



Volume 39, Issue 9

September, 2019



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September 1: "A Time for Rest, a Time for Play" Rev. Karen Madrone

September 8: "Come Home to the Waters of Community" Rev. Karen Madrone

September 15: "Make Our Mark" Co-led by Rev. Karen and Rebecca Britt

**September 22: "South Valley and the Search for the (debatably) Holy Cleric"
Led by the Ministerial Search Committee**

September 29: "Living in Awe" Rev. Karen Madrone

From the Board of Trustees

Message from the Board to our Beloved South Valley Community,

Our Board of Trustees met with Rev. Karen Madrone on Saturday, August 17, for our Annual Retreat. (We are grateful for the beautiful space that St. James Episcopal allowed us to use for this event!) To prepare, all of us read the Strengthfinders 2.0 Book and took our Strength Inventories. This led to an interesting analysis and discussion of the potential strengths that we, as your Board, have. And to recognize where we may have gaps and should seek those strengths in other member advisors. We have a spreadsheet showing our results. If you have interest, contact president@svuus.org and I will send you a copy.

The main purpose of the Board is strategic planning for our congregation, and our Board is packed with individuals who have strategic vision. This affirms the Leadership, Succession, and Development team's recruitment of Board members! This exercise also helped us appreciate all the gifts that Rev. Karen is bringing-she is the one who has many strengths for the practical application and implementation of our dreams. This will bring the balance of planning and accountability with clear deadlines for completion.

We have several tall tasks ahead of us this year! As we conducted a "Scavenger Hunt" review of our current Bylaws, we realized that there are many gaps, for example, what is required to become a member? We lack specifics. So, in preparation for our next Settled Minister, we are creating a Bylaws Task Force to review and recommend improvements. Lorelei White and another Board member have volunteered and Judy Mehr will advise; we would like two members from the community to serve with them. The recommendations can be presented to the Board for formal votes as you go, but the final deadline is April 1, so that they can be presented at the Congregational Meeting in May for your vote.

We will also be developing a Policies Manual and plan to create a "Behavioral Covenant", which will provide guidelines for what behaviors are encouraged and what ones are enforced as being not acceptable. This will help provide greater protection for our children, youth, and adults. Again, we will have two Board members and two congregation members serving on the Behavioral Covenant Task Force. If you have interest in serving on one of these teams, please notify the board@svuus.org.

Last year under Rev. Bob LaVallee's direction, we began looking at the distinctions between the role of the Board Treasurer, the Finance Committee, and the Bookkeeper. We plan to articulate clearer descriptions of these separate roles.

This fall our theme will be "The Stories We Tell: How We Live Our Stories". As SVUUS who would we like to become? What will that look like? This will be our dreaming phase. In the spring we will be focusing on "We Hold These Things to Be True". We live with the creative tension of needing to operate as we have been while, at the same time, welcoming new experiences and living into the future. May our dreams be realized!

In community, Ann Scarborough (Board President 2019-2020)

LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

MINISTER
Rev. Karen Madrone
minister@svuus.org
801-810-6184

SVUUS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ann Scarborough, President 952-994-1790
Judith Mehr, Secretary 801-870-2260
Phil Quigley, Treasurer 801-201-0906
Jan Vanderhooft, Trustee 801-943-3879
Lorelei White, Co-Vice Pres. 801-889-7737
Denna Wright, Co-Vice Pres. 801-274-0756
Bubble Emerson, Trustee

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Wednesday 12:00–5:00 pm

Thursday 1:00-5:00pm

Friday 8:00-1:00pm

*Third Tuesday of the month 3:00-6:00pm

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Rebecca Britt (Acting Director) 801-214-8340
Email: dre@svuus.org

CARING CIRCLE

Ines Korbanka 801-979-3020
Email: ikorbanka@yahoo.com

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 Our Minister

Dear SVUUS community,

In my first month at South Valley I attended meetings, led meetings, attended a training, led a worship service, planned upcoming worship services, asked a LOT of questions, and did my best to stay in a place of curiosity and wondering. Being the “new kid” at South Valley, especially because I know that my time is limited, meant that I had to hit the ground running and stay open to learning as much as I can - as fast as I can - in the short time that I have with you. I am very grateful that this congregation practices welcoming from a place of genuine willingness to hear new and different perspectives.

