its own distinct challenges and gifts. How you say goodbye to each other will shape the way you move on.

On Saturday, January 25, we'll look at the process with the intention of understanding this shared journey of mind and heart. Our goal is that you be able to meet the challenges and accept the gifts that the coming months will bring. There will be time for asking questions and for voicing concerns. We'll also take a look at the other changes that Reverend Breeden's retirement will set in motion. These few brief hours will serve only as a beginning, but beginnings are important. The hope is that this will lay the foundation for a rewarding experience for all.

The Reverend Dr. Laurie E Proctor is Minister Emerita of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne, which she served for twelve years. Additionally, she has worked with congregations in California, Massachusetts, and Indiana as an extension minister, as an interim, and in a consulting capacity. She has had to say goodbye (and hello) many times in her ministry. She is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara, earned both an M. Div. and D. Min. from the School of Theology at Claremont, and a Master's in Earth Literacy from Saint Mary of the Woods. For a number of years she did postgraduate work in family systems at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family in Washington, DC.

How Can We Help? Get To Know The UU Caring Committee

The UU Caring Committee serves in many ways to provide assistance to our congregation. With the help of many volunteers, following is a list of these services: transportation to medical appointments; provide prepared meals (up to one week) after a hospital stay or rehabilitation stay at Bell Trace or Meadowood health pavilion or a new baby arrival; and assist with food preparation, presentation and clean-up for UU member memorial services in Fellowship Hall.

Members of the Caring Committee are as follows:

- Meals: Mary Blizzard and Alissa Davis
- Transportation: Anna Wiley
- Memorial Receptions: Doris Wittenburg and Marlin Howard
- Cards: Ruth Ann Cooper
- Elder Focus Care Taskforce Representative: Barb Backler
- Tech Support: Von Welch
- At Large Members: Kathy Sideli and Judy Bennett
- Ministers: Rev. Bill Breeden and Rev. Mary Ann Macklin
- Co-Chairs: Sharon Yarber and Sandy Churchill

If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the co-chairs Sharon Yarber at yarbersharon@yahoo.com or Sandy Churchill at churchi@indiana.edu. If you want to request one of the services, please contact one of the ministers at 332-3695.



That's My Church! As our congregation moves into a time of exciting and challenging transition, many people are working to ensure we have the resources to realize our collective values.

As a stewardship committee, we've begun the process of year-round stewardship; engaging in regular conversations about the financial health of our congregation. The Planned Giving Committee has brought a new layer to this work through conversations with people in the congregation about how they might include the church in their personal estate planning. Planned Giving has already had the privilege of welcoming more than a dozen individuals into the Legacy Circle - a designation honoring and thanking those who have included the church in their wills or estates. In 2014, Planned Giving will help others think about this way of impacting our church and community even after they are gone. Yet another way to put our beliefs in action and to care for this community. That's my church!

UUA General Assembly in Providence in June

Members: As you plan for 2014, please think of attending the UUA General Assembly in Providence Rhode Island in June 2014. Please see www.uua/ga. Iris Kiesling 332-5224 ifkiesling@aol.com.

Check Your Own Bloomingfoods Grocery Card Balance Online

Now any holder of a Bloomingfoods gift/scrip card can check their card balance online.

Go to the link on the Bloomingfoods website home page, on the right hand side under "At Your Co-op": <http://www.bloomingfoods.coop/>.

“Saying Goodbye” Workshop January 25

A Saturday daytime workshop on January 25th will help us get ready to say our goodbyes to the Reverend Bill Breeden as we near his retirement—and perhaps give us a chance to learn something about other good-byes that inevitably happen in our lives. The Rev. Dr. Laurie Proctor, UU Minister Emerita, Fort Wayne, will lead the event. See Page 6 for details. —Jack King



photo by Heike Meya

Community Connections

Our Faith in Action in the Community

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration, video contest, and community service day.

Mayor Kruzan announced that the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission has awarded the city grants of \$29,000, all of which will be awarded to local groups to help acquire materials and supplies for "A Day On! Not A Day Off" service projects. He urges local residents to honor Dr. King by participating in one of the day's many community-centered activities.

The community is invited to attend the 2014 City of Bloomington Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration: 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 20, in the Buskirk-Chumley Theater, with a reception at 6 p.m. The keynote speaker is Freedom Rider Hank Thomas, who will speak on "A Freedom Rider's Journey. The Buskirk-Chumley Theater program and reception are both free.

Finally, The commission invites the public to view and vote for their favorite entry in the MLK video contest at <http://bloomington.in.gov/mlk>, and then click on "MLK Day Video Contest". The deadline for voting is Jan. 13.

For more information, visit www.bloomington.in.gov/mlk or contact Craig Brenner at brennerc@bloomington.in.gov or at 349.3471.

