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March Theme: Justice



March 3rd: "The Legacy of Sojourner Truth"

Rev. Patty Willis

In 1854, at the Ohio Woman's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, Sojourner Truth gave her most famous speech, with the legendary phrase, "Ain't I a Woman?" Let us see how one woman transformed a movement with her truth.

March 10th: "Justice and Revenge: Which Side Are You On?"

Rev. Patty Willis

Revenge can look and feel a lot like justice. Let us make a practice of finding that moment when we can turn the tide away from revenge and towards justice. Come and explore lessons from history and our personal lives.

March 17: "The Irish, Hospitality and Justice"

Mary Norton

The Irish are known for their hospitality worldwide. But did you know that hospitality and justice go hand in hand? As we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, let us reflect on the way our hospitality toward others reflects our First Principle and how we as an all-welcoming, all-inclusive church can follow in the footsteps of the Irish and help bring about a bit more justice in the world.

March 24th: "What does Palm Sunday teach us of the fickle heart of humans?"

Rev. Patty Willis

Why do we fall in and out of love so easily with people in power? Is there a love that can withstand the waves of popularity and fame?

March 31st: "Mary Magdalene's journey to the tomb."

Rev. Patty Willis

Let us look at the stones that stand in front of the tombs of our hearts. From what are we shielding ourselves? What can we learn from Mary Magdalene's early morning walk?

From the Minister's Desk – Taking a Deep Breath

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

DEVELOPMENTAL MINISTER

Rev. Patty Willis Cell #: 801-633-0709
Email: minister@svuus.org

SVUUS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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REGAL COUNCIL

Robyn Taylor-Granda (Chair) 801-597-6711

CARING CIRCLE

Denna Wright (Chair) 801-274-0756
Email: dennalee1968@gmail.com

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

Recently, during our embracing meditation in the middle of the service, I said, "Let us breathe in and breathe out." These words came to me from the meditation during my ordination service, led beautifully by Brenda Voisard. She invited my family up first to have their hands on my shoulders and arms. Others joined the circle, putting their hands on the shoulders and arms of friends and strangers, in an ever-widening circle that encompassed all who had come to witness my passage into becoming an ordained minister. When the circle had all joined, she told us to "Breathe in and breathe out." In the silence, our breathing spread out from Lou and my family to members of the congregation. That experience demonstrated to me how simply breathing together can call us to a sacred space beyond words. We are able to be fully human, fully present to that moment, that moment in which all possibility lies.

Just yesterday, we completed our first six months of shared ministry in South Valley. I spent the day writing an appraisal of how it was going. The questions were generic—ones that all developmental and interim ministers complete after six months of ministry. Answering these generic questions, I was reminded of those developmental tasks that you determined last year with the guidance of Rev. Barbara Coeyman. Six months into the year, I think it is a good idea for all of us to take a deep breath together and look at those developmental tasks. They are "ours."

1. Growth--Attract and retain new members with a goal of five percent net growth per year. Retain current members. Implement processes to facilitate individual growth from visitor to newcomer to member to active participant.
2. Financial stability and growth--Build a culture of generosity and stewardship with existing and new members. Provide a base for organizational responsibilities, paying for adequate staffing, unplanned expenses, congregational necessities, repaying endowment loans, and expanding our mission to the community. To reach stability we need, at the minimum, to have a ten percent growth in pledge units and dollars for the first three years of the Developmental Ministry. In five years we need to be able to have a strong budget with the ability to fulfill our mission and thrive.
3. Leadership Development—Nurture talent in both old and new members to step up to leadership positions within the congregation.
4. Develop a Strategic Facilities Plan--Updates to building, long term maintenance plan, and improvements to rental management.
5. Assist the Board of Trustees—Gathering, creating, organizing, and implementing Policies and Procedures to free the Board to focus on mission goals. Focus energy on mission serving congregants and the greater community.

