

**Unitarian Universalist Church  
of Bloomington, Indiana, Inc.**  
Annual Report to the Congregation  
Sunday, June 7, 2009

Current Membership: 415  
Certified Membership: 405

**Board of Directors** (through June 30, 2009)

G.K. Rowe, President; Andrea Murray, Vice President; John Lawson, Treasurer;  
Chris Haynes, Secretary  
*At Large:* David Cox, Amy Taylor, Shari Woodbury

**Ministers** The Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and the Reverend Bill Breeden

**Minister Emerita** The Reverend Barbara Carlson

**Program Team**

Connie Loftman: *Ministry and Pastoral Care*; Jackie Hall: *Membership Journey*; John Woodcock: *Social Justice*;  
Diane Gregory: *Fellowship and Affiliated Groups*; Patty Callison: *Congregational Services*;  
Kevin Woodruff: *Lifespan Religious Education*; Amy Taylor: *Board Liaison*

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# Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington

## Approved Minutes of the June 1, 2008 Congregational Meeting

### Contents

- Motion: allow the Board of Directors to approve minutes from this meeting at a future board meeting
- Quorum report
- Twenty-five percent of Sunday Plate Ballot
- Nominations
- Motion: close nominations and accept the Slate of Nominations
- Budget proposal
- Motion: the congregation accept the proposed budget
- Outstanding Services Awards
- Thank You to Retiring Board Members
- Minister's Remarks
- Announcement of the 25% Plate Recipient
- Motion: to adjourn
- Annual Report to the Congregation

**Call to order** by Jan Skinner, President, at 4:02 PM

**Chalice Lighting and Reading** by Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

**Introduce Parliamentarian Guy Loftman and adopt agenda** -- Jan Skinner

Motion: allow the Board of Directors to approve minutes from this meeting at a future board meeting

Moved by Chris Haynes, second by Steve Dillon

Vote: approved unanimously

### Quorum report

There are 96 members in attendance, with 41 required for a quorum.

-- Chris Haynes, Secretary

### Twenty-five percent of Sunday Plate Ballot

The three nominees for receiving 25% of non-pledge Sunday plate offerings in the coming fiscal year are:

- Middle Way House
- People and Animal Learning Services
- Volunteers in Medicine

Advocacy statements were included in the Annual Report to the Congregation, as well as a recent Prologue newsletter

and Sunday services. Ballots were distributed and collected. In the event of a tie, a run-off vote will be held.

## Nominations

The Nominating Committee presented the Slate of Nominations for membership of the Board, Nominating Committee, and Special Purposes Trust Fund Committee. See the attached Nominating Committee Report included in the attached Annual Report to the Congregation. The Board member terms were further clarified to be 2008-2009 for G.K. Rowe, Chris Haynes, David Cox, and Shari Woodbury, and 2008-2010 for Andrea Murray, John Lawson, and Amy Taylor.

President Jan Skinner made three calls for nominations from the floor, with no response.

### Motion: close nominations and accept the Slate of Nominations

Motion by Steve Dillon, second by Jean Knowlton

Vote: approved unanimously

## Budget proposal

Lloyd Orr, Treasurer, presented the attached Fiscal 2008-2009 Proposed Budget, as approved by the Finance Committee and Board of Directors. The major new expenditures were presented with the aid of the attached budget highlights document.

Jackie Hall clarified the role of the new membership integration staff position.

Iris Kiesling noted that we will be allowed nine delegates to General Assembly next year. About \$1,800 in additional funds will be needed to support their attendance, for which she recommended a fundraiser. Kevin Woodruff observed that we will not be represented this year by the full complement of eight delegates allowed because attendance costs are not adequately covered by this year's budget. Lloyd Orr noted that the board can authorize fund raising events.

### Motion: the congregation accept the proposed budget

Moved by Lloyd Orr, second by Jason Hill

Vote: approved unanimously, with Iris Kiesling abstaining

## Outstanding Services Awards

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden began their presentation of the Outstanding Service Awards by reading the names of people who had received the award in recent years and are currently active in the congregation. See the attached list of all recipients of this award. The following Outstanding Service Awards for this year were then presented.

**Doris Wittenberg:** In gratitude for her longtime care of our kitchen and continued role with the Caring Committee. Doris has consistently offered her services to organize the receptions for member memorial services, which often demand spur of the moment planning. Doris has also served on the Board of Directors.

**Melinda Swenson:** In gratitude for her outstanding leadership with the Appreciative Inquiry process which enhances the long-term planning of our congregational community. Melinda has spent countless hours shepherding this new process with an evolving committee. Melinda also sings in the choir and has volunteered in many congregational activities.

**Deborah Phelps:** In gratitude for her inspired composition of the 'Six Sources Cantata' which was performed by our choir for its All Music Sunday this winter. Deborah was also the composer of "Fire In My Bones" the Meditative Opera which was part of our pledge campaign several years ago.

**Colleen Haas:** In gratitude for her amazing percussion abilities. Colleen has generously shared her talents with our congregation. She was a key percussionist for the Six Sources Cantata. She also organized a very successful music event "Diversity of Music" this past winter. Colleen has also taught classes and facilitated drumming circles at our all church retreat.

## Thank You to Retiring Board Members

The contributions of the following retiring board members were acknowledged.

- Steve Dillon, At Large Board Member
- Karen Jewell, At Large Board Member
- Chris Judge, At Large Board Member
- Deanna Lahre, At Large Board Member
- Lloyd Orr, Treasurer
- Jan Skinner, President

### Minister's Remarks

Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden offered special thanks to Jan Skinner, retiring as Board president. They also offered thanks to the Sunday worship service helpers, the caring committee, lawn mowing crew, and our exceptional staff members, noting that love for the congregation is the driving force for the staff and ministers.

### Announcement of the 25% Plate Recipient

President Jan Skinner announced the winner of the Sunday Plate Ballot was Volunteers in Medicine

### Motion: to adjourn

Moved by Steve Dillon, second by Will Watt

Vote: approved unanimously

**The meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM**

### Annual Report to the Congregation

The attached Annual Report to the Congregation was distributed to those in attendance.

# Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington

## Un-Approved Minutes of the December 14, 2008 Congregational Meeting

### Contents

- Motion: allow the Board of Directors to approve minutes from this meeting at a future board meeting
- Reports
  - Board of Directors, Governance Review
  - Treasurer's Report
  - Minister's Reports
  - Special Purposes Fund
  - Shaping Our Future Together
  - Green Spaces Initiative
  - Denominational Affairs
  - Quorum report
- UUA Commission on Social Witness, Statement of Conscience
- Motion: Advance the Statement of Conscience to the final agenda
- Motion: Endorse Part 1 of the Proposed Congregational Response
- Motion: Endorse Part 2 of the Proposed Congregational Response
- Motion: to adjourn

**Call to order** by G.K. Rowe, President, at 4:10 PM

**Chalice Lighting and Reading** by Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

**Introduction of Parliamentarian, Guy Loftman, and agenda adopted** -- G.K. Rowe

**Motion: allow the Board of Directors to approve minutes from this meeting at a future board meeting**

Moved by Jan Skinner, second by David Cox

Vote: approved unanimously

### Reports

#### **Board of Directors, Governance Review**

G.K. Rowe introduced the new Board of Directors:

President G. K. Rowe, Vice-president Andrea Murray, Treasurer John Lawson, Secretary Chris Haynes, and at-large members David Cox, Amy Taylor (Program Team Liaison), and Shari Woodbury.

Shari Woodbury provided the attached general remarks on policy governance, which is being adopted by Board.

Amy Taylor introduced the Program Team: Patty Callison, Diane Gregory, Kevin Woodruff, Jackie Hall, Mark Burton, and John Woodcock. The Program Team's primary responsibilities are calendaring, communication, and coordinating

the work of the church's 44 taskforces and committees.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Revenues are tracking at average levels and expenditures are slightly below average. There is currently a \$29K surplus.

### **Minister's Reports**

We are very lucky to be working with the staff we have.

Church Administrator, Carol Marks, has done an amazing job adapting to church growth over the years. Director of Religious Education, Cindy Port, and Rev. Emily Leite, are doing exceptional education ministry. Susan Swaney, Director of Music, continues to bring a diverse range of high quality music to our worship (as evidenced once again today)--including our Children's Choir directed by Jill Courtney. Of course, pianist Sally Todd is a gem. Susan Blake continues to lead a thriving campus ministry. And the rest of our staff continues with quality work.

