

# UU Eye

May 5, 2010

Volume 30 No. 8

*Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis*  
*Founded 1979*

## **UUI Calls the Reverend Stephen Sinclair** *(story page 7)*

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**Sunday, May 9, 2010: “A Ceremony of Welcoming”** *Rev. Barbara Child*

One of the special rites of passage in Unitarian Universalist congregations is the Dedication of Children. We will have this special ceremony on Mothers’ Day. We will honor the mothers among us and the mothers of all of us. We will acknowledge each child as precious and unique. We will witness each parent’s commitment, and we will announce that as a religious and spiritual community, UUI is here to support both child and parent as each child grows in mind and body and spirit. *A traveling UU folk duo will provide the special music. The ensemble, Wishing Chair, is made up of Kiya Heartwood and Miriam Davidson, the music director at the Greenville, SC UU church.*

**Sunday, May 16, 2010: “Boldness in the Face of Uncertainty”** *Rev. Barbara Child*

Courage is not about the absence of fear. It is about moving out into the world with all of the unknowns that entails. It is about living in between whatever has happened before and whatever might happen next. Today will honor UUI’s high school graduates who now bridge into adulthood. And we will honor this congregation’s bridging from two interim years into a new future. Come, let us celebrate these bridge-crossings together. *Special music: Elise Massicotte will play her cello.*

**Sunday, May 23, 2010: “Coming of Age”** *Rev. Eva Českava*

The eleven young people who have completed this year-long course will lead the service with Rev. Českava, including sharing their credo statements and providing the special music. *Special music: Neil Basset will play a xylophone solo.*

**Sunday, May 30, 2010: “Letting Go and Going Forth”** *Rev. Barbara Child*

This will be my last day at UUI. One important thing about saying goodbye is to notice that it is happening. It is important not to pretend otherwise, or to stay away. Not really saying goodbye has a way of inviting ghosts to hang around, and ghosts don’t usually do much good. So please come. Let us celebrate the time we have spent together and what we have accomplished. Let us express whatever regrets we have and our hopes for the future. Let us take this chance to say goodbye in a way that makes ready for you and me both to say a full-bodied hello to the next chapter in our lives. *Special music: The Indianapolis Women’s Chorus will sing.*



**Services start at 10:30 a.m. Childcare will be provided.**  
*Church of the Warm Heart, Open Mind and Helping Hands*



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### *Eye Deadlines and Submissions*

The *Eye* welcomes your submissions about congregational life and programs. The *Eye* is published monthly on the first Wednesday of the month. Submit material by e-mail to [uueye@uui.org](mailto:uueye@uui.org). The next deadline is 8 p.m. Friday, May 28.

*UUI is a Welcoming Congregation and a Certified Green Sanctuary under guidelines of the Unitarian Universalist Association.*



## The UU Eye

A monthly publication of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis  
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*The UU Eye informs and sustains UUI's congregational life. It connects members and friends to our varied church activities, including worship, religious education, the arts and community actions. It presents information of consequence and interest to the congregation and also reflects and fosters our purpose as a congregation and as Unitarian Universalists.*

### *UUI Officers, Minister and Staff*

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## *In the Meantime*

*Rev. Barbara Child, Interim Minister*

The last of anything, any ending, brings a powerful mix of emotions. So it's no wonder the lengths some people go to duck out on good-byes. They leave the party early. They sneak out the back door. They say, "We'll keep in touch," when they know full well they won't. They may, or may not, leave a note on the fridge.

All of this has taught me how important it is to acknowledge endings, and to show up to say good-bye – and also to be fully present until you're not. I will be at UII through my last Sunday, on May 30. Some of you have asked me about my plans after that. I am excited about the trip I have newly planned to Eastern Europe, and I will have my usual summer week at Chautauqua in Western New York. After that? Well, I am practicing saying out loud the word "retire." It ain't easy for an old workaholic like me, but I have determined that I am finished with annual or semi-annual moves. I expect to do a lot of short-term consulting – short enough that I can get wherever I'm going on an airplane with one carry-on. And I have one more year in my position as Chair of the UII Commission on Appraisal – work that takes on new excitement with our choice of a new study topic: "Who's in Charge Here? – The Complex Relationship between Ministry and Authority."

My title for the May 30 service is "Going Forth and Letting Go." I will have much to thank you for, and I will express some regrets too. I find myself remembering a newsletter column by my colleague Rev. Amy McKenzie when she was leaving a congregation. She recalled conversations with congregants and the deep truths of their lives they had shared with her. She wrote to them: "Do you say to each other what you say to me? Do you realize how much pain and delight you carry, as individuals and as a congregation?"

