



Our Eighth Season (2008-2009) Continues

Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis: 615 West 43rd Street www.uui.org
12 and under free • Snacks, coffee and wine available • www.indyfolkseries.org
All concerts are Saturday evenings, 7 – 9 P.M.

October 25: Michael Johnathan

A self-described folksinger, songwriter and tree-hugger, Michael Johnathan has been called “Woody Guthrie in a cyber world.” One reviewer said he combines “the inventiveness of Bob Dylan, the melodic voice of John Denver, [and] the showmanship of Garrison Keillor.” http://americanaagency.com/aa_mjohnathon.html \$10

November 29: Open Mic Night Benefit

Enjoy a houseful of local artists pitching in to benefit a great cause. (Beneficiary to be announced.) IFS Open Mic Nights are an annual highlight of artistry and goodwill. \$8

February 21, 2009: Blueprint Music

Five memorable musicians, driven by Kate Lamont’s soulful vocals and poetic lyrics and Doug Sauter’s guitar and banjo playing. Add artists on cello, mandolin/fiddle and dobro/African percussion, and enjoy Blueprint Music’s unique mix of folk, bluegrass, progressive rock, Americana and world music. www.blueprintmusic.com/ \$10

March 28: Goldmine Pickers

Goldmine Pickers is a young, passionate, four-piece band weaving together roots and inspiration in bluegrass, jazz, folk and Irish traditions to create an energetic new space in Americana music. www.goldminepickers.com/ \$10

April 18: Amy Carol Webb

Singer-songwriter Amy Carol Webb is known as a “beloved song weaver.” She is passionate, powerful, and poignant. She’s the girl next door and no ordinary woman. Come and savor her music—you’ll understand. www.amycarolwebb.com/ \$10

May 16: Emily Ann Thompson: A Celtic Celebration

Emily’s Celtic fiddling has been called “organic, fresh, and full of passion.” She plays traditional Irish, Scottish, and Cape Breton tunes in an innovative and energetic style. Emily performs with guitar, and this concert will include traditional Irish dance and vocals as well. www.emilyannthompson.com/ \$10

The Smart Church Workshop – A Report

The **Smart Church Workshop**, offered at UUI on September 27 by the Heartland District of the UUA, was attended by 43 people from 13 congregations including UUI; UU Church of Hendricks County; UU Fellowship of Oxford, Ohio; St. John’s Church of Cincinnati; Heartland UU Church, UU Church of Tuscaloosa, Alabama; UU Church of Evansville; and UU Church of Greater Lafayette.

Participants received information on systems theory, brain function, anxiety triggers, conflict management styles, and tips on how to manage congregational conflict. Role-playing exercises offered opportunities to learn how to mediate interpersonal conflicts. Here are comments from some participants that found the workshop helpful:

- “I continue to ponder the quote, ‘Differences must not be merely tolerated, but seen as a fund of necessary polarities between which our creativity can spark.’ **Rev. Child** expressed this in another way when she talked about the ‘spiritual practice’ of staying in touch with (or in tension with) opposing perspectives.” **Marty Miles**
- “I was surprised to learn that ‘conflict in a church is natural and brings opportunities to examine values and assumptions.’ I’ll have to think about that one for a while before I accept it.” **Larry Miller**
- “The workshop transformed my personal life unexpectedly. I became aware of my role in a triangulated family relationship. The really cool thing...when I made my boundaries clear with my family a few days later, they felt empowered to do the same.” **Pam Blevins Hinkle**
- “I wish we could have all been exposed to the material in the Smart Church training three years ago. In fact it would be a good idea for us all to go through it now.” **Ray Wilson**
- “I was delighted to experience Rev. Child’s thoughtful leadership and so proud that UUI hosted this meaningful, focused district workshop.” **Susan Pratt**
- “I enjoy attending district events because it is one of the few opportunities I get to meet UUs from other congregations. As we share our stories, it helps remind me that we have common questions and challenges, and in the workshop we can learn from each other and work on solutions together.” **David Jackoway**

The Path Forward Task Force would like to thank event co-chairs **Susan Pratt** and **Larry Miller** and all helpers: **Janet Cohen** (for arranging the wonderful food), **Mervyn Cohen**, **Ann Miller**, **Gary** and **Heliene Houdek**, **Donna** and **Bill Marsh**, and **Jeannette Rowe**.