As I wrote the appraisal, I could see that these developmental tasks are underway in worship services and behind the scenes in committee meetings, in board meetings and in less formal meetings in my office and in our homes. Of great importance to the fulfillment of these tasks is the energy and excitement that is growing among us. Now, I want you, as we breathe in and out together, to take a look at these tasks and think for a moment how you can best participate in their fruition. Rather than think about what isn't done, I encourage you to think about how your specific talents can contribute to the vibrant future that these tasks lead us to. By the time you read this, we will be in the middle of the pledge drive. Do you dream, as I do, of a strong budget that will help us fulfill our mission and thrive? You may be wondering how increasing your pledge by two or three percent will make a difference? When I look at that inversion that hovers over our valley, I wonder how carpooling, how limiting the times that I get into my car will make a difference. It is hard to feel that anything we do will make a difference. It seems so unlikely. Yet, it will make a difference. As you consider increasing your pledge, I also want you to be thinking of your gifts to the church in terms of time and talents. Do you have time to give? Do you have talents that would add to our worship services or the upkeep of our building? There are many ways to give. All of them sustain the life of this congregation. All of them will help us fulfill these tasks we have been charged with. All of your gifts will make a difference. Let us continue this practice of breathing together. There is infinite possibility in that sound of breathing in and breathing out.

In love and community,
Patty
Reverend Patty Willis

From the Board

Dear Beloved South Valley Community,

As I sit down to write this article, South Valley is on the brink of beginning our annual pledge drive. This is always an exciting time because it is a time of connection for us and a time to dream together about all that is possible for our church community. Some people in our congregation pledge right away and we truly thank you for that! Even if you are an early pledger, we still welcome and encourage your participation at a community gathering. These gatherings are all taking place in a small group setting, each about 8-12 people. Attending one is a chance to talk with newer members or friends that you might not know as well and for everyone to share their hopes and dreams for South Valley. You may have some ideas for what we could be doing differently and you may also have some comments about what seems to be going really well this year.

Here are a few things that I think are worthy of celebrating right now at South Valley:

- ❖ Our minister, Rev. Patty, who inspires me every time I talk with her. (This is one of the best-kept secret benefits of serving on the board; you get to work so closely with amazing people). I admit that more often than not, I am moved to tears by her sermons. If you see me dabbing at my eyes during a service, you will know it has happened again.
- ❖ A strong board that is comprised of seven people who are dedicated to South Valley and to doing the very best they can to serve as trustees. We take our volunteer jobs very seriously and always to try to make every decision with South Valley's best interests in mind. It truly is an honor to serve on the Board.
- ❖ Lay leaders who devote many hours of their time to taking care of South Valley's needs and looking for ways to improve. We have so many dedicated volunteers who make a huge difference at South Valley.
- ❖ Small Group Ministry is back! Our connections with each other are so important and the Branches program is a way to really strengthen those ties, through deep listening and sharing. If you aren't involved in Branches in its first session this winter, watch for chances to get involved in the next round later this year.
- ❖ Energized membership. The choir has almost tripled in size from where it was a year ago, our youth have been able to participate in OWL and now in the Coming of Age program, we are adding new members regularly and many people who haven't come for several years are coming back and are happy to rediscover us.

These are just a few things that I can list from my own experience of church this year. There are likely many other things we can celebrate. Of course, South Valley has its challenges too. If there is anything I have learned in my time on the Board, it is that it is almost always a struggle to try to accomplish things alone. But with the help and support of others who are committed to the same ideals, our shared ministry creates something that is much more than the sum of the parts. The sky is the limit in terms of what we can do together.

Thank you all for your support of this place that means so much to me and to all of us.

In community,
Laura Renshaw
Board President



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: dennalee1968@gmail.com	
Ines Korbanka	801-979-3020
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Sheri Lund	801-273-0462
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Mel Welliver	801-963-8258
Sandy Dreis	801-256-0825

From the Worship Closet

Our stewardship campaign is a time to consider what you want to pledge to the South Valley community for the upcoming year. As we celebrate South Valley's 30 years this year, take some time to think about what you are excited about that is going on in our church community. Think about what role you would like to take in the stewardship of our community, how you can give of your time, talent, and treasures. Are you feeling overburdened or disconnected with our community? What is something you think you could do that would enliven or refresh your connection to South Valley UU?

I think of South Valley like a garden with many different types of plants, and though each of them need some similar things to grow and thrive, they all have their own specific needs that set them apart, creating a diverse tapestry of growth. Worship, leadership, religious education, social action... these are some of the plants of our garden. They need gardeners, caretakers that will give them what they need to thrive. Understanding your own interests and strengths can help you choose an area of our community that you will thrive in, and provide the best support.