We have been designated as one of the four Breakthrough Congregations to be recognized at the 2009 Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly. This is a distinct honor. We will be preparing a fifteen minute video and workshop for the General Assembly. We have been awarded a Chalice Lighter grant, thanks to a proposal by Shari Woodbury and others. The exact amount to be received is not known yet.

Reverend Bill Breeden will be on sabbatical next year for August through mid-December. Kudos to all of those who have been working hard on our new church database. The Appreciative Inquiry team culminated this year with two Advances (not retreats) and will continue its visioning process.

Our numerous Social Justice Taskforces are contributing exceptionally to the community. Our Elder Focus Task Force, an arm of the Caring Committee, began this autumn. Survey collection will continue through January.

The bottom line: we love this congregation through all of our shared joys and sorrows, clarities and confusions, struggles and triumphs. Thanks for entrusting us with this ministry.

-- Rev. Mary Ann Macklin and Rev. Bill Breeden

### **Special Purposes Fund**

See attached presentation by Deb Hutton.

### **Shaping Our Future Together**

See attached presentation by Bob Gonyea.

### **Green Spaces Initiative**

See attached presentation by Cindy Port

### **Denominational Affairs**

Iris Kiesling reported that funds are available to help support a full delegation of nine individuals, in addition to our ministers, at this summer's General Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah.

### **Quorum report**

Chris Haynes, Secretary, reported 64 members in attendance, with 43 required for a quorum.

### **UUA Commission on Social Witness, Statement of Conscience**

David Keppel presented the "Peacemaking: A Draft Unitarian Universalist Statement of Conscience," November 2008, of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Commission on Social Witness [attached] and a "Proposed Congregational Response" [attached] endorsed by the Just Peace Task Force and recommended for congregational approval. Such approval is necessary for the comment to be considered by the Commission on Social Witness.

### **Motion: Advance the Statement of Conscience to the final agenda**

Moved by David Keppel, second by Carol Marks

Vote to advance the Statement of Conscience to the final agenda of the 2009 UUA General Assembly. Furthermore, our vote will mean that if we approve part 1 and part 2 of the Proposed Congregational Response that our yes vote to this motion will include those parts as a stipulation and if we do not approve part 1 and part 2 this yes vote will be shorn of that stipulation.

Claire Robertson offered an amendment that support for the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) be added to Part 2. David Keppel and Carol Marks accepted this as a friendly amendment.

Vote: all in favor, save abstentions by Deb Hutton and David Emmert

**Motion: Endorse Part 1 of the Proposed Congregational Response**

Moved by David Keppel, second by Sally Todd

Vote: approved unanimously

**Motion: Endorse Part 2 of the Proposed Congregational Response**

Moved by David Keppel, second by Carol Marks

Vote: all in favor, save seven abstentions

**Motion: to adjourn**

Moved by Steve Dillon, second by Will Watt.

Vote: approved unanimously

**The meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM**

## **Social Justice Steering Committee Special Report: Candidates for 25% of Sunday Plate Funds for 2009-10**

May 26, 2009

Dear Congregation –

A few short years ago, our congregation voted to donate 25% of the non-pledge Sunday plate contributions to a local agency or project. The recipients have been Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM), Community Kitchen, Shalom Center, The Center for Justice and Mediation, Stepping Stones, Martha's House, and this past year Volunteers in Medicine (VIM), which by the end of June will have received over \$6000 as their portion of the Sunday Plate contributions. This year's candidates are

**Monroe County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), nominated by Mary Beth O'Brien**  
**Crestmont Boys and Girls Club, nominated by Denisha Jones**  
**Middle Way House , nominated by Lois & Richard Holl**

At the June 7th Congregational Meeting, a vote will be taken to decide which one will receive our donation. We hope you will read the enclosed information about each agency and come prepared for discussion and voting. More information is available at the Social Justice table. Representatives of the nominated agencies were present on Sunday morning, May 24th. We hope you heard them and asked questions after the service.

Everyone is invited to the Congregational meeting; it is an opportunity to participate in our congregational decision making process. Only members can vote; we hope that all will attend and learn how our congregation makes decisions.

***We are proud that our congregation designates 25% of the non-pledge Sunday plate to social justice work in the community!***

See you June 7th, 4:00 p.m.

*Jackie Hall, for Social Justice Steering Committee*

### **Monroe County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Nominated by Mary Beth O'Brien**

The mission of Monroe County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is "To help ensure that the abused and neglected children of Monroe County live in safe, permanent homes and have the opportunity to reach their full potential." Child victims who are under the care and custody of the juvenile court are by Indiana law granted the right to participate in their court cases as full legal parties. However, unlike the other two legal parties in their case – their parent(s) and the Department of Child Services -- children are clearly unable to represent themselves in the very court proceedings of which they are the subject. To address this, the judge appoints a CASA volunteer to represent and protect the best interest of the child victim in court. Our purpose is to recruit, screen, train, and supervise community volunteers who provide advocacy services to child victims, thereby helping to ensure that they receive the services they need and find a safe, permanent home as quickly as possible.

At the core of the Monroe County CASA program's vision is a fundamental belief in the rights of children who are victimized by abuse and neglect at the hands of their caregivers; for these children to receive immediate intervention and protection; for these children to be provided with every possible service and advocacy to facilitate their healing from the abuse, and allow them to realize their full potential. The CASA program believes that this is best achieved with an independent advocate who is empowered with the authority and access of full party status, and is an unpaid volunteer who can focus on that particular child(ren) and family. These volunteers must be carefully screened, fully trained, and closely supervised by professional staff. The CASA program strives for best practices in all aspects of its advocacy services; including cultural sensitivity,



competence and a high standard of service (CASA holds certifications from both state and national oversight organizations). Proper intervention at the outset helps these children grow and mature into stable, productive members of the community, and reduces future social service and criminal justice costs. Monroe County CASA is the only organization in Bloomington that provides these services.

Funds from our church would support Community Outreach and Volunteer training to help continue the vital role that CASA volunteers fill in the lives of some of our community's most vulnerable children.

Mary Beth O'Brien

## **CRESTMONT BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB**

### **Nominated by Denisha Jones**

The Crestmont Boys and Girls Club serves youth ages 6-18 and their families who are residents of the Crestmont Neighborhood within the Bloomington Housing Authority and neighboring community. The club provides emergency and preventative services to this community's most vulnerable and yet most promising citizens. The youth who are members of the Crestmont Club are: 39% minority, with 67% of families making under \$10,000 per year and 40% of those families surviving on only \$5,000 a year. Only 18% of those families are comprised of two-parent house-holds.

The Crestmont Boys and Girls Club is a guidance organization that enables all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. Our programs and services are designed to build character and strengthen life skills while providing hope and opportunity. The Club is unique among other local youth organizations for a number of reasons. The Club is for ALL boys and girls for a nominal annual membership fee of \$5.00 although in actuality it costs approximately \$525 a year per child. As a result, the club must find other ways to cover the cost of programming. Rather than increasing the cost to families, the club seeks funding from outside sources.

The UU 25% Social Justice Plate Funds would support an expansion of the Teen program at the Crestmont Club. The club tends to lose the participation of teenagers for a number of factors from an increase in family responsibility to a loss of interest. In order to reverse the trend, the Crestmont Boys and Girls club would use these funds to hire a Teen Coordinator and to design and implement activities targeted to our teenage members.

The children who attend the Crestmont Boys and Girls Club need a safe place to go after school where they can interact with caring adults and learn a variety of life and character development skills. Without the Club's programming, these Crestmont youth face a most certain future riddled with devastating costs that are felt both personally and community-wide. Lack of educational attainment, teen pregnancy, hunger, disease, emotional disorders, crime, and abuse and neglect follow these children of poverty unless **someone** steps in to provide hope and opportunity.

On behalf of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Bloomington, it is my sincerest hope that you join us, as together we serve these youth through uncertain times.

Keely Griggs, Unit Director, Crestmont Boys and Girls Club

## **MIDDLE WAY HOUSE**

### **Nominated by Lois and Richard Holl**

[www.middlewayhouse.org](http://www.middlewayhouse.org)

We know Middle Way House. It is that big yellow house on Madison at Kirkwood. It is the old Coca Cola building that is being renovated for new initiatives and programming. It is 28 apartments for abused women and their children. It is Food Works Catering and a paper shredding business. It is a Bloomington agency helping those in need for 39 years. It is involved in many areas of advocacy, crisis counseling and Child Protective Services in six counties. It has a \$2.2 million dollar budget.

