

The Prologue

April 24, 2006

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana
Congregation founded 1949

Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community Changing the World



Sunday, April 30, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.
"Pointing to the Moon: On Learning to Learn"
Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

In our spiritual journeys we are constantly invited to learn more about ourselves and the world in which we live. What insights, then, can be gained by learning more about how we learn? With reference to Dawna Markova's book [Open Mind](#), we'll explore the unique learning patterns of our lives and their impact on how we embrace our lives as liberal religious seekers. Please join us for a festive intergenerational May Pole Dance between services at 10:30 a.m. to honor May Day.

Wednesday, May 3, 2006 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:15 p.m. Worship
"May Day Celebration" The Family Worship Working Group

Please join us as we celebrate May Day with a traditional May Pole Dance in the Meeting Room. Children are invited to wear their spring finery for this special interactive service. All ages welcome. We will share songs and a story, and get a chance to do the May Pole Dance to the music of our Heartland String Band. 5:30-6:00 pm Dinner (provided by Renee Reed, including a vegan option), 6:15-6:45pm worship service.

Sunday, May 7, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.
"Can There Be Any Day But This?" Rev. Bill Breeden

A sermonic response to the gift of music, Vaughan Williams's "I Got Me Flowers."

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.

Forums on June 4 and June 11 will focus on mental illness awareness. Vid Beldavs will speak on the proposed Crisis Intervention Team training for local law enforcement officers.

Lee Strickholm will lead discussion on a film about a family's attempt to get treatment for their mentally ill relative through the public health system.

From the Ministers

On Easter Sunday, we unveiled the sculpture that now stands in the front of our Meeting Room. It is a "Self-hugging Tree" and was sculpted by James Alexander Thom whose mother Julia was a member of our congregation. The raw material with which he began was the trunk of our much beloved Maple Tree which stood with this congregation from the beginning, graced our circular window with the bare branches of winter, the buds of spring, the leaves of summer and the colors of fall. Having been damaged during construction of our Meeting Room, it had to be taken down, and we give thanks for Thom's wonderful creation that bespeaks the life and vitality of the tree and of those who cared for it so long. It is indeed a symbol of the perpetual resurrection of life that brings joy out of sorrow and renewal out of suffering. It is dedicated to this congregation in the spirit of Dan Willard, who served as Grounds chair and cared deeply for this tree.

During that Easter service Rev. Breeden incorrectly attributed to the Apostle Paul words that he did not write. Fortunately there are other ministers in the congregation who kindly informed him of the mistake. The words, "We are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses," were penned by the unknown author of the book of Hebrews. We wanted to set the record straight.

Finally, we want to send a voice to those whose lives were so tragically changed by the deaths this week of five students from the Indiana University School of Music. The sense of loss and pain cannot be overstated. Indeed, the Requiems must be sung. Yet we believe that those who knew and loved these young people will come to know that they too have joined the "cloud of witnesses" that

surround our lives and enrich our spirits. We pray that those who knew them best, loved them deepest, will always hear their beautiful voices in the singing of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy." We pray that they will know the power of love to overcome even this estrangement of death.

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



Reminder: Chalice Circles Survey Sunday, April 30th

The Small Group Ministry Team reminds you to attend the service on Sunday, April 30th. That day, we will briefly survey the congregation to determine interest in Chalice Circles, the new small group ministry program that starts in our congregation in September. Your input is needed to help us gauge the depth of passion for this new form of ministry.

What are Chalice Circles? Chalice Circle members will meet on a regular basis in groups of five to ten with a trained facilitator, to develop ways to understand themselves better, practice deep listening, and reflect on what gives our lives meaning.

The Small Group Ministry Team members are Rev. Breeden, Rev. Macklin, Anne Haynes [co-chair], Carol Parks [co-chair], Pat Aungst, Thomas Kuhn, Steve Mascari, and Amy Roche.

We look forward to your input!

Contact Anne Haynes (336-3221 or anhaynes@indiana.edu) or Carol Parks (336-1592 or pearlparks@gmail.com).

-- Carol Parks for the Small Group Ministry Team
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Community Connections our faith in action in the community

Aspect Foundation Offers Host Family Opportunities Aspect Foundation is seeking volunteer host families for international exchange students from nearly 30 countries. For more info, contact Nichole Sterling at 812-323-1890 or visit www.aspectfoundation.org.

UU Summer Camps and Conferences are big fun. See information regarding lots of different summer camp possibilities on our bulletin board in the courtyard entrance. Check out the catalogs and flyers in the magazine rack to the left of the bulletin boards also.

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 May 8

Join Rev. Bill Breeden for brown bag lunch in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon May 8.

Centering with MAM on Second and Fourth Wednesdays of April

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin offers 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

Rev. Breeden will be away Apr 24-27.

Still Time to Register for UUA General Assembly

UUA General Assembly in St. Louis, June 21-25, is fast approaching. If you want to receive reduced rates, you need to register by April 30. You can attend for one day, two days, just the weekend or the whole General Assembly time. If you have internet access, take a look: www.uua.org/ga. You can register online. Locally, call Iris Kiesling 332-5224.

