

UU MATTERS



The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
An Emerging UUA Congregation

June 2007
Vol. 2 No. 6

Dori Davenport from the Central Midwest District Office to join us for service June 10

The Mt. Vernon UU Fellowship is pleased to welcome Dori Davenport from the Unitarian Universalist Association's Central Midwest District (CMwD) Office for our June 10 service.

Dori will be in the area that weekend to attend the CMwD Board of Trustees meeting at the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship. There will be a special buffet dinner at the Carbondale Fellowship from 5-7 p.m. on June 8. An invitation has been extended to the Mt. Vernon UU Fellowship leadership to attend this dinner. Because of the small size of our fellowship, that means any one of our members would be welcome at this dinner. If you are interested in more details about this dinner, please contact new

board of trustee member Adam Stone.

At our June 10 service, Dori will speaking during the sermon part of our service. Dori hopes to speak about having a clear vision for the future of our fellowship, and provide support and encouragement to all of our members and guests. Dori has also graciously agreed to join us for social hour after the service to partake in a conversation about her message topic. She will have to rush off before too long, as she is also visiting our fellow emerging UU congregation in Cape Girardeau.

Many thanks to Dori for taking the time to visit our growing fellowship, and may we glean some wisdom from what she has to share!

Upcoming Services

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

- ☉ **June 3:** Dennis Arnold will lead this service entitled, "Islam and the Teachings of Rumi."
- ☉ **June 10:** Shannon Green will lead this service, which will host special guest Dori Davenport from the Central Midwest District office of the Unitarian Universalist Association.
- ☉ **June 17:** Adam Stone will lead this Open Reading Service. Please bring readings, music, artwork, or other inspirations to share.
- ☉ **June 24:** Paul Oakley will lead this service entitled, "God, Zen, and the Mystery of Being."

If you are interested in planning or participating in a service, please tell Shannon Green or Paul Oakley.

Other Upcoming Events...

Meditation Group

This meditation group, led by Nina Peacock, plans to meet at the fellowship every other Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and try it out! The June Meditation Group dates are June 7 and 21st.

Nina most utilizes the method of guided meditation. Other methods of meditation may be included as well, and Nina is very welcoming of new ideas and new meditation techniques for the group to try.

Chalice Group

The Chalice group, a form of small group ministry, meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Chalice Group discusses many aspects of personal spiritual life. It is a small group, but there is always a seat open for a new visitor! The next meeting will be June 13.

Open Minds

The next meeting of the Open Minds Discussion Group will be on Wednesday, June 20, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. The subject for the next meeting will be "Exploitation in the Marketplace", and the topics we will cover include sweat shops, modern-day slave trade, and the fair trade movement.

Board of Trustees Meetings

The MVUUF Board of Trustees meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The Board will meet again on June 6, and again in July. Upcoming items for discussion at these meetings include advertising, committee reports, planning and funding of a Winterfaith Festival, becoming a Welcoming Congregation, disposition of the donated Margaret Burroughs art prints, and other miscellaneous fellowship items.

Treasury Matters

Financial contributions can be made in the offering basket located on the round table at the back of our sanctuary. If you would like to mail contributions instead of putting them in the offering basket, you may mail them to:

MVUUF

1600 Isabella Ave

Mt. Vernon IL 62864

Please make checks payable to MVUUF.

If you would like your offering to be used for a specific purpose, please clearly mark that purpose on the memo line on your check or on the envelope in which you place your offering.



UU Volunteer Matters...

The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship has declared as a part of its mission to work for compassionate justice. For many of our members, this means volunteering their time at the fellowship, and within the community. Here are a few opportunities that are available to anyone who wants to help out!

Keep Mt. Vernon/Jefferson County Beautiful Recycling Center

The Keep Mt. Vernon/Jefferson County Beautiful Recycling Center is now open on Wednesdays (1 to 6 p.m.) in addition to Saturdays (8 a.m. to noon). Vito volunteers on the third Saturday of each month, and the center could use more volunteer help then and/or on other Saturday mornings.

Pet Party at the Park June 9

Lobo Animal Rescue, a local no kill animal shelter, will be selling concessions and novelty/gift items at the "Pet Party at the Park" on June 9. This event is being sponsored by Thomas Animal Hospital and will take place from 9:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Veteran's Park in Mt. Vernon.

If you are interested in working at the concession stand, or want to donate items for Lobo to sell (items such as bottled water, soda, pet items, or crafts would be much appreciated-even something like a windsock or baked items like cookies or brownies) you should let Shannon Green or Diane Schwitz know ahead of time. The animals will thank you!

If you are interested in working on a Mt. Vernon UU Fellowship committee, your help is always appreciated! Speak to a member of the Fellowship Board of Trustees if you have any questions about which committee might be right for you!

Video Workshop Series: Welcoming The Newcomer

Several members of the fellowship met in June to view the video workshop DVD, "Welcoming the Newcomer." Those who attended the workshop have generated several ideas for how we can better welcome visitors to our fellowship. The main idea is a simple one, welcome newcomers with a smile and be sure to invite them in for the service and to stay for coffee. Look for more ideas coming out of this workshop soon!



"I hold it, that a little rebellion,
now and then, is a good thing, and
as necessary in the political world
as storms in the physical."
- Thomas Jefferson

The Fellowship Thanks You!

It would be impossible to thank each and every one of you for your individual contributions to our fellowship. Thank you to all of you who meticulously work out the details of seemingly tedious and never ending committee and board work. Thank you to all of you who lead services and children's programs. Thank you for those who attend our fellowship and join in our conversations and social hours. Thank you to those of you invite friends, welcome visitors, and invite newcomers downstairs for coffee. We couldn't do any of this without ALL of you.

