



# Windmill

## Mount Vernon Unitarian Church

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

March 1, 2011

*... MVUC is a loving and inclusive community. Our mission is to encourage one another on our spiritual journeys and to work together to build the common good.*

### *Taking Note . . .*

by The Reverend Kate R. Walker



I'm not a Luddite, but I do have a tendency to resist the latest and greatest new technology. By the time I bought a CD player, they were not only cheap, they were being replaced by the next big music technology, something that had me wishing I had invested in Apple.

I bought my first personal computer in 1995 for \$200. It was an original IBM desk top, complete with a dot matrix printer. In case you're wondering, yes, that was before Windows. Let's just say my next computer was an Apple, and that's been my comfort zone ever since. Apparently I have invested in Apple, just not in their stock.

I finally gave into peer pressure and signed up on Facebook in the summer of 2009. I was convinced to take the plunge by one of our church members who is far wiser than I when it comes to techno babble. He showed me Facebook is another tool for my ministry. I can reach out to whole new generations, above and below my middle age range.

It seems there are many who are fearless of technology, or at least recognize the future is in the present, and it's better to step up to greet it than to get hit by a revolution that leaves you unemployed. I've recently heard about a certain 30-year dictator who experienced just this phenomenon. He didn't embrace the latest technology such as Facebook and Twitter, and he is now reading the want ads, probably on an old-fashioned newspaper printed on actual paper.

Speaking of which, I've recently been thinking of switching my newspaper subscription from my life-long familiar routine of front door delivery to opening up my always-at-my-side laptop (yes, it's a MacBook). But it's the tactile experience that I know I'll miss. The feel of the newsprint is

particularly precious to me as a former newspaper journalist. I love the smell of a printing press.

The tactile experience is also why I resisted Facebook. I prefer looking people in the eye in person rather than at their photo (or their dog's photo). I prefer hearing their voice and shaking their hand, or giving a real hug rather than sending an electronic emoticon hug (I don't actually know how to do that).

A recent study found that a group of seniors who spent an hour a day researching on Google—some of whom had never used the internet before—had increased blood flow in the parts of their brains responsible for decision-making and memory. The results validated that seeking out new ideas and interests helps keep the brain stimulated and healthy. I suspect learning to play chess will have the same effect.

The good news is that I'm keeping my brain engaged, and accepting new technology, at my own pace. I don't see myself Twittering at any point in the near future. And, I have resisted starting a blog. However, I'm proud to say I never bought an 8 Track player or cassette player! Just in case you did, you can sell them on eBay. That's on the internet, in case you're wondering.

The future may be upon me, but I'll step forward when and where I choose. After all, I've recently learned it's good to avoid a revolution in my front yard, and I want to stay employed.

Cheers, Kate R. Walker

(P.S.: Feel free to friend me on Facebook, and send me a emoticon hug.)

Rev. Kate R. Walker

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~ ~ ~

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Please e-mail articles to [newsletters@mvuc.org](mailto:newsletters@mvuc.org).

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## **Program Highlights Mark Your Calendar!**

### **Wednesday Fellowship**

Wednesday, March 2

Dinner 6:00 pm, Vespers 7:00 pm

See page 5

### **Lunch with a Book**

Sunday, March 13, 12:45 pm

Noodles & Company

See page 6

### **Good Companions**

Tuesday, March 15

Lunch 12:00, Speakers 1:00

Hollin Hall Dining Room

See page 5

### **Annual Lasagna Dinner and Variety Show**

Saturday, March 19, Dinner 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Variety Show to Follow

Meeting House



## Lifespan Spiritual Growth By Megan Henry, Director

“Participating in a religious community can help parents reinforce the values they want to teach their children in part because those values are perceived as more important if they are backed up by a group—particularly one with a strong tradition behind it. There is also a strong sense of comfort and security which comes from being in a place and belonging to a group where there is a shared belief in core values.” – Michelle Richards

Dear Friends,

We are officially halfway through the Children’s Religious Education year.

**Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade** continues with Holidays and Holy Days. In March, they will celebrate Mardi Gras, Henry Burgh Day, No Ruz, and Africa Day.

We’ve begun the second session of Tapestry of Faith classes in our 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades.

The **2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade** curriculum is “Love Will Guide Us.” In this program, participants learn to seek guidance in life through the lens of our Unitarian Universalist Sources, with an emphasis on love. Participants learn that asking questions is valued in Unitarian Universalism, even as they begin to shape their own answers.

