

The Beacon

South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

Volume 37, Issue 8

August, 2017

August Theme: Kindness



In This Issue:

August Services	1
Leadership Directory	2
Board Message	2
Minister's Message	3
Prayer Shawl Ministry	4
Happenings Hub	4
Opportunities	
And Announcements	5
Religious Exploration	6
Save the Date	7
Upcoming Events	7
Caring Circle	7

August 6: "The Daily Acts of Kindness that Change Our Lives"

Rev. Patty will recount the acts of kindness that have changed her life and the lives of others. She asks, too (as she explored in her newsletter for August) if niceness can get in the way of true kindness?

Rev. Patty Willis

August 13th: "The Just Mercy of Bryan Stevenson"

When the members of our congregation talk about attending the General Assembly in New Orleans, everyone says that the best part was the lecture by Bryan Stevenson. This lawyer has worked to release innocent people on death row and change laws that send juveniles to adult prisons without hope of parole. That all sounds dark--and yet the people who read or listen to his work become filled with hope. Come find out why! How is this work connected with our second principle: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations?

Rev. Patty Willis

August 20th: The Loving Kindness of Martha Sharp"

How a Unitarian woman lived out her faith to save children from death at the hands of the Nazis and left her family behind. Let us consider the hard choices that parents sometimes must make that stretch the bonds of family.

Rev. Patty Willis

August 27: "Job"

Sinamon Wolfe

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

MINISTER

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REGAL COUNCIL

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CARING CIRCLE

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

SVUUS Web Site

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/

To send a message to the list, simply address it to: news.svuus.org

From the Board of Trustees

Message from the Board**Kindness**

The word of the month for August is "kindness." This ties into our second principle which states that we "affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion in human relations." This is not a bad definition for kindness. But, there is an implicit precursor to this whole definition. We must have human relations. In fact, all of our seven principles require human relations, interactions with others, to apply these principles toward. When I was in college, one of my favorite professors claimed "you cannot practice virtue on a desert island." So, actually having a community where people interact is required to practice our principles. Rev. Patty and I agree that our major goal is to get more interaction between people within our congregation. Can you greet and talk with someone new each Sunday? Can you share experiences with each other? Can you make a variety of friendships here at church? When you do, you're living the word of the month. Thank you all for practicing kindness.

Jan Vanderhooft
President



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From Our Minister

Minister's Newsletter for August, 2017

Monthly theme: Kindness

The last week of June, I was asked to speak to the Brigham Young University LGBTQ group. I told them my story of meeting Mary Lou and how our life unfolded and at the end they asked the question: How has coming out been different between Utah and other places? What came to me was that the two old friends who were living in Salt Lake to whom I came out many years ago both responded really well at first. They were nice. And then they disappeared. It is painful when a good friend gradually fades out of your life. You don't notice anything the first months but then no card comes at Christmas and then no responses to letters and yet another Christmas without a card. Looking back like a detective, I discover that the silence began after that nice letter congratulating me on my courage to come out and make a life with Mary Lou. As painful as it is to be a recipient of that behavior, I recognize it in myself. Under duress, there have been times when I've been nice to avoid a difficult conversation or situation—which I believe is better than being rude---and then I disappeared. I think that sometimes even with my family, that my "niceness" avoided the hard conversations. And, when I did brave one of those difficult conversations, I was always rewarded with more connection, more trust and more love. In fact, looking back I wish I hadn't been trying to be so "nice." Niceness also stops us from standing up for people who are vulnerable. Is it fear of not looking like a "nice" person that keeps us from stopping a racist or sexist joke?

I love harmony and yet I remember times that I felt trapped by it, when it prevented me from talking about the "hard" issues. This year, I hope you join me in continuing our adventure to be brave by cutting through our niceness to be radically kind. Let us not have our niceness hold us back from making a deeper harmony with the greater world. I have found many examples in my favorite book of the past weeks: Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson.

In love and community,

Patty

Rev. Patty Willis



Opportunities and Announcements

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, August 17, 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.



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 for more information.

Annual SVUUS Campout

Labor Day Camp Out - Friday, September 1 through Monday, September 4 - Bear Lake State Park

Come to the 25th annual SVUUS Labor Day Campout

Yes, it is the 25th year of the Labor Day Camp out. This year we will be at Rendezvous Beach at Bear Lake. I have never been to this campsite but Wendy Newbold said it was nice. The registration and information is available at the Happenings table downstairs or in the church foyer.

Please register early to ensure your spot. You can register for the whole three days or just come up for the day. We will have church service on Sunday followed by a potluck. Please contact Kathleen Luck (dewelluck@gmail.com) for more questions.

JULY - AUGUST OFFERING SPLIT RECIPIENT

Our worship service offering split recipient for July and August is the Crossroads Urban Center Emergency Food Pantry. Crossroads is a local grassroots organization that serves and advocates for Utahans with low incomes, those with disabilities, and people of color to meet basic survival needs and improve their quality of life. Our offering donations will help Crossroads open their second emergency food pantry this fall in the Poplar Grove neighborhood, where there currently is a "food desert". Please give generously.