Special Thank Yous in June go to:

- ☺ Angela, Shannon, Adam, and Paul for collaborating on the new MVUUF website, www.mtvernonuuf.org
- ☺ David Jeter for staying after services to stuff folders.
- ☺ Nina Peacock and the PAL committee for working so hard on the upcoming MVUUF brochure.

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 visiting our website:
www.mtvernonuuf.org
- ▶ by emailing our fellowship:
information@mtvernonuuf.org
- ▶ By emailing a member of the board:
 - Glenda Eubanks, Cochair
gatherings@mvn.net
 - Adam Stone, Cochair
astonejd01@yahoo.com
 - Vito Mastrangelo, Cochair
bethvito@mvn.net
 - Paul Oakley, Treasurer
poakley0615@charter.net
 - Dennis Arnold
dennisarnold2@gmail.com

Our Mission Statement

Embracing Diversity, Welcoming Everyone,

We, the members of this fellowship, agree to affirm and promote the seven principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and to strive to:

- ◆ enable spiritual, intellectual, ethical, and emotional growth for all ages,
- ◆ work for compassionate justice, and
- ◆ respect the interdependence of all existence.

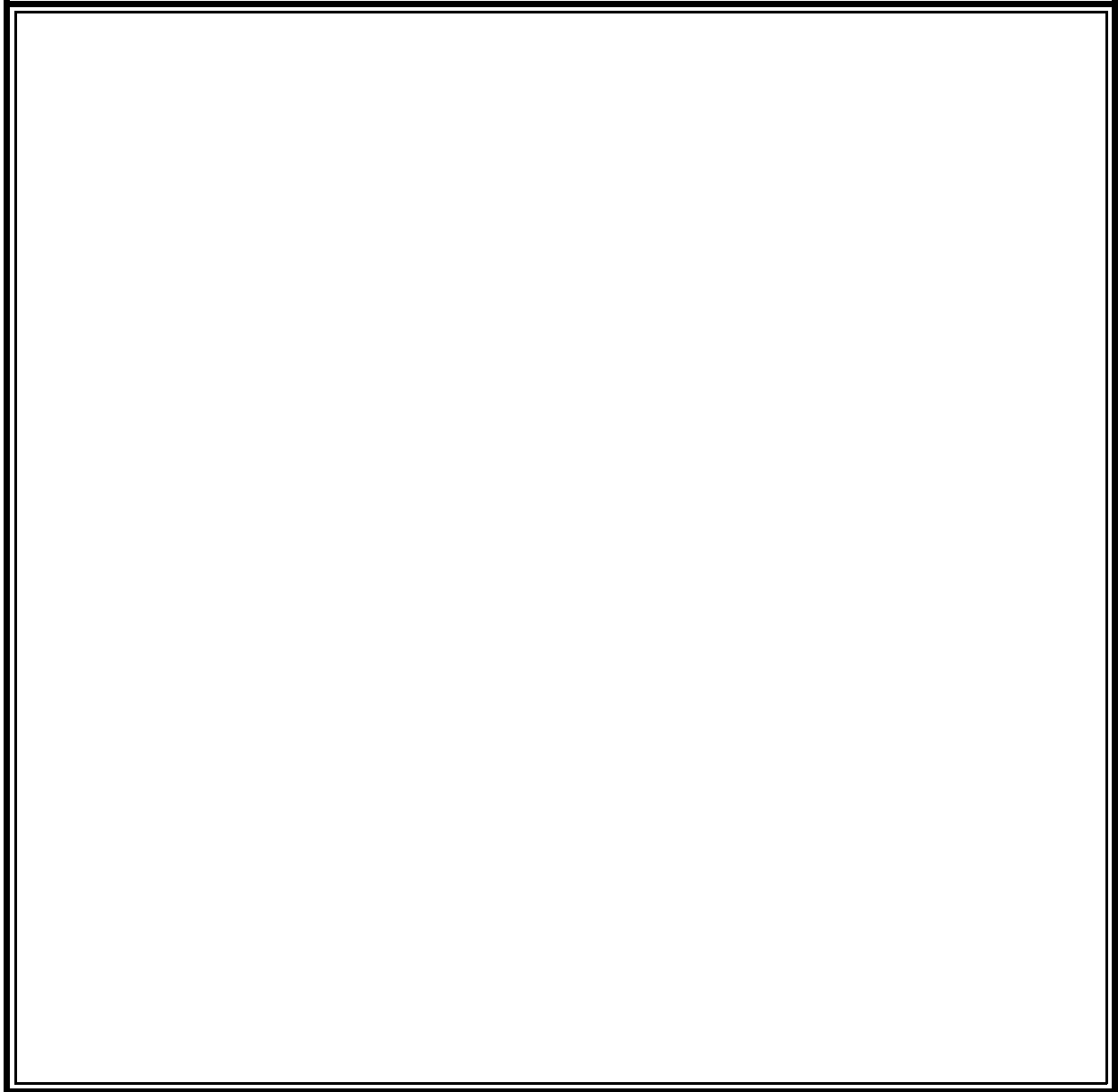
Our Principles:

- ◆ The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- ◆ Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- ◆ Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- ◆ A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- ◆ The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- ◆ The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- ◆ Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



UU KIDS MATTER

Another new season is upon us! Many children love the summer months, do you? What is the most special things about summer to you? Can you write a poem about it? Or draw a picture?

A large, empty rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for children to write a poem or draw a picture about summer.