

MVUUF Summer Newsletter: July-August



The Summer Day

Who made the world?
 Who made the swan, and the black bear?
 Who made the grasshopper?
 This grasshopper, I mean-
 the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
 the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
 who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-
 who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
 Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
 Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
 I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
 into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
 how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
 which is what I have been doing all day.
 Tell me, what else should I have done?
 Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
 Tell me, what is it you plan to do
 with your one wild and precious life?
 —Mary Oliver

Summer gives us time to rest, time to explore, time to marvel and time to spend with those we love the most. I love to watch the sunlight and moonlight dance upon the water. I love the fragrance of blossoms and green filling the air; the feel of grass between my toes and the sound of birds who announce and sing, "I am here!".

The staff and I will all be taking time off here and there to refresh and renew ourselves. Our slowed down work schedules also give us time to catch-up, study and re-organize. What wonders will we find, what creative thoughts will be put into plans and then action? Oh, but isn't summer magical with its paradox of busy life bursting forth with time built in to notice it all. We hope that you all are able to engage all the gifts of summer. May you all find renewal and refreshment. May you all experience wonder and magic of the season.

See you Sunday, Rev. Laura





SUMMER SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM

July 7th, 10:30am: What is Worth Fighting For? With Independence Day upon us, our thoughts often turn those things that worth fighting for; life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. As a community, we have the ability to fight for these things on a larger scale. This service will be a very engaged dialogue about what things we, as a community, might come together to fight for. Together, we'll outline some goals to pass on to the Social Action Committee for things we might work on next year and look for other ways to build support for the issues that are most important to us.

July 14th: What a Trip; Psychedelics; Our guest, Christopher Gunluck will speak to the growing role of psychedelics and alternative medicine as our society seeks to heal itself. He will explore the history of psychedelic medicine, how they were banned in the United States, and the growing body of research that shows their tremendous potential for emotional and spiritual healing. Christopher recently completed his master's degree in alternative healing arts. Polly Sonifer and Mark Lofgren will be co-leading the service.

July 21st: A Case for Religious Naturalism; The concept combines a naturalist worldview with perceptions and values commonly associated with religions. What. Can this approach offer us and how can it bring meaning to our lives? Rev. Andrea Johnson, music TBA.

July 28th: I Love You Just the Way You Are: Beautiful Bodies, Part 1; Too often our own body image prevents us from the radical self-love we need to ground ourselves in, that we might truly be able to radically love others. What are the roots of not loving ourselves and how do we break the cycles they generate? Rev. Laura Thompson and Linda Hayen, music TBA.

Aug. 4th: I Love You Just the Way You Are: Measures of Success; Our culture plays a large part in dictating models of success. Often those models can be in conflict with our deeper values and principles and prevent us from building the beloved community we seek. Rev. Laura Thompson and Fran Bohlke, music TBA.

Aug. 11th: I Love You Just the Way You Are: Beautiful Bodies, Part 2; Folks with disabled bodies or differently abled bodies face discrimination and challenging obstacles every day. What can we do as a community and as individuals to invite people with disabilities more fully into our spaces. Rev. Laura Thompson and Linda Hayen, music by Elaine Lewellyn

Aug. 18th: The Importance of Faith Formation; There is no denying that UUs value religious education and faith formation. Why is this so important? And can we honor and nurture faith formation throughout our lives? Rev. Andrea Johnson and Fran Bohlke

Aug. 25th: White Boy Lost; Exploring the conflict between Christian values and reality. Ed Janes and Tom Bergmann, music by Maria Bavier.

Sept. 1st: Blessing of Animals; Bring your pet* or a favorite toy of your furry, feathered, family members. This service promises to feature much joy and honor for our love of pets. *All pets must be leashed, kenneled or contained. Rev. Laura Thompson is leading the service.



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

NANCY BUCKMAN

or many years I would always say “I don’t speak Board”. Well, here I am Board Chair. Fortunately, there are many wonderful people on the Board of Trustees who do speak the language. Together we will manage the many upcoming issues and opportunities heading our way. Also, please let us know what is important to you.

I like to think that one of our themes at MVUUF is “**Love Your Neighbor**” which our Rev. Laura Thompson incorporated into red posters right after the last presidential election. It is so great to see them popping up all around the Twin Cities. One way we here at MVUUF want to practice that theme is to host a “Neighborhood Night Out” this August as a way to thank our neighbors for “putting up” with us parking all around the neighborhood on Sunday mornings and when we have other major events at MVUUF. Maybe you can help with this event, especially if your neighborhood is not hosting one that night. More information will be forthcoming.

