

~ *The Prologue*

March 17, 2008 ~

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana
Congregation founded 1949

*Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community
Changing the World*



**Friday, March 21, 7:30pm Here Comes the Sun!
Intergenerational Spring Equinox Ritual with Earth Kin**

Earth Kin, our newly-sprouted collection of UU folks interested in various kinds of Earth-centered spirituality, invites you and your family to celebrate the coming of spring as it brightens our days, supports the seeds of new growth and helps us find balance in our lives. Please join us at 6:30pm for egg coloring. Hard-boiled eggs and food coloring will be provided, but bring extra eggs if you want to take some home. Ritual will begin at 7:30pm and will include a special children's part. Please bring some food to share after ritual and wear green if you like.

Sunday, March 23, 2008

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service

Join us for an early morning lay-led Easter Sunrise service. Included will be songs, readings from Christian scripture, and periods of silence. Children welcome. There will be an Easter breakfast pitch-in to follow in Fellowship Hall for those attending the service. Please bring breakfast food to share and your own table settings. Details: Carol Marks, 332-3695, or Ruellen, 837-9550.

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

**Kickin' Up Some Dust: An Easter Exploration of Eschatology
Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Bill Breeden**

In this season of resurrection, rebirth and renewal, we will celebrate Easter by dusting off some terminology from systematic theology and exploring its application to Unitarian Universalism in the 21st Century. Particular attention will be paid to eschatology (study of end times) in the time of Jesus and its role in our world today. Special music, Randall Thompson's *Alleluia* will be offered by our choir, directed by Susan Swaney.

Sunday, March 30, 2008 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Sermon on the Amount? Reverend Bill Breeden and Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Who said stewardship isn't any fun? This service will be a celebration of who we are, and who we aspire to be, and will include special music and congregational singing of some old favorite peace and justice songs. We hope you will join us in body and in spirit.

**Wednesday, April 2, 2008 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:15 p.m. Worship
Family Worship: "Living Simply" Rev. Emily Manvel Leite**

Rev. Leite will share some of the insights she has gained from her "Living Simply with Children" class, and we will explore them together through story, sharing, and song. People of all ages are invited to join us for a craft at 5:15pm, dinner at 5:30pm (provided, vegan option, \$1 per person donation requested), and/or worship from 6:15-6:45pm.

MAM's Musings

When you receive this newsletter, the Equinox will be at hand with spring in its palm. During this season, Reverend Breeden and I receive a myriad of requests for weddings, commitment ceremonies, baby dedications and other rites of passage that bring together human beings in new relational endeavors. The rites of spring! In the months ahead, I will visit with numerous couples for pre-marital counseling and other relational matters; the message of balance often finds its way into our conversations. In this time of Equinox, I wanted to share a few messages of balance which I have personally found helpful. First, it is suggested that four compliments accompany every one critique offered to another person. Couples who practice this balance of critique and compliments report more couple satisfaction. Too often compliments are assumed by the speaker and not spoken. Whether with family, friends or others, we all need to hear positive remarks to balance the negative in our lives...like daffodils stretching to grow; a lot of sunshine is needed to go with the intermittent clouds. May the force of balance be with you.

Speaking of rites of passage, the co-ministry team offers services each year to celebrate the infants of our community with a naming and dedication ceremony. May 11, 2008, will be the spring naming ceremony. A fall date will be announced later. If you would like for your infant to be included in the spring ceremony, contact one of the ministers. The ceremony will be available for both services. Please let us know which service (or both) you would like to participate in, 9am or 11:15am.

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin
(macklin@uubloomington.org and
Reverend Bill Breeden
(breeden@uubloomington.org) or call
332-3695.

Peace, MAM

The West Window

Spring is getting very close, and I am in the mood for a resurrection. I think we need a resurrection of the values that inspired the hearts of those in generations past who stood for peace and lived in love with life rather than in fear of death. I think we need a resurrection of common sense and a sense of common purpose focused on the welfare of all the children of the earth. I believe that we, as Unitarian Universalists, have a part to play in the resurrection. We have a message that celebrates the worth and dignity of all, and we have a community committed to the creation of a better world for generations to come. The resurrection depends up our stewardship of time and treasure. We are in the full swing of our annual pledge drive. I hope each of us will take time to think, pray, meditate, conjugate or whatever we need to do to determine how we can continue to grow this church and reach out with a message of hope and reconciliation to those in a world of hurt. Let us not merely be consumers, but rather co-creators of new life for our global community.

