

# UU MATTERS



The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
An Emerging UUA Congregation

December 2006  
Vol. 1 No. 10

## Please Join Us for the Second Annual MVUUF New Year's Day Potluck

— **G**reetings and happy holidays! The celebration of

December holidays is a personal matter, but however you choose to celebrate or not celebrate, we hope that you have a wonderful season, and that you will join us for our exciting December services!

A quick note - we won't be having services on December 24, but we will have an Open Reading and Open Music Intergenerational service on December 31, followed by our second annual MVUUF New Year's Day potluck on January 1 at 2 p.m. at the fellowship building.

Last year's potluck was great fun, and everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share. We hope to share the beginning of the new year with you!

### Upcoming Services

All Services begin at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Please Join Us!

- ☼ December 3: Vito Mastrangelo will lead; Vicki Doetsch will deliver a message, "Roger Williams: a Puritan for Our Times."
- ☼ December 10: Adam Stone will lead a service on this Human Rights Day.
- ☼ December 17: Paul Oakley will lead this service. (Open readings has been moved to December 31 this month.)
- ☼ December 24: No Service
- ☼ December 31: We will hold an Open Reading and Open Music Intergenerational Service on this day.

*In other matters...*

**Chalice Group**

**O**ur Chalice Group, also known as Small Group Ministry, meets from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join us; we always have an open seat!

On December 13, the Chalice Group will discuss "December Holidays." The upcoming holidays evoke very different feelings and memories for each of us; let us gather here to share our experiences.

**Open Minds**

**T**he Open Minds Discussion Group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. This is a lively discussion group; everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

On December 20, the Open Minds discussion topic will be, the Politics of Food: Part 2, as time ran

out last month on this interesting and diverse subject.

**Meditation Group**

**T**his guided meditation group, led by Nina Peacock, plans to meet at the fellowship every other Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. In December the group will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. This group meditation is open to everyone who has an interest in meditation and relaxation.



"I arise each day through the strength of heaven: Light of sun, Radiance of moon, splendor of fire, speed of lightening, swiftness of wind, depth of sea, stability of earth, firmness of rock."  
~attributed to St. Patrick

## Religious Education

**T**hanks to all who planned and led children's programs in November, and have agreed to lead programs in December. Our children's programs are slowly coming together as volunteers rise to the occasion for the children of our congregation.

The RE committee will hold a meeting on December 5 at 10:00 a.m. This meeting will be held either at the Fellowship or at the home of Shannon Green. See her for more information. Please join us at this meeting if you would like to become more involved with religious education programs. However, if you are interested in leading an occasional program, it is not necessary to attend RE committee meetings to do so.

While the RE Committee is focusing on developing a children's program at this moment, this committee will also take action in planning religious education opportunities for adults in the future.

## Board of Trustees Meetings

**T**he MVUUF Board of Trustees meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The board will meet on December 6<sup>th</sup>, and again on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Board meetings are always open to everyone who wants to attend and are a great way to get more involved in church matters.

The board discusses many ongoing issues at each meeting. In December, the board intends to discuss the following issues: service schedules and treasury reports, the formation of a "Building & Grounds Committee" and "Programming Committee," and issues regarding the use of Chalice Lighter's Grant funds (including the allocation of those funds to appropriate committees).

If you would like to contribute input into these or bring up other topics, please attend a meeting or speak to a board member.



### Treasury Matters

The Treasurer's report will be on the table at the back of the church on the first Sunday after the Board Meeting each month. If you would like more detail than it provides, feel free to ask me.

If you would like to mail contributions instead of putting them in the offering basket, you may mail them to:

MVUUF  
c/o Paul Oakley  
39 Webster Hill Est.  
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

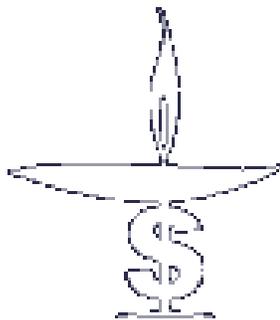
Or to:

MVUUF  
1600 Isabella Ave.  
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Please make checks payable to MVUUF.

Blessings!

Paul Kent Oakley, Treasurer



### Thank You!

Thank you to all of our members for making this fellowship what it is. Specifically, we would like to thank the following people:

- ☺ Shawn and Kelly Taylor for doing some important lawn care maintenance to get us ready for the upcoming winter months.
- ☺ Vennie Anderson and Judy Aydt for helping us put on a fantastic Music Service.

### Your Assistance is Requested in the Following Matters...

Every month we put out the call to our fellowship for needed items and volunteers. If you can help with any of the following items, let a board member know!

- Bookshelves for the library and Children's area are still needed.
- Volunteers to lead services or present sermons.

## Fellowship Contact Information

If you are looking for more information about the Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship or would like to be added to our mailing list, you can do so in the following ways:

- ▶ By Mail: The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
1600 Isabella  
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864
- ▶ By Phone: (618) 241-9644. Please leave a voice mail message.
- ▶ By emailing a member of the board:
  - Shannon Green, Cochair  
[moonstander@charter.net](mailto:moonstander@charter.net)
  - Glenda Eubanks, Cochair  
[gatherings@mvn.net](mailto:gatherings@mvn.net)
  - Vito Mastrangelo, Cochair  
[bethvito@mvn.net](mailto:bethvito@mvn.net)
  - Paul Oakley, Treasurer  
[poakley0615@charter.net](mailto:poakley0615@charter.net)
  - Dennis Arnold  
[dennisarnold2@gmail.com](mailto:dennisarnold2@gmail.com)



"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love."

~Hamilton Wright Mabie



"We believe that the future hinges on the capacity of each individual to embrace a commitment to universal love. We must begin to transcend the barriers which keep us from seeing ourselves as part of a global family. We have to start caring about what really happens to people. Our movement seeks to promote this compassionate spirit by helping people of all nations to experience their oneness."

~Masami Saionji

Chairperson  
The World Peace Prayer  
Society

## UU KIDS MATTER

Winter is a season full of many holidays and symbols. Each of the pictures below represents something related to at least one of the holidays celebrated by many different people. Do you recognize any of them? What do you know about them?

How could you find out more?

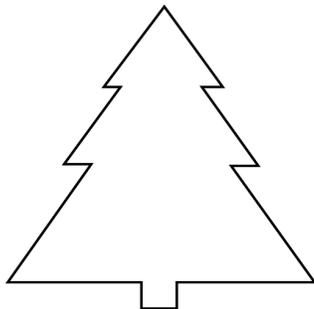
Draw a line from the symbol to its name:



A) Christmas Tree



B) Kwanzaa Unity Chalice



C) Yule Log



D) Hanukkah Menorah