

Windmill

Mount Vernon Unitarian Church

To affirm and
promote the
inherent worth
and dignity of
every person

JUNE 1, 2009

... is a Welcoming Congregation. Its Mission is to inspire a transforming journey, to embrace our interconnectedness, and to build a loving community of fairness, equality and respect.

Taking Note . . .

by The Reverend Kate R. Walker



“How are you?” It’s a question we ask and are asked multiple times a day. From the cashier to a close friend, to a stranger passing on the street, or a waitress taking an order, the question pops up and is out there hanging in the air—ready to crash to the ground if there’s no answer.

Usually it’s asked with little to no thought as to the answer that’s given: “Fine,” “Good,” or “Okay.” Sometimes an unusual answer pops up: “Terrible,” “Adequate,” “Surviving,” or “Still upright.” It’s not uncommon to provide or hear a grunt of acknowledgement and little else.

I’ve become sensitive to the question, “How are you?” I don’t like asking it unless I’m serious about getting the answer. My family and friends have learned, I hope, that when I ask, I want details. I really want to know how they are! My beloved husband, after these many years of marriage, still makes me go through the dance every day: “How are you?” “Good” or “Fine” comes the reply. “Okay, now give me the details,” which I then have to pry out of him. I do try to spice it up once in a while: “Anything ridiculously dull you can’t wait to tell me?”

When people ask me, I try to be honest and not just blow off the question like the polite inquiry it’s supposed to be: “I’m dandy, thanks for asking;” or “I have no complaints today, but check with me tomorrow.” I feel for the many cashiers who have asked me this question and actually got an answer they may not have wanted. I wonder if some of the regulars at Trader Joe’s are learning to not ask me. Or maybe they hope I’ll get in their checkout line and their mundane day will shift.

Folks who ask me on Sunday morning before services are learning that I honestly don’t know how I am until services are over. I’m just so caught up in the process of creating worship that it is very difficult to take inventory of my personal status. Really, it’s that there is too much going on, and I can’t take the time to explain all the anticipation, anxiety (some anxiety is healthy), happiness at being in my professional calling, hope, and a subtle wish that this will all be over soon.

I’m not trying to be obnoxious. I’m not trying to subvert the fine subtleties of polite society. It’s my desire for honest and sincere human connection that is driving this obsession. In our fast-paced, overloaded, overfunctioning and therefore underfunctioning world, we barely take the time for checking in with our family and friends. (Facebook is not an option. See last month’s comments in the Windmill).

If we’re trying to be polite, then why don’t we actually give an honest answer to the overused question, “How are you?” If we want to know how someone is, then don’t let them slip away with “Fine. How are you?” If you don’t want to know how someone is, don’t bother asking.

Maybe together we can start a grassroots “How are you?” revolution? We don’t have to go into long dramatic monologues, or the sordid details of our personal life. That would have a rather negative effect on my goal. We just need to get past the superficial efforts at building community by asking a genuine question and looking for a genuine answer.

So, “How are you? Really.”

Cheers, ~Kate Walker

**MOUNT VERNON
UNITARIAN CHURCH**

MINISTER
The Rev. Kate R. Walker

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Program Highlights
Mark Your Calendar!

Good Companions
11:45am–12:45 pm–BYO Lunch
12:45–1:45 pm–Speaker
Hollin Hall

Tuesday, June 9—Thomas J. Hirshfeld: *Let's Stop Celebrating Diversity—Just Accept It.* Tom says the number of communities to celebrate is much larger than there is time and effort available to acknowledge them. Tom would like your views.

Tom is a long-time member of MVUC. He has had a career in the Foreign Service; he has also been a professor at the University of Texas and a senior analyst at the Rand Corp. In addition, he has enjoyed being a lecturer on many cruises. He is now on the Board of United Community Ministries.

