



# CVUUF News

## Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

A Welcoming Community to all persons regardless of their race, nationality, or sexual orientation.

## Upcoming Sunday Services

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This newsletter is published online monthly by members of the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Download your copy at [www.cvuuf.org](http://www.cvuuf.org).

Deadline for articles or photos is the next to last Sunday of each month at 6pm. Submissions are to be directed to: [newsletter@cvuuf.org](mailto:newsletter@cvuuf.org) and may be edited at the sole discretion of the editor, Liza Diniakos.

Other ways to

## SHARE

information:

### News & Notes

Email:  
[newsandnotes@cvuuf.org](mailto:newsandnotes@cvuuf.org)

### Weekly e-Announcements

Fill out form at:  
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### Online Calendar

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Email:  
[www.minister@cvuuf.org](mailto:www.minister@cvuuf.org)



The theme for our 2013-14 church year is based on Karen Armstrong's *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*. In November, we are studying the third step: "Compassion for Yourself."

**November 3 — Embrace Your Shadow — Rev. Lora Brandis** — The Jungian concept of the shadow reminds us that there are darker parts of the human heart that cannot be ignored. Developing compassion for yourself means that you learn to love the whole of who you are. When you embrace your good qualities as well as the bad you can gain insight into how better to practice the Golden Rule. Embrace your own shadow and it becomes easier to accept the potential for rage, fear, hatred and greed that we see all around us.

**November 10 — The Good Enough Dance — Rev. Lora Brandis** — Most of us are waiting for that day when we can finally declare ourselves "good enough." I have enough "A" grades, so now I'm good enough. I've accomplished all I want in my life so now I'm good enough. I've bought the right car and the right house and married the right person. Now I'm good enough. Dancing towards compassion for ourselves, we declare our lives as good enough right now and move on to the next step.

**November 17 — Let Go My Ego — Rev. Lora Brandis** — Before we move on to the next step (Empathy), we consider our own ego. Most world religions ask that we transcend the ego. Christianity has the concept of *kenosis* or emptying. Buddhists teach a doctrine of "no-self." The Vedas teach that our true identity is the higher Self, not the self we identify with our individual egos. Once we have developed a healthy ego, we can let go and set it aside in true service to the highest purpose for our lives.

**November 24 — Face It! — Justine Fischer, DRE** — This month in Religious Education we created plaster castings of our faces and decorated them. It was an exercise in self-perception, evaluation and awareness as our theme this month focused on compassion for oneself. But, let's face it, compassion for yourself isn't a free ride. It's about looking at the masks we wear and choosing which one we are going to share with the world.

**CVUUF Sundays on CD:** Recordings of most Sunday services are available on audio CD. They may be purchased for a \$3 donation, made at time of order. All proceeds go to the Library Fund. Order yours at the Library bookcase in Social Hall and do remember to pick up the CDs you've ordered! Sunday recordings can also be heard at [cvuuf.org](http://cvuuf.org), some can even be downloaded to your iPod.



# Muusings from Reverend Lora

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*I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual...O how I laugh when I think of my vague indefinite riches. No run on my bank can drain it, for my wealth is not possession but enjoyment. – Henry David Thoreau*

Here we go! The next two months will feel like they are over before they have even begun. I know that most of you have already made your plans for Thanksgiving and will soon start getting ready for Christmas. I am also aware that the second night of Hanukkah falls on Thanksgiving this year. It has prompted a lot of creative menu planning for those of Jewish heritage.

If you “Google” Hanukkah Thanksgiving, you will discover the web site [www.hanukkahthanksgiving2013.org](http://www.hanukkahthanksgiving2013.org), which was created to raise money for the International Rescue Committee. Sales of a unique commemorative t-shirt go to support their work to help those suffering from natural disasters, wars and other crises. Supposedly, this night of Hanukkahgiving will not happen again for another 70,000 years (or never again, depending on which expert you consult). Started as a grassroots effort by a group of volunteers, this fundraiser is a clever way to capture the sentiments of both holidays.

Hanukkahgiving is also a clever way to acknowledge the “mash up” of these two holidays. When retailers put Christmas merchandise next to Halloween costumes, I feel dragged kicking and screaming into a mash up of the entire holiday season that I soon begin to resent. Seasonal celebrations have their roots in ancient rites that were directly tied to the movement of the earth around the sun. How do we reconnect to these seasonal rhythms when our bodies and minds are expected to keep the party going in what can turn into one big Hollowgivingmess?

Our own UU tradition can teach us to slow down and savor the moment of each sacred celebration, even if we celebrate the mashed up Hanukkahgiving this year. The life of transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau reminds us to live simply, to be grateful for who we are and what we have and to pursue perpetual thanksgiving. I am grateful for the makeshift family I gather together at this time of year. This will be the fourth Thanksgiving that I have been away from my family and the fourth Christmas that my choice to leave Texas will disrupt our usual festivities. I do not regret my choice; usual festivities have given way to fresh adventures and ever-evolving traditions.

