

The Prologue

March 27, 2006

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana
Congregation founded 1949

Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community Changing the World



Sunday, April 2, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

"Light the Fire of Commitment: Misa Criolla"

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Bill Breeden

The ministers, along with the Stewardship Committee, invite you celebrate our Commitment Sunday service, which will feature our Unitarian Universalist Adult Choir, directed by Susan Swaney, guest musicians, and our Children's Choir, directed by Jill Waggener. The Adult Choir will be performing the beautiful *Misa Criolla*, composed by Ariel Ramirez. Join us as we celebrate together and make our financial pledge commitments to this liberal religious community. Breakfast will be served between services and after the second service as part of the morning's festivities. REMEMBER! WE MOVE TO DAY-LIGHT SAVING TIME ON THIS MORNING. SPRING FORWARD. RISE BRIGHT AND EARLY WITH THE SUN ☺



Wednesday, April 5, 2006 5:30pm Dinner, 6:15pm Worship
"The Day of Trees" Family Worship Working Group

Please join us as we celebrate trees and their importance in our lives and the life of our planet. We will share songs and stories as we think together about trees. All ages welcome. Come when you are able. 5:30-6pm Dinner (provided, including a vegan option), 6:15-6:45pm worship service. If you would be willing to help with a short task during the evening, contact Kitty McIntosh at kittymcrea@yahoo.com or sign up at the RE table on Sunday morning.

Sunday, April 9, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

"Palmer Sunday Reflections" Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

Palm Sunday is celebrated in commemoration of the teacher Jesus of Nazareth's entry into Jerusalem, when palm fronds were strewn before him. With a reverent nod to this tradition, we will also honor other teachers who have influenced our lives, including the Quaker thinker Parker Palmer and master golfer, Arnold Palmer. (And any other inspirational Palmers we can think of.)

Faith in Action Forums 10:15-11:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Library

To schedule a Faith in Action forum, contact Jackie Hall, jmhall@indiana.edu.

The West Window

I want to thank everyone who made last Sunday's "Sermon on the Amount" service a wonderful experience. Special thanks to Steve Mascari and Amy Roche who opened their basement for practice sessions, coordinated communications, and generally did a lot of the hard work. Thanks to all the musicians and vocalists, both members and guests, who joined in the effort to make it a happening thing. Thanks to my colleague Rev. Macklin for her message that encapsulated the heart of the service and for delivering it like the seasoned pro that she is. I cannot help but name my brother Darrell, and also my great-niece Adrian Beasley, who drove many miles several times to practice, and who delivered the goods on Sunday. Very special thanks to our Sound Manager, Tom Yeiser, whose skill and talented ear balanced all the sounds and voices beautifully.

Finally, a word of thanks to this wonderful community for your response and your willingness to explore new ways of being together and celebrating our common humanity. Rev. Macklin and I are continually inspired to new levels of creativity and service by the openness and trust of this congregation. Next Sunday is Commitment Sunday!!!! We challenge everyone who benefits from this congregation to give prayerful, thoughtful consideration as to how you can give of your means to sustain this blessed community.

bill

Rev. Bill Breeden

ps DAY LIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS THIS SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 2nd. SO

REMEMBER TO SPRING FORWARD YOUR CLOCKS AND RISE EARLY.

MAM's Musings

I have heard our choir rehearsing the *Misa Criolla*, which they will offer as our special Gift of Music for our April 2nd Commitment Sunday Celebration. Believe me, you do not want to miss this musical performance. Our Children's Choir will be singing several inspirational pieces as well. I asked our Music Director, Susan Swaney, for a few words about the *Misa Criolla*. She writes, "The vibrant and hauntingly beautiful *Misa Criolla* was composed by Ariel Ramirez in 1963. As we Unitarian Universalists often do, Ramirez took a lovely ancient text – in this case the Latin Mass – and he made it uniquely his own by translating it into vernacular Spanish and setting it to music infused with the popular rhythms and melodies of Bolivia and his native Argentina. Our rendition features two instruments made by members of our congregation (the harpsichord and the *bomba*, or big drum), the choir, and some fantastic guest musicians. Don't miss this rare and wonderful musical gem!"

