



UU Matters

(April 2013: Vol. 8 No. 4)

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.)

7 April: *Open Reading Service.* We invite you to bring a poem or reading, music or art to share.

14 April: *Open Reading Service.* We invite you to bring a poem or reading, music or art to share.

21 April: Debbie Czarnopys-White will lead this service celebrating Earth Day.

28 April: *Open Reading Service.* We invite you to bring a poem or reading, music or art to share.

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.)

3 April: 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.

14 April: 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

14 April: 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 April: 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.*

What has kept us optimistic and inspired here at UUSC? We want to take a moment to honor the achievements of 2012 that you - our members and supporters - made possible. Check out a few (of many!) highlights, by the numbers:

10: tire gardens it takes to feed a family in rural Haiti and provide enough produce to sell at market for income -- each family in the first completed eco-village has at least 20.

37: tons of coffee, tea, chocolate, and other fair-trade products that UU congregations purchased through the UUSC Coffee Project to boost the livelihoods of small farmers.

80: imams and women leaders in Darfur who were trained to use a Qur'anic basis for the protection of women.

2,723: actions taken by UUSC supporters to ensure the passage and implementation of human-right-to-water legislation in California.

3,300: approximate number of times that supporters accessed the National Diners' Guide by the Restaurant Opportunities Centers United, which UUSC partners with to stand up for restaurants workers' rights.

These numbers represent a great starting point for advancing human rights in the months ahead. Way to go MVUUF!

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*

Rock Opera Saturday May 4, Musicians Sunday May 5

We welcome visiting musicians Andrew Bollinger and Leslie Caplan, cantors at Central Reform Congregation in St Louis. Andrew is a self-taught rock musician. Leslie is a classically trained singer, who has sung weddings, funerals, and with the St. Louis Symphony.

A Saturday evening concert at Mt. Vernon UUF will feature Andrew's own rock opera in solo performance, *St. Louis and Songs for the Revolution (A musical Journey through Time)*, music and lyrics by Andrew John Bollinger. Included as well will be a mix of music with Leslie and Andrew together. Sunday's service will be led by our own Paul Oakley, with music provided by our guests. Plan to join us - and bring a friend! - for these special events.

New Books

Three new books can be found in the Fellowship library: *The Spirituality of Imperfection: Storytelling and the Search for Meaning*, *A Spirituality for Brokenness: Discovering Your Deepest Self in Difficult Times*, and *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*.

These books were purchased by the Memorial committee using the small remaining balance in the Randy Farrar Memorial Fund supplemented by \$20 from the Fellowship general funds. The books were chosen based on an understanding of topics that were of interest to our founding member, Randy Farrar.

All materials in the Fellowship library are available to be checked out by members and friends. Please record your selections on the clipboard. And thanks to Beth Brennan, for her service to the Fellowship as librarian.

Faithful Citizenship Workshop

Faith in Place announces a series of Faithful Citizen Workshops to prepare members of partner congregations for another year of policy advocacy. This year the workshop will cover updates on fracking regulation and new initiatives related to coal. A workshop will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Carbondale on Sunday, April 14, 1 pm – 3 pm. RSVP to Aaron Simmons at 312.733.4640, ex 177 or aaronfaithinplace.org. Read the latest Faith in Place newsletter on our Into Action bulletin board.

Other UU Matters

Newspaper Announcement 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](mailto:vegaddict1(at)aol.com) by (at the very latest) 8 p.m., on the prior Monday. A few sentences is fine. 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 Guidelines

Please email submissions for *UU Matters* to [marji.gibbs\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:marji.gibbs(at)gmail.com) by **Wednesday, April 24**, for the May issue. If you are leading a service or speaking in a service, please send title, date, and description 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