

The Prologue

May 9, 2006

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana
Congregation founded 1949

Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community Changing the World



Sunday, May 14, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.
"Welcome to the Cosmos: Reflections on Mother's Day"
Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

In this worship service, we will honor Mother's Day with Baby Dedications and special music from our Children and Adult Choirs, which will include "Into and Among You" (composed by Malcolm Dalglish), based on a text from the Omaha Tribe in which a newborn is introduced into the cosmos. Reverend Macklin and Reverend Breeden will also offer reflections on the origin of Mother's Day, and the mixture of emotions ushered in by this day.

Sunday, May 21, 2006 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.
"Intergenerational Flower Communion Service"
Rev. Emily Manvel Leite

Come celebrate our Unitarian Universalist community and participate in the annual flower communion.

Please bring a flower to share.

We will be honoring our graduating seniors during the service.

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.

May 28, Center for Sustainable Living is a candidate for receiving 25% of our Sunday non-pledge offerings during 06-07. Come and learn about this organization so you can be an informed voter on June 4 at the Congregational Meeting.

June 4 and June 11, Mental Health 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.

June 18, Task Force for a Just Peace David Keppel will lead a discussion on the dangers of a U.S. military strike on Iran.

Official Notice of Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 4, 2006 12:30 p.m. Meeting Room
2120 North Fee Lane, Bloomington, Indiana

MAM's Musings

This congregation is served by a co-ministry team (Reverend Breeden and Reverend Macklin) in which both ministers are called to serve part-time (82%) in a manner consistent with their working styles. Reverend Breeden elects to consider his 82% time with time off each week, and I prefer to consider my 82% time in terms of weeks off throughout the year. To that end, and along with our vacation time, Reverend Breeden and I will be taking time off during May, June, July and August in a way that offers consistent ministerial coverage.

I will be away from the office May 23rd through June 30th. I will return for the worship services and Annual Congregational Meeting on June 4. Yes, the Congregational Meeting (June 4 at 12:30 p.m.) is important enough for me to return from time off in order to attend. ☺ Again, to all members (and friends for that matter) of this congregation, please do attend our congregational meetings. They are at the heart of who we are as a liberal religious community that adheres to the tenets of congregational polity, i.e. the laity leads the congregation. Important decisions will be made. Important information will be shared. Come be a part of it.

In the latter part of June, both Reverend Breeden and I, along with other folks from our congregation, will attend our Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri. There we will gather with thousands of other Unitarian Universalists to learn together, worship together, workshop together, schmooze together, network together, eat together, play together, and further ignite the good work of our Unitarian Universalist tradition. We are arranging for ministerial coverage in our absence.

We look forward to hearing about your summer plans! And don't forget to collect some water in your various summer adventures for our Water Communion Service, which will occur on Sunday, August 27th. Meanwhile, let's breathe... breathe... breathe... and enjoy the merry month of May!

Musingly yours, MAM
(Reverend Mary Ann Macklin)

The West Window

A short note of thanks and a few words of encouragement:

First, thanks to the Stewardship Committee who have done yeomen's and yeowomen's tasks in guiding our Stewardship Campaign this year. Thanks to all those who have pledged, making this campaign very successful.

Now for the words of encouragement. On behalf of the ministry team, I want to encourage those who have yet to pledge to consider doing so. Some of you have pledged in the past, which gives us hope that you will do so again. Some will be pledging for the first time. Your pledges can make a significant difference in our budgeting for program and staff support. A \$500 pledge is equal to \$1.37 per day. That's less than a good cup of coffee. If you can only pledge a half cup, serve it up.

Whatever you do will be appreciated, and will bring you a sense of sharing in the support and the planning for the ministry of this congregation. The drive is finishing up, folks. The train is ready roll. Get on board.

Peace--bill
Reverend Bill Breeden

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Community Connections our faith in action in the community

THE WORLD IS FLAT. Our children need MATH SKILLS to compete. Be a tutor at Batchelor Middle School in general math. Great teachers, nice kids. Ron Clees: 339-1839, rclees@mccsc.edu.

