

MINISTER'S COLUMN

REVEREND LAURA THOMPSON

*My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing!*

These words are from my favorite hymn. But, it wasn't always my favorite hymn. It wasn't until I cultivated a practice of genuine gratitude for the abundance in my life that this song began to really resonate with me.

My gratitude practice really began when I started exploring prayer as part of my work as a chaplain intern. As a chaplain, it was my job to meet people where they were in terms of spirituality. This meant that even though I didn't have a strong prayer practice, I was going to be put into a position of praying with others... a lot. I felt as though in order to do this with any integrity, I was just going to have to start praying a lot on my own even though I didn't fully understand what or how or if prayer really even mattered. Emily, although also a skeptic, agreed to include prayer as a part of dinner routine. And so, it began.

Brother David Steindl-Rast says, "*Gratitude is more than a feeling, a virtue, or an experience; gratitude emerges as an attitude we can freely choose in order to create a better life for ourselves and for others.*" As I set aside a few moments of my life here and there to say thanks, I noticed a big shift in how I felt about nearly everything else. Aside from just feeling more grateful I began to feel more patient and less reactive. I felt compassion on a deeper level. And... and this surprised me; I began to feel not only more grounded, but grounded in a sense of joy as I became more awake and aware of all of the beauty and gifts of creation that surrounded me, even in times of strife.

Life presents lots of challenges. Pain is inevitable. So is beauty and so is love. The simple practice of giving thanks reminds us of this and roots us in gratitude. The result leaves us more prepared to weather the storms and inspires us to bloom more fully. We take in the beauty of the world and through gratitude we radiate it; *It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing!*

*With gratitude and joy,
Rev. Laura*

SUNDAY PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER THEME: ABUNDANCE

NOVEMBER 5

10:30 am: My Faith Journey; This favorite annual service features MVUUF members and friends sharing the stories of their faith journeys answering the questions; where did we come from, what are we, where are we going? Sharing their stories are; Gabby Vigliaturo, Candace McClenahan, and Betty Guttman.

NOVEMBER 12

10:30am: You Are What You Eat; We live in a time and place where just about any food is available at any time. But should we have everything, just because we can? Throughout the course of history religion has had an effect on what we eat. All over the world many people choose to eat or avoid certain foods according to their religious beliefs. What is this relationship between faith and food? And where do we stand as Unitarian Universalists? Rev. Laura Thompson.

NOVEMBER 19

10:30am: Gratitude; Practice, Practice, Practice; We often think of gratitude as a response that comes after we receive something to be thankful for. But, what happens when we move gratitude from a secondary response to a first practice? Rev. Laura Thompson and Eve Bergmann with special music by Ann Reed.

11:45am: Grief Circle in the Youth Room. All are welcome.

NOVEMBER 26

10:30 am: Abundance: When Do We have Enough?; As we head into the season of consumption, we take some time to pause and reflect on what it is we really need. This is a **New Member Sunday**; join us in welcoming new members to MVUUF. Rev. Laura Thompson and Gabby Vigliaturo.

11:30am: New Member Reception in Social Hall.

Recordings of past Sunday programs are available for listening and download on the MVUUF website
<http://www.mnvalleyuu.org/sermon-audio>



MVUUF is a liberal religious congregation guided by democratic principles whose mission is to engage members in a shared quest for spiritual and intellectual growth leading to lives of service, compassion, and justice.



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR ~ CALLING A MINISTER

It isn't easy becoming a UU minister—there are years of study, tests and assessments, internships, and a whole fellowship process. All of the above is also informed by life experience, say working as a chef for many years.

Calling a minister isn't just extending a job offer. It is a "match" more like a marriage or partnership. We at MVUUF have experienced this process a number of times in our fifty-one years of existence. Like a marriage or a partnership, some of our experiences were very successful and some were more complicated. All of them taught us new things, challenged us, and furthered our spiritual growth and our work fulfilling our mission of making the world a better place.

We are about to do it again. With hope, gratitude, and humility in our hearts we will gather on December 10th for a special congregational meeting to call Rev. Laura Thompson as our minister. We spent much more time together than is normal in the usual search process. Rev. Laura has been with us as a contract minister for almost a year and a half.

She introduced new ideas, called us to action, challenged us to refocus on our mission, provided comfort in difficult times, and served us meals. And made us laugh!

Our by-laws are very brief in addressing the role of the minister, mostly dealing with the administrative and contract rules.