We look forward to seeing everyone this Sunday, April 2nd, for Commitment Sunday. During the service, we will make our financial pledges to our beloved congregation for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. There will also be breakfast between services and after the second service. Unitarian Universalist theologian James Luther Adams said that part of what makes us human is our ability to make commitments. Come "Light the Fire of Commitment" and join in the celebration. Our separate fires will kindle one flame.

Light the Fire, MAM

(Reverend Mary Ann Macklin)

Community Connections our faith in action in the community

Books for South African Children

This congregation has been generous in donating books to our local community. Now the Children's Task Force is helping collect children's picture books to help South African children read and write English. These books will go to a community project in South Africa which is called "iEnglish", organized by Ms. Unati Speirs (South African friend of Bloomington resident Sylvia van Bruggen). South Africa has eleven official languages, one of them being English.

There is a bin by the social justice table in the Commons for collecting the books. If you can, put a dollar in your book as well to cover postage. If you have any questions about this project, please e-mail sylviaivanbruggen@gmail.com

Team Ministry Our congregation is served by a ministry team: Rev. Mary Ann Macklin (82%); Rev. Bill Breeden (82%). Each minister serves the entire congregation; each has specific areas of focus.

Lunch with a Minister on the Third Monday of April

Join Rev. Bill Breeden for lunch in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon on the third Monday of April. Next lunch is April 17.

Centering with MAM on Second and Fourth Wednesdays of April

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin will offer two "Centering with MAM" meditative worship opportunities in the Library in April--on April 12 and April 26, 6:00-6:45 p.m. Special focus in

April will be on the teachings of Buddhist nun Pema Chödrön.

Ministers' Schedules

Rev. Macklin's regular day off is Tuesday.
Office hours: M, T, Th, F
Her mobile number is 322-0205
Rev. Breeden's regular days off are W, Th
Office hours: M, T, F
His mobile number is 360-1779

100%



Adult Religious Education Update

There are two offerings in April: **Looking at Art: A Pathway to**

Transcendence, Saturday, April 8 at 10:30 in the Fuchs Library, led by Paul Lane. This will be a four-session class focusing on art of the western world, emphasizing art as an experience. Sessions 1 and 2, April 8 and 15, will be in the Library. Sessions 3 and 4 will be at the IU Art Museum. **Creating Nu-Icons** is a six-session offering to create beauty from that which is not regarded as "beautiful," such as wood, stones, bones, etc. The first session is Sunday, April 9, at 2 pm in Room 210. Other sessions will be on Wednesday evenings April 12-May 10. Led by Mishlen Linden, internationally known for her creative workshops. For additional information see Jennifer at the book table. Please sign up on the ARE bulletin board in the Courtyard entrance.

BULLETIN BOARD

HOUSING NEEDED THIS SUMMER. Earlham College student taking summer classes in Swahili at IU will exchange yard work or housekeeping help for housing.

Taryn Kincaid, kincata@earlham.edu. Details are posted on our bulletin board.



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Why I Support this Church by Velma Harrison

I love being in the church on Sunday mornings. The services feed me spiritually, emotionally, and intellectually. I love our music; our choir is outstanding. If I miss a service here I know I have missed something special. This church is my community.

It is fun having the children be part of the service. With all of the wonderful children's programs here, I am sorry my children did not grow up in this church.

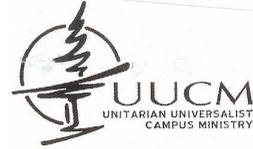
This is a place I can laugh and cry. The people in this church have shared my great joys, and supported me through deep sorrow. How can I not love them?

I pledge my money to support all of the great work that goes on here and all of the social programs we support in the community. A church of this size and quality takes money to operate. I pledge for all of these reasons and so many more. Please join me in supporting this wonderful place.
--Velma Harrison, member for 16 years

Talent Auction: Even though the Deadline is Past...

There is still time to donate to the talent auction. Please let us know what service or item you will offer for the Auction. Donor forms are in the church office or on e-mail from Mark Day at marktday@gmail.com. Save the date April 23 at 4:00 p.m. to attend this year's auction. Among the items to be auctioned are something amazing made by Reza Pishgahi, socks knitted by Jerry Jesseph, pearl necklace by Mary

Pendergrass, and Andean-style bags by Carol Marks. What talent do you have that you can share?