Garden Dedication in Honor of Leah Garlotte
Friends of Leah are invited to Hilltop Garden and Nature Center on Saturday, May 13 at 11:00 am for the dedication of the Enabling Garden. This unique garden represents the realization of a dream of many years and is a testament to Leah's vision. A limestone birdbath carving created by local artist Jason Lindsey will be unveiled at the dedication. This imaginative sculpture, embodying the idea of life springing from a seed, seems a perfect metaphor for a memorial to Leah. The annual Mother's Day plant sale will be taking place on Saturday from 9 am - 6 pm and Sunday from 10 am - 6 pm.

New Support Organization in Owen County

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Persons) is a national non-profit organization with a membership of over 77,000 households and more than 425 affiliates worldwide.

The group's mission is to promote the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends. Spencer PFLAG invites members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community and their friends and families to attend its first meeting on May 21 at 3:00 p.m. The June meeting will feature Phil and Ruth Ann Cooper, the parents of a lesbian daughter, speaking about their experiences.

Spencer PFLAG can be contacted at spencerpflag.blogspot.com. Contact: email at spencerINpflag@hotmail.com, or write to Spencer PFLAG, PO Box 665, Spencer, IN 47460 or call Judi at 317-437-6007 or Jesse at 812-327-8127 for directions to the meetings.

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 15

Join Rev. Bill Breeden for brown bag lunch in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon May 15.

Centering with MAM on Second Wednesday of May

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin offers "Centering with MAM," a meditative worship opportunity, on May 10 in the Library, 6:00-6:45 p.m.

Ministers' Schedules

Rev. Macklin's regular day off is Tuesday.

Office hours: M, W, Th, F

Her mobile number is 322-0205.

Rev. Macklin will be away May 23-Jun 30.

Rev. Breeden's regular days off are W, Th

Office hours: M, T, F

His mobile number is 360-1779

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!

If you can't change your fate,
change your attitude. --Amy Tan

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Stewardship Campaign Update

**Current totals:
307 pledgers
\$344,795 pledged**

Many thanks to everyone who has so generously participated in our Stewardship Campaign! Several folks who pledged last year have still not pledged yet for 06-07. If you have not made your pledge yet, please do so this week so we can give final numbers to the Finance Committee. They are preparing a budget for 2006-07 for us to vote on at the Congregational Meeting on June 4.

You may pledge by calling the church at 332-3695, email: admin@uubloomington.org or Jan Skinner, jskinner@bloomington.in.us, 333-4245.

Talent Auction- Leftover goodies

The 2006 Talent Auction was a great success and a fun evening. Our preliminary count is that we have earned \$11,000, our budgeted goal! A few items that were left over will be for sale. Please call Ruellen Fessenbecker 837-9550 or rfessenb@indiana.edu to see if they are still available. Thanks to everyone who donated or bought items, table and chair movers, cooks and servers, organizers, entertainers, cashiers and bidding assistants, clean up crew. Thanks especially to Darrell Breeden and Rev. Bill Breeden, the auctioneers.

Item # 36 Dance party & buffet dinner Sept 16(4 places) - Mark Day

Item # 56 Folkdance lesson (2 places) - Marion Sinclair

Item # 63 Pool party and cook out at Hollingsworths'. July 4- 2 places

Item # 74 Gourmet dinner by Marty Joachim
May 20- 1 place

Item # 76 Elli Barnstone Painting

Item # S 5 Lakota language textbook set (2 sets) - Meya

Item # S 6 collectable Fashion Figures (10 available) E. Lion

Item # S15 Family picnic June 18 - Orr/Hall 9 places still available

Item # S17.5 Sandy Dolby CD- When I Wanted Warm.

Children's Choir Sings May 14

The UU Children's Choir will sing at both services on Sunday, May 14, performing "Into and Among You" by Malcolm Dalglish with the adult choir. Rehearsals are on May 14 at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. There is no rehearsal on Thursday, May 11 for the Children's Choir.

