



Volume 36, Issue 3

March, 2016

March Theme: Forgiveness



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March 6: "The Adventure of Forgiveness"

Eleanor Roosevelt said, "Do one thing every day that scares you." Let's face it: the work of forgiveness is one of the scariest things we do in our lives. And, it brings the greatest possibility of transformation. What can we do to facilitate this work in our lives, our community and the world?

Rev. Patty Willis

March 13: TBA

March 20: "Words of Wisdom for the Road Ahead"

On this day of the Installation that celebrates Rev. Patty's becoming our settled minister, let us listen to words from the mentors who have supported her with wisdom from afar. They have been part of the shared ministry of the past four years.

Rev. Patty Willis

March 27: "The Legacy of Rabbi Jesus in the Forging of a New Identity":

On the auspicious day of Easter, let us take a new look at the life of Jesus of Nazareth from the perspective of Andrew Solomon's concept of vertical and horizontal identities (read *Far from the Tree* as a resource). This great rabbi asked his followers to be courageous in forging a new identity beyond the one into which they were born. In this community, many of us are also engaged in that work of forging identities beyond the ones of our birth. What does Jesus' life teach us about flourishing and living again in a new way?

Rev. Patty Willis

From the Board of Trustees

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

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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

I am proud to consider how the SVUUS community has grown since I moved to Salt Lake City and attended my first service just over four years ago. My daughter (Claire) is in her second rotation of OWL (Our Whole Lives) classes, I sing in a wonderful choir that engages my spirit, we have a standing Monday Menu series that offers religious education opportunities for all ages each spring and fall, and (best of all) we have a magnificent settled minister.

As Vice-President on the Board, one of my duties is to facilitate a quarterly meeting of the Council of Committees, comprised of the chair of each committee at SVUUS. I was surprised to discover that there are almost 20 committees managing different components of our community. In addition, there are almost 30 other people who facilitate the wonderful variety of events and services that occur throughout the year, some of which are the Auction, Campout, Circle Suppers, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Sound, Women's Group, and Yard Sale. This collection of leaders allow us to be the vibrant, welcoming congregation that keeps long-time members and attracts new people each week.

Seeing unfamiliar faces on Sundays makes me feel both intimidated (because I feel like I am not doing my job if I don't know everyone) and elated (because I'm glad to know SVUUS is growing in size and diversity). The Board is in continual discussion to identify "gaps" in our processes and to increase the likelihood that a visitor will become a member. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve on the Board and witness the continual evolution of our community.

Christine Hirrill

Board of Trustees member



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From Our Minister

Monthly Theme: Forgiveness

Have you ever stood at that crossroads with someone standing in your way, knowing that you needed to forgive them but just couldn't? I have. I am not quick to forgive and some things seem impossible to forgive and yet when I see a holocaust survivor forgiving a concentration camp guard, I am certain that forgiveness is the most important work we can do. Eva Kor, a woman who survived the experiments of Mengele on twins, returned to Germany to witness a war crimes trial of someone who played a pivotal role in the workings of Auschwitz. While there, she expressed appreciation to the man on trial when he admitted what he had done as a perpetrator. His admitting what he had done helped her to begin to forgive. This is work that all of us can do that facilitates forgiveness. This is the piece over which we have control and it can give ease to the hearts of people we have hurt. When you look back on your life, can you think of someone to whom you need to acknowledge that you did something to hurt them? One of the biggest barriers to forgiveness is the denial or silence of the person who has hurt you. If there is silence around us and what we have done, now is the time to speak. We can each do this in our own way through letters, phone calls---even texting.

After creating a practice of admitting our wrongdoings in interpersonal relationships, then we can move to the larger scale of history. Last month, I read *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz and although I had already read many books about the genocide that happened in the settling of North and South America, it was shocking to read it from the beginning to the end in one book. If you have Euro-American settler ancestry, a first step is understanding the role that your ancestors played in the genocide of indigenous people and claiming that history as your own. Acknowledging the true history of this country would be a big step towards reconciliation and why my prayer to open the Senate was an invitation to admit the wrongs that we have done and ask for forgiveness.

We stand together on this land, acknowledging the sacrifice, the blood that was shed, the mistakes that were made and ask forgiveness of the native peoples whose ways we did not understand. May we strive for wisdom and understanding that will heal the wounds of the past and may we seek reconciliation. May each of us seek our own forgiveness in all the ways we fall short and may we seek forgiveness in the larger ways when we unknowingly or knowingly harm fellow human beings and this great Earth over which we are called to be wise guardians.