Campus Ministry

Notes Indiana Unitarian Universalist Campus Ministry, (IUUCM), our campus

ministry group, meets Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. in the Poplar Room at the Union.

--Heather Hansen, Campus Ministry Assistant

UU Passover Seder April 12

The UU Seder will be Wednesday April 12 at 6:30 p.m. This celebration of Passover is presented with a UU interpretation and will be child-friendly. The event includes the traditional Passover meal and dinner with roast chicken, vegetarian entree, rosemary potatoes and dessert. The meal is traditional but not strictly Kosher. Tickets, adults \$8, children \$4, will be on sale after each service on April 2 and April 9. Please join us for this beloved celebration of the Passover story and UU honoring of freedom. Tickets can be reserved by e-mailing fessenb@indiana.edu. We need 3-5 people who will agree to help clean up in exchange for a free meal.

--Ruellen Fessenbecker

Film Series Night - April 1, 6 pm,

in Fellowship Hall. The film this month is "Kundun," directed by Martin Scorsese. This is the story of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, also referred to as "Kundun." The film, shot amidst the beauty of Tibet, follows the Dalai Lama from childhood to adulthood, as Tibet resists Chinese oppression. A lively discussion will follow the film. Bring a dish to share for supper before the film.

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YUUMS "Walk for the Homeless"

On April 2nd our Young Unitarian Universalist Middle Schoolers (YUUMs) will participate in Homeward Bound: Indiana's 5k walk to provide housing and fight homelessness. The YUUMs have raised over \$600 dollars; this money will go to the Mental Health Alliance.

I asked some of the YUUMs what they knew about homelessness. Sixth grader Alex Larson is a first-year YUUM; "When I was in Chicago going to the Hershey store we saw a guy sitting outside holding a cup...begging for money...it was kinda sad." We talked about how we do not see that in Bloomington very often but homelessness is still a big problem. Opal Mills, who participated in the walk last year said "There's a lot more than you think."

Of the 13 different local organizations fighting homelessness, the YUUMs chose the Mental Health Alliance to support. "People that have mental illness may not be able to get jobs so they won't have money, so if they don't have enough money to buy homes then they become homeless," explained 6th grader Eve Hickey. Her friend Lily Judge agreed; "Sometimes if they are not taken care of they may feel neglected or unhappy about life and they commit suicide or hurt other people."

Savannah Michel went on the walk last year: "They show you the charts and explain to you how many people are homeless and ...you feel like you're not just walking for something; you learn about it." Susannah Lodge-Rigal added; "You learned a lot about what homelessness meant in Monroe County. You felt like you were walking for a cause...it was really moving."

Thanks to the YUUMs facilitators Barbara Moss and Joanne Henriot for organizing this and for all the wonderful things they do with our youth!
Cindy Port

Acting Director of Religious Education
dre@uubloomington.org



Notably For Newcomers

The last two columns of
Notably for Newcomers

contained faith affirmations which are acceptable to most UUs from the Rev. William F. Schulz, a past president of the UUA and currently executive director of Amnesty International USA. Today's column is a continuation of his thoughts on the Unitarian Universalist mission and faith.

He writes, "Regardless of background, we (UUs) each share a few fundamental convictions....Too often in this world, religion has been the agent of division and fear. Unitarian Universalism seeks to heal a fractured world and the broken lives within it by calling every one of us to the best that is in us. Beyond nationalism and ethnic prejudice, beyond materialism and greed, beyond the petty and the shallow -- we invoke a global loyalty, an ecological ethic, and a deeper mercy.

"In the last analysis our Unitarian Universalist mission and the faith that sustains it are clear and straightforward: We would treat the wounds of a narrow spirit with the salve of a generous heart. How better than to eradicate fear? How better than to honor life's mysteries?"

--Paul Lane, for the Membership Committee



Grounds Clean up

April 15 Please mark your calendars! Spring Grounds Clean-up will be Saturday, April 15th from 9:00 to Noon. Come one, come all! Bring work gloves and your favorite rake.