I want to ask you the same thing. You who have shared with me some of the truths of your life, the hopes you haven't quite realized yet or the fears you can't shake. You who haven't figured out yet how to let go of your anger. You who have been taken over by loss. You who are trying hard to forgive. You who are surprised by love and cannot contain it. How much capacity for bearing pain you carry! How much capacity for delight!

Now, no matter what, we have a rather noticeable chance to practice ending, and also to notice that new beginnings keep on coming along. On May 30, I will leave with my attention turning toward travel and a different rhythm for my life. Your attention will be turning toward next year with Stephen Sinclair as your new called minister. I will say good-bye. Not "Let's get together soon" or "Let's keep in touch." We have a notable opportunity to practice an authentic, real good-bye. Let's do it well. And please know that no matter where my vagabond soul takes me in the years to come, I will happily remember the two years I have spent with you in Indianapolis. Fare well, good people, fare well.

***Barbara***



## *Relating*

*Reverend Eva Českava, Interim Religious Educator*

The regular church year is coming to an end, but the activities, programs and excitement level continue to be high. Last Sunday was a day of celebration on many levels (!), including welcoming summer with May Day festivities and two May Poles.

Throughout May, UUI will honor many groups. Mother's Day, begun as Mothers' Peace Day by Unitarian Julia Ward Howe, is the time in the worship service for dedicating ourselves to our children in the child dedication ceremony. May 16, our three graduating high school seniors will "bridge" into young adulthood and the congregation will recognize and celebrate our religious education teachers and other volunteers. The May 23 service will be led by our eleven junior high youth who have completed their year-long Coming of Age course. Finally, May 30 is the final day of young people's regular classes and we plan to party.

Summer for our church's children and youth begins June 6. The youngest will enjoy TLC from our nursery staff, and the preschoolers will have fun learning Lessons from Dr. Seuss. Kindergarten through sixth grade children begin foreign adventures with a Bon Voyage party, then are taken on virtual tours around the world by members of UUI with UU World Travelers. Junior and senior high youth will meet together for the summer in the youth room (lower level of the RE Building) for discussions of contemporary ethical issues with The Gospel According to the Simpsons.

Here in Indiana, the summer is short for families with school-aged children, and the RE Council has decided to begin the regular church school year August 15 with an open house, showing the grown-ups what the young people will be experiencing throughout 2010-2011. There is always something going on at UUI, and I'm delighted to be a part of it with you!

### *Peace Camp*

Peace Camp is being planned for the week of June 14-18! Peace Camp is a day camp for ages Kindergarten through 6th grade where campers will learn to embrace peace in their daily lives. If you would like more information, to register your child or to VOLUNTEER (oh, do we ever need volunteers!!!), please email me at [susannehinson@gmail.com](mailto:susannehinson@gmail.com) ASAP!! It's going to be an amazing week! *Susanne Hinson-Rieger*



## *Creative Arts*



### ***Come to the Arty Bash***

Saturday, May 8, 2010, 6:30 PM to 9 PM is the best entertaining evening of the year! The Fine Arts Committee and the Music Committee join to give you a wonderful opportunity to see the best of UUI's musical, dramatic, and visual arts talent as well as the most delectable and artistic sweet or savory snacks during the intermission. There will be demonstrations by artists and musicians and interviews with some of the artists and entertainers. AND it's FREE! So, do come. Bring a friend or two.

*Wendy Dougherty*

### ***New Heartland Choral Festival***

There will be a special concert at the culmination of The New Heartland Choral Festival on Sunday, May 16th, at 4pm at All Souls Unitarian Church - 5805 East 56th Street, Indianapolis. This will include a special performance of the UUI choir and a mass choir including UUI and the other area UU churches. Please plan on attending this multi-church event!

### ***Music for Nesbit memorial***

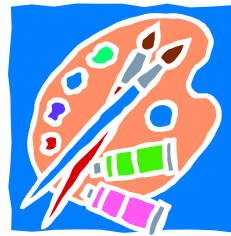
Please join Dianna Davis at a special rehearsal to learn the choir music that will be sung at Joe Nesbit's memorial service. We will meet after Sunday service at UUI this Sunday, May 9. Please contact Dianna if you would like to sing with us at the memorial service.

### ***The Arty Bash Art Exhibit***

Participating in the Arty Bash Art Exhibit are Judy Archer, Ken and Robin Chestek, Sally Childs-Helton, Janet and Mervyn Cohen, Wendy Dougherty, Charlene and Steve Dunlop, Dave Ellis, Tatjana Gordon, Sandra Gruber, Susan Ham, Jane Kleinhans, Ken Koeppel, Cara Moczygemba, Jan Murphy, the Nesbits (Alsie, Joanne, Joe, and Reed), Miriam Pia, Susan Porter, Jeannette Rowe, Betty Scarpino, Charlotte Schrock, Ellie Siskind, Kevin Turner, Cindy and Ray Wilson, and Jackie Wyatt.