I can still respect my ancestors and admit that they made choices that were a part of the genocide of indigenous peoples. As Unitarian Universalists, we are called to have a practice of speaking to those we have wronged on a personal level and re-framing the way we speak of history that admits the wrongs in which we or our ancestors have unknowingly or knowingly participated. That is true for relationships with our families, communities (including churches!), the land in which we live, our international relationships through our government and the Earth as a whole. A wise teacher I met in Japan, Shoichi Suzuki, encouraged his students who were traveling to learn about the history between their country (Japan) and the country they were visiting. Only then, he told them, can you be a good traveler. That was difficult for Japanese students visiting China and Korea for the history of cruelty to those countries is complex and heart wrenching. During one of my first lessons with my Guatemalan Spanish teacher, Milvia, we talked about what the United States had done to manipulate the politics of her country which ultimately led to dire poverty and violence. I wanted her to know that I knew what our country had done. As a resident of Utah, do you know about the Indian Wars of the early pioneer times and the Bear River Massacre in particular?

I invite you to begin or continue a journey that will be a catalyst for forgiveness around you and finally perhaps you can embark on the hardest work: forgiving yourself. May that happen among us!

In love and community,
Rev. Patty



News from the Social Action Council

March - April Offering Split Recipient - Friends of Great Salt Lake

South Valley Social Action Council

In the spirit of serving our wider community, we at South Valley split our Sunday morning offering with a charitable organization whose works align with our values and principles. For March and April we have chosen *Friends of Great Salt Lake*, a local organization that works to preserve and protect the Great Salt Lake Ecosystem and increase public awareness and appreciation of the lake through education, research, public advocacy, and the arts. The Great Salt Lake ecosystem is under great pressure from current and proposed water inflow diversions, industrial development, wastewater discharges, and climate change. As lake levels have drastically lowered in recent years, ecosystem, wildlife, air quality, and recreation are gravely threatened.

Some interesting facts about our fascinating inland sea:

- Over 5 million migratory birds stop at GSL each year to feed, nest, and rest
- Lake salinity varies across the lake, and is typically 3 to 5 times saltier than the ocean
- Lake levels met all-time historic lows this past year - currently Antelope Island is no longer an island!
- Gunnison Island hosts one of the largest white pelican colonies on the continent, typically 6,000 - 12,000 nesting adult birds
- A railroad causeway divides the lake into north and south arms, with vastly different ecosystems on each side
- Brine shrimp harvest and mineral extract industries are worth millions of dollars

We are planning an upcoming field trip to the lake with Friends of Great Salt Lake, for all ages, likely to occur in April. Date and time TBD. Watch for details!

From the Worship Closet

Forgiveness, from the Worship Closet

Always forgive your enemies...nothing annoys them so much - Oscar Wilder

This always makes me laugh. But it is true that forgiveness is often for ourselves, and not necessarily for the people we forgive. This month we will be exploring the concept of forgiveness. Most understand that forgiveness does not mean forgetting. It also doesn't mean that when a wrong was done, it doesn't have to be made right. I personally have a lot of questions about forgiveness. In order to forgive someone do they have to ask for forgiveness? What about if they are not regretful? And is there such a thing as something that should never be forgiven?

There is a wonderful article by the Reverend Audette Fulbright about forgiveness, and I encourage you to read it at <http://www.ucheyenne.org/multimedia-archive/never-forget-a-theology-of-forgiveness/>. In the article she makes this statement about forgiveness, "At the core, forgiving and being forgiven are not simple acts, quickly and easily done. They can be, however, moments of the most powerful transformation, leading to peace and strength and relationships more beautiful than any that were possible before whatever damage was done." Please join us this month as we explore forgiveness. – Val Allyse

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

In April we will have the Egg-ceptional potluck on the first Sunday also, so be planning an egg dish or another dish to bring then.

We are really excited about our upcoming plans for May 1st, May Day or Beltane. We are planning to have a mini-medieval festival outside and inside. We will have a fire pit and "ale" (Martinelli's). We will have medieval food and costumes are welcome. This event will be a fundraiser for us to bring Christopher Penczak to Lava Hot Springs. Please come and celebrate the coming of spring the old fashioned way.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, March 24, 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.