Children's Task Force May 14

The Children's Task Force (CTF) will meet on Sunday, May 14 at 10:00 in Room 112 to make plans for the next few months. CTF promotes the welfare of children in our community by offering information about their needs and supporting community resources that serve children and their families. New members always welcome!

Coming of Age Meeting for Youth and Parents April 30

Our youth who are currently in 6th or 7th grade and their parents are invited to a meeting at 12:30 this Sunday, April 30 in Fellowship Hall, lunch provided. This is an informational meeting about the '06-'07 Coming of Age program. If you have not received an initial letter about the program, please call or e-mail Martha Nord or Angela Lexmond: 339-7403, marthanord@hotmail.com, or 339-0782, alexmond@indiana.edu.

The Prologue is published on alternate Mondays with exceptions by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana, Inc., 2120 N. Fee Ln, Bloomington IN 47408-1646. April 24, 2005 Issue. Carol Marks, Editor, admin@uubloomington.org



Stewardship is for Everyone

Several weeks ago, we launched our annual campaign to achieve 100% participation in our 2006-2007 stewardship drive. Results have been encouraging; we have more than 50 first-time pledgers this year! In addition, many people have increased their pledge amounts. But balancing that good news is the fact that over 60 families that pledged for 2005-06 have not yet pledged for 2006-07. To achieve 100% participation, we need everyone's pledge for 2006-07.

Our Finance Committee, ably led by Treasurer Andrew Appel, is hard at work now forming our budget for 2006-07, and we want to be sure they have the most accurate numbers possible to work with. Almost our entire church budget is based on annual pledges of support. Without everyone's pledge, we may have to limit initiatives, improvements, and other important plans that we have as a congregation for the coming year.

Please take action now. Make your pledge so we can continue to meet our goals as a congregation. Only you can decide what is the appropriate financial commitment to make to our congregation. 100% participation means that we ALL help pay for what we now enjoy. 100% participation means we ALL help pay for our future. 100% participation means we ALL support each other in nurturing and growing the church that we love.

So, on behalf of the Stewardship Committee, and everyone else who has already pledged, we ask you to join us NOW with a pledge of

financial support. Please use the form in this Prologue today, call 332-3695, or email admin@uubloomington.org. But please, don't put it off another day--do it NOW.

Steve Krahnke,
for the Stewardship Committee

Pledge Form Annual Stewardship Campaign 06-07

To support the annual operating budget of the UU Church of Bloomington, my pledge commitment will be

\$ _____ per month, for an annual TOTAL of

\$ _____ .

Name _____

Address _____

Date _____

Return to: The Stewardship Committee, UU Church,
2120 N. Fee Ln., Bloomington, IN 47408, or email info
to admin@uubloomington.org.

April 24, 2006

Talking About Our Religious Faith

Facilitated by Guy Loftman

Final session, May 3, 2006, 7:00 p.m.

What is the meaning of life? Why do we get up in the morning? Why do we care? New participants are welcome. You are encouraged to bring a "This I Believe" statement to read to the group, addressing this or other issues important to your faith. In Room 105, which is on the lower level north of the Fellowship Hall.

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Celebrating May Day

The Maypole Dance is a traditional rite of spring, whose origin has been traced to ancient England. A large pole attached with long colorful ribbons is adorned with flowers. Dancers hold onto the ribbons as they weave around one another in a circle, resulting in a unique woven pattern of ribbons. This popular dance has been a powerful symbol of spring, community, fertility and life for the forest. It is simple and easy to learn and we have two upcoming opportunities to weave the hopes and dreams for this season together.

On Sunday April 30th there will be an intergenerational May Pole Dance between services at 10:30 AM. Everyone is invited to join us for this celebration, with live music provided by the Heartland String Band.

There will be another opportunity when we celebrate May Day at our Family Worship on May 3rd. Renee Reed will be cooking plenty of scrumptious food for our dinner at 5:30. Then at 6:15 pm we will begin our May Day Celebration. Everyone is invited to wear their spring finery, dressing up and even wearing masks is considered traditional.

Family worships have been a wonderful way to spend time as a family and to get to meet other families. If you have not attended one yet, you will be surprised by how well the service is adapted to the needs of very small children while providing a meaningful worship service for everyone. Those without young children are encouraged to join as well.

Finally, our kindergarten and first graders are getting ready to serve us another breakfast. This fundraiser will raise money for new playground equipment; plan to attend between services on Sunday May 7th.

Cindy Port, Acting Director of Religious Education
dre@uubloomington.org, 332-3695



Notably For Newcomers

The Rev. William Sinkford,
President of the Unitarian

Universalist Association of Congregations, has been urging the nation's UUs to reclaim "a vocabulary of reverence." In sermons, talks, and articles, he has said that he was struck by the fact that the association's Principles and Purposes "contain not one piece of...religious language, not one word." The Principles and Purposes have inclusive generalizations about human dignity, justice, and the interdependent web of all existence but don't allow us "to name the holy or talk about human agency in theological terms." It serves well as a broad ethic, he says, but does not do much "to capture our individual searches for truth and meaning."

In an interview, Rev. Sinkford said that explicit religious language would better acquaint people with life's "religious depths" and "ground them in their personal faith."