Tuesday, June 23—MVUC Members Share: *Experiences of Islamic Marriage.*

Barbara Al-Turki will reminisce about her marriage to an Arabian businessman and living in Saudi Arabia. Barbara has two daughters who are currently living in California.

Leila Goodman will speak of her marriage to a Syrian socialist and cardiologist to the King of Saudi Arabia, who over a period of time became a strict Islamist. Leila has two sons who live in Richmond.

Leah Choudhury, who is on MVUC's staff, is married to a Bengali husband. She will discuss her challenge as a mother of two children who are growing up as Muslims in the U.S.

Pastor's Summer Schedule

The Rev. Kate Walker is attending the UUMA's Annual Meeting and the UUA's General Assembly, June 21-28, in Salt Lake City. She'll be on vacation and study leave from June 29 to August 16. If you miss her, she is presenting worship at SUUSI, in Radford, Virginia, on July 20 (for information: www.suusi.org). In case of pastoral emergency, please call the church office, 703-765-5950.

Religious Education (RE)

By Meagan Henry, Director of Religious Education (DRE)

Summer Campout on the Green Hill 3:00 pm, Friday, June 12 to 11:00 am, Saturday, June 13 In the Meadow and Hollin Hall

Pitch your tent, beginning at 3:00 pm on Friday, then join outdoor games, or just relax, before chowing down at 6:30 pm on spaghetti, garlic bread and salad. After dark, pull out your flashlight and outdoor chair for an evening around the campfire with scary stories, music, songs, and s'mores aplenty! Breakfast will be at 7:30 am, Saturday (coffee, orange juice, pancakes, and bacon) with camp breakdown by 11 am. Participate for the whole event, or come just for dinner, or join us at the campfire at dusk. The fee will be \$5 per person/\$20 per family maximum. Permission slips and designated chaperones are required for minors unaccompanied by parents. Sign up in the Commons, or contact smurphy@sentinelconsulting.com.

Summer Religious Education Program

This summer, MVUC will be using the Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church's *A World of New Friends: An Introduction to World Religions*.

Composed of nine stand-alone lesson plans, *A World of New Friends* is designed to introduce a multi-aged classroom to the eight largest world religions. Lessons are designed using a thematic approach to world religions and a center-based teaching format that uses multiple intelligence learning.

The lessons use imaginary classroom members to introduce the world religions. Each week the class will learn about a new Classroom Star. Through a show-and-tell presentation of the Classroom Star, our UU students will learn about the faith and traditions of the imaginary student, while learning the basic tenets, customs and celebrations of each faith.

The faiths included represent the world's largest formal religious groups:

1. Christianity
2. Islam
3. Hinduism
4. Buddhism

See page 4, Summer RE Program

Church Summer Service Schedule One Service Only at 10:00 am

* Nursery care is always available for children 3 and younger.

Sunday, May 31—Multigenerational Music Service

All ages attend service. No Religious Education classes.

Sunday, June 7—Volunteer Recognition Service

Children attend first portion of service for the RE teacher recognition, then go to Green Hill Project class, building scarecrows for our gardens.

Sunday, June 14—Coming of Age Service

Pre-K (with a parent) and K-4th grades meet outside the Commons after the For All Ages for the final Green Hill Project class. Older children are encouraged to attend the Coming of Age service and Senior Bridging Ceremony.

Sunday, June 21—Beginning of Summer Children's Program: *A World of New Friends*

Introduction, led by Meagan Henry

Children will go directly to class in Hollin Hall at 10:00 am for the rest of the summer. There is no For All Ages in the summer.

Sunday, June 28—Lesson 1: Sikhism; Meet Deeva Sheesh.