The show includes watercolor and oil painting, mixed media paintings, pencil drawings, calligraphy, sculpture, fabric art, stained glass, photographs, patinated copper pieces, beading, a floor cloth, wood turning, recycled percussion toys, ceramics, knit and woven items, jewelry, and a handmade painted journal. This exhibit will be up until after the service on Sunday, June 13, when the UUI Photo Club Exhibit goes up. You can meet many of the artists at the Arty Bash on Saturday, May 8 from 6:30 to 9 PM.

*Wendy Dougherty*





**Finance Committee Report**

This is the Finance Committee’s report on church finances for the first three quarters of this church year:

	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	% of budget
Pledge payments	\$210,000	\$156,816	74.67%
Total Income	\$264,800	\$206,938	78.15%
Total expenses	\$298,940	\$222,854	74.55%
Net Income/(Expense)	\$(34,140)	\$(15,916)	

As you can see, with 75% of the year behind us, pledge payments and expenses are pretty close to budget. Total income for the year is slightly ahead of budget, primarily due to several unbudgeted gifts that the church has received, as well as income from the scrip program. The expense side of the budget includes several unbudgeted expenses, but also some significant savings, especially in the area of utilities. The utility savings is largely due to the installation of several new high-efficiency furnaces in the Sanctuary, Social Hall and RE buildings (the cost of which was mostly covered by special gifts from the congregation).

The budget adopted last year anticipated a deficit of more than \$34,000 by year-end. As of March 31, the actual deficit was just under \$16,000, or less than half of the budgeted deficit. If everybody pays their pledges in full by June 30, and if expenses continue at the current rate, the committee anticipates a final year-end deficit of between \$20,000 and \$23,000, which would be significantly less than the anticipated deficit.

However, the committee is also committed to proposing a balanced budget for congregational action at the May 16 congregational meeting. In order to do this, we will need to have a significant increase in the amount of pledges over 2009-2010 levels. Most of the pledges the stewardship campaign has received to date are in fact increases over the current year’s pledges, so we are optimistic that we will be able to achieve our goal of a balanced budget for 2010-2011. The church simply does not have the wherewithal to sustain another year of deficit spending.

We look forward to a fiscally healthy 2010-2011 church year.



*UII Calls the Reverend Stephen Sinclair*

On Sunday, May 2 the congregation voted to call the Reverend Stephen Sinclair to be its next settled minister. Rev. Sinclair received 96% of the votes cast by the 155 members present. The vote was the culmination of the search process that was begun a year ago. Fifteen ministers had expressed interest in UII and, after a long period of discernment, the Search Committee invited Rev. Sinclair to candidate at UII. During Candidating Week the congregation had several opportunities to get to know Rev. Sinclair and to hear him preach twice. The Search Committee thanks everyone for giving a warm welcome to Rev. Sinclair and for supporting the search process. Special thanks go to our families and to Rev. Child for their support over the past year. In August Rev. Sinclair will become the fourth settled minister of UII.

*David Jackoway*

*Celebration Luncheon for Rev. Barbara Child*

Join the celebration on Sunday, May 30th after Rev. Child's last sermon at UII to show her our appreciation for her ministry these past two years. She has adeptly addressed our emotions, facilitated our look at our history, led us through identifying our strengths and weaknesses and prepared us to flourish as we go forward on our path.

The Transition Team is organizing the celebration (Kim Beck, Dennis Jackson, Judy Pleiss and Joanne Smiddie-Brush). Contact one of us if you want to contribute something to the lunch. (We will be contacting people as well:)

Also, you will have an opportunity during the social hour after the services on Sunday, May 16th and Sunday, May 23rd to write a note to Rev. Child as a part of a "gratitude bouquet" we will be giving her.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, May 30th now!

*Kim Beck*



*Share the Plate Report*

Last year, the Board of Trustees approved the Share the Plate program on a trial basis for six months. The following information is provided to help the congregation gauge the success of the program. In the first four months of this year, UUI has made donations to the following organizations, in the amounts listed:

January:	Indiana Youth Group, \$1,006.00
February:	Gleaner's Food Bank, \$937.50
March:	Horizon House, \$761.50
April:	Second Helpings, \$1,000.50

*Scrip Program*

Isn't it wonderful to have our church operations funded in part by local merchants?