Opportunities and Announcements Continued

SVUUS Summer Yard Sale

ANNUAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE!

Date: Saturday, August 5, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

As always, this is only possible with lots of volunteers! All proceeds go directly into the general budget and each year we've broken our previous earnings record!

Starting the July 30th your time, talent and "treasures" are needed to support this effort to financially sustain our beloved community. Here's some more incentives to volunteer- snacks, socializing and first pick of items! I'm usually hiding down in the preschool on Sundays, so there are many new faces I've seen, but haven't had a chance to meet. I look forward to meeting you all during set up times and during the yard sale!

SCHEDULE:

July 30 (Sun): help needed after church, 12pm - 1pm to move chairs out and tables in, start sorting donations.

August 2-4 (Wed-Fri): 5:30-8pm, help needed setting up, sorting, and pricing

August 5 (Sat):

6-8 am, help needed setting up and opening

8-12 pm (2 to 3 hours shifts), help needed selling

12-2 pm, help needed cleaning up and setting up for church

Donations can be made by bringing your items to the church:

July 30th right after church

August 2-4 (Wed-Fri) 5:30-8:00

Monday - Friday during Cindy's office hours (Tuesday - Thursday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Friday 8:00am - 1:00 pm)

Or by contacting Robyn Taylor-Granda (oldhousegirl@gmail.com / 801-597-6711) to make arrangements.

Please sort your donations to their correct table. Look for the large signs identifying how donations are sorted. I can also schedule to pick up items if necessary.

You can also add your name to the Yard Sale Volunteer sheet at:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1f-joO3j0JwpmaFQtySx1Xqoih6ZYhbjR_uC2FGg1iJl/edit?usp=sharing



Opportunities and Announcements Continued

THE INN BETWEEN CONCERT

Please join us for great music, delicious food and a fabulous silent auction at ["TuneINN" - our first ever benefit Concert](#) on Friday, August 25 at South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society (SVUUS). Doors open at 6:30 for dinner and silent auction. Music begins at 8 pm with opening act Buzzard Whiskey and headliner Otter Creek.

With 10 instruments between them and 53 strings to tune, [Otter Creek](#) burst onto the national music scene in 2012 with back to back hit albums on the folk charts. Peter and Mary Danzig have drawn praise from around the country, being described as "a duo that is both a technical marvel and tastefully perfect." They use their "superb musicianship underpinned by stunning technique" to perform "songs that appeal to the heart and mind as well as the ear." (Greg Harness, Rootsworld Magazine).

[Buzzard Whiskey](#), a 5-piece group led by David Lane, is a "refreshing taste of acoustic pop/folk featuring original songs mixed with some classics and presented with thoughtful harmonies." (Todd Schultz, President, Intermountain Acoustic Music Association).

During our first two years, **The INN Between has helped 27 individuals experience the end of life with dignity.** Your support at this event helps us continue to carry out our mission, working to end tragic deaths on the streets of our community.

Tickets are \$20 and include dinner, soft drinks, prize drawing, silent auction, and lots of fun. Kids 12 and under free.

Date: August 25, 2017

Time: Doors open at 6:30, music begins around 8 pm

Address: SVUUS, 6876 S Highland Drive, Salt Lake City UT 84121

Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

SVUUS Boutique and Health Fair

Save the date for our annual Fall "Boutique" and Health Fair: October 28th! If you are interested in participating as a vendor, or have questions, please contact Ann Scarborough at 952-994-1790 (text ok) or via email: annbob.scarborough@gmail.com.

The Red Cross Mobile Blood Unit will be back on Saturday, October 28th, on the day of our Annual "Boo"-tique and Health Fair and Children's Carnival. Please plan to donate that day between 12:00 pm and 4:00 pm. There is a critical blood supply shortage here in our local area. Please tell your neighbors and invite them to come with you.

Religious Education, Growth and Learning

Summer Religious Exploration!

During the summer months, our Sunday School classes are on hiatus and we have more casual learning opportunities and fun! Regular RE resumes on September 10, 2017.

6/4/2017 -- Pride Parade Sunday; Childcare only

6/11/2017 -- Church Picnic; Children and Youth will be walking to Mill Hollow Park

6/18/2017 -- Chalk Art Sunday - we'll be decorating the front walkways

6/25/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

7/2/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

7/9/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

7/16/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

7/23/2017 -- Water Fun - Please wear swimsuits and bring towels

7/30/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

8/6/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

8/13/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

8/20/2017 -- Kid Rodeo / Field Day

8/27/2017 -- Spirit of Adventure

9/3/2017 -- Labor Day (Childcare only)



Save the Date

September	1-4	Annual Church Campout
October	28	Bootique and Health Fair

Upcoming Events

August	5	Annual Yard Sale
August	17	Prayer Shawl Ministry
August	25	INN Between Concert

**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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