



Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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The Forum

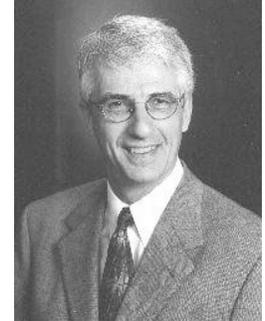
Richard's Reflections

Committee on Ministry

The ministry is of all of us. That is how we Unitarian Universalists at the Fellowship understand we are to be with each other. We minister to one another. My role, as determined by my contract and my understanding of ministry, is to be the professional minister for all—MVUF members and the larger community we serve.

I hope my way of doing ministry does not keep anyone from talking with me directly about a concern or a personal problem, or just taking time to have coffee. I ask that if you feel in some way I have not ministered to the Fellowship in a way that is helpful, or have done something to offend, that you could come to me and speak of it.

If, however, you would like to have a concern raised with me but don't feel comfortable bringing it personally, then the members of the committee on ministry (*Calen Rayne, Janice Beers, Linda Yoder and Joe Zimmerman*) are excellent at listening and can be depended on to keep confidences. Please call on them if you have some pressing need regarding the ministry of this congregation, either mine or the ministry we have together.



Rev. Richard Venus

Richard

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OUR MISSION:

The Miami Valley Unitarian Fellowship, a Unitarian Universalist congregation, is a community of individuals who honor human diversity and respect religious differences, and is a supportive, accepting fellowship where people of all ages may grow spiritually, intellectually and emotionally, and create ethical solutions to social problems by sharing time, talents, and personal resources.

Sunday Programs

BEGINNING IN JUNE, OUR SINGLE SUNDAY SERVICE BEGINS AT 10:00 A.M.

Sunday, June 1

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. We will meet for worship at 10:00 a.m., when we will reflect on our history as we remember together the joys and sorrows we found here. At our meeting we will discuss, again, the name for the Fellowship.

Sunday, June 8

“Pride and Politics.” *Janice James* will lead this service. It will be a time to recognize our youth who have completed a year’s study together in R.E., and to thank those who have done such a fine job teaching this year.

Sunday, June 15

This is **Flower Communion Sunday**, when we invite all to bring a flower to create a bouquet that we will all take from before we leave, a ceremony originating in Europe following WWII. *Richard Venus* will speak on **“What We Have In Common.”**

Sunday, June 22

Join *Calen Rayne* and *UUFolks* for another **“Old Time Buddhist Gospel Hour.”** We will reflect on Buddhist teachings of compassion and our Unitarian Universalist water service through Gospel music, hymn singing and a dharma discussion, “River of Compassion.”

Sunday, June 29

“A World without God.” *Richard Venus* will lead this service that speaks to the truths brought by a philosophy of atheism.

This year our Sunday services will reflect the theme *Heroines, Heroes, and Our Religious Traditions.*

Saturday Celebrations Summer Schedule

The Saturday services have ended for this year and will resume again in the fall, in our new building. However, we were so sad at not being able to gather for three months that we decided to have a worship service, potluck and music get together once a month throughout the summer. **Our Saturday Celebrations for the summer will be held at 5:00 pm on June 14, July 19, and August 9.** Hope you can come join us! For more information contact *Hillary Wagner*.

Our Staff

The Rev. Richard Venus, Minister

Office Hours: By appointment (except Monday)

Barbara McFarland, Office Manager

Office Hours: Mon.—Thurs., 9:00—3:00 p.m.

Barb Weber, Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Office Hours: Tue. 11—1:30 p.m., Sunday Morning

Hillary Gregg Wagner, Music Director

Office Hours: By appointment



MVUUF Board of Trustees

Kathy Mays
President

Kathleen Turner
Vice-president

Judy Pickett
Treasurer

Mary Anne Frey
Secretary

Jamie McQuinn
Public Relations Trustee

Carol Vincent
Activities Trustee

Maureen O’Meara
Social Concerns Trustee

Laurie Shows
LRE Trustee

Barbara Czestochowa
Membership Trustee

Bill Wilson
Operations Trustee

Board Reports

The MVUUF Board of Trustees conducted the following business when it met **Thursday, May 15, 2003**, at the Fellowship.

