

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 Breedon, Minister



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The Prologue

Monday, November 23, 2009

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

Congregation founded 1949
GLBTQ Welcoming Congregation since 1995
Green Sanctuary since 2007



Seeking the Spirit Building Community Changing the World

November 23, 2009

TIME VALUE! Please deliver by Nov 27
Return Service Requested



11/27/2009	5:00 PM	Facilities Use	12/4/2009	10:00 AM-7:00 PM	Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar
11/28/2009	4:00 PM	Reception for Rev. David Johnson		10:30 AM	Life Stories
	7:00 PM	IU Men's Basketball Home Game		12:00 PM	Super Staff
11/29/2009		Rev. David Johnson preaching, 9:15 & 11:15	12/5/2009	9:00 AM-4:00 PM	Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar
	6:00 PM	YRUU	12/6/2009	10:15 AM	UU Children's Choir
11/30/2009	3:00 PM	Management Team		12:45 PM	Green Sanctuary Task Force
	7:30 PM	Voces Novae Chamber Choir		2:00 PM	Stafford Recitals
12/1/2009	8:00AM-8:00PM	Set up for Family Worship and gift making		4:00 PM	Facilities Use
	2:00 PM	Chalice Circle - Backler		6:00 PM	YRUU
	6:45 PM	Bloomington Chamber Singers	12/7/2009	10:00 AM	Prologue Deadline
	7:30 PM	IU Men's Basketball Home Game		12:30 PM	Sabbatical Cmte meeting
12/2/2009	10:00 AM	UU Wednesday Walkers		3:00 PM	Management Team
	3:00-5:30 PM	Family Dinner Prep		7:30 PM	Voces Novae Chamber Choir
	3:00 PM	Life Stories	12/8/2009	6:30 PM	Earth Kin
	3:30 PM	Gift Making Workshop		6:45 PM	Bloomington Chamber Singers
	5:30 PM	Family Dinner & Worship		7:00 PM	NAACP Holiday Dinner
	7:00 PM	Historical Jesus: What Did Jesus Do?		7:00 PM	UU Men's Group
12/3/2009	11:30 AM	Women's Alliance	12/9/2009	10:00 AM	UU Wednesday Walkers
	1:00 PM-9:00PM	Bazaar set up		6:30 PM	Denominational Affairs Cmte
	5:30 PM	Chalice Circles Exec Team			
	7:00 PM	UU Choir at First Christian Church			

For more, go to www.uubloomington.org; click on Full Calendar.

A Reception for Reverend David Johnson will be held in the Fuchs Library on Saturday, November 28th at 4:00 pm. Please help welcome him back to our community and celebrate our 60 years of growth and leadership. Rev. Johnson served our congregation 1964-1970.

Sunday, November 29, 2009 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

On the Ragged Edge of Compassion Reverend David Johnson

Reverend David Johnson will be a guest in our pulpit as part of our 60th Anniversary celebration. Regarding his years serving our congregation, Johnson states, "It seemed we were always on the ragged edge of something, ragged edge financially - surely, ragged edge of the law often enough, ragged edge in the pressures of time and commitments. But most of all we lived perpetually on the ragged edge of compassion – you [congregation] never forgot that the religious task was caring for people (including ourselves) and this fragile world."

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 dinner 5:45PM, worship 6:15PM

Reverend Emily Manvel Leite and Sally Todd, pianist

Family Worship: Holiday Sing-a-long

Everyone is welcome at our annual holiday sing-a-long which follows our gift making workshop (see Page 3). We will be enjoying Christmas, Hanukkah, solstice, and winter songs as they are chosen by those who gather. A pizza dinner will precede the service. A \$1 donation per slice of pizza is requested to help cover costs.

Sunday, December 6, 2009 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

What's So Amazing About Grace?

Reverend Andy Burnette



Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner November 26, 5:00 p.m.

All are welcome to attend our Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner on November 26 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring food to share to serve 10 people, and your own table service. We will provide roast turkey and a vegetarian option as well as beverages. Those in attendance are asked to help with clean up following the meal. Many thanks to Renee Reed for coordinating the dinner this year.

MAM's Musings

In the wee hours of my 50th birthday, I found myself driving home from the Indianapolis Colts vs. New England Patriots football game. The Colts had pulled off one of those amazing last minute wins; they were behind by 13 points with only about 4 minutes to go. I found the message of that game very appropriate as I celebrate 50 years on this earth planet...never give up! Thanks to everyone who sent birthday greetings my way. I humbly share my 50 year celebration with the 50 year anniversary of our congregation's Women's Alliance.