So why should we help these mothers and children? Because the federal and state government has had to cut back on funding. Because without our help youngsters will not take educational trips to the Children's Museum in Indianapolis or the Feline Rescue Center or the Tim Horton camp where they can learn to work and play together while their mothers are employed. These children and youth up to age 18 have had a long rough patch. They need the structured daily activities of summer, trips to area pools, reading groups and sports. I have great memories of my summer experiences. I want these children to have them too. Lois Holl

## Nominating Committee Report – May 2009

Nominations for June 2009 Congregational Meeting

Returning Board officers:

GK Rowe- President  
Andrea Murray- Vice President  
John Lawson – Treasurer  
Amy Taylor – At Large

The following have agreed to have their names placed before the members at the Congregational meeting for election on Sunday, June 7 at 4PM.

I have been Chair and member of the Membership Committee, Chair of the RE committee, a member of the stewardship committee, the Nominating Committee, and of the Connections Sub council. I have organized the Wednesday Walkers and the Getting Involved Fairs.

Denise Ogren - At-Large – two year term

I've served as a greeter, book table chair, member of auction committee and IOTF, representative to ICON, volunteer for Habitat, Rainbow Rights, and Bazaar Cafe. This year I'm a delegate to GA in Salt Lake City. I've been involved with Chalice Circles, ARE classes and Fellowship Dinners.

Kevin J. Rottet - At-Large – two year term

I began serving the church as YRUU facilitator and Youth Advisory Committee chair in the 90's. Since then I have served as ARE committee chair, as an RE and OWL program instructor, as Webmaster, and as a chalice circle facilitator. I've led several ARE events and been a member of the long term planning committee, the chalice circle planning committee, and the web committee. I currently serve as board secretary and on the sound and denominational affairs committees.

Chris Haynes – Secretary - two year term

I've been a member of UU for five years and served on Reverend Macklin's sabbatical committee '05-'07. I serve on the Committee on Ministry and as a Greeter, both of which I've done since '05. I've been a member of the Men's Group since it began in '05.

Clarke Miller - Special Purposes Fund – three year term

I began attending the UU church the summer Bill Breeden was a visiting minister. I've been on the Sunday Services Committee; contributed materials to the Social Justice bulletin board, attended seminars and trainings for committees, presented to an adult religious seminar, attended 2 church retreats. I'm kind of a bridge builder, meaning I'm very active in the community and I bring that to UU and UU to that.

Julia Heimer Dadds - Nominating Committee – three year term

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington Indiana			
Fiscal 2009-2010 Proposed Budget		5/31/2009	
	2008-2009	2009-2010	
	Budget	Proposed	
<b>Income</b>			
Committed Pledges & Grants	415,518	420,000	1.1% increase over 2008-09
Anticipated Pledges & Grants	3,500	3,500	
Sunday Plate	19,500	21,000	at \$19474 through May
Investment Income	1,600	1,600	
Interest	3,000	2,600	
Bazaar	9,000	9,000	
Kroger-Marsh Fund	6,000	6,000	
Other Fundraising	12,000	12,000	
Building Use Fees	10,000	7,700	reduced to reflect recent trend
Miscellaneous	1	1,000	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>480,119</b>	<b>484,400</b>	<b>0.8% increase, 86.7% from pledges</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Campus-Young Adult</b>			
Campus and Young Adult Ministry	925	1,325	Beacon combined with Campus and Young Adult Ministry
BEACON Program	400	0	
Campus Ministry Coordinator	1,800	1,818	200 hrs./yr.@\$9.09/hr.
Campus Ministry Payroll Taxes	138	139	
<b>Total Campus/YA</b>	<b>3,263</b>	<b>3,282</b>	
<b>Ministry-Breeden</b>			
Health Insurance			
Housing			
Salary			
Prof Expenses			
Retirement Plan			
Section 125 Plan			
<b>Total Compensation - Breeden</b>	<b>61,134</b>	<b>61,745</b>	1.0% COL increase. Gross salary spread over above categories
<b>Ministry-Macklin</b>			
Health Insurance			
Housing			
Salary			
Prof Expenses			
Retirement Plan			
Section 125 Plan			
<b>Total Compensation - Macklin</b>	<b>61,134</b>	<b>61,745</b>	1.0% COL increase. Gross salary spread over above categories
<b>Other Ministry</b>			
Sabbatical-search fund	2,050	2,050	\$3515.43 in T acct. \$3154.86 SPF reserve 12/31/08
MAM Sabbatical	0	0	
Pulpit Supply & Other Ministry	2,150	2,150	
<b>Total Other Ministry</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>4,200</b>	
<b>Music</b>			
Music Director	17,581	18,021	.49 FTE for 10 months. 1.0% COL increase
Pianist	7,640	7,716	.23 FTE, 1.0% COL increase
Piano Maintenance	300	300	possible restring piano - \$1000-2000
Program/Special Events/Substitutes	2,900	2,900	
Music Director-Children	1,581	1,597	1.0% COL increase on contract
Payroll Taxes	2,050	2,071	
<b>Total Music</b>	<b>32,052</b>	<b>32,605</b>	
<b>Office</b>			
Administrator Health Insurance			
Administrator Prof Expenses			
Administrator Retirement Plan			
Administrator Salary			
Administrator Section 125 Plan			
Administrator Payroll taxes			
<b>Total Compensation - Administrator</b>	<b>42,267</b>	<b>42,690</b>	1.0% COL increase. Gross salary spread over above categories
Office Assistant	10,127	10,228	19 hrs./week@10.35/hr.
Membership Integration Staff	4,645	3,761	need to work out grant portion
Sound Tech.	3,530	3,565	4hrs./week+30 hrs. for "other events"@15.20/hr.
Other Payroll Taxes	1,400	1,414	
Office Expenses	18,981	19,561	add \$200 for film license
Data Base Maintenance	2,320	2,320	New Web based data base
Worship Expenses	450	450	
Staff Development	1,000	1,000	
Auditor	0	0	

<b>Total Office</b>	<b>84,720</b>	<b>84,989</b>	
<b>Childcare</b>			
Wages	7,000	8,665	running 9% over budget this year
Payroll Taxes	536	613	
<b>Total Childcare</b>	<b>7,536</b>	<b>9,278</b>	
<b>Religious Education</b>			
DRE Health Insurance			
DRE Pension			
DRE Prof Expenses			
DRE Salary			
DRE Section 125			
DRE Payroll Taxes			
<b>Total Compensation - DRE</b>	<b>31,780</b>	<b>32,098</b>	.75 FTE, 1.0% COL increase. Gross salary spread over above categories
MRE Housing			
MRE Pension			
MRE Professional Expenses			
MRE Salary			
<b>Total Compensation - MRE</b>	<b>17,080</b>	<b>17,251</b>	.25 FTE, 1.0% COL increase, less \$500 sabbatical increment
RE Assistants	9,186	9,906	\$9.5/hr, 15hrs./week \$9.25/hr., 16hrs./monthest additional 80 hrs
Payroll Taxes - Assistants	703	721	
YUUMS Program	1,200	1,200	
YRUU Program	900	900	
YRE Program	5,510	5,510	
<b>Total Religious Educ.</b>	<b>66,359</b>	<b>67,586</b>	
<b>Committees &amp; Programs</b>			
Adult RE	511	325	movie license no longer needed
Aesthetics	600	900	pay for flowers
Board	500	500	
Caring	250	750	add \$500 for Elder Task Force
Celebrations	1,650	1,000	Ramadan(350), Thanksgiving(650), Div of Music(700-cut per Prog Team)
Chalice Circles	2,010	2,010	possible reduction \$500 per Program Team
Connections Subcouncil	300	300	
Program Team	200	700	For Program Team, \$500 from Membership for 60th anniv
CUUPS Program	0	0	
Fellowship Dinners	15	15	
Greeting	50	50	
Hospitality	716	750	
Java Crew	40	40	
Library	200	200	
Membership	700	400	\$400 regular, \$500 60th anniversary moved to Program Team
Nominating	55	2,455	add leadership development (\$1900) and \$500for workshop
Oral History	265	0	
Pastoral Care	100	0	not funded per Program Team
Public Relations	800	800	
SOFT	500	0	SOFT not active during 09-10
Social Justice	1,600	1,600	Additional Task Forces
Social Justice Fund	1,200	1,200	For A & B small and large grant funds
UUSC	405	405	\$1 per member
MCUM	0	200	moved from Denominational
Stewardship	2,500	1,900	
Sunday Services	700	100	funding reduced per Program Team
Welcoming Congregation	100	100	
New Committee Seed Money	200	200	
<b>Total Committees</b>	<b>16,167</b>	<b>16,900</b>	
<b>Denominational &amp; MCUM</b>			
UUA Conference Support	4,500	4,500	GA in Minneapolis - reduce requested increase per Mgt Team
Heartland Annual Meeting	1,125	1,980	HUD in Mich
Leadership Development	1,900	0	moved to Nominating Committee
Heartland Annual Dues	8,100	8,100	405 membersx20
UUA Annual Program	22,680	22,680	405 membersx56
MCUM Contribution	200	0	move to Social Justice
<b>Total Denom. &amp; MCUM</b>	<b>38,505</b>	<b>37,260</b>	
<b>Physical Plant</b>			
Building Maintenance	11,396	12,041	may increase
Long Term Maintenance Reserve	6,100	6,100	
Equipment Reserve	6,865	6,865	includes \$1800 for sound
Custodial Carpet Cleaning	2,000	2,000	
Custodial Services	17,075	18,925	
Grounds	1,500	600	Agree w/Robertsons \$900 from T-Acct; payback later
Housekeeping supplies	1,516	1,516	
Insurance	5,600	5,600	
Utilities	17,055	18,389	3% above current utility rates
Mortgage	38,427	38,427	reduces mortgage to \$295K
<b>Total Physical Plant</b>	<b>107,534</b>	<b>110,463</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>482,603</b>	<b>490,053</b>	<b>1.5% increase</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-2,484</b>	<b>-5,653</b>	

