

The Beacon

South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

Volume 34, Issue 7

July, 2014

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July Theme: Mystery



July 6th: "Utah Air Quality Issues"

Lay-led service

Joel Karmazyn of Utah Division of Air Quality will be our guest speaker.

July 13th: "Seeking Amid the Noise of Modern Life"

John Cooper

John will speak on a look at finding spirit and the sacred in our modern day-to-day lives.

July 20th: "The First Source"

John Cooper

John will speak about the first source of Unitarian Universalism. Rev. Kathleen Rolenz said, "Throughout history, we have moved to the rhythms of mystery and wonder, prophecy, wisdom, teachings from ancient and modern sources, and nature herself."

July 27th: "Mystery: Naming the Unnamable"

Lay-led service

Julie Vesely and members of the SVUUS community will speak. One of the sources from which our living tradition is drawn (at the end of our Principles) is: *Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.* How do we refer to this mystery? As UU's, do we have a language for this unnamable source to unite us in common purpose? Let us explore together the ways in which we attempt to name the unnamable."

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

****For urgent issues please call the main office or the Caring Circle (listed further below)**

DEVELOPMENTAL MINISTER

Rev. Patty Willis Cell #: 801-633-0709
Email: minister@svuus.org

SVUUS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lory Schantz (Co. Pres.) 801-572-2586
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Edward Granda (Vice Pres.) 801-633-3760
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Tom Kimball 801-835-8742
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Paul Barron (chair) 801-298-2973
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Cindy Martin 801-944-9723
Email: admin@svuus.org
Office Hours: M-F 1:30 -4:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Liz Martin (Director) 801-604-2973
Email: dre@svuus.org
Office Hours:
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Other hours by appointment

REGAL COUNCIL

Kris Berg 801-414-3051

CARING CIRCLE

Denna Wright (Chair) 801-274-0756
Email: dennalee1968@gmail.com

SVUUS Web Site

www.svuus.org

SVUUS-NEWS Email List

South Valley maintains a news listserv to facilitate announcements and other communications for the congregation.

If you wish to sign up to receive messages, send a request to Lyn Worthen, listserv administrator, at lynw@xmission.com.

To send a message to the list, simply address it to svuus-news@mailman.xmission.com

From the Board of Trustees

Announcing your board for the new church year:

Co-Presidents: Cynthia Dobbs & Lory Schantz

Vice President: Edward Granda

Treasurer: Phil Quigley

Secretary: Torrey Longteig

At Large: Tom Kimball & (our new member) Christine Hirrill

We had a lively June board meeting where there was much energy shown and commitment displayed as we had more volunteers for the Executive Committee than we had positions! What a great sign as we start off the new church year.

Though June 'winds down' the regular church year, it's actually a VERY busy time for your Board of Directors as the current board makes sure nothing falls through the cracks during the transition to the new board. And, this time of year, many important tasks need to be completed -- new contracts with all church staff members must be signed and the board does a comprehensive evaluation of our minister. Our eyes and minds start to turn towards our new year and we begin to think about what we want to accomplish at our Summer Retreat.

Summer is a time of vacation and travel and I know I might not see some of you often in the next couple of months, but please do support our Worship Committee and attend church on Sundays if you are in town. I'm sure they have some great services planned for us.

And, as you regroup over the summer from your R & R, please think about how you might want to serve SVUUS in the coming church year. It's a time of transition on many of our committees and there's a place for you! Please look in the beginning of the new Community Directory and find a list of the committee names and chair information and reach out to them.

Cynthia and I are very excited about our roles as co-presidents and we commit our time and talents to you, as does the entire Board. Please reach out to any of us whenever you have an issue or idea or just want to say 'hey'!

In Community,

Lory Schantz
Board Co-President

From the Minister's Desk

*An awe so quiet I don't know when it began.
 A gratitude had begun to sing in me.
 Was there some moment dividing song from no song?
 When does the dewfall begin?
 When does night fold its arms over our hearts to cherish them?
 When is daybreak?*

Denise Levertov's words (#479 in the back of our hymnbook) voice my feelings as our congregation is nearing the end of our church year: A gratitude has begun to sing in me. So many good things have happened among and around us. What are the high points for you? Solar panels are providing electricity for our building. We had a happy annual meeting full of consensus for the road we are walking together. We have a new painting that is a window to the natural world we love. Our religious education programs are flourishing and serving around 80 amazing children and youth. Our stewardship campaign was a great success with an average increase in pledge of 24% and a tree that witnessed all of the gifts of time, talent and treasure that our members and friends bring through the doors of our sanctuary to our community and out into the world. Marriage equality came to Utah for a visit and will return. We have welcomed many new members to our congregation. Seasoned and new members are stepping up to leadership in Social Action, the Board, Religious Education, and our communications committee, among others. Hospitality has surrounded us in our Cottonwood Café after the services, during our Pancake Breakfasts, and at our Monday Menus. This is only a partial list.