Our Community depends upon people who can give of their time. Time is precious for all of us, and is quite possibly the most valuable gift we can give in any situation. I think one of the things we can each do to feel enriched by the things we do for our community is to choose the things we give our time to by what will give the most to both the community and to ourselves. If we feel disconnected, we might want to look at ways we could give more of our time to things for the community of South Valley as a whole. If we feel overburdened by what we're giving of our time, we may need to evaluate what activities would give

more to our personal development. Whether you are serving on a committee, teaching a workshop, or attending workshops or social action activities, all can be things that support the growth of South Valley as a community.

Our community depends upon people who can give of their treasures. Our programs need money to thrive and grow. It can be difficult at times to feel comfortable asking for or giving financial support, and not simply from a standpoint of having the ability to do so. Past experiences may have left a sour taste in someone's mouth when it comes to giving money, or asking for it, or we may have discomfort with the idea of discussing money in a spiritual community. It's part of our practical need though, and it's part of what can make South Valley great. Our pledges are an investment into our dreams both for what South Valley is and what it can be.

Our community depends upon people who can give of their talents. No matter your interests or personal skills, there is a niche for you at South Valley. Want to help plan and run worship services? Worship Committee would love to have you. Love teaching youth or adults? Religious Education would be a great fit. Looking for a way to help get our building and grounds shipshape? Okay, you get the idea. There are many, many areas that each person can get involved in the life of our church, and it can be an enriching and rewarding way to give to our community. "We are this church," and it is through our gifts that we can make it grow and thrive into the very best it can be.

So come and stroll the garden that is South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society. Plant a shrub, smell a rose, pull a weed, water a tree... help make us everything we know we can be.



Sutton Morgan
Worship Committee

From the Transition Team

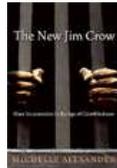
Our Pledge Drive is in full swing. We all had fun at the 'Big Event' and now it is time to "put our money where our heart is." We all love South Valley and want it to be a beacon of our individual journeys, a place where we can worship together and share our values with one another. A place where we can show our children, that there are others who share our values, that we are not alone in our desire to make the world a better place for every person. This shared hope and dream was the foundation of what has become South Valley. We all have talent/gifts that we were born with or worked hard for. We share these talents/gifts with our families, loved ones and even employers. South Valley's gift to us is a place to worship. Its talent is bringing us together. Please ask yourself, "What is that worth to me?" and consider giving generously to our pledge drive.

Edward Granda
Transition Team Member

Adult Religious Education (ARE)

March Adult Religious Education (ARE) classes:

ROOTS - This new, 3-part series about UU principles and history and an overview of SVUUS to build strong UU "roots" will be offered again in March. Look for detailed information in the weekly newsletter and Sunday announcements.



UUA Common Read book discussion:

UUA Common Read in March will discuss "The New Jim Crow" written by Michelle Alexander. As a prelude to the **UUA Common Read** discussion group sessions scheduled later in March, Susan Eyzaguirre will host a gathering on Friday, March 1, 7 pm, at the Eyzaguirre's home to watch the presentation by the author of **The New Jim Crow** (Michelle Alexander) that was given at our 2012 UUA General Assembly in Phoenix. Contact Susan at Eyzsooz@gmail.com for more information.

Ongoing open groups:

Bible Study – Mel Gundersen (melonig@harmonyhomehealth.com), first Monday of the month from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Participants are continuing their journey "Traveling Through the Torah." Discussion focuses on the stories and personalities of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament from the perspective of "historical mythology" — a kind of interpretive lens inspired by Joseph Campbell who defined Myth as foundational narratives based loosely on historical events and spun by the re-telling into stories that teach us "what it means to be human."

TeaCUUPS - Kim Lane (kclane926@comcast.net), fourth Sunday of alternating months after coffee hour. The group is discussing Christopher Penczak's book, The Three Rays of Witchcraft. The next gathering is March 24th to finish the book and then Christopher comes for a weekend of learning opportunity in April.

The mission of the ARE program at SVUUS is to offer adults opportunities to further personal and spiritual growth, strengthen relationships between members, and increase knowledge of Unitarian Universalism and other belief systems. Please contact ARE Coordinator, Christine Hurrill, at kellychristinekelly@hotmail.com with questions or suggestions.

REGAL – Religious Education, Growth & Learning

Hello there, Spring! Please, do come in and make yourself comfortable! Is it a bit cold in here for you? Why don't we just raise the temperature just a bit... there, oh! How about some brighter light? DONE! Why yes, it's going to be quite comfortable with you around, I can tell.

