



Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis
UU Eye Newsletter

Volume 29
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Sunday, September 28, 2008

“Pulpit Freedom Sunday’ – Crossing the Line on Politics in Church”

Rev. Barbara Child

The nation’s best-funded and most prominent Religious Right legal group, the Alliance Defense Fund, has started a campaign to urge ministers to discuss candidates for public office from the pulpit this election season and today in particular. What’s wrong with that? Let’s see, where do I start counting? And what does “freedom of the pulpit” really mean to us? Worship Associate: **Jim Hermiller**. The UI Youth Ensemble will sing *Flying Free*, words and music by **Don Besig**.

Sunday, October 5, 2008

“Turn, and Turn Again”

Rev. Barbara Child

This Sunday falls in the midst of the Days of Awe on the Jewish calendar, the ten days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Let us celebrate the high purposes of these High Holidays with a fresh look at new beginnings in our own lives as well as in the life of the congregation. Let us look at the turns we have taken so far or might want to take in the days to come. Worship Associate: **Matt Socey**. Special music: UI Folk Ensemble and Guitar Circle.

Sunday, October 12, 2008

“A Denomination? Not Exactly; an Association? You Bet!”

Rev. Barbara Child

I was so pleased when I learned that folks here at UI were making a wonderful banner to send off to Tennessee in support of the Knoxville UUs after the horrific murders in their sanctuary in July. A tragedy like that does have a way of bringing people together in more solidarity than is common on ordinary days. I’m interested though in what it means for us to be an Association of Congregations *every day* – not just one insular congregation after another. Worship Associate: **Robin Riebsomer**. The UI Choir will sing *I Am But a Small Voice*.

Sunday, October 19, 2008

“Living Together in the Wilderness”

Rev. Barbara Child

How can we be together “in the wilderness” while we search and experiment in this life? What do we need from each other? What might be worth it for us to promise each other as common commitments to enable us to be vulnerable with each other and feel safe enough to stretch and risk? And, after all, what do you need as a congregation to be able to engage your unknown future with zest and enthusiasm? Worship Associate: **Matt Socey**. The UI Vocal Ensemble will sing *We Will Be a Shelter for Each Other*.

Services begin at 10:30 A.M. Childcare will be provided.

In the Meantime— Rev. Barbara Child Interim Minister

As I write today, I am preparing for a gathering with the teachers in UUI's Religious Education program. I was delighted to be invited to hold this gathering—a chance to get to know one another and a chance for me to share some of what I have gleaned from RE programs in other UU churches as well as some of my own ideas about the role of religious education in the life of the church. One of the reasons I was drawn to UUI was the fine reputation of your RE Program in the wider UU world. While I am here, I want to do my best to support it.

It is important to me that UUI be a place where children and youth will want to return. It is important that their teachers be the sort that **William Ellery Channing** would have described—teachers who stir up children's minds and help them use their own eyes to look inquiringly and steadily into the world within and without. It is important that parents care what their children and youth are learning and participate in the program by sharing their time and talents and by continuing to learn themselves. It is important for everyone in the congregation to take an interest in the children and youth.

Here is what it seems to me we aim to teach children, youth, and adults too in the context of a Unitarian Universalist congregation. These, at least, are my hopes:

- That we heighten spiritual awareness that is questioning, socially concerned, and informed.
- That we develop understanding of our Unitarian Universalist heritage and values.
- That we commit ourselves to translate our principles into action.
- That we foster respect for our own individual selves and our potential.
- That we develop tools for making decisions about what is ethical and what makes and keeps right relationships with others.

I look forward to the chance to share with you in giving life to these hopes. Here are some words I will share with the RE teachers. They are from **Minot Savage**, a turn-of-the-20th-century Unitarian minister who wrote about the qualities he wanted to see in church school teachers:

I do not want people who think they are very wise. I certainly do not want people who have the idea they are very good. And I certainly do not want anybody who has nothing else to do. I want just human people who appreciate that here is something worth their doing, and who are willing to do the best they can.... The main thing, after all, is that you should bring the children close to a warm heart, that you surround them with an atmosphere of devotion. Teach them that they may become a part of this great effort of humanity to lift up the world.