Sunday, July 5—Holiday Weekend, Summer Fun Activities

Seeking Summer RE Teachers

We are seeking MVUC adults to lead stand-alone lessons from *A World of New Friends: An Introduction to World Religions*, our summer RE Program. The time commitment would be a one-hour review of the lesson plan (to be e-mailed/mailed to the teacher) and the one-hour lesson itself. The volunteer teacher would work with **Jim Kerr**, the MVUC RE Assistant, to ensure the listed supplies are available. As we will be on summer hours, the volunteer would teach only one session on Sundays at 10:00 am. We can work around vacation plans. The program will run from June 28 to September 7. Please contact **Seileen Mullen Murphy** at 703-283-5130, or at smurphy@sentinelconsulting.com to volunteer.

From page 3, Summer RE Program

5. Confucianism
6. Taoism
7. Earth-Centered Religions
8. Sikhism
9. Judaism

Our classroom will contain nine imaginary children, each representing a male or female child from each of these nine religions. This “student” becomes a permanent part of the classroom and is, in turn, featured as the Classroom Star. Children will be introduced to the religion and traditions of the Classroom Star through his or her family celebrations, art, stories, games, food, and holidays. Learning centers that combine various learning styles are designed for each of the lessons. Once students have been introduced to the main theme of the lesson through the Classroom Star presentation, the students will be encouraged to move to any of the three learning centers. Typical centers might include:

The Blue Center (Verbal/Linguistic and Visual/Spatial)—Students will be encouraged to use the written word. Lesson activities will include word cards, research materials, poetry, and storytelling.

The Red Center (Bodily/Kinesthetic and Musical/Rhythmic)—This center will encourage students to learn to use sounds and rhythms. Role-playing, games, dramatics, and movement will also be used.

The Yellow Center (Logical/Mathematical)—This center will encourage scientific thinking. Some lessons will include measuring, charting, labeling and matching activities.

MVUC’s “New” Website **www.mvuc.org**

Have you had an opportunity lately to look at all the new features of our website? If not, you are missing the pleasure of viewing our changed website and seeing the fine work that our webmaster **Bill Alsmeyer-Johnson** has done. Technology has arrived at MVUC, and our website truly reflects our enhanced communications. Check it out! And be sure you watch the moving testimonials offered by some of our members.

Spring Workenanny Thanks

We had fine weather this time for the Spring Workenanny on April 19, 2009, with cool and sunny conditions. All the gardeners, forty or so Workenanny workers, appeared cheerful and happy in doing their tasks. Young RE kids removed dandelions from the Chapel lawns, while the high school group refurbished the Fire Circle. There were 42 specific tasks identified on the sign-up sheets, some of which could best use two to four people, such as pruning boxwood.

Here are some highlights of tasks completed at this Workenanny: cleared brush for a new fence at the northwest property line; installed a brick apron in the Walled Garden; repaired an in-ground hose; fixed a broken water pipe by the vegetable garden; removed an oil tank vent pipe in the kitchen garden; filled a sink depression in the Walled Garden; dug out dead boxwood plants along the McClelland walk; and removed a tangle of weed trees and brambles from far side of the meadow with our first-time-in-use weed wrench.

In addition, much was done in the perennial weeding, rose pruning, boxwood thinning, log and brush hauling and composting. At this Workenanny, for the first time, a treasure coin of one golden dollar was placed at many of the job sites for the task person to find and keep. Twenty-five new golden coins were supplied by a member of the Board of Trustees for this incentive. Not all were found, I’m sure, so it is not too late to start working and looking. **Thanks to all for jobs well accomplished.**

~Alvin Macomber

UUSJ Climate Action Public Event! **June 10, 7:30-9:00 pm** **Hollin Hall, Fireplace Room**

MVUC will host a public event to encourage and promote a tough federal policy to combat climate change. In conjunction with Mt. Vernon Citizens for Sustainable Energy, the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, neighborhood associations and interfaith groups, we will organize letter-writing campaigns, phone-calling, and neighbor-to-neighbor organizing to send a strong message to the federal government about the need for action. Point of contact: **Wendy Burns** at wdburns@erols.com.

