

# ~ *The Prologue* July 23, 2007 ~

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana  
Congregation founded 1949

***Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community  
Changing the World***



**Sunday, July 29, 2007 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.**  
**The Art of Disappearing Reverend Mary Ann Macklin**

What are we trying to remember that is too important to forget? When might it be advantageous to become a cabbage? Poem Naomi Shihab Nye evokes these questions in her poem "The Art of Disappearing." Reverend Mary Ann Macklin will explore these questions and others in her final pre-sabbatical sermon. A Children's Hymn Sing will be part of the service. Pianist Sally Todd will offer various selections from composer Claude Debussy.

**Sunday, August 5, 2007 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.**  
**Conversations with the White House Reverend Bill Breeden**

On Hiroshima Day, there is something in the room about which we must speak. The Bloomington Chamber Singers will provide special music for the services.

## **Lammas Ritual Saturday, August 4**

Whether you call the festival Lammas or Lughnassadh, it marks the end of the summer season of growth and celebrates First Harvest.

All UU's are invited to join us Saturday, August 4 at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall as we gather to give thanks for the bounty of the Earth and reflect upon harvesting the fruitfulness of our endeavors.

Please bring a seasonal food or libation to share as we turn the Great Cosmic Wheel this cross-quarter day.

Blessed Be! Molly Stewart

## **Faith in Action Forums**

Take place in the Library on Sunday, 10:15-11:30 a.m. (Contact Jackie Hall, [jmhall@indiana.edu](mailto:jmhall@indiana.edu), to schedule a forum.) Forum topics are listed in *The Prologue* as scheduled.

## **MAM's Musings**

\*This past weekend I traveled north to perform a lakeside wedding. I stayed in a cottage near lake water. In the evening there is a certain glimmer of light that dances on the ceiling...the sun's reflection off the water. Its sparkly shadows seem to speak of the past and future so often glimmering in the present.

\*While perusing a childhood photo album, the poet Naomi Shihab Nye remarks, "I think of invisible pictures between the pictures, and under them. What was said that made us all look that way at just that moment? The gleam of particulars. My life, anybody's life. I've looked at albums belonging to people I barely know and could swear that I recognize people in their photographs. Isn't that what happens in poems? When we let that luckiness come in?"

This is my last Prologue column before my sabbatical, which begins August 1<sup>st</sup> and goes through mid-December. I have been sorting through files (hard copies and electronic) from my last 10 years in ministry as well as preparing Orders of Service for December of 2007. The past and future glimmering, I search for the gleam of particulars in the present. I find reading poetry allows just that. It opens my being to the moment before me. A glance across a crowded meeting room. A certain line of music that brings me home. The scent of the chalice lighting. The touch of connection across the valley of grief. Queries re: parliamentary procedure. A heated disagreement. A newspaper clipping received regarding last week's sermon. A conversation over brunch. A sip of tea while mentoring. Reviewing the church calendar. Meetings under the canopy of trees. It's all ministry.

As I step back from my ministerial role, I do so with excitement and trepidation. As part of my sabbatical, I will attend a weeklong workshop with Angeles Arrien, author of "The Four Fold Way: Teacher, Leader, Visionary and Healer." I have also been accepted as a participant in the Fall Residence Program at the Quaker Retreat Center, Pendle Hill. My gratitude to this congregation for your support of these sabbatical opportunities, and your help in defraying some of the cost.

Meanwhile, as the autumnal months arrive, this congregation will be afforded many opportunities. From guest speakers to adult education programs, I hope each of you will take time to explore your Unitarian Universalist identity. I hope you each will continue to discover yourself in the language of poetry, the mystery of music, and the gleam of particulars.

And in words adapted from the late Robert Doss, "For all who seek God, may God go with you. For all who embrace life, may life return your affection. For all who seek a right path, may a way be found...."

Be Well My Friends,  
MAM  
Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

## UUs Changing the World



### **MCUM Task Force Reminder: Next Bounty-full Sunday is**

**August 6** Foods needed are: canned salmon and other meats; beans, dried and canned; fruit, dried and canned; and corn bread mix.

### **General Assembly 2008 Fort Lauderdale, Florida June 25-29, 2008**

Questions about General Assembly? Talk with Marjorie Crosby, John Crosby, Iris Kiesling, Kelly Rauch, Patricia Coleman, Jan Skinner, Lloyd Orr or Jackie Hall.

### **Quiet in the Meeting Room before each service, please**

Please maintain quiet in the Meeting Room before each Sunday service, 8:15- 8:45 a.m. and 10:30-11:00 a.m. Before each service, our church musicians and guest musicians appreciate quiet in which to rehearse. It's fine to sit and listen, but if you need to talk, please go into the Commons or Fellowship Hall during these rehearsal times.

