



UU Matters

(October 2012: Vol. 7 No. 10)

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.)

30 September: Mike DeVilbiss, *Free Will and Determinism*.

7 October: Luke Sanford Crawford will examine the question “*What is ‘Fun’?*”

Various sources including linguistics, Eastern philosophy, psychoanalysis, and personal experience will be drawn upon to explore the question of what “fun” really means. A partial, yet concise, definition will be proffered as will suggestions for how to incorporate “fun” into one’s spiritual journey/practice.

Welcome Luke and his family back with a pot-luck lunch following Luke’s service. Bring a dish to share.

14 October: Gail DeVilbiss and Diane Schwitz will lead an animal blessing service, focusing on animal rescuers. Everyone is welcome to bring their animal companions for an animal blessing. For the safety of your companion, please have the animals secured on a leash or in crate.

Weather permitting: coffee hour outside under the trees if dry and warm enough. Please bring a chair if you would like to join us outside.

21 October: *Shared Service on 3rd Sunday* A year ago we began this popular Sunday Service format, which has developed into some most interesting gatherings. As you read your favorite books and magazines, please keep our shared services in mind. Sign up sheet will be available on both October 7th and 14th. Please join us.

28 October: Paul Oakley will lead this service. Check website for details closer to date.

Other Upcoming Events

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

3 October: 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;
Gail DeVilbiss, secretary; and Walter Lazenby, treasurer.

7 October: Fall Potluck after Sunday Service
Visit with Luke Sanford Crawford, wife Rebeca and son Mateo, visiting from
Mexico. Bring a dish to share.

14 October: Buddhist Meditation
-Second Sunday of Each Month-
-9:00 a.m.-



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

14 October: Social Justice Interest Group
-Second Sunday of Each Month-
-11:30 a.m. following Social Hour-

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

24 October: Meditation Group
-Fourth Wednesday of Each Month 6:00 p.m.-
For information, check with Nina Peacock.

A member will lead the group in a meditation activity.

Donations for Animals

During October the Fellowship will collect cat and dog food for animal rescue organizations. Both dry or canned food will be accepted. In addition, homemade treats and toys will be for sale, with proceeds to go to animal rescue organizations.



From the Programming Committee:

November 4, December 9, and December 30 services are open and in need of a leader. If you have not lead a service and would like some assistance the programming committee is available to help. Committee members are Gail and Mike DeVilbiss, Donna Beaumont and Jim Spalding.

Hunting for Hymnals

A recent inventory of hymnals found some missing. Undoubtedly, some were out in order to prepare for leading a service. If you are not currently using a hymnal in your possession for that purpose, please return it to the Fellowship. And if you have reason to hang onto a hymnal for a while longer, please let Paul Oakley (poakley0615@charter.net), Mike DeVilbiss, or Donna Beaumont know that you have it so we can determine how many have been lost and how many remain.

New Flooring Downstairs

A special thank you and great appreciation to those who generously donated funds and time to update the flooring at the north of the basement: Bob White, Larry Sidwell, Greg Gibbs and Terry Schwitz.

Thanks to Paul and Eric, for mowing the Fellowship grounds. A special thanks to those who braved the heat to water the plantings and keep them going through the hot, dry summer.

I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything; but still, I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

~Edward Everett Hale,
Unitarian minister

Fair Trade Buying Club

Orders will be ready for pick up early October. If you did not place an order, there will be extras for sale. Last Spring the new Fair Trade Geo-bars were introduced. These will be available for sale late October/early November.

Community News

Marji Gibbs dad and his wife, John Walter and Joy Thornton Walter, will display their contemporary art glass collection at the Mitchell Museum, from opening October 27, 2012 to January 6, 2013.



Advancing human rights is the work of many joining hands

The UUSC Link

The UUSC is an independent human rights organization, supported by 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.*

UUSC is celebrating the passage of safe water legislation in California, where 11.5 million people do not have access to safe and affordable water. A.B. 685 establishes a state policy that recognizes that every Californian has a human right to clean, affordable, and accessible drinking water for their basic human needs. Getting A.B. 685 to the governor's desk was a long and challenging process. UUSC is proud to stand with the Safe Water Alliance, which worked diligently to make this victory possible. UUSC partner, the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of California (UULMCA), provided a moral voice in the debate and encouraged crucial interfaith support. UUs were a visible presence at every step in the process.

October is Fair Trade Month, and UUSC suggests that we celebrate by committing to a Fair Trade Halloween. To "treat" trick-or-treaters with fairly traded chocolates from Equal Exchange, choose a kit of 150 milk chocolate or 150 dark chocolate minis, plus 150 free informational fair-trade cards at the Equal Exchange Interfaith Store, or add it to your congregation's regular fair trade order. Equal Exchange will begin taking orders for these kits on October 1.



I am proud that MVUUC supports Fair Trade through our buying club and our coffee hour. Check out UUSC ally Global Exchange's "[31 Days of Fair Trade](#)" campaign to get involved in other easy actions to support fair trade.

To learn more about UUSC, take a look at the Opportunities for Service bulletin board, visit the UUSC website www.uusc.org or Facebook, attend a meeting of the Social Justice Interest Group each second Sunday after social hour, and watch this space at *UUMatters*.

Donna Beaumont, UUSC Local Representative



<http://www.globalexchange.org/fairtrade/cocoa/halloween/31days>

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, for the time being, to Gail at: vegaddict1 (at) aol.com 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 Gail 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(at)gmail.com. Submissions for the October edition are due by **Thursday, October 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 round bowl on the back table in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to mail a contribution, please mail 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

For more information about the Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship or to be added to our mailing list, please contact us in one of 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