Activities On and Off the Hill

Mark Zimmerman Selected for MVUC's Director of Music Position

The Music Search Committee, Board of Trustees, and Rev. Kate Walker are pleased to announce that Mark Zimmerman has accepted the position of Director of Music at MVUC. The Search Committee received over forty applications for the position and interviewed six outstanding candidates. Mark was the unanimous choice of the committee, and we are delighted that MVUC will continue to benefit from his skills and leadership. ~Angel Dean Collins, Thomas Griffin, Eric Pourchot, Cheryl Anderson Sabo, and Kate Walker.

Annual Recognition of Contributors

Each June, MVUC stops to recognize the contributions of our membership. The Board of Trustees is seeking *your* input about people who have helped to make our church community successful this year, recognizing that we have many, many who contribute.

Would you take a moment to let me know who helped to make our community special this year?

- The "unsung hero or heroine?"
- The outstanding new member?
- The individual or group who did what needed to be done?

The service will be June 7.

Many thanks!

~Mike Walker (walkerkoi@hotmail.com, 703-780-4370)

Travel and Work with the UU Service Committee on a Civil Rights Journey

Things may be glum in the employment sector, but the United States is experiencing a boom in community service and outreach. UUSC's Just-Works trips are transformative opportunities for people interested in human rights, grassroots activism, and community service. Freedom Summer: A Civil Rights Journey (U.S. South, July 11-18, 2009) Please e-mail Anna Bartlett for more information on either of these trips, or how to apply.

Proposed Childcare Policy

A new policy intended to ensure that childcare is available for all activities and events, and that children are cared for safely at MVUC, will be considered for adoption by the Board at their June 9 meeting. Comments are invited from members of the congregation on the draft policy, which has been reviewed by several groups, including the Religious Education Council and the Program Council. The policy:

Childcare Provided if Needed. Childcare will be provided, if needed, at church-wide events, meetings, and activities.

Providers. The Religious Education program will maintain a list of individuals who have stated their interest in working as childcare providers. The list will be available from the Director of Religious Education.

Coordinator. A volunteer childcare coordinator will be the centralized person for hiring childcare providers. Event sponsors are expected to use the childcare coordinator in order to maintain high standards. To arrange for childcare for an event, the event sponsor should contact the coordinator through the church office.

Sponsor's Responsibility. It is the event sponsor's responsibility to determine whether or not childcare is needed for a particular event, to determine how it will be paid for, to announce its availability in publicity about the event, and to notify the volunteer childcare coordinator that a provider is needed. Requests for assistance from the coordinator should be made as early as possible, but no later than a week before an event is scheduled to occur.

Payment. Childcare will be paid for either by the event sponsor—for example the Membership Development Committee, the Social Justice Council, or the Board—or by parents who make use of the childcare. The event sponsor will be responsible for setting and collecting fees and paying the provider.

Activities On and Off the Hill

Partner Church News

The first Partner Church summer brunch will be held on Sunday, June 7, after the Recognition Sunday service. Save the dates for the following two brunches, July 26 and August 30.

Three participants from MVUC will be attending the Greater Washington Area Partner Church Council trip to Transylvania in July: **Lisa Gillispie**, **Alvin Macomber** and **Meagan Henry**. We will spend three days in Szentháromság, our partner church village, as well as travel to famous sites of Unitarian heritage and historic significance.

I would be happy to take letters and/or small gifts to your scholarship student. I will be visiting the homes of all the students. This is a great opportunity to send a photo and some information about you and your family to your student and his or her family. I leave on July 9, so please put any letters in my mail slot near the office, or contact me with questions or anything you want to send.

~Lisa Gillispie

Looking through the "Green Lens"



Photos for Cap Carbon in 2009

Many of you were willing to put on a cap and hold the "Put a Cap on Carbon" sign in the past few weeks. You can see yourself and thousands of others on the website www.putacaponit.org. Thank you for your willingness to make a statement!