Peace--bill

Rev. Bill Breeden

Lunch with a Minister Join Rev. Bill Breeden for a brown bag lunch in Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, April 8 at 12:00 noon. *March 17, 2008 Page 2*

Middle Schoolers Focus on Social Justice



This semester our middle school morning program is based on a curriculum called "UU Action" written by our own Rev. Emily Manvel Leite.

Rev. Leite designed the curriculum to give middle schoolers a chance to explore what it means to be Unitarian Universalist by engaging in social justice projects. It is a hands-on curriculum which allows the students to socialize and be creative while engaging in meaningful work.

Already the group has held a bake sale fundraiser and helped as servers at the Talent Auction Dinner. Currently they are meeting with Habitat for Humanity Task Force and are considering different ways they can contribute to their project. They are also planning on participating in the Walk for the Homeless and to work on a project that addresses hunger.

Our kids are naturally enthusiastic about working to make a difference in the world; we hope to cultivate their enthusiasm while deepening their identity as Unitarian Universalists.

Many thanks to Kim Sackmann, Heather Hansen and Dave Crane who make up the fabulous teaching team for this class.

Cindy Port

Director of Religious Education

dre@uubloomington.org

Rev. Emily Manvel Leite

Minister of Religious Education

mre@uubloomington.org

Crafting Bridges Jail Project will meet at 1:00 p.m. Monday, April 7 at the Monroe Co. Jail Lobby. –Christine McKenna



When I Think of Supporting the Church

by John Woodcock

One Saturday afternoon about three years ago, never having attended a church regularly in my 65 years, I went to a UU memorial service for an acquaintance and found myself deeply attracted by the spirit of the occasion and, after the service, by the open, happy faces of the strangers around me. It took me by surprise, but I immediately knew I wanted to be part of this community. Peggy and I attended Sunday service the following day, and we have been attending, and supporting as we could, ever since.

Not that it's all been easy. That first Sunday, beginning with the children's moment, I found myself silently weeping for much of the service, unable to finish the hymns. Happiness at a memorial service and tears on Sunday: a strange mix, but I'm sure you will understand that these were signs that I was finding something important.

Since that first encounter, there have been many UU experiences I have valued tremendously. I have been moved by many more sermons, and I have met many of those attractive strangers. I have taken part in several community-oriented UU activities, and I joined a chalice circle. I even dared to join the choir! I couldn't say which of these things is most important when I think of supporting the church, but I do know that it all began on those two days when this community first moved my being. –John Woodcock

The Prologue March 17, 2007 Page 3

Our Folks...

Our healing thoughts are with Arda Landergren, recently hospitalized, and also to Fred Churchill, who is recovering at home from recent surgery.

Our thoughts of comfort are with Pat Aungst, whose brother Ron passed away last week, in Arizona.

Our thoughts of comfort are also with Dave Crane and Kevin Rottet and family. Dave's sister, Carolyn Banks, passed away on March 5th as a result of diabetic complications.

We also send our comforting thoughts to David and Sandy Hill and their family; David's mother died recently.



All-Church Retreat May 9-10

Spring is knocking at our doors and that means it is time for the next Earth-celebrational, All-Congregational, Intergenerational UU Retreat! We will celebrate our Mother Earth from 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9th through Saturday May 10th at 5:00 p.m. This overnight retreat will again be held at beautiful CYO Camp Rancho Framasa just a short drive northeast of Nashville, Indiana. The retreat is offered by the Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change.

The camp registration fee is based on the accommodation you choose, either a gender specific or co-ed cabin or, for the more adventurous, a campsite for tents. The registration includes three vegetarian with vegan options meals. Cabin accommodations are \$60 per individual or \$215 per family. Campsites for tents are

\$50 per individual or \$205 per family. If you need financial assistance to attend, please contact Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, macklin@uubloomington.org, 332-3695.

Look for the retreat registration table during coffee/fellowship hour each Sunday in April (the 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th). April 27th is the final day to register. The registration fee must be paid at the time of registration.

Come play and celebrate with us.
Ruth Ann Cooper, racsings@insightbb.com

Donate Books on April 13

Jane McLeod's Chalice Circle is working with Martha Nord to collect new and gently used books for the Monroe County jail waiting room, to form a "permanent" waiting room collection. The permanent collection will include books for adults as well as children. Books for the permanent collection should be short (e.g., short stories, household hints, parenting advice, self-help), relatively easy to read, and either new or very gently used so that they will last a long time. Books for all ages are welcome. Please bring your books to the collection table in the Commons on Sunday, April 13th. Thanks, Jane McLeod

Faith in Action Forums

Faith in Action Forums are held at 10:15 a.m. in the Library on Sundays. To schedule a faith in action forum, contact Jackie Hall at jmhall@indiana.edu.

