

# The Beacon

*South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society*

Volume 35, Issue 10

October, 2015

## *October Theme: Creation*

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### **October 4: "First Sunday---How Can We Create Beloved Community when we have Conflict?"**

Come and learn how differences offer the opportunity to speak our truth with kindness and listen with our hearts--giving us the building blocks of Beloved Community. Rev. Patty will lead the service and Gregory Rouillard will speak about embodying Compassion.

Workshop: Creating Beloved Community with our Seven Principles.

### **October 11: "Gaps for Creation: The Possibilities of the in between Places"**

Pema Chodron, the eminent Buddhist thinker talks about gaps as places that open our lives to possibilities. What are gaps? How can we have more gaps in our lives?

**Rev. Patty Willis**

### **October 18: "Creation As I Know It"**

South Valley perspectives on creation.

**Jan Vanderhooft, David Lane, Hunter**

### **October 25: "What is the Goal of Unitarian Universalism?"**

Come and listen to these ideas inspired by a question received by Phil Quigley. What do you think is our goal?

**Rev. Patty Willis**

## LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

### MINISTER

Rev. Patty Willis Cell #: 801-633-0709  
Email: [minister@svuus.org](mailto:minister@svuus.org)

### SVUUS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Liz Martin (Director) 801-604-2973  
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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

Dot Clayton (Chair) 801-561-4776  
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### SVUUS Web Site

[www.svuus.org](http://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](mailto:lynw@xmission.com).

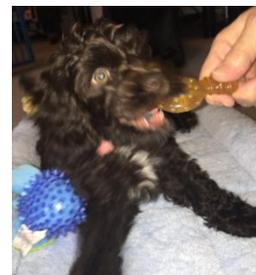
To send a message to the list, simply address it to [svuus-news@mailman.xmission.com](mailto:svuus-news@mailman.xmission.com)

## The Bite of Winter

Old man winter is getting ready to bite the rosy cheeks of little children as they return to school. In the canyons the leaves are putting on their fall colors and at South Valley Monday Menus is getting under way! Also at South Valley there is a new Board of Trustees (well, there are three new members along with four old timers). All of these things signal the beginning of the year. But for us the real beginning, the ecclesiastical beginning of the year, happened with the water ceremony we held last Sunday. This September the ceremony was a little different. We didn't have snapping fingers, patting knees and clapping hands to simulate a rainstorm bringing the water, but we did have a new tradition of gathering up our stressors, our troubles, our losses and hurts and dumping them in the river to be carried away. That Japanese tradition has a resonance with us at South Valley and was a nice addition to our ceremony and our tradition.

For myself this is my last year of Board duty and I am especially tickled that Cody Pace has agreed to be trained in our financial policies and procedures so he can take over as Treasurer next year. Our goal this year will be to rearrange the financial chores to make the job more manageable and allow the Treasurer to focus on vision and planning in the financial realm with some oversight to be sure things are going smoothly. Our hope is to leverage the work of the Facilities committee in drafting a 5 year plan for our buildings and grounds, to combine that with input from Personnel and other committees and integrate it with our Mission statement, the vision of the minister and the Board of Trustees itself so as to, ultimately, have a 5 year vision for the whole church. The nice thing about a 5 year plan is that it looks to the future but is adjusted each year to take into account those unexpected realities that always seem to foil plans that are not flexible. Anyway, that's my vision for our vision. Hopefully we can get a good start on it this year. Then Cody can take the baton and move it forward. That will give me more time to play with my new puppy, our Miniature Australian Labradoodle, a little chocolate colored ball of fur I wanted to name POGF (Puppy of Great Ferocity) but I was outvoted. That name was because, like old man winter, she was biting at my rosy cheeks, my fingers, my toes—anything she could get a hold of with those needle teeth!

--Phil Quigley, Treasurer, Board of Trustees



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## *From Our Minister*

Monthly Theme: Creation

“Recreating the role you have in your world: Let’s follow the example of Pope Francis”

This morning, September 24th, before we took a walk in Liberty Park, we listened to Pope Francis speak to Congress. In his speech, he talked about his bridge-building work. An Italian friend once told me that this was at the core of the work of the Pope who is also called the Pontiff. Did you know that the root of the word “Pontiff” is “ponte” or bridge in Italian? Pope Francis is keeping his core role as bridge builder of the Catholic Church in a new way that is going far beyond the limits that have been acceptable for decades. He is the first pope to advocate for this Earth and point out that we humans are responsible. I have heard that when someone tells him not to do something, he just goes ahead if he feels right about it. I wonder if even such a powerful person has difficulty going against the flow. Does he have that sick feeling of fear when he is hitting a barrier beyond which the people around him do not want him to go. Have you ever felt in your workplace or personal life that you would like to talk about something that is deeply meaningful to you? You know that you would be crossing an invisible line if you stopped a racist joke or laid out a plan for your work space that would be more sustainable for the Earth. Whether Pope Francis experiences fear or not before he does something that is radically different, he finds the courage to raise his voice and in so doing is fulfilling an important role for this Earth, not just for the Catholic Church. This month, as we ponder the monthly theme of “creation,” I encourage you to imagine how you might re-create some of the many roles that you play. This re-creation could lead to a great adventure and wider influence among the people you love and the world as a whole.