The next Board meeting date is **Wednesday, July 10 at 7:00 pm** in our new meeting room (the old nursery room). If you want to learn more about what goes on at MVUUF, come to a Board meeting. All people in the congregation are welcome to attend.

Nancy Buckman
nancybmnuu@gmail.com

952-736-9586

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 10 at 7:00PM

All are welcome to attend. If there is a topic you would like to add to the Board agenda, please contact Nancy Buckman, Board Chair 2019-2020, at nancybmnuu@gmail.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.

We are in particular need of teachers to teach in our preK-1st grade class and in our 2nd and 3rd grade class.

Sign up using the following link

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nc5jYFn4zskcvUDcDTHV78CUCgLIh_N1KjwTtOK-4EM/edit?usp=sharing

THANK YOU FROM SONJA



I am filled with gratitude and love following the overwhelming display of affection for me on June 9th - the music, the reflections, the serious, the fun, the receiving of the honorable title: Minister of Music Emerita, all the many smiling faces - some of whom I had not seen for a long time - the many lovely cards with personal expressions of appreciation and love, the gift, and throughout the room an overarching sense of love and community such as I have experienced many times over the many years. This is my home. You are my friends. Thank you for this amazing beautiful day which will live in my heart for the rest of my life. And thank you for all the years you valued me and my music.



National Night Out at MVUUF Tuesday August 6th 5-7pm:

Join us for celebrating community with free hot dogs, veggie burgers, lemonade and ice pops! Come meet our neighbors. With visits from Bloomington emergency vehicles and kids activities. If you would like to help with this event, sign-up in the lobby or contact minister@mnvalleyuu.org

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, and Maya Walkington





SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE



Our Sunday Sharing in May generated \$696.50 for Conservation MN. The Social Action Committee (SAC) is interested in your input for organizations to share our plate with next month. If you have someone you'd like to nominate contact minister@mnvalleyuu.org.

SAC won't be meeting again until September, but that doesn't mean our work is done. You can still join the Rapid Response Team to be alerted of any social justice events that need our immediate witness and support: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044eaba823a0fe3-social>. Summer is also full of ways to explore and engage the heart of Social Justice. Here are a few summer events worth checking out:

Minneapolis Institute of Art

"Art and Healing: In the Moment," an exhibition of 15 works—including paintings, sculpture, video, posters, and textiles—by Twin Cities artists in response to the fatal shooting of Philando Castile. "Art and Healing: In the Moment" is on view June 17 through July 29, 2018.

Hearts of Our People: Native Women Artists

June 2, 2019 – August 18, 2019

Twin Cities World Refugee Day at Loring Park

July 14th 2-7pm; a family-oriented day of celebration that highlights the stories, arts, and cultures of the thousands of refugees in Minnesota and the light they bring to our community.

National Organization of Women

The 2019 National NOW Conference will be held from July 19-21 in Bloomington, Minnesota at the Hilton MSP/Mall of America. This annual gathering is critical to shaping the future of NOW, its goals, and its path forward for women's rights.



SUMMER SUNDAY SHARING



In July and August, all offerings will be split between the general Fellowship fund and our Building Improvement Fund. We are currently in progress of moving some of the rooms in the building; we now have a meeting room! We will be painting a lot this summer and doing our best to make all of these rooms functional and comfortable come September. We also cut much of our maintenance budget this year due to a shortfall during the pledge drive and we'd really like to remedy that.

You can donate to this fund during the Shared Sunday offering or by using the donate button on our website. Thanks for your generosity!

EDOWMENT

Kat Janes

The Endowment committee would like to thank Glenn Corliss for his service on the committee. We welcome David Hobart and Bob Boucher as new committee members. Thank you to all those who have worked with our committee in the past year. Next meeting will be in mid-August. Have a wonderful summer.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

KATE STOMBERG

The membership committee continues to remain busy over the 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 some food and treats for the neighbors and a fire truck stop by. We are registered with the National NNO event and with the City of Bloomington.

On Sunday, June 2 we welcomed 15 new members! We are so incredibly excited to welcome them all. Please continue to introduce yourself to new faces you see around this summer!



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, July 20 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!**

Thursday, July Happy Hour canceled due to Independence Day Holiday! Next Happy Hour will be Thursday, August 1 at : pm: "Happy Hour" at JoJo's Rise and Wine Located on Nicollet between Burnsville Pkwy and Rt 13 in Burnsville

July 2 and 16, and August 6 and 20 - Tuesdays, 1-2:30 pm: at Richfield Panera (980 W. 78th, Richfield)





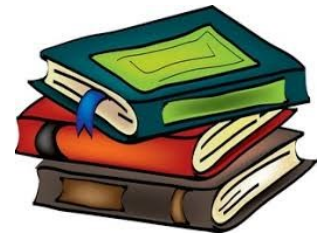
EVENING BOOK GROUP

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:

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

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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 was on 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. Join in at anytime!

