



Volume 39, Issue 11

November, 2019



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November 3: "Honoring Our Ancestors: All Souls Service" Rev. Karen Madrone

November 10: "Scarcity and Sufficiency: Our Relationship with Money" Rev. Karen Madrone

November 17: " Transgender Day of Remembrance service, transgender and gender non-compliant" SVUUS congregants

November 24: "Setting a Welcome Table for All: Thanksgiving Bread Communion service" Rev. Karen Madrone

Blues Christmas Vespers Service, Wednesday, December 18 6:30

In our culture there is an expectation that all people are cheery and upbeat during the winter holidays. However, we know that is not necessarily true. The holidays can be a challenging time for people who have experienced loss within the last few years, who are feeling grief and sadness. This service makes space for slowing down and staying in the darkness of the season before we celebrate the return of the light. All are welcome.

From the Board of Trustees

November Message from the Board

Friends, we have a marvelous opportunity this month to live into our hopes, dreams, and the vision for the next 5-10 years here at South Valley UUS: The annual Auction is the biggest fundraiser of the year! It is a joyful, fun, and entertaining evening of shared love-all in the interest of helping fund our programs for the year. Please invite your friends and neighbors! In evaluating the financial position of SVUUS after the first quarter, it was sobering to note that we are 25% through our fiscal year, but have only received 16% of our pledged income. The SVUUS Board cannot solve this challenge alone. But we believe that, if the community is enthusiastic about living our values, we can raise the bar! If we bring our best game, we can meet and exceed what is needed to reach our dream of attracting a quality Settled Minister to South Valley in 2020!

Your Board of Trustees has been hard at work, upgrading budget practices, appointing a Bylaws Task Force to recommend updates at our Annual Congregational Meeting, amending Personnel policies to match 21st century challenges, and tweaking some details of our Building and Facility Rental Agreement. These are tasks of the Interim Ministry in preparation for our Settled Minister. We Board members are challenging ourselves to grow in our leadership abilities by engaging in training modules from the Unitarian Universalist Association Leader Lab.

In seeking a fresh infusion of energy and passion, we are actively recruiting a team of three for the Personnel Committee and are seeking a committed individual to become trained as our next Board Treasurer. (To serve on the Board, you must have been a member for six months.) We are developing a Behavioral Covenant Task Force to create guidelines congruent with our UU Principles, which will protect healthy relationships and provide enforcement when appropriate in tough situations. It is a busy, busy time!

We celebrate our beloved community and are extremely grateful for the dedication and talent of our many volunteer leaders. You are AWESOME!!! If you have interest in learning more about any of the open positions that have been mentioned, please contact trustees@svuus.org for more details. May our community deepen in commitment, grow in love and service to others, and look to our bright future with optimism. May it be so.

With deep gratitude,

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

From Our Minister

Dear SVUUS community,

I am really loving fall in Utah! It is such a joy to be in this gorgeous state and to be with South Valley during this momentous time in your history.

With November arriving, South Valley is now a quarter of the way through the second year of Interim Ministry. In the first year of Interim Ministry with Rev. Bob LaValle, South Valley spent time recovering from the loss of your former settled Minister and your Music Director. This was very important work because losing these two members of the ministerial team had a big impact on South Valley.

This year I have been having a lot of conversations with the board and congregational leaders about other parts of the “tasks of the Interim,” the time in between settled ministers. Specifically, we’ve had conversations about South Valley’s identity, examining its governance and leadership structures, reviewing the budget, reviewing personnel documents, reviewing the bylaws, and clarifying roles and responsibilities. I have a feeling that I come to South Valley with a higher administrative focus than previous ministers this community has experienced. I acknowledge that is probably confusing to many of you because I’m not staying in the role of the specific type of minister that South Valley has had in the past. I can imagine that it is jarring for the congregational system to have a minister like me who asks so many questions about the organization itself.