I am also grateful for the synchronicity of our study of the third and fourth steps of Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life falling in November and December. What better time to practice compassion for oneself and empathy than these two holiday-crazed months? If you haven't already made plans for Thanksgiving Day, you may want to consider attending our annual UU Thanksgiving Day potluck. This year organizers Phoebe Rivera and Noreen Powers are trying a new venue at a lovely location in Hidden Valley. After the feast, guests will have an opportunity to hike up a mountain road and view the greater Valley below. I'll be there. I think Henry David would approve.

*Lora*

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Rev. Lora keeps office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday by appointment. She is off on Mondays. To reach her, please email her at [minister@cvuuf.org](mailto:minister@cvuuf.org) or call her cell phone (214) 629-0405. Due to the volume of email she receives, it may take her several days to respond to an email. Rev. Lora takes an email Sabbath on Sundays and Mondays. Please feel free to call if you have a matter that needs immediate attention.

# President's Message



We have some exciting updates to report this month.

**Fair compensation:** I'm pleased to report that the Board of Trustees has unanimously adopted the following motions:

"To increase Reverend Lora's salary and housing compensation for FY 2014 by \$4,000, plus to make proportional increases in FICA/Medicare-in-Lieu payments, pension contribution and professional expenses in accordance with her contract with the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. The increase is to be implemented by December 1. The board authorizes the President to manage the mechanics of this increase."

"To commit to making additional compensation increases between now and the beginning of FY 2016 that will bring Reverend Lora's compensation to at least the mid-point level of the UUA Fair Compensation guidelines for a minister with her years of experience serving a congregation of our size in our geographic zone. The next increase will be included in the budget for FY 2015, to take effect as of July 1, 2014."

These decisions are cause for celebration; they are signals of commitment and affirmations of our values. Rev. Lora has made tremendous contributions to the well-being of our community. It is appropriate that we nurture the growth of our minister and all our professional staff and the great value they bring to us by caring for their well-being in materials ways, including with fair compensation.

**Leadership Cultivation:** At our recent Special Fellowship Meeting, the congregation voted to replace the Nominating Committee with a Leadership Cultivation Committee. The new Leadership Cultivation Committee will develop slates of candidates for elected positions, and will identify, develop, and support leaders throughout the year. If you're interested in leadership cultivation, please let us know.

**With A Little Help From Our Friends:** Our annual auction was a delightful bash, an amazing feat of organization, and a big fundraising success. Great thanks to the hard-working auction team, to everyone who contributed goods and services, to all who brought family and friends, and to everyone who bought those good and services.

**Mortgage Refinance:** We've begun the process to refinance the congregation's mortgage. At one-third of the way through the fiscal year we're on track with income projections, which will help our cause with the banks. The board and Finance Committee intend to approach and submit applications to multiple banks. We hope to have the refinancing completed by the beginning of next year. It's important that we continue the momentum of rising pledges and steady pledge payments. If you want to suggest a bank you believe we should contact, please let us know.

**Board & Council:** At our fall leadership retreat, Rev. Ken Brown, Executive Director of the Pacific Southwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association led a valuable review of leadership roles. The board's roles include mission, policy, strategic planning, fiduciary oversight, and assessment. The minister, staff, and council are responsible for operations. Going forward, Rev. Lora will serve as convener of the Council.

It is a joy and an honor to be a member and a servant of this congregation!

See you on Sunday!

**Willie**, [president@cvuuf.org](mailto:president@cvuuf.org)



Jill Kitsuse-Fulton, Administrator,  
[admin@cvuuf.org](mailto:admin@cvuuf.org)

November & December 2013  
**CVUUF OFFICE HOURS**

Sundays 10-2pm  
Wednesdays 12-4pm  
Fridays 9-1pm



Justine Fischer,  
Director of  
Religious  
Education  
(DRE)

# News From Religious Education

## NOVEMBER RE MASK MAKING for children and adults

As we focus on compassion for ourselves, we will be making plaster casts masks in Religious Education.

Due to the complex nature of the project, the actually casting will only be done on November 3. We need as many hands as possible to help with this task. It takes time for the masks to be made from the strips of gauze. The more adult hands we have the better. If your child cannot attend, and you would like to do this at home, let me know.

Adults who would like to make a mask can do so (see schedule below). It takes some time to get the masks made and for them to dry before they can be removed from your face. Masks will need to begin no later than 3:00 pm.

- November 3:** **During RE**  
Children and Youth make plaster castings.  
**1-3pm**  
Adults make plaster castings.
- November 10:** **During RE**  
Children and Youth cure masks with gesso.  
**1-3pm**  
Adults (same).
- November 17:** **During RE**  
Children and Youth decorate masks.  
**1-3pm**  
Adults (same).
- November 24:** **Mask Awakening**  
(children/youth only)

*Other mask making options will be available to visitors and to those not wishing to participate.*

**Please sign up with Justine in person or at [dre@cvuuf.org](mailto:dre@cvuuf.org).**

## WESTMINSTER FREE CLINIC FAMILIES HOLIDAY SUPPORT Sunday, November 24

Special Collection for this valuable facility in our community

**Until Sunday, December 8**

We are adopting six families. Please consider a gift for them this year. (See page 6).