# President's Report 2008-2009

My journey through the past year as President has been educational, enlightening, rewarding and active. Through this year I have been active [it] (in) the following:

## Monthly Meetings:

- Board of Director Meetings
- Board of Director Policy work sessions
- Management Team Meetings
- Nominating Committee Meetings

## Additional Meetings and Workshops:

- Finance Committee
- Denominational Affairs
- Program Team
- Ministers
- SPF (Special Purposes Fund Committee)
- Exploring UU
- New Member Book Signing
- Stewardship
- Cultivating Leadership Workshop
- Shaping Our Future Together

## On Governance

### by G.K. Rowe, Congregational President

The Board of Directors retreat on August 9, 2008, provided the starting point [to begin] (for) integrating our new Governance transition; and, provided an opportunity for the new Board of Directors to set goals for the following year. It was clear that 2008 would be a transitional period of which the Board would work diligently to define more clearly the roles and policies within the church governance. More specifically, it was the goal of the Board of Directors to 1) research and rewrite policy, 2) (help) develop a new mission and vision statement, 3) define our organizational structure, and, 3) write new job descriptions for Board of Directors.

I am most thankful to our Board members who have been more than gracious with their time by logging countless hours devoted to writing policy under our new governance structure. Additionally, each Board member brought forward a specific area of knowledge and skill that allowed us to operate proficiently together in meeting set objectives.

In evaluation of our progress, the Board of Directors has completed 95% of the objectives set to be accomplished within this term.

The new policies will be passed to the Management Team (in July 2009) [at the beginning of the following term of office.]

The Board of Directors created a Mission and Vision Task Force under Shaping Our Future Together to provide a draft to the congregation to be adopted (in June 2009) [for the following term of office. ] Meetings between Management Team, Program Team and the Board of Directors were scheduled to strengthen communication and better define roles of operations in these governing areas. This is still a transitional period as the new policies will provide the necessary tools for greater development within all three of these governing bodies.

I am grateful for the support you have given me during this past year; and, I am looking forward to continuing my service to this community in the following term. I will be forever thankful for the Board Members that have provided me the opportunity to share and grow in their presence.

In Your Service,  
GK Rowe, President of the Congregation

## **Annual Report from the Ministers**

**May 2009**

### **Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Bill Breeden**

This year, 2009, heralds the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this congregation's beginnings in 1949. Reverend Breeden and Reverend Macklin celebrate this anniversary with this community, noting that Reverend Breeden also turns 60 this year and Reverend Macklin turns 50. So welcome 2009! It is a good year to be a Breakthrough Congregation. This congregation will be honored as a thriving congregation at this year's General Assembly 2009. Congratulations to this congregational community for all you do. "Seeking the Spirit. Building Community. Changing the World."

Our Co-Ministry has experienced much change since our new Governance structure began in July 2008. We are still adjusting to our new roles as member of the Management Team and are well aware that the overall Governance shift will take 2-3 years...or 3-7 years, depending upon whom you ask. As role clarifications continue, we are grateful for the voice and strength of our Staff, Board of Directors and Program Team in this new configuration. Consultant Reverend Annie Foerster visited this pass spring and helped us move a few steps more along this new journey.

We are also grateful that this congregation was the recipient of a Chalice Lighter Grant this year. We received \$17,000 to bolster a new Membership Coordinator Position which is being competently filled by Judy Bennett. Thanks again to Shari Woodbury for her efforts with this grant. Thanks also to Jackie Hall and Libby DeVoe who helped with this grant but are also sharing their wisdom regarding the "Membership Journey" with other Unitarian Universalists in the Heartland District. Meanwhile, our Co-Ministry continues to be involved with District Activities. Reverend Macklin was elected as a Good Offices Person for the Heartland UU Ministers' Association and Reverend Breeden was selected to be on the search committee for the new District Executive.

If you missed it in the Prologue, one extra bonus that we have enjoyed this year is that our DRE, Cindy Port, is also doing work for her Masters of Counseling internship (leadership focus) here in our congregation. Her work, along with the ever effervescent Sharing Our Future Together, on the revisiting and development of our proposed Vision and Mission Statements has been invaluable; her editing of the Common Ground for the Prologue, and also her efforts with the loyal members of the Green Spaces Initiative Committee has brought us to important votes at this spring's congregational meeting.

We remain grateful to everyone in this congregation for the opportunity to serve you. From Chalice Circles to Social Justice, from Connections to the overall operations of this community and new initiatives such as Ushers and the Elder Task Force, we thank you. As we prepare for Reverend Breeden's sabbatical journey, we know this congregation will continue to celebrate our 60 years of "Seeking the Spirit, Building Community and Changing the World."

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin and Reverend Bill Breeden

## **Church Administrator's Annual Report 2008-09**

**PERSONNEL.** During the past year, we hired a new Office Assistant, Shara Ferrantelli, who proved to be a very fine asset to our church office. In June, we will be hiring an Assistant again, as Shara and her family are relocating this summer. We will be sorry to see Shara go! We also assisted in the interview and hiring process for our new Membership Coordinator, Judy Bennett.

**FACILITIES USE.** Facilities use by non-church groups continues strong, and the building is in heavy use for a variety of church events each week. Additional visits from our cleaning crew have been needed as a result.

**EQUIPMENT.** Equipment replacements during the year have included computer, television, lawnmower, DVD player, and air conditioning units. In all cases when replacing equipment, we strive for energy efficiency, ease of use and economy. Our building upstairs now has wifi capability, and in the coming year, we hope to be able to provide wireless internet service to the Fellowship Hall and the Meeting Room as well. This wifi capability is carefully firewalled to prevent unauthorized access to our local area computer network.

**NEW DATABASE.** We purchased a new on-line database system and met regularly with the database implementation team to get all our information transferred to the new system. Our church calendar, mailing list, Religious Education registration, pledge contributions, and deposit information are all now recorded in the new database. This spring we plan to send our first pledge statements using the new format.

As always, I express my great appreciation for the opportunity to serve as our congregation's administrator. I hope in a small way it does make the world a better place.

Many blessings,  
Carol Marks  
Your Church Administrator since 1992.

## **The Management Team Report for 2008-09**

**May 2009**

Our mission as a Management Team is to monitor and manage the church's operations. This has included granting permissions for church fundraising, discussing stewardship, our new governance structure, committee and task force activities, equipment needs, communications, facilities use, and building maintenance.

As we complete our first year of using this governance structure, the Management Team has met weekly to discuss and make decisions concerning congregational business operations, and met monthly with the congregational president as well. We have also met regularly with the Program Team, which coordinates, communicates, and collaborates within the programmatic structure of our congregation.

Our assumption of additional administrative tasks has freed up our Board of Directors to formulate policy and help create vision for the work of our congregation. We are still in a three to four-year process of learning how to do the governance of our congregation in this new way, and we appreciate the goodwill of the Board, the Program Team, and our membership as we learn together.