So may it be!

Barbara

Fall Congregational Meeting

The fall Congregational Meeting will be held after church on **Sunday, November 2**, in the Sanctuary. We encourage all members to attend and exercise your right to vote.

Worship and Arts

The Worship and Arts Breakthrough Committee will meet on **Saturday, October 4, 2008**, at **9 A.M.** in the Cottage. Please e-mail **Robin Riebsomer** at RRiebsomer@indiananurses.org or call **317-471-8206** if you can attend.

Dinner Discussion

Please remember to come to the Dinner Discussion table in the Social Hall after the service on **Sunday, September 28**. Sign-up is drawing to a close, so don't miss one of these great opportunities to share food and friendship.

From the Board of Trustees— *Susan Pratt, Secretary*

A tiny family in Lakewood, Ohio, just west of Cleveland joined the fledgling West Shore Unitarian Church in the late '40's. The dad signed up to be an usher, the mother took on the responsibility for Sunday's flowers and their little girl just loved Sunday school. The young minister was dynamic and the little congregation grew by leaps and bounds. Property was acquired and a capital campaign to build a church in Rocky River took place. Money ran out and the congregation pitched in to help in the building. The little girl's dad had a peck basket filled with a hammer, pliers and other supplies and went out to the church every Saturday morning to build cabinets and shelves and run electric wires. The mom helped in the Sunday school by preparing all the supplies the teachers would need each Sunday. The little girl grew up in a wonderful supportive environment and was eventually married at this church.

Along the way, the congregation grew considerably. As the daughter reached her high school years, congregants changed from saying "We need to mulch the flowers," to saying, "Why don't 'they' mulch the flowers?" and from "Time for a painting party for the Sunday School rooms," to "Why don't 'they' have the classrooms painted?"

Especially in this period of difficult economic times, let's not let this attitude seep into our thinking here at UUI.

Soon we will have a special coffee hour to introduce us to multiple opportunities for us to help our church community. Please explore these possibilities and volunteer to help and be involved. The *Eye* and the *Sunday Times* will announce this Service Fest.

Susan

Unnecessary A/C

I don't know about you, but it really hits me in the gut when I happen to come by church mid-week and find that the air conditioner in the Meeting House has been set to hold a temperature of 60 degrees all week. I think about how much it costs us, and I think about the environmental impact. I don't know why anyone would do this. But it has happened too many times to think it was a one-time accident.

We need to deputize a posse of thermostat-setting watchers. Please join me in keeping an eye on all of our thermostats in all of our buildings. If the building is unoccupied the temperature should be set at 80 in the summer and 50 - 55 in the winter. Take a look to see if the 7-day settings are reasonable. If you want to learn how to adjust and set the thermostats, ask me. (**Ray Wilson**)

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Interim Minister's Hours

Rev. Barbara Child, the Interim Minister, seeks to be available for appointments as needed. You may reach her by phone at the church office (**317-283-4760**), by e-mail to minister@uui.org, or by her cell phone (**812-345-4506**). She is not available on Mondays except in case of emergency.

Religious Education Administrator— *Matthew Brooks*

Fun, food, and games, oh my! Does that sound like a typical Sunday at church to you? Well, okay, we do typically have food and often we have fun, but we usually don't have games. Have no fear, though, we soon will on **Sunday, October 26**, during our all- church Halloween Party.

The Halloween Party is a fun UUI tradition that builds community and provides an excellent way to show off our fabulous Halloween costumes. During the event, UUI members, friends, and visitors of all ages have a chance to mingle, eat lots of great “scary” food, and just have fun together.

This year the Family Ministry Committee has plans to make the party an even better all-church community-building event:

1. They will be reaching out to all UUI committees and groups to invite each of them to sponsor a game or activity.
2. They will be calling all visiting and new families to give them a personal invitation to the party.
3. They will be upholding UU principles by working with the CUUPS group to better represent Halloween's connection to Earth-based religions and by selling Fair Trade chocolate to raise money for a Social Justice project.

Everyone is invited to attend. Please plan to bring “scary” food to share and your own place settings (to be green). More details will follow in October, but be sure to mark your calendars now and join us for the “scariest” UUI event of the year on Sunday, October 26, from **12 noon to 2 P.M.** in the Social Hall and Sanctuary.