## MICOP

We continue to support our local Mixtec farm workers by providing crafts for their children at their monthly meetings. The next two meetings are **November 23** at Harrington Elementary in Oxnard and **December 14-** Fiesta Navidena, location TBD. We meet at CVUUF at 2:00 pm.

*For information regarding Religious Education, I can most easily be reached at [dre@cvuuf.org](mailto:dre@cvuuf.org).*

*Yours in faith,  
Justine*

## Adult Religious Education

### Living Compassionately

Third Sundays 12:15-1:30pm  
Ongoing until August 17, 2014

Rev. Lora and Justine will co-facilitate a study group of Karen Armstrong's *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* after the second service on the third Sunday of each month. The study group is drop-in so there is no need to register. Join us as we move through all twelve steps together towards a life constantly guided by compassion.



## November Birthdays

Rhami  
Alsadek,  
Lizette  
Deemer,  
Nicholas  
Ebert,  
Constantine  
Ingersoll,  
Annabella  
Ingersoll,  
Sophia  
Lubka,  
Duncan  
Smith,  
Hannah  
Thuna.





## GETTING TO KNOW...

### SLOANE POWERS

...a new member but not a new face!

Tom and Noreen Powers joined the Fellowship in 1995, and with them came five-year-old Sloane.

Sloane has an infectious youthful enthusiasm for life and has dabbled in many things.

Growing up in Thousand Oaks, her Kindergarten experience was in a Waldorf school in a makeshift building. Waldorf schools were few and far between. Sloane loved this school. It had good vibes and was her sort of place where her imagination was allowed free rein.

Alas, public school did not measure up. From third grade through high school, Sloane was home schooled. The family was part of a home schooling group and between field trips, special classes & the CVUUF Fellowship, Sloane did not lack for friends.

Later, when choosing a college, Sloane met two “cool” young people at deBenneville who had attended Earlham College, a small Quaker college in Indiana. That turned out to be a happy choice for her too.

Sloane loves dancing and was on a dancing team there that performed at football games and at the end of the semester. She earned her BA in Comparative Languages and took advantage of study in Spain and France. She lived in Nantes, Paris, and for a short time in the south of France at La Foret Landaise learning Modelage – sculpting figurines, glazing & firing in the kiln. In Spain, Sloane found Valencia to be like S. California weatherwise but in culture so different.

Sloane is considering going for an MA in Speech Therapy. Mary Freed has been showing her the ropes. She's also interested in teaching English as a Second Language to older kids – definitely not pre-schoolers!

Sloane has many hobbies. One is bargain hunting at thrift shops! She says it is like going on a treasure hunt. Another is writing & she has been attending Tricia Bevan's classes offered in our auctions.

Sloane is certified at Yoga Works, where she is a substitute teacher in Barworks – ballet exercises & Pilates set to high energy music. It must be good for health - she's not yet been called in as a sub!

## Parenting Group

The parenting discussion group is open to all parents with children in upper elementary through college.

This year, we relate the Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life concepts to parenting, as well as discuss our weekly challenges.

Please feel welcome to join us in the adult RE room during second service after attending first service.

For more information, please contact Kathleen Holland.

## Women's Retreat Sign Up November 3, 10, and 17

The CVUUF 2014 Women's Retreat “Cultivating Compassion for Yourself - A Women's Weekend” will focus on the “Compassion for Yourself” chapter from *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*, and is scheduled for March 14-16 at deBenneville Pines. Cost for the weekend is \$180. Limited financial assistance will be available.

Women interested in attending may enter their names in a random drawing for spaces in the program on any of the following Sundays: **11/3, 11/10 or 11/17**. A box for entries will be in Fellowship Hall. If you are unavailable on those dates to enter your name, entries can be made at [womensweekend@cvuuf.org](mailto:womensweekend@cvuuf.org). There are sixteen (16) spaces available. All of the remaining names will populate the waiting list.

For more information, please contact Haley Blasman, Carol Flanagan, or Dana Ryon.

## 3rd Annual Holiday Adoption of Westminster Free Clinic Families

Our past support of this special place in our community has been a wonderful display of compassion and generosity.

During the month of November, we will be collecting gift cards, gifts, personal care products, clothes and household supplies for six families. Please donate new, unwrapped items only with the Family number and age taped on the item. The clinic gladly accepts the donation of gift wrap, ribbons and bows.

Please drop off items to the RE office no later than **Sunday, December 8** immediately following the second service. We will also hold a special collection for the Westminster Free Clinic on November 24.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity to our larger community.