Present: **Kathy Mays**, President; **Kathleen Turner**, Vice President; **Judy Pickett**, Treasurer; **Richard Venus**, Minister; **Barbara Czestochowa**, Membership Trustee; **Jamie McQuinn**, PR Trustee; **Genevieve Harvey**, LRE Trustee; **Maureen O'Meara**, Social Concerns Trustee; **Carol Vincent**, Activities Trustee.

Not attending: **Mary Anne Frey**, Secretary; **Chuck Thomas**, Affiliate Minister.

Also, present: **Carol Narigon**, **Dan Narigon**, **Barb Weber**, **Rich Robinson**

- **Barbara McFarland** was hired as Office Manager.
- The Board made preparations for the Congregational Meeting, June 1. Name Change voting procedures were discussed.
- Following the Board meeting, the Trustees held a "Retreat" to discuss planning issues. Topics included the Worship Committee and Programming, governance models, and goal setting.

Jamie McQuinn
Acting Secretary

Welcome Barbara

Welcome to our new office administrator, **Barbara McFarland**. Barbara is a life-long UU and has settled in Dayton with her husband after a career in the Air Force.

Barbara's office hours will be Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Treasury Notes

As of the end of April here's how we look financially. Thank you for your continued support and stewardship of our blessed resource, the Fellowship. As usual, contact me if you have any questions about this report or any other financial matter

	April Actual	April Budget	April YTD Actual	April YTD Budget
Basket	906.50	416.67	4,976.84	4,166.70
Fundraising	980.96	775.00	16,024.36	19,250.00
Other	1,469.02	416.67	5,387.41	4,166.70
Pledge	14,744.86	13,900.00	142,011.58	139,000.00
Total Revenues	18,101.34	15,508.34	168,400.19	166,583.40
Expenses				
Activities	(729.45)	-	(650.45)	-
Administration	4,225.81	3,750.63	37,056.65	37,506.30
Denomination	3,300.00	2,840.50	13,200.00	14,090.50
LRE	1,980.42	2,008.20	19,428.75	19,582.02
Membership	160.72	50.00	664.11	500.00
Minister	5,180.44	6,020.67	58,414.29	60,206.70
Music	1,063.32	913.42	9,214.86	9,134.20
Operations	1,890.99	2,465.41	21,127.75	26,254.10
Public Relations	161.37	291.67	1,655.66	2,916.70
Program Services	-	125.00	1,401.00	1,250.00
Social Concerns	-	83.33	403.39	833.30
Total Expenses	17,233.62	18,548.83	161,916.01	172,273.82
Income in excess of Expense				
	867.72	(3,040.49)	6,484.18	(5,690.42)
				Judy Pickett Treasurer

Membership News

Welcome new members:

Heather Neal

Bill and Heather Wendel

Linda R. Burnett

Joe Law

Paul Gibbs

Please make the following changes to your directory:

L.E. Jarvis from VM to AM

John and Ann Butt - Resigned

Caring and Sharing

Please let *Lynn Haven* know if any member is hospitalized, suffering with an illness, or recovering from an accident.

Orientation

Those exploring Unitarian Universalism and the Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship are invited to attend a monthly orientation session after the service on the third Sunday of each month. **The next orientation will be June 15.**

Barbara Czestochowa
Membership Trustee

The Music Corner

Choir, Recorder Ensemble, and the Drum and Poetry Circle will all be on hiatus for the summer.

Plans are underway for the upcoming church year. These plans include a youth string ensemble, finding a permanent rehearsal time for the renaissance band, creating a drum circle for the youth, and increasing the time we spend chanting at the Saturday Celebrations and other events.

As always, if you are interested in participating in music at the Fellowship, please let me know.

Hillary Wagner



MVUUF Youth singing at the April 27 Sunday service. Many thanks to *Connie Buchenroth* and *Rich Robinson* for giving the kids this moment to shine!

