Monday, October 12, 2009

**The Prologue**

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana**

*Congregation founded 1949
GLBTO Welcoming Congregation since 1995
Green Sanctuary since 2007*

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

**Sunday, October 18, 2009  9:15 and 11:15 a.m.**

**Less Ego, More Soul Force  Reverend John Young**

Former minister Reverend John Young will be our guest in the pulpit, as part of our 60th anniversary celebration. Rev. Young served our congregation from 1971 to 1977. We will hold a welcome reception for Rev. Young on Saturday, October 17, 4-5 p.m., at the Bell Trace Reception room.

**Sunday, October 25, 2009  9:15 and 11:15 a.m.**

**Beginning In the Middle  Reverend Bruce Johnson**

“When God created human beings,” wrote Elie Wiesel, “God gave us a secret, and the secret was not how to begin – for that prerogative is God’s alone – but how to begin again…” Any of us may be faced with the challenge of starting over again in the midst of living, with the action already underway, and no possibility of returning to some absolute point of origin. How this can happen is the subject of today’s sermon. Reverend Johnson served our congregation from 1988 to 1992. We will hold a welcome reception for Rev. Johnson on Saturday, October 24, 4-5 p.m. in the Library at church.

**Harvest for Hope: A Concert by Pianist Sally Renee Todd** to benefit Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) will be held here in our Meeting Room on Saturday, October 24th at 7:00 pm at the Church. Listen to beautiful music while supporting a worthy cause. Proceeds (both monetary and non-perishable foods) will be donated to MCUM. Light refreshments to follow in Fellowship Hall.

**“Touched by Cancer” Monthly Support Group Starts November 8 – Page 3.**

**Art in the Windows**

Blown glass pumpkins by Abby Gitlitz are displayed during the month of October in the Meeting Room windows, with handcrafted stands by Steve Lessmann.

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**October 12, 2009**

TIME VALUE! Please deliver by Oct 14
Return Service Requested
Hello from Crestmont Boys and Girls Club

My name is Traneisha English and I am the youth program director at the Crestmont Boys and Girls Club. First, I would like to to thank you for granting us the 25% of the Plate Award. Our goal this year is to use this funding to benefit the Crestmont Club and to encourage our club members to become caring, productive and responsible citizens of our community. Programs that will benefit from this extra funding include self-image and self-esteem programs, and technology programs that will help young people market themselves to future employers. Again, we thank each and every one of you for your donations. Without your efforts, we would not have the opportunity to expand our programs and enrich the lives of our youth. If you would like to get involved with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Bloomington as an individual volunteer, please contact Keely Griggs at kgriggs@bgcbloomington.org.

Chalice Coffee House Oct 30
Mark the date! The Coffee House on Friday October 30th at 7:30pm is not to be missed. Fun on a Friday with Fine Friends! Come listen to live music and poetry, and enjoy conversation with your UU companions. Meet new friends over a cup of tea or coffee and a snack. Children are welcome to attend. Questions? Contact Dave Sharp, dsharp@sharpdesigns.net.
The Green Sanctuary Task Force has set a goal of selling 350 compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) by October 25 to promote and support the mission of 350.org and the International Day of Action on Climate Change. 350 parts per million of CO2 is considered to be the safe upper limit of atmospheric CO2. Help us reach that goal. They’re great gifts too!

**Food Inc. Film Showing October 18**
Food Inc. is a powerful documentary on the industrial food system, revealing surprising -- and often shocking truths -- about what we eat, how it’s produced, who we have become as a nation and where we are going from here. The Green Sanctuary Task Force encourages you to watch this film. Sunday, October 18 at 5:00 and 7:00 pm at the Buskirk Chumley Theater.