Over the course of the fall we will be exploring the stories South Valley tells about itself and thinking about what we can learn from those stories. I’m really excited for our Water Ingathering service on September 8 and I’m even more excited for the RE Kickoff Sunday on September 15! Both of these services will be opportunities for the congregation to be in community. On September 22 the Ministerial Search Committee will be leading the service. At the end of the month we will be using the lens of the Days of Awe in the Jewish tradition to consider what it means to reflect and atone for past mistakes.

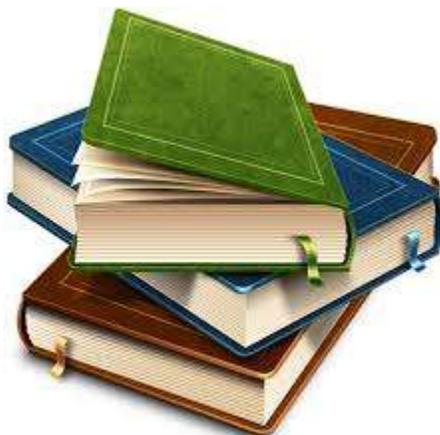
Some of you are wondering what books I will be using as reference points for upcoming services. For those of you who like to “read ahead”...I have bad news for you. I am not that far ahead yet in getting these details nailed down. However, I can pretty much recommend anything by Parker Palmer, particularly “Let Your Life Speak,” anything by Pema Chodron, especially “When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times” and Geneen Roth, especially “This Messy Magnificent Life: A Field Guide.”

The spiritual sources I tend to draw from are thinkers/theologians like Parker Palmer, Buddhist thought and Jewish thought (and in the case of Geneen Roth, both). I may not always quote from them but these authors and others like them show up in my speaking and writing. In our time together I look forward to finding out what sources you draw from on your spiritual journey as well.

Many blessings,

Rev. Karen

Interim Minister



Opportunities and Announcements

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, September 26, at 3:00 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.

July-August Offering Split: The Inn Between

The mission of The Inn Between is to end the tragedy of people dying on our streets by providing a supportive safe haven for those who have nowhere to go when they are facing a medical crisis. They adhere to the hospice philosophy of providing care for the whole person and are providing care for those who cannot get hospice or medical care simply because they lack housing.

Helping Seniors - Here is an opportunity for those interested in helping Seniors run by the city. The program is looking for helpers for their Senior Companion Program. Specifically they are looking for foster grandparents and Senior Companions. One can volunteer; however, there is a stipend for those of low income. The contact person at the City is: Rose Marie at 385 377-7299 or Ellen Payzant at 617 797-9993.

Movie Night

Join us in the Junior High Room on Wednesday August 14 at 6:30 PM to see a documentary called "Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock". Indigenous filmmakers and environmental filmmakers collaborated to tell the story of the Standing Rock protests in 2016 and early 2017 against the Dakota Access Pipeline. Remember that Patty Willis joined that protest with our support. Please join us for a light supper, the 89 minute movie, and discussion of future actions.

Tucker Gurney and Ann Scarborough

South Valley,

We have been contacted by UU Mass Action to help with providing food and water to those who are being released from Border Patrol/ICE detention and put on busses that stop in Salt Lake. They most often have a bus ticket but have no resources for food and drink. We need a point person to participate in a training class and to be contacted when the migrants are headed to Salt Lake, and a few people who are available to take supplies to the travelers at the bus depot. Please contact Elaine Totten directly at elaine_totten@yahoo.com [elaine\(underscore\)totten](mailto:elaine(underscore)totten) with your interest and availability. We urgently need volunteers.

Opportunities and Announcements Continued

SLOW FOOD UTAH

Save the Date!
The 15th Annual Feast of Five Senses
Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019
We think this will be the best one yet . . .
Tickets on Sale Sept. 1st

Eat Local Week
Is only one month away
September 7-14, 2019
Sign up for the Eat Local Challenge
For more information and calendar of events, go to: [Eat Local Week](#)

3rd Annual Indigenous Dinner
Utah Dine Bikeyah
Monday, October 14, 2019, 6pm – 10 pm
Join Utah Dine Bikeyah as they celebrate indigenous foods and the 8 tribes of Utah on
Indigenous People's Day
Go to [Indigenous Dinner](#) for more information

Thanks to our community partner
For the generous support of our summer programs and the upcoming
15th Annual Feast of Five Senses
We are glad we are neighbors!

