

The Prologue

Monday, July 18, 2011

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

Sunday, July 24, 2011 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

Good without God: Reflections on Religious Humanism **Reverend Mary Ann Macklin**

In this worship service we will explore the history of religious humanism within Unitarian Universalism. Reverend Macklin will also offer reflections on Greg Epstein's book, Good Without God. Epstein is Harvard's humanist chaplain who believes one can find purpose, compassion, and community without the existence of God. Scott Hogsed will be our special guest musician. Andy and Nathan Smith will provide a unique prelude for each service.

Sunday, July 31, 2011 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

Good Enough: Reflections on Humanism and Mysticism **Reverend Mary Ann Macklin**

This worship service will further investigate religious humanism and how it may or may not be compatible with spiritual mysticism. Reverend Macklin will offer reflections on the book, The Observing Self: Mysticism and Psychotherapy, by Arthur Deikman, MD. Special music will be provided by the Bloominwinds. Wondering who the Bloominwinds are? Wondering about humanism and mysticism? Join us to explore the possibilities.



Green Spaces Construction Information Meetings **Sunday, July 31**

When will construction begin? What's included in the plans? Bring your questions to the Green Spaces information meetings on Sunday, July 31. We'll meet in the Library at 10:30 and 12:30 to share everything we know about our exciting plans to Renew, Reinvest and Reach Out. Childcare provided in Room 108. You may send your queries to

greenspaces@uubloomington.org.

Attendance and Offering *We have 452 certified members, as of 2/1/11. Our current membership is 469.*

Sun, July 10, 9:15: 110 11:15: 140; RE: n/a Total: 250

Sun, July 17, 9:15: 119; 11:15: 178; RE: 78 Total: 375

7/10 non-pledge offering: \$356; 7/17 non-pledge offering: \$288

Total to Planned Parenthood of Indiana: **\$161**

Our members voted in June 2011 to give 25% of our Sunday non-pledge offerings to Planned Parenthood of Indiana, July 2011 through June 2012, to help with its work in our community. For info on Planned Parenthood, visit <http://www.ppin.org>

MAM's Musings:

While at a recent Writers' Retreat at St. Mary of the Woods, I was delighted to wake up on Saturday in time to go see the start of RAIN. No, not the delicious waters that fall from the sky. Rather, the Ride Across Indiana (RAIN) bike riders. All 1,700 bikers left the St. Mary of the Woods campus at 7am. I was there with camera in hand taking in the rainbow of bicycle jersey colors, tasting the anticipation of these peddling warriors, and watching for any familiar faces. I didn't see anyone I knew, so if there were any Unitarian Universalists out there doing the RAIN thang, I'm sorry I missed you. But hey, you might be in one of my photos!

I hope many of you are enjoying other summertime events as well. Of course, Summer also means Fall planning. Please note on Page 6 that our Adult Religious Education Committee has posted its Call for Course Proposals for Fall 2011. I am offering a Book Exploration based on the book, Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life, on the 4th Sundays of September, October and November at 2:30pm. What might you offer?

Meanwhile, another big summer event upon which I reported in my last MAM's Musings was the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly. This General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of thousands of Unitarian Universalists to do the work of our denomination, attend worship together, learn and play together, and overall networking and schmoozing. Our Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington's President, Steve Dillon, attended GA last month. His reflections appear below.

Warmly, *MAM*

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

From Our President, Steve Dillon

My Reflections on GA 2011

It was a great experience overall. I was a bit overwhelmed at first with the many opportunities available to attendees. So many great workshops and lectures from which to choose. I was impressed by the thousands of UUs attending the conference and the unity of spirit despite wide diversity of backgrounds and practices.

I was very impressed by the demonstrated competence and wit of Moderator Gini Courter and most all of the speakers. The worship service on Sunday with about 4,000 attendees was inspiring. I was proud to be a UU when thousands of us demonstrated for equality at the "standing on the side of love" march and rally during the conference.

The convention business was interesting, but tiring. The results were consistent with what I voted for as a delegate, and generally good policies were enacted. The youth and young adults at the conference were many and very involved. What great energy they have! Kelly Rauch and Rachel Johnson represented us well as young adult leaders, along with the other delegates.

The Ware lecture "The Challenge of Compassion" by Karen Armstrong was incredible. She talked about the need for true compassion and the commonality of the golden rule.