Are we possibly in the middle of a re-birth or renaissance here at South Valley? When I look around me, I see signs of spring: after the snow and darkness, violets are growing in the wells of the basement windows. Perhaps that is why my favorite flower will always be the daffodil. They are evidence that the Earth is waking out of winter. The appearance of those flowers is a mystery that is built on complex realities that are drawing us closer to the warmth of the sun. I wish that I could put an insert of details here from one of the scientists of our congregation. For them, the coming of spring may not be a mystery at all.

What I see as the re-birth of South Valley, too, is not really a mystery, either. It is built on the intention within this community to flourish. After a time of gathering strength as I imagine those bulbs do down in the soil, we are vigorously pushing out towards the sun. Renewed energy has been flowing into our community life and beyond. I am honored to witness this re-birth and new beginning. How did it happen? From the vantage point of the minister, I believe that it came from your intention and hope for the continuation of this community and from many leaps of faith. At the edge of winter, when those daffodils begin pushing out of the Earth on a warm, sunny day, the next morning might bring a blizzard. I have seen you take chances, throwing your energy into work, working steadily on, when you didn't know if a blizzard was going to stop you in your tracks. I applaud your courage to hope when snow was falling all around.

May this summer be a time to re-charge for autumn when once again we will move into action. This next year, we will continue working together towards greater sustainability. At the end of June, I'll be at the UU General Assembly in Rhode Island, representing you and learning as much as I can in workshops that will help us next year. Next year, with the GA in Portland, let's plan on a fleet of South Valley cars driving together to the coast. This summer, too, can be full of action, with a clean air challenge and worship services that will sustain you with hope. Often, during the summer, our worship services fill with visitors. I hope that you attend when you can. You might be the one who holds the answer to a question a visitor has brought through our doors. Or you might provide a listening ear. Listening is often the answer we seek. May July be full of lively community gatherings and time in the great outdoors.

In July, I will be on the trail of Polish Unitarian history. I will return with lots of stories to connect our community with the roots of our denomination. Our history witnesses our survival of winters that were followed by spring and a long practice of renewal and re-birth.

In love and community,

Rev. Patty Willis

From the Worship Closet

The theme for the worship services in July is mystery. When I contemplate the idea of mystery, my mind immediately jumps to the thought of a good mystery novel, or a movie with a secret plot, maybe even the mystery-meal that my mother cooked at the end of the week when the fridge was bare of normal fixings. Yet the subject of mystery is so much more than just creative food, a book or movie. Life itself is a wondrous mystery. Life begins with an anticipated birth and often ends without warning. We know life begins and ends, but it is what occurs between is the mystery. Our lives are the mystery and we are privileged to participate daily in either helping to write the script or just sitting back and watching it unfold.

Mehmet Murat Ildan, a Turkish playwright, poet and thinker wrote “mystery keeps man alive, it opens his ears, his eyes, and his mind. Find a mystery and try to solve it.” How many times has a mystery peaked our interest, intrigued us, made us dive deeper into learning about a subject, and in the end brought us understanding or transcendence. For some people there is a fear of the unknown, while others thrive on the new, the challenging, the mysterious. Which individual are you?

I will admit that being on the worship committee is occasionally mysterious to me. How have others pulled off a Sunday service complete with the chalice lighting, readings, sound-system, decorating the alter, ministers message, music and the children’s reading together. I suppose other new worship committee members and I will discover this for ourselves. Be patient with us as we co-lead a few services before we are thrown into the abyss and forced to spread our wings and take it on by ourselves. Thankfully we have mentors to guide us to the edge. We are open to suggestions from members of the congregation. Enjoy the heat of July and the mysteries that it holds for us at SVUUS.

