

## Our Ministry

This church seeks to minister to the spiritual, intellectual, and social needs of its members and friends and their families. At the center of our program is the Sunday worship service. Since the minister is half-time, a lay-led Worship Committee provides services half of the time, including a considerable variety of pulpit guests. Morning worship is followed by a period of coffee and conversation. Classes for young people through junior high age meet at the same time as worship services (after a brief time in church, the children leave to attend their classes in various parts of the building). We believe that religious education is one of the most important legacies we can offer our children. Our church school, like our program for adults, is not doctrinaire. Instead, we focus on encouraging our young people to be caring and questioning individuals. The weekly classes are led by volunteer teachers from the membership, and care is provided for infants and toddlers.

The church is financed by pledges from its members and friends and is governed by officers and a board of trustees elected by the membership. Committees administer many facets of church life.

Special events enrich us throughout the year. There are special festive services at Thanksgiving and Easter. A candlelight Christmas Eve service, "Hanging of the Greens" celebration, opening water

communion and closing poetry communion services are honored traditions. Each year there is an outdoor picnic held jointly with the Macomb congregation.

Adult classes and discussions, carry-in luncheons, circle suppers, and fund-raising events are also scheduled. Our monthly newsletter chronicles our activities.

## Our Minister

Our minister, the Reverent Lynn S. Smith-Roberts, came to a shared ministry with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Macomb in 1989. She is a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry, the U.U. seminary in Berkeley, CA. Prior to coming to West Central Illinois, she was minister of a congregation in North Dakota. She is a native of Hawaii.

She is married to James E. Roberts, who works for the McDonough County Rehabilitation Center in Macomb. He is active in theatre, while Lynn serves on U.U. district committees and local task forces. Lynn's particular interests are in counseling and empowering people to find the sacred in their own lives. She is interested in process theology, liberation theologies, and mystic and tribal traditions. She is an avid reader of plays, mysteries, and science fiction, as well as psychology and theology. They live in Macomb.