For more information, contact John or Julie Lawson, 335-1856.

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Lighting the Fire of

Commitment In one more week, the ubiquitous yellow "100%" signs posted around the church and the "100%" buttons worn by your friendly church

greeters will all be but a happy memory. The 2006-2007 Stewardship campaign will come to a fantastically musically moving climax on April 2nd when we are all treated to the choir's performance of Misa Criolla and fill out our pledge cards together as a congregation.

The theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign is Light the Fire of Commitment and our goal is 100% Participation. It is our belief that our maximum potential for growth stems from two major sources: everyone who is a member or friend of this church gives something, and the people who are able to do so increase their gifts from last year. Every gift, no matter how large or small, represents a significant commitment on the part of the giver and is truly appreciated.

Pledging your commitment to this church takes a lot of energy and that is why we are planning to fortify you for this important task. Stewardship Committee member David Cox will be spearheading the effort to serve breakfast to the masses on Commitment Sunday. A free meal of eggs, pancakes, bacon and other morning delights will follow both services on April 2nd. Please come to church hungry for brunch and ready to pledge!

If for some reason you will be unable to attend one of the Commitment Sunday

services, please plan to fill out a pledge card the following week on April 9th. The Stewardship Committee will have a table set up in the Commons to distribute new pledge cards, collect completed ones, and answer any questions you may have about the campaign. You are also welcome to contact Church Administrator Carol Marks at any time (admin@uubloomington.org, 332-3695) to make your pledge. --The Stewardship Committee

Budget Proposals Due April 2

Questions? Contact Andrew Appel at treasurer@uubloomington.org or Carol Marks at admin@uubloomington.org.

Attendance Figures

Sun, Mar 19 9 a.m. 87, 11:15 192, Totl 279
Sun, Mar 26 9 a.m. 135, 11:15 290, Totl 425

Sunday Plate Offering Figures

Sun, Mar 19 non-pledge offering: \$376

Of this amount, \$94 will be donated to the Community Justice and Mediation Center.

Sun, Mar 26 non-pledge offering: \$615

Of this amount, \$153 will be donated to the Community Justice and Mediation Center.

Nominations for 25% Donations Due March 31

If you would like to nominate a social service agency in our community to receive 25% of our weekly Sunday non-pledge offering for the 2006-07 fiscal year, be sure to complete your application by March 31. See details in the February 27 issue of the Common Ground, or contact Joan Caulton or Carol Parks.

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Kitchen Items Needed!

Our Kitchen is getting a lot of use these days! We are accepting the following donations for the kitchen; please make sure they are in good working condition:

- A 1000-watt large microwave
- Soup Pots: 4 and 5 quart size
- Tea Kettle
- Cookie sheets

UU Children's Choir Upcoming Schedule

*Thursday March 30th, 7:00-7:30pm, Extra Rehearsal for those who can come, Room TBA (this is an addition to the previous schedule.)

*Sunday, April 2nd- Commitment Sunday. Meet at 8:30am in Room 212. Sing at both services (Prelude & Children's Moment in both services); rehearse & relax in between.

Questions? Contact Jill Waggener at jwaggene@mccsc.edu or 330-8829.

100%

Young Religious UU



Meetings Our high school youth (ages 14-20) will meet in Room 110 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the following Sundays in the next month or so: April 2, April 9. No meeting April 16. Info, Margie or Drew Schrader, maschrad@indiana.edu.

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47408-1646. March 27, 2005 Issue. Carol Marks, Editor, admin@uubloomington.org

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Young Adults Wanted: Show Your Spirit at General Assembly in St. Louis!

Are you between the ages of 18 and 35? Are you thinking about going to General Assembly in St. Louis this June? You should be! Beacon - the Young Adult/Campus Ministry Network has scholarship funds, a car, and a hotel room already reserved. All we need is some young adults to help us show off our Midwestern UU spirit! This is the first time in years that GA has been within easy driving distance. Join us! To apply for funds, fill out the easy form at <http://www.uubloomington.org/users/kbrunette/GA.html>

UUA matching scholarships are also available, but the requests are due by March 31, so don't delay! Details are on our website at the above address, and if you have questions, please write us at beacon@uubloomington.org. Hope to see you in St. Louis! --Kynthia Brunette

Ready To Sign The Book?