Page Kimball
Worship Committee



South Valley Caring Circle

The members of the Caring Circle provide practical support and/or pastoral care. Please contact the chair of the committee if you need or know of someone who needs our support. To ask for help you may also use the Caring Book by the name tags. The Caring Book is also for joys and concerns; we hope you will share moments from your lives.

CARING CIRCLE Contact Information

Denna Wright (Chair)	801-274-0756
Email: dennalee1968@gmail.com	
Dot Clayton	801-561-4776
Sandy Dreis	801-256-0825
Kathleen Luck	801-567-9062

Religious Education, Growth and Learning

Sunday REGAL Schedule

- July 6:** Ages 5+: "Wisdom of the Hebrew Scriptures": The Battle of Jericho
Ages 12+: "The UU Principles & the Simpsons": Principle 4: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning (Lisa the Iconoclast, S7E16)
- July 13:** All Ages: Water Day (Wear a swimsuit and bring a towel!)
- July 20:** Ages 5+: "Wisdom of the Hebrew Scriptures": Sarah, Hagar, and Abraham!
Ages 12+: "The UU Principles & the Simpsons": Principle 5: The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process (Mr. Spritz Goes to Washington, S14E14)
- July 27:** Ages 5+: "Wisdom of the Hebrew Scriptures": The Binding of Isaac
Ages 12+: "The UU Principles & the Simpsons": Principle 6: The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all (Coming to Homerica, S20E21)

* For more information about our curricula and programming, please see our REGAL brochure available in the church lobby, or contact Liz Martin at dre@svuus.

SVUUS Diner's Group

Do you enjoy eating with fellow SVUUS members? Discovering new restaurants? Putting UU principles into action? Then join our new SVUUS Diners' group!

Inspired by the UU Common Read, *Behind the Kitchen Door*, many of us felt a call to do more to understand and help improve the working conditions of restaurant workers in our very own Salt Lake Valley. We are in the process of forming a dining group which will meet once (or possibly twice, depending on interest) a month and eat as a group at a local restaurant. While there we will talk with workers about conditions at the restaurant (wages, tip split, sick leave, internal promotions, etc.) This is not as intimidating as it sounds - the ROC Diner's Guide (<http://rocunited.org/dinersguide/>) has some wonderful suggestions on how this can be done. As consumers, we have a great deal of power, and simply letting management know what we would like to see, in a kind and courteous manner, can make a huge difference.



Ultimately, this will serve a two-fold purpose. First, we will be letting local restaurants know consumers want to see workers treated fairly at the restaurants we patronize. Additionally, we will be compiling a list of local restaurants and where they rate in their treatment of workers - this will be both for our own congregational and community use, and to add to the ROC's national restaurant directory. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Shannon Black at (801)669-1209 or shannoneblack123@gmail.com. At the moment, we propose eating together on the first and possibly the third Saturday of every month, but this is obviously open to change, depending on participant need.

Shannon Black

News from the Social Action Council

Worship Service Offering Split for July and August: Cottonwood Canyons Foundation

Here in the Salt Lake Valley, we are incredibly fortunate to have beautiful forests, mountain lakes, and majestic peaks right at our doorstep. The delicate watersheds of these magnificent canyons provide a significant portion of our drinking water in the Salt Lake Valley, and outdoor recreational opportunities are just minutes away. However, the national forest lands of Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons are some of the most highly visited in the nation and are under many pressures resulting from human uses, such as economic development, transportation, recreation, and water supply.

In July and August we are splitting our Sunday Service offerings with the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, a local organization that works diligently to preserve the environment of our Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons of the Wasatch Front. The CCF works continuously to improve the environments of Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons through education and stewardship programs, and provides avenues for individuals and groups in our larger community to take part in preservation efforts. Their stewardship programs are aimed at solving existing problems by working with partners such as the National Forest Foundation, various ski resorts, Friends of Alta, Save our Canyons, SLC Public Utility Dept., etc. Their projects range from native plant restoration, mapping of invasive weeds, and restoring and maintaining popular trails. Educational efforts include sponsorship of the Wildflower Festival (July 25-27), and ongoing family nature programs at Silver Lake (Brighton). The CCF is working diligently to ensure these spectacular canyons continue to provide clean water and recreational opportunities for generations to come. Please give generously.

