



UU Matters

(February 2010: Vol. 5 No. 1)

The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
1600 Isabella, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864; (618) 241-9644

Sunday Morning Service Schedule

(Mt. Vernon UU Fellowship services are held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. All Sunday morning services are held at the fellowship building and are open to the public unless otherwise stated. If you are interested in leading a service or delivering a sermon, please use the Service sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary.)

7 February: Gail & Mike DeVilbiss will lead this service.

14 February: Emma's Revolution, a folk/pop band, will lead this service. For more information regarding Emma's Revolution, see www.emmasrevolution.com.

(A special offering will be collected for the Ranchod Aids Hospice and Orphanage in Kabwe, Zambia.)

21 February: Rev. Bill Sasso: "Abe Lincoln's Religion"

In celebration of the President's Day holiday, let's see what we might learn from Abe Lincoln about religion! Was he a Christian, or a "christian," or a humanist, or just a plain old infidel? We'll look at Abe's comments about his religious inclinations, but also at his behavior and his values, as we try to identify his religious understandings and commitments. Might he have been a Unitarian or a Universalist? This is your chance to find out!

28 February: Rev. Bill Sasso: "The Impact of Listening"

In today's busy world, it can be hard – sometimes very hard – to find the time to stop and truly listen to each other. That's perhaps especially true when we are troubled by our own concerns, and when the others around us don't seem to pay enough attention to what we wish to say. While it's not uncommon to fall into a cycle of "you're not listening," it's also possible to break out of that cycle. Join Bill to see what he might have to say about how we can do that!

Other Upcoming Events

(All Upcoming Events are held at the fellowship building and are open to the public unless otherwise stated.)

3 February: Board of Trustees Meeting -First Wednesday of Each Month-

Meeting open to anyone interested in MVUUF business.

Board of Trustees: Nina Peacock, co-chair; Kelly Taylor, co-chair;

Diane Schwitz, co-chair; Adam Stone, secretary; Angela Czapiewski, treasurer.

5 February: Drum Circle -First Friday of Each Month-

Bring a drum or other percussion instrument to play at this relaxed and informal drum circle, or simply come to listen and enjoy the good vibrations.



Photos by Paul Oakley

14 February: Social Justice & Action Taskforce -Second Sunday of Each Month- -Following Social Hour-

Join this new group to learn about and discuss social justice concerns and actions. This group discusses issues that affect local, national, and global communities. This group seeks out various projects and issues to take action on as individuals, as a group, and/or as a congregation. (You may want to bring a sack lunch.)

Other UU Matters

Note from editor, Luke S. Crawford: In the last issue of UU Matters, we were informed that Shannon Green, who has edited and published the newsletter for the past few years, has taken on a number of other projects and activities that will not allow her to dependably produce a regular newsletter, and hence resigned. I saw this as an opportunity to volunteer my time and effort from long distance. Many of you are aware that in January 2009, I moved to Mexico. The truth is, a year later, I still find myself missing MVUUF. I strongly believe that Southern Illinois needs our UU presence. Though I cannot commit to do this newsletter indefinitely, I can do it for now, while we wait for someone else to take the plate. Please, if you're interested in producing the newsletter, let me know!

Because I am at a long distance, I feel it is necessary to adopt some guidelines for newsletter submissions and content.

Submission Guidelines:

All submissions for UU Matters must be emailed to me, at LukeSanfordCrawford@yahoo.com, no later than the last Monday of the month preceding the month that you want the submission published. Submissions for the March edition must be emailed to me no later than 22 February.

Service Leaders/Speakers:

If you are leading a service or speaking in a service, you need to email me directly with the title, date, and synopsis of your service/sermon.

Other Meetings:

If you are coordinating a special meeting or event that is open to the public, you need to email me with the date and description of the event.

Programming Committee:

Someone from the Programming Committee should email me a list of upcoming service leaders and speakers each month.

Personal Submissions:

I would like to encourage the submission of personal work. UU Matters could be an opportunity for you to share your personal work relating to UUism, to the MVUUF congregation, or to liberal religious thought in general. Please consider sharing your photography, poems, short stories, "deep thoughts," etc. Send submissions to me at LukeSanfordCrawford@yahoo.com.

Peace & Love,

Luke Sanford Crawford, editor

Note from Adam Stone, MVUUF Secretary:

Dear fellow MVUUF members,

The Board of Trustees has set **Sunday, May 16, 2010**, immediately following the regular Sunday service, as the date and time for the Annual Membership Meeting. Please attend if you are interested and able!

Three important matters, and relevant timelines, that will be considered at the meeting:

1. The approval of the Welcoming Congregation Covenant and the accompanying revisions to the Bylaws. I have attached, as PDF documents, copies of the proposals submitted to the Board by the Task Force, and approved by the Board for membership approval. Members will be asked to approve these documents at the May meeting. The documents have not changed substantively since they were first circulated to the members in October 2009; nevertheless, please look at them again, and if you have any concerns or questions about the documents, please address them to the Board of Trustees as soon as possible, preferably no later than **April 15, 2010**.
2. The approval of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, which begins July 1, 2010 and ends June 30, 2011. If you are a chairperson, co-chair, or member of a committee, please meet with the other members of your committee to formulate your budget request for the coming year. All budget requests must be submitted to the Board of Trustees by **April 15, 2010**. The Board will use the requests to create a proposed budget that the members will vote on at the May meeting.
3. The election of officers to the Board of Trustees. Opportunities exist for members to step forward and serve a one-year term on the Board! If you are interested in doing so, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee (myself and Beth Brennan), and we can tell you more about serving on the Board. All members are welcome to assist MVUUF in this capacity!

If there are additional items members would like to have placed on the agenda of the May 16, 2010, meeting, please let me know and I will add them.

Thank you, to each of you, for your continued participation in, and support of, MVUUF!

Sincerely,

Adam E. Stone

Adam E. Stone, Secretary, Board of Trustees

“I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use.”

- Galileo Galilei

Considering MVUUF membership? Please ask a Board of Trustees member for a prospective member folder, or a membership form.

Treasury Matters: Financial contributions may be made in the offering basket located on the round table at the back of the 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

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



Photo by Paul Oakley