Our policies and procedures state the following:

"The congregation looks to its Minister for spiritual leadership, for assistance in setting and articulating its vision, and for professional and inspired performance and oversight of the congregation's programs in collaboration with the Board of Trustees and the congregation's committees."

If I were asked to add something to the above statement, I would say that the role of the minister at MVUUF is to encourage the heart.

Rev Laura Thompson is a good match for that!

~ Eva Mach, Board Chair



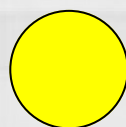
COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY ~ CALLING A MINISTER

Calling a minister is not the same as hiring a minister. By definition, a minister is someone professionally trained to attend to the religious, spiritual, and pastoral needs of a congregation. But in UU congregations, ministry is not solely the responsibility of the minister. Each of us walks into this congregation carrying our own unique gifts and each of us has the responsibility to use those gifts as best we can to attend to the needs of our congregation, our community, and ourselves.

A minister can inspire and encourage us to discover, develop, nurture, and practice our gifts. But calling a minister is not like hiring a coach, or a cheerleader, or a consultant. When we call a minister, we are not just calling on the minister to make a commitment to us; we are also calling on ourselves to make a commitment to the minister. When we call a minister we are saying, "Come join us as we work together in our shared ministry."



~ Tom Ehlinger,
Committee on
Shared Ministry



NAME BADGES



Please wear your name badges/nametags on Sunday mornings. We are a large enough congregation that most of us don't know everyone else's names. If you need one, look for the signup sheet or contact Nancy Buckman at nancybmnuu@gmail.com or 952-736-9586.

In case you don't know or remember, the colored dots broadly indicate where you live. Look for someone else who has the same colored dot as you and talk about how close you do or maybe don't live to each other.



CALLING A MINISTER

On December 10th, following the 10:30 AM service, MVUUF members will convene for a special meeting to vote on the issue of calling Rev. Laura Thompson as a settled minister. If you have questions about this process please see Rev. Laura, a member of the Board, or a member of the Committee on Shared Ministry.

From the Candidate for Settled Minister

The highest authority within Unitarian Universalism is congregational authority. We do not have a hierarchical structure with “powers that be” that dictate what are our congregational policies, nor do they assign a minister to any congregation. Rather, it is up to congregations to decide how they are best served by a minister and who they want that minister to be. This is so important, that it is stated as one of our guiding principles, that we affirm; The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

For a little more than a year, I have served you as a contract minister. That contract is ending next summer. When I was hired, the Board and I agreed that after a year and a half, we would look at whether or not MVUUF wanted to “call” me. We have come to that time. So, what is the difference between a hired/contract minister and a called minister?

As a contract minister, I was brought in with an emphasis on my professional skill set including; pastoral, educational, leadership, staff management, ability to lead worship, and organizational skills. This is a very corporate approach to having a minister. You have a job that needs to be done, and I do it. A called minister does all of this too, but the emphasis is not solely placed on skills.

Relationship is the focus of called ministry. Called ministry not only includes doing various day to day executive tasks, but also being a prophetic voice for justice within the congregation and in the community. It means being willing/able to challenge the leadership of the congregation when they veer away from their religious principles in favor of expediency or maintaining prejudices or biases. It means developing a relationship with the congregation that is trusting and personal. It means voicing visionary leadership of who this congregation could be; not only for themselves but for the community at large. It means the minister and the congregation bind themselves together through a covenant to love, struggle and grow together in ways that best serve the congregation and the larger community.

I think I have already modeled some of what you would get from me as a called minister and that is because I do feel “called” to serve MVUUF. I have come to know you in all of your strengths and your growing edges. I have come to care for you deeply and want to work with you in both the comfort and care of one another and in being a voice for peace and justice within the world we live in. Calling a minister is an honored and special task, which is not taken up lightly. It is with humility, joy, and a deep sense of purpose that I take up this task with you.

~ Rev. Laura Thompson



EXPLORING ABUNDANCE

INSIGHT —————

It's not what we have that constitutes our abundance, but what we appreciate. ~ *Jules Petit-Senn*

I have the world's largest collection of sea shells. I keep it scattered on the beaches of the world. Have you seen it?
~ *Steven Wright, comedian*

For me, the opposite of scarcity is not abundance. It's enough. I'm enough. My kids are enough. You're enough. ~ *Brené Brown*

My barn having burned down I can now see the moon.
~ *Mizuta Masahide*

BOOKS —————

The Paradox of Choice: Why More Is Less
Barry Schwartz

The Tao of Abundance: Eight Ancient Principles for Abundant Living
Laurence Boldt

A Simple Act of Gratitude: How Learning to Say Thank You Changed My Life
John Kralik

MOVIES —————

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
Sometimes it takes living our lives in reverse to notice how abundant our lives really are!

It's A Wonderful Life
It is not too early to watch this holiday classic about noticing the abundant gifts right in front of us!

VIDEOS —————

The Free Hugs Movement & the Abundance of Connection...if we reach out
Official Campaign: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vr3x_RRjdd4

This Is Not A Humanising Poem
Su Haiymah Manzoor-Khan
<https://www.facebook.com/roundhouseLDN/videos/10155509509406180/>

The Danger of a Single Story - TED Talk
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9Ihs241zeg&index=12&list=PL8PINNxdxii6gcm6fxPDG9YtIMrMrluf>

MVUUF Office Hours

Minister

Rev. Laura Thompson
minister@mnvalleyuu.org
(651) 500-2864 (Confidential voice and text messages)

Mondays: Off
Tues-Thur: Office Days*
Friday: Writing Day (Offsite)
Saturday-Sunday: By Appointment

*office hours vary due to meetings and appointments throughout the day and evening

Director of Religious Education

Jan Fitzgerald
dre@mnvalleyuu.org
(952) 884-8956 (Fellowship Phone)

Monday / Wednesday / Friday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Office Administrator

Kay Lewis
office@mnvalleyuu.org
(952) 884-8956 (Fellowship Phone)

Monday	11:00 am - 1:30 pm
Tuesday / Thursday	11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday	2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Friday	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Please call or email ahead to make sure we don't have another appointment when you come in. We are available other times and days by appointment.

STEWARDSHIP

Jeanne Simpson, Chair

A New Column

Fascinating Facts for Fascinating Folks

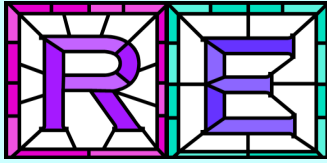
Did you know that providing programs for members costs \$1,600 per person this year?





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

Jan Fitzgerald, DRE



UUSC LUNCHEON

Sunday, November 12th is the day our children and youth will work together on our annual service project for **UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee)**. Students in grades 1-12 will have a luncheon fundraiser and participate in the **Guest at Your Table** project to raise money for this worthy organization. UUSC partners with other organizations around the world working for human justice. In the next weeks, children will learn more specific information about what the UUSC does.

Our children and youth will help prepare and set up for the luncheon during the regular Religious Education class time. This means that all chil-

dren and youth grades 1-12 will be staying late on this day. (Any parents waiting for children are welcome to help clean up also.)

The **Guest at Your Table** fundraiser is part of this service project for the UUSC. All children and youth are asked to take home a box to set on the table. The **Guest at Your Table** project is a tangible way for families to remember those who are less fortunate and to remind us of our many blessings. Each day at one meal, the family, including the children, is asked to put change in the box. Parents, please use **Guest at Your Table** as a way for our children to learn more about the needs of others and to help make the world a better place. In our busy lives it is too easy to set the box down on the table and ignore it. I have done this myself with my kids at home. This year, let us make a real effort to keep at it and then return the boxes on time so that we set a good

example for our children. The boxes will be collected in January, the money will be added to the luncheon funds and presented to the congregation and then sent on to the UUSC. Last year we collected 7 boxes. Let's see if we can collect at least 15 this year. We can do it!

Each Sunday I am able to get to know your children better and better. It is such a delight to see their faces every Sunday. A sense of community is built upon getting to know one another through discussion and activities on a regular basis. Keep encouraging your children/youth to attend. It is wonderful to have them here.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board met on October 11, 2017.

- ✿ We met the endowment challenge! Our endowment is now over \$30,000.
- ✿ December 10, 2017 is the date of the congregational meeting to call Rev. Laura Thompson as our minister. A notice will go out to the entire congregation.
- ✿ MVUUF received a one time \$3,000 Chalice lighter grant which was less than applied for (\$13,000 over two years). This money will be used to supplement funding for half time (with benefits) position of office administrator. The position job description will be rewritten to emphasize strong communication skills and support.
- ✿ The board officially welcomed Karen Wills, Candace McClenehan, and Richard Duffin as new members.
- ✿ Over two dozen people signed up for Beloved Conversations which is now in progress.
- ✿ Hanifl Foundation Grant update:
 - ✿ Rev. Laura is interviewing candidates for the Membership Coordinator position which is funded through the Hanifl Foundation grant.
 - ✿ We have a newly reformed Technology Committee led by Richard Duffin. Technology upgrades are an important part of the grant award. The priorities for the committee will start with hearing assistance, office phones, website enhancements, and audio-visual improvements throughout the building.
- ✿ Stewardship and Finance are working with Bill Clontz of UUA, consulting on improving our stewardship process.

For details please see the board minutes.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 pm. The board meets in the social hall. All meetings are open so if you are interested, please come.

Eva Mach, Board Chair - emach@pro-tecdesign.com, 651-226-5949



MUSICAL NOTES

Sonja Johnston, Minister of Music

Be sure to mark your calendars for November 19 when the music will be provided by Anne Reed, a much loved local entertainer, composer, and guitarist whose popularity goes far beyond the Twin Cities. She will be providing all the special music that Sunday and I'm sure there will be an opportunity to meet her after the service and a chance to purchase her CDs.

Other music during November will be Steve Koehler on the 5th, Betty Olson and Christine Chessler on the 12th,

the choir on the 5th (with a funny song about UUs) and some Brubeck by me on the 26th. Then, it will be time to start working on our annual Holiday Music Sunday on Dec. 17th!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sonja Johnston, Minister of Music



TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Richard Duffin, Chair

The recently awarded Hanifl grant of \$100,000 will assist MVUUF in reaching its goals of membership growth, long-term financial stability, continued vibrancy, and a more committed community.

One key area that will move us toward these goals is improving the technology infrastructure of the church.

To set a plan in motion, Board Chair Eva Mach recently convened a new "technology committee" comprised of eight members that was charged with beginning the following tasks:

- Evaluate, improve, and support the technical aspects of the web site and email services for "mnvalleyuu.org"
- Evaluate, improve, and support the computer systems, internet services, telephone services, and audio-visual equipment.

Priorities were set to address the following areas during the first year of this two year grant:

1. Hearing assistance for individuals
2. The church building's phone system
3. The website
4. Internal network/Wi-Fi infrastructure
5. Audio-visual upgrades in the sanctuary and throughout the building

Committee members will be contacting staff and congregants to gain clarity on what is needed in each of these areas.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Don Park, Chair

The \$5,000 Challenge Has Been Met

On Sunday, October 8, several people made contributions to help meet the \$5,000 endowment challenge. In addition Barbara Gilliand directed that undesignated memorials for Jerry should go to the endowment. This brought the total contributions for the match to \$5,157.50.

Thanks to all who made this happen. The endowment can now "Go Live."

The new challenge, of course, is to wisely use the approximately \$1,000 annually available to further our mission and vision.

We are further challenged to keep the endowment growing. Contributions can be made at any time and in any amount. As the endowment grows the amount that can be spent grows.

The September 2017 treasurer's report shows an endowment balance

of \$22,194. When the recent gifts and the match are added we will be well above the \$25,000 balance required for spending up to 4% of the endowment.





CONGREGATIONAL CARE RESOURCE COMMITTEE

The Congregational Care NETWORK is comprised of all members and friends at MVUUF who reach out to each other in times of need, crisis, sadness, or celebration. The Congregational Care COMMITTEE is responsible for connecting members and friends of the Fellowship who have a need or a request at such times with members and friends who have volunteered to help fill those specific needs. We are a committee of seven, and we need your HELP! This is a full-congregational activity.

The Congregational Care Committee coordinates help with rides, food, child care, pet care, visits to shut-ins, and so much more. It also maintains a list of friends who offer short term help. We welcome you to join this important congregational function and encourage you to look for future sign-up opportunities. Call anyone on the committee if you have questions. We're confident you will find it gratifying.

The MVUUF Congregational Care Resource Network

Bobbie Gish	952-941-4417	bobbie002@comcast.net
Carmen Herzog	952-831-7988	carmj1her@aol.com
Donna Kopnick	952-884-1431	lkopnick@comcast.net
Becky McPeck	952-887-2148	racreates@yahoo.com
Betty Olson	952-831-3854	bolsonflute@comcast.net
Leslie Swenson	952-881-9602	kline012@umn.edu
Jan Wolff	952-888-4283	junebug5391@comcast.net
Ruth Keely	952-237-7136	rajpkely@gmail.com

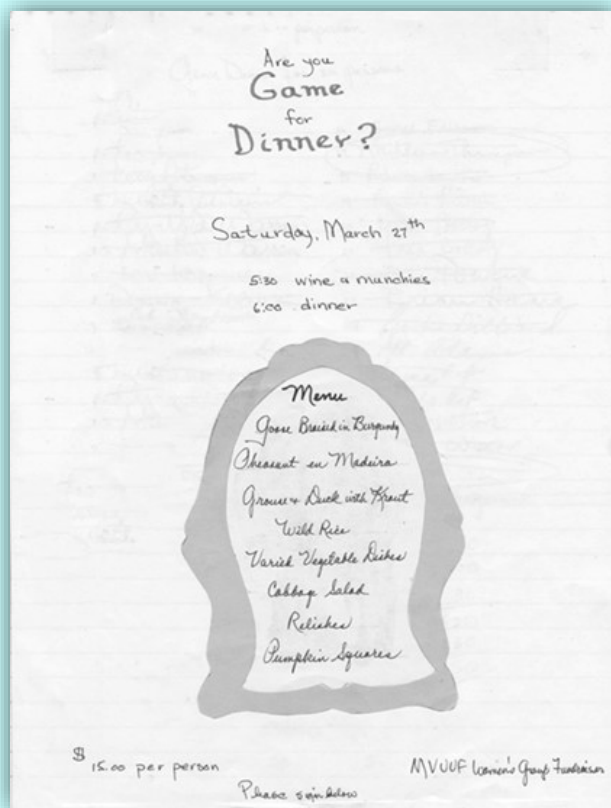


ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

The Archive Committee is very grateful to all who enjoyed and participated in our 2017 fall display.

We found this in our files. Can anyone guess the year of this fundraiser dinner game?

Beverly Schmidt & Kathy Eager





SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Megan Duffy Sananikone, Chair

**The Social Action Committee will meet
Sunday, November 5th at 12:00 noon in the Fireside Room.
All are welcome to attend the meetings!**



THE NEW UUA STATEMENT OF CONSCIENCE 2017 — ESCALATING ECONOMIC INEQUITY

Our congregation played a small role when we and many other congregations voted on a Sunday in spring of 2014 to take a position on Escalating Economic Inequity.

A couple of years was spent researching economic inequity and developing action ideas. At General Assembly in June of 2017, attending members voted to accept a new “Statement of Conscience.”

As an expression of our faith and values, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) takes positions on relevant issues of social justice. Our positions are discerned via the social witness process, as shepherded by the [Commission on Social Witness](#). Grounded in these social witness statements, the UUA will sign on to [letters and amicus briefs](#) in coalition with other faith and social justice organizations, magnifying our impact in the larger world.

The statement provides a rationale for challenging economic inequity. The first study/action idea in this

statement is provided below, but many more can be found at the website or on the Social Action bulletin board downstairs.

As an individual, we can review our personal and national histories with money, our class backgrounds, and how those shape our relationships with financial matters. As a congregation, we can engage in a continuing study on inequity using materials such as the Commission on Appraisal’s 2017 book on Classism. State Legislative Ministries can include economic inequity as a factor in determining legislative advocacy priorities. As a Denomination, we can offer to all interested Unitarian Universalists an affordable group health insurance plan and advocate for universal health care coverage for all.

A new issue is selected by congregations every two years. The most recent is 2016-2020 CSAI: [The Corruption of Our Democracy](#). Four years will be spent on study and action by congregations.

NOVEMBER SUNDAY SHARING: UUA DISASTER RELIEF FUND

During the month of November, the collection plate will be shared 50/50 with the UUA Disaster Relief Fund. After the Southeast and the Caribbean experienced two category five hurricanes within a week of each other, the initial Hurricane Recovery Fund was broadened and renamed the **UUA Disaster Relief**

Fund. Your donation will allow the UUA to respond flexibly to current disaster needs and to new situations as they arise, such as the extensive wild fires in the western U.S.

We know that long after the initial clean-up, real recovery can take

months or years. The UUA stands with its congregations and is ready to provide assistance to help congregations in repairing any damage, and to support them in responding to the needs of their members' and their community's efforts to get back on its feet.





SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

CONT'D

REPORT FROM VEAP

This year VEAP did a survey of consumer needs and the results were surprising. No one mentioned the annual toy drive. What almost everyone said was that they needed more assistance with food. As a result of these findings, VEAP will no longer have an annual toy drive and will instead ask for more food donations so that consumers can come there 2 times per month for food rather than only once. The result is that they will have twice as much access to fresh produce and less reliance on canned vegetables.

How does this affect MVUUF? Well, the Social Justice Committee has decided that we will have 3 drives this church year. The first drive will begin in November and end on the MLK holiday weekend. Like last year, we will be collecting paper

products including toilet paper and diapers. But many of you have wondered why we did not include feminine hygiene products last year so this year we will include these as well as house hold cleaning products. By cleaning products, VEAP is asking that we purchase numerous small containers of dish detergent or laundry detergent, rather than large containers, so that more consumers can select these products.

The second drive will be a fund drive to assist VEAP with the costs of running the organization which provides numerous other benefits to their consumers besides being a food bank. This drive will take place in March. The third drive, which will be a traditional food drive, will take place in May. Of course, food products can be

left at the church year round and will be taken to VEAP whenever they are donated.

Finally, I am happy to report that I received a response to my plea in the October "UniSun" from Carmen Herzog who will assist me as VEAP representative from MVUUF. Thank you so much, Carmen!

- Lorna Prell, VEAP Representative



THIS OLD EARTH

Jim and I have been friends since 1946. More recently, we have been exchanging our somewhat divergent views of public affairs via e-mail. This past summer, out of exasperation with our meandering discourse, he spelled out his longstanding core beliefs: the primacy and benevolence of private enterprise; zero government deficit, issuing bonds when extraordinary needs arise; zero population growth; environmental protection within fiscal bounds; U.S. duty to lead a harmonious world; and more. He attributed most of today's problems to incompetence rather than conspiratorial malice.

His request for MY declaration prompted deep reflection. I stressed my belief that all of the ills that threaten our society and the biosphere have been caused by humans – most prominently that inbred malevolent impulse which was necessary for survival when life was "nasty, brutish, and short." All too many of our leaders carry that malicious genetic trait. They cannot envision a world that holds the promise of harmony, purpose, and enough for all; they see (or invent) rival tribes that must be van-



quished and underlings that must be oppressed. This instinct must be rendered ineffective – a daunting and seemingly impossible task for which I could offer no silver bullet. I added that meanwhile we need to keep our society and our biosphere from careening out of control. I contended that our financial/debt system is merely a manmade artifact that cannot be allowed to get in the way of righting our ship.

Jim and I view our milieu from different but equally valid vantage points. We still have some details to squabble over. When people of good will and passion act, there is hope that humanity's horizon will extend beyond this century.

Ed Prell - <https://thisoldearth.com/>



RELIGION, ETHICS, AND IDEAS

Religion, Ethics, and Ideas will meet Sunday, November 12, at 9:00 AM in the Fireside Room.

Our topic, by popular request, will be **the second amendment**, commonly referred to as “the right to keep and bear arms.” This will be a wide ranging discussion. Likely questions and subtopics:

- What are arms?
- Definition of “well-regulated militia”
- Individual right vs collective right?
- What are reasonable restrictions?
- Would repeal be a good idea?
- Would banning firearms be a good idea?
- How has “the right to carry” worked in practice?
- Is the “right to self- defense” implied by the right to life?
- Firearms as a deterrent to” bad-guys”
- Increased mental health spending as a remedy to mass shootings.



Questions? contact John Peloquin.

THE KITCHEN

On most Sundays (September – May) right after service, there are hot beverages and snacks available downstairs. Come down to socialize and get to know each other.

Now, to have this available we do need your help. Volunteers (individuals, families and children) are needed to make coffee and plug in the teapot and/or take turns to bring some treats (which can be store bought or homemade) and/or stay after to help clean up and wash some dishes (mostly cups). There is a signup sheet downstairs by or on the snack table.



Our Fall Supper Circles will be held on November 11, at 6:30pm.

Circle Suppers are a way to get to know one another better while sharing a potluck meal and conversation. Last year, everyone who participated reported great food, conversations, and just plain fun.

Each “circle” will be 5 to 8 people depending on how many sign up. Assignments will be relatively random and you will be contacted by your host early in the week of the circle supper date to inform you of exact times, location, and a potluck item for you to bring.

Sign up on the Circle Supper Sign-Up form in the hallway to the social hall (downstairs) or on the website. Please indicate any food preferences and allergies (including dogs and cats). If you need a ride indicate that also or contact Eva Mach.

Kids: Circle Suppers are intended to be a place for adult conversation. Hosts often have their own children around, but guests find babysitters and enjoy an evening without children. If you are interested in having a circle supper with children, please contact Eva.

Please let us know how things go and if there is anything else we can do to make it better!

Questions: emach@pro-tecdsign.com or 651-226-5949

Eva Mach





WOMEN'S GROUP

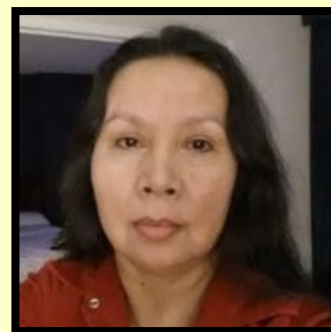
Women's Group will meet Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 10:15 for coffee and socializing in the Social Hall.

We welcome all MVUUF women, whether members or non-members, to attend our monthly meetings. We meet the first Saturday of each month from October through May. The program begins at 10:30.

Our November speaker will be **Nancy Bordeaux**. Nancy is a Lakota from the Rosebud Sioux tribe. She will talk about the effects of historical trauma upon Native American people--especially upon Native American women. Currently she is CEO and president of Tawacin Tanka, a non-profit that works to heal Native American communities. Leslie Swenson will introduce her.

A catered lunch is offered after the meeting for \$7.00. Nancy Buckman will e-mail you and you can respond to her notice if you want lunch. Feel free to bring your own lunch

Carmen Herzog and Eve Bergmann, co-chairs



BRIDGE GROUP

November bridge will be on Saturday, November 18 at 1 p.m.

The bridge group meets the third Saturday of every month from 1-3 p.m. We are always looking for new players! Beginner to expert, all are welcome.

If you are interested, please contact Barbara Hanson at 952-937-5905, or bnehanson@comcast.net.

Come join the fun!

- Barbara Hanson, Coordinator



BEYOND SUNDAY MORNING ~ "BUILDING COMMUNITY"

These are small informal opportunities to get to know each other better and discuss a wide variety of topics. (We will try to have on the table where we are sitting a small sign that says "UU".)

- ♦ 1ST AND 3RD THURSDAYS each month, 1-2:30 pm at the Edina Panera, 3345 Hazelton Rd, next to JoAnn Fabrics and across from Target. (November 2 & November 16, December 7 & December 21)
- ♦ 4TH TUESDAY each month, 1-2:30 pm at Jojo's Rise and Wine, located on Nicollet Ave between Route 13 and Burnsville Pkwy in Burnsville. (November 28, December 26)

Come when and as often as you like. No need to RSVP. Invite others who might be interested. These are intended for all genders and ages.

Contact Nancy Buckman at nancybmnuu@gmail.com or 952-736-9586 if you have questions and/or if you would like an email reminder for each date.



MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group will meet on Thursday, November 9 at 6:30 PM at the Fellowship.

Our speaker will be **Diane O'Connor**, recently retired Deputy Commissioner of the MN Office of Higher Education. Diane will talk about the functions of the OHE, which include regulating private colleges and trade schools, administering the Minnesota's student financial aid programs, and administering Minnesota's Dream Act for undocumented students.

If you wish to come for dinner, sign up and come at 6:30. If you only want to hear the speaker come at 7:00. All are invited **regardless of gender**.










- Questions contact John Peloquin or Bill Mc Martin.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

There are so many great books to choose from that it is hard for our group to come up with new selections. Does the subject appeal to or challenge the group? Will it be complex enough to provoke discussion? Where did we hear about the book? We usually only pick books that none of us have read before, so no one really knows if our choices will be the highlight of our month or difficult to finish. Reading is adventure. If you feel like taking a risk, join us for our usually lively discussions. Our new selections start in December. Alternating fiction and nonfiction, the choices are:



-  On November 21, 2017, ***Lower Ed: The Troubling Rise of For-Profit Colleges in the New Economy***, by Tressie McMillan Cottom
-  On December 19, 2017, ***The Burgess Boys***, by Elizabeth Strout
-  On January 16, 2018, ***Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right***, by Arlie Russell Hochschild
-  On February 20, 2018, ***Everything I Never Told You***, by Celeste Ng
-  On March 20, 2018, ***Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America***, by James Foreman, Jr.
-  On April 17, 2018, ***The Hate U Give***, by Angie Thomas
-  On May 15, 2018, ***Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City***, by Matthew Desmond

The Evening Book Group meets throughout the year on the third Tuesday of every month in the Fireside Room at 7PM. The only requirement is that you read, or attempt to read, the monthly selection. Feel free to come to any or all of the meetings. We welcome newcomers!

Questions? Call Joyce McMartin at 952-942-7143 or email at joyceamcmartin@gmail.com.

Change of Address

Be sure to let Kay Lewis, Office Manager, know if any information regarding your address, phone, email, etc., has changed. You may reach Kay either by calling (952) 884-8956 or emailing her at office@mnvalleyuu.org.



**BOARD OFFICERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP**

Chair & Board Member	Eva Mach	(651) 226-5949 emach@pro-tecdesign.com
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Treasurer	Dale Lewellyn	(952) 432-9459 treasurer@mnvalleyuu.org

BOARD WORKGROUPS

Zimmer Property	Doug Bruce, Mark Clary, Steve Danko, Eva Mach
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MVUUF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee	Chair(s)	Phone & Email
Adult Education and Enrichment	Steve Danko	(952) 884-9099 jsg@jsgalleries.com
Aesthetics	Karen Olson	(952) 888-6527 luvzcatz@comcast.net
Archives	Beverly Schmidt Kathy Eager	(952) 884-7262 gypsyleap@gmail.com (952) 888.8427 Kathy@darrelleager.com
Communication	Nancy Buckman	(952) 736-9586 nancybmnuu@gmail.com
Congregational Care	Jan Wolff	(952) 888-4283 junebug5391@comcast.net
Endowment	Don Park	(612) 836-8485 donfpark@comcast.net
Finance	Steve Danko	(952) 884-9099 jsg@jsgalleries.com
Kitchen	Nancy Buckman	(952) 736-9586 nancybmnuu@gmail.com
Membership	< open >	< open >
Music	Betty Olson	(952) 831-3854 bolsonflute@gmail.com
Nominating	Carla Ries	(952) 500-8526 cwr_uu@hotmail.com
Operations	Mark Clary	(952) 830-1971 mlfe@aol.com
Personnel	Tom Traub	(952) 435-5855 Tomtraub@charter.net
Religious Education	Steve Danko	(952) 884-9099 jsg@jsgalleries.com
Social Action	Megan Duffy Sananikone	(612) 382-2654 Meganduffysananikone@gmail.com
Stewardship	Jeanne Simpson	(612) 239-1240 jems.ellen@gmail.com
Technology	Richard Duffin	(707) 696-6406 rwduffin@comcast.net

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Trustee & Board Member	Max Chester	(952) 388-1186 maxchessler@gmail.com
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Trustee & Board Member	Tom Schoenbauer	952-808-7714 tschoenbauer@hotmail.com
Trustee & Board Member	Diane Bick	952-250-9559 dianeebick@gmail.com

MVUUF

Office Phone Number
(952) 884-8956

Minister

Laura Thompson

minister@mnvalleyuu.org
(651) 500-2864

Director of Religious Education

Jan Fitzgerald, dre@mnvalleyuu.org

Minister of Music

Sonja Johnston, music@mnvalleyuu.org

Youth Coordinator

Wendy Gorman

Office Manager

Kay Lewis, office@mnvalleyuu.org

Custodian & Operations

Mark Clary, cust@mnvalleyuu.org

Internet

Home Page: www.mnvalleyuu.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mnvalleyuu

Newsletter Coordinator

Jay Crashell, newsletter@mnvalleyuu.org

Website Coordinator

Michael Baynton, webmaster@mnvalleyuu.org

The Board of Trustees meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The meetings are open to all members of the Fellowship.

UNI-SUN Item Submission Information

The submission deadline date for the UNI-SUN is the 20th of each month.

Submit articles to the Newsletter Editor via email to newsletter@mnvalleyuu.org

MVUUF CALENDAR ~ NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10:30am Sunday Service 12:15pm Beloved Convers	30	31	Nov 1 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	2 9:30am Women's Spirituality 1pm Beyond Sunday Morning	3	4
5 10:30am Sunday Service 12:15pm Beloved Convers	6	7 Election Day 6:30pm Beloved Convers	8 10am C.O.S.M. meeting 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Board of Trustees	9 9:30am Women's Spirituality 10:30am Women's Book 6:30pm Men's Group 6:30pm Social Action Co	10 10:15am Blue Highways 7pm Friday Night Poker	11
12 9am Religion, Ethics, and 10:30am Sunday Service 11:30am UUUC Luncheon 12:15pm Beloved Convers	13	14 6:30pm Beloved Convers 7pm Finance Committee	15 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	16 9:30am Women's Spirituality 1pm Beyond Sunday Morning	17	18 1pm Bridge Club
19 10:30am Sunday Service 11:30am Endowment Co 12:15pm Beloved Convers	20	21 6:30pm Beloved Convers 7pm Evening Book Club	22 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24 10:15am Blue Highways	25
26 10:30am Sunday Service 12:15pm Beloved Convers	27	28 1pm Beyond Sunday Morning 6:30pm Beloved Convers	29 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	30 9:30am Women's Spirituality	Dec 1	2


 10715 Zenith Avenue South
 Bloomington, Minnesota 55431
We are a Welcoming Congregation