That's exactly what the UUI Scrip Program allows. When you purchase scrip (gift cards) from UUI, each vendor gives a percentage of your purchase back to UUI. You are not paying any more for your purchases than you would anyway. Talk about a win/win!

The program has been operational since January of this year. Every Sunday, a member of the Finance Committee staffs a table in the Social Hall before and after the service. We have Marsh Supermarkets scrip for sale every week, as well as order forms for scrip from more than 70 other vendors. We take your orders for those vendors and when we have a sufficiently large order, we place the order and have the scrip delivered to church. You only pay for your order when you receive your scrip.

Starting in May, we are going to start keeping a small inventory of scrip from other vendors, and will have it available for sale directly. We will have a small amount of scrip available for Chili's/Macaroni Grill, Land's End, Lowe's, Marathon Gas and Starbucks. If there is sufficient demand for scrip from other vendors, we may add those in future months.

Please remember to stop by the scrip sales table before or after church every Sunday (and remember to bring your checkbooks!). This program has the potential to bring thousands of dollars of revenue in to the church, but only if you support the program by using it!

Also, if you are interested in helping staff the scrip table, please speak with any member of the Finance Committee. This is an easy way to help support the work of our church.



### ***Congregational Meeting***

The Spring Congregational Meeting will be held after church on May 16. At this meeting we approve the budget and elect officers, trustees and committee chairs. There will also be a vote on the proposed change to the Membership section of the bylaws. The revision may be viewed on the UUI website at <http://www.uui.org/docs/UUIBylawRevision.pdf>. Please plan to attend this important meeting!

### ***Rummage Sale***

Thanks to all who donated items and spent money at the Rummage Sale! A total of over \$3,000 was raised in support of the UUI youth trip to build a Habitat for Humanity home in Michigan this summer. Special appreciation goes to Sandra Gruber for general volunteer co-ordination/organization and to the super-human efforts of the youth, parents and members who assisted on so many tasks required to make the sale a success. Pat yourselves on the back...it was a job well done!

### ***Volunteer of the Week***

3/21 Pam Greene  
3/28 Ken Chestek  
4/4 Kathy Oguss  
4/18 Ann Miller  
4/25 Larry Miller  
5/2 Susan Cassada

### ***April Visitors***

**4/4** Pat & Domenic Angelicchio, Christina Downey, Melissa & Larry Jackson, James & Jacquelyn A. Kurtz, Dorie Starkey

**4/11** Jeff Appel, Vera Markovich, Lisa Gauthier Mitchison

**4/18** Peter Boling, Jessica Brannam, Barbara Fisher, Liz Greene, Norma Keyman, Jerry Lowery, Karen Luerssen, Tom & Connie McDonough, Tina Mills, Todd Niswander

**4/25** Sanjeev & Pragma Adhikari, Mary Ann Cree, Jamie Lgg, John & Shelley Newby and Annie Newby, Mary Owen, Sue Stolkin

### ***Circles of Life***

A memorial service will be held for Joe Nesbit on Saturday, May 15 at 1:00 p.m. Joe was a long-time member of UUI and had been active in the church choir, where he was a valuable addition to the tenor section. We offer our condolences to his family.

Janet and Tim Pillsbury are excited to announce that they have adopted Nicholas Rhyland Pillsbury who is much adored by his big sister, Lily, who turned 3 this week.

## *Small Groups*

**BULBS** (Birthday Unitarian Lunch Bunch) meets 1st Mondays. Pat Lawler, 329-2779 or [patricialawler2@comcast.net](mailto:patricialawler2@comcast.net).

Is truth absolute or relative? We will discuss this at the **Credo Forum** on Sunday, June 6 at 9:15 am in the Cottage Library. For more information contact Lowell McCoskey at [Monontrailbiker@aol.com](mailto:Monontrailbiker@aol.com).

**CUUPS** (Covenant of UU Pagans) meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7 pm in the Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall. Contact Colleen Kelly, [wooglet@gmail.com](mailto:wooglet@gmail.com) or Robin Chestek, 280-1354.

The **UU Downtown Lunch** group meets at 11:30 on the second Wednesday of each month. This group of UUs meets at the Sky City Café at the Eiteljorg Museum to enjoy lunch and conversation. For more information contact Eric Hinkle at [ehinkle@eiteljorg.com](mailto:ehinkle@eiteljorg.com).

**UUI Drum Circle** meets at 2:15 p.m. on Sunday May 16 in the Sanctuary. Drum one, drum all—no experience necessary. Contact Robin Chestek, [kchestek@earthlink.net](mailto:kchestek@earthlink.net) or Sandra Gruber, [sgruber@mw.net](mailto:sgruber@mw.net).