### **Adult Religious Education Proposals for Fall Courses Due July**

**31** The Adult Religious Education (ARE) Committee invites you to submit a proposal for an ARE offering for this coming fall, 2007. If you have a favorite area of interest that is relevant to ARE, let us know. A proposal form is available from the ARE box in the workroom, from the church office, or electronically from Bob DeVoe at ([devoe@indiana.edu](mailto:devoe@indiana.edu)). To allow time for adequate planning, please return completed forms by July 31 to the workroom ARE box, or email it to [are@uubloomington.org](mailto:are@uubloomington.org). The committee will contact you about your proposal after reviewing it. -- Bob DeVoe, Chair

**Bazaar Book Donations Invited in November** Please save your donations for the Bazaar Book Sale until November. Storage space is really limited this year so holding off on donations for the book sale would be much appreciated. We'll begin collecting books in the Booktable area of Fellowship Hall in early November. Joanna Clees, 339-1839.

### **Women's Alliance Meets August 2**

The Women's Alliance will meet for lunch and socializing on Thursday, August 2 in Fellowship Hall. The brown bag lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. with beverages and dessert to be served by the hostesses Pat Harris and Katherine Hopkins. Please bring an item (such as a picture, a letter, or a piece of clothing) which represents something of importance in your family history and share its story with the group. Membership dues of \$15 for 2007-08 are payable to the Treasurer, Judy Bennett. Anyone needing childcare should contact Harriet Pfister (339-3364) by Monday, July 30. Guests are welcome to join the group and to participate in the informal program.

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## Our Folks...

Our sympathy and prayers are with Mary Blizzard, whose mother passed away recently.

A memorial service for Stephen Dodd will be held here in our Meeting Room on July 29 at 2:00 p.m. Stephen passed away July 6, in Louisville, Kentucky.

Congratulations to Walt and Tommie Owens, upon the occasion of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. All are invited to a reception celebrating the occasion on Saturday, July 28 from 2-4 p.m. here in Fellowship Hall.

Arda Landergren has a new phone number, 330-6962, and welcomes calls from her church friends!

## UU Board of Directors

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## BULLETIN BOARD

FOR SALE: Kitchen cabinets, countertops, sink, stove, etc. Call Lloyd or Jackie, 332-6451.

Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest. **Mark Twain**



## Notably For Newcomers

Many Unitarian Universalists would hold as a working philosophy of our approach to faith the words of the Rev. Raymond B. Johnson. He wrote:

I observe the universe in which I find myself and discover in it an orderly procedure based on natural laws. I further examine the way it works for all living creatures and particularly note the development of man. It is religion: (1) when I conclude that the scheme of things makes sense, that it shows convincing evidence of purpose; (2) when I realize the obligation upon me to contribute myself to the forwarding of this purpose; (3) when I study myself and recognize my limitations and my potentialities, and especially the presence of a spiritual force within me; (4) when I discover that associating myself with the spiritual force in the universe adds to my own power to make a contribution to it. I prefer not to say "God" because there are so many varying definitions which could make for disagreement. Theists like myself can supply it in their minds.

My religion is my orientation of me in the universe. Religion answers the questions: Where am I? What am I? Why am I?

--Paul Lane, for the Membership Committee

(This column was originally published in the August 2, 2004, issue of The Prologue.)

## **Community Connections** **Our faith in action in the community**

### **July Safety-Net is Bi-Lingual**

Many of the articles in the July issue of Safety-Net are in Spanish as well as in English, on topics of special interest to the Latino community. Also included are many articles about social service agencies in Bloomington and the volunteer opportunities that are available. Copies of Safety-Net are on the oak bench below the bulletin board in the Courtyard Entrance at church. Safety-Net is published by Shalom Community Center.

### **Team Ministry**

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

### **Lunch with a Minister**

Have lunch with a minister once a month. Rev. Breeden invites all who wish to attend to bring a brown bag lunch and join him in Fellowship Hall on Monday, August 13 at 12 noon.

### **Ministers' Schedules**

Rev. Macklin is on sabbatical

August 1 - December 15, 2007

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

Office hours: M, T, F

His mobile number is 360-1779.

[breeden@uubloomington.org](mailto:breeden@uubloomington.org)

### **Rev. Macklin's Email Address Inactive Aug 1- Dec 15**

Email messages sent to Rev. Macklin at [macklin@uubloomington.org](mailto:macklin@uubloomington.org) from August 1 until December 15 will not be received. Her email account will be inactive during her sabbatical.

### **Attendance Figures**

**Sun, July 15**, 9:00: 62 , 11:15: 129 Tot: 181 Religious Ed.: adults: 17, children: 40

**Sun, July 22**, 9:00: 88 , 11:15: 126 Tot: 214 Religious Ed.: adults: 22, children: 46

### **Sunday Offering Figures**

*Sun, July 15* non-pledge offering: \$294

*Sun, July 22* non-pledge offering: \$267

Total to Martha's House: \$140

### **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, August 19 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](mailto:stephw7@sbcglobal.net) no later than Wednesday, August 15.

A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves.

**Amelia Earhart**

## **Ministers and Staff**

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