~Wendy Burns

Easy Green

Please use our local farmer's markets. Old Town's market operates year round on Saturday mornings. There are seasonal (May-October) farmer's markets at the Sherwood Library on Tuesday mornings, and Del Ray's is on Saturday. You will then buy fresh, locally grown produce and meats. Heavy-duty trucks used for freight transportation in the U.S. are responsible for approximately 7% of all U.S. global warming emissions, according to the Union of Concerned Scientists. But, for me, the best reward is enjoyment of the farmer's market ambiance. Just a thought! ~Wendy Burns

Inexpensive UU Vacations

Do you dream of inexpensive vacation travel to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

The UU bed-and-breakfast directory, *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*), can fulfill your dream. For 29 years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their homes to like-minded people.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory. Contact us at info@uurehome.com, or at 828-281-3253, and we will gladly send you information about listing your accommodations.

Host listings on the *UU're Home* website at www.UUreHome.com are updated whenever changes are made or new hosts are added. The paper edition is published once a year, in April. For a copy of the 2009 directory and a year's access to the website listings, please click on *Become a Member* to pay by credit card; or send a check for \$25 and your e-mail address to *UU're Home*, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, North Carolina 28806.

Escape to Vermont October 9-11, 2009

Our fifteenth annual bed-and-breakfast weekend is being offered by the UU Church of Rutland, Vermont. Enjoy the beauty of Vermont, UU hospitality, and a choice of guided activities: hiking, nature walk, kayaking, bicycling, antiques/arts, cider-making tour, soaring tour, historic-sites tour, quaint towns, and much more.

Fees for registration by August 15 are \$275 (single bed) and \$475 (double bed); after August 15, fees will be \$325 (single bed) and \$525 (double bed).

For more information, contact uufoliagevermont@yahoo.com, or 802-353-7969. For brochure/registration, contact <http://fallweekend.wordpress.com>. The UU Church of Rutland website is www.rutanduu.org

In Memoriam

Kenneth Keith Krogh

World War II bomber pilot, Agriculture Department administrator, writer, and church official **Kenneth Keith Krogh**, 87, died of bone cancer on Tuesday, May 12, at his home in Springfield, Virginia, surrounded by family. Born on a farm in Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, in 1921, he attended Iowa State University on a scholarship, and interrupted college to join the war effort. He was a B-24 pilot with the 10th Air Force in the China-Burma-India theater. Many of his missions were over the Himalayas, also known as “the hump.” He was twice awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, one for leading the longest formation combat mission of WW II.

Returning to college, he became editor of the Iowa State Daily newspaper. He also won the senior men’s honorary award as president of Cardinal Key. After graduating, he briefly taught journalism at Iowa State. In 1948, he took a position as a journalist working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Chicago. He transferred to Washington DC, in 1949, and became a speech writer for Agriculture Secretary Charles S. Brannen.

In 1952, Ken started and directed the International Trade Fairs Division of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), promoting U.S. Agricultural products in

trade fairs around the world. Later, he became the FAS Assistant Administrator for market development, supervising all its promotional activities throughout the world.

He served two terms on the Board of Trustees of MVUC, in 1959, helping to purchase the Hollin Hall estate where the church now resides, and in 1975, supervising initial preparations for the construction of a new church building on the property. He also supervised the construction of the memorial walks memorializing the deceased of the church. Another of his projects was the replacement of ornamental gates to the church’s walled gardens.

Ken was a lifelong runner and enjoyed shooting home videos. His wife of 60 years, Pat, was the light of his life. They were very active folk dancers, and organized many folk dancing activities. He is also survived by two sons and a daughter, **Kris Krogh**, of Santa Barbara, CA, **Karen Krogh** of Frostburg, MD, and **Keith Krogh** of Alexandria, VA, and three grandchildren, **Maureen, Gavin** and **Kenneth**.

The memorial service was held at MVUC on May 23. In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations be made to either MVUC or MVUC Memorial Walk in memory of Ken Krogh.