In faith,  
Reverend Mary Ann Macklin, Co-minister  
Reverend Bill Breeden, Co-minister  
Carol Marks, Church Administrator

# Music Director's Annual Report, 2008-09

In addition to singing a variety of music for Sunday services this year, the UU Choir also sang several special events and collaborations:

- Faure's *Requiem* with the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra
- Keith McCutchen's *Black Nativity* with the Bethel AME Church
- An interfaith MLK service at IU, with the Bethel AME choir
- The Gloria from Bach's *Mass in A Major* with a fine in-house orchestra
- A fun Gilbert and Sullivan service, designed by Steve Krahnke, for Commitment Sunday
- Premieres of two pieces by our own Mary Goetze – a new SATB arrangement of an Emerson setting and a benediction to a text by Violet Cookie Lynch.

We continue to be blessed with the beautiful pianism of Sally Todd.

The choir has grown to over 70 folders (though we have never had everyone at once!)

It has been a good year, and I continue to be grateful for our music-loving congregation and our hard-driving, good-spirited, game-for-anything choir.

Susan Swaney

## Religious Education Annual Report May 2009

### Curriculum

Summer 2008; Journey for the Planet

Preschool 9:15am and 11:15am- Chalice Children

K-1<sup>st</sup> 9:15am and 11:15am Treasure Hunting

2nd-6<sup>th</sup> 9:15am and 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 11:15am Holidays and Holy Days

2nd-3<sup>rd</sup> 11:15am Spirit of Adventure

5th-6<sup>th</sup> 11:15am Tool Box of Faith and Transcendentalism

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 11:15am YUUMS, Young Unitarian Universalist Middle-Schoolers

9-12<sup>th</sup>, (6pm) YRUU, Young Religious Unitarian Universalists

### January Intersession

A major highlight this year was the success of the UU Family Values 5 week intersession developed by Rev. Emily Manvel Leite. Children signed up for classes based on interest and could choose between cooking, crafts, drama, outdoors and creative writing. Attendance and enthusiasm for this program was high.

### Social Justice Projects

As always, a major theme in our Religious Education program is to work for social justice.

#### *Volunteer and Fundraising Projects*

Summer Read to Feed Program for

Heifer International \$300

Lunch for Habitat for Humanity \$60

Grade 2-3 Bake Sale for MCUM \$148

YUUMS Bake Sale \$325 (purchased two MCUM holiday baskets)

K-1 Lasagna for Shalom Center \$48

Food Bank Collections 110 pounds of food donated

Procession of Giving

-Collection for UUSC \$958

-125 gifts for local people in need \$1500 (estimated value of gifts)

MCUM Holiday Collection \$55



YUUMS volunteer at Soup Bowl Benefit  
Snack bags for Shalom Center kids \$200  
**Total \$3,594**

### Highlights

- Our monthly Family Worship services continue to be well attended.
- *Our Whole Lives* (OWL) sexuality education program was offered to 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders and 7-8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- YRUU (High School) has been active; they developed and led a Sunday morning worship service in May.
- Our nursery population has increased, childcare is full of toddlers and twos on Sunday mornings. We have increased staff and staff training.

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

## Adult Religious Education 2008-09

Committee Members: Bob DeVoe, chair (now retired, we are seeking a new chair)  
Rob Hongen, Glee Noble, Hugo Kunoff, Elizabeth Lion, Amy Bedford, Lisa Meuser  
Staff liaison: Reverend Emily Manvel Leite  
Program Team Liaison: Kevin Woodruff

This year we offered 27 wide-ranging classes. Most of them had sufficient sign-ups and ran, with nearly 150 participants over the course of the year (some of which were repeat customers!).

### Fall Classes 2008:

1. Exploring Paganism facilitated by Beckie Wagner
2. Silent Theft: The Private Plunder of our Common Wealth facilitated by Jim and Tomi Allison
3. Tapestry of Faith: Spirit of Life Workshop coordinated by Kevin Woodruff
4. Deepening our Permaculture Practices facilitated by Rhonda Baird
5. Tolkien and Religion: How to Create Your Own Mythology Without Losing Faith facilitated by Rich Janda
6. What Can Science Tell Us About Religion? facilitated by Noretta Koertge
7. Introduction to the Psychology of C.G. Jung facilitated by Chris Haynes
8. Run to One Hundred facilitated by Al Strickholm
9. Creating Unitarian Universalist Family Rituals facilitated by Reverend Emily Manvel Leite

### Spring Classes 2009:

1. Exploring Paganism facilitated by Beckie Wagner
2. Mindfulness Meditation facilitated by Jon Peters
3. The Historical Jesus in the Five Gospels facilitated by Bob DeVoe
4. Science and the Wonders of the Universe facilitated by Noretta Koertge
5. The Next Steps Class facilitated by Libby DeVoe
6. Tapestry of Faith: Spirit in Practice coordinated by Kevin Woodruff
7. Menu for the Future facilitated by Anne Veldman and Cynthia Schultz
8. The Bhagavad-Gita: Exploring the Essence of Hinduism facilitated by Chris Haynes
9. Workshop on Understanding Conflict facilitated by Ed Greenebaum
10. Dances of Universal Peace facilitated by Sura Gail Tala
11. Abwoon Study Circle facilitated by Sura Gail Tala

### Summer Classes 2009:

1. Yoga From the Ages for All Ages facilitated by Derek Tanber
2. Book Group: "Viral Spiral" by David Bollier facilitated by Jim and Tomi Allison
3. Parenting From the Heart: Compassionate Families for a Compassionate World facilitated by Rhonda Clower
4. Learn to Swing Dance! facilitated by Stephanie and Tom Wilson
- 5 and 6. SERIES: Scientists and the Development of Unitarianism: Priestly and Darwin facilitated by Noretta Koertge
7. Exploring "Pan's Labyrinth" as Spiritual Epic facilitated by Chris Haynes

## **Booktable Committee**

The Booktable continues to be open during the Fellowship Hour most every Sunday to

1. Greet newcomers and provide information about introductory Unitarian Universalist books and brochures
2. Offer books, brochures and music that promote Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes, are recommended by the ministers, reflect current congregational interests, and/or support congregational or local authors and musicians
3. Offer books for Unitarian Universalist Adult Religious Education courses.
4. Provide an opportunity for congregants to recycle and/or purchase used books/audiovisual materials.

We also make used book donations to the annual Unitarian Universalist Holiday Bazaar. Proceeds from the Booktable sales and donations continue to be used for purchasing new materials for the Booktable and Unitarian Universalist Library. The Booktable continues to be a self-sustaining committee. --Kevin Rottet

## **Chalice Circles Committee**

This was the third year of operation for Chalice Circles, the small group ministry of our congregation. We had 9 groups and 77 participants (at the end of the year), including 11 trained facilitators. A few participants dropped out during the year and exit interviews were conducted with each one so that we could understand the reasons for their discontinuing. We also observed that there has been an increase this year in newer church attendees who joined Chalice Circles over the first two years.

Throughout the year the facilitators met in two groups with the ministers once a month for ongoing training and mutual support. Each participant and each facilitator have the opportunity to complete a written evaluation of the program.

In August 2008, Chris Clothier and Judy Bennett attended the UU Small Group Ministry Institute at The Mountain in N. Carolina for leadership training in this area. A new activity this year is a congratulatory dinner prepared for the facilitators.

A major component of Chalice Circles is the two service projects each group does, one for the church and one for the larger community.

**Here are the service projects accomplished by each group so far this year** (not all projects have been completed yet):

- Church - assisted with Long-time member celebration
- Community - helped MCUM pre-school: forming words, making letter sounds, coloring, painting
- Church - Habitat for Humanity breakfast: cooked-served-cleanup
- Church - worked at bazaar, in cafe, serving, doing dishes, waiting tables, cashier
- Community - yard work at Middle Way House

- Church - spreading mulch around flower beds
- Community - "litter walk" along Hwy 46 & Fee Lane, talked about safety, recycling, disposal of trash
- Church - wrote thank-you letters for auction
- Community - @ Stepping Stones, making pizza; donated gift certificate, light bulbs, sheets, towels, household items for apartments
- Church - Set up White Elephant booth at Holiday Bazaar
- Church - helped Sue Swaney, (re-)organizing music copies for choir
- Community – participated USPS food drive on May 9<sup>th</sup>
- Church - Helped set up silent auction items for Auction
- Community - Helped at Planned Parenthood: putting together new blank charts, moving old charts & file cabinets to basement

**Members of this year's Chalice Circles Executive Team are:** Chris Clothier and Alan Backler, co-chairs; Judy Bennett, former co-chair; Anne Haynes, Karen Gunderman and Dave Crane, members; Reverend Mary Ann Macklin.

