



UU Matters

(August 2015: Vol. 10 No. 8)

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 fellowship hall.)

2 August: *Open Readings Service*, facilitated by Roberta Price. Please bring readings, music, creative endeavors, anything you would like to share. Open Readings can be some of our most special services.

9 August: *Open Readings Service*. Please bring readings, music, creative endeavors, anything you would like to share.

16 August: *Open Readings Service*. Please bring readings, music, creative endeavors, anything you would like to share.

23 August: *Open Readings Service*. Please bring readings, music, creative endeavors, anything you would like to share. Open Readings can be some of our most special services.

30 August: *Open Readings Service*. Please bring readings, music, creative endeavors, anything you would like to share.

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



Other Upcoming Events

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

5 August

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:** Terry Schwitz, Co-chair; Greg Gibbs, Co-chair, Susan Trotter, Co-chair; Nina Peacock, Secretary; and Larry Sidwell, Treasurer.

9 August

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

19 August

Open Minds Discussion Group

-Third Wednesday of the Month 7:00 p.m.-

Gail DeVilbiss will lead the discussion of watersheds.

25 August

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.

Social Justice Interest Group

-Usually the Second Sunday of Each Month-

-11:30 a.m. following Social Hour-

Meetings will resume Sept. 13, once the Building Your Own Theology group finishes meeting in this time slot. If you have a concern, contact Donna, Vito, or another member of the interest group

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.

Tenth Anniversary of Mt Vernon UUF, Part 7

In August 2005, alternating Tuesday evening and Sunday morning services continued, with about ten people in attendance. Diane Schwitz recalls that Tuesday night meetings were held downstairs; Sunday morning seating was upstairs on the pews that came with the building purchase. Glenda Eubanks recalls that Pat Martin donated the couch for downstairs. The weekly film series on the topic of Religion and Myth, with Bill Moyers and Joseph Campbell, continued on Wednesday evenings, wrapping up on August 24, 2005. Despite advertisements in the local papers, no one beside “the regulars” attended.

The steering committee met on August 9, 2005: Shannon Green, Adam Stone, Vito Mastrangelo, Randy Farrar, and Glenda Eubanks. They discussed services in September, possibly eliminating the Tuesday night service and holding services every Sunday, with Wednesday nights to become a film series event. Randy, always full of ideas, suggested a rock and roll music celebration, possibly karaoke on the parking lot. Concerns about financial support for the fledgling fellowship came up; it was agreed to begin to pass a basket for offerings at each service and to check into non profit status.

Nine of the regulars participated in a clean-up day on August 31, 2005. They moved pews and organized the office.

Lap Quilts for Native Americans

Maria Lovato and her family try to collect items for hundreds of people in her pueblo located in the Pena Blanca, New Mexico area. Debbie met Maria when she was vending at Cahokia Mounds. In our first year of being involved with Maria, we made lap quilts for people in the pueblo, then moved on to small sewn items for children.

Maria and her husband experience many health problems, but she does make contact several times a year. Earlier this year, Maria requested that we make lap quilts again, for this year’s holiday gifts. They can range in size from 36-45-50 inches or any combination thereof. Debbie C-W will work with anyone interested. People can participate individually or as a group; work at your home or the Fellowship. As before, they can be machine quilted. No quilting experience is required.

Please let Debbie know if you’re interested. Plans are to move forward on this effort as soon as possible, and we would love to have at least ten lap quilts to mail to New Mexico for Maria’s pueblo. Whatever we can do will be very much appreciated.



Gathering of the Waters

Please take a moment to collect samples of water from your travels and meaningful experiences this summer, to be used in the Gathering of the Waters Ceremony at summer’s end.

Open Minds

August Discussion on Watersheds

The August 19 Open Minds discussion, led by Gail DeVilbiss, will be on the topic of Watersheds.

The Social Justice Interest Group hosts the Open Minds discussion series on the third Wednesday of each month **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.

We are seeking topics/presenters for Open Minds for September and thereafter. If you have a topic to discuss, concerning social justice, economic justice, environmental justice – or just being an informed citizen – please contact Donna or Vito.

Other UU Matters

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

Library Matters

Paul Oakley has thoughtfully donated a new book to the MVUUF library in celebration of his recent ordination: *Children of the Same God: the Historical Relationship Between Unitarianism, Judaism, and Islam* by Susan Ritchie, which can be found in the library with the call # 289.109 Rit.



In this book, Ritchie explores the roots of Unitarianism in Eastern Europe and its early affinity with Jews and Muslims. You can read more about the book at the UUA bookstore web site: <http://www.uuabookstore.org/Children-of-the-Same-God-P17382.aspx> There is also a link on that page to a discussion guide for the book.

Over the years Paul has been a very generous supporter of MVUUF's library, donating a lion's share of the books on the shelves. Thank you Paul. It is yet another way in which you will be missed.

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 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 Monday 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@frontiernet.net by 8 p.m., on the prior Sunday.** 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, August 24** for the August issue. **Please email September 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.

Committee Matters

Contact committee chair via information@mtvernonuuf.org

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