If you are a UUI committee/group chairperson and are interested in sponsoring a game or activity to educate the congregation about what your committee is all about, please contact **Stacy Robinson** by e-mail at sr_robinson521@yahoo.com or by phone at **(317) 385-9674**.

Matthew

\$ The Auction Approaches \$ Saturday, October 18, Doors Open at 6 P.M.

Are you hankering for new experiences? Do you have a few pennies that you have squirreled away, despite the financial turmoil in this country? Would you like to spend a fun evening with your UUI friends, socializing, nibbling on tempting goodies, drinking wine, and enjoying the spectacle that an auction provides? Would you like to help out UUI financially but in a painless, exciting manner that offers only rewards for every dollar spent?

We have just the evening for you, and you won't regret a second of it. Auction audiences smile and laugh and visibly enjoy the race to acquire something special, as docile and restrained UU adults vie to outbid each other on scandalously exceptional bargains.

Can you already sense the entertaining and jocular atmosphere? Really, you want to be a part of the festivities. Don't let everyone else have all the fun. Donate an item now, purchase your \$5 ticket (talk about an exceptional bargain!), and anticipate breathlessly this long-awaited event.

You will be receiving a donation form, and we are eager to see the creativity of your offering. Manicures? Massages? Mountain climbing? Family photography? Tennis lessons? Vegetarian feasts? Luscious and calorie-laden cheesecakes?

Wait a minute; that last is **my** offering. Save up and I'll stock up on cream cheese and white chocolate.

Let's set an attendance record, and then the money will follow. (**Susan Raccoli**)

Spirit & Place

But Is It Art?

Please join us for the Spirit and Place Festival event *But Is It Art? Exploring Boundaries and Transforming Communities*, an all-day event at UUI on **Saturday, November 1, 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.** UUI is a partner, along with Susurrus Artists Inc. and Stutz Artists. Here's a short description:

When does walking become dance? When does clothing become costuming? When does a chair become sculpture? When do natural sounds or speech become music? When does conversation become storytelling? Explore how the everyday becomes art and discover how creativity and spirituality can stoke community transformation. Participate in one or more of the following activities: (1) Enjoy a panel discussion (**10:30 A.M. - 12 noon**) featuring visual and performing artists, clergy, arts educators, therapists, arts administrators, K-16 teachers, and artists who work with special needs communities. (2) Choose from seven concurrent afternoon workshops (**1 - 4 P.M.**) in dance and movement, *found sound*, fabric arts and costuming, visual arts, storytelling and oral history, cyanotype photographic process, and theater. (3) An exhibit and performance of what was created in the workshops, and a closing panel (**4 - 6 P.M.**). No training or experience needed. Register by October 28; remaining spaces filled on site on a first-come basis.

Facilitators and panelists include UUI members **Sally Childs-Helton, Stephanie Robertson, and Amy Kindred**. For more information, see the Spirit & Place booklet or website, <http://www.spiritandplace.org> or call Sally at **251-8099** for information or to register for a workshop.

Create an Ethical Will

A standard will bequeaths possessions. An ethical will offers a narrative for your family and friends that recounts your beliefs, blessings, and life lessons as well as your hopes and dreams. With roots in the Jewish tradition, people of all faiths are discovering the value of ethical wills in providing a creative and enduring communication between generations. See examples, find resources, consider your own story, and learn how to develop this legacy of love on **Saturday, November 8, 2008**, from **1 to 3 P.M.** at UUI as part of this year's Spirit & Place Festival. Participants will create a personal outline during the workshop led by **Susanne Gaudin**, trained board member of Compassion and Choices of Indiana. The program is free; pre-registration is requested so that there will be a packet of information for each participant. For questions and registration please contact **Susan Pratt** at **253-7061** or pratt8460@gmail.com

Imagine This

The UUI Photography Club meets the second **Monday** of each month at **7 P.M.** in the Cottage Library. Next meeting: **Monday, October 13**. The theme for October is *Imagination*. There is another assignment: redo a photo sent by another member. To receive this part of the assignment, e-mail **Wendy Dougherty** (Wdougherty@indy.rr.com).