I attended several lectures and workshops. The "A People's History Universalists and Unitarians" lecture by Rev. John Buehrens was fascinating. I bought his book and talked with him privately about the connections between universalism and spiritualism. The workshop "Connections with Congregational Presidents" was very helpful. I made connections with several other Presidents (New Jersey, North Carolina, Texas, and New York).

The workshop on "Creating and Congregational Focus for Social Justice" by Rev. Leach and Kathleen Carpenter was very helpful.

I attended other workshops including "Evaluating Ministry in Congregations" by Rev. Sue Phillips which was very helpful in clarifying the role of the minister, i.e. to achieve the mission of the congregation, not to make people happy (that's a by-product of good leadership). I also learned about the importance of faith formation and spiritual development, the responsibilities of the congregation as an employer, and the necessity of Board evaluations.

In summary, I am so glad that I went to G.A. It was an experience that most of us would appreciate. I hope a lot of us will attend the "Justice G.A." in Phoenix, Arizona, next June.

Steve Dillon, Congregational President

Pet Food Drive!

We need your pet food! Some families have fallen on hard times –(let's face it the economy isn't great)- and can no longer afford to feed their beloved companions. The Bloomington Shelter is at Maximum Capacity! Where do these pets go? Prevent this by donating or fostering. Guess how many pieces of dog food are in our jar for 25 cents and enter a raffle to win fabulous prizes. – Hannah Kasak, Brantley Goodrich, Ysabel Cluver and Lori Graves.



Dry pet food or money will be collected by our Middle School students through August 14th. Food and money will go to the Back to Basics project, which distributes pet food to elderly and disabled people through local food pantries.

Opportunity: Teach Religious Education Fall 2011



Are you willing to spend 10 hours this fall with our wonderful children? No experience necessary. Training, curriculum, supplies and support provided. Learn more about World Religions, Bible Stories or Unitarian Universalism with our kids. Teachers work in teams of three, so scheduling is flexible and new teachers get paired with experienced teachers.

Most teachers will lead 5 weeks and assist 5 weeks of 17 Sundays. Teachers can choose to teach during the 9:15a or the 11:15a service. Interested in learning more? Contact Cindy Port, Director of Religious Education (332-3695, dre@uubloomington.org) or RE committee co-chairs Kitty McIntosh kittymcrea@yahoo.com or Charlotte Appel mscharlotte@comcast.net today! New Teacher Orientation and Teacher Team meetings are August 20th and Fall Semester begins August 21st.

Passport to the World Summer RE

Explore other cultures during our Passport to the World summer program. Children begin in RM 105 after the children's moment, pick up RM 210.

July 24th **Palestine and Israel**
with Just Peace Taskforce

July 31st **Guatemala**

August 7th **Japan**

August 14th **Summer Celebration** with Bobbi Lancaster

*Preschool Class for children ages 3-5 and Childcare for children ages 0-3 will happen as usual during both services throughout the summer. Volunteers for a few Sundays are still needed, Contact Cindy Port, dre@uubloomington.org



Water Communion Aug 21st

Remember to collect some water, a stone, or a shell for our Water Ceremony which will be held on Sunday, August 21st during the services and the first day of Fall RE classes.

Our Folks...

We send our condolences to the family and friends of long-time member Hazel Gaiser, who died June 30 at Brown County Health and Living Community.

Our sympathy also to Jean Knowlton and her family, upon the passing of Jean's brother, Harvey Black, on July 6.

If you would like us to include an item of a pastoral nature (weddings, births, illnesses, condolences, etc.) in your life in an issue of The Prologue, please send the info to Carol Marks at admin@uubloomington.org by 10:00 a.m. on the 1st or 3rd Monday of the month.



Greeter Training July 24

We need your help to make this congregation a friendly place. Learn to be a greeter or newcomer welcomer. It's an easy job to do, takes only a little time, and you get to choose the time and date you'll serve. Join us at the summer training Sunday, July 24, 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room. Libby DeVoe edevoe@indiana.edu



Children's Task Force Raises Funds for CASA August 7

The Children's Task Force is holding a bake sale and ice cream social between services on August 7, to benefit Monroe County CASA. Come help support the Court Appointed Special Advocates in their mission to assist children who are in the court system due to abuse and neglect. We will also be selling CASA play house raffle tickets at this event. We hope to see you there--Fellowship Hall between 10:15 and 11:15 on Sunday, August 7.