Although I know it is uncomfortable, I keep asking questions and raising a mirror to South Valley because my ministry is to the system itself. My ministry is about helping South Valley be a strong and healthy congregation. This requires the congregation being clear on roles and responsibilities; improving clarity in bylaws and policies; developing (or help congregants learn about already existing) protocols and procedures; and improving transparency in budgeting reports. This type of work will help South Valley build its organizational strength. Especially in our current political climate, the saving message of Unitarian Universalism is needed more than ever. It seems counterintuitive, especially because most UUs tend to be anti-authoritarian/anti-organization, but to be responsive to the larger culture and to be supportive of South Valley congregants, a strong organizational structure is needed. It is my hope that raising questions and helping South Valley address gaps within the congregational system will help it continue to improve its ministry to the Salt Lake City area. I want the absolute best for South Valley and its future. I want South Valley to have a successful ministerial search and I am committed to helping in this process in whatever way I can.

These issues and concerns show up in worship through the overall theme we’ve had in the first half of our year together about the stories we tell. Whenever possible I’ve tried to bring up questions that are part of the Interim ministry time in addition to the “traditional” services. Towards that end, in November, there will be two services that have been done in the past and are gaining traction in the larger UU world, specifically the All Souls service on November 3rd and the Bread Communion service on November 24th. In addition, I will be leading a service on November 10th about our individual and collective stories about money and on November 17 there will be a Transgender Day of Remembrance service led by South Valley congregants.

I’m grateful to be part of a community that, while having traditions, is willing to see them through a different lens, and that you are willing to try new types of worship services as well.

Many blessings to each of you. Please feel free to contact me to talk about whatever is on your mind. I can be reached at minister@svuus.org.

Rev. Karen

Opportunities and Announcements

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl group will hold its next meeting on Friday, November 22, at 1:00 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.

SVUUS Offering Split Recipient for Nov - Dec 2019: Candy Cane Corner

In the spirit of serving our wider community, we at South Valley split our Sunday morning offering with a charitable organization that aligns with our values and principles. For November and December we have chosen Candy Cane Corner, a special holiday store that provides an empowering holiday shopping experience for people and families experiencing homelessness in our community. Family members and individuals visit the store with their case manager and select beautiful new gifts for their children and loved ones. Candy Cane Corner is sponsored in partnership between The Road Home and Volunteers of America Utah.

Candy Cane Corner Holiday Gifts Drive

During this year's season of gratitude and giving, join us in stocking the shelves of Candy Cane Corner, a holiday store for families and individuals experiencing homelessness that is sponsored by The Road Home and Volunteers of America Utah. Please bring BRAND NEW, unwrapped toys and clothing for all ages to our donation box located in the church foyer.

Suggested Donation Items are basic needs (underwear, wool socks, winter coats, children's clothing), toys, stockings and stocking stuffers. Don't delay - because Candy Cane Corner will be open only from December 1 through 14, we will be collecting items throughout November and the first week of December.

PROJECT WELCOME UPDATE 10.30.19

We are happy to report that the railings were installed on the ramp to the Annex, and the crash bar installed on the exit door. Hurray! We now have a functional entrance to our Education Annex. Thank you to all of you who have contributed to our fundraising campaign!

In addition to the \$2600 pledged by South Valley leaders, we have received \$1545, for a total of \$4145! To reach our goal of \$5200, we need \$1055. So, please, consider contributing to this worthy cause. Every little bit brings us closer to the completion of our congregational goal! We are blessed to have a community that wants to make our facilities accessible to all-with no barriers!
SVUUS Board of Trustees

"Owning Your Religious Past"

On November 13 Rev. Karen will lead a class that will help participants explore who they are religiously, what their past religious perspectives and experiences have been, and who they hope to become as Unitarian Universalists. All are welcome.

