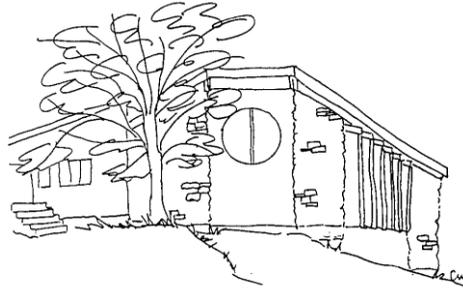


The Prologue
 Unitarian Universalist Church of
 Bloomington
 2120 N. Fee Lane
 Bloomington, IN 47408-1646

812-332-3695
 www.uubloomington.org
 The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, Minister
 The Rev. Bill Breeden, Minister



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DATE	TIME	EVENT	DATE	TIME	EVENT
12/24/2008	4:00 PM	Away in a Manger Christmas Eve Svc	1/6/2009	6:45 PM	Bloomington Chamber Singers
	6:00 PM	UU Choir Rehearsal		7:30 PM	Quarryland Men's Chorus
	7:00 PM	Candlelight Christmas Eve Svc	1/7/2009	10:00 AM	UU Wednesday Walkers
	10:00 PM	Meditative Christmas Eve Svc		5:30 PM	Chal Circle Exec Cmte
12/26/2008		Kwanzaa Begins		5:30 PM	Fam Worship
12/28/2008		Hanukkah Ends		6:30 PM	IU B-ball
1/1/2009		Kwanzaa Ends; Happy New Year!		7:00 PM	Membership Cmte
1/4/2009		Sunday Services & RE at 9:15 and 11:15	1/8/2009	11:30 AM	Women's Alliance
	10:15 AM	Tal Auction Cmte		7:00 PM	Campus Ministry Gathering/Worship
	9:15 & 11:15	RE Cooking Class in Kitchen		7:00 PM	Chalice Circle
	11:15 AM	YRUU high school youth		7:00 PM	Greeters Cmte
	12:15 PM	Campus Ministry Lunch		7:00 PM	UU Choir
	12:45 PM	Green Sanctuary Task Force	1/9/2009	12:00 PM	UU Staff (super staff on 1/16/09)
	6:00 PM	YRUU		7:00 PM	Women's Drum Circle
1/5/2009	10:00 AM	Prologue deadline	1/10/2009	7:30 PM	Fundraiser Concert - J Bagwell, S Todd
	3:00 PM	Management Team	1/11/2009		Sunday Services & RE at 9:15 and 11:15
	7:30 PM	Voces Novae		10:15 AM	Elder Care TF table in FH
1/6/2009	10:00 AM	Chalice Cir - Ulla L.		9:15 & 11:15	RE Cooking Class in Kitchen
	5:30 PM	Stewardship Cmte		1:00 PM	Chalice Circle - J. Knowlton
	6:00 PM	Our Whole Lives (Grades 7&8)		2:00 PM	Facilities Use
				3:00 PM	Exploring Unitarian Universalism
				6:00 PM	YRUU

For more church event info, go to www.uubloomington.org and click on [Full Calendar](#).

~ The Prologue

Monday, December 22, 2008 ~

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

Congregation founded 1949
 Welcoming Congregation since 1995
 Green Sanctuary since 2007



Seeking the Spirit Building Our Community Changing the World

Sunday, December 28, 2008 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.
 Hanukkah, the Year's End, and Freedom Rev. Bill Breeden

Bagels and Hot Beverages Available 8:45-9:10 a.m.
Starting January 4, in Fellowship Hall

The Denominational Affairs Committee will be providing muffins, bagels, coffee, and hot water for tea in Fellowship Hall preceding the first service during the month of January, 8:45-9:10 p.m., as a fundraiser for our General Assembly delegates. (Coffee & tea are free as always; donations welcome.) Thanks to Jackie Hall and Amy Taylor for organizing this!

Sunday, January 4, 2009 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.
 Change of Climate: The Annual Science Review Sermon

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin will offer her annual review and reflections on scientific discoveries and advances from 2008. We will explore topics from such areas as human origins, environment, physics and math, health and medicine, mind and brain, and technology...then, as liberal religious searchers, ponder them in our hearts.

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Darkness Rev. Emily Manvel Leite

Family Dinner 5:30 p.m. Family Worship 6:15 p.m.

Come share stories and songs as we reflect upon the gifts of the dark time of the year. Crafts at 5:15, Dinner at 5:30, Shared Clean-up at 6:00, Worship at 6:15 p.m.