MIAMI VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
AGENDA
Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 1, 2003

CALL TO ORDER

Kathy Mays, President

Minutes Approval

Mary Anne Frey, Secretary

Annual Meeting, Sunday January 19, 2003
Special Meeting, Sunday April 6, 2003

Treasurer's Report

Judy Pickett, Treasurer

Report on results of Pledge Campaign

Rick Lux

Presentation of 2003-04 Budget and vote

Judy Pickett, Treasurer

Vote on name of the Fellowship

Chuck Thomas

Election of Nominating Committee Members

Joan Albrecht

REPORTS FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND STAFF (Attached)

Kathy Mays, President

Kathleen Turner, Vice President

Mary Anne Frey, Secretary

Barbara Czestochowa, Membership Trustee

Genevieve Harvey, Religious Education Trustee

Carol Vincent, Activities Trustee

Maureen O'Meara, Social Concerns Trustee

Jamie McQuinn, Public Relations Trustee

Bill Wilson, Operations Trustee

Don Kazyak, Endowment Trustee

Office Manager's Report

Minister's Report, *Richard Venus*

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, TRUSTEES, NOMINATING COMMITTEE, AND ENDOWMENT FUND TRUSTEES

Officers and Trustees: *Kathy Mays*, President; *Kathleen Turner*, Vice President; *Mary Anne Frey*, Secretary; *Judy Pickett*, Treasurer; *Laurie Shows*, Lifespan Religious Education; *Bill Wilson*, Operations; *Jamie McQuinn*, Public Relations

Nominating Committee:

Endowment Fund Trustees: *Calen Rayne*

Minister: The Members of the Miami Valley Unitarian Fellowship of Dayton have elected you to be the officers, trustees, and nominating committee for this congregation. In assuming office, each of you accepts delegated responsibility for the spiritual and temporal welfare of our church. By your actions you have the power to shape the effectiveness of this congregation in living up to the ideals and goals we embrace.

Do you promise to give diligent attention to the duties of your office, to uphold the principles and purposes of this association, and to support the growth of liberal religion in our community?

Officers, committee members, and trustees response: I do. Grateful for the trust that has been placed in me, and mindful of the responsibilities that are involved, I commit myself to bring the best of my abilities to the service of this congregation during my term of office.

Congregation: We welcome you as officers and trustees of this Fellowship. As you guide this congregation, may you serve with integrity and may your work bring you joy. There will be important, and perhaps difficult, decisions to be made; and we are grateful you have assumed these duties of leadership and responsibility. Thank you for your willingness to serve. We promise to support you in your efforts on our behalf.

CLOSING WORDS

Richard Venus, Minister

Announcements

Emily Upham Award

The Emily Upham award will be presented at the congregational meeting in January. Look for information regarding nominations for this award later this year.

News from the Church of the Larger Fellowship

CFL can be a lifeline for someone who is far away from home and his or her church community. *Quest*, our monthly worship publication, has sermons by our nest UU preachers, a column by *Jane Rzepka*, CLF's minister, and a column for families by our interim DRE, *Dan Harper*. CLF began in 1944 as a way to communicate with geographically isolated religious liberals. This is CFL's finest work—church by mail and cyberspace.

UUs in the Military

If you know someone in the military who would like some UU sustenance in these trying days, please tell them about Church of the Larger Fellowship's (CLF) UUMIL list serve. Here is the link to sign up: <http://www.uua.org/mailman/listinfo/uumil>

The Perfect Gift for your UU Grad

It's time to enroll your graduating high school senior in the UU Church of the Larger Fellowship's Student Services program in preparation for college this fall. With the Student Service, each student gets a welcoming letter in September and a subscription to the UUA's magazine *UU World*, as well as CLF's monthly publication *Quest*. It's a great way to make sure young adults stay in touch with Unitarian Universalism as they begin their lives away from home. If you are interested in enrolling or re-enrolling your college student in the program, please visit our website: <http://www.uua.org/clf/students.html> or contact *Cecilia* at the CLF office for more information: 617-948-6167.

Upcoming Events

PROGRAM AND GOAL SETTING SESSION

The congregation is strongly encouraged to attend a program-planning and goal-setting session to plan our new year in our home on **June 8 at 11:30 a.m.** Lunch will be provided for a donation and childcare will be available only if requested in advance. **All board and committee members are expected to attend.**

Blood Drive

We still have a few time slots open for giving blood at the Fellowship on June 7. Please see or call *Bev Wince* if you are willing and able to donate the Gift of Life.