Meanwhile, my co-minister, Reverend Bill Breeden, who celebrated 60 years on the planet this year, will return from his sabbatical on December 13th for the culmination of the 60th Anniversary of the founding of our congregation. A very special gift of music *Holy Breath (words, Reverend Clarke Dewey Wells and music, Cary Boyce)* will be part of the day's celebration in which we will also honor our Minister Emerita Reverend Barbara Carlson. Please note that our autumn congregational meeting is also December 13 at 4:00pm. Whew.

If that were not enough to celebrate, we were informed this week that our congregation received a generous grant from the Center for Congregations. This grant will fund a feasibility study for our congregation's Green Spaces Initiative. Many thanks to Cynthia Lindman Port and Andrew Appel who, along with the help of many folks, shepherded this grant proposal. Please see Page 4 for more information regarding this grant.

Never give up! MAM

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

From Our President

Please plan to attend our autumn **Congregational Meeting on December 13, 2009 at 4:00PM** to learn more about our new governance structure and vote on issues concerning our congregation. In June 2008, the members of this congregation voted for a change in the bylaws that would determine how the church would proceed in its future work. While Shaping Our Future Together and the Governance Task Forces are no longer meeting, their work, with the support of our congregation, is being implemented today. This past year, the Board of Directors has worked diligently to address our new governance model. Changing from a programming board to a policy/visioning board required a new set of policies, a clear vision, a solid mission, continued education, patience, support, and a new way of operating to best serve our growing community.

The Management Team and Program Team are a part of the new governance model that will continue to develop during our 3-4 year transition. In our next phase, the Board of Directors will begin its visioning process, our Management Team will focus more on the operations and policies of the church, and the Program Team will work with Committee Chairs to strengthen communication and programming initiatives. Additionally, the Nominating Committee has already assumed a more active role in Leadership Development. During this time of transition, we understand that we are not a perfect community; however, we are a caring community!

In Your Service,

GK Rowe

President of the Congregation

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Community Connections Our faith in action in the community

Boys and Girls Club Thank You

We recently received a thank you letter from the Crestmont Boys and Girls Club for our first quarterly Sunday Plate donation to them of \$1639. They say "Wow! Your uplifting gift supports our most necessary of clubs!" Our members voted in June 2009 to donate 25% of non-pledge Sunday offerings this year to Crestmont, which helps children and families on Bloomington's west side.

Ministers' Availability

Rev. Macklin's regular day off is Tuesday.

On call M, W, F afternoons, and Thursdays
macklin@uubloomington.org, 812-322-0205
Rev. Breeden is on sabbatical, Aug-Dec 2009.



Membership Coordinator Availability

Membership Coordinator Judy Bennett will be available at church in the meditation room (207b) on Thursdays 9am-11am. If you have questions please come by. Her email is memcoord@uubloomington.org

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. Rev. Breeden is on sabbatical through mid-December.

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Give the Ralph and Annetta Fuchs Library a Holiday Gift

The library committee is suggesting that you give the Fuchs Library a Holiday gift and bring back its overdue books. Here is the list of those that are more than 30 days overdue. Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time; Living Buddha, Living Christ; UU Pocket Guide; A Chosen Faith; Unitarian Universalism- A Narrative History; Why I Am a UU; The Premise and the Promise; The Blooming of the Lotus; Being Peace; The Reinvention of Work; Staying Put. If you borrowed it and can't find it anywhere in your house, please let us know.

--Marjorie Crosby, for The Library Committee

Our Folks. . .

Congratulations to Jenny Kulow, daughter of Ruellen Fessenbecker and Carl Kulow, and the IU Women's Cross Country team, one of 31 teams who competed in the National Division 1 NCAA Cross Country finals on Nov. 23.

Congratulations to Dylan Marks, who will join the production staff of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in January.

Attendance

Sun, Nov 15, 9:15:	122;	11:15:	173;	RE:	110
					Total: 414
Sun, Nov 22, 9:15:	119;	11:15:	202;	RE:	22
(11/22 was intergenerational)					Total: 349

Sun, Nov 15 non-pledge offering:	\$ 491
Sun, Nov 22 non-pledge offering:	\$ 473
Total to Crestmont Boys & Girls Club	\$ 241

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UUs Changing the World



Feed Our Hungry Neighbors
Next Bounty-Full Sunday is Dec 6
Current needs at Monroe County United Ministries:

carrots, greens, mixed veggies and potatoes, desserts such as pudding and jello mixes, canned meat such as chili, chicken or beef. Many thanks for your generous donations. Please sign up to provide a holiday basket for a needy family this month; sign up sheets and grocery lists are available in the Commons or at mcum.org.

