



UU Matters

(July 2011: Vol. 6 No. 7)

The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

~A Welcoming Congregation~

1600 Isabella, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864; (618) 241-9644

Sunday Morning Service Schedule

(All Sunday morning services are held at 10:00 a.m. at the fellowship building and are open to the public. 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.)

3 July: Donna Beaumont will lead an introduction to the *Religious Society of Friends, the Quakers*, noting how Unitarian-Universalists have much in common with the Society of Friends.

10 July: Dave Christensen from Carbondale will visit to share thoughts on *Humanism through Poetry*. Dave retired from the SIUC Geography Department in 1984, has travelled, lectured and taught in about 2 dozen countries (during World War II and since), and has been an active Unitarian and then UU since the mid-1940s.

17 July: A volunteer is requested to lead this service.

24 July: Gail DeVilbiss will host the service *Music Therapy: A Tribute to Betty DeVilbiss*.

31 July: Debbie Czarnopys-White will lead *Exploring Our 3rd UU Principle - Encouragement of Spiritual Growth*.

~Services with no designated leader will be Open Readings services.

Other Upcoming Events

(All Upcoming Events, held at the Fellowship Building, are open to the public.)

6 July: Board of Trustees Meeting
-First Wednesday of Each Month-
-6:30 p.m.-

Meeting is open to anyone interested in MVUUF business.

Board of Trustees: Donna Beaumont, co-chair; Debbie Czarnopys-White, co-chair; Sam Smith, co-chair; Gail DeVilbiss, secretary; and Angela Czapiewski, treasurer.

1 July: Drum Circle
-First Friday of Each Month-
-7:00 p.m.-

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.

10 July: Buddhist Meditation
-Second Sunday of Each Month-
-9:00 a.m.-

Buddhist meditation group meets downstairs. One need not be Buddhist to attend.

10 July: Social Justice Action Taskforce
-Second Sunday of Each Month-
-11:30 a.m. following Social Hour-

Join this group to learn about, discuss, and take action on social justice concerns-- issues that affect local, national, and global communities. The group seeks projects and issues to take action on as individuals, as a group, and/or as a congregation.

Please see Debbie Czarnopys-White for details on an ongoing project to make dolls for distribution to some of those in need in our area.

27 July: Meditation Group
-Fourth Wednesday of Each Month-
-6:30 p.m.-

Members will lead the group in a meditation activity.



Advancing human rights is the work of many joining hands

The UUSC Link

The UUSC is an independent human rights organization, supported through the volunteer efforts and financial gifts of its members and supporters, and linked to UU congregations through local representatives. The four focus areas of its work include: *Rights in Humanitarian Crises; Civil Liberties; Economic Justice; and Environmental Justice.*

On Justice Sunday, in April of this year, we learned about the UUSC's work with the Papaye Peasant Movement in Haiti. UUSC's work goes on in Haiti, as reported in the June local reps bulletin:

“On May 15, seven UU medical professionals from around the country arrived in Port-au-Prince for a week of service. At the Association for the Promotion of Integral Family Healthcare (APROSIFA), an urban medical clinic for mothers and children, the group performed well-baby check-ups and gynecological exams. For many of the women, it was the first time they received this medical care. At the Commission of Women Victims for Victims (known by its Haitian acronym KOFAVIV), a nonprofit that provides services and advocacy for victims of gender-based violence, our volunteers saw over 70 patients in one day.

“The following week, 10 UU seminary students, as well as leaders of several UU seminary schools, the UUA, and UUSC, arrived in Haiti. Working with skilled builders from UUSC's partner the Papaye Peasant Movement (MPP), the seminarians broke ground on a new eco-village. The village will eventually house 40 or more families from Port-au-Prince who were displaced by the earthquake. Over the course of several days, seminarians and the leaders of the UU institutions engaged in dialogue on how to strengthen global justice education and experiential learning for all UU seminarians.” You can learn more about their experiences at the UUSC website.

If you would like to learn more about UUSC, visit the website www.uusc.org, attend a meeting of the Social Justice Action Task Force, and watch this space at UUMatters.

Donna Beaumont, UUSC Local Representative



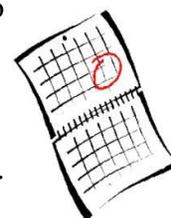
Gathering of the Waters

Please take a moment to collect samples of water from your travels and meaningful experiences this summer, to be used in the Gathering of the Waters Ceremony on Sunday September 11.

Other UU Matters

Newspaper Announcement Submission Guidelines

Submissions for the Friday "church news" sections of both the Sentinel and the Register-News are due on the Wednesday morning prior to the service or event. If you are leading a service, or planning a fellowship event, please email your information to Beth at: bethnvito@mvn.net by (at the very latest) 8 a.m., on the prior Wednesday. It need not be complicated--a few sentences would be fine. (Also, please let Beth know if you do not wish for your name to be included in the press release.) Many new attendees have told us that they found MVUUF through these articles in the newspaper, so this is an important way to let people know what is happening.



Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Please email submissions for *UU Matters* to marji.gibbs@gmail.com . Submissions for the August edition are due by **Monday, July 25**.

If you are leading a service or speaking in a service, please submit the title, date, and synopsis of your service/sermon. If you are coordinating a special meeting or event that is open to the public, please submit the date and description of the event.

UU Matters is an opportunity for you to share your personal work relating to Unitarian Universalism, to the MVUUF congregation, or to liberal religious thought in general. Please consider sharing your photography, poems, short stories, "deep thoughts," favorite quotes, etc.

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