**Summary of Sunday Services**

**10:30 AM**

**Sunday, June 2**  
Exploring OUUr Faith: Religious Exploration Celebration  
Amy Randall, RE Teachers, Children and Youth

We will take a look back at this year's lifespan program - Exploring OUUr Faith. We will share the discovery of what has been learned and honor those who worked to make it successful. Make sure you join us for the picnic following the service.

**Sunday, June 9**  
Community, Canticles and Celebration!  
Rev. Pratima Dharm  
Worship Associate: Chris Sanchez

“Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.” The words of Marcel Proust inspires us to experience ‘Joy and Gratitude in Community’ at Monte Vista through reflections, poetry, words, music and food! Rev. Dharm will lead this service and it will be held outside on the patio. Please bring a food item to share with others in the community.

**Sunday, June 16**  
Choir Sunday  
Jamal Carter and Jeanne Coates

Listen, laugh, cry and tap your toes as the choir sings a beautiful and fun selection of their favorite songs.

**Sunday, June 23**  
An Attack on Women’s Rights  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Ellen Livingston  
Worship Associate: Catherine Rowlee

Recently, several state legislatures have passed bills that severely restrict women's rights to their bodily autonomy. Reverend Livingston will speak about what this means to us as unitarian universalists and what we can do to help women who live in those states.

**Sunday, June 30**  
Litha  
Jeanne Coates and CUUPS

Join us as we learn about and celebrate Litha, the summer solstice.
Rev. Pratima Dharm’s Message

I have always been struck by the wisdom of Confucius’s words! He wrote, “By three methods we may learn wisdom: first, by reflection, which is noblest; second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest.” Personally, I have mostly learned my life’s lessons through experience and sometimes (I confess) with little time for reflection (for I was busy ‘living life!’). And of course, being born under the peculiar set of stars that had me all too proud to imitate anyone else but to chart my own course in life, ‘experience’ it was and has been for me for the most part!

Most probably, Confucius was speaking from his own perspective and really what worked for him! So the question to ask ourselves is: how does ‘anything’ work for us today? I believe, that if something is well worth believing or doing but does not work for us, where is the wisdom in following it? It requires a great deal of wisdom in dropping something that may sound great on paper but is a total failure when put into practice in our own lives...so wisdom lies in engaging life with the variables present in our own lives without the need to compare it to others or imitate someone else. For modelling someone else, certainly does not help us arrive at our own answers.

If remodeling a house, buying a fancy car, vacationing whenever one feels like it or living in an expensive house works for the neighbor, or someone else, it may not work for you depending on all the variables present in your own life. So wisdom lies in daring to make our own mistakes, learning from them...and also having the courage to accept what our own hard work, mistakes and particular life variables bring as gifts to us! May we go forward, trusting our own selves, our own sense and insights to live a life uniquely our own, where the power to choose is always ours.

Blessings and Love,
Rev. Pratima Dharm

President’s Message

Beloved MVUUC CommUUnity,

We’re in the process of forming a new budget based on your pledge cards, so please submit them as soon as you’re able. They can be handed to any board member, or placed in the slotted box mounted to the wall by the administrative office door. A culmination of our pledge drive is set for Saturday, June 8, 5:30 PM, with a free spaghetti dinner, and some great entertainment. My son, Benny Chadwick, who performs on cruise ships in a tribute band as Paul McCartney, has agreed to play. To quote Lennon-McCartney, "Having been some days in preparation a splendid time is guaranteed for all..." (From *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club
Band* album - "Being for the Benefit of Mr. Kite".) There'll be some fun activities, some pleasant company, nicely priced wine and beer, plus scrumptious dessert. Please plan to attend.

We had a lovely flower ceremony with a new twist - we were invited to make the flowers and ornament a "sticker bush" in the front of the sanctuary, in keeping with a story shared by Amy Randall. The tale was reminiscent of the familiar "Stone Soup" fable, but with neighbors brightening a child's garden by bringing rose bushes to place beside the plant she'd nurtured that was unable to bloom.

With lots of graduations and transitions, we're looking forward to a busy summer. I think a Summer Solstice Party would be a good idea for the coming month. Bring your ideas to share for a celebration. Thanks to all of you who turn up here with your enthusiasm and kind hearts. You have the garden blooming in all seasons.

