

# The Beacon

South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

Volume 35, Issue 7

July, 2015

## July Theme: Compassion



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### July 5: "Perspectives on Patriotism"

Hear from fellow congregants as we ponder the meaning of this July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday for us a UU's. Listen to some personal perspectives on what patriotism means for us.

**Brenda Voisard and Deborah Dean, Worship Coordinators**

### July 12: "Atheists Among Us"

**Shannon Black, Worship Coordinator**

### July 19: "Feminism through the generations"

**Val Allyse and Jill Eichbauer, Worship Coordinator**

### July 26: "Jeanette Rankin: A different pioneer"

Guest historian and actress TBA

**Val Allyse, Worship Coordinator**

## LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

### SETTLED MINISTER

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

### SVUUS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lory Schantz (Co. Pres.) 801-572-2586  
Cynthia Dobbs (Co. Pres.) 801-979-5951  
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### TRANSITION TEAM

Sara Allen 801-619-6373  
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### CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Cindy Martin 801-944-9723  
Email: [admin@svuus.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:dennalee1968@gmail.com)

### 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)

## *From the Board of Trustees*

As we begin this new church year the board would like reflect on what has been accomplished this past year. Our stewardship campaign was a great success. We surpassed our budget goal and we are well on our way to maintaining a sustainable budget. Our solar panels have produced enough energy to almost completely cover electrical costs and helped us begin the process of having a smaller ecological footprint. Our wonderful youth program sent over a dozen youth and adults to general assembly. We can't wait to hear what amazing times they had. And last but not least, we have a settled minister!!!

Our congregation is flourishing. We are on a good sustainable path. Please make sure we thank each other for what we have been able to accomplish. And always remember, there is more work to do. We need your time, talents and treasures. It is YOU who has made all this possible.

The board wants to thank everyone who has participated in creating and sustaining this congregation. We couldn't have done it without you.

In Community,  
Edward Granda  
President of the Board of Trustees

## *From the Worship Closet*

'Compassion' is the worship theme this month. As we reach for compassion for ourselves and one another, we hear from some in our own SVUUS community and others from the larger community of which we are a part. We will consider patriotism, feminism, historical figures and atheism, all in the context of compassion. May we grow as we listen and learn from various perspectives, viewpoints and life experiences, as beloved community members offer their insights and vulnerability.

The worship committee is thankful to Shannon Black, our new chair, who has already taken the lead in our meeting last month. Please offer your appreciation to her as she offers to take this leadership position. She brings years of experience working with many members of our community in the social action realm and beyond, and a deep passion for worship and it's possibilities.

In community,  
Brenda Voisard



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## *From Our Minister*

July Monthly Theme: Compassion

I began my sermon on Father's Day, only a few days after the shootings in Charleston, "A war is raging. Have you heard?" Since then, six predominantly black churches in four Southern states have been damaged or destroyed by fire.

This month, we are called to ponder "compassion." The Latin roots of that word are "to suffer" and "with." Have you ever suffered with someone? In that moment, their pain becomes yours. The divide that separates you from another disappears. For the past 30 years, the members and friends of South Valley have suffered with LGBTQ people and shared their concerns, working through obstacles into greater understanding. By becoming part of the change we wanted to see in the world, we have lived to witness the Supreme Court decision to support same-sex marriage in all the states of this union. On that day, I was asked to give a statement to the Salt Lake Tribune:

*The Rev. Patty C. Willis of South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, who is married to her longtime partner, Mary Lou Prince, expressed amazement and appreciation for the decision's "affirmation of the humanity of LGBTQ Americans." The ruling "gives meaning to the hard work and courage of those who risked everything to be wholly themselves," Willis said. "Through uncountable small and great acts of courage, our country has transformed."*

I hope that many of you gather with us on July 1st in Millcreek Canyon for we need to mark these gains in freedom for all people. Yet, as we are celebrating, people are mourning the deaths in Charleston. Black churches all over this country are increasingly being targeted by acts of hatred. What do we do? This new gain in the Supreme Court affirms that we can make a difference. As we did with LGBTQ issues, I believe that the difference we will make must begin with the change of heart that comes with stirrings of compassion.

I saw the possibility of what we could do together during the UU General Assembly in Portland when our youth jumped to their feet to answer Cornel West's call to action. Dr. West had a way of bringing us into his life and his heart until we felt his suffering around the deaths in Charleston and all over this land. As the youth, I was moved by Cornel West's grief and wonder how we will take this spark of compassion into our lives. A week ago, I urged you to action and to ask the survivors what we could do. One of the first requests out of Charleston is to remember those who died. You can forget the name of the killer and not grace him with fame. Instead, the survivors ask us to remember the dead. We speak often of those mysterious words "spiritual practice." A spiritual practice that would bless this world in July of 2015 would be to remember those who died in Charleston, saying their names and then standing in silence with their families and community, as we do together during our meditation. Say the names out loud: State Sen., Rev. Clementa Pinckney, Cynthia Hurd; Tywanza Sanders; Sharonda Singleton; Myra Thompson; Ethel Lance; Susie Jackson; the Rev. Daniel Simmons Sr.; and DePayne Doctor. With each name, stand with the family who has lost a loved one. This time of meditation and prayer around these names is one way for us to grow our hearts big enough for the work that is in front of us to do.