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, July 18 at 1:00 pm** 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.

The following discussion Group meeting will be on Thursday, August 15 at 1:00 pm. Topic to be announced in the Friday emails.

**BOARD OFFICERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP**

Chair & Board Member	Nancy Buckman	(952) 736-9586 nancybmnuu@gmail.com
Chair-elect & Board Member		
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

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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
Membership	Kate Stomberg	(612) 216-4113 office@mnvalleyuu.org
Music	Betty Olson	(952) 831-3854 bolsonflute@gmail.com
Nominating	Robyn Schoenbauer	(952) 808-7714 robyn.schoenbauer@gmail.com
Operations	Mark Clary	(952) 830-1971 mlfe@aol.com
Personnel	Tom Traub	(952) 435-5855 Tomtraub@charter.net
Religious Education	Rev. Andrea Johnson	Rev. Andrea Johnson programs@mnvalleyuu.org
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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Nicole Collins voicenicole@aol.com

RE and Youth Coordinator
Sara Sweeney
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Communications Manager and Membership Coordinator
Kate Stomberg office@mnvalleyuu.org
(612) 216-4113

Custodian & Operations
Mark Clary, cust@mnvalleyuu.org

Internet
Home Page: www.mnvalleyuu.org
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



July 2019

June 2019

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Meet with...

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☒ Holidays in United States

<div><div>● 10:30am Sunday Services</div></div>		<div><div>● 1pm Beyond Sunday Morning</div></div>	<div><div>● 1pm Mah Jongg</div><div>● 5:30pm C.O.S.M. meeting</div></div>	<div><div>Independence Day</div><div>● 5pm Beyond Sunday Morning; 1st Thu</div></div>		
<div><div>7</div><div>● 10:30am Sunday Services</div></div>	<div><div>8</div></div>	<div><div>9</div><div>● 10am Women's Book Group</div><div>● 7pm Finance Committee Meeting</div></div>	<div><div>10</div><div>● 7pm Board of Trustees Meeting</div></div>	<div><div>11</div></div>	<div><div>12</div><div>● 10:15am Blue Highways</div><div>● 7pm Friday Night Poker</div></div>	<div><div>13</div></div>
<div><div>14</div><div>● 10:30am Sunday Services</div></div>	<div><div>15</div></div>	<div><div>16</div><div>● 1pm Beyond Sunday Morning</div></div>	<div><div>17</div><div>● 1pm Mah Jongg</div></div>	<div><div>18</div><div>● 1pm Afternoon Discussion Group</div><div>● 7pm Evening Book Club</div></div>	<div><div>19</div></div>	<div><div>20</div><div>● 1pm Bridge Club</div></div>
<div><div>21</div><div>● 10:30am Sunday Services</div></div>	<div><div>22</div></div>	<div><div>23</div></div>	<div><div>24</div><div>● 6:30pm Soul Matters Small Group</div></div>	<div><div>25</div></div>	<div><div>26</div><div>● 10:15am Blue Highways</div></div>	<div><div>27</div></div>
<div><div>28</div><div>● 10:30am Sunday Services</div></div>	<div><div>29</div></div>	<div><div>30</div></div>	<div><div>31</div><div>● 1pm Mah Jongg</div></div>	<div><div>Aug 1</div><div>● 5pm Beyond Sunday Morning; 1st Thu</div></div>	<div><div>2</div></div>	<div><div>3</div></div>

To View the MVUUF Calendar online, go to:

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

August 2019

<p>Calendar</p> <p>Today</p> <p>August 2019</p> <p>Create</p> <p>August 2019</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>28 29 30 31 1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>Meet with...</p> <p>Search for people</p> <p>My calendars</p> <p>Other calendars</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holidays in United States</p>	SUN 28	MON 29	TUE 30	WED 31	THU Aug 1	FRI 2	SAT 3
	10:30am Sunday Services			1pm Mah Jongg	5pm Beyond Sunday Morning; 1st Thu		
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	10:30am Sunday Services		1pm Beyond Sunday Morning	5:30pm C.O.S.M. meeting	6:15pm Men's Group	10:15am Blue Highways	7pm Friday Night Poker
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	9am Religion Ethics and Ideas		10am Women's Book Group	1pm Mah Jongg	1pm Afternoon Discussion Group		1pm Bridge Club
	10:30am Sunday Services		7pm Finance Committee Meeting	7pm Board of Trustees Meeting	7pm Evening Book Club		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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