



The Beacon

South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

Volume 38, Issue 11

November, 2018

Theme: Service



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Nov 4: "Reflections on Love and Loss"

Rev. John Cooper

Nov. 11: "Stories Veterans Tell"

Rev. Bob LaVallee

Nov. 18: "Bread Communion Sunday"

Rev. Bob LaVallee

Nov. 25: "How Did We Get Here?"

An incomplete history of how humanism became part of UU.

Rev. Bob LaVallee

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

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minister@svuus.org
801-327-2241

SVUUS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Cindy Martin 801-944-9723
Email: admin@svuus.org
**Office Hours: Tue -Thur 12:00-5:00 pm
Fri 8:00 am-1:00 pm**

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Liz Martin (Director) 801-604-2973
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Office Hours:
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Other hours by appointment

CARING CIRCLE

Temporary Contact:
Cindy Martin 801-944-9723
Email: admin@svuus.org

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

Greetings,

I am writing while traveling with my family to North Carolina for my youngest sister's wedding. My parents, all my siblings, and my children will be attending. That is no small feat for us. It is unusual for all of us to be able to get together at the same time. Some of us are traveling by plane and some by car. My sister, Amanda is also my close friend and confidant. She is marrying Sadie, the love of her life. I feel privileged to be gaining the best sister-in-law in the whole world. I am happy to be able to share in their journey.

One of our first hymns during service in September was "Blue Boat Home". Janessa Hansen told me it is one of her favorites. I later went home and started planning my lessons for High School RE. I found that "Blue Boat Home" is part of curriculum. Talk about synchronicity. I ended up with the song stuck in my head for over a week. If I wasn't singing it then I was humming the tune everywhere I went. It made me reflect on our connectedness, contemplating the ebb and flow of our community. I didn't fully realize how much goes on behind the scenes at South Valley until I stepped into serving on the Board of Trustees.

It takes many caring hearts and willing hands to make our religious community go round. Thank you to each and every one of you for your service.

With Love and Gratitude,
Lorelei White, Board of Trustees



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From Our Minister

Hello Dear Ones -

It's reasonable to ask how any religion is relevant these days. Religions often use old, outdated forms and liturgies, and many religions also cling to outdated bigotries. In my home town of Buffalo, the local bishop recently directed the diocese Catholic Charities to withdraw from facilitating adoptions and foster care rather than comply with the requirement that same-sex couples be treated as equals of opposite sex couples. Evangelical faith leaders fawn over the president, even as he seeks to erase the identities of trans people. Religion can be a deeply flawed pursuit.

So why bother?

I write this on Friday October 26. This morning, the ashes of Matthew Shephard were interred in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. You probably remember Matthew Shephard, who was killed for being gay in Laramie, Wyoming twenty years ago. Matthew's parents chose that Episcopal cathedral because Matthew loved the Episcopal church. It strikes me as a moment of redemption, when a gay man is honored in what some call "the spiritual home of the nation".

Earlier this month, the Roman Catholic Church ordained Oscar Romero, a priest who was outspoken in his criticism of the corrupt regime in El Salvador, and in his service to the poor. He was assassinated by the government for his efforts, killed while giving a sermon.

Religions are alive until they are dead (sorry Canaanite Polytheism), and as long as they are alive, they can evolve. They can learn from their mistakes and grow and move from life-limiting to life-affirming. These two small acts by big churches are part of that evolution. Evolution means living with contradiction. Consider the Catholic Church, with their bewildering homophobia sitting side by side with their significant systems of safety nets for the poor. It's confusing and yet a little comforting. There's hope in that contradiction.

It may seem like that evolution is the work of popes and denomination presidents and imams, but really it's the work of the individual believer. By that, I mean us, the folks in the congregations singing at Sunday worship and going to meetings and leading religious exploration. We make religion evolve by evolving ourselves.

Part of that work is who we choose as heroes. Who are our spiritual ancestors? Who is worthy of emulation? One of the things I love about Saint Oscar is that he was a conservative drudge when he was appointed bishop in El Salvador. Bookish and more concerned with heady theology than public policy, he was considered a safe choice for the powers of the day. But his friend was killed by the government and he could not un-see what he had seen. And he evolved.

This Sunday we'll consider our spiritual ancestors, as well as our familial ones. They helped us evolve and deserve our gratitude and honor for that. I look forward to hearing about your spiritual ancestors, and how they helped you evolve.

Wherever you are in your evolution, I'm glad to be evolving with you, and I wish you the best on your journey.

Warmly,
Rev. Bob



Opportunities and Announcements

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, November 15, 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.