Jill Waggener, Children's Choir Director

Board of Directors 2006-07

Slate submitted by the Nominating Committee, to be voted on at June 4 Congregational Meeting

* President: Jason Hill (2006 -07)
* Vice President Jan Skinner (2006-07)
Secretary Dorothy Sowell (05-07)
* Treasurer Lloyd Orr (2006-08)
Past President Chris Clothier (06-07)

At Large:

David Cox (2005-07)
Chris Judge (2006-07)
Steve Dillon (2006-08)
G.K. Rowe (2006-08)
Dick Hiatt (2005-07)
* Bobbi Lahre (2006-08)
Karen Jewell (2005-07)

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Yippee-Yahoo for YRUU!

YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) is the name of our High School youth group. Yippee Yahoo for YRUU will be an opportunity for listening, dialogue, visioning and strategizing on May 21st from 6-8:30 PM. Dinner will be included. We are hoping to get all the youth who are connected to our congregation to come and tell us what their needs and dreams are and how our youth programming can be strengthened.

Ministry with youth is about listening, empowerment, and spiritual guidance. It is instrumental to the vitality and growth of Unitarian Universalist communities. The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations is embarking on a two-year process to revitalize and strengthen youth ministry. Our congregation's engagement in the process is essential to its success. Yippee-Yahoo for YRUU is designed to be a grassroots process that begins with input from individuals and congregations and progresses to districts and the organizations that provide services and support to the congregations. It will be an inclusive and transformative process.

Because this conversation is about the life and vitality of our congregation as a whole, everyone is encouraged to attend and actively participate. The effectiveness of this conversation will depend on the participation of our congregation's stakeholders and leaders. The gathering will be co-facilitated by Jenny Kulow and Cindy Port. Contact Cindy Port for more information about how to become involved in this exciting opportunity for our congregation.

Cindy Port, Acting Director of Religious Education



admin@uubloomington.org, 332-3695

Notably For Newcomers

In his crucial and incisive recent book, Faith Without Certainty: Liberal Theology in the 21st Century (2005), UU minister the Rev. Dr. Paul Rasor writes, "Tensions often play out in the way religious liberals seek substantive truth. Liberals remain committed to such principles as free religious inquiry, autonomous judgment about truth claims, and openness to divergent views. At the same time, many also yearn for more shared content, for a common understanding about their faith that is more specific than what they have now. They don't want creeds. They remain committed to the principle of the individual search for truth and meaning, but they also want the search to lead somewhere.

"This tension can especially affect newcomers. Many people come to liberal congregations to free themselves from what they often describe as the suffocating conformity of doctrine in other (religious) traditions. Yet once there, they sometimes find that the absence of a prescriptive belief system leaves them feeling adrift in the religious sea. Like others, they want to be able to respond with joy and conviction to the perennial question, 'What do you liberals believe, anyway?' And they want to be able to do this without resorting to the tired liberal litany of things they don't believe."

-Paul Lane, for the Membership Committee

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

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Have You Been Keeping Track of Your Earth Points?

Thanks to everyone who pledged to earn Earth Points! Hopefully you have used the template handed out on Earth Day Sunday or your own system to keep track of your points. (If you need more info or you still want to sign an Earth Points Pledge, please see someone at the Coffee Sales Table between Sunday services). Remember, you can earn Earth Points every day in little and big ways! In the next couple of weeks, watch for a fun way to show your commitment to your Earth Points pledge during the Sunday service-- we will be adding marbles to an Earth jar to celebrate our monthly successes. So keep riding those bikes and line-drying those clothes-- we will support each other and support the UU 7th principle in the process! Watch future Prologues for more Earth Tips!

Thanks, from your
Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global
Climate Change

Attendance Figures

Sun, Apr 30 9 a.m. 72, 11:15 173, Totl 245
Sun, May 7 9 a.m. 80, 11:15 183, Totl 262

Sunday Plate Offering Figures

Sun, Apr 30 non-pledge offering: \$318
\$80 to Community Justice & Mediation Center.
Sun, May 7 non-pledge offering: \$335
\$85 to Community Justice & Mediation Center

Our Folks...

Our sympathy is with Vickie and Bernie Fry and their family; Bernie's mother, June Fry, died on April 14. A memorial service is planned for June 3 in our Library.

A memorial service for Sue Swanson will be held Saturday, July 22 at 4:30 p.m. at Cicero Christian Church, Cicero, Indiana.