The **4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade** curriculum is “Toolbox of Faith” in which participants are invited to reflect on qualities of our Unitarian Universalist faith, such as integrity, courage and love, as tools they can use in living their lives and building their own faith.

Our **Jr. Youth Group** continues to explore Unitarian Universalism; its historical foundations, various spiritual practices, social justice and church polity, through their curriculum, “Compass Points.” The success of this class is due to the dedication of their teachers who continue to work as a team to provide a well-rounded experience for this age group.

By the time you read this, **YRUU** (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades) will have shared their annual worship service with the congregation. This year’s theme was “Keep Fear Sane” and was inspired by the Rally to Restore Fear/Sanity on the National Mall last Fall. The Youth worked hard to put together their service. Every year I am thankful for this gift from them.

*~Megan Henry, Director of Lifespan Spiritual Growth*

### **March Youth Birthdays**

Ben Roberts	March 4
Travis Lane	March 7
Lila Reidy	March 12
Gary Dye	March 16
Lilith Mizoe	March 21
Jason Venzke	March 27
Helen Kitrosser	March 29
Alice Thompson	March 30

### **KUDOS!**

Penelope Fleming is one of the dedicated people who continually go above and beyond in their efforts for the community. If Penelope says she will do something, you can rest assured she will do it on time (if not early) and better than you thought it could be done. For example, Penelope had the great idea to integrate the worship theme of the month into the Children’s RE classes, so she is researching UU quotes and choosing ones for the teachers to use in their classes on Sunday mornings. This is a wonderful addition to our program. Thank you for this and all you do, Penelope!



## Monthly Worship Theme

### GENEROSITY

Gregory Payne III was cleaning up his grandmother's backyard in Richmond, Indiana last spring. He noticed a pile of folders on the side of the highway adjacent to her property. He opened the folders and discovered \$1,400 in cash along with several documents. They belonged to a local charity. He told his grandmother, and the two of them contacted the agency to return the folders, including the cash. The folders had been stolen from a safe. What impressed the CEO of the agency was that Gregory Payne III was seven years old and already so generous.

At what age does generosity start becoming a part of who we are as moral and ethical people? What causes us to stop being generous? And why do we stop expecting others to be generous, even a seven year old? Are your expectations low for your own generosity? How about for others to be generous?

Some of the questions we'll ponder this month.

Cheers, Kate Walker

## Monthly Worship Services

### ***Sunday, March 6 "If I had a Million Dollars" The Rev. Kate R. Walker***

The theme of the month is generosity, so we'll ask is it spiritually and emotionally healthy to be generous?

### ***Sunday, March 13 "Can People Change?" The Rev. Kate R. Walker***

The answer to this question is not as clear as ministers and therapists would like to believe.

### ***Sunday, March 20, "Super-Size It" The Rev. Kate R. Walker***

The American mentality tends toward bigger is better, from houses to cars and serving sizes at our favorite restaurant. What about churches? What about Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church?

### ***Sunday, March 27, Partner Church Sunday, Dick and Sharon Van Duizend, "Where in the World Are Our Partners?"***

Dick Van Duizend chairs the board of the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council (UUPCC). He and his wife Sharon recently took a trip to Indonesia,

where they visited the Unitarian Christian Church of Indonesia in Semarang, a city in central Java. They are members of the Fairfax UU Church.

## Question Box Sunday Leftovers From August 8, 2010

### **Q. How should I tolerate (love) those acting out of intolerance?**

A. With patience and intentional love for he or she is a human being with inherent worth and dignity.

### **Q. What is God? And where does God live? (Please direct your answer to a young child, excited to discover this world).**

A. The age of our children is critical in how we respond to theological questions. Developmentally, children change several times between birth and young adult, and even some more after that. I preached about this on Nov. 7, "Faith-A-Leaping." The short answer is to keep answers simple and concrete until they're old enough to think in abstract concepts. Then encourage the questions and resist absolutes; that's what makes us religious liberals.

An example for a young child is: "I believe God is with us when you and I spend happy time together." Or "God is being nice to a friend." Or "God is a beautiful day." Or "God is a warm wind on a cold winter day."

### **Q. Do you think UUs—especially the many UUs who left Christian denominations—are generally able to see Christians and their faith as equals, or do you think UUs tend to have a condescending view of Christianity?**

A. I know many UUs who see Christians as equals. I also know many who struggle with Christianity and subsequently Christians. The difference I've observed is whether the person has spent time reflecting on their own beliefs, and then being at peace with their beliefs and those of others. We tend to judge others more readily than we judge ourselves because it's easier.

