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# UU Eye

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*Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis*  
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**Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>: “Leading Us to Life, Part One”** *Rev. Stephen Sinclair*

It is said that the gate is narrow and the road hard that leads to life, and few are those who find it. In the first part of the series we will examine what it means if our paths in life are without challenges: are we on the right one or are we playing it safe? *Graham Brinklow will be singing on June 12<sup>th</sup> at both services and the spring recognition ritual for new members will be held during the second service.*

**Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>: “Leading Us to Life, Part Two”** *Rev. Stephen Sinclair*

It is said that the gate is narrow and the road hard that leads to life, and few are those who find it. In the second part of the series we will examine our individual faith and then our shared Unitarian Universalism. Are they too easy? Do they ask too little of us? Come to church and find out!

**Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>: “The Sacred in the Ordinary”** *Robin Riebsomer*

How can we cultivate meaning in our daily lives? Today we will explore how the daily round of our lives can become a means through which we can experience the transcendent awe and wonder experienced by mystics, artists, and yes, even scientists.

**Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>: “There Is Nothing Wrong With You”** *Casey O'Leary*

"There is nothing wrong with you...you just don't know it yet." How does that statement make you feel? Do we live as if there were nothing "wrong" with us? How does hearing that change how you see yourself?



Services start at 9:15 and 11:00 a.m. Childcare is 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 [ueeye@uui.org](mailto:ueeye@uui.org). **The next deadline is 8 p.m. Friday, July 1.**

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



## The UU Eye

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On the Web: [www.uui.org](http://www.uui.org)

*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 and Staff*

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starts in June



## Pastor's Reflections: Endangered Innocence

*Rev. Stephen Sinclair*

The internet photographs were brilliantly colored, exotic, mesmerizing. The newly discovered birds and animals seemed to look directly into the camera, inquisitive and unafraid. To me they were extraordinary. I was excited seeing these new species. Years of perusing National Geographics had not inured me to their incredible beauty and their uniqueness. They stood out from the vast array of incredible creatures that inhabit the Equatorial regions of the world. The accompanying news article reported that the research team had found these new species while exploring an area of Papua New Guinea that seems never to have been inhabited by humans nor explored. The villagers nearest the area said that the region was not used for hunting and that no one from their tribe had ever been known to enter the area. When asked why, a tribal leader answered that there was no need and no desire to do so.

The birds and animals had never before encountered a human. The team reported that they were indeed unafraid, that birds and mammals would approach them out of curiosity. The animals would sniff their hands and some of the birds would even land on their shoulders. As I contemplated this I felt an ache in my chest. My joy and sense of amazement vanished as I plummeted into a despair that rose up out of the realization that these creatures' paradise had been trespassed and that they would now be subjected to inspection and study; that their way of living would be forever changed. They were in danger. The eco-tourists are coming! Look out!

Of course, indigenous peoples have had the same thing happen to them, too, often with disastrous results, but for some reason the innocence of the creatures touched me deeply. To what was I responding? A remembering of a time such as that which is described in the Garden of Eden stories in the Hebrew Scriptures or was this a metaphor for all losses of innocence? The tenderness that I felt for these splendid beings was so poignant that I found my eyes filling with tears.

Was there ever a time when all living beings lived in harmony with one another? Will there ever be a time when the lion will lie down with the lamb? I don't know if I believe it is the nature of life on this earth for there to be hierarchies and for one species to prey on another. What I do know is that people prey upon the innocence of others, often times children. Just as the perfect equatorial sanctuary of these newly discovered creatures was trespassed by humans, children are violated by the adults charged with their care and wellbeing. What children think are overtures of love often turn out to be transgressions and violations.

I hope that we, the dominant species of this planet, will be able to leave these newly discovered birds and animals alone and that the poachers and encroachers will be held off. We love the exotic, the different, and the rare, so I imagine it will only be a matter of time before they will be claimed as property by the higher species and used for the entertainment and profit of this higher order. Meanwhile, the children, the vulnerable innocent ones, will continue to be used and abused-to have their ideas of themselves destroyed and their futures compromised.

Would that we were birds.

