



# UU Matters

(January 2013: Vol. 8 No. 1)

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 December:** Gail DeVilbiss will lead the third annual New Year Fire Communion ceremony. The Fire Communion focuses on looking back over the year that is ending, and reflecting on what we wish to leave behind, as well as looking forward to the year that is just beginning, and reflecting on what we hope to bring into our lives. Let us celebrate the possibility that this New Year holds!

*Change of plans:* Coffee Hour will be at the Fellowship, not at Sidwell Friends'; however, New Year's Day potluck will be at Sidwell Friends' B & B.

Please return *Guest at your Table* today. (Any checks can be made to UUSC .)

**6 January:** Jim Spaulding and Mike DeVilbiss will lead this service.

**13 January:** The LGBT Committee will lead this service.

**20 January:** *Shared Fellowship Service.* The shared service is a favorite of many who attend because of the sharing and community that develops.

**27 January:** Open service .

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

*Open Readings Service.* Please bring readings, stories, music, or artwork to share. No need to sign up in advance. The Fellowship looks forward to what you choose to share.

# Other Upcoming Events

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

**1 January:** New Year's Day Potluck at [Sidwell Friends' B & B](#)  
1812 East Richview Road  
Gather at 12:30— Eat at 1:00  
Bring food, games, music and friends

**2 January:** 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; Terry Schwitz,  
co-chair; Gail DeVilbiss, secretary; and Walter Lazenby, treasurer.

**13 January:** Buddhist Meditation  
-Second Sunday of Each Month-  
-9:00 a.m.-

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

**13 January:** 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.

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



*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.***

January 12, 2013 marks the third anniversary of the earthquake which devastated Haiti. I would like to share with you this update on UUSC's work in Haiti, from the Volunteer Bulletin.

“UUSC is piloting a new approach to our disaster response in Haiti. UUSC usually sends out an appeal for funds for emergency response following a major natural disaster with human rights implications, such as the tsunami, Gulf Coast flooding, or the January 12, 2010 Haiti earthquake. This enables UUSC to zero in with our signature approach of working with those left behind by other relief programs. Subsequently, we plan program work to apply our resources over two to three years.

“So traditionally UUSC would be winding down our program as Haiti gears up for the third commemoration of the earthquake. Instead UUSC is trying a new path in Haiti, transitioning an emergency response to a long term recovery program. After three years of working in Haiti with our partners and the vision and experience of Haiti Program Manager Wendy Flick, we have successful disaster response models in trauma response, rural resettlement, child protection, gender based violence, and rescuing children from slavery and servitude. Transitioning into long-term recovery in Haiti means we can deepen and expand these successful models, multiply their effects, and train other NGOs in what has worked. As we spend down funds raised in the emergency appeal, we will initiate raising additional funds around work that has already successfully created change at the grassroots in Haiti. Our eye to eye partnership has enabled us to build creative and dynamic relationships with partners so we can move forward together, bringing the voices of those on the margins into the essence of the work of ongoing recovery.”

**To learn more about UUSC, take a look at the Opportunities for Service bulletin board, visit the UUSC website [www.uusc.org](http://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*



December 2012 Social Justice Interest Group meeting

## Ring in the New Year with friends!

MVUUF will gather at Sidwell Friends' B & B on January 1, 2013 for the annual New Years Day Pot Luck. Please note the change of location. Bring a dish to share. We also need games and music to round out our gathering. Set up begins at 12:30, meal to begin at 1:00 PM. Please join in !

### Lights of Winter



### Lap Quilt and Blanket Project

Quilt-making is a continuing service project of the Social Justice Interest Group throughout the year. Seeking donations of:

- quilt batting (full size 81x96" - we cut it down to use)
- quilt backing (white material)
- funds for either of these or postage
- time to help assemble or sew on the lap quilts
- new small blankets/covers (fleece, etc.)

Blankets and quilts are sent to Maria Lovato who lives with her husband on the Pueblo de Cochiti reservation, to help 300 people there.

See photos of eight completed quilts on back bulletin board.



### Feb 3 Souper Bowl Recipe Collection

Debbie Czarnopys-White is collecting easy recipes to share with Angels on Assignment and our congregation. Using SouperBowl Sunday as a catalyst, please send recipes to Debbie [bdcw@frontiernet.net](mailto:bdcw@frontiernet.net)

# Other UU Matters

## Newspaper Announcement Submission Guidelines

Submissions for the Friday "church news" sections of both the Sentinel and the Register-News are sent on the Tuesday morning prior to the service or event. If you are leading a service, or planning a Fellowship event, please email your information to Gail at: vegaddict1 (at) aol.com by (at the very latest) 8 p.m., on the prior Monday. 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 January edition are due by **Friday, January 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](http://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](http://www.mtvernonuuf.org)
4. By emailing our Fellowship: [information@mtvernonuuf.org](mailto:information@mtvernonuuf.org)