March is going to be a great month! We've got a lot going on. Besides classes as usual, we have REGAL's annual Beach Potluck, we have a High School Our Whole Lives weekend boot camp, and our Coming of Agers have more activities with their mentors. And we're capping off the month with an Easter Sunday Intergenerational Service.

On March 3rd the **preschool class** will be talking about how we need the rain. They'll be talking about how we need our families on March 10, and how spring brings changes to our earth March 17. Finally, on March 24, they'll learn about memory and how we remember what is important to us.

The **Sacred Travels** classes continue exploring our 3rd Principle: We believe we should accept one another and keep on learning together. This month's book is Zen Shorts. Zen Shorts is the story of three siblings and their new neighbor, Stillwater – a panda. One by one the children visit Stillwater and spend time in his company, and he tells each of them an ancient Zen story. We'll use the book to talk about Zen Buddhism and how we can learn from it even if we are not, ourselves, Zen Buddhists. Also, in Children's chapel, the kids are still working on their first aid kits to donate to The Road Home as a way to finish up January's unit on Clara Barton.

The **Coming of Age** class starts talking about God in March. They'll also have a scavenger hunt with their mentors.

The **High School** class will be discussing forgiveness and loyalty. This is the quiet before the storm for our youth classes. The High School Youth will be leading a worship service for the congregation in April, and the Coming of Age class is gearing up for their recognition service in May. It's brains to the grindstone for March and April!

Coming Of Age Social Action Project

This month the Coming Of Age (COA) Junior High program will be going to the Homeless Youth Resource Center (HYRC) to volunteer their time as part of their Social Action Project for the year. While they are there, they will be presenting HYRC with a check for \$1000.00 that was collected during the Split the Plate Offering for November and December. The HRYC delivers a continuum of services to homeless street youth through their Street Outreach Program, Drop-in Center and Transition Home. We would like to thank all of you that donated for helping COA support this organization.

High School Our Whole Ljives (OWL) Weekend Bootcamp!

Friday, March 15- Saturday, March 16. This is a weekend intensive version of the normally 12-week High School OWL class for youth who missed it this fall and/or could not commit to attending 12 weeks in a row. Space is limited, so contact Trista Emmer at dre@svuus.org to sign your 9th-12th grader up for the class. Non SVUUS community members are welcome to take the class once we have made sure that all SVUUS youth who want to take it have been accommodated. The class is free with a suggested donation to cover supplies and the training of future facilitators.

Look for what's happening in specific classes in your Order of Service announcements and the email and Facebook announcements made through the month.

Trista Emmer
Director of Religious Education

REGAL Calendar

- March 3: Sunday School: Preschool class, Children’s Chapel. COA and HS classes
- March 4: Bible Study, 7:00-9:00 pm, Senior High Classroom
- March 10: Sunday School: Preschool class, Sacred Travels (K-5) workshops, COA and High School Social Action Sunday. After Services: REGAL Beach Party Pot Luck
- March 12: REGAL Council meeting, 7:00-9:00 pm, Senior High Classroom. All are welcome.
- March 15-16: High School OWL Bootcamp
- March 17: Sunday School: Preschool class, Sacred Travels workshops, Coming of Age and High School classes.
- March 24: Sunday School: Preschool class, Sacred Travels Worskhops. Coming of Age and High School classes. After Services: Coming of Age Youth and Mentor Activity: Sacred Scavenger Hunt.

REGAL Council

- Trista Emmer: Director of Religious Education (DRE), Sr. High Coordinator
- Robyn Taylor-Granda: Council Chair, Special Events Coordinator
- Kristin Berg: Secretary
- Christine Hirrill: Adult RE Coordinator
- Eddie Granda: Junior High Coordinator
- Lisa Miller-Carlson: Sacred Travels Coordinator
- Lorelei White: Member-at-Large

From the Library Committee



It Gets Better: Coming Out, Overcoming Bullying, and Creating a Life Worth Living, Dan Savage and Terry Miller, editors

Growing up isn't easy. Many young people face daily tormenting and bullying, and this is especially true for LGBT kids and teens. In response to a number of tragic suicides by LGBT students, syndicated columnist and author Dan Savage uploaded a video to YouTube with his partner, Terry Miller. Speaking openly about the bullying they suffered and how they both went on to lead rewarding adult lives, their video launched the It Gets Better Project YouTube channel and initiated a worldwide phenomenon. *It Gets Better* is a collection of original essays and expanded testimonials written to teens from celebrities, political leaders, and everyday people, because, while many LGBT teens can't see a positive future for themselves, we can. (Cover image and summary description courtesy of Amazon.com)



