

UU MATTERS



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

July & August 2009
Vol. 4 No. 4

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

July 5th: *We are still in need of a volunteer to lead this service.* If no one is able to coordinate the service, it will be held as an Open Reading service with no specified leader, followed by coffee hour as usual. If you have a reading or music to share, please plan on bringing it just in case.

July 12th: *Open Reading Service.* Glenda Eubanks will coordinate this service. Please bring short readings, music, or other thoughts to share.

July 19th: *Special Guest: Zola Van, Musician.* Angela Czapiewski will coordinate this service with special guest musician Zola Van. Zola Van is a concert Pianist and Composer from Southern Illinois who has a special attachment to the natural areas of Southern Illinois. She will perform several of her original pieces on this morning, with Angela sharing short readings throughout the service.

July 26th: *We are still in need of a volunteer to lead this service.*

August 2nd: *Reflections from the UUA's 2009 General Assembly.*

Fellowship member Paul Oakley recently attended the annual General Assembly (GA) of the Unitarian Universalist Association in Salt Lake City, Utah. Please join him as he share reflections on, and thoughts about, his experiences at GA. Also, see a brief note from Paul on this subject further into the newsletter!

August 9th: *Becoming a Welcoming Congregation.* The Taskforce on LGBT Concerns will lead this service together as a part of our Fellowship's efforts at becoming a Welcoming Congregation.

August 16th: *We are still in need of a volunteer to lead this service.* The third Sunday of each month is typically reserved for an Open Reading service, but any person who volunteers to lead or coordinate the service has the option to change this if they so desire.

August 23rd: *Creation Myths, Intergenerational Service.* Shannon Green will lead this service for all ages on the topic of Creation. Several stories and myths from a variety of religious and cultural perspectives will be shared with an interactive style. Shannon will also explore the subject of people as creators during the service. Shannon will follow this service with additional exploration of the topic of Creation in an additional service in September.

August 30th: *We are still in need of a volunteer to lead this service.*

All Sunday services are followed by a social hour with coffee and other refreshments in the fellowship basement immediately after the service.

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.



"Like a welcome summer rain,
humor may suddenly cleanse and cool
the earth, the air and you."

-- Langston Hughes

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.

July 1st & August 5th Board of Trustees Meeting. The newly selected Board of Trustees will convene in July. Members are: Nina Peacock, co-chair; Kelly Taylor, co-chair; Diane Schwitz, co-chair; Adam Stone, secretary; Angela Czapiewski, treasurer. Meetings are open to anyone interested in fellowship business. **FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH**

July 3rd & August 7th @ 7:00: Drum Circle. Bring a drum or other instrument to play at this relaxed and informal drum circle, or simply come to listen and enjoy. **FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH**

July 8th August 12th @ 6:30: Welcoming Congregation Workshop. July Topic: Transgender Identity: What It Means. August Topic TBA. (The LGBT Taskforce will also lead the Sunday Service on August 9th). Welcoming Congregation Workshops are part of 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. **SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH**

July 15th & August 19th @ 6:30 p.m. Open Minds Discussion Group. Open Minds meets to 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**

"If you will call your troubles experiences, and remember that every experience develops some latent force within you, you will grow vigorous and happy, however adverse your circumstances may seem to be."

John Heywood quotes (English Playwright and Poet, 1497-1580)

A Note from Fellowship Member Paul Oakley:

My Fellow MVUUF People:

As many of you know, I have just spent the better part of a week in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the General Assembly (GA) of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA). I had a great time and learned a lot.

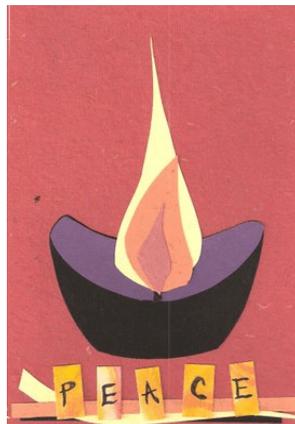
Maybe fewer of you know that, in accordance with the congregation's policy that MVUUF will pay the registration fee for members to attend GA or similar UU district or regional meetings, the Board of Trustees authorized reimbursing me the cost of my registration fee. I am very grateful for this help.

Therefore, to a somewhat greater degree than I otherwise might hold, I owe you all some summary thoughts on my experience. I plan partly to fulfill that at the service I will be leading on August 2. But, as a few of you know already, I blogged about my experience while I was there. You can access my GA blog entries at the following web address:

<http://innerlight-radiantlife.blogspot.com/search/label/GA>

The blog entries are a combination of observation, evaluation, and chronicle of my experience, both mundane and sublime. They definitely reflect my opinion on several things that not all of you would agree with. And that's fine. If you have any questions about my experience of GA, please ask me about it.

Blessings,
Paul



Original UU art by Artist and Educator Jennifer Howard.

Have you created any Chalice Art of your own?

If you have and are willing to share it with us, please contact fellowship member Shannon Green at moonstander@charter.net or via the church email at information@mtvernonuuf.org

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 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.