Start the New Year with Exploring UU Class Want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and this congregation? Sign up for the Exploring UU class at the Welcome Table in the foyer. The class will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sundays January 11 and 18. Free child care is available with advance notice. For more information contact Libby DeVoe 336-8688, edevoe@indiana.edu

From the Ministers

We enter this holiday time in a spirit of gratitude for the opportunity to serve this congregation as part of our ministerial journey. As the New Year approaches we look forward with hope and concern in this time of so many uncertainties. Of course, uncertainty is always a part of life. The ecological and economical unknowns (among others) of our time certainly create a deeper awareness of uncertainty. We are also mindful that the prefix 'eco' comes from the Greek 'oikos' meaning house. How do we define our house? How do we tend to our house? Our financial house? This spinning blue green planet we call home? How do we offer hospitality to one another? To others? To those without homes? What must our sheltering walls guard against? How do we open our windows to bring light to our loneliness? To our togetherness?

And we remember the words to be shared by our Minister Emerita Reverend Barbara Carlson at our 7pm worship service on December 24th, "The holiday season is a time of poignant memories, especially for those who are experiencing the holidays without the presence of a dearly loved person. If you find your heart breaking in this season, I pray you, let it break open. The closed heart is frozen in time. The heart that opens begins to heal."

Our vision is to enter 2009 within a congregational house which continues to open its doors to the path of the full heart, open mind and seeking spirit. May laughter and courage pave our way. And in the words of Louis Untermeyer from Hymn #1 in our Unitarian Universalist hymnbook, "With laughter drown the raucous shout, and

though these sheltering walls are thin, may they be strong to keep hate out and hold love in."

With love and gratitude,
Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and
Reverend Bill Breeden

Wednesday, December 24 Away in A Manger 4:00 p.m.

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and
Cindy Port, Director of Religious Education
Join us for a Nativity Pageant for Young Children. This interactive nativity pageant service will focus on an atmosphere welcoming to small children (infants through age 6) and their families and friends. There will be carol singing throughout this retelling of the familiar Christmas story.

Sacred Hope Reborn 7:00 p.m. Prelude Music Begins 6:45p.m.

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin,
Reverend Bill Breeden, and
Reverend Barbara Carlson, Minister Emerita
In our annual Christmas Eve service, we will offer reflections on the "Sacred Hope Reborn" each year at this time as we revisit the nativity story. We are delighted that our Minister Emerita, Reverend Barbara Carlson, will also join us in this service. Special music will include Mary Ann Williams and Richard Torstrick on fiddle and hammer dulcimer. Guest conductor Mary Goetze will lead our choir, and pianist Sally Todd will offer a movement from George Crumb's *Little Christmas Suite*. Candle lighting and "Silent Night" will be part of this service.

Meditative Service 10:00 p.m.

Reverend Bill Breeden
A service of sharing Christmas joys and memories in an informal style. Candle lighting and "Silent Night" will be included.

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Community Connections

Our faith in action in the community

See info on our bulletin board about how you can help a variety of social service agencies in our community.

Mikey Weinstein to Speak at Columbus UU

Michael L. Weinstein, founder of Military Religious Freedom Foundation, will speak twice on "The Internal National Security Threat of Unconstitutional Christian Fundamentalists in Our U.S. Military," at UU Congregation of Columbus on Sunday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. UU Columbus is at 7850 Goeller Boulevard on the east side of Columbus.

Our Folks...

Our sympathy and prayers are with the family and friends of Cheryl Bennett and Doug Steury, whose father, Lores Steury, passed away on December 12, and also with Byron and Hayden Bangert and their family; Byron's father passed away December 19 in South Dakota.

Women's Alliance Meets January 8

The Women's Alliance will meet Thursday, January 8 in Fellowship Hall. The meeting begins with a brown bag luncheon at 11:30 a.m.; beverages and desserts will be available. The program is from 12:00 - 12:30 with guest speaker Attorney Guy Loftman. Hostesses will be Julie Lawson and Carol Arnold. Guests are always welcome.

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose. --George Carlin

Lunch with a Minister Jan. 13

Bring a brown bag lunch and have lunch and conversation with Rev. Bill Breeden and others, Tuesday, January 13 at 12:00 noon, Fellowship Hall.

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

BULLETIN BOARD

JOB WANTED: Tim Slack, lifelong UU and new Bloomington resident, seeks Admin Asst - Program Asst - Financial Asst position. 25 yrs experience in credit union lending, specialized in financial services; comfortable with all ethnic, religious, economic groups; problem-solver, public speaker. Excellent references. Call 812.827.3082

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. December 22, 2008 Issue Edited by Carol Marks, Church Administrator

UUs Changing the World



HELP FEED OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS

Next Bounty-Full Sunday is January 4

Current Needs: rice, canned mixed



vegetables, canned carrots, canned potatoes, Jiffy Cornbread mix, baking mixes, powdered milk, canned fruit. (No Expired Food Please) Questions? Contact Mary Blizzard at 33-8957 or mary_blizzard@hotmail.com.