Best wishes for quick healing to Arda Landergren and to Don Bennett, both of whom were recently hospitalized.

UU Board of Directors

Chris Clothier, President,
pres@uubloomington.org
Jason Hill, Vice President,
vicepres@uubloomington.org
Andrew Appel, Treasurer,
treasurer@uubloomington.org
Dorothy Sowell, Secretary,
secretary@uubloomington.org
Anne Haynes, Past Pres, anhaynes@indiana.edu

At Large Board Members: David Cox, Steve Dillon, Dick Hiatt, Chris Judge, Karen Jewell, GK Rowe, Marion Sinclair

Ministers and Staff

The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin
macklin@uubloomington.org
The Rev. Bill Breeden
breeden@uubloomington.org
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dre@uubloomington.org
Religious Education Asst.: Jennifer Livesay
rea@uubloomington.org
Music Director: Susan Swaney
music@uubloomington.org
Pianist: Sally Todd, pianist@uubloomington.org
Children's Choir Director: Jill Waggener,
jwaggene@mccsc.edu
Church Administrator: Carol Marks
admin@uubloomington.org
Office Assistant: Louis Tenney
office@uubloomington.org
Sound Manager: Tom Yeiser
soundmgr@uubloomington.org

New Members

The following new members are among those who signed our Membership Book on April 16.

Connie K. Nelson Laird

I grew up in a Scandinavian Lutheran home in Minnesota (not far from Lake Wobegon). Tom and I met in high school. We lived in Michigan for 8 years where I taught preschool, got my MSW and worked at a domestic violence agency. Since moving to Bloomington 3 years ago, I'm enjoying my job of being a mom to Anneka and Nora. I also enjoy being outdoors, swimming, and doing pottery.

Thomas F. Nelson Laird

I too grew up in Minnesota (not far from Connie). After high school and college together, we headed east to Michigan. I spent a couple of years in graduate school in mathematics and a few more studying higher education. We then headed south for Indiana. Still a recovering mathematician, I am now a faculty member at IU in education where my work focuses on teaching and learning, including how college students learn from experiences with diversity.

Lauren Bryant

I've been lurking at Bloomington UU services for ~five years, but I first learned about Unitarian Universalism more than 15 years ago. Back then, it was from the outside in, during a stint as an editor at Beacon Press, the publishing arm of the UUA in Boston. I reviewed manuscripts that reflected principles of justice and inherent dignity and worth of every human being. When I returned to Bloomington with my family, I began to explore UUism from the inside and realized this congregation made sense to me as a spiritual home.

Also joining us on April 16 were Amy Cox, Jim Thurmond, Kate Cruikshank, Sarah Collins, Cori Faust, Wil Meya and Heike Meya.

We welcome all these new members!

Upcoming Prologue Dates

Tues, May 23, deadline 10:00 a.m.
Prologue folding Wed, May 24, 9-11 a.m.
Mon, June 5, deadline 10:00 a.m.
Mon, June 19, deadline 10:00 a.m.

We Welcome Our New Office

Assistant Welcome to Louis Tenney, who joined our staff as Office Assistant in mid-April. A friend of our congregation, Louis works as an editor when he is not accomplishing the huge variety of clerical tasks we ask of him as our Office Assistant. Louis has office hours on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays and can be reached at office@uubloomington.org. We are glad he is part of our team!

BULLETIN BOARD

PROGRESS AND PERFECTIBILITY. Voces Novae, with special guest Joe Lee, presents a light-hearted look at "Progress and Perfectibility" Sunday, May 14 at 7:30 in the Meeting Room. Music by Billings, Cary Boyce, Debussy, Gershwin, Monteverdi, Palestrina, Steve Reich, & others. Adults \$10, Students and Seniors \$5.
WONDERFUL KITTY FOR ADOPTION! Orange and White, 11 Mos., Neutered Male, Vaccinated, FIV-, Very Affectionate and People Oriented! Rescued 6 Wks Ago. Adjusted well to living indoors. Contact Jen Buckley at 345-2931 or jeabuckl@indiana.edu.

Don't part with your illusions. When they are gone you may still exist, but you will have ceased to live. --Mark Twain

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

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.