Caring Associates

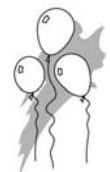
Contact information for the Caring Associate for the week and Caring Associate Coordinator (CAC) can be found each week in the Order of Service and in the Member Services area of the church website. As always, the MVUC staff and volunteers are willing to assist you during normal business hours. Please direct any questions or concerns to **Betsy Stephens** (betsys2@verizon.net) or **Meg Clontz** (megclontz@cox.net).

Easy Ways to Pay Your Pledge

There are now several new ways to conveniently fulfill your financial commitment to the church. Rather than writing checks yourself, you can authorize an amount to be taken each month from your bank account, or you can make contributions by credit card. Forms are usually available on the credenza in the Commons, but if you don’t find them there, ask the church office. We’ll gladly mail them to you.



RE Youth June Birthdays!



- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Connor Sadler | 9 Scott Henrehan |
| 4 Kiki McDonnell | 9 Pablo Ibarz |
| 5 Caroline Hayden | 22 Michael Pourchot |
| 6 Gavin Conway | 25 Ian McNamara |
| 8 Malcolm Porterfield | 28 Will Towne |
| 9 Molly Adler | 29 Ava Benbow |



OUR LARGER WORLD NEWS

Social Justice Programs at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church

Love is the teaching of this church, and service is its prayer.

Wrapping Up and Looking Ahead

It has been another busy year at our church, working diligently to leave the world a little better than we found it last year.

Joan Darrah's group continues to galvanize national efforts to repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

Jim Potter's group knows that the need for blood in hospitals is ongoing, and works year around to recruit more volunteers to donate 'life' to others.

Lisa Gillispie's group organizes fun activities to raise funds for the partner churches in Romania and India, funds that help buy school supplies for kids who cannot afford them, or fix the roof of a UU church.

Helen Lounsbury's team works to alleviate the plight of homeless people on the Route 1 corridor.

Lynn Alsmeyer-Johnson's group educates and advocates for women's right to choose, and knocks annually on the door of our legislators in Richmond, to remind them of these rights.

Dick Schaffer's team strives to enhance awareness of green life styles in church, and in our personal and professional lives.

Marybeth Bernhard's group looks ahead to organize a legislative watch and alert the congregation when legislation promoting non-UU values is imminent. Our work won us a Commendation from the Virginia legislature this year. Yes, we are busy, busy, busy—and with congregational support, we make things happen.

There is so much going on that sometimes we find it hard to choose which events and activities to attend. In addition, we receive requests from congregation members and friends:

“Does the church do anything about children at risk?”

“Can we add activities dealing with battered women?”

“We should have a green-movie series at church.”

“Can we have a racial justice talk series?”

Yes, be assured that we consider your questions and suggestions in meetings of the Social Justice Council and in smaller groups. And yes, we agree that we have a lot of work that we could do in addition to what we already have on our plates, work worthy of our social justice mission and reputation.

The reality is, however, that “the church” is you, and me, and us, and them. There is not much that any group can do without fresh enthusiasm and volunteers. As you head out for a summer break to re-energize and rest, think about your potential role in the social justice program at MVUC. There is no limit to what we can do, as long as YOU step forward to do the work. All our social justice groups are currently planning for next year. This is a good time to show your support for the continuation of what we do, by stepping forward to volunteer for a task, take the leadership in something you care about, or simply participate in our activities.

You can find information about our work on the social justice page of our website. The contact information for all our group leaders is included on the website, in the church directory, and on the bulletin board at the back of the chapel. Your Social Justice Council thanks you for your involvement to date, and hopes to have you on board next year.

