



UU Matters

(October 2014: Vol. 9 No. 9)
The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
~A Welcoming Congregation~
1600 Isabella, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

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.)

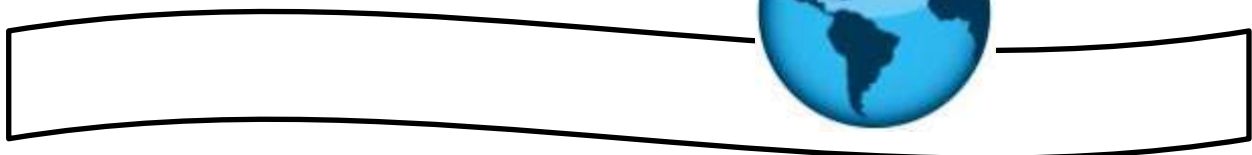
5 October: *Open Reading Service.* Please bring readings, music, or artwork to share. Donna will coordinate the opening and closing music.

12 October: *Open Reading Service.* Please bring readings, music, or artwork to share. Roberta will host these readings.

19 October: Paul Oakley will lead this service, on the history of UU ordination.

26 October: Nina Peacock will lead this service on Meditation.

Please check the MVUUF [website](#) for updates to **November** services.



Other Upcoming Events

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

1 October **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:** Paul Eatherton, co-chair; Glenda Eubanks, co-chair, Terry Schwitz, co-chair; Nina Peacock, secretary; and Larry Sidwell, Treasurer.

11 October: **Fellowship Cleaning Day, 9:00-2:00**
12 October: **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.

12 October: **Buddhist Meditation**
-Second Sunday of the 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

15 October: **Open Minds Discussion Group**
-Third Wednesday of the Month 7:00 p.m.-

Discussion of minimum wage, led by Debbie Czarnopys-White and Paul Oakley.

24 October: **Drumming Circle**
-Fourth Friday of the Month 7:00 p.m.-
-Upstairs in the Fellowship Hall-

Join with us we gather to create to create an in-the-moment spontaneous drum circle. No previous musical experience is required. Bring your own drum or percussion instrument, or share what is available. Come and experience the ancient tradition, dynamic pulse, and healing energy of drumming with others.

28 October: **Meditation Group**
-Fourth Tuesday of the Month 6:00 p.m.-
-Upstairs in the Fellowship Hall-

For those who want to learn and practice a variety of visualization, meditation and relaxation techniques. For information: Nina Peacock at peacock.nina@gmail.com.

Please check the MVUUF website http://mtvernonuuf.org/?page_id=11
for **November** events listings.

Open Minds

Open Minds Discussions, 3rd Wednesday

The Social Justice Interest Group hosts the Open Minds discussion series as a monthly meeting on the third Wednesday **at 7 p.m.** at the fellowship building, to encourage exploration and discussion of social justice and related issues. The series is open to the public.

On **October 15**, the discussion will center on the **Minimum Wage**, led by Debbie White and Paul Oakley. On **November 19**, Gail DeVilbiss will lead a discussion on **Food Ethics**, and we'll have an Ethical Eating potluck after the November 23 service.

In order for this series to succeed, we need your interest, help, and participation. Topics can include areas of economic justice, environmental justice, human rights, and civil liberties; anything in accordance with our seven principles. In accordance with the fellowship policy on political activity at the fellowship, programs shall be nonpartisan. We are interested in supporting informed participation in the democratic process.

Examples of specific topics that could be presented include Green Sanctuary, ethical eating, compassionate consumption, LGBTQ issues, immigration justice, human right to water. Topics related to this year's UUSC focus area of "Plant Seeds, Harvest Justice" (food sovereignty) include genetically modified seeds, sustainable gardening methods, cooperatives and farmers' markets, use of fossil fuels in the food chain.

If you are interested in presenting an Open Minds program, please talk with Donna Beaumont or Vito Mastrangelo to schedule a date. We are glad to help with logistics. We look forward to some interesting discussions in coming sessions!

Fellowship Communal Cleaning and Pizza

Saturday October 11 is cleaning day at the fellowship building, from 9 am til 2 pm. Ordering pizza in the middle. Come when you can.



November 23 Ethical Eating Potluck

following the Guest at your Table service.

Building Your Own Theology

The Programming committee is checking for interest in [Building Your Own Theology](#) program, a ten-week discovery group. Some of our Fellowship have been through the course, early in the life of our fellowship. According to the introduction, the course can be condensed or expanded as needed. If interested let Glenda, Donna, or Roberta know.



Advancing human rights is the work of many joining hands

The UUSC Link

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee 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.*

UUSC offers this update on the Detroit water shutoffs: In the face of water shutoffs, UUSC joined with the Michigan Welfare Rights Organization, the Unitarian Universalist Association, the Michigan UU Social Justice Network, and other partners to [coordinate a series of actions](#), including :

- **[A petition, signed by more than 6,000 UUSC supporters](#), calling on select Detroit officials to stop the shutoffs**
- **Several legal suits in support of affected residents**
- **Assistance to a U.N. investigation of the situation**
- **Media outreach to raise awareness**

The collective efforts of all the community members, activists, and collaborating pro bono attorneys succeeded in getting a temporary moratorium on the shutoffs and control of the water utility returned to the democratically elected mayor from the city's emergency manager. However the moratorium ended on August 26, and shutoffs have resumed.

A few weeks ago, Detroit Mayor Duggan announced a "10-point plan" to deal with the shutoff crisis. UUSC convened a group of expert researchers who will evaluate what is happening in three cities to see if there are formal patterns of discrimination in water provision and determine the impact on families with children. The findings of this research will be used to guide UUSC's national policy advocacy work going forward.

Here at MVUUF, we will kick off Guest at Your Table on November 23. **The Social Justice Interest Group will host an ethical eating potluck after the service. More detail later – mark your calendar now for good food and good fellowship.**

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*



Gathering of the Waters, September 14, 2014

Lawn Mowing season



Many, many thanks to Paul Eatherton and Eric Garcia for lawn care and planting, through heat and wind and rain.

Other UU Matters

Considering MVUUF membership? Please ask a Board of Trustees member for a prospective member folder, or a membership form.



Library Matters

The MVUUF Library catalogue is available online at www.librarything.com/catalog/MVUUF . Recent donations to the library have been added to the LibraryThing catalog at and are now available on the shelves at the fellowship.

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@aol.com 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 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 **Monday, October 27** for the November issue. **Please email November dates for the website as soon as available.** 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.

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.

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 visiting our website: www.mtvernonuuf.org
3. By emailing our Fellowship: information@mtvernonuuf.org