Learn more about this fabulous organization at www.cottonwoodcanyons.org

CLEAR THE AIR CHALLENGE

July 1 - 31, 2014

Do you want to do something about air quality here along the Wasatch Front? Do you want to reduce your carbon footprint? Join our South Valley UU Clear the Air Challenge Team and see how much difference we can make!



Travelers all across the Wasatch Front are coming together for the 6th Clear the Air Challenge. The brown haze we see during the summer is due primarily to ground-level ozone, and 50% of it is caused by transportation emissions. If all drivers along the Wasatch Front parked their cars just 1 day per week, vehicle emissions would be reduced by 6,500 tons per year. EVERY VEHICLE TRIP COUNTS.

To join, learn more and register at www.cleartheairchallenge.org, choose the "join an existing team" option and select our "South Valley Unitarian Universalists" team. Then, raise your awareness and start reducing single-occupant vehicle "trips", and track your savings online during the month of July. (If you signed up with us last year, just log in and save your profile to update it for 2014.)

Q: What is a "trip"?

A: Any trip you take from point A to point B (one-way), by yourself, in a fuel-powered vehicle.

There are alternatives to driving alone. Here are some ways to save "trips":

- Trip Chain: Run errands on your way home (i.e., work to library, library to grocery store). Each saves 1 trip from your home.
- Telework: Work from home or compress your work week (saves 2 trips/day)
- Walk or Ride your Bike (2 trips)
- Use mass transit (2 trips)
- Carpool (everyone but the driver saves 2 trips)

You will quickly see how changing even one of your commutes per week can save miles, emissions, and dollars. Every mile each of us devotes to smarter travel will help improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion, and conserve energy. There's been a lot of "talk" about air quality this year, so let's "walk-the-walk" and do something about it!

Questions? Contact Susan Eyzaguirre at eyzsooz@gmail.com

Get to Know

Leslie and Keshav Sarin met in an African drumming class and the rest is history. They are happily living in a house in Sandy that is just around the corner from where Leslie grew up. Keshav's wonderful drumming has accompanied Leslie's dance performances in the local Samba and African dance communities, and in our sanctuary among many other places. We are glad that they have brought their gifts to our community. Let the music and dance begin! Their beautiful children, Samir and Vivika, both love drawing, reading, and playing outside. Samir especially loves soccer and their family has become REAL soccer fans!



Spring Dew Foulger originates from Mississippi and is a mother of two grown sons, both in the Navy. A UU of nearly 17 years, her journey took her from Southern Baptist roots through many faith traditions before finding a religious home at what is now Goodloe Memorial UU Congregation in Bowie, Maryland. She works in the tech industry and is a veteran of the US Army. A Utah resident of four years, Spring recently married Springville resident Johnny Foulger and they are living happily ever after with a pair of gray cats and a pair of Sheltie puppies. Spring has jumped into our community life as a facilitator of a new interfaith couples group at South Valley. Do you and your Beloved have different beliefs? Consider giving her a call and joining in the fun.



Laura and Aaron Storms have two lovely daughters: Josie, is six years old and just finished Kindergarten, and Bridgette just turned three. Laura is from Tampa, FL. She holds a Masters degree in Business and a Bachelor's in Mathematics both from the University of Florida. She is also a Synchronized Swimmer, and has been from a very young age. She enjoys gardening, making her own jam, cheese, & wine, couponing and being a mother to her two children. She gave up working full time two years ago to move to Utah and stay at home with Josie & Bridgette. Aaron is a USAF veteran, and an Army brat who has lived almost everywhere. He holds a degree in culinary arts and brews his own beer. He is a Meteorologist, and works as a Weather Observer for the FAA. His work brought his family here from Tampa, FL. He loves soccer, and spending time with his daughters. The whole Storm family loves hiking, camping, and being outdoors.



UU Pioneer Day Workshop/Campout: A Chance to Gather with UUs Living in Utah and Idaho

Thursday, July 24 – Sunday, July 27, 2014
Pine Valley North Campground



As another summer here in the Intermountain West blossoms into even greater beauty than the breathtaking snow-blanketed peaks of winter, we're making plans for the annual Pioneer weekend campout.

This year we're planning to share an informative and inspiring workshop that will enhance our understanding of the insensitivity to indigenous cultures that we can so inadvertently support in our day to day interactions. Having been privileged to attend the workshop earlier this year, I can tell you how meaningful and enlightening the workshop was for me and I can't imagine a more inspiring setting than Friday evening at the campout this year. (This was presented in South Valley as an Interfaith event in February attended by many in our congregation).