Justine



### Westminster Free Clinic

Patient Care • Resource & Referral • Advocacy • Counseling • Training & Education



| FAMILY # | AGE | GENDER | SHIRT SIZE | SHOE SIZE | PANTS SIZE | WISH LIST                                |
|----------|-----|--------|------------|-----------|------------|--|
| 4        | 4   | Male   | S          | 9.5       | 4p         | Bike, puzzle, Thomas the Tank Engine     |
|          | 7   | Female | M          | 12.5      | 5          | Leggings, Justin Bieber Shirt, Puzzles   |
|          | 9   | Female | L          | 7.5       | 8          | Shorts, Basketball                       |
|          | 11  | Male   | S          | 6         | 10         | Wii Games                                |
|          | 15  | Male   | L          | 11        | 34         | DSI Game                                 |
| 27       | 15  | Male   | XL         | 13        | 36         | Gray Converse, target gift card          |
|          | 3   | Male   | S          | 9         | 4          | Toys, pirates                            |
| 37       | 10  | Female | L          | 2         | 10         | Clothes, Bike, Barbie, Watch/Alarm       |
|          | 38  | Female | L          | 6         | 8          | Clothes, Tennis Shoes, Purse, Jacket     |
|          | 31  | Male   | M          | 6.5       | 34x30      | Clothes, jacket                          |
| 39       | 38  | Female | XL         | 8         | 16         | Purse, perfume, shoes, shirt, gift cards |
|          | 36  | Male   | L          | 9         | 34         |  |
|          | 13  | Female | M          | 7         | 2          |  |
|          | 11  | Female | S          | 7.5       | 14-Dec     |  |
|          | 7   | Female | S          | 1         | 7          |  |
| 40       | 9   | Male   | L          | 4         | 12         |  |
|          | 7   | Female | S          | 1         | 7          |  |
|          | 5   | Male   | S          | 13        | 6          |  |
|          | 33  | Male   | XL         | 9         | 36         |  |
|          | 43  | Female | L          | 8         | 14         |  |
| 42       | 35  | Female | S          | 6.5       | 7          | Gift card                                |
|          | 35  | Male   | L          | 9.5       | 36         | Gift Card                                |
|          | 17  | Male   | XXL        | 12        | 44         | Gift Card                                |
|          | 15  | Female | S          | 7.5       | 3          | Gift card                                |
|          | 12  | Male   | L          | 3         | 12         | Gift card                                |



# Community Forum

Friday, November 15, 2013, 7:30pm



## Rape In The Fields

For the women who harvest and process the food we eat every day, sexual harassment and assault often come with the job. This documentary exposes the hidden price many immigrant women are paying to provide for their families.

After the film, there will be discussion with the film makers:

*Andrés Cediell*, a lecturer in the Investigative Reporting Program at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, and *Bernice Yeung*, an environmental health reporter with The Center for Investigative Reporting.

This program is free but donations are gratefully accepted.

Friday, December 6, 2013, 7:30pm

## QUEEN OF THE SUN: What are the Bees Telling Us?

In 2006 newspapers began reporting: honeybees around the world are disappearing. Nationwide beekeepers have noticed a 30-90% loss of their bee colonies. Thought to be caused by a combination of factors, Colony Collapse Disorder is causing a global bee crises. Taggart Siegel's *Queen of the Sun* is an engaging film that takes an in-depth look at the life of a honeybee colony and follows beekeepers and scientists in their struggle to save bees in natural and holistic ways.



The film will be followed by a discussion with bee expert, entomologist Anna Howell, UC Ventura County Cooperative Extension staff research associate.

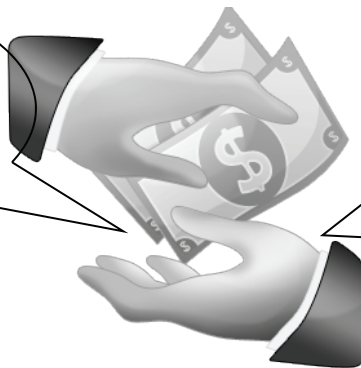
This program is free but donations are gratefully accepted.

**Community Forums are held at:**

Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3327 Old Conejo Road, Newbury Park  
<http://forum.cvuuf.org>

\$18, 000...19,000...

**\$20,000!**



*Thanks to All for  
making the auction a  
success!*

**A Special Thank You** to the Auction Committee: Ellen Learned, Candy Gantka, Jo Ann Van Reenan, April Fernald, Karina Leppik, Annie Barker, Liza Diniakos, Bea Ornstein, Lea Halsteth and Christina Houlberg.

**More Kudos** to Volunteers: Penny Smith, food/kitchen; Tom Powers, bartender; Terry Hinricher, check-out; Willie Lubka, emcee; Scott McGrath, computer input; Dana Ryon, sound; Pamela Lopez, auctioneer; Barry Blades, set up and take down; and Sam Dickerson, child care.