Picture Book Read-in

A special read-in will be held on **Sunday, June 22 after the service in Room 4/5 downstairs.** Thanks to *Donna Evans*, retired teacher, we have an expanded collection of wonderful picture books and we would like to spend some time enjoying them. There are many award winning picture books of different genres and age/interest levels. **We need READERS and NON READERS of ALL AGES to come.** Some may be potential "Story for All Ages" books, stories that complement our religious education curricula, or books that we may have for members to borrow. Come help us decide! This will be an informal time to enjoy books together. Bring snacks to share or pack yourself a lunch and stay as long as you like. Please ask *Genevieve Harvey* or *Barb Weber* if you have questions about this event.

Fall Retreat

Just a reminder to mark your 2003 calendar for the annual fall retreat at John Bryan State Park. It will be the first Saturday of October, all day. If you would like to be involved in the planning, please contact *Carol Vincent*. She will be happy to help you find a way to share your gifts with the community as we gather.

If you want to mark your calendars for the rest of your expected lifetime, go ahead. It will always be the first Saturday of October and it will ALWAYS be a wonderful time you won't want to miss!

Upcoming Group and Club Meetings

MVUUF Book Club

The MVUUF Book Club meets one Wednesday each month at the Fellowship from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Those who wish to may come at 10:15 for some social time. All are welcome. For further information, call *Carol Vincent* or *Sylvia Wince*.

June 11

Having Our Say by Sarah and Elizabeth Delaney.

July 23

Gravity by Tess Gerritsen.

August 6

Kokopelli: The Making of an Icon by Ekkehart Malotki. This will be a potluck at the home of *Nancy Stamper*, and is open to the public.

September

The Samurai's Garden by Gail Tsukiyama

The First Thursday Theological Society is having a special meeting in June. *Marilyn* and *Jim Faulconer* are hosting us at their house for a picnic on **June 5 at 6:00 p.m.** before our discussion of "ethical show and tell" and the background essay and case studies for session 5 of Ethics: An Exploration of Personal Morality by Richard S. Gilbert. Contact *Ann Snively* for more information.

The Earth Circle encourages everyone to join us in keeping one day each month (the 9th) "technology free." It won't be totally free of technology, but a different one each month. **June 9th will be TV-free day!** Just think of what you could do instead of watching TV. Go for a walk, read, play games, talk to each other, or just enjoy the quiet.

The Earth Circle would like to hear of your experiences and observations, both positive and negative. The Earth Circle comment box will be on the social concerns table in the West Room for both your comments and suggestions.

Curious about the Earth Circle and the Northwest Earth Institute discussion courses? Come and join us in the west room on the **second Wednesday each month 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** For information call *Linda Yoder*.

INTERWEAVE

Interweave is open to all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their allies. **The group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in room 12 at the Fellowship.** New (and old) members are welcome. For information, contact *Joyce Gibbs*.

Young Adult Cookout/Picnic

On **June 29** after the service, we will meet at my house for a potluck picnic/cookout. If you consider yourself a young adult and would like to join us, please contact *Genevieve Harvey* for directions and to let me know what you might bring. (Note: If you want meat, you will have to bring it. I'll have the grill hot, but this is usually a veggie house.)

Aikido Group

Aikido is a defensive, Japanese martial art with deep, spiritual aspects. Classes are open to all at the Fellowship and are led by *Greg* and *Katie Reese*. They take place on **Mondays** (6:45-8:00 p.m.) and **Saturdays** (9:45-11:00 a.m.). **Beginners are welcome and there is no charge to MVUUF members who want to participate in the sport but not get a ranking in aikido.**

For those who do wish to be ranked, introductory classes are \$62/month and general classes are \$42/month. The fee permits unlimited attendance of classes at the Fellowship and at the Yellow Springs dojo (school) in Yellow Springs, plus the opportunity to receive formal rankings in aikido.

Groups on Summer Hiatus

Evening Book Discussion Group

The Evening Book Discussion Group is taking the summer off. We will resume again in the fall on **Tuesday, September 16th at 7:00 p.m.** at *Ann Snively's* house to discuss John Adams by David McCullough.

New participants are welcome. Contact *Ann Snively* if you would like more information about the group.

Meditation Group

Meditation Group will not meet during summer. We will be "holding our collective breath" until we meet again in our new building. Thanks to all who have participated, and we look forward to seeing you again in September. Please contact *Calen Rayne* if you have any questions.