UU History for You

John Haynes Holmes – a heretic's heretic



One of the most controversial and influential Unitarian ministers in the twentieth century was **John Haynes Holmes** (1879-1964). He was born in Philadelphia and his grandfather was a friend of Theodore Parker. Holmes attended Harvard for his BA and divinity degrees. Parker became his idol and Holmes enjoyed debating, taking the side of unpopular issues and persons. He was a founding member of the NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union. He believed socialism was the "gospel for the poor." He was a pacifist and refused to acknowledge the concept of just wars. His criticism of US entry into WWI led to his being cut off from funding by the American Unitarian Association and he promptly resigned. He was "accused of many things during his life, but never of being moderate." He changed the name of his New York Church to the Community Church as a condition for staying on as minister. He wrote a book praising Gandhi as a savior for our times and he promoted non-violent protest as a response to social injustice and as a substitute for war. In 1936 the American Unitarian Association acknowledged it had erred in 1918 and in WWII it supported Unitarian ministers or congregants who were conscientious objectors. Holmes enjoyed music and wrote 100 hymns. He also wrote a play on his theme of criticizing the government as a civic responsibility. Holmes eventually accepted restored membership in the Unitarian register of ministers. The Community Church in New York continues to revere his message of non-violence, tolerance, social justice, and service to others as hallmarks of UU identity.

Elof Carlson, congregational historian

Administrative Matters:



What’s up with these new re-usable order of service covers?

Over the course of the last two years the Communication Committee led by GK Rowe has helped us re-design our Sunday order of service. Our new color order of service cover is printed on slightly heavier paper and does not contain time-sensitive information, so it is re-usable. Office volunteers will disassemble the orders of service and insert a new order of service in the covers for us each week. We made extra covers, so we will have plenty each Sunday. The color of the new cover is cheerful, and its re-usability will save paper and ink!

–Carol Marks, Church Administrator

New Church Directories Available in Room 204

Members and Friends are invited to pick up a copy of the updated ORANGE church directory in Room 204 on Sundays or during weekday office hours. As always, members and friends of the congregation are also welcome to access this information online. Instructions below:

Attendance

Sunday, December 22	9:15: 104;	11:15: 123;	RE: 62	Total: 289
Tuesday, December 24	4:00: 74;	7:00 243;		Total: 317
Sunday, December 29	9:15: 64	11:15: 122	RE: 56	Total: 242

Online Livestreaming

Sunday, December 22	9:15: 23	11:15: 38	Total: 61
Tuesday, December 24	4:00: 5	7:00: 8	Total: 13
Sunday, December 29	9:15: 22	11:15: 36	Total: 58

Non-Pledge Offering

12/22 - \$934; 12/29 - \$536 Total to be donated to Circles Initiative - \$376.05
 12/24 - \$1175.25 MCUM

Grocery Card Sales

December 22 \$1,900, income to UUCB \$95.00
 December 29 \$1.250, income to UUCB \$61.50

Next Issue of this newsletter: Monday, January 20; deadline for articles **10:00 a.m.** Articles received after 10:00 a.m. on the date of publication will appear in the next issue. Please send articles regarding congregational events and projects to admin@uubloomington.org. The Prologue is published on the first and third Mondays of each month, with exceptions, and is edited by Carol Marks, Church Administrator. Dates of the next few issues: Jan 20, Feb 3, Feb 17, Mar 3, Mar 17.

Due to the Recent Snow this issue is being published two days later than planned. Many thanks to Jason Haworth and Monica Overman for their able assistance in producing this newsletter. –c.marks

A Calendar of Selected Events

Jan 9

10-4 Labyrinth Walk

1:30p Elder Task Force

7:00p Chalice Circle – J. Miller

7:00p UU Choir

Jan 10

10-4 Labyrinth Walk

10:30a Life Stories Writing Grp

6:00p Coming of Age Dinner and Overnight

6:30p Drum Circle

Jan 11

8-10 a Labyrinth Walk

10:15a Tai Chi Class

2:00p Chalice Circle cooking

Jan 12

10:15a Children's Task Force Bake Sale

10:15a Habitat Task Force

12:45p Humanist Forum

1:30p Chalice Circle – Beauchamp/Davis

2:00p Exploring UU

7:00p Chalice Circle – Foster/Davis

Jan 13

4:30p Navigator Troop

Jan 14

5:30p Habitat dinner meeting

6:30p RE Support Team

Jan 15

12n Hope for Prisoners

3:00p Life Stories Monthly group

Jan 16

12:45p Planned Giving

7:00p UU Choir

Jan 17

10:30 Life Stories Writing Group

Jan 18

10:15a Tai Chi Class

Jan 19

2:00p Exploring UU

Jan 20

10a deadline for Prologue

5:30p Caring Cmte

6:30p Chalice Circle Facilitators

Jan 21

6:30p Chalice Circle Facilitators

Jan 22

6:30p Leadership Cultivation

7:00p Chalice Circle - Kosinski

Viewing Sunday Services Online:

Livestream the Sunday Service at <http://www.techwerks.tv/264PlayerLIVE.php?type=live&clientID=933>

Archived Sunday Services are at <http://www.techwerks.tv/myVideo.php?clientID=933&name=yes>



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, Executive Minister

The Rev. Bill Breeden, Co-Minister



Photo by John Woodcock