Holiday Alternative Giving

Want to make a worthwhile donation for that special person on your gift list? The International Outreach, Habitat for Humanity and Green Sanctuary Task Forces are offering "Holiday Alternative Giving" to provide several ways to donate to good local and international causes in the name of family members or friends. In return, you will receive a special card and/or token gift that you can give to the person for whom you are making the donation. Look for our table between services on Nov. 29, Dec. 13 and 20 and at the holiday bazaar on Dec. 4-5. This is a great way to honor those on your list who appreciate the causes supported by our task forces.
--Jason Blankenship



Green Sanctuary Task Force

Holiday Benefit Concert Dec. 18
Blue Sky Back (including UU member Daniel Reed) with special guests

the Creek Dawgs (including UU friend Matt Zink and UU member Dan Lodge-Rigal) will perform in the UU Meeting Room on Friday, December 18, at 7pm in a Green Holiday Concert to benefit the Green Sanctuary Task Force. Tickets are available at the GSTF coffee table between services and at all three Bloomingfoods locations for \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door, children under 12 are free. Doors open at 6 pm. Refreshments and green holiday gifts available. For more information contact Marcia at marciaveldman@gmail.com.



Chalice Circles Invites New Members to Join Us

Chalice Circles, our program of small group ministry, welcomes new members. 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, on topics such as forgiveness, gratitude, or saying goodbye. Groups also do service projects for the church and for the community. Participants find that they get to know themselves, and others, more deeply in these small groups. For more information, please contact Alan Backler at 812-340-1323 or abackler@aol.com

Church Offices Closed
Nov 26-28 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Gift Making Workshop and Holiday Sing-a-long

Wednesday, December 2

Wednesday, December 2nd is a big day for us! We will be having a Gift Making workshop for all ages and will enjoy pizza and singing afterwards. This is a great way to take care of many of your gift-giving needs in a single afternoon.



Please read the schedule below. You are welcome to join us for any or all of the day.

3:30-5:15PM Gift Making Workshop:

\$1 donation per gift.

5:15-5:30PM Finish up time: no new projects! (clean up begins)

5:30-5:45PM Clean up time and preparations for dinner

5:45-6:15PM Pizza dinner: \$1 donation per slice to help cover costs

6:15-6:45PM Worship and Holiday Sing-a-long with Sally Todd, piano

Questions? Contact Rev. Emily Manvel Leite (333-9822, mre@uubloomington.org)

Giving Tree

Help our neighbors in need! We are working with Shalom Center and Stepping Stones, Inc. for our Giving Tree this year. The tree will be available in Fellowship Hall on November 29, December 6 and 13 with gift tags in many price ranges. Please pick up a gift tag to help homeless teens or local needy children and bring joy this holiday season. Thank you!

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

Pet Food Needed

By our 6th/7th grade YUUMS group



We need help in our mission to assist the Area 10 Agency on Aging and the Back to Basics project. This project provides pet food so elderly people can keep pets. Lots of us are thankful for our pets, and we think elderly people should be able to keep a cat or dog if they want one. We are hosting a pet food drive and also accepting cash donations on November 29 and December 6. Every Sunday our class says, "This is the church of the open mind, of the loving heart, of the helping hands". Well, now is our time to prove it. Thank you.
--The YUUMS (Young UU Middle Schoolers)

Women's Alliance Meets

December 3, Collects Items for Middle Way House

Join us for fun and holiday music with Sally Todd at the Women's Alliance December 3 meeting. The meeting begins with a brown bag luncheon at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. This month's hosts, Jean Knowlton and Dixie Welch, will provide beverages and desserts. Guests are always welcome.

Until December 3, the Alliance is collecting gifts for the residents of Middle Way House. Everyone is welcome to participate. Donated items should be unwrapped since they are divided among the residents. Lists available at the collection box in the Commons. Thank you for your generosity.

Which Path to Membership?

I am new to Unitarian Universalism and this congregation. How do I become a member? Start with Exploring Unitarian Universalism, a two-session class for newcomers offered six times a year. The next class is January 10 and 17. Register at the Welcome Table in the foyer. Become a member by signing the Membership Book in a small ceremony that takes place every other month.