UU Coffee Houses in 2011 and 2012, Starting October 21

Mark your calendars! Beginning in the Fall, the coffee houses will be on the THIRD FRIDAY of the month at 7:30 pm. Come and join us for music, poetry and conversation (and of course coffee or tea with snacks) on the following dates: October 21st, November 18th, January 20th, February 17th, and March 16th. If you would like to perform please contact Dave Sharp, dsharp@sharpdesigns.net



UU Men's Group Meets Every Three Weeks

The UU Men's Group will meet on the following dates: 8/9, 8/30. The location varies. Please contact Chris Haynes, chaynes@indiana.edu for location.

Administrative Questions?

Carol Marks, our Church Administrator, is typically in the office 40 hours per week. Occasionally she is away for continuing education or allotted time off. In case she is not available, most administrative questions, including questions about your pledges, can be answered by our extremely competent Office Assistants, Erica Caldwell and Ginger Ko, who can both be reached at office@uubloomington.org or 812-332-3695.





Demolition before Beautification

Alert! Our Green Spaces project to Renew and Reach Out will result in beauty, function and accessibility, but it will begin soon with just the opposite--demolition, excavation, plant removal, and limited access. Keep faith during this summer and fall of upheaval; the results will be worth it!

We have received glowing recommendations and awarded contracts to Fox Construction for the big outdoor work of excavation, drainage, paving, concrete and stone work; and to Hagemeyer & Company for entryways, Fellowship Hall and Library. The start of construction in August depends on final reconciliation of our dreams and budget, the contractors' schedules and permits from the City.

Plants: We will carefully protect the big oak tree and the holly tree in the courtyard and the flowering crab by the main entrance, but all other trees (many of them ailing or moribund), shrubs and perennials will be removed in preparation for earth moving and new landscaping. New plants, healthy and well suited to our site, will be installed when construction ends.

Plant adoption: Allan Paton will rescue the shrubs south of the Meeting Room, and we are arranging a special home for the prairie plants. From Saturday, July 30 through August 7, congregation members are invited to dig up and give a good home to other perennials and shrubs on the property. Exceptions will be well marked. Please honor a first-round limit of six items per family until August 5. August 6 and 7 remaining orphans may be removed without limit.

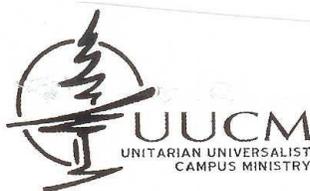
We welcome your questions and suggestions. Contact us at greenspaces@uubloomington.org

Community Connections Our Faith in Action in the Community

Bloomington Really Really Free Market

The next Btown Really Really Free Market will be August 13th. It is held every month on the second Saturday in People's Park from 12PM to 4PM.

A Really Really Free Market (RRFM) is a 100% free and non-commercial event, a temporary autonomous zone instituting the gift economy as an alternative to the capitalist mode of resource distribution. Find us on facebook or contact Nicole Johnson at btownbreadroses@riseup.net for more information or to volunteer!



Young Adult Lunches 2nd & 4th Sundays

On the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, young adults gather outside the sanctuary after the 11:15 service to have lunch together in town. All people ages 18-35 are welcome to join us! To find out more about our campus and young adult ministry, go to our website at www.uubloomington.org and click on Getting Involved > Campus Ministry or find our Unitarian Universalists at

Indiana University group on facebook. --Rachel Johnson, Campus Ministry Coordinator

Young Adults: We Need Your Addresses!

Because we lost a mailing list facility recently when our webhost changed servers, we need to reassemble our young adult email list. If you are age 18-35 and would like to be on our young adult email list, please send an email to Rachel Johnson at uucampus@uubloomington.org with "Subscribe UUs at IU" in the subject line, and include your paper mailing address in the body of the email, please.



First Steps Class Beginning July 24

First Steps, a new class which will offer a brief introduction to Unitarian Universalism and our congregation, will begin in July. It will be a 40-minute drop-in class held on the 4th Sunday of every month at 10:35 a.m. and 12:35 p.m. in the meditation room (RM 207b). It is designed for the newcomer who is curious but not yet ready to commit to a longer class—just a “taste of UU.” Free childcare available in Room 108 (substantial snack provided at 12:35 p.m.). Our next class is Sunday, July 24th. Questions? Please contact Judy Bennett, Membership Coordinator, at memcoord@uubloomington.org, 812-332-3695.