November – December Offering Split

The Rape Recovery Project. The Rape Recovery Center is a trusted community provider of direct services and primary prevention education in Utah. Today, the RRC provides a vital role during the Code R process in Salt Lake County through their Hospital Response Team, assisting nearly 500 survivors annually. The 24 hour crisis line also continues to be a resource to approximately 1,500 callers per year. Their in-office services include personal advocacy, short and long term counseling, and an array of therapy and support groups, serving over 1,000 clients on an annual basis. Their outreach and education programs reach roughly 2,500-5,000 community members each year by enriching partnerships and offering primary prevention training.

Book Group

The next book group meeting will be Monday, November 12, in the Senior High room, at 7:00 PM. There will be books available from the Whitmore library at the Happenings Table after church for those interested. The book is "Sarah's Quilt, by Nancy Turner.

Women's Learning and Sharing Group

Please join us for our monthly Women's Learning and Sharing Group meeting Sunday, November 11th at 12:15 pm in the Senior High room. We will be planning a Women's Service for next year. Please bring ideas with you to this brainstorming meeting. All women welcome! Please contact Natalie Cole with any questions at cole.natalie7@gmail.com or 801-698-2245.

Monday Hikers Group

Like to hike? Join us for morning hikes in the Wasatch Canyons for easy to moderately paced hikes. Input on where is always welcome. Contact Rosine Oliver at rhodesignsllc@gmail.com or 801-971-2136 to be added to the email list. I will send out information during the weekend before the hike. Text or email me with questions.

Guest at Your Table

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE boxes--The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's annual intergenerational program to support key human rights issues--is coming next month. Pick up your box for your family on Sunday, November 18th!

See Connee or Denna for more info.

Opportunities and Announcements continued

Chili Cook-Off Sunday, November 4th

Our SVUUS monthly potlucks are beginning in November with a CUUPS-sponsored chili cook-off. Are you known in your circle of friends for a great chili? Or would you like to try a new chili recipe? Bring your main dish or any side dish to share on November 4th. Together we'll enjoy tasting the competition!

Community Chat with Rev. Bob LaVallee Sunday, November 11th

SVUUS hosts a quarterly Community Chat with our pastor and this November 11th will be the first opportunity to share your views, dreams, and hopes with Rev. Bob. Please join us in the Sanctuary, after the Social Hour, at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, November 11th.

Quarterly Leadership Council Meeting Sunday, November 18th

Our SVUUS Board of Trustees hosts a quarterly meeting for all of our staff, the Board members, the chairs of our committees and councils, and any other interested persons. We have some very important policy and procedural items to review on November 18th, so please plan to attend. We will meet in the Trailblazers classroom at 12:15 p.m.

Pathway to Membership Class

Have you been visiting our congregation, and wondering what it means to be a member? Join the SVUUS Membership team for information and conversation about the privileges and obligations of membership in a Unitarian Universalist congregation.

Sunday, Nov. 4, 12:15 - approximately 12:15 to 1:15 pm in room #1 (Seekers). RSVP or questions to scottr@cityweekly.net to allow planning for attendance and possible child-care needs

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

December 2, 2018

South Valley's Library Book Sale will be a one-day event on Sunday, December 2, during the social hour after church. So, two things need to happen:

Donations Needed!

First, we'd love to have you clear your bookshelves and donate your "rejects" for our sale. Especially popular are children's and youth-oriented books, activity kits and games. Our adult shoppers like good reads and music plus interesting books that you perhaps acquired after hearing a sermon or learned about on your favorite media. You just never know.

Shop, Shop, Shop!

Then, please come and shop on that Sunday morning. We often clean out our shelves as well, so there should be a great selection of offerings. You may be able to find just the right thing for a gift for that special person or a good read for yourself on a cold winter night. Put it on your calendar, December 2nd. And, remember, we appreciate and need your donations.

Your Library Committee

WELLSPRING WEDNESDAYS

From 6:00-6:30 p.m. enjoy a light soup dinner (vegan and gluten-free) and socializing. Then from 6:30-8:00 choose from different classes/discussion groups/activities to enrich our personal and community journey!

Gazing at the Male: Masculinity Film Series **October 31 - November 14 - Led by Rev. Bob LaVallee**

Films and film-making are dominated by men, but it's rare to watch films with the specific intent of unpacking masculinity. Rev. Bob will curate three films that speak to the social constructs of masculinity and maleness. Participants are welcome to join for one movie or all three. Viewings will be followed by an optional facilitated conversation. The first film will be Buck, a documentary about "horse whisperer" Buck Brannaman.

Hello Music (Music Together) **November 14 - Led by Dawn Levingston**

Check out a sample session from Hello Music for You and Your Little one, ages 0-5 years. Hello Music offers classes in our building during the week and is excited to share with our community!

At a Music Together® class, your child's growing music skills are supported and challenged in a playful environment. Plus, making music enhances language, cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development. Bring your toddler to explore music in a family class at Hello Music!

Yoga for All! **October 24 - November 14 - Led by Katie Cavicchio**

Katie has been teaching for more than 10 years, and is certified in various styles, including: power, restore, yin, and trauma-informed yoga. She's also developed yoga-based curriculums to help teens build confidence, to help people of all ages build strength and endurance, to help survivors heal and begin to feel comfortable in their bodies, and to promote mindfulness and acceptance. This class' direction and focus will be determined collaboratively by the participants and Kate.

Our Whole Lives Comprehensive Sexuality Education for K-1 - with Parents. *Please watch for registration details!*

Wellspring Wednesdays NEEDS *you* to succeed! Have a passion or talent you can share with your SVUUS community? Lead a WW class offering! It can be a single night, or a series; whatever suits you and your topic. (Past offerings have included: Yoga, Bridge, Family Board Games, The Artist's Way, Bible Study, Social Justice Reading Group, Paganism 101, Children's Choir, Glacial Geology, Science & Religion series, Beer Making 101...) Contact Liz or Rev. Bob with your ideas! (DRE@svuus.org or Minister@svuus.org)



Religious Education, Growth and Learning

Sunday Religious Exploration for Children and Youth

SUNDAY RE REGISTRATION TIME!!

We ask that every participant in our Sunday Religious Exploration classes be registered EVERY YEAR to keep our information current. Please fill out the following registration form, and let me know if you have any questions (dre@svuus.org)

<https://tinyurl.com/SVUUS-RE2018>

Sunday RE Schedule

11/4/2018

High School (9th-12th graders): A Place of Wholeness - A Theology of Love
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Coming of Age - The Web of Interdependence
 Seekers (4th-5th graders): URUU - Francis David
 Trailblazers (2nd-3rd graders): Moral Tales - Forgiveness
 Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Creating Home - Home in Nature
 Butterflies (Pre-K): Chalice Children

11/11/2018

High School (9th-12th graders): Coffee House Sunday
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Coming of Age - Learning to Lead Worship
 Seekers (4th-5th graders): URUU - UUs Around the World
 Trailblazers (2nd-3rd graders): Moral Tales - Welcome One and All
 Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Creating Home - Hearth and Home
 Butterflies (Pre-K): Chalice Children

11/18/2018

Annual Thanksgiving Bread Communion
 ALL-AGES Worship

11/25/2015

High School (9th-12th graders): Spiritual Practice Sunday
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Coming of Age - Introduction to Spiritual Practice
 Seekers (4th-5th graders): URUU - PJs and Movie Day
 Trailblazers (2nd-3rd graders): Children's Chapel with Liz
 Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Children's Chapel with Liz
 Butterflies (Pre-K): Chalice Children

Project Welcome Update

I know many of you have been wondering about what is happening with Project Welcome — last year's fundraiser for our new signs and a new ramp and accessible door for the annex.

We have two new signs on the front of the building and that part of the project is now complete. The Board has been actively working on moving the ramp and door project forward. During this time of transition some of the vital information about the project was not recorded or was misplaced. We have now pulled together all of the financial records regarding the Project Welcome fundraiser as well as detailed information about what needs to be purchased and what labor needs to be contracted in order to begin the actual work. The total amount raised in last year's campaign was \$12,000. The new signs cost about \$3,000. The Board approved the ramp and annex door part of the project at our last board meeting and we are contacting vendors now. Work should begin in the next few weeks.

I will be publishing updates and more information in future issues of Happenings and in the Order of Service as the project moves forward. I take seriously the importance of living up to our commitment to those who donated to make sure this project happens. Please contact me or a member of the Board of Trustees if you have questions about Project Welcome.

Thanks for your patience.

Lorri Quigley, President
 Board of Trustees

Save the Date

| | | |
|----------|----|-----------------------|
| December | 2 | Library Book Sale |
| December | 24 | Christmas Eve Service |

Upcoming Events

| | | |
|----------|----|---------------------------------------|
| November | 4 | First Sunday Potluck – Chili Cook-off |
| November | 4 | Pathway to Membership Class |
| November | 10 | SVUUS Auction |
| November | 11 | Community Chat |
| November | 18 | Leadership Council |

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

Temporary – Cindy Martin 801-944-9723
Email: admin@svuus.org

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Sandy Dreis | 801-256-0825 |
| Mel Welliver | 801-963-8258 |
| Peter Verschoor | 801-944-1653 |