

UU MATTERS



The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
1600 Isabella, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864 (618) 241-9644
An Emerging UUA Congregation

February 2009
Vol. 4 No. 1

Mt. Vernon UU Fellowship services are held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

February 1: Nina Peacock will lead this service which will include reflections and thoughts from the Tao Te Ching.

February 8: This service will be led by Paul Oakley and will focus on the physical, psychic and symbolic impact of trees in our lives and religious expression. At sundown on February 8, the minor Jewish holiday Tu B'Shvat, also known as the New Year of Trees, begins. The sermon, written by Rev. Jane Bramadat of First Unitarian Church of Victoria (British Columbia, Canada), uses this holiday as the point of departure for a discussion of UU syncretism and to encourage us to form traditions honoring the importance of trees to us, individually and in the larger human community. Our responsive reading "I Contemplate a Tree," is taken from Martin Buber's seminal book *I – Thou*. We will hear recorded music centered on trees by: Southwestern Hispanic-Jewish singer Consuelo Luz; New Age pianist Liz Story; and avant-garde Slovakian singer Suí Vesan, who sings in an imaginary language, a sort of postmodern scat. We will sing the hymns Morning Has Broken and Spirit of Life.

February 15: Angela Czapiewski will lead this open reading service.

February 22: Adam Stone will lead this service. He will present a sermon entitled, "An Excursion into the Interdependent Web of All Existence" written by Rev. Dr. Joshua Snyder of the Second Unitarian Church of Omaha.

March 1: Shannon Green will lead this service discussing Unitarian Universalism, Service, and Social Justice Work within the UU framework. Nancy Gibbs will join us to discuss the work of First United Methodists Church's Angels on Assignment organization and to accept our fellowship's offering to their work.

Services at Mt. Vernon UU Fellowship are led and organized by members and friends of our fellowship. If you would like to volunteer to lead and/or organize a service, please use the sign up sheet on the back table of the sanctuary.

Other Upcoming Events:

All listed events are held at the fellowship building and are open to the public unless otherwise stated. Please email information@mtvernonuuf.org for information about any service or event.

February 4 @ 6:30 p.m.: *Board of Trustees Meeting.* Board of Trustees members: Nina Peacock: Cochair; Kelly Taylor Cochair; Glenda Eubanks: Cochair; Adam Stone: Secretary. The treasury position remains open. Meeting open to anyone interested in fellowship business.
FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

February 6 @ 7:00: *Drum Circle.* Bring a drum or other instrument to play at this relaxed and informal drum circle, or simply come to listen.
FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH.

February 11 @ 6:30 p.m.: *Welcoming Congregation Workshop.* These workshops are a cooperative effort by the members of the congregation to make our fellowship better at welcoming all members of the community to our fellowship, specifically those people who are also sexual minorities. *Even if you haven't been to a workshop before, or don't plan on attending every month, please make an effort to attend at least one or two of the upcoming workshops.* *SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.*

February 18 @ 6:30 p.m. *Open Minds Discussion Group.* Open Minds meets discuss a variety of topics. Everyone is welcome. Contact Vito Mastrangelo for more information about this discussion group and topics.
THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Other MVUUF Matters:

Are you considering MVUUF membership? Please ask a Board of Trustees member for a prospective member folder.

Treasury Matters: Financial contributions may 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, 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.

Library Matters: The MVUUF Library catalogue is now available online. The catalog can be accessed at www.librarything.com/catalog/MVUUF

UU Matters Newsletter Submissions: *If you have news or notices that you would like placed in upcoming editions of UU Matters, please send them to information@mtvernonuuf.org by the 15th of each month, for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.*

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:

1. By Mail: The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 1600 Isabella
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864
2. By Phone: (618) 241-9644. Please leave a voice mail message.
3. By visiting our website:
www.mtvernonuuf.org
4. By emailing our fellowship:
information@mtvernonuuf.org

MVUUF Board of Trustees members can also be reached using the fellowship voice mail or email.