### **Q. If Misty's pic is in the directory, is she a Unitarian Universalist? Do you know that animals grieve?**

A. I prefer not to assume what is someone's faith, so I'd have to ask Misty, who may very well decline to answer. Most animals prefer not to share this information. And, yes, I know animals grieve. It's something we share in common.

## On and Off the Hill

### Musical Notes from Mark Zimmerman, Director of Music



The Choir will be singing for the March 13 memorial service for Leila Goodman. Leila was a longtime member of the choir, past chair of the Music Committee, and well known for organizing many wonderful concerts to generate monies toward the purchase of our lovely grand piano. We are currently doing regulation, cleaning and casework on the piano, as well as buying new heavy protective covers. Leila's sons suggest if you wish to make a donation to this work in memory of Leila, please indicate MVUC Piano Maintenance Fund.

CAN YOU IMAGINE THE BEAUTIFUL SOUND OF 225 UNITARIAN SINGERS? Come enjoy this first ever treat for the Washington area and JPD. Our choir proudly joins this project on Saturday, March 26 at 2:00 pm at UUC of Arlington. Come join us for this free hour of music and worship. Carpooling and early arrival recommended.

We warmly welcome Ms. Yee Von Ng back to the piano at MVUC. She took a long overdue trip to visit her family in Malaysia to celebrate Chinese New Year.

Look for our new "Family Choir" to sing this spring. Children and parents sing together with easy melodies and limited rehearsals. It will be great fun. Hope your family can join us!

I would like to thank Annie Montanari and Gertrude Kornfeld for giving seed money to start our Piano Maintenance Fund. They each made generous \$1,000 donations. Annie's gift is in honor of her mother, Sally Montanari, and is given as matching donations for every \$100 gift.

### ***Green Fair, Sunday March 20***

To get an early jump on spring planting this year, the Green Sanctuary task force will be hosting a Green Fair on March 20 with exhibits and demonstrations after both services. You can find out more about this on the Green Sanctuary Task Force page on the church website at <http://mvuc.org/pages/Green-Sanctuary.html>. Questions? Call Bill Alsmeyer-Johnson, at 703-294-6556.

### ***GOOD COMPANIONS***

***Hollin Hall Dining Room & Fireplace Room  
12:00 - 1:00 BYO lunch, 1:00 - 2:00 - Speaker  
Tuesday, March 15, 2011***

#### ***CARL LOHMANN:***

#### ***"HIGH POINTING IN THE UNITED STATES"***

Carl will present another of his adventures with photos and discussion of the hobby of "high pointing" or seeking to reach the highest point in each state. Driving, walking, hiking, and climbing, he has reached the highest point in most states. He will share the enjoyment and excitement of traveling the country, meeting many "locals" and experiencing the "great outdoors."

Carl Lohmann has been a member of MVUC for more than 30 years and has served on the Board of Trustees. He sings in the choir and has been an RE teacher for both middle and high school youth. He particularly enjoys hiking, canoeing, and kayaking, and has led church outings to Old Rag Mountain and Mason Neck State Park.

### ***Wednesday Fellowship March 2, 6:00 - 9:00 pm***

The Irish know how to have a good time. So if you enjoy an Irish-style celebration, join us at our Wednesday Fellowship on March 2 for an evening of food and fun the Irish way. Our main dishes will include corned beef and cabbage, and potato leek soup for vegetarians. Dinner is from 6:00 - 7:00 pm, followed by a Vespers service led by Rev. Kate Walker from 7:00 - 7:30 pm in the Fireplace Room of Hollin Hall. The choir will rehearse in the chapel at 7:30 pm. Dinner is \$7/person, maximum \$21/family. Child care is \$5/family, and is available upon request. Please sign up in the Commons, especially if you need child care. For more information, contact Sandy Galletta, [gallettas4@verizon.net](mailto:gallettas4@verizon.net).

P.S. Wearing of the green is encouraged but not required.

### ***Annual Book and Art Sale March 24 - 26***

Volunteers are needed to help set up, cashier, and clean up. If you are available to cashier on Thursday afternoon, or Friday or Saturday morning or afternoon, call Dotty Ann McClelland at 703-768-9223. If you are available to move books from the basement

on Sunday, March 20 during the first service or after the second service, call Sandy Peterson at 703-768-2565. Also call Sandy if you can move boxes from Hollin Hall to the Meeting House on Monday evening. Volunteers are needed during the day on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday to set up both buildings. Many volunteers are needed on Saturday March 26 at 3:00 pm to clean up both buildings. Please let Sandy know when you will help.