Concerning Social Concerns

Social Concerns Committee

The April 27 Social Concerns Sunday service about civil liberties presented by **David Bringhurst, Connie Buchenroth, Ralf Grisard, Rich Robinson** and **Darren Parker**, received rave reviews! They have volunteered to present another lively Sunday service next year about another UUA General Assembly issue.

The Social Concerns Committee voted to donate the registration fee of \$30 for the **Dayton Pride Partnership Parade** requested by **Joyce Gibbs**. All members and friends of MVUUF are encouraged to support this effort. The parade takes place May 31, 2003, at 2:00 p.m. at Cooper Park, Dayton.

The **Blood Drive** will take place at MVUUF on Sat., June 7, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. More donors are needed. Please contact **Bev Wince** if you can donate blood on that day.

The Social Concerns Committee voted to donate \$200 to the local Women's Medical Center.

The SCON committee discussed the issue of accessibility of the new building to our chemically-sensitive members. We brainstormed, searching for simple measures that could it more accessible without disturbing the move-in schedule.

Our next meeting is Friday, June 13, 2003, at MVUUF, in Room 5. Everyone is welcome to attend. We need your ideas! There will be no meeting in July, and in August (date yet to be determined) we will be meet at the Winces' to enjoy a pot luck dinner, horseshoes, croquet, and walking the labyrinth garden as well as a brief business meeting to line up our projects for the next fiscal year.

Sylvia Wince, Chair

This spring the Fellowship's Guest at Your Table campaign raised more for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee than ever before: \$1969.32. Nineteen donations totaling \$1364 qualified for a matching amount by the Shelter Rock congregation. Through the Guest at Your Table program, 32 individuals or couples became members of UUSC or renewed their membership. Many others donated to the program as well. Thanks to everyone who made this such a success!

Helping Hands

I would like to thank everyone who has helped out in the last couple of months at The Other Place. We have had a great response to a great need! Thanks to:

Linda Wysong	Suzanne Hudson
Sherry McAndrew	Lynn Buffington
Lucy Kazyak	Ellen Beck
Linda Daniel	Mary Ann Frey
Alice Lizee	Cindy Brooks
Greg Reese	Laurie Shows
Kathy Mays	Jolly Janson,
Bill Ross	Gary Courts
Ann Snively	

I'd also like to give a special thank you to those groups who came to me to ask if they could take care of main dishes and serving in April and May. In April, it was one of our **Covenant Groups**, and in May, it was the **Jr. High RE class**. Thanks so much to all of you-- I don't have a complete list of names, or I'd list you here, but you know who you are!

It was brought to my attention recently that there is still some confusion about the Helping Hands project. Helping Hands IS a part of the Social Concerns Committee. It is also a project that is solely supported by MVUUF. When we serve lunches on the 2nd Saturday of every month, it is only through the support of all of you that we are able to make that happen! Many of you receive a mailing from a group called A Small Circle of Friends. They are a separate group apart from Helping Hands, and we no longer collaborate on lunches at The Other Place. They serve on the 3rd Sunday of the month, and are not affiliated with the Fellowship. Some of our members have continued to support both groups, which is great! The more hungry people who get fed, the better. I hope this clears things up! Feel free to call me with any questions, and don't forget to sign up to help in June! Thanks!

Kate Santucci

UUSC Coffee Project

Buy your home coffee at the Fellowship! There are now 201 congregations participating in the UUSC Coffee Project, buying 10,000 pounds of fairly traded coffee in the past year. Support this important program by purchasing the coffee we **now sell** at MVUUF. Check the display table in West Room between services, contact **Bill Ross**, or check www.uusc.org

Leadership School Learnings...

Last month in this space, I wrote about group behaviors and roles that facilitate getting tasks done. That is only half of the equation when we talk about successful groups. The other half is to pay attention to the emotional aspect of the group's being together. This side of the process is often called "maintenance," because it helps maintain healthy working relationships.

Among the maintenance roles described by UU minister Lex Crane are:

Harmonizer—Explores differences and invites others to do so; mediates; strives for unity and cooperation.

Encourager—Invites others to participate; is friendly, warm, supportive, responsive to others.

Compromiser—Admits error or modifies own position to reach agreement; encourages others to modify theirs.