We've been attending for a year and are involved church activities, but we can't fit Exploring UU into our schedule. Exploring UU is not required. If you are engaged here, familiar with UU principles and ready to become a member, contact Stephanie Wilson stephw3@yahoo.com by Dec 15 to say you want to take part in the Membership Book signing ceremony on Dec 20. (The next opportunity is Feb 21.)

I would like to join, but I don't want to be introduced in front of congregation or have my bio in the newsletter. Both are optional. Just let us know your preferences.

I am not a class-taking person. May I talk to someone instead? Yes. Make an appointment to talk with a minister.

I am a former member who has returned. How do I re-join? Reinstate your membership by contacting Church Administrator Carol Marks at admin@uubloomington.org.

Libby DeVoe edevoe@indiana.edu, 336-8688, for the Membership Committee



Green Spaces Initiative Grant Proposal Successful!

Hooray! The Green Spaces Initiative is excited to inform the congregation that we were successful in our bid for a matching grant to defray the costs of the feasibility study and architect services. The Center for Congregations (funded by the Lilly Endowment) provides matching grants to churches to help them find solutions to practical problems through the use of outside resources such as consultants and architects. We received the full funding requested, which will mean \$14,400 for our project. Stay tuned for more updates related to the Green Spaces Initiative, including a short presentation at our upcoming Congregational Meeting on December 13th at 4:00 p.m. –Cynthia L. Port



Minimize the Impact of Your Holiday Travel

Don't let your carbon footprint add to your holiday travel stress this season. The Union of Concerned

Scientists report, "Getting There Greener," compares the environmental impact of different forms of domestic vacation travel, where global warming pollution--largely in the form of carbon dioxide emissions--can add up quickly. Read the report and top tips for travel at www.ucsusa.org. Green Sanctuary Task Force

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Adult Religious Education – Two Courses for January, Proposals Invited for Winter-Spring

Would you like to offer a course in next semester's Adult Religious Education programming? You can find a proposal form in the church office or online at uubloomington.org under Adult Religious Education. Course proposals are due DECEMBER 1, 2009.

Two courses to sign up for now are on the bulletin board beside the courtyard entrance or by emailing office@uubloomington.org:

Kick Around Ideas

Saturdays January 9, 16, 23, 30, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Library

Facilitated by John Crosby

Let's kick around some ideas! God--no god. What can we really know? The ideas we will be considering are of a kind: theological, religious, existential, metaphysical, theodicy. NOT social issues. Come as you are: bring your curiosity and your thinking self.

A Year to Live

Saturday, January 23rd (full day workshop 9am to 3pm), and one **Sunday** a month, 2:15 to 5:00pm from February through December 2010 An optional overnight retreat is slated for Friday and Saturday, February 11-12, 2011.

Facilitated by Reverend Macklin

Inspired by Stephen Levine's book, A Year to Live, in which he wrote that Socrates recommended that we should always be occupied in the practice of dying. So did His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Due to the class content and group formation, only two absences are allowed.

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

All members are encouraged to attend the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room at 2120 North Fee Lane, Bloomington, Indiana. Childcare provided. **Friends of the congregation are welcome to attend this meeting; however, congregational membership is required for voting.*

Women's Drumming Circle December 11



Join us for a spiritual evening of drumming and fellowship! Dorothy Sowell, Chris Clothier, Jeanette Miller, and Nancy Richman will host a drumming circle for women on

Friday, December 11, in Fellowship Hall from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. All levels of drumming experience and non-experience are welcome. We encourage you to bring drums and other percussion instruments (instruments will not be provided).

UU Children's Choir

*Dec. 6: 10:15-11-am, Library (rehearse for 12/21)

*Dec. 13: 10:15-11am, Library (rehearse for 12/21)

*Dec. 20th: 10:15-11am, Room 105 (rehearse for 12/21)

MONDAY Dec. 21, evening, Sing for Winter Solstice Service, 6:30 pm

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Holiday Miracle Food Baskets Due Dec. 3

Once again you have the opportunity to join in the UU annual

holiday food drive that shares our many blessings with families who are less fortunate than we are. Last year our congregation was able to supply MCUM with over 90% of the Holiday Food Baskets that they needed to distribute in our community. Grocery lists with instructions are with the sign up sheet in the Commons. You may bring in your food baskets anytime the UU offices are open. The deadline for bringing in this year's basket deliveries is Thursday, December 3. VERY IMPORTANT – PLEASE PUT YOUR TURKEY OR HAM IN THE REFRIGERATOR--DON'T LEAVE THEM IN YOUR GROCERY BAGS!