Lammas Harvest Festival July 30

Earth Kin will celebrate Lammas, the first harvest festival of 2011 on Sat. July 30th. We will meet at 7:00pm and begin ritual at 7:30pm. If it does not rain, we will meet in the woods just East of our parking lot. Bring chairs, insect repellent, something you have harvested from your life &/or garden to share during ritual and for the feast afterward. Hats and sunglasses are advisable as well. After ritual we will move into the fellowship hall for feasting and fellowship. This event is open to all members and friends of this congregation and the Bloomington community. Children old enough to understand what is going on are welcome. If you need childcare, please contact me immediately. Beckie Wagner elmbeckie@yahoo.com.



Ready to become a member of UU Bloomington?

If this is your community, if you feel at home here, join us! If you would like to make the commitment and become a member of UU Bloomington, the next membership ceremony is Sunday, August 21st, between the services, at 10:30am in room 207B. (Please note: We ask for participation in our "Exploring UU" class prior to signing the membership book.)

To make arrangements to sign the membership book, please contact Judy Bennett, Membership Coordinator, at 332-3695 or memcoord@uubloomington.org no later than Wednesday, August 17th.



Call for Course Proposals: Fall 2011

Adult Religious Education

Are you a spiritual seeker, an avid reader, a poet, parent, or activist? Do you have an interest you would like to share and explore with fellow Unitarian Universalists? If so, you are encouraged to submit a course proposal to our Adult Religious Education (ARE) Program. We are now accepting proposals for Fall 2011 classes (Sept-Dec), either a single session or multiple sessions. Please go to www.uubloomington.org

to download a proposal form (under Religious Education, Adult Religious Education), or pick up a form in the church office. Proposals can be mailed to the church or emailed to the ARE chair: Carolyn Emmert, at davidjemmert@sbcglobal.net. Proposals submitted by August 1 will receive first consideration.

UUs Changing the World—**Green Sanctuary Task Force***on Global Climate Change***Green Sanctuary Task Force's Task of the Month: July Updates**

Over 135 UU households have signed-up to participate in the Task of the Month Program. We are 7 months into this 12-month project to reduce our carbon footprint, and it is not too late for your household to get involved. If you have not yet signed-up, please consider taking part—the tasks are simple to accomplish. Find information, supplies and support at our coffee table in Fellowship Hall. Our streamlined sign-up and progress reporting forms are alphabetized so it's easy for you to let us know when you've completed a task and if you need help or can offer assistance in completing tasks. You can also update us at TaskoftheMonth@gmail.com.

Our monthly drawings continue for prizes that help accomplish the designated tasks. Congratulations to July's winners of CFL light bulbs. August's drawings will be for weather stripping. For more information about Task of the Month go [here](#) or come by and chat with us at our coffee table between services.

Jennifer Blankenship's Kenya Trip Blog

Jennifer Blankenship has been blogging about her trip to Kenya with Claire Robertson since July 17; they are visiting the people and projects supported by our International Outreach Task Force. Read Jennifer's blog at <http://jcclements.blogspot.com/>

**Invitation to all for Ramadan Iftaar Celebration
Friday, August 19**

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar—the most blessed month of the year, according to Islamic teachings. Muslims all over the world abstain from food, drink, and other physical needs during daylight hours, purifying the soul, re-evaluating their lives, and refocusing attention on God. Muslims pay special attention this month to making peace; strengthening ties with family and friends; and refraining from bad habits, bad actions, bad thoughts, and bad words.

Come honor their tradition of annual rededication to self-restraint, cleansing, and worship—and gain understanding of Muslim culture and concerns.

Our Annual Ramadan Iftaar Celebration is one of the most enjoyable and powerful ways we connect with our friends from another local religious community. UUs will join at the church with members of the Islamic Center for the breaking of the daily fast, prayer for those who wish to participate, and dinner on Friday, August 19, with doors opening at 7:45 p.m. Iftaar begins at sundown at 8:36 p.m. We will be finished eating around 10. You are invited to participate, enjoy delicious foods prepared by Islamic Center members, and make new friends! It's free of charge, all ages are welcome, and childcare will be provided.