Expresser—Sensitive to feelings of self and others and expresses them freely; sensitive to the mood of the group and to personal relationships within the group.

Follower—Goes along with the group passively; agreeable; a listener more often than a speaker.

Observer—Watches and makes note of group process and comments on it, which enables the group to evaluate its work.

Standard Setter—Proposes standards for the group to achieve, and applies standards in evaluating the work of the group.

Tension Reliever—May defuse tension with humor or may offer a new perspective.

The balance of task vs. maintenance behaviors will obviously vary depending on the type of group. Some groups are formed to get a job done and will have a more task orientation. Others, such as a support group, may have a more emotional goal and will have more of a maintenance orientation.

But it has often been found that all types of group function better if they include at least some of each type of behavior. A Harmonizer or Compromiser may allow a task group to make a decision and proceed toward their goal. A Clarifier (from last month's list of task roles) may allow people in a more maintenance-oriented group to understand each other better and to feel they have been heard.

Just as there is room in our world for different types of people, there is room in our groups for different behaviors and roles. It may help to be purposeful about including both task and maintenance roles in groups of which you may be a part.



MidWest Leadership School is a week-long intensive training program that focuses on organizational development, UU history and worship, and personal development. Sponsored by the Heartland, Central Midwest and Prairie Star Districts

of the UUA, it takes place in July on the campus of Beloit College in Wisconsin. This year, *David Bringham* and *Rich Robinson* will attend from MVUUF, and *Barb Weber* will be on staff.

Lifespan Religious Education

Thoughts From Barb.....

What a difference a year or two make!
Recent years have been tumultuous at the Fellowship, and I want to take a moment to thank those of you who have helped us on our journey as a community during this time.

I got to tour the new building this week. I am delighted by what I saw. The move is becoming more and more real to me, and I am excited. Even before the tour, I caught myself saying things like "In our new space, we'll have..." or "In a few more months, we won't need to..." Think back to how things were a couple of years ago, when we were debating whether and where to move.

Other things have also improved. Think back to how the office was when *Vicki Schaffer* became our administrator and compare that to how things operate now that *Barbara McFarland* is about to take over. Think about the launching of Covenant Groups. Think about our amended orientation and new membership processes. Think about the way the place feels these days.

Many of you have given your heart to this place, in addition to your money, talents and energy. You have brought us through difficult times and you will guide us into the future. We are who we are, we are about to launch a new chapter in liberal religion in the Miami Valley, because of what you do. I thank you.



Barb Weber
Director Of
RE

Barb Weber

Best Choices Available Now

As always in summer, we are recruiting Youth Religious Education teachers for next fall. If you think you might be interested in helping in this way, please contact *Barb Weber* so you can have your choice of age group before the positions fill.

Each class has a well-planned curriculum, with more than enough stories, games and activities to fill the time. We provide supplies, support, and coffee. You provide a caring and fun. You don't have to provide all the answers. In fact, many people say teaching YRE is a great way to learn more about UUism and about what you think and believe.

We ask for a commitment of 13 weeks, although these do not need to be consecutive. There is a teaching team for each grade level, and these people decide among themselves what schedule works for them.

Contact *Barb Weber* with questions or to volunteer.

Summer Schedule for YRE

May 25 will be our last Sunday of the RE year and our last week of 2 sessions of YRE. Beginning with our June 1 Congregational Meeting, all young people will gather at the same time each week. On June 1, we will begin with Children's Chapel at 10:00 a.m.

On following Sundays, youth will gather on the rug upstairs at 10:00, followed by regular Sunday School classes. Because we will be combining both sessions, we will again be able to offer smaller age ranges.

Classes that are planned include:

Preschool

The Kindness Curriculum

Kindergarten/First Grade

Stories About God

Second/Third Grade

Beginning UUism

Fourth/Fifth Grade

Travel in Time

Sixth/Seventh/Eighth Grade

How Can I Know What to Believe?

As always, our young people will continue in their current grade level until the fall, when they will move up to their new grades in our new building.

Please contact *Barb Weber* if you have any questions.

Reception for New Youth Members

Some of our Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Graders who have completed the youth membership class will be joining the church on **June 8**. Please join us in a reception to celebrate these young people following the 10:00 service.