Path Forward Task Force Report

Getting to know the interim minister, getting to know each other in newly formed task forces, getting a handle on the work... these threads unite the multifaceted work of the way forward. In addition to the successful Smart Church workshop in September, there is movement on many fronts:

• **Healthy Congregation Task Force** co-chairs **Bill Ney** and **Cindy Jackson** met with **Rev. Child** in September, and many task force members attended the Smart Church workshop. An integrated strategy that includes evening gatherings, worship services, resource materials and more, is being explored. The first of such offerings is the series *Creating a Beloved Community Right Here, Right Now* which will be led by Rev. Child. See the *Eye*, page 5, and sign up now (space is limited).

Other Path Forward task forces are working in collaboration with the Strategic Planning Committee:

• The **Governance Task Force**, co-chaired by **Sylvia Reichel** and **Jon Laramore**, has been meeting monthly. Governance models and bylaws from other congregations, as well as best practices outlined in leading texts on congregational life, will be investigated as work proceeds.

• The **Worship-Arts Task Force**, chaired by **Robin Riebsomer**, has met with Rev. Child and discussed ways to deepen the dialogue about UUI's diverse worship experience needs. Stay tuned for more details soon.

• The **Strategic Planning Committee**, chaired by **Carol Paddock**, also held visioning sessions in August on Religious Education and Social Justice to supplement sessions on other topics held earlier in the spring/summer. The committee will work closely with Rev. Child to plan next steps in the process of helping UUI discern who we are now as a congregation and what our priorities are for the future.

Want to get involved? Contact a committee chair to sign up...let your voice be heard. The Path Forward Task Force welcomes your additional questions; committee members include: **Pam Blevins Hinkle, Joyce Hoying, Bill Marsh, Marty Miles, Larry Miller, Susan Pratt, and Ray Wilson.**

UUs in the News

Ken Chestek had a letter published in the Sunday, September 28, issue of *The Indianapolis Star* on page E3. Ken points out that the financial bailout package bears resemblance to the Patriot Act in that it gives too much unsupervised power to the executive branch.

Carey Hamilton, daughter and stepdaughter of **Linda** and **Janos Horvath**, has been hired as the Executive Director of the Indiana Recycling Coalition as of September 1. The IRC is a 501(c) 3 organization with members representing business, industry, state and local governments, environmental groups and individuals and was founded in 1989. The IRC's mission is to support source reduction, reuse, composting and recycling activities in Indiana.

Lynne Perkins Socey just directed an hour-long version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for City Center Children's Theatre which is touring IPS schools this fall. She is also directing a short *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* for CCCT which can be seen at the Conner Prairie Living History Museum before you take a haunted hayride and join in other family Halloween activities **October 17 - 30**.

Jenni White is directing a production of *Godspell* for Broadway Presents Artist Series, an outreach of Broadway United Methodist Church, **October 10 - 12**. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. For more information, see the website: www.broadwayumc.org

Mary Hunt is in the cast of *The Mystery of Indygrove Manor*, written by **D. Chapelle**, presented **October 3 - 5, 10 - 12, 17 - 19, and 24 - 26** at the Feemason Hall Theater, 525 N. Illinois Street. For information or directions call **Bob Rini** at **201-3436** or e-mail at: saw_theater@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events (continued from page 12)

October 23 (Thursday) at 7 P.M.—CUUPs

October 26 (Sunday) at noon—All-church Halloween party, Social Hall and Sanctuary.

October 28, November 25, December 30 (Tuesday) at 7 P.M.—UUI Knitters, Cottage Library.

November 1 (Saturday) at 10 A.M.—But Is It Art?, UUI.

November 2 (Sunday) at 9:15 A.M.—Credo Forum, Cottage.

November 2 (Sunday) after church—Fall Congregational meeting, UUI.

November 3, December 1, 2008, January 5, 2009 (Monday) at 12:30 P.M.—BULBs luncheons, Just Judy's.

November 4, December 2 (Tuesday) at 7 P.M.—Drumming Circle, Social Hall.

November 5 (Wednesday) at 6 P.M.—UUI Women's Dinner, Salvatore's Restaurant.

November 5, 12, 19, December 3 (Wednesday) at 7 P.M.—Creating a Beloved Community Right Here, Right Now, Social Hall.

November 8 (Saturday) at 1 P.M.—Create an Ethical Will, UUI.

Nov. 12, Dec. 10 (Wednesday) at 11:30 A.M.—UUI Downtown lunch, Stardust Terrace Café.

November 16 (Sunday)—Annual Leaf Raking and Chili Dinner, UUI Grounds.

April 3-5, 2009—Heartland District Annual Meeting and Spring Conference, Muncie, Indiana.

April 4, 2009 (Saturday) at 6:30 P.M.—Arty Bash.

April 25, 2009 (Saturday)—Habitat Rummage Sale.