



# UU Matters

(July 2016: Vol. 11 No. 7)

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.)

**3 July:** Open Reading service, led by Theresa Rowe, with readings shared by members and friends— please bring readings or music that you are inspired to share..

**10 July:** Visiting Rev. Paul Oakley will deliver the message for this service, “Eco-Theology for Today.” Western civilization was built on theologies and philosophies of exploitation and domination of the earth. Traditional readings in the monotheistic texts of the West encouraged lack of restraint in using resources. Yet from Buddhism to Catholicism, from Judaism to Humanism to Paganism, theologies abound that give grounding from which to save Earth as a richly varied system.



Please join us for potluck meal following the service, to celebrate Paul and Walter’s visit.

**17 July:** Open Reading service, readings shared by members and friends— please bring readings or music that you are inspired to share. A volunteer is needed to coordinate this service.

**24 July:** Open Reading service, readings shared by members and friends— please bring readings or music that you are inspired to share. A volunteer is needed to coordinate this service.

**31 July:** Open Reading service, readings shared by members and friends— please bring readings or music that you are inspired to share. A volunteer is needed to coordinate this service.

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

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# Other Upcoming Events



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

## **3 July** **date change** **Buddhist Meditation**

- Generally 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)

## **6 July** **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; Mike Miller, Co-chair; Roberta Price, Co-chair; Larry Sidwell, Treasurer, and Susan Trotter, Secretary.

## **10 July** **Potluck Dinner following the service**

## **17 July** **date change** **Social Justice Interest Group**

-Generally 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.

## **20 July** **Open Minds Discussion Group**

-Third Wednesday of the Month **6:30 p.m.**- Please note new time

**July topic: To be announced, presented by David Trotter**

The public is welcome.

## **26 July** **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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## ***MVUUF Directory Update***

The MVUUF address directory of participants was compiled in 2011, so it's time for an update. For privacy, the directory will **not** be published online; paper copies will be copied as needed.

If you would like your information included in the directory to facilitate communication, please fill out a form on table at back of Fellowship Hall by July 31, or email information you wish to include to [Susan Trotter](#): name, address, phone, cell phone, email.

## ***Bimonthly Newsletter***

Beginning with this July issue, UU Matters will be published bi-monthly. On the off-month, dates for [Sunday Services](#) and [Events](#) will be posted to the [MVUUF web site](#) and a link emailed for convenient access to view the monthly update. Bookmark those links if it is helpful. Please continue to send news for the newsletter to the editor by the monthly deadline. See last page of each newsletter for the current deadline.

## ***Committee Opportunities***

Now is the Time for UUs to sign up for committees for the year beginning July 1, 2016-17. At the annual meeting, requests were made for more people to join the welcoming, music, and religious education committees. For a list of committee job/responsibilities, see [committee descriptions](#) on the web site. For current committee members, see p. 6.

Space is available on the Religious Education Committee, and Debbie invites you to please consider being a part of this committee, or consider volunteering for just a particular program. Possible future program ideas could include:

*Children's Books Programming* – Children's books are an excellent source of Sunday services or programs, with a wealth of teaching information that, although written with children in mind, can teach people of all ages

The [Tapestry of Faith](#) programs and resources for all ages are designed to nurture Unitarian Universalist identity, spiritual growth, a transforming faith, and vital communities of justice and love. In use since 2008 and continually evolving, Tapestry of Faith offers a variety of resources—downloadable, printed, viewable, interactive, and more—a religious growth and learning program for the 21st century.



[Building the World We Dream About](#) is a UU program that seeks to transform how people from different racial/ethnic groups understand and relate to one another. It consists of workshops, with Taking It Home activities, reflections, and readings to do between workshops. As Unitarian Universalists, we hope developing antiracist, anti-oppressive, and multicultural habits and skills will lead us to build the multicultural world of beloved community we dream about.

The Religious Education committee need not involve lots of travel and meetings; much can be accomplished through email efforts. A goal could be to use our knowledge gained to share at future Sunday services.

# Open Minds

## July 20, 6:30 p.m. Discussion

Open Minds discussion will be held on Wednesday, July 20, led by David Trotter.

The Social Justice Interest Group hosts the Open Minds discussion series on the third Wednesday of each month **at 6:30 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.

## Pride Sunday, June 26

On Pride Sunday the chalice flame was kindled in the name of



love, acceptance and tolerance.

Diane shared commentary on events in Florida. Brent Sherrard enlightened our MVUUF Fellowship about [Rainbow Café](#) in Carbondale, a safe space and café hosted each Friday night for LGBT teens age 13-19, offering a meal, safe space, and support for teens coping with bullying, isolation & fear, or need for GED or job application assistance. Sherrard re-



minded MVUUF attendees of the insight and goal of Ralph Waldo Emerson: “To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.”

Thank you to the LGBT committee: Debbie, Diane and Roberta, for organizing the thoughtful service, cheery flowers upstairs and downstairs, and the tasty annual Pride Potluck dinner.



## 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.

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## [Church of the Larger Fellowship](#) **Resources for Lay Leading**

[Worship Express](#) – the Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) creates materials intended for small groups meeting where there are no UU services available. A number of sample Sunday services are available.

[Quest for Meaning](#) is a monthly newsletter from CLF. View monthly issues in pdf here or sign up for an weekly email.

[Quest Archives](#) – The online edition of the monthly CLF magazine includes sermons and readings by different ministers on a seasonal or other themes. The archives go back to 1996.

CLFUU is found on Facebook and Twitter as well, #CLFUU

*Thank you* to Terry Schwitz of the Building Committee for overseeing attention to the air conditioner, and for setting up cooling the building with fans while we are without air conditioning. Thank you to our faithful mowers, Susan and David.

Unitarian Universalists claim no statement of doctrine. We believe there is no one right way to lead a religious or spiritual life. We value each individual's spiritual journey, and believe in reason, freedom, equality, and love. Join us as we gather in community, seeking peace and justice for all persons. [Seven Principles of UU](#)

## **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). More than 700 books are available on a variety of subjects and may be viewed in the LibraryThing catalog, browsed in the reading room, or signed out on the clipboard.

### **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.

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## Committee Matters:

Contact committee chair via [information@mtvernonuuf.org](mailto:information@mtvernonuuf.org)

### Welcoming& Hospitality

Volunteers needed

### Nominating

Vito Mastrangelo

Greg Gibbs

### Building& Grounds

Terry Schwitz

### Religious Education

Deb Czarnopys-White

### Music

Volunteers needed

### Programming

Donna Beaumont

Gail DeVilbiss

Roberta Price

### LGBT Concerns

Roberta Price, chair

Deb Czarnopys-White

Vito Mastrangelo

Diane Schwitz

### Publications & Library

Nina Peacock, chair

Beth Brennan, Library

Debbie Czarnopys-White,

Newspaper &FB 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(at)gmail.com) by [deadline of Monday, July 25](#) for August web site updates, and by [August 26](#) for the September issue. [Feel free to 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.

*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 & web links, etc.



## 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: [information@mtvernonuuf.org](mailto:information@mtvernonuuf.org)