Religion for Atheists: A Non-believer's Guide to the Uses of Religion by Alain de Botton

What if religions are neither all true nor all nonsense? The long-running and often boring debate between fundamentalist believers and non-believers is finally moved forward by Alain de Botton’s inspiring new book, which boldly argues that the supernatural claims of religion are entirely false—but that it still has some very important things to teach the secular world. *Religion for Atheists* suggests that rather than mocking religion, agnostics and atheists should instead steal from it—because the world’s religions are packed with good ideas on how we might live and arrange our societies. (Cover image and summary description courtesy of Amazon.com)

Thank You, South Valley

Last month, South Valley was lucky to be able to host the Mountain Desert District Youth Ministry's Winter Conference on Equality. Youth from a number of congregations in the Mountain Desert District participated in a weekend of activities at South Valley. The following letter was written by one of the attendees at the conference:

Last weekend I had the unique experience of attending a Unitarian Universalist youth conference, otherwise known as a "con." My initial anxiety about the con was that I, as an outsider to the Unitarian church, would have a difficult time fitting in with kids who had been members of the religion for their entire lives. After all, upon signing my name for registration I could barely remember a total of three Unitarian hand gestures. This fear was further reinforced by the fact that many high schoolers of my congregation had attended upwards of three or four cons each, some even proclaiming eight. A practicing Unitarian for no more than six months, I had been to a few overnight events at the very most, but never a full-blown con. I had only to go so far as the bus to Salt Lake City before I realized that being an outsider was hardly a valid source of concern. Youth with whom I'd barely ever associated welcomed me with open arms into their close-knit circles. This was through no obligation imposed on them by close-guarding figures of authority, but rather a genuine interest in entertaining and being entertained by strangers.

When we arrived in Utah at South Valley Unitarian, we, the combined youth of Colorado, immediately began engaging with the various congregations of Utah and Wyoming who were also attending. We traded stories of our respective home states and the various facilities within which we interacted when not disposed to strictly Unitarian gatherings. Many of us professed to coming from families and societies that were not only closed-minded, but openly hateful towards certain minorities and lifestyle choices. I spoke to a handful of ex-Mormons, some of whom were gay and lesbian, and therefore considered "deviants." I myself am forced to hide my atheism from a largely Southern Baptist family who would look down upon me for my beliefs. This ability to open up so immediately about our experiences and our hardships fostered a sense of unity among us, youth and adult, and though none of us stated it outright I believe that this connection was one that embodied the Unitarian ideal of love and respect.

The con was comprised of informative workshops, wonderful food, and thoughtful discussion. In between activities and workshops we were able to write letters to our friends, new and old, via the use of the customary con mailboxes: brown paper bags that are hung along one of the church walls. We had delightful and intelligent speakers who gave informative talks and conversed warmly with youth after workshops and the keynote speech. We closed each day in meditation, known otherwise as the Unitarian worship. Our last night together was marked by Coffeehouse, the no-talent-talent-show, where intergenerational con attendees were able to display their multitudinous talents.

When we finally piled back onto the bus Sunday morning, we were all thoroughly exhausted and deeply satisfied with our experience. We spent the remainder of our nine-hour bus ride reflecting on our time together and savoring the last of it. Overall, my first conference turned out to be a terrific forum for ideas and critical thinking, as well as an excellent source of enriching information. YAC (Youth-Adult Council) members and South Valley Unitarian are very warmly thanked for their dedication and for their generosity in making this event possible.

- Magnolia



Thanks from the South Valley UU Service Committee

ONCE AGAIN WE DID
OURSELVES PROUD!

South Valley's efforts toward the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Guest at Your Table efforts are finished for the 2013 season. Several letters of acknowledgement have come in, but we do not have our final total. (It is difficult to determine since some gifts are sent in individually.) My "guesstimate" is that we came close to \$500. THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED.

Connee Gates

South Valley Social Action in March

Hands-On Service Opportunities: (Great activities for Jr. High mentors and mentees to do together!)