*Pastor Stephen*

## *General Assembly 2011*

### *It's Not Too Late to Go to GA*

Yes, you can still go to UUA General Assembly on June 22- June 26 in Charlotte NC. If you are going to be in the Charlotte vicinity, drop by GA or if your schedule has cleared up and you have time to go, you may find bargain airfare and hotel accommodations through sources like [kayak.com](http://kayak.com), [hotels.com](http://hotels.com), [expedia.com](http://expedia.com), etc. UUA releases the block of hotel rooms it has held and people cancel and change accommodations, sometimes making prime hotel space available at the last minute for less than the original prices quoted for GA. You can register at General Assembly for a day, just to check it out. The Program and Agenda are now posted on the UUA website if you want to see what's happening and what you might want to attend.

### *Who Can Go?*

Anyone can go to General Assembly. You don't have to be a UU or a member of a church. It is still possible to represent UUI as a delegate if you meet certain requirements, for example you need to have been a UUI member for a year or more. If you are interested in being a delegate contact Gail Henrie, Denominational Affairs Committee [grhenrie@gmail.com](mailto:grhenrie@gmail.com) or Matt Bassett, President, [bassett.m.h@gmail.com](mailto:bassett.m.h@gmail.com).

Note: Due to the Congregational Meeting, the Denominational Affairs Committee will not be meeting after the second service on June 12.

### *50th Anniversary*

This is the 50th Anniversary of the merger of the Unitarians and Universalists, and this GA will be fantastic! The GA programmed events that will be open to the public and do not require you to register are the Service of the Living Tradition, the Sunday Morning Worship, and, on Sunday only, the Exhibit Hall.

### *GA 2011 Online Coverage*

If you can't attend GA in person you may still watch some of the key events live online. Among the highlights will be:

- **Opening Celebration and Banner Parade.** Join in opening our 50th UU General Assembly! (6/22, 7pm)
- The **Service of the Living Tradition** will be led by Rev. Dr. Michael A. Schuler of the First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wisconsin. (6/23, 7:30pm)
- The 2011 **Ware Lecturer** is Karen Armstrong one of the world's leading commentators on religious affairs and a best-selling author. (6/25, 8pm)
- Revs. Kaaren Anderson and Scott Tayler, from First Unitarian of Rochester, NY, will lead the **Sunday Morning Worship**, the largest gathering of UUs joining in worship (6/26, 9am)

For complete information of GA coverage: <http://www.uua.org/ga/2011/index.shtml>



## *Congregational Life*



### *Indy Pride Parade*

UUI will be participating in this year's Indy Pride Parade on Saturday, June 11. We will have a booth and be entered into the parade, but we need your help to make it a success! We need monetary donations for items to hand out during the parade and to entice people to come to our booth. We are looking for someone who has a truck and is willing to allow us to use it in the parade this year. We also need people who are willing to sign-up to staff the booth during the festival. If you can participate please email [social.justice@uui.org](mailto:social.justice@uui.org). Thanks for any help you can offer...this is going to be a fun, exciting, and important event!

### *Habitat for Humanity*

Nearly 20 UUI youth and 7 adult leaders are heading off for a week of house building in Muskegon, MI in mid July. Thank you to all who supported the April Rummage sale (\$2300.00) and the May sandwich sale (\$400.00) that helps make this trip a reality. It is a week of hard physical work, but in a supportive setting that increases friendship and personal growth. It is a high point of the year for both youth and adults! The first youth training session, "Hammering 101", will be held after services on June 19.

### *UUI Elections*

Several leadership positions were filled at the May Congregational Meeting. Matt Bassett was elected as President and Larry Miller as Treasurer. Colin Murphy and Steve Dunlop will be serving on the Board of Trustees for three years. Pam Mueller and Susan Pratt were elected to the Beacon Fund. Steve Dunlop and Larry Vaughn were reelected to the Endowment Fund. Vera Markovich and Michelle Turner will serve on Leadership Fulfillment for two years.

### *Art on the Walls*

Participating in the UUI Photo Club Exhibit are Ken Chestek, Wendy Dougherty, Steve Dunlop, Dave Ellis, Sandra Gruber, Susan C. Ham, Gail Henrie, Swari Hhan, Lowell McCoskey, and Charlotte Schrock. This exhibit will be up through Sunday, June 26. The photo club meets the second Monday of each month in the Library of the Cottage.