Lots of Love,
Cynthia Allaire, MVUUC Board President

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Annual Stewardship Dinner

We Give A Hoot!
We Care, So We Pledge!

The Annual Stewardship Dinner is **Saturday, June 8th.**
**Doors open at 5:30 PM**
at MVUUC, 9185 Monte Vista Avenue, Montclair, CA 91763

We’ll have spaghetti, salad, and dessert with an evening of wine and song.
Dinner is free and the wine is modestly priced!

Please let us know if you’ll be joining us, so we can prepare.
Please contact officeadmin@montevistauu.org with your reservation.

Pledging makes it so we can budget for the coming year to have a thriving congregation.

Immediately after the service on Sunday, June 9th is the annual meeting to select representatives for the congregation and to vote on the budget.
Thank you for your participation!

Cynthia Allaire
President, Board of Trustees

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**RE**  flections

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**Summer**

Sweet as a berry
Summer is merry
Popsicles and lemonade
A memory that will never fade
Vacations and going to the pool
Of course Summer has one rule
Always have FUN
Out in the sun

*Author: L. Farrington*

Can you believe that Summer is about here? It is the time to learn new things and have fun. Our Children’s Religious Exploration Summer Program is called *YoUU Make It!*

We are going to be making all types of things this summer. Some of the projects will be one-week projects, and others will be ongoing projects for several weeks.

The activities include:
- Building a kid hang-out
- Creating fairy/elf gardens
- Weaving
- Constructing Lego Chalices
- Assembling Bird Feeders
- Bubblicious Pictures
- Many More........

Bring your children and bring their friends, so they can have an amazing experience this summer!

Faithfully Yours,
"The Mountains are Calling - And I Must Go!" - John Muir

UU Retreat at Camp deBenneville Pines
Friday, September 27 – Sunday, September 29, 2019

Here’s a taste of some things you might experience:

**Reflection - Nature - Relaxation - Spiritual Practice - New Friends - Old Friends**

**Fun** - **Kids** - **Seniors** - **Parents** - **Good Food** - **Seminars** - **Arts and Crafts** - **Frisbee Golf** – **Talent Show** - **White Elephant Bingo** - **Games** - **Puzzles** - **Music** - **Singing** - **Dancing** – **Meditation** - **Yoga** - **Nature Hiking** - **Worship** - **Brunch** - **Smiles** - **Play** - **Ping-Pong** - **Swimming** - **Massage** - **Walk to the Lake** - **Knitting** - **Geology Hike** - **Walk the Labyrinth** - **Volleyball** - **Basketball** - **Snacks** - **Happy Hour** - **More!**

Mingle with UU’s from CVUUF, MVUUC, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Live Oak, and Santa Paula

Make sure you register early, last year there was a waiting list! Refunds will be given up to 2 weeks before camp begins. (Last day for refund – September 13)

Registration includes meals Friday evening (buffet) through a Sunday breakfast. For an extra fee ($20) campers are welcome to come up on Thursday, however no meals are served until Friday evening. **Fees start at $155 per adult, $115 for youth, $95 for children 3+**

For more information:
Pick up a flyer and form from the Green Table.
Contact Amy Randall or Susan Seifried
Chalice Lighter Grant
Helping Our Member Congregations

In the last several months the Board of Trustees encouraged members to sign up for the Chalice Lighter program. They planned to apply for a Chalice Lighter Grant as soon as we had enough members contributing as Chalice Lighter supporters. In order to receive a grant, we must have 20% of members contributing to 3 yearly calls of $20 per call. The good news is that, currently, we are over that 20% threshold; however, if some of us become inactive we could lose eligibility, so please go to the website and become a Chalice Lighter if you have not done so already.

https://pswduua.org/about-us/about-the-district/programs/chalice-lighters/

Please visit the page below and learn about all the good your help can provide for congregations in our Pacific Southwest District. You will also be helping our own congregation with fundraising for our growth. MVUUC may be applying for a grant next summer.


Online Chalice Lighter Enrollment: (Be sure to enroll in the Pacific Southwest District’s program.) https://register.pwruua.org/chalice-lighter-enrolment/

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Wheel of the Year
A Pagan Perspective on the Seasons

Litha, Summer Solstice, or Midsummer—June 20-22

LITHA or Summer Solstice, this year on June 21, is the longest day when the Sun is strongest and the Earth is fertile and abundant. On this day, the Sun is at His Zenith, and the Earth responds to His power with fertile abundance. Though after today, the Sun’s power begins to wane, he is still a potent force for growth. We celebrate the loving union of Goddess and God. We rejoice in the richness of our lives, giving thanks for the fruitful blessings of the Great Mother Earth and the Father Sun, for without them there would be no life.