Thanksgiving Bread Communion

For this year's Bread Communion service, please consider bringing bread from your culture to share with the congregation. Whether it is cornbread, challah, muffins or anything else, all forms of bread are welcome. Whether it's from across the country or across the planet, your contribution is welcome. Please bring it in a form that can be shared with others as part of our celebration of abundance.

ROCK THE YACHT FUNDRAISING AUCTION

saturday 9 november

5:30 pm: socialize

6:00 pm: dinner



DRESS FOR
A DAY ON
THE YACHT!



Argh, Best be Ready for the Children's Auction!

Ahoy, Mateys! All hands on deck for the Annual SVUUS Children's Auction!

While the SVUUS adults are attending the Rock the Yacht Auction upstairs, your children can have just as much fun at our annual Children's Auction downstairs! There will be childcare provided, with assistance from our Junior High RE class. Your children will receive a full meal, have a night of games and activities, and be involved in their own toy exchange auction! (Children will auction with their own allocated play money...they won't need to spend any real money at all!

Please bring a gently-used toy or children's game that can be auctioned off and go home with another member of our SVUUS children community. Donations are accepted Sunday November 3rd right after service, or when you drop off your child on the night of the auction.

Saturday, November 9

Drop-off and Registration starting at 5:30 pm

Dinner served from 6:00 pm- 6:30 pm

Children's Auction at 7:15 pm

Games, auction, and activities until 9:00 pm or earlier pick-up

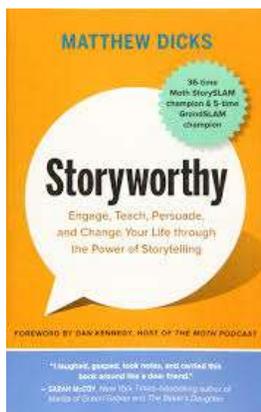
Buy your child's tickets when you buy yours at auction.svuus.org. Child tickets are \$5 and include a child's meal.

Avast! Get ye hence fer a night of booty, grub, an' fun. Yo ho!

Adult Religious Exploration with Rev. Karen

You are invited to join Rev. Karen for a meal to explore our stories together.

On the third Thursday of each month you are welcome to come have lunch with Rev. Karen at 12:30pm in the Social Hall. Together we will be exploring the text of "Storyworthy: Engage, Teach, Persuade, and Change Your Life through the Power of Storytelling" by Matthew Dicks. Matthew Dicks is Moth StorySLAM champion & 5-time GrandSLAM champion. He is clearly a master at storytelling! Exploring his book will help participants think about the ways we tell stories, how we engage with each other, and how we understand our own stories. Please respond to this link <https://forms.gle/J1JDduHqj3A13D7r6> to let Rev. Karen know that you are interested and she will send out the text to be discussed each month. For November, this group will meet on November 14.





Wellspring Wednesdays

Fall 2019

November 6th, 13th, with a special
Transgender Day of Remembrance service on the 20th

Vegetarian Potluck Dinner 6:00-6:30 pm - Class Offerings 6:30-8:00 pm

Wellspring Wednesdays is kicking off next Wednesday, October 2nd, beginning a 7 session long journey. Wellspring Wednesdays is our Religious Exploration program for adults, with at least two dynamic class options each night. Because RE isn't just for kids! (But child care is offered) Come by, bring a dish and get ready to explore.

REFLECTIONS ON THE 7th PRINCIPAL: Offered by CUUPS

October 2nd, 16th and November 6th

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.

OWNING YOUR RELIGIOUS PAST: Offered by Rev. Karen Madrone

October 9, 16, 23, and November 13th

On four evenings, Rev. Karen will lead a class called "Owning Your Religious Past," a UUA curriculum. This series will help participants explore who they are religiously, what their past religious perspectives and experiences have been, and who they hope to become as Unitarian Universalists. Consistent attendance is very helpful to get the most out of this class. The class will be offered on October 9, 16, 23, and November 6

WINTER CARD MAKING: Offered by Christine Hurrill - November 13th

Create a handmade holiday or winter-themed card for someone special. Experience is not required, but registering in advance will assure adequate supplies are on hand. There is no supply fee, but additional cards (up to 5) can be made for \$1 each if requested in advance. This class is for adults and teens, and children are welcome if accompanied by a participating adult.