Paula Palmer, a Quaker leader from Boulder, CO, presents the workshop nationally, and has agreed to share it with us this year. She has agreed to bring the event to Pine Valley North Campground, and I have agreed to raise \$600 to cover her expenses. Rev Nancy Bowen, our visionary MDD Executive, has agreed to commit \$300 provided we have at least 4 congregations represented at this year's campout.

This is an exceptional occasion to celebrate our UU values in a community of like-minded folks. I know a couple of years ago we had campers from at least 6 of our 7 Cluster congregations, and I'm sure we'll have similar participation this year. At 7,440 feet elevation, the campsite is high enough to provide comfortable campfire conversation and cool nights, and the biking, hiking, backpacking, fishing, picnicking, wildlife viewing and scenic driving offer relaxing opportunities to share daytime activities with our UU friends.



If you haven't yet made your reservations, consider doing so soon at the following link:

<http://www.slccu.org/annual-summer-campout>

See you there!

-----Jim Turner



22nd Annual SVUUs Labor Day Campout!



Altamont Campground, American Fork Canyon, Fri. Aug. 29th-Mon. Sept. 1st, 2014

Registration: First paid/first reserved. Any vehicle is \$30.00. There are no hookups/non-electric. Day use \$10.00. Covered main pavilion main area with fire pit(s). Anyone camping overnight must complete a **Reservation Form** and submit it to SVUU along with payment.

Activities: Hiking trails. Timpanogos cave. Alpine loop drive. Cascade springs. Fishing in a few small lakes a short drive away or the creek. Potluck dinner Saturday night. Sunday service followed by a potluck lunch. Bring board games, chess/checkers, badminton, horse shoes, etc.

Safety: High altitude (7,400 feet), bright sun & cold fall nights! Bring sunscreen, bug dope, jacket, hat, gloves, etc. First aid kit provided at the main site, but SVUU does not perform first aid. Children are the total and full responsibility and in the care of the parents/adults bringing them. Please consider the environment, use bio-degradable soap and pack out all trash.

Campground: Check in 3 PM Fri. out by 2 PM Mon. Tents can be spread thru-out. ADA accessible restrooms (sorry no showers this time). Dogs allowed/but must be leashed. This is inside the canyon, cell phones will not work at this campground due to canyon walls.

Registration Form

Responsible Party Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Number of Vehicle(s) @ \$30.00 per each vehicle: _____ \$10.00 Day Use: _____

I hereby understand that I am attending an outdoor activity which will include hazards specific to camping in the outdoors including but not limited to inclement (storms) weather, sunburn, sleeping outside, wild animals, bugs, open fires, open water, and other possible hazards found in the outdoors. Children are the total and full responsibility and in the care of the parents/adults bringing them.

Signature

Date

Registration: Contact Deone Corkins at daffodil@xmission.com or 801-599-4316
Other/Logistics: Contact Lewis Galway at lewisg@xmission.com or 801-915-1290

(Continued on next page)

Location & Directions: From Salt Lake City, Utah, travel south (about 35 miles) on I-15 to Alpine-Highland exit 284. Travel east on Highway 92 approximately 13 miles through American Fork Canyon, then veer right at the split in the road, on the Alpine Loop Scenic Byway and go 3 miles south. Campground is on the left. Map is on page two. It's approximately an hour to drive to the campground.

Campground info:

<http://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/altamont/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=70122>

For more information on the area, click on this site and make sure to watch the video!

http://www.utah.com/byways/alpine_loop.htm



Grocery Card Program

The Finance Council has decided to change grocery card sales from every Sunday to once per month, the second Sunday of each month to coincide with the CUUPS Sunday Sundaes. The next opportunity to purchase grocery cards will be on July 13th.

However, if anyone needs cards on another Sunday; we'd be happy to oblige. You can ask a Council member (Joe Gates, Phil Quigley, Derek Larson, David Norton, Lee Cowley, or KC Tabor) and we can arrange for an individual sale.



Save the Date

July 1-31	Clear the Air Challenge
July 13	CUUPS Sunday Sundaes after services
July 24-27	Pioneer Day Campout

Upcoming Events

Aug. 29 – Sept. 1	Annual Church Campout
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