

UU MATTERS



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

September 2009
Vol. 4 No. 5

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

September 6th: *Drumming*. Debbie White and Angela Czapiewski will lead a service on drumming with reflections on the meaning of drumming in people's lives. During the service there will be opportunities for the congregation to participate in drumming or to sit back and enjoy the meditative rhythm drumming offers. You may bring a percussion instrument to the service or use one that will be provided for you. The fellowship also holds a monthly drum circle on the first Friday of each month; in September, the drum circle will be held on September 4th.

September 13th: *Antarctica*. Vennie Anderson of the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship will share reflections from her voyage to Antarctica at this service.

September 20th: *What "Worship" Means to Me*. Rev. Bill Sasso, Minister of the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship, will join us for this service and deliver this message on worship. Rev. Sasso says of this service, "In many faith traditions, 'worship' has a specific and generally accepted meaning. In Unitarian Universalism, we often agree to disagree, and the meaning of 'worship' might be one of our most 'disagreeable' topics. While we hold different opinions as individuals, we somehow gather each Sunday, and as we do, something happens." Join Rev. Sasso as he reflects on "What can worship be?" and "How does it happen?" within UUism. Following the service, our fellowship will host a potluck lunch before Rev. Sasso continues by leading a Worship Leaders Workshop for anyone interested in learning more about putting together a Sunday Morning Service.

September 27th: *On One Foot*. The Jewish High Holy Days begin with Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) and run through Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) which begins at sundown on September 27. This year Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown on September 18; Yom Kippur begins at sundown on September 27. The primary theme of Yom Kippur is repentance. Paul Oakley will lead our Sunday morning service on the 27th. The service will recognize Yom Kippur with a sermon titled "On One Foot," written by Rabbi Edward Feinstein (Conservative) and presented to his synagogue Valley Beth Shalom in Encino (CA) on Yom Kippur 1996. The philosopher Isaiah Berlin quipped that for every difficult, complex problem, in politics, in life, in thought, there is always a simple answer. Which is always wrong - and not just wrong, but deadly. Rabbi Feinstein's message gives us a complex yet accessible entry into the meaning of Yom Kippur.

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.



I think that one of our most important tasks is to convince others that there's nothing to fear in difference; that difference, in fact, is one of the healthiest and most invigorating of human characteristics without which life would become meaningless. Here lies the power of the liberal way: not in making the whole world Unitarian Universalist, but in helping ourselves and others to see some of the possibilities inherent in viewpoints other than one's own; in encouraging the free interchange of ideas; in welcoming fresh approaches to the problems of life; in urging the fullest, most vigorous use of critical self-examination. ~ Adlai Stevenson

Other Upcoming Events at MVUUF:

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.

September 2nd: Board of Trustees Meeting. Members of the Board of Trustees 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

September 4th @ 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. *There will also be a special Sunday service on Drumming on September 6th.*

FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

September 9th @ 6:30: FINAL Welcoming Congregation Workshop.

Topic: What Now? 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. ***This is our last LGBT Workshop. We encourage everyone to come and celebrate our successes and plan for the future as we continue to embark on our journey towards becoming an official Welcoming Congregation. You need not have attended a previous welcoming congregation workshop to come to this one. All voices are helpful.***

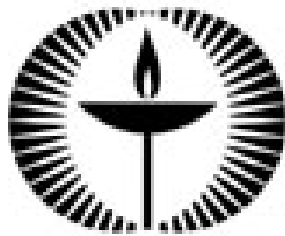
September 16th @ 6:30 p.m. Open Minds Discussion Group. TOPIC: Unitarian Universalism and Social Justice: The Formation of a Social Justice Committee at MVUUF. A brief presentation of the current social justice project of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee will be given and a discussion of MVUUF's future role in social justice work will follow. Open Minds meets monthly 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

SPECIAL EVENT -> September 20th:

Fellowship Potluck and Worship Leaders Workshop

Rev. Bill Sasso from Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship will preach at our 10:00 AM service on September 20th on the subject of "What 'Worship' Means to Me". After the service, in place of our usual social hour, our fellowship will host a potluck luncheon. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy in the company of fellowship. Following the potluck, Rev. Sasso will lead a workshop for people who lead or are considering leading or helping with a Sunday morning service. Please mark this date on your calendar so we can as fully as possible take advantage of the expertise that Rev. Sasso is so generously offering us.



Hope to see you there!

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.