**Final Thanks:** To those who volunteered but we missed naming you, or if you donated and purchased items.

*See you next year!*

Please consider supporting the following businesses and organizations that made generous donations:

Ali Baba's Cafe Newbury Park

Ali Baba's Cafe Simi

Bellini's Osteria

Billy Dz BBQ

Boost Your Average

Cabrillo Music Theater

Cerritos Center for the Arts

Country Harvest

DeBenneville Pines Camp

Geffen Playhouse

Fancy Nails

Fresh and Easy Newbury Park

Geffen Playhouse

High Street Art Center

Hoppers Boat Rental

Island Packers

Mullin Automotive Museum

New West Symphony

Ojai Raptor Center

Panera

Pasadena Playhouse

Rubicon Theatre Company

Salon Coutoure Westlake

Santa Barbara Zoo

Sea Casa

Shaggy Chic Pet Boutique

Simi Cultural Center

Starbucks Newbury Park

Top Nails

Trader Joe's Newbury Park

Ventura County Gilbert and Sullivan

Repertoire

Viva La Pasta

Westlake Haircutting Salon

Wood Ranch

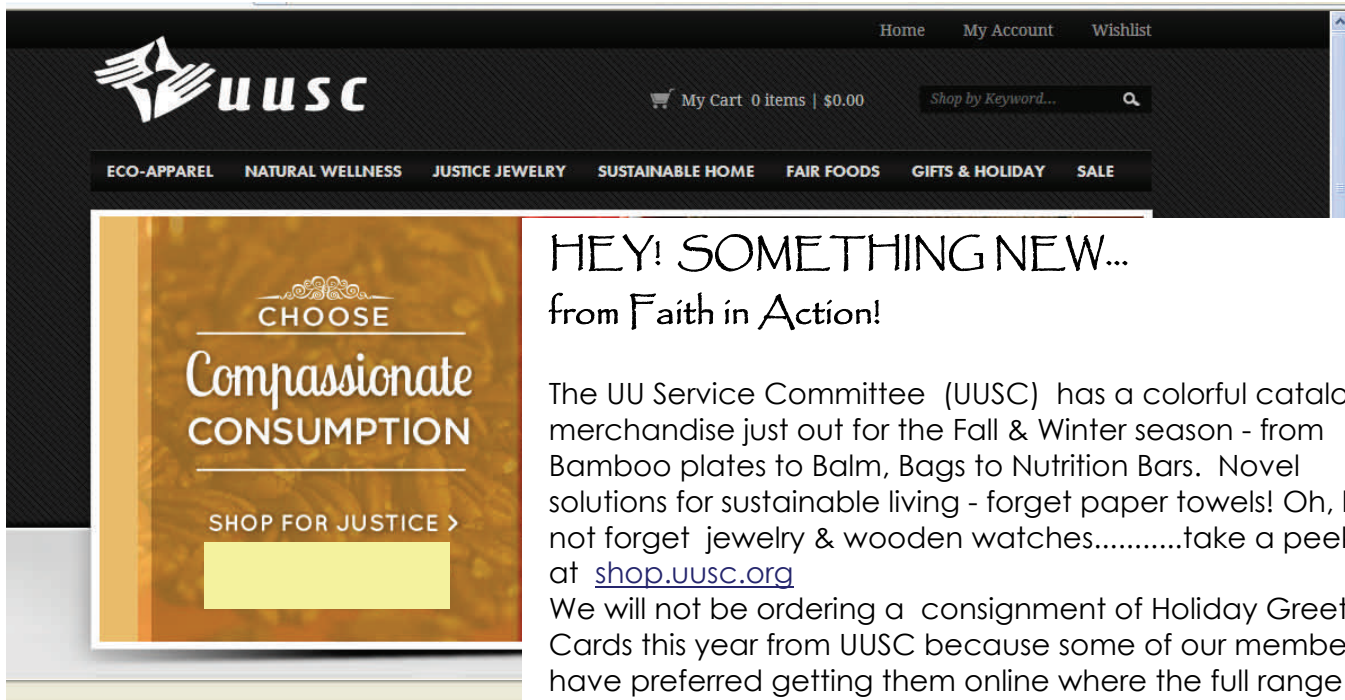
Special Collection • November 24, 2013

Westminster Family Clinic

(See page 6) This is our third annual holiday support of families who are served by the Westminster Family Clinic.

Make your generous check payable to CVUUF with "Westminster Family Clinic" noted in the memo.





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ECO-APPAREL NATURAL WELLNESS JUSTICE JEWELRY SUSTAINABLE HOME FAIR FOODS GIFTS & HOLIDAY SALE

**CHOOSE**  
**Compassionate CONSUMPTION**  
SHOP FOR JUSTICE >

## HEY! SOMETHING NEW... from Faith in Action!

The UU Service Committee (UUSC) has a colorful catalog of merchandise just out for the Fall & Winter season - from Bamboo plates to Balm, Bags to Nutrition Bars. Novel solutions for sustainable living - forget paper towels! Oh, let's not forget jewelry & wooden watches.....take a peek at [shop.uusc.org](http://shop.uusc.org)

We will not be ordering a consignment of Holiday Greetings Cards this year from UUSC because some of our members have preferred getting them online where the full range of designs are available - both new designs and some from previous years.

