



# UU Matters

(February 2016: Vol. 11 No. 2)

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.)

**7 February:** Souper Bowl of Caring Service led by the Social Justice Interest Group.

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

**21 February:** Open Readings. Please bring readings, music, creative endeavors, etc. to share. Open Readings can be very special services.

**28 February:** Open Readings. Please bring a reading song, or other sharing

**7 March:** Susan Trotter will lead this service, "World Peace: Is It Possible?"

Please check the MVUUF [website](#)  
for updates to the schedule.

January 10, 2016  
Labyrinth Service

—  
Labyrinth design:  
Nina Peacock

Photo: Debbie Czarnopys  
-White



January 3, 2016  
Fire Service —  
Led by Gail  
DeVilbiss,  
including  
letter-writing

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# Other Upcoming Events

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

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

## **7 February Soup Potluck**

-Following the Sunday Souper Bowl Service-

## **14 February 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](mailto:bdcw@frontiernet.net)

## **14 February 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 February Open Minds Discussion Group**

-Third Wednesday of the Month 7:00 p.m.-  
February topic: Animals as Entertainment  
The public is welcome.

## **23 February 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](mailto:peacock.nina@gmail.com).

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# Open Minds

## **February 17, 7 p.m. Animals as Entertainment**

Open Minds discussion on Wednesday, February 17 will center on Animals as Entertainment, led by Donna Beaumont and Gail Devilbiss. Seaworld and Ringling Brothers Circus have been in the news recently as they respond to public concerns about the welfare of the animals in their shows. Animals are used as entertainment in many other settings, such as zoos, Busch Gardens, dog, cock, and bullfighting, in the movies and the rodeo. We will use video clips and other information to start the discussion.

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.

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.

## ***Congratulations, Rev. Paul Oakley on Installation***

On Saturday February 13th, the Reverend Paul Oakley will formally be installed as the settled minister of the [Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro](#). It is customary to celebrate a formal service of installation at a time within the first year of a minister's settled ministry. The service has a similar format as an ordination, with visiting ministers and more ceremony that usually goes into an ordinary Sunday service. This recognizes in a more formal way the settled ministry of a new minister and gives the congregation the opportunity to mark the end of the arduous search process and to celebrate the presence of a minister they have now come to know.



MVUUF is grateful for Paul and Walter's years within our Fellowship, proud of Paul's installation in their new home, and congratulates them on this milestone of their journey.

## ***Canned Food and Necessities Collection***

In conjunction with the Souper Bowl of Caring service, in February the MVUUF Social Justice Interest Group will again collect items for Angels on Assignment Food Pantry. In addition to food items, Angels on Assignment clients can always use toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissues, tooth paste, soap, laundry detergent, which the pantry does not receive very often. Any cleaning supplies, too, are greatly appreciated.

Among nonperishable food items especially canned vegetables, soups, spaghetti sauce, pasta, rice, cereal are needed, but all items are appreciated.

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## *About the Red Tent Movement* – by Debbie Czarnopys-White

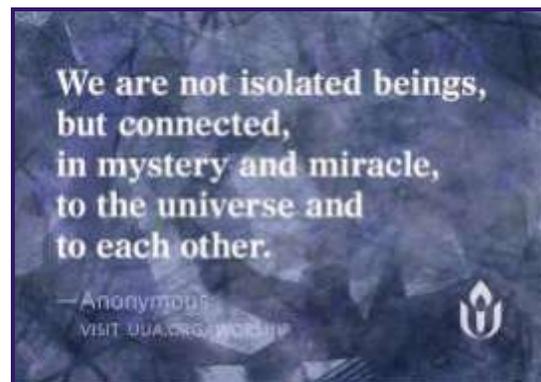
Anita Diamant wrote the fiction novel, *The Red Tent* in 1997. From that fictional novel sprang what's now known as the Red Tent Movement. I highly recommend reading the novel or listening to the audiobook. Either would provide groundwork for this follow-on effort. An informational link provides a rich description of the sharing of the Red Tent: [redtenttemplemovement.com/about/](http://redtenttemplemovement.com/about/).

The Red Tent Movement is a journey for women to create the type of environment they want in order to feel safe, vulnerable but protected, and nourished. Some are talking, some are dancing, some have other themes, some remain open for new members to continue to join, and yet others close membership after a while feeling secure with the women they've been sharing themselves with. More than one Red Tent can exist at the same location, yet different times, allowing each group to create their own safe place.

I experienced The Red Tent Movement at the UU Women's Connection Fall Retreat at Racine, WI. The keynote speaker for the retreat was Dr. Isadora Leidenfrost and she showed her documentary film, "Things We Don't Talk About: Woman's Stories from the Red Tent." The film set the stage to reflect on many existing "Red Tents," how they originated and how the movement continues to expand. I was the doubter, not trusting the energy of the movement and the strength of women. Many had very positive experiences and I did as well. I would like to encourage women to explore this movement and see if one day we would like to try our own version, without long-term commitment or a fancy or colorful place to hold it in. Even outside the red tent, women continue to gain confidence to share, become vulnerable and, in the end, more trusting and trustworthy.

## *Tenth Anniversary*

Please continue to stroll through your memories of ten years of MVUUF, to collect photos, flyers, orders-of-services and special items to include in the Tenth Anniversary display in the back of the Fellowship Hall. Send photos and jpgs to Gail DeVilbiss and Susan Trotter for the May 15 visual presentation.



## **IN THE BLEAK AND COLD WINTER**

By [Cynthia Landrum](#)

In the bleak and cold winter,  
We gather ourselves in  
To light the fire to warm our spirits,  
To kindle the flame of love and hope.

~from 1/24/16 Opening Words

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*New Year's Celebration 2016—*



*Potluck at Sidwell Friends  
Bed & Breakfast*

*Twass lovely~ Thank you, Larry Sidwell*



*Hat & Mitten Collecting*



*Jan 3. Fire  
Ceremony*

**Committee Matters:** *Committee co-chairpersons:*

**Nominating**

Vito Mastrangelo

**Welcoming& Hospitality**

Theresa Rowe  
Glenda Eubanks  
April Peyton

**Building& Grounds**

Terry Schwitz  
Deb Czarnopys-White  
Vito Mastrangelo  
Susan Davis

**Religious Education**

Deb Czarnopys-White

**Music**

Angela Czapiewski  
Mike DeVilbiss

**Programming**

Donna Beaumont  
Gail DeVilbiss  
Glenda Eubanks  
Roberta Price  
Theresa Rowe

**Memorial**

Deb Czarnopys-White

**LGBT Concerns**

Deb Czarnopys-White  
Roberta Price  
April Peyton  
Diane Schwitz

**Publications & Library**

Nina Peacock  
Beth Brennan, Library  
Debbie Czarnopys-White,  
Newspaper announcements  
Marji Gibbs, Web/Newsletter



## 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: \[bdcw@frontiernet.net\]\(mailto:bdcw@frontiernet.net\) 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@gmail.com) by **Monday, February 22** for the March issue. [Please email 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.

## 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](http://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.

## 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](http://www.mtvernonuuf.org)
3. By emailing our Fellowship: [infor-  
mation@mtvernonuuf.org](mailto:information@mtvernonuuf.org)