Religious Education, Growth and Learning

MARCH SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

3/6/2016

High School (9th-12th graders): UU Values in Society
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Coming of Age
 Seekers (2nd-5th graders): Love Will Guide Us
 Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Love Surrounds Us
 Butterflies (Pre-K): Celebrating Me & My World
 Nursery (Infants and Toddlers): free play

3/13/2016

High School (9th-12th graders): Coffee Shop Sunday @ Beans n' Brews
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Coming of Age
 Seekers (2nd-5th graders): Love Will Guide Us
 Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Love Surrounds Us
 Butterflies (Pre-K): Celebrating Me & My World
 Nursery (Infants and Toddlers): free play

3/20/2016

High School (9th-12th graders): UU Values in Society
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Coming of Age
 Seekers (2nd-5th graders): Love Will Guide Us
 Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Love Surrounds Us
 Butterflies (Pre-K): Celebrating Me & My World
 Nursery (Infants and Toddlers): free play

3/27/2016

High School (9th-12th graders): Attend Easter Service Upstairs
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Assist with Easter Can Hunt
 Seekers (2nd-5th graders) & Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): CHILDREN'S
 EASTER CAN HUNT with Liz
 Butterflies (Pre-K): Celebrating Me & My World
 Nursery (Infants and Toddlers): free play

Easter Sunday Can Hunt

On Easter Sunday, March 27, the children will decorate baskets and hunt for CANNED FOOD to donate to the Utah Food Bank....please bring your canned goods each Sunday before then to the decorated box in the church foyer!

Monday Menus

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. The next session will begin in January. Please contact Sinnaon Wolfe (sinnaon.wolfe@cst.edu) or Liz Martin (DRE@svuus.org) or Rev. Patty (Minister@svuus.org) with your ideas!

Opportunities and Announcements

The Religious Exploration Committee is hosting the March First Sunday potluck! We will be having a Beach Party!

Come hula away your winter blues with us on Sunday March 6 from 11:30pm to 1:30pm. This is also our Kick-Off for the Mystery Pals Program Sign-up, so come get all the information you'll need to participate this year!

We will provide the lei's, music, limbo stick and main dish if you'll bring your Hawaiian shirts, sunny smiles and side dishes!

~Aloha until then!

A-D Salad/Fruit

E-M Drink/Bread

N-Z Side Dish

2016 Mystery Pals Program!

Blast Off with Religious Exploration's 2016 Mystery Pals Program - May the Friendship be with You!

This is RE's most anticipated program of the year here at South Valley! Mystery Pals encourages our members to connect in new ways by fostering communication between the generations. Mystery Pal "Seniors" (6th grade to Adult) and Mystery Pal "Juniors" (K to 5th grade) are matched up anonymously to make a new friend, while keeping their identities a mystery. Pals exchange letters or gifts for 3 consecutive Sundays at the Intergalactic Post Office in the lobby. They bring their items to the post office before services, and then check again after service to pick up their own mail. Pals finally get to meet each other at our Potluck Luncheon, where they get to know each other better while participating in fun activities.

Registration: March 6th thru March 20

Gifts Exchanges: Sundays - April 10, 17 & 24

Potluck Luncheon: Sunday April 24 12:00-2:00 pm



Opportunities and Announcements Continued

Rev. Patty's Installation Ceremony

Be part of our future: Attend the Installation on March 20th at 6 p.m.

At the annual meeting, we unanimously voted for Rev. Patty to become our settled minister. Now we're ready for the ceremony and party!

Come at 6 p.m. Childcare will be provided.

RSVP to Cindy Martin at admin@svuus.org

Pathway to Membership Class: March 6th after the service

Do you wonder about UU history and how our congregation works? Come and share your story with us and learn more about who we are. Bring your questions and stories. Rev. Patty and Caren Smith will facilitate the conversation.

Special Food Drive in March - to benefit the KidsEat Weekend Backpack Program

There are children in our larger community that are fed meals during the week at school, but on the weekend find little or no food at home. We are partnering with KidsEat, a small local nonprofit organization, to help provide 300 meals each weekend to hungry children in the Salt Lake Valley. The meals are packed in reusable backpacks and sent home with at-risk children from the Boys & Girls Club, and empty backpacks are returned on Mondays. Food needs include: soups, small peanut butter and jam/jelly, instant oatmeal packets, Mac&Cheese, granola bars, trail mixes, fruit cups, pudding cups, cans of ravioli or spaghetti, cans of chili or pork & beans, rice meals, small cans of tuna fish, etc. (Please avoid sugary treats and chips, and glass containers). We will have a special food collection effort on the day of Rev Patty's installation. Please remember to bring food items every time you come to the church, and place in the box in the foyer.