UUI Downtown Lunch

UUI members who work downtown and like to gather for lunch meet at the Indiana History Center, Stardust Terrace Café, located at 450 W. Ohio Street, every second **Wednesday** of the month at **11:30 A.M.** Next gathering, **October 8, 2008**. For more information, contact **Diana Ensign** or **Eric Hinkle**.

Credo Forum

Sunday, October 5, 9:15 to 10:15 A.M., Cottage Music Room

Does the Universe Have a Purpose?

This is the first of the “Big Questions” that was posed by the **John Templeton** Foundation to a group of leading scientists and scholars. We invite you to this special forum discussion to share your thoughts with us. If you would like to read some opinions line first, check this website: <http://www.templeton.org/questions/purpose> We always welcome new faces and new ideas. For more information contact **David Jackoway** at 844-7193 or **Lowell McCoskey** at 253-3025.

For and About Women

The International Convocation of UU Women, **February 26** through **March 1, 2009**, in Houston, Texas, has already attracted 40 women from 13 countries outside the US and Canada who plan to attend. You will want to consider attending too, and the early-bird registration has been extended to **September 30**. The Honorary Chair is **Maria Sinkford**, who attended UUI Sept. 14.

Listed among the distinguished line of speakers is **Carolyn McDade**, composer of *Spirit of Life*. Other speakers will represent Meadville Lombard Theological School, Starr King School for the Ministry, and other UU churches and advocacy groups.

The convocation focuses on education, faith, action and transformation. UU women have never met as a group internationally and have not met nationally in nearly 20 years. This event promises to be exciting and life-changing. Women are urged to both attend and to spread the word in their congregations, and also to help raise money to support the scholarship fund. More information on the website: <http://www.icuuw.com/>

UUI Women’s Dinner

The women of UUI are invited to meet for dinner on **Thursday, October 2**, at **6 P.M.**, at Santorini Greek Kitchen at 1417 E. Prospect St. No program—just good conversation and food. For questions or information, contact **Susan Beauchamp** at beauartnow@yahoo.com or 634-2448.

Pledge Update

We are quickly closing in on the end of the first quarter for UUI. At this point, as a congregation, we have collected over \$57,000 in pledges. However, over one-third of the people who have made a pledge have not yet started to make payments. Please take a moment to considering making a payment towards fulfilling your pledge.

Also, I will be mailing out statements in early October. When you receive your statement, please be sure to check if I have correctly recorded your pledge and payments, to date.

Feel free to contact me at bassett.m.h@gmail.com or 251-0668 if you have any questions or concerns about your pledge payments.

Matt Bassett, Assistant Treasurer

All-Church *Animals* Art Exhibit

The next all-church exhibit, *Animals*, will be hung on **Sunday, September 28**. Photographs, paintings, prints, fabric work, sculpture, or any other medium or technique qualifies. Contact **Wendy Dougherty** (Wdougherty@indy.rr.com or 255-7039) with the label information ahead of time (your name, title, medium, and any explanation [if any] you want to have on a label). Send label information by **September 25**. The artwork needs to be at the church following the service on **Sunday, September 28**. Please write your name and phone number on the **back** of your artwork. Also, please write your name and title on a Post-it and put it on the **front** of your artwork to help us match the label to the artwork.



Wanted: Green Ideas

The UUI Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) is gathering ideas about the sustainable household lifestyles of UUI members and friends. This includes environmentally-friendly activities in any of the following areas: garbage, water, energy, transportation, and consumption. Write a brief description of the practice or practices you are now engaged in and contact **Don Somers** at donbanj@sbcglobal.net or **546-3061** and he'll take it from there.