**UUI Knitting Group** Meets 2nd Saturdays at 10 am and 4th Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Cottage Library. Contact Judy Archer, 253-9770 or [jisarcher@aol.com](mailto:jisarcher@aol.com).

Contact Bob Kirk for information about the next meeting of the **UUI Men's Breakfast Group** at [rkirk1937@aol.com](mailto:rkirk1937@aol.com).

The UUI Photo Club meets 2nd Mondays at 7 P.M. in the Cottage Library. The topic for May 10 is "The Circle Monument or Cityscape", to be interpreted any way you wish. Contact Wendy Dougherty, at [Wdougherty@indy.rr.com](mailto:Wdougherty@indy.rr.com) to be included on the e-mail notification list and to receive the photo file to be changed in any way one wishes.

The Women of UUI are invited to meet for dinner on Thursday, June 6 at 6 pm at Red Lion Grog House at 1043 Virginia Ave. This is a new English style restaurant in Fountain Square. Park on the street or behind the Murphy Building. No program just good conversation and food. For information contact Susan Beauchamp at 634-2448 or [beauartnow@yahoo.com](mailto:beauartnow@yahoo.com).

The **Women's Spirituality in Writing** group meets the third Tuesday of the month in the cottage library to listen to each others' written responses to an assigned topic. There is no critiquing, just an open sharing and discussion. New members are welcome. Contact Sylvia Reichel, [reichelronald@sbcglobal.net](mailto:reichelronald@sbcglobal.net).

## *Happenings in May & June*

SUN 9	MON 10	TUE 11	WED 12	THU 13	FRI 14	SAT 15
<b>Special Choir Rehearsal for Nesbit Memorial</b> 12pm	<b>Photo Club</b> Cottage, 7pm	<b>UII Board Meeting</b> Cottage, 7pm	<b>UII Choir</b> Cottage, 7:30pm	<b>Adult RE</b> Cottage, 7pm  <b>CUUPS</b> Sanctuary, 7pm		<b>Drumming Circle</b> Sanctuary, 12pm  <b>Indy Folk Series</b> Sanctuary, 7pm
<b>16</b> <b>Congregational Meeting</b> Sanctuary, 12pm  <b>Coming of Age</b> Lunch, 12pm, Commons	<b>17</b> <b>Facilities Task Force</b> Social Hall, 7pm	<b>18</b> <b>Women's Spirituality in Writing</b> Cottage, 7pm	<b>19</b> <b>Guitar Circle</b> Social Hall, 7pm	<b>20</b> <b>Adult RE</b> Cottage, 7pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Coming of Age</b> Dinner, 5pm, Commons
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>UU Palooza Planning</b> Cottage, 7pm	<b>25</b> <b>UII Knitters</b> Cottage, 7pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Adult RE</b> Cottage, 7pm  <b>CUUPS</b> Sanctuary, 7pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>Celebration for Rev. Barbara Child</b> Social Hall, 12pm	<b>31</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>05</b>

### *Indy Folk Series - Hogeye Navvy*

Saturday evening May 15th, from 7:00 - 9:00 at UII. Tickets \$10 (age 12 and under free)

Hog Eye Navvy returns to the Folk Series! Local favorite Hog Eye Navvy finishes out the ninth season of the Indy Folk Series with Celtic, American, and Seafaring Folk Music.

Their live CD "Poor Old Horse" was recorded at the 2005 Indy Folk Series performance (our greatest crowd ever.) Sing, listen, clap, laugh and talk like a pirate!

## *Community Action*

Beginning next Sunday, there will be a collection bin in the Social Hall for donations of the following items that will be used to create **Outreach Packs** as a future Second Saturday project:

Vienna Sausages (any pop-top meat!), Granola bars, Juice boxes, Crackers (individual packs), Bottled water, Fruit cups and pudding cups.

The packs will be donated to Horizon House who will distribute the packs to our homeless neighbors on the streets of Indianapolis

Our next "**Second Saturday**" is May 8 so mark your calendars. I think you'll be happy you did. Children and non-members are very welcome! Meet us in the Wisdom Room in the RE Building at 10:30 and pick a project.

This year's **Pride Parade and Festival** is on Saturday, June 12. We had a fabulous time last year! Everyone is welcome, no matter what age. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Social Hall after the service next Sunday.

Be sure and check out our blog at <http://uisocialjustice.blogspot.com/>. We have fair trade shopping ideas for Mother's Day and action/education items about the immigration situation in Arizona. You can also sign up for the Social Justice Committee mailing list.

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