**Harvest Veggie Potluck Nov 8**
The Green Sanctuary Task Force is hosting a vegetarian potluck on Sunday, November 8 from 5:30 until 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Childcare available 6:15-7:15 p.m. The theme of the potluck will be sharing the harvest and deepening our understanding of the link between food and global climate change. During the dinner several people will share personal stories on how their concern about climate change influences their decisions on what to eat. For more information or if you would like to volunteer to assist, please contact Rosalind May at maja615@yahoo.com.

**Exploring Unitarian Universalism Classes in November**
You are invited to the Exploring UU Class if . . . you are new to the church or interested in considering membership or just want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and this congregation. The class will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sundays November 8 and 15. Sign up (space is limited) at the Welcome Table in the church foyer. Free child care is available with advance notice. For more information contact Jack King, 332-9682, jdkking@aol.com.

**“Picture Book World Religions” Celebrates Diversity**
This fall the Picture Book World Religions classes (9:15 grades K-2 and 11:15 grades K-1) are being introduced to other Religions and cultures through beautiful picture books and fun activities.

On Sunday October 11th, the 11:15 am class heard the story “The Brave Little Parrot” by Martin Rafe. In this Buddhist Jataka tale of hope and courage, the Buddha is incarnated as a parrot who, despite his size, finds a way to save a forest from burning. The children were proud to create their own little parrots out of giant glitter pom-poms and feathers; they turned out really cute.

During the 9:15 am Picture Book World Religions class the children heard the story “Sitti’s Secrets” by Naomi Shihab Nye, which tells about an American girl who misses her “Sitti”, or Palestinian grandmother who lives across the ocean. The children made fresh squeezed lemonade just like Sitti made in the story. Volunteer RE teacher Erin Wager Miller is also incorporating language into the class this semester; she is a certified interpreter.

What a great way to begin a journey of understanding, tolerance and celebration for the diversity of human expressions of faith. We are grateful to all our wonderful volunteer RE teachers who make this possible including Madeline Rivera-Gill, Terry Loucks, Kimberly Wagner, Charlotte Appel, Matthias Weber and Erin Wager Miller who are all teaching Picture Book World Religions this semester!

Cindy Port, Director of Religious Education Rev. Emily Marvel Leite, Minister of Religious Education

**Touched by Cancer Support Group Has Space Available: Will Begin Nov. 8**
Our congregation’s Caring Committee is offering a group for cancer survivors. This group will provide space and time for persons who have experienced or are experiencing cancer first-hand. The group will be facilitated by Will Watt and Ian Woollen who are both cancer survivors and local therapists. Second Sunday of each month, 6:30-8:00 p.m., November 8 through May 9. There is still room to register for this group. Please contact Ginger Ko in the church office, office@uubloomington.org to register. Space is limited to 12 participants. If you have questions, please contact either Ian Woollen (339-5655) or Will Watt (829-7255).
Holiday Art Fair And Bazaar  
Dec. 4 & 5  
UU Groups  

Space Application Deadline: Nov. 1  
The 51st annual Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar will take place on December 4th and 5th. UU task forces and other non-profit groups who want booth space must apply to the Bazaar Committee by November 1st. Space is limited as you know, so we appreciate your cooperation. Please contact Julie Lawson 335-1856 or juliakarin.1@gmail.com, or Joanne Henriet 323-9941 or jhenriot@indiana.edu for applications or if you have questions.

Cookies!!! For The Bazaar!  
The smell of cinnamon is in the air and the Holiday Bazaar will soon be near. It’s time to dust off the cookbooks and plan your baking days. Bake in the morning, bake at night, round ones and square ones will all delight! Bake with your friends, bake with your children, bake with your mate. Just make a date to Bake, Bake, Bake! The sign-up sheets will be in Fellowship Hall in November and your friendly Cookie Walk committee (Meg Sears and Mary Jo Conley) will have some samples that are sure to please. Bake some now: cookies freeze!