Let's all go Camping!

It's time to think about the annual SVUUS Labor Day Campout. This year it will be in Diamond Fork Campground which is a lot closer than Bear Lake. Diamond Fork has many trails and a hot springs near it.

The campout is from Friday August 30th to Monday September 2nd. There will be a Sunday service at the campsite with a potluck lunch after. Come for the day on Sunday or for as much time as you can. We always have a great time. Come have a great time of fun in the outdoors.

Camp registration is available at church. You could also contact Kathleen Luck at dewelluck@gmail.com or Charles Christiansen at cncemc70@gmail.com for more information. We hope to see a lot of you there!



Opportunities and Announcements Continued

The Fall Clean Up

What you've all been waiting for!

- The all yard and parking lot cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28th (rain date Oct. 5th)
- 8:30-1:00
- Bring hard working kids over 10
- Bring your own coffee mug, water and we'll supply the coffee and bagels
- Tool suggestions: gloves, clippers, leaf blowers and electric cords, pitch forks, wheel barrows (just a couple needed), loppers, buckets/baskets, garden rakes, and pickups if you can do a dump run.
- We're developing a chore list but your suggestions are welcome.
- Sign up and suggestion sheets are at the Happenings Hub

Looking forward to a productive work day!

Bob and Cate MacGillivray, co- chairs of the Maintenance and Facility Committee, 240-750-0540, bobcat9611@comcast.net

Auction 2020

This year's Auction is just beyond the horizon. Imagine the cool sea breeze as you mark your calendars and save the date to party with us on November 9th. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and will be a boatload of fun for all ages. More details coming soon!

We are always looking for volunteers to help lighten the load. We have volunteer teams for: Decor, Food, Bar, Silent Auction Items, Tickets & Advertising, Data Entry, Tech, Graphics, Children's Activities, and Cleanup. If you are interested in joining a team or learning more about what each team does, please reach out to our auction coordinator, Kristen May, at kristenamay@gmail.com or 801-518-1371. Whether you are a long time member or a newcomer, we'd love to have you.

September Potluck

Sunday, Sept. 8

Join us after the Water Ceremony service on September 8th to welcome the Fall season with a Comfort Food Potluck. Please bring your favorite comfort food to share with our beloved community. It can be a traditional comfort food like Mac & Cheese, or something special that you and your family identify as comfort food. We welcome all contributions! Hosted by the Prayer Shawl Ministry and the Library Committee

All Hallow's Eve Carnival - October 19 12:00-4:00

We are looking for volunteers and donations for the event. There will be a craft fair for the children, an open mic, psychic readings, vendors and refreshments. Herbology, essential oils, henna, tarot, or energy work are some suggestions for vendors. If you are a musician or have a talent you would like to share, sign up for the open mic.

We will have refreshments downstairs and we would greatly appreciate donations of pumpkin pie and other fall themed food items. There will be reverse trick-or-treating and we will be collecting donations of personal products (including diapers) to be given to the Women's shelter. Join us for an afternoon of fun! Costumes are welcome, but not required.

Contact April at gneissrxs@gmail.com to volunteer or for more information.

South Valley Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Society (CUUPs) News

South Valley CUUPs is planning several rituals and classes this year. We will start off with a Wellspring Wednesday class called "Reflections on the Seventh Principal". Many of us are suffering from grief from all the current events and the impact of global warming. We want to create a safe space to talk and listen to one another, ground and center our energy through mediation and focus on sending healing energy outward. This group will meet every other week and more information will be announced at a later date. All are welcome.

We will be planning a Samhain ritual on November 2nd. Our next planning meeting is on September 29 at 12:15pm in the Senior High room. Please join us if you are interesting in planning the ritual.



News about our Chalice Lighter Grant

Last December, the Board of Trustees submitted a grant request to the Mountain Desert District requesting funds to make our front entrance doors truly accessible. We received word in the spring that our grant had been chosen as one of three to be funded through the Chalice Lighter program and that the call for funding would go out in the fall. Last month, we received this letter:

Dear MDD Chalice Lighter:

*Thank you for your generous commitment to growing our faith by helping other UU Churches in the Mountain Desert District (MDD). **The first call for FY20 is to assist the South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society in Salt Lake City, Utah with a building project.***

The Church Board President writes, "A Chalice Lighter grant will help us complete Project Welcome....our main entry doors are also not completely accessible....Our doors do not open widely enough to accommodate entry comfortably or independently for persons with disabilities. We are applying for a grant of \$9,850 to fund the second half of our accessibility campaign to respond to this need. We would be very grateful for the assistance from our larger UU community in responding to the needs of our members and friends living with disabilities."