When I joined the clergy group that is in dialogue with the sheriff’s office over racism, I didn’t think that I would be a spokesperson. Overcoming my fear, walking up in front of the gathering of police chiefs and speaking from my heart blessed my life. The experience also made me hopeful about the influence that I personally and we as a community can have in this part of the world. Let us continue to create and recreate ourselves in response to the world around us. What scary thing is in front of you to do?

In response to the amount of time people can devote to newsletters, I’m going to try to make mine shorter and more meaningful. I’d love to hear what you think about that.

In love and community,

Rev. Patty



## *Welcoming and Membership News*



Sinnamon Wolfe

Sinnamon was born and raised in Kearns. She graduated from Juan Diego Catholic High School. She received her BA in Religious Studies and Art from Saint Mary's College. She went to seminary at Claremont School of Theology in Claremont, CA where she earned an M.A. in Religious Education and an M.A. in Ministry, Leadership, and Service focusing on interfaith spiritual care. She also completed two years of chaplain residency in Yuma, AZ where she developed a passion for accompanying people through the grief process. Sinnamon is pursuing a career in chaplaincy and is an aspirant in the Unitarian Universalist ordination process. She enjoys painting, taught herself how to make natural soap, and loves animals.

## *News from the South Valley Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs)*

This year at CUUPs we are trying to make some changes but continue some of the things we have always done. First of all, we will be helping with the Halloween Carnival. We will also be sponsoring the annual Chili Cook-off on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Everyone should bring your own dishes or plan on using the dishes at the church. But if you use the dishes you must wash them. The Soap Lady will also be here on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

CUUPS will also be sponsoring our Egg-ceptional potluck in March and the Chocolate feast in February. We will be holding some rituals throughout the year, so look for those. We hope to continue to be a welcoming place for Pagans in our community.

Kathleen Luck

## *News from the Social Action Council*

### **September-October Worship Service Offering Split Recipient:**

The recipient of our Split the Plate initiative for September and October is Interfaith Power and Light, the nonprofit agency that facilitated our solar panels! Their mission is to be faithful stewards of Creation by responding to global warming through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy to protect the earth's ecosystems, safeguard the health of all Creation, and ensure sufficient, sustainable energy for all. We are grateful to them for helping us to be more faithful stewards of this Earth.

## *From the Worship Closet*

The Old Testament creation story tells us it took six days to create the earth. Biology says it takes 9 full months for a human being to create another human being. And my recipe book tells me it takes close to one day to create a loaf of bread. Creation, it seems, has no set timeline, and can neither be hurried, nor slowed down. And in many ways, it becomes something intensely personal to the creator. We here on the worship committee are involved in tiny, weekly acts of creation as we assist Reverend Patty and each other in forming each Sunday's worship service and doing our small part to help shape how our community grows. We would love to involve even more of our congregation in this work of creation - our voices are many and diverse and I believe all of us have something of vital importance to share with each other. If the creation of worship in any way calls to you, and you would like to join us on the committee - or just share your time or talent - please talk to someone on the worship committee or send me an email atshannoneblack123@gmail.com.

In community,

Shannon Black  
Worship Committee Chair

## *Monday Menus*

The 5th season of Monday Menus has begun!

From 6:00-6:30 p.m. celebrate Meatless Mondays by enjoying a homemade soup (vegan and gluten-free) and sharing potluck accompaniments. Then from 6:30-8:00 p.m. choose from different classes/discussion groups/activities to enrich our personal and community journey! Past offerings have included: Yoga, Bridge, Family Board Games, The Artist's Way, Bible Study, Social Justice Reading Group, Compassionate Communication, Paganism 101, Children's Choir, Glacial Geology, Science & Religion series, Beer Making 101...

Monday Menus NEEDS \*you\* to succeed! Have a passion or talent you can share with your SVUUS community? Lead a Monday Menus class offering! It can be a single night, or a series; whatever suits you and your topic. Contact Liz or Rev. Patty with your ideas! ([DRE@svuus.org](mailto:DRE@svuus.org) or [Minister@svuus.org](mailto:Minister@svuus.org))

- October 5:** Compassionate Communication with special guest Gregory Rouillard  
Child Care
- October 12:** "Seeing Who We Are: Taking Steps towards Understanding Racism and Doing Something about It" with Rev. Patty & Susan Eyzaguirre  
Paganism 101 facilitated by Mary Norton  
Yoga with Peter Ries  
Bible Study Group facilitated by Ryan Thomas  
Building Your Own Theology facilitated by Chris Gearheart
- October 19:** Paganism 101 facilitated by Mary Norton  
Yoga with Peter Ries  
Bible Study Group facilitated by Ryan Thomas  
Building Your Own Theology facilitated by Chris Gearheart  
Chess Club and Strategy Games
- October 26:** Paganism 101 facilitated by Mary Norton  
Yoga with Peter Ries  
Bible Study Group facilitated by Ryan Thomas  
Building Your Own Theology facilitated by Chris Gearheart  
Dia de los Muertos Sugar Skulls

## *Monday Menus con't*

### **Class Descriptions:**

#### **"Aligning with the Earth: Exploring a Spirituality of Simplicity" with Rev. Patty**

In our service on August 30th around the work of David Suzuki, Rev. Patty spoke about the connection between our consumerism and our lack of connection with the Earth and how that is a driving factor in climate change. Let's explore together each of our connections to consumerism. What drives your shopping? In our growing awareness, we will consider how we can simplify our lives. These ways, different for each of us, could become the core of our own spiritual practices that align us with the Earth. Bring a notebook and prepare to dig deep in discussion and journaling.

