



UU Matters

(March 2013: Vol. 8 No. 3)

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 March: Donna Beaumont will coordinate this *Open Reading Service*. We invite you to bring a poem or reading, music or art to share.

10 March: Debbie Czarnopys-White will lead this service, *The Importance of Listening*.

17 March: Donna Beaumont and Diane Schwitz will lead a service in celebration of the Vernal (Spring) Equinox. At the equinox, the lengths of day and night are equal, the axis of the earth tilts neither away from nor toward the sun. In the Northern Hemisphere, the vernal equinox marks the beginning of spring, of new beginnings and rebirth. We will celebrate this time of new life and new beginnings with readings and music.

24 March: The Social Justice Interest Group will lead the Justice Sunday service, *Justice is Choosing Compassionate Consumption*, emphasizing protecting the rights of workers in the food system and encouraging a deep commitment to ethical eating and exploring ways to create a truly sustainable food system through individual and community action.

31 March: Gail DeVilbiss will coordinate this *Open Reading/Sharing Service*. If you have a poem or reading, perhaps an excerpt from a favorite book a special selection of music, a piece of artwork or creative work you have made, considering sharing with us. See the sign up sheet in the back of the fellowship hall, or bring your selection spontaneously. Please join us.

Other Upcoming Events

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

6 March: 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.

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

Buddhist meditation group meets downstairs. One need not be Buddhist to attend.
For more information: Debbie Czarnopys-White bdcw@frontiernet.net

10 March: 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.

27 March: 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 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 March 24, we observe Justice Sunday. Justice Sunday is UUSC's annual opportunity for reflection, understanding, and action in a specific area of social justice. In recent years, we have considered "justice is aid with dignity" and "justice is the human right to water." This year's theme is "justice is choosing compassionate consumption," and focuses on advancing the rights of workers in the food system through UUSC's Economic Justice Program. UUSC initiatives specifically promote fair trade, workers' rights, and fair wages. Justice Sunday 2013 focuses on upholding the inherent worth and dignity of every person through our power as consumers, specifically by protecting the rights of workers in the food system. Please join us on March 24 to learn more. Advancing human rights is the work of many joining hands.

To learn more about UUSC, take a look at the *Into Action* bulletin board, visit the UUSC website at www.uusc.org or on 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

JUSTICE SUNDAY

Reflect, understand, and act — today and every day!

**Justice Is Choosing
Compassionate Consumption**

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.

LEARN **THE FRACKING TRUTH**



Discover...
-Why Fracking Is a Bad Idea
-What You Can Do About It
-What Your Community Can Do To Stay Safe.

Photo courtesy of Split Estate Press

Carbondale Civic Center
200 S. Illinois Ave

Friday evening, March 1
7pm - 8pm Presentation
8pm - 9pm Social Hour
Refreshments and Music

SAFE
Southern Illinoisans Against Fracturing our Environment
www.dontfractureillinois.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 April edition are due by **Friday, March 22**.

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