If you are prepared for the commitment of membership in our liberal religious community, the next opportunity to sign the Membership Book is Sunday, April 16 between the services at 10:30 in the Meditation Room (Room 207B) on the 2nd floor. (Please note: We recommend participation in our "Exploring UU" class prior to signing the Book.)

To make arrangements for signing the book, please contact Stephanie

Wilson at 812-339-1247 or stephw7@sbcglobal.net no later than Monday, April 10th.

A Plea from the Library

Committee There are too many "overdue" books on our sign-out cards. Could it be that our members are not aware that books are due back after four weeks? Some have been out over a year! Remember, there are others who would like to check out that book that you have on your shelf. Below is a list of overdue books. Note: no names are mentioned. ☺

Books Over Three Months Overdue From The UU Church Library

March 2006

Is one of these under your couch?

The Quest of the Historical Jesus, by Albert Schweitzer

Everyday Spiritual Practice, by Alexander Scott, copy 2

Margaret Fuller, by Paula Blanchard

The Unitarian Universalist Pocket Guide, by Schultz, copy 4

A Chosen Faith, by John A. Buehrens, copy 3

On Her Own Ground, A'Lelia Bundles

Meditation, by Eknath Easwaran

Note From The President

Weren't last Sunday's worship services wonderful? We are so blessed to have such dynamic, creative ministers, staff and choir. Thank you all. The services, full of singing, music, instruments, dancing, love and joy were tremendously inspiring.

On another note, on Wednesday, March 22nd the Board held their March Board meeting. The Board had the opportunity to accept a proposal from the Religious Education Committee to increase childcare workers pay in order to bring them more in line with current

local childcare wages. In addition, we approved the hiring of a new RE Sunday Morning Assistant/Childcare Coordinator.

Delegates were approved by the Board to attend and vote at the Annual Heartland District meeting on April 8th: Iris Kiesling, Anne Haynes, Chris Haynes, Mary Beth O'Brien, Susan Bookout, Jackie Hall, Lloyd Orr, and Chris Clothier. Kelly Rauch will be an alternate delegate. At the District meeting, there will also be presentations by the Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change, Kelly Rauch, Carol Marks, and our ministers.

At the Board meeting on April 19, we would like to approve the delegates who will be attending the UUA Annual General Assembly (GA) in St. Louis, June 21-25. Anyone interested in attending GA as a delegate should contact Iris Kiesling or leave a completed self-nomination form in the Denominational Affairs mailbox in Room 204.

Upcoming Events: Sunday, April 2nd is Commitment Sunday – when Daylight Saving Time begins. If you do not remember to change your clocks, you will need to be at church at 8:00 am for the first service. April 2 is also the deadline for budget requests for 2006-7. Also, please remember the Talent Auction and dinner on Sunday, April 23rd.

See you at all these wonderful events!
Chris Clothier, President of the Congregation

Getaway in St. Louis for GA

Take a short or long week-end in St. Louis June 21-25. See the historic sights and visit with people of like mind: Unitarian Universalists. This year the General Assembly (GA) is in St. Louis and you can attend for a day, two days, or the whole time. Be a delegate. We are eligible to send eight delegates and we would like our voice to be heard as well as the lights of our congregation! Iris Kiesling 332-5224

Scholarships are available; see uua.org/ga.

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Bake Sale for Habitat Apr 9

The UU Habitat for Humanity Task Force is sponsoring a bake sale between the services April 9 to support the \$6,250 the UU Women's Build team needs to participate in the eight-day build on May 13. There will be cookies, cheesecake, brownies, fudge, whole wheat bread, muffins, and lamb cakes.

