



UU Matters

(Nov-Dec 2016: Vol. 11 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 fellowship hall.)

6 November: Open Readings service. Please bring readings or music that you are inspired to share. Open Readings can be some of our most special services.

13 November: Bonita Jane will lead this service on Forgiveness.

20 November: Donna Beaumont will lead this service on Gratitude.

27 November: Melissa Webster will lead this service on Searching for Mary.

4 December: Susan Trotter will lead this service on Greatness

11 December: The LGBT Committee will lead this service.

Please check the MVUUF [website](#) for updates to the schedule
& at end of November for our December schedule.



Other Upcoming Events



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

2 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:** Greg Gibbs, Co-chair; Mike Miller, Co-chair; Roberta Price, Co-chair; Larry Sidwell, Treasurer, and Susan Trotter, Secretary.

13 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

13 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.

16 November **Open Minds Discussion Group**

-Third Wednesday of the Month **6:30 p.m.-**

Topic: Privatizing Public Parks & Lands, presented by Gail DeVilbiss
The public is welcome.

22 November **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.



Thank You to Our Service Leaders in October:

- 2 October:** Bonita Jane for leading the service, “Overcoming Hard Times., including the [writing of Joe Wilner](#) on the importance of connecting with “something bigger than ourselves” to give meaning and healing.
- 9 October:** Roberta Price for leading this Open Readings service on International Day of Indigenous Peoples, and also the Open Readings service on October 16. For Indigenous People’s Day on October 9, Roberta shared the creation story “[Sun Mother Walks the Earth](#)”, based on a story of indigenous people of Australia/New Zealand. this reading from UU Worship web, [Earth Day Prayer](#) And UN [Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#)
- 23 October:** Theresa Rowe for leading a lovely “October Reflections” Service
- 30 October:** Gail DeVilbiss for the “Day of the Dead” service.



Thank you to Chad Schott of Drumzrguruven for loaning the drums in the front of the Fellowship Hall for many years. They sounded out in the days when MVUUF held a drum circle, and though their visual presence is still appreciated, they are now moving to a active drum circle.

Open Minds

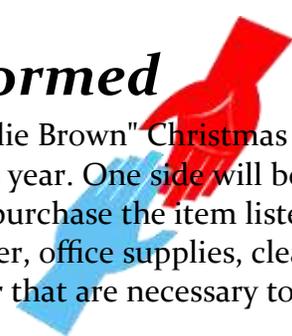
November 16, Privatizing Public Parks and Lands

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. November 16 facts and discussion is on Privatizing Public Parks and Lands. What does this mean to you or your country? Facilitator: Gail DeVilbiss.

The October topic was "Implicit Bias" presented by Mike DeVilbiss. 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.

Holiday Project Transformed

The Social Justice Interest Group will set up the "Charlie Brown" Christmas tree downstairs again this year, but it will have dual purposes this year. One side will be for charity. On the other side will be tags for people to take, to purchase the item listed on the tag. These will be items for our Fellowship - ie: toilet paper, office supplies, cleaning items, and other items we can use at MVUUF during the year that are necessary to keep us going.



And Gracias.... In this Month of Gratitude

Thank you to everyone who pitched in for Fall Cleaning Day: Roberta, Nina, Gail, Mike D, Mike M, Theresa, Susan , Bonita, Greg. Thank you to David Bullock and Susan Davis for the season's mowing. Thanks to Terry Schwitz of the Building Committee for the quiet tasks he does that keep our Fellowship Hall running smoothly .



So Are We Bound Together

By Elizabeth Lerner Maclay

As drops of rain that find each other and build to become a track, a rivulet, a stream, a river, a sea, so are we drawn together; so are we fortunate to find each other; so are we bound together, on this shared passage toward an unknown ocean and eternity.

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](#)

Read About UU Roots

New reading materials from UUA are on a table towards the back of the Fellowship Hall, and may be checked out by anyone interested. You're welcome to browse *The UU Pocket Guide*, or copies of a special *UU World* issue designed as introduction to Unitarian-Universalism called the Seeker issue.

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/

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.

Committee Matters:

Contact committee chair via 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

Theresa Rowe

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

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 Tuesday, November 20](#) for December web site updates, and by December 19 for the Jan/Feb 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.

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,



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