Profits from the sale go to the operating budget! The sale is not possible without lots of volunteer help. Joan Wamsley, 703-451-3027.

## ***Lunch with a Book***

The March Lunch with a Book will be Sunday, March 13 at 12:45 pm at Noodles & Company. Please join us as we discuss the award winning novel *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson. Winner of numerous awards, the book is about a man reflecting on his past. Please join us as we discuss the book written by one of Norway's best fiction writers.

For more information please contact Louise Werner-Rhoades at [louron13@cox.net](mailto:louron13@cox.net) or at 703-619-1369. As always you don't have to have read the book to attend.

## ***Community Health Screenings***

Life Line Screening will be offered March 28 at MVUC. Sign up for preventive health screenings for early detection of vascular diseases that increase risk for heart disease, stroke and osteoporosis. Sign up by calling 1-800-324-1851 (code HSC3549) or contact Nancy Fox at [nancyefox@verizon.net](mailto:nancyefox@verizon.net) or 703-780-3815.

## ***Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly 2011***

Each year, thousands of Unitarian Universalists attend our General Assembly (GA) to discuss our faith and its future. This year, GA will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina from June 22-26.

If you attend, you'll experience wonderful and uplifting worship services—led by some of the UUA's best worship leaders, with glorious music and inspiring messages. You'll hear terrific speakers and there will be hundreds of entertaining programs and informative workshops. Based on our total membership, MVUC is entitled to send seven delegates this year. Delegates

must pay for their own transportation and lodging. But the good news is the Susan B. Anthony Fund will pay the registration fee of \$315. If you are interested in being a delegate, please contact Lisa Gillispie, [lisagillispie@earthlink.net](mailto:lisagillispie@earthlink.net), prior to March 3, so that the Board of Trustees, in accordance with the bylaws, may appoint our GA delegates at our March Board meeting.

For more information please go to: <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/>

## ***MVUC Greenhouse News***

We are preparing for our annual Spring Plant Sale which starts the last weekend in March in conjunction with the Book Sale. Our sales continue each Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm until Memorial Day. If you enjoy gardening, your help would be greatly appreciated with planting seeds, tending seedlings, transplanting, sales and by making plant purchases. We also have a perennial garden that needs attention. Many thanks to Ron Kellis for making shelving improvements and electrical repairs to our beautiful but aged Lord and Burnham greenhouse. If you would like to join in the fun, please call 703-360-7152 or email [maryabarnett@gmail.com](mailto:maryabarnett@gmail.com).

Mary Barnett

## ***Help with the Grounds!***

Please join us on Thursdays to prune boxwood, pick up debris, trim plants, and generally work to spruce up the grounds, starting on March 3 about 10:00 am. Anyone who is in the "Holy Order of Boxwood Pickers" is already trained. But we welcome anyone who is willing to help! Stay an hour or two and have lunch with us and the Every Thursday Group if you can. Call Birgit Robbert (703-299-9892) or Wendy Burns (703-780-3204) with questions.

## ***Unitarian Universalist History***

March 2, 1401. The English Parliament passed a law on the burning of heretics, condemning heretics to death at the stake. It was the first law in England regulating dissenting religion. Even after the law was abolished in 1677, it was a criminal offense to hold Unitarian views on worship. The penalties were not usually enforced.

March 7, 1844. The Dissenters' Chapels Act was introduced in English Parliament, aimed at giving Unitarians legal rights to their church property. An important step in religious freedom, it passed on a vote of 202 to 41.



**Social Justice Programs at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church**  
*Love is the teaching of this church, and service is its prayer.*

***Fragile Babies: Ethical Considerations  
 and Social-Political Implications***  
***Second Roundtable on Fresh Perspectives on  
 Reproductive Rights***

Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 - 9:00 pm,  
 Fireplace Room, Hollin Hall

Please join Dr. Rahbar, head of the Newborn Nurseries at Howard University Hospital, for a discussion of aspects surrounding fragile, small infants. He will address questions such as: How are fragile babies treated? What are the ethical dilemmas for parents and physicians? What supports are available to them? What are the national and international social-political implications of births of fragile babies?

Sponsored by the Social Justice Council. For more information, contact Georgia Pourchot, [gpourchot@yahoo.com](mailto:gpourchot@yahoo.com), or Eva Molnar, [evamolnar@aol.com](mailto:evamolnar@aol.com).