EARRING MAKING: Offered by Cindy Martin - November 6th, November 13th

Use your creative eye to make simple, basic pierced earrings. Supplies will be provided for up to two pairs of earrings to take home. Class is limited to 12 people, so please select one night to attend to allow many people to participate.

CREATIVE DESTRUCTION: Offered by Rebecca Britt - November 13th

An exploration of the meditative properties of creation through mess, mistakes and failures. Prepare to get messy, and be unsure of what you'll take home.

The Ministerial Search Committee

Update from the Ministerial Search Committee (MSC):



THINK OF A MINISTER. DON'T THINK OF AN ELEPHANT.

Did you think of both? Were there definite images in your mind for both a minister and an elephant?! That would be true for most of us. In terms of a minister, what images came to mind? Was it a person of a particular gender, race, or age?

“Beyond Categorical Thinking” is a highly recommended part of the search process that congregations have found useful. In finding the person who would be the best match for our minister, we could potentially overlook or even let biases keep us from knowing that a particular person would be the best match for us.

In the UUA as a whole, credentialed ministers who are People of Color, LGBTQ+, disabled, young, old, working class, etc. still face discrimination as part of the ministerial search process. We don't want to let this be us.

Our congregation will host facilitator Eddy Carroll from Denver in leading a workshop on December 7th and a worship service December 8th. Each of us can engage in the workshop and/or the service, making the search for our new minister more meaningful and helping us overcome any unconscious biases we may have. We can explore our hopes and concerns for a new minister and see how our own history, both personal and congregational, might interfere with our efforts or might help us. We have a strong social justice history – let's just keep building on it!

SAVE THE DATE(s): Saturday morning December 7th and Sunday morning December 8th for Eddy's visit. Another important date: December 1 our congregational materials will be available for ministers who are searching – your input from survey and cottage meetings will be part of this!



Religious Education, Growth and Learning

Hello!

Since the last beacon came out, our teachers, volunteers and staff members have brought over 264 hours of love and service to this program. Between staff work hours, volunteer dedication to teaching and preparation, and Wellspring Wednesdays leaders, that is a lot of devotion to the Religious Exploration of our congregation. I am grateful to be part of a community in which exploration is a part of our mission statement and a labor of love.

On October 25th we had a Halloween Party and Cottage Meeting for our Young Adults and High School youth. This was a special time to connect these groups and share stories about what was cool back in the day, and what we value about South Valley. See a picture of the fun below!

We are offering two more nights of Wellspring Wednesdays, on November 6th and 13th. If you are interested in leadership in Adult RE please reach out to me! It has become clear that our current model isn't reaching as many people as we would hope. While Adult RE is not within the scope of my position, I am ready to support a pivot or rework for 2020.

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!

Snow is on the ground, but it's always warm in our community, and we often have doughnuts!

Rebecca Britt

Acting Director of Religious Exploration - dre@svuus.org

Sunday RE Schedule

11/3/19

High School (9th-12th graders): Modern Faith
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Our 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

11/10/19*

High School (9th-12th graders): Modern Faith
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Our 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

*Rebecca on vacation

11/17/19

High School (9th-12th graders): Modern Faith
 Junior High (6th-8th graders): Our 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

11/24/19

Thanksgiving Bread Communion: Intergenerational Service.

High School will stay in the service and join Rev. Karen after for Conversation with Rev. Karen



Save the Date

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service

Upcoming Events

Nov. 3 All Souls Service-monthly potluck after service
 Nov. 9 Annual Auction
 Nov. 17 Leadership Council led by VP's
 Nov. 24 Bread Communion

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