Questions, call Mary Blizzard 333-8957.

Ready to become a member of UU Bloomington?

If you would like to become a member of UU Bloomington, the next membership ceremony is Sunday, December 20 between the services at 10:30 am in room 210. (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, December 16.

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Holiday Art Fair And Bazaar Dec. 4, 10-7 Dec. 5, 9-4

Festive Holiday Bazaar seeks 47 more UU Volunteers

on Friday Dec 4 and Saturday Dec 5 to sell books and cookies, move chairs, price gently used items, make sandwiches, collect money and reassemble the church after it's all over. You can make a difference, whether you are a newcomer, friend or member. Look for the poster in Fellowship Hall and sign up for the task and hour that fit your schedule. Ann Kamman aok719@comcast.net and Libby DeVoe edevoe@indiana.edu

Bring on the Books!

Last chance to clear out those bookshelves! Bring your oldies but goodies for the bazaar book sale to the Fellowship Hall book corner by November 29. If you need help with pick-up or delivery, call Kate Cruikshank at 339-6096 and leave a message.

The UUnique Café Promises Excellent Menu Come dine with us at the UUNIQUE CAFÉ during the Holiday Bazaar December 4 and 5. We will be serving a scrumptious lunch on Friday beginning at 11 am and throughout the day. On Saturday, lunch will be served from 11 to 2 pm. The menu will include our famous soups and pies prepared by great UU chefs and bakers. Friday evening from 4 pm to 7 pm, a homemade LASAGNA dinner will be served. We will see you at the UUNIQUE CAFÉ!



Hookers, Needlers and Shuttlers!

We need your help. Once again, the Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors

Task Force is collecting your hand made scarves, hats, slippers, mittens, miniatures, afghans, quilts - projects large and small. The sale of your beautifully crafted fiber arts projects at the UU Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar will benefit Monroe County United Ministries. Last year we raised over \$1500! A drop box is in the Commons. Questions? Contact Catherine Shipp, 339-8287 or shipp@kiva.net

Attention Cookie Bakers!

We hope you enjoyed your preview treats and are inspired to Bake! Bake! Bake! The sign-up sheets are available through November 29th or you can always just

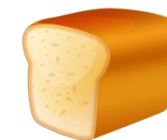


surprise us with your bountiful donations! Please label your boxes with your name, the type of cookie and if they have nuts. If you want your container back please label with your name and it will be left in the commons after the bazaar for your retrieval. The best times to deliver are Thursday, Dec. 3rd between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., Friday, Dec. 4th before the bazaar opens at 10:00 a.m. or Saturday, Dec. 5th before 9:00 a.m. Thank you all for helping make this U.U. Bazaar a huge success! Your cookie walk committee, Mary Jo Conley and Meg Sears

Are You a Closet (Garage)

Librarian? The Bazaar Book Committee needs space to store unsold books after the bazaar. Do you have 25-30

square feet in a garage or other protected area that we could use? We can provide pallets to put under the boxes. We would need to move the boxes into place after the bazaar ends at 4:00 on Saturday, December 5. Call Kate Cruikshank at 339-6096.



GOURMET GALAXY Bake! Bake! Bake!

Please drop off your homemade gourmet

donations in Fellowship Hall Thursday, December 3rd, 5pm-8pm, or at 9am on Friday Dec 5th, or Saturday Dec. 6th. Goods should be wrapped and labeled, and we will price them. It's helpful if you sign up on the easel in Fellowship Hall and we will remind you, but you are welcome to just bring in your baked goods. --Denise Ogren

Let's Put Up Bazaar Signs!

Before the lights and trees go up, the signs go up! We'll be posting the signs for the Art Fair and Bazaar in select locations around town on Sunday, 11/29. If you keep your own sign from year to year, please remember to put it out around that same date. We want to get the full week of advertising before the event! --Julie Kamarauskas, Bazaar Publicity

Bulletin Board ----- RECYCLABLE PACKING MATLS NEEDED

Barb Lund needs recyclable Styrofoam packing peanuts, air pockets and bubble wrap. barbrlund@gmail.com, 339-8476.

No paper or chunk Styrofoam!
NEEDED: Altoids Tins for a craft project for Religious Education. Please contact Rev. Leite (333-9822, mre@uubloomington.org).

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