Sincerely yours,

Lynn Alsmeyer-Johnson (Women's Reproductive Rights), **Marybeth Bernhard** (Civil Liberties), **Ron Brandt** (Interfaith Outreach), **Dan Cohen** (UUSC and UN Outreach), **Joan Darrah** (Repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell), **Gregg Early** (Speaker Series), **Lisa Gillispie** (Partner Churches), **Lynne Kennedy** (Publicity), **Helen Lounsbury** (Route 1), **Jim Potter** (Blood Drive), **Al Robbert** (UUSJ Outreach), **Dick Schaffer** (Green Sanctuary) and **Georgeta Pourchot** (Program Coordinator).

Annual Congregational Meeting

Approximately 100 people attended MVUC's annual congregation meeting and potluck dinner on April 26. **Rev. Kate Walker** opened with words about congregational polity. **Lauck Walton**, Board Chair presided over presentations from: Stewardship Co-Chairs **Jim Potter** and **Jamie Barnett** on the pledge drive status; **Al Robbert**, Finance Committee Chair on the proposed operating budget for the 2009-2010 church year; and Nominating Committee Chair **Marty Hayden**, who presented the following slate of nominees:

- Board of Trustees:

1. **Jamie Barnett** – 3-year term
2. **Dan Cohen** – 3-year term
3. **Lisa Gillispie** – 3-year term
4. **Ian Anderson**, Youth Representative

- Program Council:

1. **Vince Patton** – Sunday Services
2. **Ron Brandt** – Administration

- Nominating Committee:

1. **Tom Griffin**
2. **Paula Mathis**
3. **Ken Pilkenton**
4. **Deborah Hansell** (one year to fill a vacancy)

The slate of nominees was **unanimously accepted by the congregation.**

Georgia Pourchot, Program Council coordinator for Our Larger World, presented four Social Justice Task Force initiatives for congregational reauthorization:

1. Civil Liberties and Actions of Immediate Witness, led by **Mary Beth Bernhard**.
2. Social Action on Route 1, led by **Helen Lounsbury**.
3. Women's Reproductive Rights, led by **Lynn Alsmeyer-Johnson**.
4. Green Sanctuary, led by **Dick Shaffer**.

The four initiatives were **unanimously approved by the congregation.**

Lauck presented two proposed revisions in the Bylaws, as recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Revision 1: Change the provisions in articles 6.02, 8.04, and 8.05 referring to beginning of terms of office from *upon election at the Annual Meeting* to *July 1*.

–Purpose: Make terms of office of Board, Program Council, and Nominating Committee begin on July 1 rather than immediately following the Annual Meeting.

–Rationale: Have terms of office coincide with the fiscal year to provide a smooth transition, especially if newly-elected officials are invited to attend May and June meetings as non-voting observers.

Revision 1: Approved

Revision 2: Delete from the Definitions section the description of “a detailed budget” defined as “a list of anticipated revenues and expenditures, *including salaries and benefits to be paid to each employee.*”

–Purpose: Remove the requirement that individual salaries and benefits of each staff member be published and mailed to the congregation.

–Rationale: The congregation delegates responsibility for details of church management to the Board. Salary and benefits information will be provided to any member of the congregation who wants it, but need not be mailed to everyone.

Revision 2: Not Approved. Several members expressed concerns about transparency and felt this motion should be tabled.

After the formal part of the meeting, the floor was opened to congregants to express their joys or concerns about MVUC. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

(Note: This summary has been prepared from the meeting minutes submitted by **Birgit Robbert**, Board Secretary. For further details and to review the proposed budget, see MVUC website www.mvuc.org.)

Sermons for Your Re-Hearing

Each Sunday's service is recorded and available on CD. If you would like a copy, please speak with **Raleigh Romine** or **Joanne Ell**.

A Month of Sundays

*Services at 10:00 am
in the Remington Chapel*

June 7

Recognition Sunday

Mike Walker

June 14

Coming of Age Service

MVUC Youth

June 21

Images of Fatherhood

Rev. Kate R. Walker

June 28

Calculating God

Alan Bunner

**Mt. Vernon
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