



UU Matters

(November 2013: Vol. 8 No. 11)

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 November: *Service* led by Gail DeVilbiss.

10 November: *Religion's Roots, Now and Future*, led by Dave Christensen of Carbondale UUF.

17 November: *Open Reading Service*, led by Donna Beaumont. 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. **Membership meeting following the service.**

24 November: In the season's spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving, members of the Social Justice Interest Group will introduce this year's *Guest at Your Table* program. Guest at Your Table is the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's longest running program, and now raises more than half a million dollars a year to support UUSC's human rights work..



Other Upcoming Events

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

6 November: 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; Nina Peacock, co-chair; Terry Schwitz, co-chair;
Debbie Czarnopys-White, secretary; and Larry Sidwell, treasurer.

10 November: 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 November: 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.

17 November: Membership Meeting
-Following Sunday Services-

26 November: Meditation Group
-Fourth Tuesday of the 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 November 24, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, the Social Justice Interest Group will continue a UUSC tradition, Guest at Your Table. Guest at Your Table is an annual tradition in which fellowship members take home a booklet featuring people that UUSC has worked with recently. These people are your “guests,” and you are asked to share your financial blessings with them. As you give to your guests, you can learn about them by reading the [Stories of Hope](#) booklet.

This year’s guests include:

Danielle Neus is helping bring successful rural gardening techniques to the urban areas of Haiti. She is sharing practices that can lead to individual self-sufficiency and national food sovereignty.

Nelson Escobar came to the United States from El Salvador seeking asylum but then experienced oppressive working conditions. Nelson now helps others to overcome barriers, learn about their rights, and access support from workers’ centers and other organizations.

Malya Villard-Appolon works to end gender-based violence in Haiti and provides support to survivors. Malya is educating and empowering women to know their legal rights and to talk to one another to create safer communities.

George Friday found out as a youth that it can be hard to stand alone against injustice. She trained in community organizing and began building coalitions. She helps people understand the capacity of their combined voices and the value of their grassroots knowledge and expertise.

Guest at Your Table is UUSC’s longest running program, since 1975. The program now raises more than half a million dollars a year to help support UUSC’s human rights work. Every individual or family donation of \$100 or more is eligible to be matched thanks to a matching grant from the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, N.Y.

Contribution envelopes and boxes, and Stories of Hope booklets will be offered as part of our service on November 24. Our gifts will be returned during the first service in 2014, and will be forwarded to UUSC to support its work.

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*



Save the Date

On **Nov. 17** for a congregational meeting after the service.



Music for Services

David Jeter offers to play our keyboard for Sunday services should anyone wish to select music from our blue songbook, *Singing the Living Tradition*, for a service.

Announcements for Newspapers

Debbie Czarnopys-White will now be submitting information about upcoming services to the Mt. Vernon newspapers. **Thank you, Debbie!**

Please send descriptions of services and events to her at BDCW@frontiernet.net by 8 a.m. Monday to be submitted for the Friday newspaper.

Sewing Day

Our last gather for our Native American sewing day is Saturday, November 2, 9 a.m.-noon. All are invited to come at any time during that period or get objects to sew or cut by contacting Debbie, 201-3753 or bdcw@frontiernet.net



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
MINISTRY FOR EARTH

Respect Life. Restore Earth. Renew Spirit.

[UUMFE](#) is an affiliate organization of the Unitarian Universalist Association that focuses on the theological, spiritual and ethical aspect of human values and activities that affect the health and sustainability of the living earth. Includes events, information about the Green Sanctuary Program, and a newsletter archive.

[The Green Sanctuary Program](#)

Congregations and congregants working together to restore Earth and renew Spirit.

The Social Justice Interest Group has discussed getting involved with Green Sanctuary. If you have an interest in this project, please attend a meeting of the Social Justice Interest Group.



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 Debbie at: bdcw(at)frontiernet.net by (at the very latest) 8 a.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 **Friday, November 25** for the December 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