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Earth Care, Earth Hour: Mar 29

Our local interfaith environmental group, Earth Care, suggests that members of faith communities participate in the Earth Hour action, a simple act of awareness and solidarity. The action: on March 29th at 8:00 p.m., simply turn off your lights for one hour. Created to take a stand against one of the greatest threats our planet has ever faced, Earth Hour uses the simple action of turning off our lights to deliver a powerful message about the need for action on global warming.

This simple act has captured the hearts and minds of people all over the world. Our congregation's Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change is a member of Earth Care and approves of this message ☺. For more information and an inspiring video, log on to www.earthhour.org.
—Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Attendance

Sun, Mar. 9, 9:00:	64	11:15:	168	
RE: 9:00: 14, 11:15:	42			Total: 288
Sun, Mar. 16, 9:00:	105	11:15:	165	
RE: 9:00: 28, 11:15:	63			Total: 361

Sunday Offering

<i>Sun, Mar 9</i> non-pledge offering:	\$325
<i>Sun, Mar 16</i> non-pledge offering:	\$402
Total to Martha's House:	\$182

Official Notice of Congregational Meeting April 20, 5:30 p.m.

A special congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. to approve bylaws changes related to our proposed changes in church governance. All members are encouraged to attend. Childcare will be provided. Proposed Bylaws changes will be published in the March 31 Prologue. 3/17/08 Page 5

Reverend Macklin To Speak To Women's Alliance April 3

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin is the scheduled speaker for the Thursday, April 3 meeting of the Women's Alliance in Fellowship Hall. Reverend Macklin will reflect on some of the highlights of her recent sabbatical (and perhaps other topics). The brown bag luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. with beverages and desserts provided by the hostesses Dolores Freiburger and Roberta Watson. The program begins at 12 noon. Guests are always welcome.

Budget Proposals are due April 6.

Forms at <http://uubloomington.org/budget/>
Submit budget proposals by 12 noon April 6, to Lloyd Orr, treasurer@uubloomington.org. Lloyd does not mind a bit if you submit your proposals before April 6!

Composting at Church and Home

The green compost buckets are back and ready to be used in the church kitchen! There are instructions posted in the kitchen with guidance on composting scraps from food prepared in the kitchen for church events. The Green Sanctuary Task Force will empty the buckets each week after coffee hour. Please note that we very much want to encourage use of the green buckets. Composting is one of the actions that helped us become certified as a Green Sanctuary. But, it is very important to remember that for composting to remain an integral part of our church, groups must empty the buckets after each use, immediately following their events at church. Please dump them into the black compost bin, located in the corner of the courtyard playground, behind the swing set.

UUs Changing the World



HELP FEED OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS Next Bounty-Full Sunday is April 6

Current
needs are



soups, canned meat, including salmon, jelly, honey syrup and canned pasta meals. No outdated products, please. Rebecca Stanze, development coordinator of Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM), reports that we have contributed 600+ pounds of food since January. Recent reports indicate that "35 million Americans live in households with insufficient food. It's an alarming trend that people not only need food in emergency situations, but [food is also needed] by working folks whose wages just don't add up." MCUM has an increasing need for food in their emergency food pantry. Thanks to all of you for your continuing support.

25% Sunday Plate Collection for Social Justice during 2008-2009: Final Call for Applications



Applications are now available for nominations for the recipient of 25% of our Sunday Plate Collection for 2008-09, in the Social Justice mailbox in Room 204, or by email from John Woodcock (woodcock@indiana.edu) or Stephanie Estell

(nanaysteph@hotmail.com). The committee will select up to three nominees, from which one will be chosen by vote at the spring congregational meeting on June 1.

If you submit an application, you are responsible for contacting the nominated agency to gather the information necessary to complete the application. **The completed**

applications must be submitted by Tuesday, April 1, to the SJCC mailbox or electronically to John or Stephanie.

The Social Justice Funds Committee: Stephanie Estell and John Woodcock, co-chairs, and Bob Taylor, Jennifer Blankenship, Joan Caulton

Building Bridges



Sunday, April 6, 3-5 p.m.