## Fellowship Dinners Report, 2008-09

The Fellowship Dinners, a many-decades long tradition, are intended to provide a place for members and friends to become better acquainted.

The Fellowship Dinners this past year have been a great success, with over 80 individuals participating. In January Dolores Freiburger selected Dixie Welch as her successor. Dixie is experimenting with a mid-summer potluck and the response has been so good that she has scheduled one full-group potluck in June and another in July.

The congregation thanks Dolores Freiburger for twelve years of service, mixing us up and sorting us out, to organize small-group gatherings that feed our minds and bodies.

Dixie Welch  
Fellowship Potluck Dinners Coordinator

## Library Committee

The Unitarian Universalist Church Library contains books of interest to those searching for more information about Unitarian Universalism and related subjects. Newly acquired books are listed in the Prologue. Current members of the Library Committee are Marjorie Crosby, Ann McIntosh, and Roberta Watson.

## Membership Committee

Members: Marjorie Crosby, Libby DeVoe (chair), Jackie Hall, Cyndi Nelson, Dale Nelson, Laura Smith, and for part of the year, Nancy Richman and Tim Slack.

Accomplishments:

- Welcomed 35 new members between June 2007 and May 2008
  - Conducted Membership Book signings on the third Sunday of odd months.
  - Collected and published new member biographies in the *Prologue*, displayed photos and biographies in the Commons and archived them in an album in the Fuchs Library.
  - Purchased and gave the *UU Pocket Guide* to each new member household.
  - Arranged recognition of new members in Sunday services.
- Conducted six Exploring UU classes for 70 newcomers.
- Organized the reception for Long Time and New Member Recognition in February.

- Partnering with the Shaping our Future Together Committee October and the Sabbatical Committee in February, hosted all-church potlucks to recognize new members and provide a forum for discussion of significant church issues.
- Telephoned church visitors every week to welcome them and answer questions about the congregation.
- Created Guest Registry card to replace newsletter sign up sheet.
- Will host annual New Member Picnic at Bryan Park in June. This family-friendly event gives new members an opportunity to interact with the UU Board, Staff and Ministers.
- Studied national research related to the membership journey and discussed specific applications in our congregation.
- Suggested elements for job description for professional Membership Integration Coordinator.

#### Challenges:

- Ensuring new members are integrated into the life of the church.

## Public Relations Committee

The PR committee got a weekly ad in the IDS, University Student Newspaper. T-shirt sales are falling off, but we plan to try some new strategies next year to sell a few more. We also hope to expand the committee next year and get some new ideas for UU Public Relations.

Ruellen Fessenbecker, Chair

## Social Justice Steering Committee

**The Social Justice Steering Committee** is a small group that meets monthly and coordinates and supports Social Justice activities in our congregation. We are grateful to all the people involved in social justice work and want to recognize them, their commitment of time and energy and whatever it takes to get the job done. For example, over 10,500 pounds for food and \$45,000 were collected and donated in support of Social. We know that much more was given and not recorded. Our congregation also donates \$1 per member to the UU Service Committee and makes annual contributions from our operating budget to the Social Justice Funds A and B. Common Ground is published monthly and was edited by Cindy Port this year as part of an internship. Aleisha Kropf will be the new editor. Mary Blizzard designed our SJ icons and produced the SJ Bookmarks this year. John Woodcock, Program Team representative took the leadership role in making SJ pictures available on the SJ digital picture frame. Our SJ Bulletin Board and table, lead by Glenda Breeden, are always filled with Social Justice news and activities. Each month a different task force or group is highlighted both there and in a Social Justice moment one Sunday a month. Chalice Circles and Religious Education were each highlighted for a month showing their social justice work. Sunday forums were discontinued this year due to lack of space on Sunday mornings.

*Jackie Hall*

Below are reports from the various social justice task forces, liaisons and committees:

### **The Social Justice Coordinating Circle**

**The Social Justice Coordinating Circle**, made up of designated leaders from each task force and other church groups doing social justice work, met in October and February and the last week of May. Representatives from Chalice Circles and Religious Education have been active members of the SJ Circle this year. Combined with our final meeting was a potluck/sing-along celebration for anyone and everyone in the church who had contributed volunteer hours, money, etc., to our task forces. These meetings are convened to

dispense information, to share accomplishments and/or frustrations, and to foster a sense of community among those of us who are involved in social justice work. Following are examples of Circle business: "Tips for Task Forces" updated and made available to each participant; instructions and encouragement to use the digital picture frame to highlight activities; information and accessibility of SJ grants delineated; scheduling monthly SJ moments and bulletin board displays to introduce and celebrate ourselves within the church community; explanation of our new user-friendly computer scheduling and website; supporting one another as we strive to do our part in making this a more just world.

*Glenda Breeden, SJCC facilitator*

### **Social Justice Funds Committee**

*The Social Justice Funds Committee is a sub committee of the steering committee and administers the SJ Grants and the Sunday Plate collection for a community organization or project.*

**Fall Social Justice Grants program:** In September, SJFC sought applications for grants that might be funded by the church's social justice large and small grant funds. We received four proposals, none of which were funded because they did not meet the grant guidelines. We attended the February Social Justice Circle meeting to educate and discuss the program. We also made applications available to these leaders and encouraged them to start work early on proposals for the fall. We will review and provide feedback to the applicants in order to help foster successful grants in Fall 2009. As of Fall 2008 there was about \$1300 in Lundin Social Justice Fund A and about \$5000 in the Lundin Social Justice Fund B.

**Spring award of Sunday Plate funds:** In February, SJFC sought applications for the award, which is currently 25% of undesignated Sunday Plate funds. (Volunteers in Medicine received the award for 2008-2009, and will receive about \$6000 this year). We received five proposals, from the following organizations: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Crestmont Boys and Girls Club, Middle Way House Youth Program, People and Animals Learning Services, Inc. (PALS), and Positive Link.

After careful consideration, SJFC members selected the first three on the above list to present to the congregation for a vote at the June 2009 congregational meeting. SJFC worked with others to assure that congregation members would have adequate information on which to base their vote.

*The Social Justice Funds Committee  
Stephanie Estell and Jennifer Blankenship, Co-Chairs  
Joan Caulton, Jan Neff, Jerry Neff, Brett Davis Earheart*

### **Children's Task Force**

The Children's Task Force was reconstituted in late November of 2008. It is chaired by Jennifer Livesay and has eleven other members: Carolyn Emmert, Aleisha Kropf, Angela Lexmond, Barb Schwegman, Heather Moore, Leslie Gooldy, Lisa Sideris, Martha Nord, Mary Mahern, Stephanie Estell, and Veronica Lenard.

Our first project was a not-too-successful attempt to collect Stonyfield Farm yogurt lids as part of a contest to win a new playground for Templeton Elementary School.

In December, we successfully applied for a Day On grant from the City of Bloomington Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Commission, for \$350 which partially funded the purchase and construction of a tricycle storage shed for the Templeton pre-K playground.

On March 8, the Children's Task Force collaborated with the Habitat Task Force on a breakfast and bake sale fundraiser at the UU Church. The CTF's share of the proceeds was \$250. and RE program paid \$15 for a total of \$265. CTF used the funds to purchase the storage, with \$146.27 left over to be spent on Templeton playground needs. The shed was built by a combination of UU volunteers and members of the Templeton playground committee, on April 4.

In addition, the CTF sponsored a table for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), between the services on May 2.

Goals for the future include designing a bookmark; improved communication with the congregation as to the existence and aims of the CTF; and continued work with Templeton Elementary on their playground renovation. We hope to assist in or sponsor other activities related to child-welfare as they come up or are brought to our attention.

*Jennifer Livesay*

### **Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force**

1. **Bounty-Full Sunday:** the first Sunday of every month, is a collection of food from the congregation. Collected in 2008: 2952 lbs. of food which was donated to MCUM
2. **Holiday Food baskets:** a seasonal collection of food which is distributed to needy families at Christmas. Each basket provides a family with a generous Christmas dinner plus other groceries to last through a week. Donated: 78 food baskets to MCUM which constituted over 90% of the total baskets collected for last year.  
  