If you have a problem ordering online - seek help at the friendly Faith In Action table. Let's "CHOOSE COMPASSIONATE CONSUMPTION." While we're at it, let's help support UUSC in their ambitious work righting wrongs & responding to disasters in far places and at home.



**Register Now!**

**Walking the Walk 2013  
UU Justice Leadership Summit**

**November 22-24, 2013  
Camp de Benneville Pines CA**

UU Legislative Ministry, CA | [www.uulmca.org/wtw2013](http://www.uulmca.org/wtw2013)

## WALKING THE WALK: 2013 UU Justice Leadership Summit November 22-24 Camp de Benneville Pines

Looking to hone your justice making skills?  
Wanting to more deeply ground your activism in  
our Unitarian Universalist faith?

Held annually on the weekend before

Thanksgiving, the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of CA gathers to build justice community, get the inside scoop on justice issues of the day, renew our spirits and develop the skills, connections and strategies we need to be effective justice leaders.

With outstanding worship, food and fellowship, you will leave refreshed and reinvigorated for the journey of justice. Registration, including food & lodging is \$165 to \$185 on a sliding scale. Financial assistance for scholarships and hardships are available. For more information and to register: [www.uulmca.org/wtw2013](http://www.uulmca.org/wtw2013).

October 3, 2013

Dear Wi\$dom Path Field Test Applicant,

We are pleased to welcome your congregation as a Wi\$dom Path field test site! Thank you for your application, and for your willingness to provide vital feedback to us in the development process. I have so enjoyed reading applications and finding out about the wonderful things that are happening at Unitarian Universalist congregations.

We have had a huge response to our request for field test congregations, and understand the request from many quarters for more information. Here is the situation with the program as it is right now:

- Wi\$dom Path: "Money, Spirit and Life" is still being edited and is still being reviewed by several staff with expertise in the areas covered. It is not yet ready for previews.
- We expect online publication of the full program in late November.
- We will have the introduction to the program and the first four workshops edited and prepared in a word document by October 23. It will be sent to you as an attachment in case you wish to begin your field test before the program has been published on line or would like a preview of the program.
- More instructions on how to provide field test feedback will be include with the October 23<sup>rd</sup> email.

The Wi\$dom Path offers an opportunity to explore these questions:

- How do our financial lives intersect with our religious, spiritual, and community lives?
- How can we have a relationship with earning, spending, investing, and giving that is spiritually healthy and grounded in our deepest values?

It is not a financial literacy 101 program. There are already good secular resources out there and the Wi\$dom Path links to them when appropriate.

To help you get a sense of the scope, themes, and content of The Wi\$dom Path, the original call for authors, which included a broad outline, is included as an attachment to this email.

Thank you again for your willingness to field test this program! We are very excited to have you on board! In faith,

Gail Forsyth-Vail  
Adult Programs Director, Faith Development Office  
Unitarian Universalist Association

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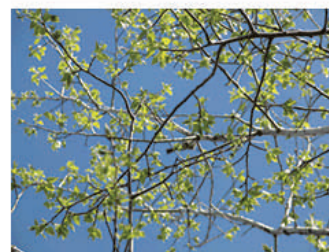
**The Wi\$dom Path: Money, Spirit, and Life**



Wi\$dom Path  
Tapestry of Faith



Wi\$dom Path  
Tapestry of Faith



Wi\$dom Path  
Tapestry of Faith



Wi\$dom Path  
Tapestry of Faith

# HELP WANTED

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## **Religious Education Coordinator Position**

The Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula is seeking a part-time Religious Education Coordinator. Requirements include experience with young children in educational setting and Universalist Unitarian background or supportive of UU principles. The position is five hours per week - at an hourly rate of \$18 to \$25.

Responsibilities include:

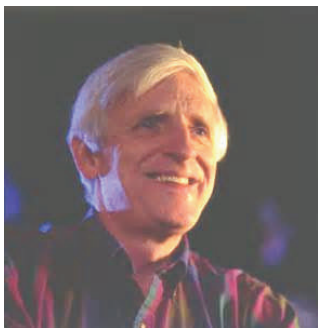
- Select curriculum and prepare lesson plans
- Lead religious education class twice a month
- Recruit volunteers from congregation
- Communication with parents & monthly update for newsletter

Send resume and questions to  
[uucsprev@verizon.net](mailto:uucsprev@verizon.net)

The Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara seeks a Director of Administration for regular full-time employment. The position requires a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Non-profit Administration, Finance or other related field. Minimum 5 years applicable work experience as an administrator, manager and/or supervisor, with demonstrated experience and competence in general working knowledge of non-profit business practices, communications, property and facilities management and office systems and technologies, with preference for prior large church or non-profit director experience.