Simple Gifts: A Concert for Hard Times Saturday, January 10, 2009

Soprano Janice Bagwell, pianist Sally Todd, and pianist John Clodfelter will give a concert on Saturday, January 10 at 7:30 p.m. here in our Meeting Room, to benefit Hoosier Hills Food Bank. Donations of food or money for the Food Bank are suggested. Sponsored by Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force. The program will include works by Stephen Foster, MacDowell, Ives, Hoagy Carmichael, Cage, Copland, Bernstein, and others.

Job Posting: Membership Coordinator Sought for Our Congregation

We have been awarded a Chalice Lighter Grant from the Heartland UU District to help fund a new staff position. The Membership Coordinator is a 12-month, 17-18 hrs/wk position; starting pay is \$9.50 per hour. Candidates for this position should have sensitivity to and compassion for seekers, have good organizational skills, and the ability to model the joy of a Unitarian Universalist life. Anticipated start date: January 15, 2009.

Applicant should have excellent people skills and computer and communication skills, be comfortable with new and emerging technology, willing to think in innovative ways, a good listener, willing to affirm Unitarian Universalist values, and help members of the congregation deepen their experience of Unitarian Universalism through integration into the life of the church.

Job description available upon request to admin@uubloomington.org.

To apply, send letter of interest and resumé to Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, macklin@uubloomington.org, UU Church, 2120 N. Fee Lane, Bloomington, IN 47408 by December 31, 2008.

Choir!

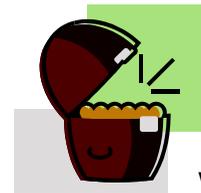
Christmas Eve: 6:00 rehearsal in the Library (childcare in Rm 108), 7:00 service. Special treat: Dr. Mary Goetze will conduct! No rehearsal or Sunday service choir Dec. 25, Dec. 28, or Jan. 1. We WILL sing on January 4 (new Sunday rehearsal time: 8:30 for the new 9:15 service time).

Have a great holiday!

Sue Susan Swaney, Music Director

"I am more aware than ever of how choral music plays a key role in helping communities weather all sorts of storms. Whatever the type of hardship, throughout history, group singing has helped people build camaraderie and endure stress. Choral music is the music of social cohesion, the music that builds community. It brings together people of different ages, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds, united in a love of great music. Have we ever needed this more than right now?"

-Knight Kiplinger, Ed. in Chief, The Kiplinger Letter and Kiplinger Financial Magazine



Time Capsule 2008

Children and adults who attend vacation Religious Education (RE) on Sunday, December 28 will open the 2007 time capsule. Hidden within sealed metal walls are the children's favorite things of 2007, including a poster of the biggest events and fads. In addition we will be preparing the 2008 time capsule. What are the big stories of 2008 that we will remember and what are its fads soon to be forgotten? Have you grown since 2007, how have you changed? Did any of our predications for 2008 come true? Bring predictions for 2009 and old 2008 magazines with pictures of things like the Olympics or Indiana flood if you can. Adults who can assist this Sunday are needed.

Intersession Begins 1/4/09

A multi-age interest based RE intersession will begin on January 4th, 2009 and concludes on 2/1. Children have signed up for classes that include outdoors, crafts, cooking and drama. All of the classes will learn about Unitarian Universalist family values like gratitude and valuing fun; parents will receive information on enrichment activities to share at home. On the 4th after the children's moment the children and their teachers will head to Fellowship Hall to find out which class they are assigned to. Everyone is welcome, including newcomers and those who did not 'sign-up'. Adults are needed to help as subs and we seek teachers for the spring semester. We hope you'll volunteer to make RE possible. Please contact Cindy Port (dre@uubloomington.org) or Rev. Emily Manvel Leite (mre@uubloomington.org)



Baby/Toddler Dedication Ceremony Planned January 18

The Co-Ministry Team offers services each year to celebrate the babies/toddlers of our community with a dedication ceremony. The winter date for our dedication ceremony will be January 18th, 2009. The ceremony takes place during the Children's Moment of the worship service during both services. A spring date will be announced later. If you would like your baby/toddler to be included in the winter ceremony, please contact one of the ministers by January 12th. Please let us know which service (or both) you would like to participate in. 9:15 am or 11:15 am. Reverend Mary Ann Macklin (Macklin@uubloomington.org) and Reverend Bill Breeden (breeden@uubloomington.org) or call 332-3695.

Attendance

Sun, Dec 14, 9:00:	220	11:15:	320	RE:	110	
						Total: 650
Sun, Dec 21, 9:00:	94	11:15:	159	RE:	intergen	
						Total: 253
Sun, Dec 14	non-pledge offering:					\$ 1,243
Sun, Dec 21	non-pledge offering:					\$ 416
	Total to Volunteers in Medicine:					\$ 414

December 29 is Final 2008

UU Banking Day Thank you all so much for your generous gifts and pledges throughout the year!