- Adopt-a-Native Elder food box packing Saturdays. March 9 and 16, 8:30-11:00 am, at the ANE warehouse (328 West Gregson Avenue, SLC). Food will be delivered by volunteers to elders in the Navajo Nation this spring. This is a very fun activity for families, youth, and adults. Sign up at the Social Action Information Table, or just show up at the warehouse!
- Homeless Youth Resource Center -- Volunteer Saturday, March 30, 10 am - noon. 655 South State, SLC. Activities may include sorting clothing, organizing toiletries, etc. Sign up soon at the Social Action Information Table or contact Susan Eyzaguirre at eyzsooz@gmail.com (space is limited)

SOCIAL JUSTICE - READ, DISCUSS, ACT

2012-2013 UUA Common Read: *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander

Read with us this compelling book about the "war on drugs" and racial injustice in our legal system here in the U.S. Michelle Alexander, a civil rights advocate litigator and law professor, links results of the "drug war", unequal enforcement and resulting poverty along racial lines. While it is no longer politically correct to explicitly use race as justification for discrimination or exclusion, today it is perfectly legal to discriminate against convicted criminals in ways of Jim Crow laws from a different time. The book is instigating conversation across the nation. Join us for one or both of the following:

- March 1, Video Night -- we will watch a video of the author giving a presentation at 2012 General Assembly will be held on March 1, 7:00 p.m., at the Eyzaguirre home.
- March 28 and April 4 -- A 2-session discussion group is scheduled 7:15 - 8:45 p.m., at the church.

The book is available for \$15 at the Social Action Information Table on Sundays, for purchase on line, or for loan from our SVUUS Library and public library system

March Offering Split Organization - SVUUS Green Building Fund special project

In February we will continue to donate half our Worship Service cash offerings (those donations not otherwise designated) to an important cause, but this time the funds will be donated to a special internal fund to help SVUUS work towards a more sustainable world by reducing our own carbon footprint. Stay tuned for more information concerning the specific project.

Cafe Justo COFFEE Sale - Addressing Immigration Issues at their Root

We continue to sell 1-lb packages of Cafe' Justo coffee at the Social Action Information Table after Sunday services. Cafe Justo is a coffee-grower cooperative based in Mexico that is dedicated to sustainability and fair trade based on transparency, equality, and human dignity. By purchasing Cafe Justo coffee, we make an impact on economic conditions in Mexico, effectively addressing a root cause of immigration issues in the U.S. and helping to sustain our planet.

"Standing on the Side of Love - Safe Schools for All"

Thanks to all who participated in our safe schools letter campaign. Twelve letters were signed by members and friends of SVUUS and mailed to the Utah State Board of Education, Salt Lake Valley school board presidents, and District Superintendents asking them to create policy and nurture a culture of inclusion so that ALL our youth are supported and their identities affirmed in our schools. We are happy to share the following response we received from Granite School District Board President:



Dear Members and Friends of South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society,

I am writing to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of support for our children and their safety. I will provide a copy of your letter to the rest of the board members and superintendency when we meet for our study session tomorrow evening, February 19.

I want to assure you that the safety of students from any and all threats, including bullying and discrimination, is of utmost concern to the Granite Board of Education and Administration. We will continue to do all we can to make sure Granite District policies, procedures and culture provide a safe and welcoming learning environment for every student.

*Sincerely,
Gayleen Gandy, Granite School District Board President*

News from the South Valley Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans

Pancake Breakfast

We will be having another awesome pancake breakfast on March 10th. Please contact Kim and David Lane if you would be able to help serve or clean-up.

TEA CUUPS will be meeting on Sunday, March 24th after the service to discuss the second section of Christopher Penzak's book.



We at CUUPS are looking forward to Christopher Penzak being here in April. If you are planning to attend the seminar go to the CUUPS link on the SVUUS website for more information. We want you to know that the price will be \$200 if you attend SVUUS. Please register by March 1st to get the pre-registration price of \$275.

Opportunities and Announcements

REGAL Beach Party Potluck - All are Welcome!

Sunday, March. 10th in the Social Hall from 12:00-2:00 pm

Come hula away your winter blues with us! REGAL is sponsoring our 4th Annual Beach Party on March 10th at 12:00pm after service. This is also our Kick-Off for the Mystery Pals Program 2013 sign-up, so come get all the information you'll need to participate this year! We will provide the lei's, limbo stick and main dish if you'll bring your Hawaiian shirts, sunny smiles and side dishes!