Coming of Age for Junior High Students this Fall

The Coming of Age Program for our 7th and 8th graders will be offered again during the '06 –'07 school year. Letters inviting our youth to participate will be sent out soon, and once we know who will be participating, we will begin matching each youth with an adult mentor in the congregation. Each participating youth will set goals in 4 areas (personal growth, family life, community life, and the environment) and work with his or her mentor over the course of the school year to meet his or her goals and to build a relationship. We will have an informational meeting about the program on April 30 at 12:30 for the youth and their parents. If you are someone who might be interested in becoming a mentor for one of our fine youth, please call or e-mail Martha Nord or Angela Lexmond: marthanord@hotmail.com, 339-7403, or alexmond@indiana.edu, 339-0782.

Looking for a Fun Job? Office Assistant Sought--

Sadly, our current very helpful Office Assistant Tom Wilson has decided to move

on to non-church-office activities in mid-April, and so we are now seeking candidates for the position of Office Assistant. The 12-month position is 17-19 hrs/week of clerical work including interaction with computers, copiers, random electronic equipment, phone communication, paper shuffling, supply ordering, and other tasks too numerous to mention. Great variety, lots of satisfaction, and a congenial bunch of people to work with. If you or perhaps someone you know would be interested, send resume to Carol Marks, Church Administrator, admin@uubloomington.org, by April 5.

New R.E. Library Books

Many thanks to all those who have donated books recently. We have received many beautiful books, including:

Tales of the Shimmering Sky - 10 Global

Folktales with Activities by Susan Milord

The Great Change by White Deer of Autumn

The Librarian of Basra: a True Story from Iraq by Jeanette Winter

Martin Luther King, a new biography by Rosemary Bray

Our Folks... Emeriti House Art Exhibit 2006 will feature photographs by Ledford Carter, March 31-April 27. Emeriti House is at 1015 East Atwater.

A reading of Voices of A People's History will be given April 1 and April 3 at Bloomington Playwrights' Project, featuring Rev. Bill Breeden, Fresca Sobrer and Dark Rain Thom, among others.

Congratulations to Scott Russell Sanders upon the recent publication of his book, A Private History of Awe.

What is General Assembly?

An amazing annual conference of thousands of Unitarian Universalists with workshops, forums, worship and more! Held June 21-25 in St. Louis, it is within easy driving distance. See uua.org/ga. *3/27/06 Insert Side B*

NEED HOUSING. Couple seeks lodging while visiting Music School in May/June. Will house-sit or swap apartment in Amsterdam. Email reflynn@indiana.edu. FREE 2-Part Reading/Workshop. Writing From Life: Memoir and Fiction, Mar 25, Reading 10 a.m., Workshop 2 p.m. Visiting author, Agate Nesauale. Details: Beth Lodge-Rigal, blodgeri@bluemarble.net

on Jordan Avenue, just a short walk to the south of the church property, on Sundays. The IU police do not ticket us on Sundays.

Postings to Office First, Please

If you have an item of community interest to post on our bulletin board in the Courtyard entrance, please bring it to Room 204 and the administrative staff will see that it is posted.

UU Board of Directors

Chris Clothier, President,
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Jason Hill, Vice President,
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The Rev. Bill Breeden
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Pianist: Sally Todd, pianist@uubloomington.org
Children's Choir Director: Jill Waggener,
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Church Administrator: Carol Marks
admin@uubloomington.org
Office Assistant: Tom Wilson
office@uubloomington.org
Sound Manager: Tom Yeiser
soundmgr@uubloomington.org

BULLETIN BOARD

Our Youth Groups Meet on Sunday Evenings

Our YUUMS, Young UU Middle Schoolers (grades 6-8) and YRUU, Young Religious UUs (ages 14-20), meet each Sunday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. For information on these programs, contact Barbara Moss, bmoss.indiana@sbcglobal.net for YUUMS, or for YRUU, Margie Schrader, maschrad@indiana.edu.

Staying Accessible

Our church makes a special effort to be sure our services and activities are accessible to folks of varying abilities; if you have a suggestion to help us do better, contact Carol Marks, admin@uubloomington.org.

Large Print Materials Available Each Sunday

Large print orders of service and hymnals are available at all of our Sunday services. Hearing assist devices are also available. Please see the Greeters for any of these items. Large-print versions of the Prologue available upon request to Carol Marks, admin@uubloomington.org.

Parking Options on Sundays

Please remember that in addition to parking on all sides of our building, we can also park