Please let us know you are coming on the RSVP list posted in the Commons.

If you'd enjoy it, please volunteer and/or bring a dessert to share. See the volunteers' sign-up sheet. For more information, contact Erin Hollinden, ehollinden@yahoo.com, 812-320-8607.

Fill a Jar for the Bazaar!

We know folks are not ready to think about the Holiday Bazaar, but we'd



like you to do exactly that! As you are preserving the bounty of the summer in the coming weeks, please put aside a jar or two of jam or jelly, or pickled goodies, or just plain pickles for us to sell at the Gourmet Galaxy. Preserves will add a welcome taste of summer to our wintery offerings. Questions? Contact Julie Lawson, juliakar.in.j8@gmail.com or Joanne Henriot, jhenriot@indiana.edu

Thank you! - Your Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar Committee

Help Wanted! The 53rd annual UU Holiday Art Fair and Bazaar will take place this year Dec. 2 and 3. Your Bazaar Committee would love to have you join us in making it happen. We promise hard work -- well, not that hard -- fun and adventure, a chance to meet lots of people, and to raise a bunch of money for the church we all love. The following Committee jobs are open:

- 1) Co-treasurer. Assist in collecting and keeping track of event expenses and earnings.
- 2) Co-volunteer coordinator. Help sign up volunteers and manage the volunteer assignment schedule.
- 3) Co-Gourmet Galaxy Chairperson. Help organize and manage the ever-popular Gourmet Galaxy. Must like pies.
- 4) Publicity Co-Manager. Help manage and place media notices and print ads. On the job training available.

Julie Lawson juliakar.in.j8@gmail.com or Joanne Henriot jhenriot@indiana.edu will be happy to fill you in about any of these jobs.

Lost & Found A couple of sockets from a ratchet wrench set were found near north gravel parking area last week while we were mowing. Pick up in Room 204.

Prologue Publication Schedule This newsletter, The Prologue, is published on the first and third Mondays of each month, with minor exceptions in January and July. The deadline for articles, sent to admin@uubloomington.org, is 10:00 a.m. on the date of publication. **The next issue will be published on Monday, August 1st and posted on our website www.uubloomington.org by August 3rd.**

SAVE THE DATE! October 14, 15, & 16, 2011 Social Justice Empowerment Workshop

Legislative training with guest facilitator Rob Keithan, former director of the UUA's Washington Office.
Read Rob's blog at <http://socialjustice.blogs.uua.org/author/rkeithan/>

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Please go to Page 10.**

The Prologue

Unitarian Universalist Church of
Bloomington
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Bloomington, IN 47408-1646

812-332-3695

www.uubloomington.org

The Rev. Mary Ann Macklin, Minister

The Rev. Bill Breeden, Minister

Monday, July 18, 2011

Return Service Requested

1st class pstg here



7/20/2011	6:00 PM	Leadership Cultivation Cmte	7/28/2011	1:30 PM	Elder Focus Task Force
	6:00 PM	Special Purposes Fund Cmte - tentative	7/29/2011	10:30 AM	Life Stories Writing Group
	7:00 PM	UU Board of Directors		12:00 PM	UU Staff Meeting
7/21/2011	2:00 PM	Bloomingfoods Staff Training	7/30/2011	9:00 AM	Communication Cmte Meeting
	7:00 PM	Attuning to the Sufi Path		7:30 PM	Lammas with Earth Kin
7/22/2011	10:30 AM	Life Stories Writing Group	7/31/2011		Sunday Services at 9:15 and 11:15
	12:00 PM	UU Staff Meeting		10:15 AM	Green Spaces Initiative Update
7/24/2011		Sunday Services at 9:15 and 11:15		12:30 PM	Green Spaces Initiative Update
	10:30 AM	First Steps (UU Intro)	8/1/2011	10:00 AM	Prologue Deadline
	12:30 PM	First Steps (UU Intro)		7:30 PM	Green Spaces Initiative Committee
	12:30 PM	Greeter/Welcomer Training	8/2/2011	6:45 PM	Bloomington Chamber Singers Rehearsal
7/25/2011	7:30 PM	Green Spaces Initiative Committee			

For more calendar information, go to www.uubloomington.org and click on "Full Calendar".