**Note:** combined weight of Bounty-full Sunday and food baskets was 10,552 pounds of food.
3. **Holiday Bazaar:** Sale of McMufflers, McHats, etc raised \$ 534 for MCUM
4. **Hoosier Hills Food Bank fund raiser:** January 2009: 312 pounds of good and \$434 raised
5. **RE fund raiser:** November 16: Children made and sold muffins.
6. **PLANT-A-ROW for the Hungry:** every Sunday throughout the growing seasons, collection of fresh produce from gardens of the congregation were donated and delivered to Mother Hubbard 's Cupboard.
7. **CROP WALK:** money as pledged collected and donated to various agencies in Bloomington whose missions are to feed the hungry in our neighborhood. Four UU walkers raised \$ 46.50
8. **Other programs supported:** Spring Into Action Luncheon, put on by MCUM. We sold tickets and attended, Each One, Feed One Community Food Drive - 8/2 -24, volunteers helped, Templeton Market Friday 1-3 pm. We are supporting the Templeton Family Food Market at Templeton Elementary School ever Friday that school is in session We help with set-up, helping the young children to pick appropriate food for their families, and break-down. This is ongoing support.
- 9 **Plans for new programs:** food drives at our work places - In an effort to expand our role in the ever increasing need for food in our community we will be initiating a drive for member of our congregation and particularly members of this task force to take up the cause where we work.

INTERFAITH HUNGER COMMISSION - This is a new idea whereby we incorporate with other ministries in Bloomington to possibly create an Interfaith Hunger Commission if one doesn't already exist.

CSA - Have the congregation buy a share(s) in fresh produce coop in an effort to get BETTER food (fresh produce) to needy people.

*Mary Blizzard*

### **Friends of Prisoners**

This task force has 20 active members and has been a vibrant presence at the Monroe County Jail (MCJ) and at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) this year. We partner with New Leaf/New Life and

Bloomington Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty in their ongoing work, and donated \$75 to purchase gifts and then mailed them to the grandchildren of a man on death row at Michigan City as part of the Children's Holiday Gifts project. Also, Rev. Breeden is the spiritual advisor and regular visitor to a man on death row at Terre Haute.

Following are examples of activities at MCJ: Crafting Bridges—visiting with inmates as they make craft items to send home to their loved ones; Women Writing for (a) Change—facilitating writing circles for incarcerated women; Psycho-Drama—role playing life challenges, past experiences, etc., and trying to prepare for re-entry into the community; mentoring parolees; providing clothes, toiletry items to parolees; teaching classes—yoga, poetry, life skills; musical entertainment; providing children's books for the jail waiting room; teaching in the addictions program.

At WVCF we (and Women's Alliance) have partnered with the men in the PLUS Program by collecting and delivering quilting materials and money to their Quilt Project and in turn have received at least thirty quilts from them to give to the Shalom Center, Middle Way House, and Habitat for Humanity. We have an ongoing mentoring relationship with one man in particular at WVCF who has recently joined UU's of the Larger Fellowship.

We have co-sponsored several events: candidate forum at MCPL, especially pertaining to jail overcrowding with NL/NL; workshop and forum on the advisability of a new jail in Monroe County with DMC; Journey of Hope speakers and forum with BCADP.

*Glenda Breeden*

### **Green Sanctuary Task Force**

**Summary:** The Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change has had a very active year. We continue to host vegetarian potlucks, with our most recent (March 22) taking up the UUA's Study Action topic of Ethical Eating. We've also continued holding Fall and Spring clothing swaps, aimed at re-using clothing and keeping ourselves out of the Mall when new items are needed. We've participated in or co-sponsored several educational events (Water Conservation Workshop, Simply Living Fair, Earth Care MLK Day Event, NWEI Discussion Group, and Earth Fair) as well as the all-congregation Retreat in May. We have contributed to conservation efforts at our church through the installation of a dual-flush toilet in the family restroom, and the completion of an energy audit. We are an active member of Earth Care, Bloomington's interfaith organization addressing climate change, with UU members facilitating Cut Your Carbon workshops, contributing to the Greening Your Sanctuary program, participating in Walbicus, and organizing advocacy campaigns. We also continue to sell organic, fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate as well as CFLs each Sunday between services.

**Money Raised/ Money Spent:** The GSTF raises money through weekly sales of organic fair trade coffee, tea, and chocolate, as well as compact fluorescent light bulbs (cfls). Income from this activity has funded the following:

\$600	Sherlock Homes – energy audit
\$100	UU Ministry for Earth annual dues
\$235	Dual-flush toilet
\$150	Co-sponsorship of Simply Living Fair
\$116	Bike rack
\$146	Saplings (Earth Fair)

*Stephanie Kimball*

### **Habitat For Humanity Task Force**

**Membership:** Barb Berggoetz and Connie Nelson-Laird continued to serve as co-chairpersons of the Habitat Task Force. Other active members during 2008-09 are: Mary Andrus-Overley, Bev Freese, Lynne Gilliatt,

Sandi Clothier and Joan Caulton. The task force meets monthly, now the last Sunday of the month, and works together to plan Habitat-related events and fund-raisers.

Action Plan completed: May 2008 through May 2009

**Social justice problem:** Lack of decent, affordable housing in Monroe County

**Goal:** Support Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County's efforts to provide affordable housing locally and globally.

**Objectives:** Educate the congregation about housing needs and purpose and accomplishments of Habitat for Humanity; raise money for upcoming Habitat builds, including Women's Build and Interfaith Build; support Habitat by providing volunteers and food for builds and for its ReStore.

**Activities:** The task force successfully completed its major goal of helping to financially sponsor and provide volunteers for the Interfaith Build, supported by a coalition of 10 churches. UU provided \$15,700 of the \$50,000 raised for the build, the largest amount of any participating church. We also provided about 30 volunteers in July and August, food for volunteers for one day of the build, and participated in the dedication on Sept. 14 at the house, 404 N. Hopewell.

Other activities and events during 2008-09 included:

- Parked cars during six IU football games at UU parking lot with members of International Outreach Task Force. Total income was \$2,829 for both task forces, so Habitat's profit was \$1,414.
- Sponsored table at Habitat's More Than Houses breakfast on Nov. 6, its major fund-raising event annually. About 10 UU members attended the breakfast.
- Made and sold Christmas "house" ornaments and magnets at church Holiday Bazaar in early December. Earned about \$275.
- Hosted fund-raising church breakfast on Jan. 18 to financially support a Habitat build. Received help from a Chalice Circle in providing, preparing and serving food and from RE children in preparing food. Took in \$742, minus \$174 in expenses, netting \$568.
- Donated about \$2,000 to the Habitat build and provided about 20 workers for one day of the build on Jan. 24, as well as food for the builders that day.
- Co-hosted a fund-raising breakfast at church with the Children's Task Force on March 8. Made a total of \$540, with \$290 going to Habitat.
- Sponsored a team of UU women for the 2009 Women's Build on May 14. Eighteen UU women donated or raised at least \$250 each to participate; five other women worked with the team. Also received a \$250 donation from a UU member that went to support some of the builders.
- Sponsored a Habitat ReStore donation and volunteer day in April. Organized donations of household goods/materials to the ReStore and provided about 10 volunteers to work there throughout the day doing various tasks.
- Submitted articles to Common Ground and the Prologue about Habitat Task Force activities participated in two Getting Involved Fairs and provided two social justice moments/bulletin boards.

Future Plans for 2009-10: The task force is planning to provide volunteers on June 6 for the build sponsored by the ReStore. Members also plan to together make food for an upcoming build. We will again park cars during IU football games to raise funds. The task force tentatively is also planning to sponsor a bake sale and another breakfast as fund-raisers within the next year. Our biggest upcoming project will be to help with the proposed neighborhood Habitat build in any way possible, including providing funds for a house, volunteers to build and other support.

Task force members also want to increase our active membership because we have lost some members in the last year and need more support to carry out our goals.

*Barb Berggoetz*



## International Outreach Task Force

The IOTF raised a total of \$6,070.00 last year in support of 3 separate international service organizations. Two of these organizations, Ndethya wa Ngutethya and Inches International, were projects brought to the task force by congregation members. The third group, Giving Back to Africa, is a locally based non-profit doing work in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Our Task Force activities included the following: The Giving Back to Africa Lunch Forum, Inches International Bracelet Sales, The IOTF Players Pub Fundraiser, Ndethya wa Ngutethya Jewelry Sales, Lotus Music Festival Sponsorship Campaign, UUSC Holiday Card Sales, Football Parking, Hosting the Congregational Dinner in Dec. 2008.