Collection for Bazaar Book Sale  
Starts November 1st  
So start dusting and sorting through the bookcases and boxes and find those oldies but goodies you are sure someone else must read! Donations can be left in Fellowship Hall from Nov. 1st through November 29th. Please do not bring them before Nov. 1st, as we have no place to store them. If you have questions or need help with pick-up or delivery, please contact Kate Cruikshank at 339-6096 or cruiksha@indiana.edu

Gourmet Galaxy Needs Your Baking for Bazaar  
The Bazaar is coming up fast so it’s time to look up your favorite recipes and get ready to donate your specialty to the Gourmet Galaxy. Homemade candies such as rum balls, peanut brittle, fudge and divinity are sure hits. Jams, chutneys and relishes sell well as do cakes, all kinds of breads, and other baked goods. Donations should be wrapped and labeled. We will do the pricing. Start baking and freezing to get ahead. Let’s make this the best year yet! --Denise Ogren

Our Folks…  
John Woodcock’s photos are on exhibit at Bloomington Bagel Co.’s Dunn Street location for the month of October. Many thanks to Steve Lessmann and Bob Doyle for the hours of time they have given in painting step railings and white safety edges on the concrete steps. Congratualtions to new parents Allison and Chris Chopra, upon the birth on September 15 of Dev Divakar Chopra. Congratulations also to Maggie Jessseph and Nathan Harman, upon the birth of a new daughter on Friday, October 9. Attendance

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Saturday Receptions Scheduled for Each Visiting Minister  
Rev. John Young
Now retired after 40 years of UU ministry, Reverend John Young served our Congregation from 1971-1977. John will be visiting with his wife Kathleen Moran. Reverend Young graduated from Wichita State University, completed course work for a political science doctorate at Washington U. in St. Louis, and received D. Min. from Meadville at the University of Chicago. He has been active in non-violent disarmament and civil rights movements since late 1950s. While in Bloomington, Rev. Young helped to initiate community cooperation, conducted anti-racism training in Indiana, and pursued political lobbying interests underscoring issues of peace and issues relative to persons experiencing homelessness. His son, Rahul, a senior manager for ICF is helping corporations go carbon neutral, and is married to Dr. Meg Pearson, a hospitalist for Kaiser Permanente. His daughter, Leela Stake, a manager for APPO, is helping corporations with their good works for women and children internationally, and is married to Sam Stake, a lawyer with Quinn Emanuel. They have a 1 1/2 year old son, Cole, and are expecting their second child in January. All live near San Francisco. Rev. Bruce Johnson
Rev. Johnson writes: “When I arrived in Bloomington in the summer of 1988, I thought I'd found paradise. I fell in love with the rolling hills and hardwood forests of southern Indiana, and the beautiful university campus with the library at its heart, like a geode hiding its glittering treasures inside a plain limestone exterior. ‘I'm going to like it here,’ I thought…The congregation, likewise, comprised a diverse community of interesting, open-minded and committed people who held the fine balance between head and heart as they supported one another on their spiritual journeys. Most of my best memories, of course, center on these individual people, even on particular conversations in particular places. The whole landscape is sacred ground to me, saturated with significance and layered with very personal stories. Since leaving Bloomington, I have served UU congregations in Detroit, Urbana-Champaign, and Indianapolis, before being called to Norwich, Vermont, in 2003. I appreciate very much the invitation to participate in your 60th anniversary celebration, and I look forward to praying to your ‘breakthrough congregation’ on October 25th.”

A Reception for Reverend Johnson will be held in the Church Library on Saturday, October 24th at 4:00 pm. Please join with long-standing and new congregants to welcome returning Ministers back to our community and celebrate our 60 years of growth and leadership.

BULLETIN BOARD  
NEEDED: MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR Ann Robins would like to borrow a motorized wheelchair, Oct 22-Jan 1. 325-3095, arobins001@comcast.net  
COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA): Getty’s Creek Farm (Denise and Sean Breeden-Ost) offers subscriptions for the 2010 growing season. Buy a share, receive a box of naturally-grown, fresh produce each week, mid-May to October. dbreeden@bluemarble.net

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A Plea for Timely Pledge Payments

I am asking for help in solving a financial problem. The balance in the church’s operating checking account, or the funds we use to pay our congregation’s bills, was unusually low at the end of September. This is due largely to a slower rate of pledge payments than in previous years. Although pledges for the 2009-10 budget are almost the same as last year, payments at the end of September are $20,000 below last year.