### *UU Arts Salon*

The next UU Arts Salon will be held on June 26 from 5-7 at the home of Bobbie Bosie. Men and women, young and old, artists and art appreciators are all invited. The address is 1915 MacArthur Lane, Speedway, Indiana 46224. Attendees are requested to bring a pitch in item of their choice. Please RSVP by June 12th to [le-froymson@gmail.com](mailto:le-froymson@gmail.com) or call 317-590-6120.

## *Small Groups*

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

As we celebrate the Fourth of July the **Credo Forum** will discuss what is patriotism. Join us on Sunday, July 4 at **9:30 a.m.** in the Cottage Library. For more information contact Lowell McCoskey at [Monotrailbiker@aol.com](mailto:Monotrailbiker@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. Contact Eric Hinkle at [ehinkle@eiteljorg.com](mailto:ehinkle@eiteljorg.com).

The **UUI Drum Circle** meets the first and third Sundays each month from 1pm to 2pm in the Commons. Bring your percussion or use items provided. This circle is open to men and women that want to experience a rhythmic community with a fun educational spirit. For more info, contact Sandra at [sgruber@mw.net](mailto:sgruber@mw.net) or 407-1852, or on Facebook.

**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).

For the next meeting of the **UUI Men's Breakfast Group** please contact Bob Kirk, [rkirk1937@aol.com](mailto:rkirk1937@aol.com).

The next meeting of the UUI Photography Group will be on Monday, June 13, at 7 P.M. in the Cottage Library. The assignment for June will be "Graffiti". If you are interested in participating, call Wendy Dougherty at 255-7039 or email her at [Wdougherty@indy.rr.com](mailto:Wdougherty@indy.rr.com). The assignment for July will be "Evening Light" and for August will be "the IMA's 100 Acres".

The Women of UUI and their friends are invited to meet for dinner on Thursday, July 7 at 6 pm at the Shelbi Street Cafe Rooftop venue. (Patrons must be over 21 years old for the rooftop. In the event of rain or great heat we will move to the ground floor restaurant.) The Shelbi Street Cafe is located in Fountain Square at 1105 Shelby St. For more 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. No critiquing, just an open sharing and discussion. New members are welcome. Contact Sylvia Reichel, [reichelronald@sbcglobal.net](mailto:reichelronald@sbcglobal.net).

## *Happenings in June & July*

SUN 12	MON 13	TUE 14	WED 15	THU 16	FRI 17	SAT 18
<b>Congregational Meeting</b> Sanctuary, after 2nd service	<b>Photo Club</b> Library, 7pm	<b>UII Board Meeting</b> Cottage, 7pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> Sanctuary, 7pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>Drum Circle</b> Commons, 1:00pm		<b>Women's Spirituality Writing Group</b> Library, 7pm		<b>CUUPS</b> Cottage, 7pm		
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
		<b>UII Knitters</b> Cottage, 7pm				
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
<b>Credo Forum</b> Cottage, 9:30am			<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> Cottage, 7pm			<b>UII Knitters</b> Cottage, 10am
<b>Drum Circle</b> Commons, 1:00pm						

### *Special Congregational Meeting*

The UII Board has called a special Congregational Meeting for June 12th. The purpose for this meeting is to vote on the final budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Please plan to attend this meeting after the second service as it is important that we have a quorum so we can approve the budget.

## *Circles of Life*

### *In Memoriam*

Faunette Johnston, Swari Hhan and Che-meine Moore in loving memory of their aunt Nancy June Hannaford, 95.

### *Congratulations*

Paul, Debbie and Lucas Schneider celebrated the graduation of their son, and brother, Eric Schneider from Purdue. Eric is planning to move to Dallas to work for Texas Instruments.

### *Get Well Soon*

To Judy Roland who was recently hospitalized after a fall and pneumonia.

### *Best Wishes to Bridging Youth*

Eight of our youth were recognized at the June 5 service as having crossed into young adulthood. The eight are Chuck Anderson, Chelsea Asberry-Ferber, XJ Edgecombe, Leilah-Olivia Hendricks, Elise Massicotte, Amelia Schwartzkopf, Jackson Whiteker and Shelby Wheeler. Congratulations!

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