



## 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

Mac Lund, Co-President 801-273-0462  
Jan Vanderhooft, Co-Pres. 801-943-3879  
Christine Hurrill, Vice Pres. 801-493-9316  
Ann Hess, Secretary 801-577-1678  
Cody Pace, Treasurer 801-518-8399  
Cynthia Dobbs, Trustee 801-979-5951  
Nolan Newbold, Trustee 801-336-8919

### COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Luci Malin (Chair) 801-440-3776  
Sandra Roach 801-562-9465  
Phil Quigley 801-942-0049  
Lory Schantz 801-856-7834

### CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Cindy Martin 801-944-9723  
Email: [admin@svuus.org](mailto:admin@svuus.org)  
Office Hours: Tue & F 1:30-4:30 pm  
Mon. Wed. Thu. 1:30-5:30 pm

### 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

Dot Clayton (Chair) 801-561-4776  
Email: [ibedotclay@comcast.net](mailto:ibedotclay@comcast.net)

### SVUUS Web Site

[www.svuus.org](http://www.svuus.org)

### SVUUS News & Community Email Lists

South Valley has two email lists, one for official announcements and the other for communications within the congregation.

If you wish to sign up for either or both of these lists, please visit: [www.svuus.org/our-community/online/](http://www.svuus.org/our-community/online/)

To send a message to the list, simply address it to  
[news.svuus.org](mailto:news.svuus.org)

## From the Board of Trustees

### Message from the Board

A new year is upon us! As the Roman god Janus does with his two faces, it is our responsibility to look backwards and reflect on our journey to this point and also to look forward to help us plan out the path to come.

For me, the look backward could contain visions of an election cycle that still peaks my anxiety, arguments that attempt to explain how murder could start with a simple traffic stop, flashbacks of articles that outline how slavery is alive and well in our world or visions of our Minister standing on a windswept plain crying out for all to hear, "Enough is enough!".

For me, this is not what I choose to see. I see the slowly developing bump of life that evolved and changed from the faintest heartbeat just a few short months ago to the beast who keeps me up at night and owns some giant feet that I pray she grows into. I see the miracle of cells coming together. The daily nausea. The attempts to explain to the two year old that their world is about to be rocked. The moments of extreme gratitude shared in silence as a nearly torturous fifteen year path reaches its conclusion. This is the past I choose to see.

The god Janus, also being the god of gateways and doors, serves as a reminder to all of us that every path in life has surprises. Sometimes a seemingly solid barrier becomes an opening onto a whole new world. Sometimes we are met with a lock where none should be. Sometimes we have a key with no current home. Sometimes you get what you want and your ability to sleep is sacrificed in the process.

As I look forward down my path the next year, it is with baby tinted glasses and a bit of sleep deprivation. My focus in the coming year will be on the things that I can control or influence. I want the example I set to be one of action and I want my daughter, Olive, to know through my words and deeds that making a difference in this world may start as the faintest heartbeat, a dream really, but with perseverance will grow into its potential and open doors that don't even exist yet.

I challenge all to get involved this next year. Will your actions be the heartbeat that spurs others?

Yours in love and community,  
Cody Pace  
Treasurer



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## *From Our Minister*

January, 2017  
Non-violence

Do you find yourself wallowing in anger and discouragement recently? You are not alone. These are times when our commitment to treating all humans with respect is put to the test. I believe that out of this difficult time, we have an opportunity to forge a new way of being. When the challenges seem overwhelming, I look to my heroes. I think of Mohandas Gandhi, a brilliant young lawyer, living in his British-occupied homeland of India. In his autobiography *The Story of My Experiments in Truth*, a book that is one of my holy books, he writes of many difficult encounters as a young lawyer. After one particularly insulting meeting with a British bureaucrat during which justified anger welled up inside him, he decided not to do anything. He needed to “choose his battles.” We are in a similar time. There is so much that is at stake: human rights, the environment, education, and women’s right to choose, among many other things. How do we choose?