We have very little flexibility in the timing of payments for operations. Payroll makes up 58% of our budget, and other “must pay” items such as mortgage payments, facility maintenance, utility costs, insurance, and dues make up another 28%. These figures do not include the everyday costs of office supplies, Sunday services, materials needed for religious education, and other expenses that must be paid to keep basic church programs going.

We are not asking for more than you have already pledged, only that you make a one-time acceleration of your pledge payments to replenish cash levels. If pledges come in regularly after that one-time increase, all will be well. Our budget for this year is very tight, but we can fund all our programs if we all continue to pay on our pledges regularly.

And many thanks to all of you who have made pledge payments in the past week; cash flow is improving!

--John Lawson, Treasurer

Dollars Earned From Grocery Cards

Thanks again to all UU’s who purchase grocery cards from our UU Fundraiser table on Sundays! According to information from the grocery stores themselves, for our fiscal year of July, 2008 through June 30, 2009, we received $2,073 from Bloomingfoods; $2,085.25 from Marsh, and $3,260.47 from Kroger. This is a Grand Total of $7,413.72!

Please consider participating in this easy way to shop and help the church. Visit our table in the Commons between the services!

-- Harriet Pfister, Treasurer for UU Grocery Card Fundraiser

Taboo! Fictionary! Sardines! Immaculate Corpse! Join the younger adults for a potluck and games at church, on Sunday, October 25, 4:00-6:00 PM. Please bring your favorite game and a dish to share. Anyone ages 18-35 is welcome. Please contact uucampus@uubloomington.org if you have any questions.

Ready to become a member of UU Bloomington?

If you would like to officially become a member of UU Bloomington, the next membership ceremony is Sunday, October 18 between the services at 10:30 am in room 207B. (Please note: We recommend participation in our “Exploring UU” class prior to signing the book.)

To make arrangements for signing the Membership Book, please contact Stephanie Wilson at 812-339-1247 or stephw3@yahoo.com no later than Wednesday, October 14.

THE CARING COMMITTEE AND THE ELDER FOCUS TASK FORCE

ASK FOR YOUR HELP!

Are you willing to help meet one (or more) of the following needs of our church members? If so, please fill in this form and return it to the church office. If you need more information before you sign up, contact one of the Caring Committee members listed below. There are only occasional needs for assistance, but your willingness to be available is deeply appreciated. If you have signed up before today, please do again as we will be compiling a current list.

Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________
Phone ________________________________
Email ________________________________

I can help with the following:

[ ] Prepare occasional food for situations of short-term health recovery, bereavement, or new parenthood
[ ] Provide occasional transportation (daytime hours) for those who are unable to drive but need to get to appointments
[ ] Help purchase, prepare, and/or serve food for memorial service receptions
[ ] Set up or clean up after memorial service receptions

Elder Focus Task Force

[ ] Visit someone who is homebound or in a nursing home
[ ] Occasional home support/chores for temporarily disabled elders
[ ] Provide transportation to church and other church functions for elders
[ ] Occasional, one-time, miscellaneous task to support the Elder Focus Task Force (2-3 hrs)

Would you like to be part of the Caring Committee? Meetings are monthly on agreed-upon Mondays at 5:15 p.m.

How long have you been attending worship services at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington?

What other activities have you been involved in with our congregation?

Caring Committee:

Sharon Yarber – Chair 336-4427
Anna Wiley – Transportation 337-0649
Doris Wittenburg – Memorial Receptions 336-4993
Sylvia King – Food 332-9682
Barb Backler – Elder Focus Task Force Chair 340-0354

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