*You can now have your gift automatically charged to your credit card or debited from your bank account each month. Automatic giving may be set up on the [MDD automatic giving page](#). You can make a one-time donation online at our [giving page](#). **If you have already set up automatic giving, we thank you. We do not expect you to make an additional contribution to this call.** We are grateful for whatever you can contribute. Direct costs to administer the call are reimbursed from the donations before the grant is issued. More of your money will go toward the grant if you opt for emailed call letters and make your contribution online. Donations for this call will be accepted through **October 31, 2019**.*

If you are mailing a check, make it payable to MDD Chalice Lighters and mail to the new address below. If you utilize a third party to issue checks, please give them the updated address.

*MDD Chalice Lighters
P.O. Box 567
Brighton, CO 80601*

If you have questions, please write to MDDChalichelighters@pwruiu.org.

The members of the Board, both past and present, are hoping that enough people in the Mountain Desert District contribute that we will raise the entire amount needed to make our front entrance truly accessible. Please consider signing up to be a Chalice Lighter which involves committing to contributing at least \$20 whenever a call goes out. Or you can just make a one-time contribution. It would be great if we had a good response from South Valley members and friends.

In community,
Lorri Quigley

Project Welcome Update

Project Welcome Update from the Board of Trustees

Project Welcome is our congregation's initiative to make our Annex (Jr and Sr High classrooms) accessible to all. The fundraiser for this important effort was suggested by Rev. Patty Willis in December 2017 as "The Christmas Gift to the Church". The donations given for the new church signs and for the ramp totaled \$12,389.66! We expected the signs to cost \$5,000, but they came in under budget at \$2000, thanks to the leadership of Jan Vanderhooft in 2018. This left \$10,389.66 for Project Welcome.

Rev. Patty authorized James Carlson, our valued custodian, to begin work on the ramp, and Rev. Bob LaVallee and Lorri Quigley followed up with supervision of this effort in 2018-2019. In May of this year, Rev. Bob asked Christine Hirrill to become the Project Manager and asked the Board of Trustees to analyze the process and come up with a new policy to govern all future projects. Christine accepted this responsibility and has been instrumental in obtaining bids, managing the timeline, and assisting the Board in creating the policy guidelines. The Board has done a deep analysis of this entire project, identifying how it could have proceeded with greater speed and efficiency. We have learned a lot, and have a new policy that was approved at the August 13 Board meeting. We plan to have this policy available on the website under About Us > Governance > Policy for Building Projects and on the Google Drive. This policy has been provided to our Building and Facilities Chairpersons, and it will be discussed at the September 15 Leadership Council meeting.

Our shared values have informed our thinking and planning, and will guide us in the completion of Project Welcome. We are committed to provide an accessible entrance to the Annex; this is critically important for our community. We are committed to being good stewards of the donations that were received for this project. We want to expedite its completion within the limitations we are facing.

In the interest of total transparency, we want to share with you that we have a shortfall in funding that is delaying the next steps of completing the ramp. We will be having the railings installed as soon as the contractor can add it to his schedule, however we don't yet have the funds for the door controls. The shortfall is \$5175.

This article is being submitted before the Board meeting on August 28, so more news will be forthcoming as we address this issue and make decisions about how, in good faith, to proceed. In researching church building projects it came to our attention that only 30% of church building projects come in on, or under, budget. So we shouldn't blame ourselves that this experience is unusual. We've addressed what we can do better in the future, and have created policies to guide future projects. And we will forge ahead with plans to raise the needed funds. Your questions and suggestions will be welcomed at trustees@svuus.org. Stay tuned!

Ann Scarborough, on behalf of the SVUUS Board of Trustees
Board President



The Ministerial Search Committee

Update from the Ministerial Search Committee (MSC):

The MSC is very excited about the next phase of the search process because the next phase is all about coming together as a community and discussing who we are as South Valley Unitarian Universalist Society. There are going to be several opportunities to share our stories and discuss our vision as a community.