#### **"Compassionate Communication" Workshop by special guest Gregory Rouillard**

Come learn practical ways to live our UU Principles! We welcome guest speaker Gregory Rouillard, M.Div., from Boulder, CO, who envisions a world where people live, work, and play in nurturing communities, moving together in connection toward achieving effective outcomes. He believes that the philosophy and practice of Compassionate Communication provides Unitarian Universalists with concrete tools to bring the seven principles to life.

#### **"Seeing Who We Are: Taking Steps towards Understanding Racism and Doing Something about It" with Rev. Patty & Susan Eyzaguirre**

One of the first steps towards understanding racism in the world is seeing who we are. Through the insights of the book "Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race" by Debby Irving, we will open our eyes to who we are in the world. What do we bring? (Try to read the book beforehand, but come anyway if you don't have time!)

## *Religious Education, Growth and Learning*

### **OCTOBER SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

Dear SVUUS Parents,

EVERY YEAR we ask you to **register** your children/youth for our Sunday Religious Education program (it's an important way for us to have accurate current information, track our services, and keep in touch!). Please do this by going to <http://tinyurl.com/SVUUS-RE2015>

p.s. Doing this is also how you get a permanent name tag for your child/youth!

#### **October 4, 2015:**

Children's Chapel for K-5th  
Regular Classes for others

#### **October 11, 2015:**

Regular Classes

#### **October 18, 2015:**

Regular Classes

#### **October 25, 2015:**

Children's Chapel for K-5th  
Regular Classes for others

*Opportunities and Announcements*

# South Valley Unitarian Universalist WILD, WILD WEST

**Howdy, pard'ner!**

It's time to strap on your spurs and join us at the South Valley General Store for the biggest party – and biggest fundraiser – of the year!

**Are you new to South Valley?**

Welcome! The Auction is a great way to get to know the members of the community – and give you a glimpse into our interests and hobbies. Bid on your choice of great items, or take your pick of the dinners and parties for even more chances to socialize throughout the year!

**Are you an Auction Veteran?**

Then you know the drill: **Buy your tickets early** so we can stock the chuckwagon! **Sign up to help out!** (Many hands make light work!) **Submit your donations (yes, multiple!)** We want your parties, services, high-quality crafts, and gently-used items in excellent condition (think Plato's Closet quality, not Salvation Army). **Plan your Costume!** Whether it's Stetsons or Steampunk, we want to see *your* version of the Wild, Wild West!

**The Pony Express rides again!**

Watch your email for more Auction news!

# AUCTION

**Saturday, November 14th at 6:00**

Stop by the Auction booth downstairs during Coffee hour throughout October to buy Tickets and Volunteer to help out!

## *Opportunities and Announcements Continued*

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

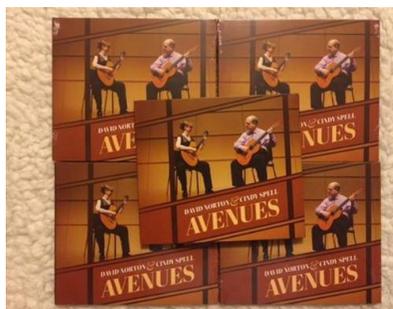
The prayer shawl group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, October 22, at 2:00 p.m. in the Senior High Room. Anyone who is interested in knitting or crocheting shawls or afghans to contribute to the Prayer Shawl ministry is welcome to join us.

If you are interested and have questions, you can contact me at [lorriquigley@msn.com](mailto:lorriquigley@msn.com).



### **CLASSICAL GUITAR CD**

The duo guitar CD "Avenues", recorded by long-time SVUUS member David Norton, with Cindy Spell, is now available for purchase. Discs are \$15 each. Please contact David Norton to purchase a copy.





## 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. The next opportunity to purchase grocery cards will be on September 13th. However, if anyone needs cards on another Sunday; we'd be happy to oblige. You can ask a Council member (Kristy Jensen, David Norton or Phil Quigley) and we can arrange for an individual sale.

### Save the Date

November 14 Annual Goods and Services Auction

### Upcoming Events

October 4 First Sunday Event  
 October 22 Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 October 25 CUUPS Annual Chili Cook-off potluck



### 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

Dot Clayton (Chair) 801-561-4776  
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Sandy Dreis 801-256-0825  
 Mel Welliver 801-963-8258  
 Peter Verschoor 801-944-1653