1. **Ndethya wa Ngutethya:** *This is our second year supporting the Ndethya effort in Kenya and there seems to be some real potential here for growth in terms of congregational involvement and also the type of support we give to this women's cooperative. This has been a long term project of congregation members Claire and Ed Robertson. I will be going to Kenya with Claire this July to meet and visit with members of the group and to discuss what can best be done with the funds raised.*
2. **Adopt a Kid Costa Rica:** *This is a primary school educational initiative that works to give financial assistance to at need families in rural Costa Rica. For families with children the cost of book and uniforms for school can cost prohibitive, resulting in children, often young girls, not being sent to school. This organization looks to support such families in need. The idea to support this group was brought to the IOTF by young congregation member Teal Larson. Teal had become familiar with this group and its leadership on a previous service trip to Costa Rica and had a strong desire to follow up on her experience with tangible support. This is just the type of initiative that our task force was created to support.*
3. **UU Church of Burundi Micro Lending Project:** *In conjunction with the UU Church of Kalamazoo, MI, we have set a goal of raising \$2000.00 to support the efforts of the UU Church of Burundi to solidify and grow their ongoing micro lending efforts. The initial idea for this project was presented to us by Mary Ann Macklin as a possibility of supporting wider UU initiatives of an international nature.*
4. *We also have a focus of giving support to the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee through general fundraising activities within our congregation.*

*We have the following events planned:* Monthly Adopt a Kid Costa Rica Bake Sales, Lotus Music Festival Fund Drive, July 4<sup>th</sup> BBQ Sale to support UU Burundi Micro Lending Project, UU Burundi Micro Lending Breakfast (Sept 6), Ndethya wa Ngutethya, Kenya Lunch Forum (Sept 20), Players Pub International Music Night Fundraiser, Holiday Alternative Giving Fund Drive, International Themed Dinner and Movie Night, Football Parking

Current active members: Jason Blankenship, Jennifer Blankenship, Dave Crane, Bret Earheart, Deb Hutton, Teal Larson, Lucy Papier, Daniel Reed, Claire Robertson, Ed Robertson, Kevin Rottet, Barb Schwegman, Laura Smith.

As we see it, the key to expanding within the congregation is to be an active, visible, flexible and welcoming task force. Church members who attend our events, or who might have a specific interests that coincides with the mission of our task force, will be encouraged to become active within our group. The door is always open for the talents, interests and contributions of newcomers, and the door does not close behind them.

*Jason Blankenship*

## Katrina Relief Task Force

In a way, our activities are simple to describe, although the organization behind them took a lot of effort.

We travelled to New Orleans twice, in September 2008 and in March 2009, each time for eight days. Each time, we car-pooled down, leaving on a Saturday, arriving on Sunday,

and driving back the following Saturday in one day. In March we had a crew of 10 and in September, a crew of 14.

We stayed at the Little Farms United Church of Christ in River Ridge, a suburb of New Orleans. There we bunked in dormitory rooms set up in former Sunday School rooms, cooked breakfasts, prepared sack lunches, and cooked some dinners. From Monday--Friday we worked at various homes that had been damaged by the Katrina hurricane in 2005. The Little Farms church has a well-developed program that takes volunteers week after week. Long-term volunteers there acted as supervisors, and took us to the sites where we worked. On Wednesday afternoons we toured parts of the city to see how the damage varied from place to place.

This work is very rewarding, yet there is a tremendous amount left to do, and the Little Farms program will likely continue for another 5--10 years. We currently have a reservation to find a group to return for the week beginning October 4, 2009.

For these trips we raised \$4523, with contributions from church members, the Women's Alliance, IU faculty, those on the trips, and Bloomingtonians not associated with the church. This money went toward trip expenses, including gasoline and a mileage allowance for drivers, motel expenses for the trip down, food, lodging at the Little Farms church, and a few other odds and ends.

*David Parkhurst*

### **Rainbow Rights Task Force**

The Rainbow Rights Task Force has been working on refocusing what it works on to encompass any issue that relates to GLBTQI rights.

- We held a fundraising breakfast in April that raised over 400.00 in funds that the task force can use to assist with these efforts.
- In Jan. we also assisted with hosting Keith Kron and a Gender workshop that Keith put on. This event also included a lunch following the workshop that highlighted the UU and UU Bloomington efforts in the areas of GLBTQ rights.
- This summer we are planning on joining with the UU church in Indy for Indy Pride. We are hoping to assist them with building their float and walking with them in the parade.

Throughout the next year the hope is to work with other task forces on a variety of events including hopefully a Valentines Day Dance next Feb.

*Kate Paul*

### **Task Force for a Just Peace**

The Just Peace Task Force faced a year of considerably reduced activity. In part, this was because many members were intensely involved in the 2008 presidential election. During the campaign, however, members took the opportunity to attend and ask questions at forums held by senior foreign policy advisers to Barack Obama.

The task force was the principal sponsor of an Action of Immediate Witness opposing a U.S. attack on Iran that was passed at the UUA General Assembly in Fort Lauderdale, FL in June 2008.

Following the election, the task force organized a postcard campaign between the services. Congregation members and friends wrote to President-elect Obama about a full withdrawal from Iraq, negotiations with Iran, no escalation in Afghanistan, and other issues of concern.

The task force co-sponsored (with Bloomington Peace Action Coalition) a benefit concert on March 25, 2009 to help Iraqi refugees. Turnout was poor. (Turnout matches experience nationally, both because of the economic crisis and because many are counting on President Obama for solutions.)

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the task force is sponsored a lecture at the Monroe County Public Library by Sean Meyer, Project Manager of the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Policy Initiative of Union of Concerned Scientists on "Reducing the Nuclear Threat: Why Indiana Matters." Nationally, there is a major effort to secure ratification for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Senator Lugar's vote will be pivotal.

The task force is sponsoring or co-sponsoring two potential Actions of Immediate Witness for 2009 General Assembly: one in support of a just peace in the Middle East, the other in support of ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Our task force reviewed the UUA's draft Statement of Conscience on Just Peacemaking. We drafted comments which were approved at a congregational meeting and submitted to the Commission on Social Witness. During the year, task force members have been published in *The New York Times*, *The Indianapolis Star*, *The Bloomington Herald-Times*, and WFIU's "Speak Your Mind."

David Keppel

## Special Purposes Fund Committee 2008-09

The Special Purposes Fund (SPF) is the depository for assets donated to the church which may be used for religious, charitable, educational, and civic purposes. The fund is administered by an elected committee separately from the other financial affairs of the church. SPF funds may not normally be used for regular operating expenses. Members of the SPF Committee in 2008-09 were Deb Hutton, Tom Hollingsworth, and Susan Bookout, with President GK Rowe and Treasurer John Lawson.

During 2008-09, the SPF Committee authorized expenditures of \$3,411, which helped to provide funding for architect fees for preliminary design work on the Green Spaces Initiative, and income from endowment for Church Groundskeeping.

Donations received since the June 2008 congregational meeting totaled \$21,883.  
Total assets of the Special Purposes Fund as of May 29, 2009, were \$122,347.

Total in Endowments	\$28,008
Total in Restricted Funds	\$63,328
Total in Non-restricted Funds	<u>\$31,011</u>
Total Assets	\$122,347

(Restricted Funds were given in memory of loved ones, to be used for a specific purpose, or were given for other special projects by members of the congregation.)

(Non-restricted Funds were given in memory of loved ones or are bequests or other donations, without a stipulation that the funds be used for a specific purpose.)

This report compiled by Carol Marks, Church Administrator, May 2009

## **Sunday Services Committee**

Due to the fact that our church has had co-ministers and an Minister of Religious Education for several years, the work of our committee has changed substantially. We are responsible for creating only two lay-led services a year, which we did this past year in June and July. Our main responsibilities are as worship associates each Sunday. Although we are few in number we feel we have carried out our duties as requested: support the ministers so that they can be totally present for their part in the service, make sure that the joys and sorrows candles and the chalices are ready for each service, and, in general, pay attention to other needs that may arise. We are presently planning services for June 21, 2009, and July 26, 2009, and we are recruiting new members.

Committee members: Jason Blankenship, Glenda Breeden, Patricia Coleman, Julia Dadds, Syndee Earheart, Karen Gunderman, Lisa-Marie Napoli, Al Strickholm, Beckie Wagner, Will Watt