***Easy Green***

I recently had great experiences with both Staples and Best Buy. MVUC needed to get rid of a number of old computers that were no longer operable, and other electronics that had once served us well. We took a station wagon full of computer parts to Staples, and we paid \$10/monitor. They graciously took all our "stuff" and assured me that they are being responsibly recycled in the US. Then, I filled the station wagon again and took the electronics to Best Buy. They welcomed me, and assured me that they would be recycled in the US, and only charged me for the TV (\$10).

I am happy to report that each store was true to its word/website and recycled everything in a responsible way. I find that quite exciting and quite a shift from just a few years ago when

stores were unwilling to take responsibility for all the "stuff" they sold.

Al Erickson made sure that all hard drives were erased and all needed files had been copied to other computers. He also helped Dorothy and me sort all kinds of parts that had been here for centuries (I have been known to exaggerate, but not much)! And, thanks to Jim for collecting an amazing assortment of other electronics that surfaced from who knows where (I don't think we want to know). They certainly haven't seen the light of day or been used in eons! Norman, Dorothy, Leah, Birgit, and I were the movers.

I am thrilled to see the change of attitude in some stores! And, thanks to all of you who helped with this venture!

Just a thought ~ Wendy

***Partner Church Dinner***

The Partner Church Committee will be having its annual Partner Church Dinner on Sunday, March 27 at 5:30 pm. Enjoy homemade Indian and Hungarian food and a selection of Hungarian and Romanian wines. Lisa Gillispie will be sharing a program on her recent trip to India, on the continent and with our partner church in NE India in the Khasi Hills. We will also have a display about our partner churches and share letters from the children of the Mawlat Unitarian School.

Adults, \$20, children under 6 pay their age. The dinner benefits our partner churches in Transylvania and NE India.

## Church Life

### *From Your Intern, Kären Rasmussen The Fullness of Ministry*

It's an interesting transition from being a seminarian and studying ministry to actually living it. For those folks whose idea of heaven is reading, researching and pouring all of their deep thoughts into papers, seminary is just the place for them. There are people who are actually sad when they graduate!

For those like me, who like the "doing" more than the studying, I couldn't wait to get started. I don't know how many professors and mentors have told me "be patient, the ministry will be there." Patience is not one of my virtues.

But what goes into a day of ministry? I have to chuckle when I hear people muse that there might actually be time to read and write and ponder deep questions. I'm learning the days of a minister go by in a flash. Well, actually a blur sometimes.

There are so many emails to read and respond to, phone calls to make and return, meetings to prepare for and attend, budgets to get ready, policies to review, furnaces to get working, classes to teach and newsletter articles to write. Whew!

The hours speed by and there doesn't seem to be a second to spare some days. There are also the mundane parts of life that every person tends to. Like fitting in a haircut or getting the oil in your car changed. Days or even hours off are precious and a date night with your partner is balanced between even more emails and actually preparing for worship.

I bet many of your lives are like this too. The everyday things of everyday life just seem to race by.

But then in this blur...it hits. This vocation is glorious and wonderful. A service that seems to touch people makes the memory of your in box fade. The honor of being present with someone when they need it most supersedes all else. The joy of seeing a child's eyes light up during story time in a service is fabulous. Watching a beautiful sunset from the steps of Hollin Hall is spiritual.

These are the things that make me smile and say, "Ah, thank you for the privilege to serve."

## *New Church Administrator Hired*

We are delighted to welcome Carol Tyrance Graves as our new Church Administrator, starting February 28. We had applications from several highly qualified candidates, but Carol was our unanimous first choice. We are confident that she has the right experience, expertise, leadership skills, and personality to excel as our new Church Administrator.



In the last fifteen years, Carol has managed the business, administrative and financial affairs of two churches (Saint Luke's Episcopal Church and Trinity Episcopal Church, both in Northwest Washington, DC), two for-profit organizations, and one non-profit organization. She has a Bachelor's degree in Economics and a Master's degree in Administration from the University of Maryland. Carol said of MVUC, "I sincerely believe that Mount Vernon Unitarian Church is a place where I can use my experiences, knowledge and skills to make a contribution." Carol and her husband, Willie, live in Mitchellville, MD. She has a daughter, Erika, who lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Birgit Robbert, Kate Walker, Marty Hayden and Joan Darrah, Church Administrator Search Committee

Note: Rev. Kate and Joan Darrah, BOT Chair, express their sincere appreciation to Ron Brandt, Al Erickson and Birgit Robbert for all of their hard work during the Church Administrator transition.