Donate to South Valley

FOR FREE

That's right! If you shop at Smith's Food and Drug stores you probably already have a "Smith's Rewards" card. It is the card that gives you discounts on some things you buy and gives you fuel points for discounts on gas. Well, you can have that card associated with South Valley and Smith's will cut a check to us each quarter that is a % of the purchases you and others make in the quarter.

Smith's no longer allows us to buy the gift cards at a discount and sell them to members to raise funds. Their fundraising assistance is now through the "Community Rewards" program.

So please, call Smith's (now owned by Kroger) at 888-873-4438 to have your card affiliated with South Valley or you can go to <https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/account/update> register your card as supporting South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society. If you are not already registered you'll need to create an account (you just give an email and a password), then go to the "Account Summary" section, then to "Community Rewards", chose the charitable organization with whom you want your card affiliated. If you don't have a card this registration will get you one.

Everybody wins!

Phil Quigley, SVUUS Treasurer

Opportunities and Announcements Continued

Exciting Email List Changes

South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society is pleased to announce some exciting changes to our email list. Our venerable old svuus-news@mailman.xmission.com mailing list (a.k.a. the "listserv") has been replaced.

We have migrated two brand new mailing lists:

- news@svuus.org - community@svuus.org

All members of the previous svuus-new mailing list have been imported into these two new lists.

Why two lists? The News list is for "official" announcements and the Community list is for community discussion.

To that end, News is moderated and Community is not (i.e. any member of Community may post to that list).

You may be wondering why we are making this change. We are moving the mailing list to Google Apps because:

- it gives us more control over our lists
- it's easier for multiple people to administrate lists
- also allows us to have shorter, nicer addresses for lists
- it also allows people to decide what level of community news they receive. Some people may choose only to get "official" announcements and others can choose to be part of the communal conversation.
- it will also make it easier for new members and investigators to differentiate between news from the Minister or Board and conversation among the membership.

(As a side note, any SVUUS group that would like a list of their own should contact Communications.)

The new Community list functions in a manner nearly identical to the old svuus-news list. So, if you prefer to just use it as email, you may continue to do so. However, there are websites for both of these new lists. You can visit these pages to see previous posts, view conversations as threads, and even make posts to the lists.

Here are the website addresses:

- <http://svuus.org/groups/news.html> - <http://svuus.org/groups/community.html>

If you prefer not to have to bookmark or memorize these URLs, there are links to them on the "SVUUS Email Lists" web page on our web site (under the "Our Community" menu/header).

We're excited because we believe these changes will better facilitate communication within our community and hope that you will enjoy the shorter list addresses and this new two channeled approach to communication. So far this transition is going very smoothly however, please let the Communications Committee know if you experience issues due to these changes.

Spyglass Gatherings Return!

On the first Sunday and the first two Mondays of March, the Board of Trustees, Committee on Ministry and our Stewardship team are hosting community gatherings at the church to talk about the direction the church is going and our dreams for the future and the role you want to play a role in those dreams. What do you see when you look out at the horizon? Come and add your voice: **Sunday, March 6th** at 12:45 p.m. after the potluck.

Monday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. after soup and bread together. **Sunday, March 13th** at 12:30 p.m. after the service and a snack! **Monday, March 14th** 6:30 p.m. after soup and bread together.

Meetings will last approximately 90 minutes and childcare will be provided.

Happenings Hub

Every Sunday after services. Visit our new Happenings Hub in the Social Hall after each Sunday Worship Service to find out about all of the goings-on in our community.

You will find information and signup sheets for all kinds of activities and volunteer groups, such as Monday Menu offerings (our community nights), social action opportunities, hikes, committee needs. Contact Susan Eyzaguirre eyzsooz@gmail.com for more information.



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. 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

May	15	All Church Luncheon for Bridging Children & Youth
June	11	Annual Yard Sale
June	12	All Church Picnic

Upcoming Events

March	6	Pathway to Membership Class
March	6	First Sunday Potluck and Beach Party
March	6	Mystery Pals Program Kick Off
March	6	Spyglass Class
March	7	Spyglass Class
March	13	Grocery Card Sales
March	13	Spyglass Class
March	14	Spyglass Class
March	20	Rev. Patty's Installation
March	24	Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Mystery Pals Registration: 3/6/16–3/20/16 / Gift Exchanges: 4/10/16-4/24/16
Potluck Luncheon: 4/24/16



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

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