A few tips for this week:

- According to the California Energy Commission, Consumer Energy Center the amount of fuel savings and carbon reduction depends on your cars fuel efficiency. "For every two minutes a car is idling, it uses about the same amount of fuel it takes to go about one mile." By eliminating just 10 minutes of idling every day, a car that gets about 20 mpg saves approximately 91 gallons of gasoline which adds up to \$365 at \$4/gal. and reduces carbon emissions by about 1,788 lbs. of CO₂ annually. An SUV that only gets about 10 mph would save about 182 gallons, \$730 and reduce carbon emissions by about 3,577 lbs. of CO₂ every year.
- Get tips for reuse and find out where to recycle at <http://www.kibi.org/recycle/index.htm>.
- Taking the bus is not that hard and sometimes it actually goes where you're going. Check out routes and schedules for IndyGo at <http://www.indygo.net/>

UUI Board Games

The Board Games group will meet **Sunday, October 5**, in the Commons from **6 to 9 P.M.** Bring a game or two, a snack to share, and your own beverage and cup, napkin, etc.

Thank You

Thank you to our dear friends and members who showed up on Saturday, September 13, to help clean the grounds and beautify our property. These generous-hearted people worked diligently and accomplished a lot. We are grateful for their efforts.

Mervyn Cohen

What a busy crew—they chat merrily and prepare the *Eye* for mailing. We love our folders, and welcomed **Sophia Lipford**, three months old, who came to help her grandparents, **Bob and Sharon Lipford**, with the September 10 *Eye*. We also heartily thank **Larry Miller, Terry Knickerbocker, Mary Lou Moriarty, Susan Ham, Carolyn Godfrey, and Gary Houdek**. This great crew coped with **two** inserts. Gary did the labels, Bob helped count and pack up, and Larry did the post office errand. And we also want to thank **Vanessa Fry** for her good-natured cooperation with the mailing.

UU Buddhist Fellowship

The UU Buddhist Fellowship meets at **6:30 P.M.** in the Sanctuary on the first **Monday** and third **Tuesday** of each month. We will meet **Monday, October 6**, and **Tuesday, October 21**. Our typical schedule is sitting meditation for 20 minutes, walking meditation for 10 minutes, and sitting meditation for 20 minutes. We finish with 30 minutes of discussion. We will be discussing **Plato's Republic** books 2 and 3. Anyone interested in meditation, mindfulness or Buddhism is welcome. For more information, contact **Vince Mathews** at **317-873-4422** or vmathews@iupui.edu.

BULBs Luncheon

The next BULBs meeting is **October 6, 2008**, at **12:30 P.M.**, at Just Judy's, 2210 East 54th Street. The BULBs—Birthday Unitarian Lunch Bunch—meet the first Monday of every month. You don't need an invitation, so come join the group if you can. You will enjoy the fellowship. Future BULBs luncheons: **November 3**, and **December 1**.



Social Justice

Your UUI Social Justice Committee has lots of exciting plans in the works. But we need **you** to help us plan and implement. We meet in the Cottage the first **Sunday** of each month at noon and second **Tuesday** of each month at **7 P.M.** **Families are welcome.** Our next meetings

will be **Sunday, October 5,** and **Tuesday, October 14.** If you would like to participate in social justice activities, but can't attend meetings, please contact me at either **418-1679** or susannehinson@gmail.com. For more information on our activities, please check out our bulletin board in the Social Hall or our blog at <http://uuisocialjustice.blogspot.com/>.

Children

The children who attended our last meeting are working on preparing a box of items to send to a group of U.S. soldiers in either Iraq or Afghanistan. The RE Family Ministry Committee has invited the SJ Committee to be a part of their annual Halloween Party on **Sunday, October 26,** at **noon.** We will sponsor a letter-writing campaign table with the theme *What Scares You the Most?* focusing on issues in Marion County.

Youth

We are super excited to be working with our very amazing UUI Youth, represented at our last meeting by **Leslie Massicotte** and **Scott Jackoway.** Our UUI Youth Group is hosting a senior high youth conference in October and has invited the UUI Social Justice committee to lead a workshop. We are also planning a film night in November with proceeds going to the UUI Youth Group's Habitat for Humanity fund.

Crop Walk for Hunger

For September, October and November, we are concentrating on poverty issues in Marion County. We'll be participating in the Indianapolis CROP Hunger Walk on **October 19** <http://home.earthlink.net/~jdunson/> and we'll be hosting a coffee hour/bake sale to raise funds.