The first opportunity, is our congregational survey. In the survey you will be given the opportunity to share how you engage with SVUUS, what is meaningful to you about our community, and what are your hopes and dreams for our new settled minister. The survey will be released at the beginning of September. And although you have until September 22nd, we STRONGLY suggest you don't delay! Please complete the survey ASAP! We want to hear from you so keep an eye out for the link to the online survey, which will be shared very soon.

The next opportunity for involvement in the search process will be Cottage Meetings! Are you ready to party? We are! Cottage Meetings are an opportunity to fellowship with one another and continue to reflect and discuss our goals as a community and for our future settled minister. We will be holding a few Cottage Meetings at the church after service on Sundays. Dates will be listed below. If you would like to volunteer to host a Cottage Meeting please contact Laura Renshaw at laura_renshaw@yahoo.com or sign up at the Happenings Hub.

We have submitted our application for the Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop. We are waiting to hear on a specific date. We have requested the beginning of December or end of October. The Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop is a highly encouraged workshop designed to help congregations in the ministerial search process. The workshop focuses on issues around race/ethnicity, gender/gender identity, visible and invisible disabilities and health concerns, and sexual orientation. The workshop will be held on a Saturday with a dedicated service the following Sunday. Keep an eye on announcements for the final date.

Lastly, look for members of the search committee on Sundays. We now have special badges so ask us about the search process.

Important Dates:

Congregational Survey: Month of September, due by September 22nd

Cottage Meetings on Sundays: September 22nd & 29th, October 6th & 13th

Additional Cottage Meetings: TBD

Ministerial Search Committee led Worship Service: September 22nd

Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop: TBD



Religious Education, Growth and Learning

Hello!

So much is happening in the world of Religious Exploration at SVUUS this September! RE officially starts with our RE Kickoff Service September 15th, an all-ages service followed by an ice cream social in the back.

RE happens with the love and passion of our volunteers and that includes YOU! Adult volunteers are needed in all our classes, especially those for our younger children (Pre-K, K-1 2-3, 4-5). Join your own children, return to a class you loved as a kid, or try something new! There are various ways to get involved to make this a great experience for our kids. EMAIL ME! I'm serious!

We have been hard at work preparing for our Youth Retreat on September 7th. Youth from 6th-12th grade are invited to a day of bonding and visioning for our year of RE here at SVUUS from 10 AM-7 PM. Register at <http://tiny.cc/svuusretreat2019>

Whether this would be your family's first or 25th year with RE, I would be thrilled to have your children and youth in our program. Please register your children even if they participated in a past year so we have the most up to date information.

It's going to be an amazing year!

[Register here! http://tiny.cc/svuusre2019](http://tiny.cc/svuusre2019)

Rebecca

dre@svuus.org

Sunday RE Schedule

9/1/2018

Labor Day Campout ALL-AGES Worship
Labor Day at SVUUS

9/8/2018

Water Ceremony ALL-AGES Worship

9/15/2018

RE Kickoff ALL-Ages Worship

9/22/19

RE Classes Begin!

High School (9th-12th graders): Beginning Together
Junior High (6th-8th graders): Covenant & Community Building
Seekers (4th-5th graders): Love Connects Us
Trailblazers (2nd-3rd graders): Love Will Guide Us
Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Love Surrounds Us
Butterflies (Pre-K): Welcome

9/29/19

RE Classes Begin!

High School (9th-12th graders): Beginning Together
Junior High (6th-8th graders): Neighboring Faiths
Seekers (4th-5th graders): Love Connects Us
Trailblazers (2nd-3rd graders): Love Will Guide Us
Pathfinders (Kindergarten-1st graders): Love Surrounds Us
Butterflies (Pre-K): We Are Many We Are One

Save the Date

Oct.	6	Blessing of the animals-monthly potluck after service
Nov.	3	All Souls Service-monthly potluck after service
Nov.	9	Annual Auction
Nov.	17	Bread Communion
Nov.	17	Leadership Council led by VP's

Upcoming Events

Aug. 30-Sep 2	Labor Day Campout
TBD	Board Leadership Transition Dinner
Sept. 8	Water Ceremony-monthly potluck after service
Sept. 15	RE Celebration & Teacher Blessing
Sept. 15	Leadership Council Meeting led by VP's

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

Chair: Ines Korbanka (801) 979-3020 or
ikorbanka@gmail.com

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