Church administrative staff will make the final bank deposit for 2008 to the church's account on Monday, December 29. If you wish your pledge check to be deposited during 2008, please be sure we have it by December 28. Except for occasional drop-in hours and Sunday morning, Dec. 28, offices will be closed Dec 24-Jan 1.

First Service Starts at 9:15, Beginning in 2009

The Management Team, in consultation with the Program Team, the Board of Directors, and the Staff, agree that attendance at the early service may increase if it started at 9:15 a.m., so we will begin this schedule on January 4, 2009. Make a note in your calendars, and have another cup of coffee before you head in to church!



Start 2009 in a Chalice Circle-- It's Not Too Late!

"Deep listening is miraculous for both listener and speaker. When someone receives us with open-hearted, non-judging, intensely interested listening, our spirits expand." --Sue Patton Thoele

Are you looking for an opportunity to deepen your connection with the UU Church of Bloomington? Have you been looking for ways to be of service to others? Would you like to get to know other members of this church in a purposeful and meaningful format? Becoming a member of a Chalice Circle may be for you. Groups of up to ten people, including a facilitator, meet once or twice a month with a focus on deep listening and sharing personal experiences. Prepared session plans are used to guide each session, with topics such as Joy, Encouragement, and Ministry. Groups also do service projects for the church and community. For more information, please contact Judy Bennett at 331-4181, judybennett2@gmail.com or Chris Clothier at 332-3622, c_clothier@sbcglobal.net

UU Children's Choir Schedule



New singers, Kg-6th grade are welcome any time! Unless otherwise stated, rehearsals

are from 10:15-11:00am on the scheduled Sunday mornings, in the

Library. For more info, contact Jill Courtney at jcourtne@mccsc.edu.

1/25, 2/1 Rehearse (Please be punctual!)

Feb. 4 evening: Sing @ Family Worship

Women's Drumming Circle Begins Jan. 9

A new Women's Drumming Circle will meet on Friday, January 9th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in Fellowship Hall at the church. All levels of drumming experience and non-experience are welcome. We encourage you to bring drums or percussion instruments; instruments will not be provided. Join us for a spiritual evening of drumming and fellowship. We hope that this will become a monthly event. --Chris Clothier

Scheduling a Meeting? Check out our new Web Calendar! Go to www.uubloomington.org and click on [Full Calendar](#). You can search on it, too!

All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



Fundraising is a Form of Ministry

Fundraising is not a response to a crisis. It is a form of ministry. It is a way of announcing your vision, and inviting other people into your vision with the resources that are available to them.

--Henri Nouwen, The Spirituality of Fundraising
Our recognition as a "Breakthrough Congregation" for 2009 by the UUA is an example of what happens when we give. In our current economic world, it is easy to equate conversations of money with conversations of crisis. When money becomes scarce, problems seem plentiful. With the economy in severe recession, budgets tighten and it is easy to measure each call for funding against a background of crisis.

In the coming months, the Stewardship Committee will kick off our 2009-2010 pledge campaign, "It's a Matter of Principle." As Nouwen's quote reminds us, however, fundraising, stewardship, does not belong in a conversation of crisis. We do not give because of what might happen if we don't, we give because of what we know will happen when we do. Our individual gifts of time, talent, and funds create the vision that is this church.

This church is the result of our collective vision of how a committed group of religious seekers can come together to care for each other and the Earth. In the coming months, we will be asking each of you to renew your financial commitment to this vision. As you consider this, we encourage you to do so in the context of sharing in our collective vision with the resources you have available.

The Stewardship Committee: Drew and Margie Schrader, Joan and Rob Hongen, Cynthia Schultz, David Cox, Arzetta Hults Losensky, Steve Krahnke

We Welcome Our Newest Members

Colleen Haas

Before moving to Bloomington, Colleen worked for 12 years as a performing artist and percussion teacher in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 2001, Colleen moved with her partner Mary and began graduate studies in Ethnomusicology at Indiana University. In 2006, Colleen performed doctoral research as a Fulbright scholar in Brazil, concentrating on Afro-Brazilian music. Foremost a student of the drum, she is happy to grow into this liberal faith and become a member of the Bloomington UU congregation.

Steve Lessmann

Steve moved to Indiana 13 years ago from California with UAL as an IT professional. He met his second wife here and was married fourteen months when she was struck and killed in a car wreck. His job went the way of many in the airlines and he started his own business in what he really loves-creating with wood. He has been an organic gardener for 25 years. His spiritual quest has taken many turns through the years and he appreciates the UU practice of encouraging that growth without judgment. He also thanks everyone for their support and love.

Colleen and Steve signed our Membership Book on December 14, and we are glad they are with us!

A little simplification would be the first step toward rational living, I think.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT