

Beauty

This is an easy time of year for our thoughts to turn to beauty. After a long, cold winter and a chilly, wet spring warmer months are here and the earth is bursting forth with blossom and bloom. The trees are invading ever expanding blue skies with every shade of green. In the midst of it all flying, hopping, scurrying, slithering, burrowing, walking, marching, rolling and dancing creatures breathe it all in. This is the time of year when we are reminded of the beauty of this life that surrounds us. We see it in the sunset over the lake; smell it in the lilac blooms, feel it in the grass between our toes, taste it with the first fruits of the season, and hear it in the laughter of children.



Author Crispin Sartwell writes;

Beauty is the object of longing. We're accustomed to thinking that it is the beautiful thing that causes desire to erupt in us, but perhaps that is not always, or even usually, the case. First, we long. We may not even be conscious of our longing, but because we long, what we long for eventually finds an object in the world, and upon that thing our hearts and imaginations become fixed.

Surely, we were longing for these days of beauty before they arrived. What are you longing for? What beauty seeks you out? Come and let us join together in revealing life's beauty longing for us.

See you Sunday,
 Rev. Laura





JUNE SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM

JUNE 2nd, 10:30am: FLOWER COMMUNION; The Beauty of Community: Like a bouquet of flowers we come together. This beloved annual service will include a welcoming of new members and child dedications. Rev. Laura Thompson, Rev. Andrea Johnson, Lorna Prell and Carol Jernberg

JUNE 9th, 10:30am: Celebrating Beauty; Thank You for the Music: On this very special occasion we come together to celebrate and honor our Minister of Music, Sonja Johnston who is retiring after 43 years of musical service. There will be special guests, special music, gifts and a reception to follow. The service will run longer than usual, so plan accordingly.

JUNE 16th, 10:30am: The Beauty of PRIDE; 50 years after Stonewall: In the early morning hours of June 28th 1969, NYC police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar, in Greenwich Village. The LGBT community responded with protests that would set the stage for the gay liberation movement. We'll look back on those events and take stock of how far we've come. Rev. Laura Thompson, Maria Bavier and Fran Bohlke

JUNE 23rd:

PRIDE parade: Meet at 28th Ave station in Bloomington at 9:10am to take the 9:17 Blue Line train downtown for the parade. Sign-up in the lobby.

Soap Box Sunday: 10:30am; Got something to say? Religion? Politics? Economics? We'll give you the soapbox, a microphone and 5 minutes to tell us what's on your mind. Space is limited to the first 6 people that sign-up that day.

JUNE 30th 10:30am: Beauty of the Ages; Becoming a Dementia Friendly Community: Aging is tough on all of us. But it can be especially challenging for those living with dementia. ----- from Dementia Friends Network will be joining us and letting us know how we can become a dementia friend community.

JUNE SUNDAY SHARING PARTNER

June's Sunday Sharing Partner is the MVUUF Music Program

There comes a time when we all need a little help for ourselves. MVUUF has had a great music program for decades thanks to the leadership of our retiring and beloved Minister of Music, Sonja Johnston. We have high hopes that our next music director, Nicole Paul will be able to build on the continue to build on the great musical programming we have in place. Nicole has received a scholarship to attend the Association of UU Music Ministries annual conference this summer in Denver. This is an incredible opportunity to give Nicole a great start in her new position with us. Your generosity will help to cover travel and hotel expenses to make this possible. Extra funds raised will go into the MVUUF music fund for future expenses.



About Sunday Sharing:

Our offering plate is shared **50/50** each week with our Sunday Sharing Partner, (minus pledge checks). If you prefer for 100% of your gift to go to the Sunday Sharing Partner, Write "Charity Only" on your check or put cash in an envelope provided on the table in the lobby. If you prefer for your gift to go 100% to the Fellowship, write "MVUUF Only" on the check or put cash in an envelope with that written on it. Please contact the office or treasurer with any questions.

Thanks!



FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR KELLEY HUGHES

MVUUF Highlights 2018-2019

For 2018-19 at MVUUF, a full year it has been.

We installed Rev. Laura Thompson as our lead minister of MVUUF.

We ordained our first-ever Minister of Congregational Programs, Rev. Andrea Johnson.

We, as a community, are processing the upcoming retirement of longtime member and Minister of Music, Sonia Johnston. We thank her for her music, and celebrate her service on Sunday, June 9 at 10:30 AM.

We hired staff to support MVUUF's mission and vision, and we have benefited from their support: Kate Stomberg; Nicole Collins, and Sara Sweeney.

We have increased our community outreach. Mark your calendars: MVUUF is a National Night Out site on August 6, 2019.

We have also implemented an online and phone system so that those of us who want to stand in solidarity on the front lines of activism can be notified quickly and efficiently for last minute opportunities. If you are not yet a part of this system, please contact any Social Justice Committee member, including KJ Hummer, Kate Grande, Rev. Andrea, or Rev. Laura.

We continue our technological upgrades, to increase accessibility to our Sunday services and to information about MVUUF's activities.

The 21st Century has brought increasing gun violence, disproportionately targeted at religious groups and at schools. Rev. Laura has initiated the development of an emergency response team. Rev. Laura reports that she, Jason Marshall, Nancy Buckman, Dale Lewellyn and David Olson have attended an armed-intruder workshop in May, sponsored by MVUUF's insurance provider, Church Mutual. Per Rev. Laura, "Pat Chelmo and Judith Anderson are also part of this group. The group plans to meet in the summer to update an emergency procedures manual to include that information, alongside weather, fire, medical and other possible emergencies. The new manual will be rolled out this fall, and will include training for hospitality teams, RE teachers, the Board of Trustees, and others who are interested. The roll-out will also include scheduled drills for the whole congregation. MVUUF is committed to being prepared for emergencies and to keep all of our congregants and visitors as safe as possible." Thank you, Reverend Laura and her team, for this important work.

We updated our long range plan, which has goals based on the evolution of MVUUF. The Board, who owns this plan, will review it quarterly, and will make recommendations for updates annually.

Nancy Buckman and Doug Bruce, the Chair and co-Chair of the 2019-2020 Board of Trustees, respectively, have been researching options for the neighboring property that the Hanifl Foundation kindly acquired for MVUUF. Nancy and Bruce have met with Bloomington leadership about these plans. More coming in 2019-2020.

The MVUUF Board of Trustees meets next on Wednesday, June 12, 2019. It's always an open meeting, so all are welcome to attend. If you have an agenda item, please email me directly at uukelley@hotmail.com, before Wednesday, June 5, so I can assure it is included on the June agenda. Thank you!

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00PM

All are welcome to attend. If there is a topic you would like to add to the Board agenda, please contact Kelley Hughes, Board Chair 2018-2019, at uukelley@hotmail.com.



CONGREGATIONAL PROGRAMS

REV. ANDREA JOHNSON

Summer RE Schedule

There are no Religious Education classes or nursery care this summer. Both will be back and up and running beginning in September.

RE Registration - Please register your children for next year's classes!

Calling all parents - please register your children for Religious Education classes next year! 4-year olds - 6th graders will be doing theme-based lessons. We will be offering our comprehensive sexuality education program to our 7th-9th graders and our Coming of Age program to our 10th-12th graders. Please use the following link to register your children for classes next year.

<https://mnvalleyuu.org/ourcommunity/children-and-youth/>

Religious Education Teacher Recruitment - Please consider volunteering for this vital role in our church community.

Our model is a cooperative one, with families learning and growing in religious community together. We depend on one another to create a vibrant experience for all ages! Each family is asked to support the program by volunteering in one of the following ways during the church year :

- Classroom Teacher (PreK - 6th Grade) Teach 8 Sundays during the church year. Training, complete session plans, prepared materials, and staff support are provided.
- Nursery Volunteer (babies - age 3 years old) - Volunteer in the Nursery 8 Sundays during the church year.
- Coming of Age/High School mentor (accompany youth as they create their statement of faith - meet approximately 4 times during the church year)
- Choice Sunday Volunteer (help kids with interactive activities in the Social Hall one Sunday a month)
- Chaperone/driver for Youth Events and Overnight Retreats (7th-12th grade)
- Family Night Volunteer (help with dinner clean-up, supervise kids crafts and games)

This year we are asking that all teachers wishing to teach next year, sign up now so that we can have one orientation at the beginning of the year. Your teaching teams can decide amongst you how you will divide up the year. There are 16 Sundays to split amongst your



team. If you want to teach only in the fall or spring that is okay or if you'd prefer to teach less often but all year that is okay too. We are asking for 5-6 volunteers for each classroom so that the work-load can be spread across the teaching team.

Please indicate your interest by entering your information on this google sheet: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nc5jYFn4zskcvUDcDTHV78CUCgUjN1KjwTtOK-4EM/edit?usp=sharing>

MUSICAL NOTES

NICOLE COLLINS

As I'm transitioning into music director, I reflect on the music program Sonja has developed and the talent that resides at MVUUF and am astonished. What a legacy she has created. It's a blessing to be with you all and I'm dreaming of all our musical possibilities we'll create together.

While I won't be leading the music over the Summer, I'd love to meet any musicians or song leaders during this time to get to know each other and do some planning. Let's get coffee and chat!

We'll be starting rehearsals for the women's chorale on Saturday August 11th and the mixed choir Wednesday, August 14th. The children's choir will begin September 15th.

We are always wanting new members for any choir. Please contact me for more info.

Don't forget, Sonja's farewell service is June 9th and will be packed with music and stories. Mark your calendars and see you there!

Nicole Collins
Voicenicole@aol.com (soon to be different email).
612-296-1622

CELEBRATING SONJA!



Thank you for the Music:
A Service in Honor of
Sonja Johnston
Sunday June 9th, 10:30am

Join us for a special service filled with music and tribute as Sonja Johnston retires after 43 years of service to MVUUF. **Donations to Sonja's retirement gift are now being collected.** Let us celebrate her grandly!

**Beyond Sunday Morning; 1st Thursdays Happy Hour at 5:00-6:30 PM**

All are welcome! This is a great way spend some time getting to know one another and build community :)

JoJo's Rise and Wine
12501 Nicollet Ave #100 Burnsville, MN 55337



Coffee, wine & craft beer are served with baked goods & light fare in a cozy room with a fireplace.

"Welcome to Jo Jo's Rise & Wine, a coffee wine bar and restaurant located in Burnsville's Heart of the City. Our restaurant is on the lower level of the Park Crest condominiums, across from Nicollet Commons Park.

Jo Jo's Rise & Wine offers coffee, wine and quality food choices all in a comfortable, welcoming environment. Jo Jo's carries a morning-through-evening menu to attract not only commuters, but local business people, students, parents, neighbors and area organizations."



Click here to view their menu: <https://www.jojosriseandwine.com/menu>

Join us June 6 at 5:00-6:30 PM! We hope to see you there!

MEDITATION



Friday, May 17th was the last group meditation until September. At the end of summer we'll ask about everyone's interest in continuing, what are best days and times and if you have suggestions for the format of our gatherings. The meditations held over the past year have been something we've looked forward to each week.

Best wishes for your contemplative life this summer. Fran Bohlke, Richard Duffin



Saturday Movies and Pizza June 1st at 3:30pm



Join us upstairs for a showing of “Boy Erased” with discussion to follow; Rated R This film will be shown to fulfill one of the requirements for our fellowship's recertification of **our Welcoming Congregation status**. The requirement for attendees is **10%** of our fellowship members, which is about 20 members. The Social Action committee hopes we can meet this requirement!



Join us downstairs for a family friendly showing of “UP”: A Pixar animation.
Rated PG

Craft and Activities provided for busy hands!

PIZZA for everyone at 6pm following the movies. **In order to determine how much food to order, please sign up on the sign up boards.** There is one upstairs and one downstairs on the counter in the hallway.

COMMITTEES

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The Congregational Care Resource Committee (CCRC) helps connect volunteers in the congregation with people who need services. The CCRC looks for volunteers to help with: Meals, Rides to church/appointments, Child care, Visits (at home/hospital), Light chores (mowing, changing light bulbs, shoveling, etc), Special Equipment (crutches, wheel chairs, etc), Pet Care, and other things you might need.

Contact any one of us. Also available through email at care@mnvalleyuu.org We will do our best to help.

Maria Bavier, Ruth Keely, Donna Kopnick,
Betty Olson, Leslie Swenson, Angie
Talarico, and Maya Walkington





SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE



Notes from the Social Action Committee:

- Your generosity in April led to a gift of \$604.91 to OutFront MN
- We are gearing up now for the MN PRIDE festival and Parade the weekend of June 22-23. Sign-ups to march in the parade or volunteer of the UU booth in Loring Park are in the foyer outside the sanctuary.
- The next Social Action Committee meeting will be Saturday June 15th at 1pm
- Looking for ways to connect to the issues that matter to you on a local level? Check out these organizations:



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NeighborsTogetherMN/>

EDOWMENT

Kat Janes

June brings the end of the 2018 – 2019 church year. This was the first year we were able to disperse some of the fund. We established a process to grant funds and produced a grant request form. Committees were informed that grants were available for projects not funded by the normal operating budget. Two grants were proposed and approved by the Endowment Committee and the Board of Trustees.

One grant was used for registration fees for “Courageous Faith Revolution Training.” It is a two year staff/lay leader training program to explore new ways of understanding faith formation and family ministries. We are already seeing new things happening for families. For instance “Saturday Movies and Pizza” and “Family Night & Community Concert.”

The second grant was for “An Afternoon at the Opera.” This brought a new musical experience for our membership and was promoted to the Opera’s list and in the Bloomington Sun Current. Attendance was about 80 people.

The committee worked extensively with Kate in the office to get our files on the MVUUF computer. In addition, we spoke with members about legacy giving and memorial contributions.

Our current Chair, Glenn Corliss, and committee member Marv Gish are leaving the committee this year. Thanks for all your work. We look forward to welcoming two new members next year.

Kat Janes, Endowment Committee member



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

KATE STOMBERG

The membership committee continues to remain busy over the spring and summer months. Though hospitality teams aren't running during summer services, we are asking for ushers to help out on Sunday mornings. If you would like to help fill this vital role on a Sunday, please sign up [here](#) or go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054baba929a2fb6-ushering>

The committee is also planning for National Night Out on August 6. The hope is to have a cold treat for the neighbors and a fire truck stop by. We are registered with the National NNO event and will be registered with the city of Bloomington in June.

On Sunday, June 2 we will be welcoming 10? 12? 15? New members! The count keeps going up and as of publication, I don't have an accurate tally. We are so incredibly excited to welcome them all. Most have submitted a photo and bio to be included in the Sunday order of service so we can get to know them a little bit better.



We continue to sell coffee & decaf coffee (\$9 for 12 oz bag), a variety of teas (\$6 for 20 bags), and hot cocoa (\$8 for a 12 oz tin) along with mini chocolate bars in milk and dark chocolate (3 for \$1) in the entryway of the fellowship after service. Special orders are always welcome! You can also find a variety of literature about fair trade, small batch farming and it's impact on the communities UUSC and Equal Exchange work with, stop by and check it out!



Wanted: SUMMER SERVICE LEADERS

Summer services are just around the corner. Do you have something to say or sing or share? We are seeking service leaders (people who give the sermon/presentation), Worship Associates (help with all other spoken parts of service, script provided), Accompanists for hymns and other musician to provide special music. Rev. Laura and Rev. Andrea are around to help with guidance and tips. Sign up today to help make our summer services great: [SIGN-UP FOR SUMMER SERVICES](#)





CLASSES & GROUPS

AMERICAN MAH JONGG

If you are interested in playing, or learning how to play, we have a small group meeting every other Wednesday in Social Hall at the Fellowship from 1-3 pm. Contact either Bobbie Gish or Nancy Buckman for more information.



BRIDGE GROUP

June bridge will be on Saturday, June 15 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, 952-937-5905 or bnehanson@comcast.net. Come join the fun!

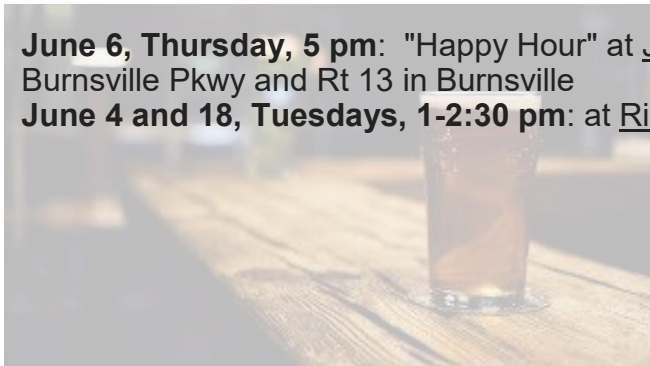


BEYOND SUNDAY MORNING - "BUILDING COMMUNITY"

Come to any / all of our upcoming small, informal gatherings at the following locations and times. These are opportunities to visit with and get to know others better and have some interesting conversations. **No need to RSVP.** Just come if you can and invite any others who might be interested. **All are welcome!**

June 6, Thursday, 5 pm: "Happy Hour" at JoJo's Rise and Wine Located on Nicollet between Burnsville Pkwy and Rt 13 in Burnsville

June 4 and 18, Tuesdays, 1-2:30 pm: at Richfield Panera (980 W. 78th, Richfield)





EVENING BOOK GROUP

The Evening Book Group continues to meet throughout most of the summer. Sitting in the sun on warm Minnesota day and relaxing with a book or kindle is an exceedingly pleasant way to read. We hope you will join us for a lively and informative discussion. Alternating fiction and nonfiction, our upcoming books are:

On June 20, 2019, *When Republicans Were Progressive* by Dave Durenberger, Lori Sturdevant and Norm Ornstein (Please note that this book is not available in Audio or Kindle form)

NO MEETING IN JULY

On August 15, 2019, *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver

On September 19, 2019, *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* by Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson



The Evening Book Group **USUALLY** meets on the third Thursday of the month throughout the year in the Fireside Room at 7 PM. **PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL NOT BE MEETING IN JULY.** 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.

4!!!!

It's time to get off your bun warmers, get those golf clubs dusted off and join MVUUF summer golfers.

The first leg of the tour will be Sunday 8:00am. June 16 at 3 par Birnamwood Gold Course in Burnsville. The rest of the tour will be there too. \$14.50 a round.

It's a rollicking good time.

All ages and skill levels welcome. Skill not required.



DISCUSSION GROUP



The next meeting of the discussion group will be Thursday, June 20 at 1:00 in the fireside room at the Fellowship. The topic for discussion is Universal Health care. Find an article or reading on your viewpoint to share with the group. The group is open to all. Contact Carmen Herzog (carmjher@aol.com) or Jan Wolff (junebug5391@comcast.net) with questions.

**BOARD OFFICERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP**

Chair & Board Member	Kelley Hughes	(952) 831-0032 uukelley@hotmail.com
Chair-elect & Board Member	Nancy Buckman	(952) 736-9586 nancybmnuu@gmail.com
Secretary & Board Member	David Olson	(952) 888-6527 olson199@umn.edu
Treasurer	Dale Lewellyn	(952) 432-9459 treasurer@mnvalleyuu.org

BOARD TRUSTEES

Trustee & Board Member	Max Chester	(952) 388-1186 maxchessler@gmail.com
Trustee & Board Member	Judith Anderson	(952) 941-7047 andersonkj@earthlink.net
Trustee & Board Member	Tom Schoenbauer	(952) 808-7714 tschoenbauer@hotmail.com
Trustee & Board Member	Diane Bick	(952) 250-9559 dianeebick@gmail.com

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	Open	Rev. Andrea Johnson programs@mnvalleyuu.org
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
Congregational Care	Open	office@mnvalleyuu.org 952-884-8956
Committee on Shared Ministry	Tom Ehlinger	(612) 840-8905 tomehlinger@gmail.com
Endowment	Glen Corliss	(952) 835-6832 gcorliss16@aol.com
Finance	Steve Danko	(952) 884-9099 jsg@jsgalleries.com
Kitchen	George Rairman	(612) 669-3952 geofairman@gmail.com
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Social Action	Rev. Laura Thompson	minister@mnvalleyuu.org (612) 216-4203
Stewardship	Jeanne Simpson	(612) 239-1240 jems.ellen@gmail.com
Technology	Richard Duffin	(707) 696-6406 rwduffin@comcast.net

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/mnvalleyuu

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



June 2019

June 2019

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

Meet with...

Search for people

My calendars

Other calendars

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Holidays in United States

9am Choir

9:30am Jody Gray- Hospitality Team

10:30am Sunday Services

2 more

Memorial Day

2

10:30am Sunday Services

3

4

1pm Beyond Sunday Morning

5

1pm Mah Jongg

5:30pm C.O.S.M. meeting

6

5pm Beyond Sunday Morning; 1st Thu

7

8

9

10:30am Sunday Services- Special Ser

11:30am Celebration for Sonja

10

11

10am Women's Book Group

7pm Finance Committee Meeting

12

7pm Board of Trustees Meeting

13

14

10:15am Blue Highways

7pm Friday Night Poker

15

1pm Bridge Club

16

Father's Day

10:30am Sunday Services

17

18

1pm Beyond Sunday Morning

19

UUA General Assembly

1pm Mah Jongg

20

1pm Afternoon Discussion Group

7pm Evening Book Club

21

22

23

UUA General Assembly

10:30am Sunday Services

24

25

26

6:30pm Soul Matters Small Group

27

28

10:15am Blue Highways

29

30

10:30am Sunday Services

Jul 1

2

1pm Beyond Sunday Morning

3

1pm Mah Jongg

5:30pm C.O.S.M. meeting

4

Independence Day

5pm Beyond Sunday Morning; 1st Thu

5

6

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To View the MVUUF Calendar online, go to:

<http://mnvalleyuu.org/calendar/>