Rev. Sinkford said the flexible language of the Principles and Purposes dates from efforts several decades ago to find wording acceptable to both Unitarians and Universalists, and he noted that the culture has changed since then. "I think we are seeing a historical cycle," he said. "I sense a gradual shift in Unitarian Universalism, away from its pole of doubt and toward its pole of faith."

-Paul Lane, for the Membership Committee

Annual Reports from Committees due May 15 to admin@uubloomington.org Info, contact Carol Marks, admin@uubloomington.org

Exploring UU Class Begins

May 14 Newcomers are invited to register for "Exploring Unitarian Universalism," to be held on May 14 and 21 from 10:30 am to 12:30 p.m. in the Fuchs Library. Meet others who are new to the church and investigate UU beliefs, history and sources. Preregistration and attendance at both sessions is required. Childcare is available. Register at the Newcomer Table in the foyer of the church or contact Libby DeVoe, edevoe@indiana.edu, 336-8688. The next Exploring UU class will be in July.

Lost Books: Come Home!

Again a plea from the Library Committee - Please help the following books find their way back to our Library. These books have been checked out for more than three months and are sorely needed on the shelves so that others may have a chance to read them. A partial list follows:
The Bhagavad Gita for Daily Living: The End of Sorrow, Eknath Easwaran
Out of the flames, by Lawrence Goldstone
What is Marriage For? E. J. Graff
On Death and Dying, Elizabeth Kubler-Ross
Uprooting Racism, Paul Kivel
Living Buddha, Living Christ, Thich Nhat Hanh
Being Peace, Thich Nhat Hanh
Tibet Is My Country, by Thubten Jigme Norbu

Beacon Young Adult News:

(For those 18-35; yes it's a broad age range, but it works.)

General Assembly is in just a couple months and it's time to make some decisions! Come to a meeting to find out what it's like and why you might want to go. Beacon has some money to get us there too. We'll have some simple good food, good conversation and information.

Tuesday: May 2 - 5:30 - 7:30 in the Library
Contact Kelly at 876-4312 for more information or to RSVP. If you can't make this meeting please call for info. -Kelly Rauch

Become a Friendly UU Greeter

Put on a smile and join the friendly UU Greeters and Newcomer Welcomers! Greeting and welcoming on Sunday mornings are great ways to make friends and help everyone feel welcome. Greeters serve about once a month on a date and hour you select. There will be an orientation program for new greeters and welcomers on Wednesday, May 10 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Come join us.

Attendance Figures

Sun, Apr 16 9 a.m. 128, 11:15 193, Totl 321
Sun, Apr 23 9 a.m. 84, 11:15 198, Totl 282

Sunday Plate Offering Figures

Sun, Apr 16 non-pledge offering: \$426
\$157 to Community Justice & Mediation Center.
Sun, Apr 23 non-pledge offering: \$203
\$51 to Community Justice & Mediation Center



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



Young Religious UU

Meetings Our high school youth (ages 14-20) will meet in Room 110 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on April 30. Plans for May are in process. Info, Margie or Drew Schrader, maschrad@indiana.edu.

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Mowers Needed.

Please consider joining the Grounds Committee "mowing ministry." We need volunteers to take turns cutting the church grass. We supply the lawnmower and gas. Please contact our Chief Mower and Shaker and scheduler, Bob DeVoe, devoe@indiana.edu or John or Julie Lawson, 335-1856 or lawsonjrl@sbcglobal.net. Thanks to all you who have been mowing so faithfully and welcome to any who'd like to join in the fun.



Adult Religious Education Update

Our spring offerings will conclude with "Creating UU Family Rituals" on Sunday, May 21, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This one-time session will be led by Rev. Emily Manvel Leite and will explore our needs and desires for ritual in our home lives. Unitarian Universalism is notoriously short on ritual, but the need for rituals is universal. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Courtyard entrance. Child care will be provided for this event.

Call for proposals - The committee will be considering proposals for the fall session. If you have a topic that interests you and would like to present it to others, a proposal form is available from the office or from the web site at www.uubloomington.org/programs/are/proposal.doc. Suggested topics for our UU setting are theology, UU history, spiritual growth, ethics and religion, and world religions.

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Eggs for Slides and Pancakes for Swings! May 7th!

Mark your calendars for another delicious Between-the-Services Breakfast prepared and served by our very own K-1 chefs! Our kindergartners and first graders will once again don their aprons and prepare for us their special roast potatoes, biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, fruit salads, pancakes — are you getting hungry yet? This year, the proceeds from the breakfast will go towards purchasing a new piece of playground equipment. So save that date — May 7. Come hungry and leave full and fulfilled in the knowledge that you've help our hard working and dedicated RE students with their playground project!

May Prologues on Tuesdays: May 9 and May 23 Deadline is 10 a.m. on May 9 and May 23. Prologue folding crew: 9-11 a.m. on Wednesdays May 10 and May 24.

UU Board of Directors

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pres@uubloomington.org
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vicepres@uubloomington.org
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The Rev. Bill Breeden
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dre@uubloomington.org

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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

**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 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.