The work of Mahatma Gandhi succeeded, I believe, in great part because of his practice of non-violence. When I was visiting the city of Jodhpur in the desert region of India south of New Delhi, I discovered Bishnoi, the culture that inspired him to build a community around principles of non-violence. In a landscape in which most of the trees have been cut for firewood, Bishnoi villages appear like oases in the desert. The word “bishnoi” means 29 and refers to the twenty-nine rules by which the Bishnoi live their lives. Some of their sacred rules prohibit the cutting of trees and the killing of animals. These rules have created oases of beauty, with animals that wander about unafraid and towering, leafy trees. In years past, when a ruler made a plan to cut down hundreds of trees for a building project, these rules were put to the test. Led by the Bishnoi woman, Amrita Devi, 363 people held trees and were slaughtered by soldiers before the ruler stopped cutting down trees.

Another successful movement, symbolized by the Water Protectors of Standing Rock, live their beliefs positively through protecting rather than protesting. The water protectors, as the Bishnoi, also had rules by which they lived their lives: No alcohol, no drugs, no weapons and treating every action as a prayer. These rules created a non-violent atmosphere out of which they could be successful. In both cases, while they were protecting, the people and their communities were transforming as well. What are the rules of our community so that in the process of making change in the world, we grow strong and whole? What do we want to protect rather than protest? At Standing Rock, I became convinced that the Earth needs to be our first priority and that Native Americans are leading the way. I would love to hear your ideas. My experience there also convinced me of the need for reconciliation on all levels of our lives. At Standing Rock, the seven Sioux nations were reconciling with one another and other Native groups and veterans were circling to protect and to reconcile. Is there someone with whom you need to reconcile? May the difficulty of this time spur us to courageous change within and without! I will be working right along side you.

In love and community,

Patty



## *News from the Social Action Council*

### **Jan - Feb Offering Split Recipient**

Our worship service offering split recipient for January and February is the Oceti Sakowin Camp, a unified encampment of Water Protectors dedicated to peacefully and prayerfully protecting critical resources from the Dakota Access Pipeline that threatens sacred sites, drinking water, and the honoring of a treaty with the Standing Rock Sioux tribe. Though the Army Corps of Engineers recently denied the necessary land easement needed to drill beneath the Lake Oahe, the pipeline company (Energy Transfer Partners) remains committed to the current route. Our donations will help the Water Protectors maintain their presence at the site through the harsh winter as they work to preserve sacred Sioux sites, critical water resources, and the dignity of the Sioux people.

## *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

The prayer shawl group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, January 19, 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).

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

South Valley's Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) will be offering a series of three very special fundraising dinners in preparation for our semi-annual retreat with renowned author and lecturer Christopher Penczak.

### **Dinner in the Dark** – A darkened and blindfolded four course meal

January (exact date TBA) - \$30 - Remove that most important of senses and your others become heightened. We don't want to give away the menu, but be assured of the highest quality and variety. Fun for the entire family (child friendly menu upon request).

### **7 Course Meal**

February (exact date TBA) - \$50 - We will pull out all of the stops. This luxurious meal will include a selection of wine, appetizer, soup, salad, sorbet, fish or poultry, a main course with vegetable, and a dessert.

Christopher Penczak will be offering a weekend seminar on his book "The Plant Familiar" at the Aura Soma center in Lava Hot Springs, ID on March 23 - 26.

## *Happenings Hub*

**Every Sunday after service.** 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 Wellspring Wednesday offerings (our community nights), social action opportunities, hikes, committee needs. Contact Susan Eyzaguirre [eyzsooz@gmail.com](mailto:eyzsooz@gmail.com) for more information.

## *Opportunities and Announcements*

### **NEW TO UU?**

Come and share your story: How did you find us? Tell us about your journey. We'll introduce you to Unitarian Universalism. Facilitated by Rev. Patty Willis and Caren Smith. Sunday, January 8th after service.

### **First Sunday Potluck**

That's right, it's back! Join us for the First Sunday Potluck for January 8th. Sunday, right after our worship service. See you Sunday!

## *Wellspring Wednesdays*

### **We need your ideas!**

We had a terrific lineup of classes this session on Wellspring Wednesday evenings. And Liz Martin's soups were a wonderful treat. We had deep discussions about Unpacking Racism and Privilege, the meaning of Christ and Christianity to UUs, a primer about Samhain (the origins of Halloween), we learned how to de-stress during the holidays, make Origami decorations, and about the meaning of Yule, and we had great fun playing Strategy Games! All of these offerings were brought to us by knowledgeable, dedicated South Valley UU members who generously gave of their time and talent. Thank you, Liz, and all those who contributed. You're awesome!