The position is open immediately for qualified applicants and will remain open until filled. Applications and related materials are due by November 1, 2013, for primary consideration. The successful candidate would be available to begin employment in early December, 2013. Please visit the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara website, [www.ussb.org](http://www.ussb.org) for the complete job description and application form in the "About USSB" section.





## MATTHEW FOX

Thursday, November 7, 7:30pm

Christ Church Episcopal Parish

Ontario, CA

*"We are currently feeling the need for a spirituality that no longer hides our contemplatives in comfortable monasteries, but instead recognizes that we are all called to be mystics and prophets at once. This new spirituality integrates contemplation with activism and prophetic witness on behalf of justice and compassion, deals with the transformation of the whole-person, integrates spiritual practices from various traditions and emphasizes the need for intergenerational collaboration and wisdom."*

Join Matthew Fox, renowned theologian, activist and visionary, for this inspiring lecture on exploring the directions the earth is asking us to embark on today; based on a new book, *Occupy Spirituality*, from the inter-generational duo of Matthew and spiritual activist Adam Bucko. We will explore intergenerational wisdom, activism as a form of contemplation, vocation as a spiritual practice. We will use inspiration from our mystical ancestors still eager to share with us including Eckhart, Hildegard, Dorothy Day, Howard Thurman and courageous voices from today's Occupy Generation.

\$5 Suggested Donation, Refreshments Provided

## *All Souls "REVIVAL"!*

### *An afternoon of song and celebration*

*Brought to you by the San Fernando Valley Cluster of congregations:*

*Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church, 7304 Jordan Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91303-1237 ([www.emersonuuc.org](http://www.emersonuuc.org))*

*Sepulveda Unitarian Universalist Society, 9550 Haskell Avenue, North Hills, CA 91343-2013 ([www.valleyunion.org](http://www.valleyunion.org))*

*Unitarian Universalists of the Santa Clarita Valley, 22900 Market Street, Newhall, CA ([www.uuofscv.org](http://www.uuofscv.org))*

*Unitarian Universalist Church of Studio City, 12355 Moorpark Street, Studio City, CA 91604 ([www.uustudiocity.org](http://www.uustudiocity.org))*

*Unitarian Universalist Church of Verdugo Hills, 4451 Dunsmore, La Crescenta, CA 91214 ([www.uuverdugo.org](http://www.uuverdugo.org))*

**Special Performers: Scott Roewe & the Black Phoebies!**

**Saturday, November 2nd, 2013**

**Picnic @ 12:30; Music Service @ 1:30 pm**

***Pack a picnic and invite your friends, family and neighbors!***



**IS YOUR MOVEMENT STUCK IN THE MUD?**

## **M.A.P. - A ROAD MAP**

**(MOVEMENT ACTION PLAN)**

**FOR SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL MOVEMENTS.**



**ARE YOU WORKING TO CHANGE  
UNJUST SOCIAL SYSTEMS?**

**DO YOU WONDER IF YOUR WORK IS  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE?**

**HISTORY IS FULL OF THE DRAMATIC  
SUCCESSSES OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS,  
BUT ALSO OF DISMAL FAILURES.**

**DON'T REINVENT THE WHEEL -  
LEARN FROM GENERATIONS OF  
SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL MOVEMENTS.**

**SOCIAL MOVEMENT TRAINER AND VETERAN**

**ELLIOTT ADAMS PRESENTS: TOOLS TO ANALYZE,  
STRATEGIZE AND CONDUCT YOUR MOVEMENT**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16 AT 2:30 - 5 PM  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
5654 Ralston St Ventura, CA 93003**

**Followed by Potluck (5pm) and Talk (6pm) "Guantanamo & 80-day fast."**

**SPONSORED BY  
VETERANS FOR PEACE (SANTA BARBARA AND VENTURA CHAPTERS)  
AND THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF VENTURA**