Remembering the dead in Charleston is one step, another is to experience something that has happened right here in Utah. Three dates have been chosen by our Social Action Team to make a trek to Delta to support Rick Jones and his family who have been victims of hate crimes. Delta is also home to a museum about Topaz, a Japanese internment camp only 15 miles from Delta. The museum is now showing an exhibit of the art of Topaz. When you go to Delta, and I hope that you do, go to the museum and sit with the art work. You will feel your heart stir with compassion as you witness what racism did in this state. The Topaz Museum hours are 11:00 -5:00 every day except Sunday. 55 West Main, Delta, UT 435-864-2514. If you can't go on one of the dates with the Social Action Team and other church members, consider making a pilgrimage on your own. Lunch at the Jones' family's pizzeria and a visit to the museum and site of Topaz will stir your heart with compassion. As we have learned, compassion will generate the small and great acts of courage we need to make the world safe for all.

In love and community,  
Rev. Patty

## *News from the Social Action Council*

### **Worship Service Offering Split Recipient Organization for July - August**

For July and August, we will split our Sunday offering with Great Salt Lake Audubon's Jordan River Migratory Bird Reserve project. Since 1997 Great Salt Lake Audubon has been in the process of restoring 120 acres of riparian habitat located between 11100 South and 9800 South in South Jordan, Utah. Today, with development encroaching from all sides, this reserve is the longest protected section of the Jordan River. Volunteers of all ages from our church community have participated in five different field trips over the past 6 to this reserve, where we have planted and watered trees. Our support of this project expresses faith in a green future, beyond our own lifetimes, right here in our own backyard. Learn more about this project at: <http://www.greatsaltlakeaudubon.org/restoration>

## *Religious Education, Growth and Learning*

July 5, 2015:

Youth (11 and up): Simpsons: Faith vs. Skepticism  
Kids (4-10): Spirit of Adventure: Medicine

July 12, 2015:

Youth (11 and up): Simpsons: The Problem of Evil  
Kids (4-10): Spirit Adventure: Food

July 19, 2015:

WATER DAY

July 26, 2015:

ALL AGES SERVICE

## *Opportunities and Announcements*

### **YOGA every Monday at SVUUS with Peter Ries**

Come enjoy a peaceful yoga practice with us, as we celebrate and embrace ourselves taking small steps to new horizons in our minds and bodies. Always being gentle, we only do what feels right for us, allowing ourselves the freedom to move at our own pace. We hope to see you Monday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. All levels of experience welcome. \$5 donation requested and childcare is provided.

### **New Discussion Forum**

This is a new place for community discussions: <http://forums.svuus.org>. Right now, it is by invitation only so if people would like to join they can request an invite from me at [russell.martin@svuus.org](mailto:russell.martin@svuus.org).

This was something that was suggested at the Listening Circle about the svuus-news listserv policy changes.

### **Congregational Minutes Available**

Anyone interested in seeing the board-approved congregational minutes from the last two meetings (5/18/2014 and 12/14/2014) can find them on our website.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Join us Thursday, July 16, 2015 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.



### **SVUUS PARTENTS POTLUCK**

"All SVUUS parents and their children are invited to a potluck at Germania Park in Murray on July 17th at 6 PM. We have reserved a pavilion along the Jordan River, which is lightly audible from our spot. The pavilion has a well-maintained playground right next to it for the kids. We also hope to have a small electronics craft that will be especially neat as the sun goes down. If you are interested in this or future such potlucks, please contact Chris Gearheart ([chrisgearheart@gmail.com](mailto:chrisgearheart@gmail.com)) to be put on the notification list."

### **Chris Gearheart**

[\(385\) 204-4486](tel:3852044486) (cell)  
Salt Lake City, UT



## *Opportunities and Announcements continued*

### **23rd Annual SVUUs Labor Day Campout!**

Little Mill Campground, American Fork Canyon, Fri. Sep 4 2015 Departure Date: Mon Sep 7 2015



**23rd Annual SVUUs Labor Day Campout!** Little Mill Campground, American Fork Canyon, Fri. Sep 4 2015  
Departure Date: Mon Sep 7 2015

**Registration:** We can have only 10 vehicles; and we can probably fit a few more vehicles in. No RV hookups. First paid/first reserved. Any vehicle is \$40.00. If you pre-pay you do not need a paid pass from the gate. There are no hookups/non-electric. Day use \$10.00. Covered main pavillion main area with fire pit(s). Anyone camping overnight must complete a [Reservation Form](#) and submit it to SVUU along with payment. We will pass the hat during the service.

**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. Guitars, singers, board games, horseshoes, badminton, welcome.

**Safety:** High altitude (7000 feet), bright sun & cold fall nights! Bring sunscreen, bug dope, jacket, hat, gloves, etc. 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. The forest service is requesting that you use local firewood, and not bring firewood in.

**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.

**Other/Logistics:** Contact Lewis Galway at [lewisg@xmission.com](mailto:lewisg@xmission.com) or 801-915-1290

**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 12 miles through American Fork Canyon, past the Timpanogous Cave, then it's on your right, pull in and it's to the right. Map is on page two. It's approximately 45 minutes drive from the church to the campground,

Campground info: <http://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/little-mill/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=70123#sr>

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](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. The next opportunity to purchase grocery cards will be on May 10th. 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

July 6	Yoga
July 13	Yoga
July 16	Prayer Shawl Ministry
July 20	Yoga
July 17	Parents Potluck
July 27	Yoga

### Upcoming Events

Sept. 4-7	Labor Day Campout
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### 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: <a href="mailto:dennalee1968@gmail.com">dennalee1968@gmail.com</a>	
Dot Clayton	801-561-4776
Sandy Dreis	801-256-0825
Kathleen Luck	801-567-9062