Reception to follow

Ivy Tech State College

Honoring

**Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Prophetic Voice
A Time to Break Silence:**

**Clergy and Laity Concerned about
Iraq and Afghanistan**

Featuring: Reverend King's Riverside Sermon, Panel Presentation, Table Discussions

Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build

Good news! First United Methodist and First United have each committed \$5,000 to help sponsor the planned Interfaith Build for which the UU Habitat Task Force has been raising funds since 2006. These churches join us and Beth Shalom, St. Thomas Lutheran, Trinity Episcopal, Friends Meeting and the Baha'i Center, all of which have pledged to contribute from \$1,000 to \$10,000 each. The UU Task Force, with the help of many of you, has raised more than \$15,000 for the cause, including a \$4,000 UU social justice grant. The build is scheduled to begin July 26. We will be recruiting volunteers soon. We also need people to prepare and bring food for workers. Thanks so much for your contributions. Barb Berggoetz, Habitat Task Force

Community Connections

Our faith in action in the community

Voter Registration at Church on March 23

There will be helpful people here after each service on Sunday, March 23 to do voter registration. All you need is a valid photo ID, such as a driver's license. Ed Chamberlain is facilitating this effort, and can be reached at 812-330-9572.

Chalice Group Forms Homeward Bound Team

Alan Backler's Chalice Group has formed a team to participate in Homeward Bound, a 5K walk to be held on April 6, in support of providing housing and fighting homelessness. The Chalice Circle is supporting the Shalom Community Center. Please join "UUs for Shalom" or donate to the Shalom Community Center by going to www.HomewardBoundIndiana.org. Info, contact Alan Backler at 340-1323 or abackler@aol.com.

SPRING INTO ACTION Luncheon and Silent Auction to Benefit MCUM Sunday, April 13 @ 11:30 Tickets available on Sunday at church through April 6. Visit the table with the colorful posters in the lobby to purchase or contact Beth Hollingsworth, 337-9305 or btholli@insightbb.com

Sycamore Land Trust Event April 20

Sycamore Land Trust invites all UUs to connect with nature at this free Environmental Education Program: Sunday, April 20, 7 - 9:30 p.m. "Frogs and Rails: Looking and Listening" at the Beanblossom Bottoms Nature Preserve. Stroll on Sycamore Land Trust's wooden boardwalk across a precious wetland ecosystem, as Dr. Vicky Meretsky of IU-SPEA teaches about frogs' songs, species, and behaviors and SLT Stewardship Coordinator John Lawrence helps us listen for rails, secretive marsh birds that are rarely seen and likely to be migrating through the Bottoms at

this time. RSVP to info@sycamorelandtrust.org or 812-336-5382.

Rebuilding New Orleans Homes This Fall

This is a call for volunteers to help rebuild New Orleans homes damaged by Katrina. I spent the first week of March doing that, and found the experience so rewarding that I'm compelled to go back and to take others with me. I've reserved space for 20 Bloomingtonians at the Little Farms UCC church in New Orleans, this coming autumn from Sept. 28-Oct. 4. Little Farms has a well-developed program to make efficient use of volunteers, whether skilled or not, rebuilding houses in many parts of the city. If interested, please contact me, dfparkhurst@insightbb.com or 333-2945. Thank you. David Parkhurst.

Vernon Jordan, Jr. to Speak Mar 27

Mr. Jordan will deliver the Neal-Marshall Lecture on Public Policy, "America—Crossing Boundaries of Possibility," on Thursday, March 27 at 2:30 p.m. in Whittenberger Auditorium. Free and open to the public.

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.

Ministers' Availability

Rev. Macklin's regular day off is Tuesday.

On call M, W, F afternoons, and Thursdays
macklin@uubloomington.org
mobile phone: 322-0205

Rev. Breeden's regular day off is Thursday.

On call M, W, F mornings, and Tuesdays
breeden@uubloomington.org
mobile phone: 360-1779

To make an appointment, please contact one of the ministers directly.

The Prologue

Unitarian Universalist Church of
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Bloomington, IN 47408-1646

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www.uubloomington.org

The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, Minister

The Rev. Bill Breeden, Minister

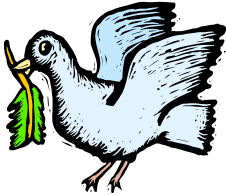


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March 17, 2008 (mailed on Mar. 18)

