



Volume 34, Issue 2

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February Theme: Grace



February 2nd: "Loving Kindness"

John Cooper

In the first of two sermons for seminary preaching class, seminarian John Cooper will reflect on the grace of loving kindness, including the way that it can open us to inspiration and new learning. How does a Universalist reading of Matthew 15:21-28 relate to Brigit and inspiration found by embracing the stranger?

February 9th: "The Grace of Ubuntu"

Rev. Patty Willis

Ubuntu, an African word meaning humanness and goodness and interconnection, is an underlying concept of Martin Luther King's ministry and Archbishop Tutu's work of reconciliation. How does this concept translate into our work in the world?

February 16th: "Climate Change Preach-In Intergenerational Service"

Rev. Patty Willis

Interfaith Power and Light, the faith organization that urged our congregation to apply for a solar grant has asked congregations all over the country to talk about climate change today. Let us join our voices in song and exploration as we turn our hearts towards the Earth and ponder what we can do as individuals and as a congregation to make a difference.

February 23rd: "Frederick Douglass' Quilt"

Rev. Patty Willis

We will explore the meaning found in a quilt that accompanied this great man as he worked to bring his people out of slavery. What can it teach us on our own journeys towards freedom?

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

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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

From the Board of Trustees

It is so cliché to point this out, but time is flying. It is already 2014; it is already the middle of the month; it is already two days past every looming deadline I have. I imagine I am not the only one feeling this way. I have found one of the best ways to cope with this is to take a deep breath and slow down; take some time to reprioritize and think about what is important.

One reason I decided to join the board is because I decided that the community at South Valley was definitely a priority. Another reason I decided to join the board is because I WAS ASKED. No, I don't do everything I am asked to do, but I rarely just step up and simply volunteer. There have to be countless others out there who are in the same situation, new or not-so-new to South Valley, that won't even know what they can contribute to our community unless they are asked.

Often times we will read and write and talk about how important it is to get out there and get involved. Less often, we consider how important it is to help others get involved. I am a person that takes a REALLY long time to make decisions. My kids and I once sat on pillows in the living room for 6 months because I could not decide on which couch to buy. Attending South Valley wasn't that different. I was introduced to Unitarianism when I was in the MOMS Club and another MOMS Club member (who I pieced together later, was our DRE, Liz Martin) invited us to join the baby-sitting co-op at First Church. I went a few times and was very intrigued by the Unitarians. Later, I helped start a MOMS Club in the south part of the valley and we ended up meeting at South Valley in the annex where the nursery used to be (14 years later, my kids are still meeting in the annex!). It took a couple of more years for me to attend a Sunday service (the Sunday after 9/11, eight months pregnant with my daughter), and then I finally attended for a second time in 2003 and became a member a few months later.

Long story short, even after I joined South Valley I was kind of at a loss in how to participate. I am very shy and don't drink coffee, so coffee hour wasn't a pleasant experience when I was new. It wasn't until Roseane Coleman asked me to help with decorating tables for the REGAL holiday potluck that I felt that maybe I had something to contribute to this dynamic community where everyone seemed so amazing (even if it wasn't table decorating—definitely not my thing!). Soon, Laura Renshaw, as DRE, asked me to teach classes. Cynthia Dobbs asked me to help with an auction. I even ended up coordinating coffee hour (oh the irony!), although I don't remember who asked me to do this one.

I was both honored and intimidated to be asked to serve on the board. I look forward to the lessons, challenges, and blessings that I anticipate will come to me and South Valley this year. I am very grateful to everyone over the years who has asked me to contribute. I challenge all of you to reach out to people at church and let them know that their vision, talents, and abilities are needed and appreciated. Even though it took me awhile, I know that joining SVUUS was one of the best decisions I have ever made.

With Gratitude,

Torrey Longteig
Board of Trustees

From the Minister

Opening to Gratitude

Early in the morning on Sunday, January 27th, the day we wanted to kick off our stewardship campaign, I woke into the darkness and thought about the times that I had traveled to Salt Lake City thirty years ago to visit my grandmother who lived in an apartment only a short walk from Temple Square. I thought about going on walks with her through Temple Square, a place where I no longer felt at home. I wish that on one of those difficult Sunday mornings (the hardest times of the week), that I had driven south along Highland Drive and caught sight of that rainbow flag or come in for a service and met people who seemed to be my people---when I felt alienated from the people who had been my people. I wish that I'd known about you and this place. If I'd seen that poster that Collin made at the entrance to the sanctuary about "How we are making a difference in the world," I would have signed up then and there.

I longed to be a part of a church that was concerned about the problems in the world and inclusion. I yearned for a place where I could give of my talents and time and treasure and not have that mean that I had to give up the love of my life---did not mean that I couldn't be who I was in the world! In that early morning darkness, it came to me that I had yearned for a place where I could give of my talents and time and treasure. Sometimes it is still amazing to me that there is a denomination like Unitarian Universalism and a congregation like South Valley that brings the kind of work and meaning to this world that I can wholeheartedly support---a cause to which it feels good to give. In the darkness of that morning, my heart filled with gratitude for this community's more than thirty years of giving that bought this building and provided for ministry, music and all of the varied work that keeps us afloat.

In my sermon, I invited you to search for a way to feel gratitude on a regular basis: A walk in the mountains---an altar in your house---a stone in your pocket---something that would keep you in touch with gratitude. I believe that our

experience as a community will deepen if we each develop a practice of gratitude. Gratitude replenishes energy. When we see the world through grateful eyes, we see the abundance of our personal lives and our community.

When that feeling of gratitude opens in your heart, I invite you to think of the weeks or years that you have spent in this community. Open up one of those 3-T cards, and think about how you give of your time, talents and treasure. What gifts would you like to bring that pop into your mind? As you open your heart to gratitude, your eyes will open to a vision of how you can give to this community in all of the ways of treasure, time and talent. As I said in my sermon, Lou and I have decided to increase our pledge 10% more than last year. As you bask in gratitude, consider if you can increase the amount of treasure you are giving. Do you want to change the way you are giving of your time and talents?

I gave the example of Linda Reed who moved from treasurer and finance to "Magic of Conflict" teacher and leader of a much-needed "Better than 50" single's group. For those of you who think of treasure, and can only think of seemingly insurmountable debt, be on the lookout for money management classes that we will be offering through Monday Menus. If you have specific things you'd like to learn or expertise that you would like to share, just let Liz and me know. If are new to this kind of giving, I encourage you to take a leap of faith and give. If you believe in this community, then giving will strengthen your bonds with us---will make you a part of the work we are doing to transform the world.

Let us put gratitude at the heart of how we share our gifts. When gratitude bubbles up towards someone in this community, write down your thoughts and put them in that basket in the Meditation Chapel. Send an email to them (the Post-its aren't working very well because many people take their nametags home!) and let them know. Let words of gratitude be currency among us. Through gratitude, we will be most effective in our action to clean up the environment. Let us see how we can change our world by making gratitude a way of life at South Valley. Our presence is making a difference in this world.

In love and community,
Rev. Patty Willis

From the Transition Team

A Community of Hope

As I was preparing to write this article, I went back to the January Beacon to review events of the past month. Something struck me with particular force as I was reading the article by Rev. Patty, titled "Open the Window: Let the Dove Fly In!" The article is primarily Rev. Patty's perspective on the marriage equality ruling in December. But at the end of that article she mentions the proposed mission statement she and other writers in our community have created for our consideration. It begins with the words: "We are a community of hope..."

As we all know, following the landmark ruling on the unconstitutionality of Utah's ban on "gay marriage", there were two stays placed on the marriage equality ruling; the first was overturned but the second is still in place. Many Unitarian Universalists were actively involved in the joyful celebrations and long-awaited marriages that occurred in the small window of time between the original ruling and the final stay, including Rev. Patty and many SVUUS members. At the time all of this happened, I remember feeling first surprised, then elated, then disappointed, disillusioned, and angry when that Christmas gift to the LGBT community was taken back again. What a rollercoaster ride that was! We had a momentary "glimpse into the Promised Land," only to have the door slammed in our faces again.

Yes, it is disappointing and yes, anger is appropriate. But hope returns and ultimately prevails when we successfully transform the energies of disappointment and anger into positive thinking and effective action. Once again we can take inspiration from the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., which incidentally were originally conceived and published in a collection of sermons by Unitarian minister Theodore Parker in 1857. First in a magazine article in 1958, then in a speech delivered in 1964, King used Parker's metaphor but re-worded it into the form that is often quoted today: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." That is a good one! But my personal favorite is this, also attributed to Martin Luther King, Jr.: "I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. That is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant." We have an opportunity coming up this month to put our passionate intentions for justice into action. Join SVUUS members and friends on February 11 for our "UU Day at the Capitol." You'll learn practical ways in which you can become involved as an advocate for our principles on the Hill.

At this time of year, when hoped-for spring is not yet reality, we get a bit frustrated with the winter that drags on. Some days we see blue skies and the snow melting, and then we have a winter storm setback that reminds us we're not quite out of the cold yet. But each new day dawns with a little more light, a little more warmth, until at last the trees bud, flowers bloom, birds build nests and spring rolls into summer. AND South Valley will get solar panels!!! So, hang onto hope. And pour into the mix plenty of "unarmed truth and unconditional love." We shall overcome!

Mel Gundersen

Transitions Team member

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

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From the Worship Closet

The Work of Worship

What is it that makes a worship service meaningful? Thought provoking? Inspiring? Motivating? Are these the things you look for in a worship service, or is it something else entirely? I always find it interesting to hear different feedback from individuals about specific worship services and what they thought of them. There is almost never one hundred percent consensus on how a service went; while one person may have found a service intriguing, another may have found it too intellectual. A service that was fresh and spirited for one, may have left another feeling a lack of ritual and groundedness. It is challenging to do the work of worship. That being said, I have found some of my richest spiritual growth doing this work.

Participating in the process of worship... the planning, preparation, and performance of a worship service gives you a different connection to our religious community as a whole. I think that anyone who has ever had any part in a worship service has felt this difference; whether creating an altar, doing a reading, sharing music, telling the children's story, lighting the chalice... your participation in the service changes the experience for you like nothing else can. This is not to say that experiencing a service simply as a congregation member isn't valid without active participation, after all, the service is planned for the congregation to experience. That experience though, is something that I find more appreciation for the more I am involved in creating worship for others.

In my experience, that special something that reaches an individual person can be as simple as a certain phrase, a tone of voice during a reading, the comfort of a familiar ritual, the beauty of an altar composition, or a song that stirs their heart. These things are not accidental, even if sometimes they are serendipitous. I have gotten compliments on altars that I hurried together in just a few minutes, the person enjoying the beauty of its simplicity, compliments on my calm presence as a lay leader even on days when inwardly I felt frazzled and nervous. It was my intent that came across, and again, that is no accident. We plan, we think about what we would like the congregation to experience, we focus on that desire, and we do the best we can to make that desire into reality for the worship service. So on the days when I do get the treat of simply sitting in those blue chairs and enjoying a service, I think that the richness of my appreciation for the work of worship is forever changed because of the work I've done.

Sutton Morgan
Worship Committee

UPDATE ON OUR ENERGY PROJECTS

We are getting close to installation time for our solar array! Cottonwood Heights has approved our building permits. Laura Renshaw and Tucker Gurney have signed all the preliminary papers with Rocky Mountain Power to accept their Blue Sky grant. Intermountain Wind & Solar has ordered the solar panels and other supplies. Now we can plan the big startup celebration while we wait for better weather. The installation should just take a few weeks so we may be ready for power production by Earth Day.



Meanwhile we have joined a national effort asking for a vote at the 2014 General Assembly to stop the UUA from investing in companies that produce coal, oil, or natural gas. Ten members of SVUUS signed the petition on December 15. The petition needs signatures of 250 UUs, no more than 10 per congregation. All five of the Utah congregations have joined the effort! By early January the organizers, who include Joan Gregory of First Unitarian in Salt Lake City, had signatures from 44 congregations, but we may be the only state with 100% participation. We should discuss the issue of divestment from fossil fuel companies this spring and have a straw ballot so that our delegates to the General Assembly are ready to vote in Providence, Rhode Island in June.

Religious Education, Growth, and Learning

Monday Menus in February

The second session of Monday Menus continues in February. Classes begin at 6:30 p.m. and typically end at 8:00...but don't forget to join us for soup and crackers at 6:00 p.m.! You are invited to bring your own brown-bag dinner as well.

Classes for February

February 3

Reclaiming the Feminine Face of God -- Bible Study (starts at 7pm) -- African Drumming (12+ welcome) -- African Dancing (12+ welcome) -- Children's Choir -- UU History for Newcomers

February 10

Bridge -- The Artist's Way (closed group) -- Reclaiming the Feminine Face of God -- Children's Choir -- Prayer 101

February 17

Doctrine of Discovery (14+ welcome) -- Child care for workshop participants

February 24

TED Talks Discussion Group -- UU Tech Tutoring (12+ welcome) -- Reclaiming the Feminine Face of God -- Children's Choir -- UU History for Newcomers

Sunday REGAL Schedule

February 2:

Children's Chapel for Sacred Travelers (K-5th)
Grace, Youth Worship (6th-12th)
Grace, then classes ("Exploring Protestantism" for Junior High, "Workshop 5: Difficulties in Interfaith Work" for High School)

February 9: Regular Sunday Classes

High School (9th-12th) - "Difficulties in Interfaith Work"
Junior High (6th-8th) - "Exploring Protestantism"
Seekers (4th-5th) - "Courage - Saddlebags"
Trailblazers (2nd-3rd) - "Speaking Out - Maria Cook"
Pathfinders (K-1st) - "The Gift of Protection"
Butterflies (Preschool) - "I Can Say 'Thank You'"

February 16: Intergenerational Service

Standing on the Side of Love for our EARTH
(All ages stay upstairs, child care available in Nursery room for infants and toddlers)

February 23: Regular Sunday Classes

High School (9th-12th) & Junior High (6th-8th) - meet at SVUUS at 8:15 for Field Trip to LDS Ward (Will return to SVUUS at noon)
Seekers (4th-5th) - "Listening - Stethoscope"
Trailblazers (2nd-3rd) - "Getting Involved - Valentines to Governor"
Pathfinders (K-1st) - "Gift of Stewardship"
Butterflies (Preschool) - "I Can Ask Questions"

For more information about our curricula and programming, please see our REGAL brochure available in the church lobby, or contact Liz Martin at dre@svuus.org

All-Ages Services: We Want to Know What YOU Think!

Creating worship that is engaging yet thought-provoking enough for children and adults is one of the biggest challenges faced by religious educators and ministers. In light of this, we need your help. Rev. Patty and I would appreciate some reflection and feedback on the All-Ages Services we have offered this year. Please look for the following survey on the table under the bulletin boards in the foyer, fill it out, then return it to the basket on the same table. THANKS!

Liz Martin
Director of Religious Education

SVUUS All-Ages Services Survey – 2014

Do you attend with children or youth who normally go downstairs? If yes, please list ages:

Please check the All-Ages Services YOU have attended

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Water Ceremony/Ingathering Sunday (Sept. 6, 2014) | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ages: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Gift of Animals (October 6, 2014) | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ages: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day of the Dead (November 3, 2014) | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ages: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thanksgiving/Bread Communion (November 24, 2014) | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ages: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Solstice (December 22, 2014) | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ages: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Eve Cantata (December 24, 2014) | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ages: _____ |

Please rate **YOUR** experience from 1 to 5. (Please comment on back side about your **children** or **youth's** experience, OR have them/help them fill out a survey of their own)

	1	2	3	4	5
Overall Worship Experience					
Water Ceremony/Ingathering (9/8/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
The Gift of Animals (10/6/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Calling our Ancestors/Day of the Dead (11/3/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Thanksgiving/Bread Communion (11/24/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Winter Solstice (12/22/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Christmas Eve Cantata (12/24/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Individual Worship Elements					
Water Ceremony: "Calling the Rain" (9/8/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Water Ceremony: Community Sharing (9/8/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Water Ceremony: Homily "The Gift of Water and a Tree" (9/8/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Animal Service: Building a Web of Living Beings (10/6/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Animal Service: Homily "What Do Animals Teach Us" (10/6/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Ancestors: Homily "Calling of the Ancestors" (11/3/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Ancestors: Altar Building "Remembering" (11/3/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Ancestors: Body Meditation - Life of a Tree (11/3/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Bread Communion: Bread-sharing Ceremony (11/24/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Bread Communion: Homily "The Power of Bread" (11/24/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Solstice: "Gem" sharing & Heart Cookie Communion (12/22/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Solstice: Homily "Celebrating Hope: Marriage Equality" (12/22/2013)	1	2	3	4	5
Solstice: Dance and Drumming to the Sun (12/22/2013)	1	2	3	4	5

We welcome your feedback, comments, suggestion, ideas!

Social Action Committee

Sharing our Worship Service Offering in February

At South Valley we share our Sunday Worship Service offering with a charitable organization whose work aligns with our values and principles. In response to legal challenges to the recent federal ruling that opened up marriage equality in Utah, as well as currently proposed state legislation concerning fair employment and housing for all, we are currently donating half of our worship service offerings (those donations not otherwise designated) to Equality Utah, an organization that works tirelessly every year to advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Utahns and their families. Equality Utah leads efforts for LGBT civil rights at state and local levels guided by the principle that ALL families deserve the governments' support, protection and equal treatment. Their strategies include lobbying legislators and other elected officials, sponsoring bills and opposing negative legislation, building coalitions, and empowering individuals and other organizations to engage in the legislative process. Equality Utah is also a primary sponsor of *Restore our Humanity*, the organization that has provided legal support for the plaintiffs in the case that resulted in the invalidation of Utah's Amendment 3 and marriage discrimination statutes.

How our Offering Split works: Half of all non-designated donations collected during Sunday Worship is donated to a charitable organization whose work aligns with our principles and values.

If you choose to place a check in the offering basket for your pledge payment, or any other specific purpose, please write a note in the check memo line (i.e., "pledge"). All donations (cash or check) collected in the offering baskets will be split 50/50 unless indicated otherwise. "Together we share the wealth of this community ..." Please give generously as we serve our wider community and nurture a culture of generosity here at South Valley.

Cafe Justo Coffee for Sale

One-pound bags of Café Justo coffee will be for sale the last two Sundays in February - ground or bean Arabica, Arabica decaf, Marago, and Arabica/Robusta blend. This delicious coffee is "fair-trade plus", organic, shade-grown by a farmer co-op in southeast Mexico, and roasted with their coop-owned roaster. Purchasing Café Justo coffee is an easy way to address immigration issues at their root. Questions? Contact Susan Eyzaguirre at eyzsooz@gmail.com

Green Growths

Hi, I am Kathleen Luck. I am leading the Green Sanctuary part of the Social Action Committee. Like everyone else I see a need to live a more environmentally sustainable lifestyle. So the first change I am planning to make to my own life this year is to bring my reusable bags into the grocery store every time I go in the month of February. I hope reaching that goal this month will lead to my using the bags throughout the year.

Please join me as I recommend changes all of us can make in our lives and how you can be involved in opportunities in the community to support our environment. February is the month the legislature is meeting. They may be considering bills to clean up our air along the Wasatch front. Look for updates on clean air rallies you could participate in.



Stewardship Campaign

It's that time of year: the annual pledge drive, which began at the end of January and will wrap up in mid-May. This year the pledge drive has been re-named to our South Valley STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN.

Why the new name? First, we want to look at giving from a broader more holistic perspective. We are a community of unique individuals and we each bring gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure. This campaign is a chance to determine how you want to express your generosity in all of these areas. For the first time, you will be writing all of the gifts that you bring to this congregation on your pledge card. And, you will know when you have found the right balance of generosity, for you will feel joyful! Mother Teresa said, "Joy is a sign of generosity. When you are full of joy, you move faster and you want to go about doing good to everyone."

Second, we strive to make a deeper connection between our shared mission as a congregation and our generosity—of Time, Talent, and Treasure. It's more than a fundraiser, just like our auction is more than a fundraiser. And this is not a one-time event, but rather a continuation of the opportunity South Valley provides us to connect and do good, to love, to share, to be joyful, inside and outside the church. It's about helping, in whatever way we can.

Stewardship, as in, *taking care*—of each other, our ministry, the church building, and the grounds, the people within the church, and those who need assistance outside of the church—is critical to our shared mission here. The congregation's stewardship over the past several years has brought us to this present moment. And it's a joyful moment--Reverend Patty Willis as our fearless and inspiring minister. Amazing music throughout each service. Solar panels nearly installed on the roof, meal preparation for homeless youth, lobbying at the Capitol for marriage equality, Medicaid expansion and cleaner air. Plots of land around the grounds taken care of by congregation members. These efforts and many more become part of what we understand as "church," which reflects our priorities, and who we want to be.

Third, just to be together. Just to be together more. Just to be together more, *with food*. Stewardship is a process of giving, and asking—giving more smiles, or more; asking more of ourselves, and more; and all the while, making our world and the world we share a better place to be, and have fun while we do it. We never know what other people's suffering is, and small offerings can lead to big changes. And, through our generosity we will reach the sustainability that we long for, in this community and the world.

This year we're calling our campaign *OPENING TO GRATITUDE*.

For those of you who are not members, who enjoy this journey of our church on occasion, we are grateful for you. We want you here. Consider joining our community of hope. Consider helping us as we transform our world into a more just, compassionate, and sustainable place.

For those of you who are members, we are grateful for you. We want you here. Looking back over the last year, what are you most thankful for? What makes you most joyful? What are your gifts? Consider committing to our community in a new way. Consider sharing the joy of your religious exploration in a new way.

How Does It Work?

We delivered pledge cards in the Sunday, January 26th worship program materials. The cards are an opportunity for you to pledge your Talent, Time, and Treasure to South Valley. These cards are also available in the church office, beside the pledge box on the welcome table, and by going online to www.svuus.org/committees/budget. After you fill out the card, it can be returned to the church office, the pledge box, or given to the treasurer, the minister, or any member of the Stewardship Committee. Thank you for opening to gratitude!

Opening to Gratitude

You know you have opened to gratitude when you feel joy from your commitment. Thank you for your generosity and for helping South Valley make an impact in people's lives and in the wider community!

Stewardship Campaign (cont.)

Meanwhile, Some Fun and Food

As part of the Stewardship Campaign, we invite you to be a part of a Community Gathering near you in the coming weeks. These gatherings are hosted by SVUU leadership for members and friends alike, with an emphasis on building connection. The meals and their conversations will circle around issues of Talent, Time, and Treasure--and since it's SVUU, so much more! You might have a question like: how do I become a greeter? Or: what are the priorities of the congregation? Or: what's it like to be a member? Join us for a boisterous & fun gathering near you. Sign-up sheets are available for dinners throughout February and March in the Cottonwood Café after worship services.

What's Ahead?

In March we will unveil a lovely graphic representation of our shared stewardship campaign with a tree of gratitude—a bare tree to start, which will grow and open with many flowers and birds as pledges come in. The official end of the Stewardship Campaign is May 10th.

For more information about the Community Gatherings, pledge cards, or the Stewardship Campaign, please find Christine Hurrill, Phil Quigley, or Reverend Patty Willis after worship services in the Cottonwood Café.

UU Day at the Legislature February 11, 2014

Get involved in change:

The Coalition of Religious Communities has set Unitarian Universalist Day at the State Legislature for February 11th at the Capitol.

If you are a little nervous about participating, there will be a Legislative Orientation on Friday, January 24th, 2014 at the State Capitol. Here you will learn how to make a difference in the government, how best to approach your legislator, and how to best get your message across. We will be hosting 2 identical sessions. Session 1 will be held from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM and Session 2 will be held from 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM. Each session will be gathering on the 2nd floor of the Capitol Rotunda to begin.



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

Come join us for a ritual celebrating Imbolc on February 2nd. Imbolc (Groundhog Day) was the beginning of the lambing season and heralded the coming of spring. CUUPS will also be helping with the service that Sunday.

We will be having our CUUPS breakfast on Sunday, February 9th. Please join us after the service for food and fellowship.

Please join us after the service on Sunday, February 23rd for our annual Chocolate Feast potluck. We will again have the chocolate fountain flowing. This year you may purchase a cup of David Lane's special recipe hot chocolate for \$1. We will sell the hot chocolate to raise funds for CUUPS. We hope everyone comes and brings a dish to share. Be creative, use chocolate in main dishes, appetizers, and desserts. You can never have too much chocolate!



From the Library Committee

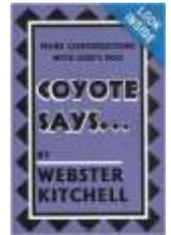


God's Dog by Webster Kitchell

Rev. Kitchell was the minister at Unitarian Church of Santa Fe N.M. during the 80's and part of the 90's. One day he decided he needed a spirit guide and on a hike in the New Mexico hills, he found Coyote—God's Dog—the Trickster. In this slender book, he and Coyote have many adventures. They meet up with Jesus (who really likes chocolate donuts). They discuss philosophical questions, dear to the heart of Unitarian Universalists—all with a humorous twist.

Coyote Says by Webster Kitchell

Coyote returns! Here's theology the way it might be done---through sharp-witted dialogue with the crafty Trickster as he engages his minister friend in more playful banter about life, religion and everything else. The minister asks Coyote if he would like to come hear the choir at his church. Coyote first asks if there will be food. "Of course", I said. "You know UU's have given up everything ecclesiastical except potluck suppers." Another enjoyable look at our faith and those inside and outside of it.



Start Making Your Plans -- UUA General Assembly

General Assembly is more than the annual business meeting of the Association. The myriad of programs, worship events, witness and service opportunities, and exhibits not only provide a rich experience to the thousands of UUs who attend each year, they also give participants a renewed sense of energy, up-to-date information, inspiration, and innovative ideas to take back to their congregations and communities.

"It felt like we were part of a living faith - it gave me energy to keep going in my own community."

General Assembly 2014 will take place in Providence, RI, where you'll find history, natural beauty and vibrant culture wherever you turn.

Learn more: www.uua.org/ga



Valentine's Day Dance Party

Come and celebrate with the couples who FINALLY got married last year! Dancing, desserts, coffee and tea.

*3424 W. Pyrenees Ave.
Riverton, UT 84065*



\$5 per person donation to cover costs

**RSVP to Mary Lou Prince by February 12th.
mlprince@earthlink.net*



*From 13400 South and Bangerter Highway:
Go east on 13400 South 1 block and turn right onto 3600 West (runs on the east side of Walmart)
Proceed South on 3600 West (stay to the left) and go through the round-about. The road veers the left after you come thru the round-about. (becomes Chamonix)
The clubhouse is on the right, next to the pool, on the corner of Chamonix and Pyrenees)*

You are invited

Valentine's Day Dance Party

*Friday February 14
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM*



Save the Date

- Feb. 1 "Better Than 50" Social Group, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 2 REGAL Beach Party, 12:00 noon
- Feb. 2 CUUPS Imbolc Ritual
- Feb. 3 Monday Menus
- Feb. 9 CUUPS Pancake Breakfast
- Feb. 10 Monday Menus
- Feb. 11 UU Day at the Legislature
- Feb. 14 Valentine's Day Dance Party, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 17 Monday Menus
- Feb. 18 Prayer Shawl Circle, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 23 REGAL Field Trip – Jr. & Sr. High ages
- Feb. 23 CUUPS Chocolate Feast Potluck
- Feb. 24 Monday Menus

GROCERY CARD PROGRAM

Come downstairs to the Social Hall every Sunday after the service to purchase grocery card coupons to Smith's, Harmon's, and Sprouts Markets.

You can use these coupons for purchases at each store. You can also use them to purchase fuel at the Smith's and Harmon's fuel centers.

Using these gift cards creates additional income for SVUUS as these businesses donate 5% of all purchases back to South Valley.

So if you shop at any of these grocers, please take advantage of this opportunity to help South Valley financially by purchasing grocery cards. Thanks for your support

Happenings at South Valley



Leigh and KC exchange vows!



Rev. Patty, Tucker Guerny and Ron Roy attend a press conference about solar panels.



South Valley members and friends show up to support the Clean Air Rally on Jan. 25.