Fifth Sunday Offering

If anyone has ideas for the November Fifth Sunday offering (relating to poverty in Marion county), please let us know. The Bethlehem House, the recipient of the UUI Fifth Sunday Offering, received **\$543.24.**

UUI Community Garden

We are seeking a member of UUI willing to be the Community Garden administrator. Please let us know if you are interested.

Peace and Love—**Susanne Hinson-Rieger**

Wanted: More Tutors

If you have even one hour to spare during the day, there are some kids at School #43, 40th St. and Capitol Ave. who need your help. No previous tutoring experience needed—just a love of kids and the willingness to help them read or do grade-level math.

Many of your fellow UUI folks are tutoring there now. You can choose the grade level, the day and time you can tutor, working within the teachers' schedules. It's a one-on-one experience that the kids love and you will too. As one tutor has said many times, "I get as much or more out of tutoring than the kids do." And, it's a chance to give something back to the future of our community. To learn more and/or to sign up, call **Don Somers** at **546-3061** or e-mail him at donbanjo@sbcglobal.net.

Knit and Purl Together

UUI Knitters meet second **Saturdays** at **10 A.M.** and fourth **Tuesdays** at **7 P.M.** in the Cottage Library. Everyone with an interest in knitting is welcome to join us. No dues, no agenda, just knitting (or crocheting, beading, darning your socks . . . we're pretty liberal), but mainly knitting. Sometimes we take interesting field trips. Skill levels range from raising sheep for wool, to spinning, to never having held needles before. We're always happy to teach our craft—we even have a huge stash of yarn, needles and patterns to get you started. Invite your neighbors and friends. We have an awfully good time.

Meet Rev. Barbara Child

Everyone is invited to sign up to attend a *Get to Know the Interim Minister* gathering.

Five gatherings are planned in October to give members and friends an opportunity to meet informally with our interim minister, **Rev. Barbara Child**, and to find out what an interim minister does and what we, as a congregation, will be doing during this interim period. The scheduled gatherings are as follows:

Thursday, October 2, 10 A.M. to 12 P.M., Social Hall; host: **Larry Miller**

Saturday, October 4, 4 P.M. to 6 P.M., home of **Kim and Steve Beck**

Thursday, October 9, 7 P.M. to 9 P.M., home of **Cindy and Ray Wilson**

Sunday, October 12, 7 P.M. to 9 P.M., home of **Linda and Tom Farrell**

These gatherings will be limited to 20 people each. You may sign up after church beginning **Sunday, September 14**. The fifth and final gathering will be on **Sunday, October 19**, after the service. Anyone who missed the other gatherings may attend this one—we have no attendance limit.

Be sure to attend one of these gatherings. Contact a member of the Transition Team for more information: **Kim Beck, Dennis Jackson, Judy Pleiss, Joanne Smiddie-Brush, and David Webb**.



Children's Choir

The Children's Choir will perform for the service on **Sunday, October 26**.

Rehearsals will be on **Sunday, Oct. 19**, in the Music Room in the Cottage and on that **Sunday, Oct. 26**, in the Sanctuary. Both rehearsals begin at **9:30 A.M.** The Children's Choir is open to singers in grades 1 through 6. New voices are welcome, especially the new first grade singers this time.

If you have questions, call **Carol Kirk** at **255-3244** or e-mail RKirk1937@aol.com.

Join the UUI Choir

To prepare for the Sunday service on **October 12**, the UUI choir will rehearse in the Cottage music room from **7:30 to 9 P.M.** on **Wednesdays, October 1 and 8**. All interested singers are invited to join us. For further information contact **Sylvia Maiuri** at **546-3061**. or pianosm@sbcglobal.net

Caring Corner

Patricia (Pat) Jane Watson Grande, former member of UUI, died September 6, 2008. She was 77. Services were private.

Draft Revision of UUA Principles

Our interim minister **Rev. Barbara Child** led the UUA's project for reviewing and revising the Principles and Purposes contained in Article II of the UUA bylaws. UUI is offering two opportunities for you to discuss the draft revision, which is available online at <http://www25.uua.org/coa/>. Discussion groups will be held in the Cottage Music Room on **Thursday, October 2, at 7 P.M.**, and **Sunday, October 12, at 12 noon**.