Writing this today, it hardly seems possible that the Summer Solstice will arrive in less than a month. Skies are gray, and it has been raining off and on all May. Ah well, when we are in the throes of our summer season, we may look back wistfully at our extended rainy season.

For modern Pagans, Litha is a time for joyous celebration, when we revel in the greenness and bounty of the earth. Sharing similarities with Beltane, Litha is a sabbat strongly associated with elemental fire. In days long ago, feasts and dancing often took place, and huge wickerwork wheels were set alight and
rolled down hillsides to imitate the movement of the Sun. Solstice bonfires were lit in many areas, and sacred herbs like mugwort and vervain were tossed into the flames. Wreaths of summer flowers were worn on the head and the community came together for festive rituals and revelry. Sacred rituals were held to mark this astronomical and earthly event. The many stone circles throughout the British Isles are thought to mark the spots where these ancient rites were once held, the most famous of these being Stonehenge.

Standing in lonely splendor on the Salisbury Plain, are the megaliths of Stonehenge. These remnants of great dolman arches stand as they have for 5,000 years, a mysterious enigma that has yet to be completely solved. One indisputable fact about Stonehenge is that the circle of stones and the great avenue leading to its center are in alignment with the summer and winter solstices. Whether Stonehenge was intended as a calendar, timepiece, observatory or ritual space remains debated to this day. But also, to this day, the sun does not fail to fall upon the Heel Stone, casting a lingering shadow on the morning of the summer solstice, and again on the evening of the winter solstice.

Today, at solstice, we still celebrate this expansive time of abundance, power, and possibility. Take some time away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life to immerse yourself in the earth’s beauty and the glory of the Sun’s golden light. Make a special visit to a natural body of water: a lake, stream or the ocean; take a hike in the mountains or foothills; carry a libation of water to a special tree. Spend a moment to give thanks to the spirits of the natural world. Offer a wreath of flowers to a friend.

Until next month, Blessed be
Jeanne Coats
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<th>Sun 2</th>
<th>Mon 27</th>
<th>Tue 28</th>
<th>Wed 29</th>
<th>Thu 30</th>
<th>Fri 31</th>
<th>Sat 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:40am - Freethinkers</td>
<td>10:30am - Exploring</td>
<td>12pm - RE Celebration</td>
<td>12:15pm - Poetry</td>
<td>2pm - African Drum</td>
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<td>8:30am - Men's Group</td>
<td>10:30am - Community, 12pm - MVUUC Annual</td>
<td>1pm - Community</td>
<td>2pm - African Drum</td>
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<td>6:30pm - Board of</td>
<td>6pm - Choir Set-up and 7:30pm - Choir</td>
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<td>10:30am - Staff</td>
<td>6pm - Private @ 7pm - CUUPS Liquid</td>
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<td>Father's Day @ MVUUC</td>
<td>8:45am - Freethinkers</td>
<td>10:30am - Social Justice</td>
<td>2pm - African Drum</td>
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<td>8:30am - Men's Group</td>
<td>10:30am - Worship</td>
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MVUUC Calendar, Founders' Room, Minister's Office, Patio / Outdoors, Room 1, Room 3, Room 8, Sanctuary, Jun 2019 (Pacific Time - Los Angeles)
GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Hours: Monday, Thursday, Friday - 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Telephone: 909-626-0520, Office email: officeadmin@montevistauu.org

Rev. Pratima Dharm - Thursday, Friday: 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration: Amy Randall - Friday - 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Office Administrator: Tricia French - Monday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Bookkeeper: Tracy Batres - Monday, Tuesday: 12:30 - 4:30 PM
Facilities Assistant: Joyce Armenta - Monday, Friday: 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Membership

We encourage all inquiries about becoming part of this wonderful, warm and welcoming community.
For more information, please contact
Mary Darrow at mlbdarrow@gmail.com or 909-608-2363
or Sara Langford at sarajlangford@gmail.com

Send newsletter articles to officeadmin@montevistauu.org by the 23rd of the month.

Monte Vista Unitarian Universalist Congregation
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Montclair, CA 91763