Rev. Patty, Liz, and I would like your input for 2017. We'd love to see these Wednesday offerings become a larger part of South Valley activities. You, the members of the congregation, have so much to offer and we all have this tremendous opportunity to share knowledge, learn and have fun together!

So, please, take the time to tell us what topics or offerings you'd like included in our 2017 Wellspring Wednesday classes. Send us your thoughts and ideas. They could be fun, serious, creative, educational, thought provoking or playful. Use your imagination. Email your comments and ideas to me at [colecato@comcast.net](mailto:colecato@comcast.net). We're looking forward to your ideas! Thank you, Cole

## *Emergency Response Team*

Your Emergency Response Team has been working hard for our South Valley community. We have: taken care of some unsafe issues in the building, met with Cottonwood Heights Police Department who assessed our building and grounds for safety and security (and responded to suggestions made), stocked and placed First Aid kits in accessible places throughout the building, placed an accessible wheelchair on the first floor closet, stocked each classroom with band aids, put up signage for a variety of things, and more!

Look for new evacuation route signage to be posted soon throughout the building and be aware that we will have an evacuation drill on a Sunday soon to come.

If you have any issues, suggestions, or questions of the ERT, just email Caren Smith ([smitharies@yahoo.com](mailto:smitharies@yahoo.com)) and she'll make sure the Team responds ASAP.

## *Interweave*

### **Interweave LGBTQ and Allies Potluck**

Please join us for the next Interweave LGBTQ and Allies potluck. It will be held Saturday, January 7th, starting at 5:30 pm, at the Millcreek home of Tom Meyer and Sam Forlenza, 1341 E. Luck Spring Drive (same as 3470 South). Questions? Text Tom at 385-242-6292.

## *Religious Education, Growth and Learning*

### **Sunday Religious Exploration for Children and Youth**

#### **January 1:**

ALL-AGES SERVICE (everyone upstairs)

#### **January 8:**

Butterflies (Pre-K) - "Snack Party"

Pathfinders (K-1st) - "Decomposition"

Trailblazers (2nd-3rd) - "We Share"

Seekers (4th-5th) - "The Power of Silence"

Junior High (6th-8th) - Intro to Christianity

High School (9th-12th) - Poetry Session 3 "Keenly Observing Nature"

#### **January 15:**

Butterflies (Pre-K) - "Feeling Sad"

Pathfinders (K-1st) - "Life-Giving Plants"

Trailblazers (2nd-3rd) - "Memorial Rituals"

Seekers (4th-5th) - "The Power of Listening"

Junior High (6th-8th) - Intro to Catholicism

High School (9th-12th) - MLK Racial Justice Con at First Unitarian Church of SLC

#### **January 22:**

Butterflies (Pre-K) - "Weddings and Other Services of Love and Union"

Pathfinders (K-1st) - "Creativity in Nature"

Trailblazers (2nd-3rd) - "Looking for Signs of Community"

Seekers (4th-5th) - "The Power to Shine"

Junior High (6th-8th) - Field Trip to Catholic Church

High School (9th-12th) - Poetry session 4 "Who & What Guides Us?"

#### **January 29:**

Butterflies (Pre-K) - "Babies"

Pathfinders (K-1st) - Children's Chapel

Trailblazers (2nd-3rd) - Children's Chapel

Seekers (4th-5th) - Children's Chapel

Junior High (6th-8th) - Field Trip Discussion and Catholicism in Current Events

High School (9th-12th) - Poetry session 5 "Finding Our Mission"

\*\*\*\*PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD(REN) and YOUTH!!!

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-RE2016>

**Save the Date**

February 11 Otter Creek Concert

**Upcoming Events**

January 8 First Sunday Potluck  
 January 8 New to UU Class  
 January 8 Religious Transition Group  
 January 19 Prayer Shawl Ministry



**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  
 Email: [ibedotclay@comcast.net](mailto:ibedotclay@comcast.net)

Sandy Dreis 801-256-0825  
 Mel Welliver 801-963-8258  
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