Micki's Grandchildren

Long-time UUI member **Micki Barney** moved to Portland, Oregon, in July, to be near her daughter **Priya Thakkar**, and she now has three grandchildren to keep her busy. **Abigail (Abby) Thakkar Brown** and **Neela Thakkar Brown** were born on September 12 at 7:25 P.M. and 7:27 P.M. Their statistics, respectively, were 4 lbs. 8 oz. and 16.7 inches long, and 4 lbs. 12 oz. and 17.3 inches long. The twins stayed in the NICU to gain some weight but were breathing on their own since birth. Priya is a social worker for the state DHS and her husband **Jesse Brown** is a network administrator. (Late report: the babies came home September 22.)

Priya's twin brother **Colin Thakkar** and his wife **Laurie Moore Thakkar** live in Jacksonville, Florida, and their daughter **Cora Therese Thakkar** was born August 12. She weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 19 inches long, and was born with an amazing head full of black hair. Colin is a labor law attorney and Laurie is an adjunct professor at a local community college, teaching Spanish part-time.

Micki is waiting for her Oregon nursing license to come through so she can work, and she is also waiting for her Indianapolis condo to sell, but she has enough to do for now helping Priya. She loves Portland, and has already visited former UUI members **Denise Busch** and **Michael Standley**, who moved to Portland in 1997. Micki writes: "It's so neat to be able to see Mt. Hood and Mt. St. Helens."

Eventually she plans to get to the First UU Church in downtown Portland and also to explore the women's chorus, directed by **Joan Szymko**, who was commissioned to write a piece for the Indianapolis Women's Chorus in 2004.

October 11, November 8, December 13 (Saturday) at 10 A.M.—UUI Knitters, Cottage Library.

October 13 (Monday) at 7 P.M.—Photo Club, Cottage Library. Subject: Imagination.

October 14 (Tuesday) at 7 P.M.—Social Justice Committee, Cottage.

October 15 (Wednesday) at 7:30 A.M.—Men's Breakfast, Keystone Deli.

Happy Birthday in October

- 1 Karen Dougherty
- 1 Mandi Blystone
- 2 Lauren Masoncup
- 3 Indigo Ensign
- 3 Henry Bobeck
- 4 Alan Cloe
- 4 Cathy Toll
- 4 Jan Sinclair
- 5 Jason Phillips
- 5 Shenan Kroupa

- 6 Hanna Webb
- 6 Kyriana Smith Bures
- 6 Marty Miles
- 8 Tamara Smith
- 10 Pam Blevins Hinkle
- 10 Candace Sage
- 10 Linda Montag-Olson
- 11 Zoey Zaneteas
- 11 Erik Jackson
- 13 Jeannette Rowe
- 14 Raiford Scott
- 21 Katya Bain
- 23 Ashley DePrez
- 24 Stephanie Robertson
- 25 Steve Massicotte
- 24 Tim Robb
- 26 Ken Rader
- 27 Michael Servetus (1511-1553)
- 28 John Richert
- 29 Hud Pfeiffer
- 30 Aidan Wright
- 31 Len Mozzi

Happy Anniversary

- 1 Ashley DePrez & Paul Giese (2006)
- 4 Vincent & Laura Mathews (1997)
- 16 Joanne & Joe Smiddie-Brush (1993)
- 22 Lynne Perkins-Socey & Matt Socey (1999)
- 25 Carla Koertge & John Cote (1980)

Welcome To Our Visitors

- Sunday, September 14, 2008
 - Lori Heath & George Saich
 - John L. Grogan Jr.
 - Aimee Kandrac
 - Sharon Lee Powell
 - Angela Miller
 - Faith Lindsay
 - Donna Jacobsen
 - Debbie Zipes
 - Jeremy Berggren
 - Rosie Baker
- Sunday, September 21, 2008
 - Ros Lederman

From the Editor—Susan Raccoli

The End is Near!

Thus began the flyer from St. Alphonsus Catholic Church (where I am organist) to entice people to make an appointment to have their photo taken for the new church photo directory. The “end” referred to is November 2, the deadline for photo appointments. St. Alphonsus has over 1,000 families registered, but this project, which began September 17, has seen only 202 families complete their photos. Forty-nine more families are scheduled. Our priests have urged participation from the pulpit (or ambo, as we call it) and sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex.