TIME VALUE! Please deliver by March 19

Return Service Requested



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			19 MARCH 1:00pm Chal Cir 5:00pm Peace vigil at Courthouse 5:45pm Governance Task Force 7:00pm UU Board 7:00pm Buddhism (ARE)	20 10:00am Fac Use 7:00pm Lvg. Simply w. Children 7:00pm UU Choir 7:00pm Chal Cir - Bret 8:30pm String Band	21 6:30am Ctr Beh Health 10:00am Homeschool Group 10:30am Lifestory 12:00pm UU Staff 7:30pm Spring Equinox Ritual	22
23 6:30am Easter Sunrise service 9 & 11:15 services 10:15am Governance Info Session 6:00pm YRUU	24 11:00am Oral History Comm 6:00pm Jr. Hi OWL 6:30pm 1&2 OWL 6:30pm Religious Ed Comm 7:30pm Voces Novae	25 6:45pm BCS Rehearsal 7:00pm Building Your Own Theology 7:30pm Quarryland Men's	26	27 7:00pm UU Choir 7:00pm Earth Kin	28 10:00am Homeschool Group 10:30am Lifestory 12:00pm UU Staff 1:30pm Closing of the We 6:00pm Facilities Use 6:00pm~====> Campus Ministry Overnight begins	29 <====~12:00pm Campus Ministry Overnight ends 9:30am BCS Board 12:00pm Int'l Outreach Task Frc 4:00pm Facilities Use 6:00pm Film Series - Bat
30 10:00am RE Teacher Breakfast 12:30pm Seder Committee 12:45pm Shaping Our Future Together 4:00pm Leadership Event 6:00pm YUUMS 6:00pm YRUU	31 10:00am Prologue Deadline 6:00pm Jr Hi OWL 6:30pm Nominating Cmte. 7:00pm 1&2 OWL 7:30pm Voces Novae 7:30pm Green Sanctuary TF	1 APRIL 6:45pm BCS Rehearsal 7:00pm Building Your Own Theology 7:30pm Quarryland Men's	2 1:00pm Chal Cir 5:30pm Family Dinner, and 6:15pm Family Worship	3 11:30am Women's Alliance 7:00pm UU Choir 7:00pm Living Simply w/children 8:30pm String Band	4 10:00am Homeschool Group 10:30am Lifestory 12:30pm UU Super Staff 6:00pm Heartland Dist Annual Mtg in Louisville KY 7:00pm Quarryland Mens Chor reh.	5 9:00am UU Choir 9:00am Heartland Dist Annual mtg continues, in Louvl 2:00pm Flowering Shrubs

Calendar is also available on our website: <http://www.uubloomington.org/roomCal/monthFull.php>

Information Sessions About Changes in Our Governance and Bylaws

On Sunday, April 20, at 5:30 pm there will be a special Congregational Meeting to consider several proposed changes to the Bylaws that will allow the Church to operate under a new governance model of leadership.

There will be two information sessions sponsored by the Governance Task Force to present the basics of the new governance structure and to present the changes to the Bylaws that will facilitate the new leadership model.

The information sessions will be held
Sunday, March 23, from 10:15 to 11 am in the Library, and
Sunday, April 13, from 10:15 to 11 am in the Library.

Please come and meet with the Governance Task Force to learn about the upcoming changes to our structure and to become aware of proposed Bylaws changes.

The Governance Task Force
Jan Skinner, Chris Judge, Lloyd Orr, John Crosby, Diane Gregory, Chris Haynes,
Carol Marks, Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Bill Breeden.

Governance Task Force Report to the Congregation

There will be three components of the policy governance structure.

- A. A seven member Board of Directors with staggered two year terms - renewable once
- President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Three At Large Members

The President and Vice President may serve only one two year term in these offices.

The Co-Ministers are *ex-officio* members of the Board. During even numbered years, three members will be nominated, (President, Vice President and one At Large member). During odd numbered years four members will be nominated (Secretary, Treasurer, and two At Large members). Board members will be nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the Congregation. The Board will meet at least monthly. There will be

committees of the Board: Finance and Planned Giving, Personnel, Shaping Our Future Together, and others as the board determines. The three non-board members of the Nominating Committee and the three non-board members of the Special Purposes Funds Committee are elected by the Congregation.

The primary role of the Board will be to care for the temporal and spiritual health of the Congregation. The Board will set policy with end objectives and executive limitations, and will monitor compliance.

B. A Program Team consisting of:

1. Seven members representing the committee groupings

Ministry/Pastoral Care

Lifespan Religious Education

Membership Journey

Social Justice

Fellowship/Affiliated Groups

Congregational Services

Facilities

2. A Board Representative

3. The entire Management Team - which will facilitate the Program Team

The seven representatives of the Program Team will be selected by the Nominating Committee in collaboration with the Co-Ministers. The Program Team will meet a minimum of six times a year.

The Program Team will operate within policy guidelines and procedures set by the Board to create church programming and to facilitate communication and collaboration among committees and task forces of the church.

C. A Management Team consisting of the Co-Ministers and the Church Administrator.

The Management Team will operate within policy guidelines and procedures set by the Board, to manage the daily operations of the Church.

Revised 2/27/08