### *More Unitarian Universalist History*

March 8, 1874. U.S. President and Unitarian Millard Fillmore died at age 74.

March 11, 1965. James Reeb, a Unitarian minister died in Selma, Alabama, after a civil rights march. Two days earlier, segregationists attacked him and two other ministers. He was one of 125 Unitarian Universalist ministers who answered Martin Luther King's call to march in support of civil rights for black Americans.

March 25, 1965. Viola Fauver Gregg Liuzzo was murdered in Selma, Alabama. She was 39 years old and a member of the Unitarian Church of Detroit. She was in Alabama to participate in the freedom march between Selma and Montgomery.



## From Our Board of Trustees Joan Darrah, Chair

I am thrilled that Carol Tyrance Graves has joined the MVUC staff as our Church Administrator. She brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise and an in-depth understanding of the requirements of the position. (Please see article on previous page). Thanks and well done to the Search Committee. I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to Ron Brandt, Al Erickson and Birgit Robbert for all of their extra hard work during the transition.

Once again, we are so very fortunate that the Susan B. Anthony Fund, using the proceeds from the extremely successful Holiday Shop, is funding some much needed items, including 64 new teal hymnals (including two large print and two Braille); installation of an outlet in the circle garden in front of Hollin Hall; some major playground improvements and the purchase and planting of six Kwanzan cherry trees for the lower walled garden.

The Membership Development Committee proposed an amendment to the bylaws establishing an **annual contribution of record to the general operating fund** as a requirement of church membership, with provisions for a waiver for special circumstances. The present requirements for membership include: being 15 years of age or older; being in sympathy with the church's purpose and programs; and signing the membership book. It is further stated that members are expected, as they are able, to support the church financially, but this is not a requirement. One of the biggest pluses for a contribution of record is that it makes it much easier for the membership committee to determine who is actually a member for reporting and dues paying purposes to JPD and UUA. The Board has approved the recommended amendment and it will be on the agenda for the May 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

As you have seen, work continues on converting the meeting house to geothermal solar energy and our contractor, Shenandoah Sustainable Technologies, is confident that the project will be completed by the end of March. In the meantime, the grounds are a bit of a mess, especially by the Memorial Walks, but this will all be seeded/sodded and put back to its pre-digging condition once the project is finished. As Wendy Burns said, "Everyone in the Memorial Walks would be delighted at what is going on around them."

Finally, in March, we will have our Spring Stewardship campaign. The Board is especially appreciative of those who are already Fair Share givers and/or who significantly adjusted their 2010-11 pledges during the Revisit campaign. We are asking everyone else to reexamine the importance of MVUC in your life and your level of financial support to see if you can increase your pledge for 2011-12. As most of you know, it takes over \$600,000 to run and maintain our church, pay our exceptional staff, and provide our high quality programs each year. Although we are moving in the right direction, we are still a little too reliant on the income that comes from our property rental. Our stewardship pledges currently pay for about 75% of our expenses. UUA guidelines recommend that this be 80%. So, if you are willing/able to increase your pledge the Board thanks you in advance.

With love, respect and appreciation, Joan

## ***Sermons for Your Re-Hearing***

Each Sunday's service is recorded and available within a few days on the MVUC web site ([www.mvuc.org](http://www.mvuc.org) - worship/sermons) The services are also available on CD; If you would like a copy, please speak with **Raleigh Romine**.

### **A Month of Sundays**

***Two services at 9:15 am and  
11:15 am unless otherwise  
noted***



***Sunday, March 6***  
*"If I had a Million Dollars"*  
*The Rev. Kate R. Walker*

***Sunday, March 13***  
*"Can People Change?"*  
*The Rev. Kate R. Walker*

***Sunday, March 20***  
*"Super-Size It"*  
*The Rev. Kate R. Walker*

***Sunday, March 27***  
*"Where in the World Are Our  
Partners?"*  
*Dick and Sharon Van Duizend*

See Page 4 for Sermon  
Descriptions

**Mount Vernon  
Unitarian Church**  
*1909 Windmill Lane  
Alexandria, VA 22307*

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Alexandria, Virginia  
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### **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, MVUC staff and volunteers are willing to assist you during normal business hours. Please direct any questions or concerns to Betsy Stephens [betsys@cox.net](mailto:betsys@cox.net).

### **Reminder to All MVUC Email Users**

To receive emailed newsletters, weekly bulletins, and special notices, please notify Esther Dickinson if your email address changes, [esthergertrude@verizon.net](mailto:esthergertrude@verizon.net).

***Thank you!***