Teacher Appreciation

June 8 will mark our annual opportunity to say thank you to our hard-working YRE teachers. These folks volunteer to spend time on Sunday mornings with our young people, as well as time during the week to prepare their lessons. They are touching young lives and shaping Unitarian Universalism and our world for the future. We owe them our gratitude.

We will hold a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday May 8, before our 10:00 a.m. service. If you are interested in helping, please let *Vinnie Marshall* know.

Those who have taught and advised our Senior High Youth Group since last June are:

<i>Pam Lavarney</i>	<i>Gail Davidson</i>	<i>Rita Cyr</i>
<i>Heidi Bringham</i>	<i>Becca Robinson</i>	<i>Kate Halpin</i>
<i>Ann Mickelsen</i>	<i>Sharon Brown</i>	<i>Cathy Wright</i>
<i>Richard Donnelly</i>	<i>Carol Narigon</i>	<i>Katie Reese</i>
<i>Alysoun Reichard</i>	<i>Kate Santucci</i>	<i>Tim Zechar</i>
<i>Mary Beth Halpin</i>	<i>Rich Robinson</i>	<i>Don Kazyak</i>
<i>Mary Ellen Beardmore</i>	<i>Mark Sheehan</i>	<i>India Clark</i>
<i>Catherine Queener</i>	<i>Vinnie Marshall</i>	<i>Bonnie Davis</i>
<i>Lynn Buffington</i>	<i>Rachel Strayer</i>	<i>Kathy Malloy</i>
<i>Robin Schrimsher</i>	<i>Barb Castilano</i>	<i>Kathy Brown</i>
<i>Sheridan Kamberger</i>	<i>Sean Halpin</i>	<i>Kristi Biswas</i>
<i>Meredith Turner-Woolley</i>		

Please take time to tell these caring people that you appreciate what they do.

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists

Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU), our senior high youth group, will suspend regular meetings for the summer. They will hold some special events as the summer unfolds, so be sure to let *Barb Weber* or one of the youth advisors know if you are interested in these.

Thank you to our nursery volunteers!

Our thanks to those who spent time caring for our little ones in May!

<i>Brandon Narigon</i>	<i>Kayleigh Harvey</i>
<i>Clare Zimmerman</i>	<i>Sophie Narigon</i>
<i>Curtis Gray</i>	<i>Ruth Rowley</i>
<i>Carol Vincent</i>	

If you are interested in helping out in the nursery, please contact *Beth Farnham*.

Women's Group News

Women's Group will hold a short check-in at 9:30 before the Sunday service through the summer. An additional special activity will be planned once each month. All women are welcome to join us.

Community Class

The Community Class is a group that meets **every Sunday morning at 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.** (June, July and August) in Room 10 for fellowship and thought provoking discussion. A chance to let your hair down, speak your mind or say nothing at all, without criticism. Up close and personal. Please join us!

NOTICE OF TIME CHANGE:

During June, July and August, the Community Class meets at 9:00 a.m. instead of 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 1

"Personal Health Tips." A rare, sanctioned opportunity to talk about your aches and pains. Tell us what your doctor has prescribed, how you have successfully treated yourself, or your experience with surgery or medical testing. What doctors, drugs, books or websites do you recommend?

Moderator: Jim Faulconer

Sunday, June 8

"The Four Agreements." A discussion of the book of the same name by Don Miguel Ruiz, a shaman of the Mexican Toltec society whose goal was to explore and conserve the spiritual knowledge and practices of the ancient ones.

Moderator: Bill Ross

Sunday, June 15

"Leisure Time and Your Favorite Vacation." We'll share our experiences and memories about special trips and our most satisfying free-time activities.

Moderator: Mike O'Brien

Sunday, June 22

"Yoga - Meditation on Receiving and Giving." Our guide will share her knowledge about her new avocation.

Moderator: Nancy Stamper

Sunday, June 29

"Urban Legends." We'll explore the phenomenon first named by folklorist Jan Harold Brunvand in the 1980's in his book *The Vanishing Hitchhiker* that describes undocumented contemporary tales that are passed off as true stories.

Moderator: Tom Brown

Around The Fellowship



We are saddened by the death of MVUUF member Doris Palm, who passed away on May 13.



Vicki Shaffer displays her farewell gift. Our thanks to Gail Davidson for crafting this beautiful piece.