**ACCESSIBILITY: CALL 805-407-7997**





# November 2013



| Sun  | Mon                        | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |                            |  |  |  | 1  | 2  |
|  |                            |  |  |  | 9am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours   |  |
| 3  | 4                          | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 9:15am» Worship Service<br>10am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>10:30am» Writing to Prisoners in Solitary<br>10:30am» Children's Choir<br>11am» Parent Support Group<br>11am» Worship Service<br>12:30pm» Membership Committee<br>2pm» Gaming Afternoon<br>5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting                  | 6:30pm» Finance Committee  | 6pm» Feeding Hands<br>7:30pm» Worship Committee<br>7:30pm» Community Forum Planning Committee<br>7:30pm» Worship Committee | 12pm» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>7pm» Chalice Circle Facilitators<br>7:30pm» Transitions Group<br>7:30pm» Meditation Group | 9:45am» Jonquil Group<br>7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal   | 9am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours   | 2:30pm» Emerald Covenant Group<br>7pm» Movie Group |
| 10   | 11                         | 12   | 13   | 14   | 15   | 16   |
| 9:15am» Worship Service<br>10am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>11am» Parent Support Group<br>11am» Worship Service<br>12:15pm» Dharma Workshop<br>5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting  | 7pm» Women's Evening Group | 9:45am» Gardenia Group<br>7pm» CVUUF Board of Trustees meeting   | 12pm» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>7pm» Chalice Circle Facilitators<br>7:30pm» Meditation Group                              | 7pm» Sapphire covenant group<br>7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal  | 9am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours   |  |
| 17   | 18                         | 19   | 20   | 21   | 22   | 23   |
| 9:15am» Worship Service<br>10am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>10:30am» Writing to Prisoners in Solitary<br>11am» Parenting Teens Support Group<br>11am» Worship Service<br>12:15pm» Adult RE: Living Compassionately<br>5pm» Movie Group 3<br>5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting<br>6pm» NEWSLETTER DEADLINE |                            | 7pm» Music Ministry meeting  | 12pm» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>7:30pm» CVUUF Council meeting<br>7:30pm» Meditation Group                                 | 7am» Opal Covenant Group<br>9:45am» Jonquil Group<br>7pm» CVUUF Quilters & Crafters<br>7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal | 9am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>7:30pm» Movie Group 1<br>7:30pm» Community Forum |  |
| 24   | 25                         | 26   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   |
| 9:15am» Worship Service<br>10am» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>11am» Parent Support Group<br>11am» Worship Service<br>12:15pm» Dharma Workshop<br>5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting  | 7pm» Women's Evening Group | 9:45am» Gardenia Group   | 12pm» CVUUF Office<br>Administrator hours<br>7:30pm» Meditation Group  | 2pm» Thanksgiving with Fellowship Family   |  |  |

# Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

## COVENANT OF GOOD RELATIONS

In order to assist us in fulfilling our mission to nurture spiritually courageous people who transform the world through justice and compassion, we the members and friends of the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship enter into this Covenant of Good Relations.

We, the members and friends of this congregation, value:

- Opening our hearts and minds to those who have traveled journeys unlike ours and whose strengths and challenges may be different from ours.
- A welcoming space for all to speak their truth respectfully.
- The importance of deep listening and respect for each other.
- Relationships with others of all ages, and the gifts that each generation brings to our community.
- The democratic process, through which we give voice to concerns and offer our time and energy to arrive at solutions.

In the wider community, we honor our responsibilities for upholding spiritual ideals, engaging in civil discourse with those of other religious traditions, and promoting our UU values.

In my interactions with others in this congregation, I will:

- Speak honestly and directly to the person(s) with whom I have a concern, using thoughtful, compassionate language.
- Forgive the errors and shortcomings of myself and others as we contribute to our shared ministry and express gratitude for the many gifts we bring.
- Assume good intentions in those with whom I disagree and examine my own part in the disagreement.
- Listen deeply to, and actively seek resolution with those concerned before engaging the Conflict Resolution Committee, Committee on Ministry, the Council or the Board of Trustees in conflict mediation.
- Expect divergent beliefs and opinions and persist in respectful dialogue—especially in times of uncertainty—remaining open to new understandings while doing my part to sustain this Covenant.
- Respect the minister and staff's professionalism, time and privacy.
- Assume responsibility for understanding the church structure and governance model.
- Assume responsibility for keeping informed of church business.

Through this Covenant of Good Relations, it is our intention to foster healthy and productive relations within our church community as we work together to achieve our mission.



## **Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

3327 Old Conejo Road  
Newbury Park CA 91320 ([map](#))  
805 492-8751  
[www.cvuuf.org](http://www.cvuuf.org)

### **Staff**

Rev. Lora Brandis, Minister, [minister@cvuuf.org](mailto:minister@cvuuf.org)  
Justine Fischer, Director of Religious Education, [dre@cvuuf.org](mailto:dre@cvuuf.org)  
Pam Van Uden, Religious Education Administrator  
Robin Swenson, Choir Director, [choirdirector@cvuuf.org](mailto:choirdirector@cvuuf.org)  
Jill Kitsuse-Fulton, Administrator, [admin@cvuuf.org](mailto:admin@cvuuf.org)

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Minister Emerita

### **Board of Trustees 2013-2014**

Willie Lubka, Board President, [president@cvuuf.org](mailto:president@cvuuf.org)  
David Barker, Vice President  
Michael Teasdale, Secretary  
Terry Hinricher, Treasurer  
Laure McKinnon, Trustee At-Large  
Phoebe Rivera, Trustee At-Large  
Don Vernardos, Trustee At-Large



#### **additional UU resource links:**

[Unitarian Universalist Association  
\(UUA\)](#)

The UUA serves 1,000+ congregations in the US and the world.

[Pacific Southwest District \(PSWD\)](#)

PSWD serves 50 Pacific Southwest congregations in California, Arizona and Nevada.

*Sunday Service is held at 9:15 & 11:00 am, with Coffee Hour following each service. Children's Religious Education is held during the 9:15am service. Childcare is provided and YRUU (our high school RE program) meets during the 11:00am service.*

*Visitors are always welcome!*