UUs, and in fact just about every denomination, like to think that they are especially unique. And in truth, they are, in that every congregation is unique, just as every person is unique. But churches do have much in common, and convincing people to do more than show up for the worship service is a problem in every denomination. On September 21, **Fr. Joshua** pointed out in his homily that the average level of active congregational involvement in U.S. Catholic churches is about 15 per cent. I think St. Alphonsus is above this level, but just as in all churches, I see the same people doing jobs, and the Sunday bulletin is full of messages exhorting everyone to participate.

On September 14 the church sponsored a “ministry fair” after Masses to encourage people to sign up for committees. (Their term “ministry” is akin to our term “committee.”) People were issued 3x5 cards to take around with them to the various tables as they learned about and signed up for “ministries,” and everyone received a sticker on their card for each sign-up, and prizes were given for acquiring lots of stickers. (Of course, we all realize that collecting stickers is not the same thing as attending meetings and actually doing committee work.)

At the end of his homily, Fr. Joshua told this story, which is found unattributed on the Internet:

*This is a little story about four people named **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody**, and **Nobody**.*

*There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it. **Anybody** could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got angry about that because it was **Everybody**’s job. **Everybody** thought that **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realized that **Everybody** wouldn’t do it. It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.*

Susan Pratt tells a familiar story about churches on page 3. (Ask her who the little girl was in the church she discusses.) When churches are small, just about everyone participates in everything. Then when growth comes, people get busy and tend to assume that someone else will do the work. The devil’s advocate is forced to ask: Is such growth a benefit or a curse? Naturally, we don’t want this to happen at UUI. Contact your Leadership Fulfillment Committee members to see if they can find a job for you. (Hint: the Caring Committee could use some willing and helpful people.) Two more sayings are appropriate here: *Many fingers make light work*, and *Idle hands are the devil’s workshop*. Keep the devil out of UUI—volunteer!

Susan

The UU Eye Newsletter

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Website: <http://www.uui.org>

Editor: Susan Raccoli 251-9160

E-mail: SRaccoli@sbcglocal.net

RE Administrator: Matthew Brooks

E-mail: matthew@brookspublications.com

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Interim Minister: **Rev. Barbara Child**

E-mail: minister@uui.org

Office Administrator: **Vanessa Fry**

E-mail: office@uui.org • Phone: 283-4760

Office Hours: Mon. – Fri.: 9 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Calendar of Events

September 26 (Friday) at 7 P.M.—8th Annual Indy Folk Series, Bill Staines, UUI.

September 27 (Saturday) at 10 A.M.—The Smart Church, UUI.

September 28 and every Sunday—Canned food drive to benefit the Martin Luther King Jr. Center.

September 28 (Sunday)—Youth Ensemble rehearsals.

October 1, 8 (Wednesday) at 7:30 P.M.—Choir rehearsal, Cottage Music Room.

Oct. 2, 4, 9, 12, 19—Get to Know the Interim Minister gatherings.

October 2 (Thursday) at 6 P.M.—UUI Women's Dinner, Santorini Greek Kitchen.

October 2 (Thursday) at 7 P.M. and October 12 (Sunday) at 12 noon—Discussions of the Draft Revision of UUA Principles, Cottage Music Room.

October 4 (Saturday) at 9 A.M.—Worship and Arts Breakthrough Committee, Cottage.

October 5 (Sunday) at 9:15 A.M.—Credo Forum, Cottage.

October 5 (Sunday) at 12 noon—Social Justice Committee, Cottage.

October 5 (Sunday) at 6 P.M.—Board Games, Commons.

October 6, November 3, December 1 (Monday) at 12:30 P.M.—BULBs luncheons, Just Judy's.

October 6 (Monday), 21 (Tuesday) at 6:30 P.M.—UU Buddhist Fellowship, Sanctuary.

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

Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10 (Wednesday) at 11:30 A.M.—UUI Downtown lunch, Stardust Terrace Café.

October 9, 23 (Thursday) at 7 P.M.—CUUPs.

Unitarian Universalist Church
Of Indianapolis
615 W. 43rd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

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