Lucy Kazyak attending a hike she bought at this year's service auction.



Rick Wagner performing at May Day.



Thanks to Maury Wyckoff and Joe Zimmerman for arranging tours of the new building on May 4.



Alysoun Reichard

Painless Profit for the Fellowship

Community Rewards Card available now at Meijers

It is now possible to get a Community Rewards Guest Card to use at Meijers. You will need to produce the card when you purchase items there and they will track what you spend each month, rebating a percentage to the Fellowship. The more you buy, the greater the amount the Fellowship gets.

Application forms are available at the Fellowship or you can apply on-line at Meijer.com/rewards. The Code number for the Fellowship is 662112.

We urge everyone to register. Further, you may ask friends to get cards and designate the Fellowship as the recipient of the rebates.

Even if you rarely shop at Meijers, you might have one month in which you buy a lot of items for gardening or plumbing repairs or who knows what. It would be a shame to miss getting the rebate.

As usual with our grocery fund-raisers, this costs you nothing. Please help.

Ruth Rowley

Grocery Certificates

Buy grocery certificates for shopping at Dorothy Lane Market and Krogers! You give us \$10 or \$20 and you will receive a certificate for that same amount. You lose nothing and the Fellowship has a lot to gain.

A few people buy a lot of certificates but we could increase our profit if a lot of people bought just one certificate each month.

I know many members use debit cards or credit cards which give a rebate but buying just one certificate a month would help the Fellowship.

Please give it a try.

****WE RECOMMEND THAT ALL FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES BE BROUGHT TO THE MVUUF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.****

Deadlines Approach

The deadlines for the upcoming issues of *The FORUM* are June 19 and July 17. Please submit your articles to *Laurie Shows*.

The deadline for the Sunday bulletin is one week in advance by 12:30 p.m. If you plan to use the building for any reason, please schedule with the office. Not all building use is listed in the calendar published in our newsletter. Private use, building maintenance or other unannounced events may already be scheduled. Also, please be sure you have scheduled your event on the official calendar before you begin promoting your activity.

Thanks!

Barbara McFarland, office manager

MVUUF GROCERY CERTIFICATE ORDER FORM				
<i>Dorothy Ln:</i>	\$5	\$10	\$20	Total
<i>Kroger:</i>	\$10	\$20	\$50	Total
Your Name _____	TOTAL _____			
Please make check or money order payable to: MVUF or Miami Valley Unitarian Fellowship. Send this order form along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: MVUF, 2001 Far Hills Avenue, Dayton, OH 45419				

MIAMI VALLEY UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Calendar for June 2003

Additions? Corrections? Changes?
Please notify Barbara McFarland ASAP.

*** Schedule of Regular Sunday Offerings***

9:00 a.m. Adult RE: Community Class Room 10
9:30 a.m. Women's Group

10:00 a.m. Service & Youth RE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 *See above for regular offerings* CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	2 6:45 p.m. Aikido Group	3	4	5 6:00 p.m. First Thursday Theological Society	6	7 Blood Drive 9:45 a.m. Aikido Group
8 *See above for regular offerings* 9:00 a.m. Teacher Appreciation Breakfast 11:30 a.m. Goal Setting & Program Planning Session	9 6:45 p.m. Aikido Group	10	11 10:30 a.m. MVUUF Morning Book Club 7:00 p.m. INTERWEAVE 7:30 p.m. Earth Circle	12 6:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting	13 7:30 p.m. Social Concerns Committee Meeting	14 9:45 a.m. Aikido Group 11:30 a.m. Helping Hands lunch at the Other Place 5:00 p.m. Saturday Celebration, Potluck & Music
15 *See above for regular offerings* 11:15 a.m. ORIENTATION	16 6:45 p.m. Aikido Group	17	18	19 6:00 p.m. MVUUF Board Meeting	20	21 9:45 a.m. Aikido Group
22 *See above for regular offerings* 11:15 a.m. Picture Book Read-in	23 6:45 p.m. Aikido Group	24	25	26	27	28 9:45 a.m. Aikido Group
29 *See above for regular offerings* 11:30 a.m. Young Adult Cookout at Genevieve Harvey's house	30 6:45 p.m. Aikido Group					