~Aloha until then!



"8" - Putting Fear and Prejudice on Trial, March 31st South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society Sanctuary, 7:30 PM

The Utah Valley University Spectrum Club is proud to sponsor readings of this new docudrama by Dustin Lance Black (Oscar winner for "Milk"). This reading, directed by David Beach will be presented by students and alumni from Utah Valley University and Brigham Young University. This is the first time this play will be presented in Salt Lake Valley.

This play presents closing arguments of *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*, a federal trial that led to the overturn of **Proposition 8** in California (an amendment to eliminate rights of same-sex couples to marry). This play was written in response to the court's denial to release a video recording of the trial. Black utilized court transcripts, journalist records, and media interviews with plaintiffs and defendants as source material for the play



Interweave potluck dinner, Saturday March 23rd, 6:00 pm, at the home of Paul and Shawn. Email hummingbird84@yahoo.com, or call 298 -2973 for directions. E-mail will go out to interweave members with directions. All welcome.

Sandy Dreis
Chair, Interweave committee

MYSTERY PALS PROGRAM 2013

TO **FRIENDSHIP**
* * *
AND **BEYOND!**

Blast Off with REGAL's Mystery Pals Program! This is REGAL'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 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.

- Mar. 10th – 24th Sign-Up, Kick Off at Beach Party Potluck
- Apr. 7th Pick up your Pal Assignment at the REGAL table
- Apr. 14th First Exchange day
- Apr. 21st Second Exchange day
- Apr. 28th Final Exchange & Identities revealed at 12:00 pm Potluck Luncheon!



Contact Robyn Taylor-Granda for more info and participation guidelines at 801-597-6711 or oldhousgirl@gmail.com

HIP HIP HOORAY! A FAMILY CIRCLE SUPPER!



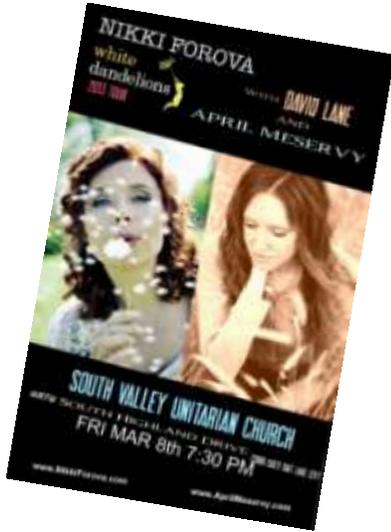
Our APRIL Circle Supper will be our first family Circle Supper this year and Linda Reed has graciously volunteered to be our host. She has a facility which can accommodate up to 50 people, so this presents an incredible opportunity for families to join together in a casual atmosphere for a potluck meal where the grown-ups can converse and get to know one another better and where kids can do what kids do best – HAVE FUN!!

The date will be Saturday, April 20 exact time and details to be determined as the event draws near. PLEASE sign-up in the Circle Supper book located on the Welcome Table. Families, couples, singles, everyone is WELCOME!!

P.S. Due to the abundance of Community Dinners in March, we may not be having a Circle Supper in March unless there proves to be overwhelming interest! Hint! Hint! There will still be March sign-up sheets available on the Welcome Table. Please contact Sheri Lund with any questions 801-273-0462 or jmlund@xmission.com

Enjoy a Concert!

Come to South Valley on Friday, March 8 to see David Lane and Amy Quigley in concert with Nikki Forova and April Merservy. Sponsored by CUUPS.



Save the Date

- Mar. 1 UUA Common Read video
- Mar. 8 CUUPS Sponsored Concert
- Mar. 9 Adopt-a-Native Elder food packing
- Mar. 10 CUUPS Pancake Breakfast
- Mar. 10 REGAL Beach Party Potluck –
Mystery Pals Kick-off
- Mar. 16 Adopt-a-Native Elder food packing
- Mar. 23 Interweave Potluck Dinner
- Mar. 24 TEA CUUPS Book Discussion
- Mar. 28 UUA Common Read discussion
- Mar. 30 Homeless Youth Resource Center
Service opportunity
- Mar. 31 "8" Docudrama Reading/Discussion
- Apr. 4 UUA Common Read discussion

COMING EVENTS:

- During March Pledge Drive Community Gatherings
- April 20 Family Circle Supper

South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society
6876 South Highland Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84121



Address Change Service Requested