



UU Matters

(June 2013: Vol. 8 No. 6)

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.)

2 June: Nina Peacock will lead this service.

9 June: *Open Reading 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, please share with us.

16 June: *Open Reading 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. Open readings can become very special services.

23 June: *Open Reading Service.*

30 June: *Open Reading Service.*



Other Upcoming Events

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

5 June: 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.

9 June: Buddhist Meditation
-Second Sunday of Each Month-
-Usually 9:00 a.m., but not this month-

The meditation group will not physically meet due to Debbie's attendance at the UU Women's Retreat. The lesson will be distributed to regular attendees and anyone else wishing to receive it (email: bdcw@frontiernet.net).

9 June: 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.

25 June: Meditation Group
-Fourth Tuesday of Each Month 6:00 p.m.-

Please note the change from Wednesday to Tuesday for the summer.
For information, check with Nina Peacock.



May 24 Full Moon Labyrinth
Walk, hosted by Nina Peacock.

Congratulations, New Members of Board of Trustees

Following the May 19 annual Membership Meeting, a new Board of Trustees will take office for the new fiscal year beginning in July. Continuing on the Board as co-chairs are Donna Beaumont and Terry Schwitz, and Nina Peacock will return to the Board as the third co-chairperson. Debbie Czarnopys-White returns to the Board, now as secretary. Beginning in July Larry Sidwell will be treasurer.

Many thanks to Gail DeVilbiss and Walter Lazenby, now stepping down, for their many hours devoted to serving on the Fellowship Board of Trustees.

Sign up sheets and descriptions for committees are at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up where you feel most useful.

On May 4 and May 5, Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship had the treat of concert and service music from Andrew Bollinger and Leslie Caplan, cantors from Central Reform Congregation in St. Louis.



June Outside Coffee Hour

Stash your lawn chairs in your trunk—as weather permits, we may choose on spur of the moment to have coffee hour outside in the shade in June.



Many Thanks

Thanks to Paul Eatherton and Eric Garcia for lawn care, and to Alma Petry for help with mulching.



Did you notice the lush green grass where the thick concrete slab used to be in the front yard? Concrete removed by sheer muscle power of Paul E., so our lawn indeed looks more inviting now.



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.*

Did you know that everyone who enters the United States seeking asylum is automatically put into jail? All asylum seekers -- even people who have committed no crime and are simply fleeing violence -- are currently put into detention facilities upon arrival in the United States, until they are granted a "credible fear" interview with a government official. Some are jailed for weeks or months until this interview, which determines if they can legally request asylum. Even after the interview, they may still be kept imprisoned while waiting for a resolution of their request for asylum.

The new comprehensive immigration reform bill includes significant protections for refugees, asylum seekers, and torture survivors. Proposed immigration reform also has the potential for significant impact on the low wage workers who bring food to our tables, and on others who are vulnerable to exploitation, unsafe working conditions, and discrimination. The Senate bill, having passed out of the judiciary committee with amendments in May, will be considered by the full Senate in June.

If you would like to stay informed about specific issues of human rights including civil liberties, economic justice, and the human right to water; receive email alerts about advocacy opportunities, UUSC's monthly newsletter, and other updates, go to <http://actnow.uusc.org/site/PageNavigator/emailsignup> and sign up. You can unsubscribe at any time.

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*

The Board of Trustees has reviewed and revised the Policy on Use of Facilities. Here is the new text. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Board.

MVUUF Policy on Use of Facilities:

Approved by the MVUUF Board of Trustees on April 3, 2013

To supersede policy approved by the MVUUF Board of Trustees December 6, 2006

Approval for the use of the Fellowship building is necessary if the building is to be used for activities other than regularly scheduled Board-sanctioned activities (such as Sunday services, committee meetings, discussion or meditation groups). To obtain approval a member of MVUUF must request approval from each Board member and a majority of three Board members must approve the use of the building for the activity.

The Fellowship building shall not be used for any purpose inconsistent with the Fellowship's tax-exempt status. The Fellowship building shall be used in a manner consistent with the Principles and Purposes of the Bylaws of this Fellowship. A member of the MVUUF must be present during this approved activity, and said member must be responsible for the care of the building and any clean-up after the activity has concluded. A refundable deposit may be requested by the Board as a condition of approval of facility use. The deposit will be refunded in full if no damage has been incurred.

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 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 by **Wednesday, June 26** for the July 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

