



CVUUF News

Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

Upcoming Sunday Services

In This Issue

Rev. Lora	2
President's Message	4
RE News	6
Outreach Director	7
Calendar	13

This newsletter is published online monthly by members of the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Download your copy at <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 and may be edited at the sole discretion of the editor, Liza Diniakos.

Other ways to

SHARE

information:

News & Notes

Email: newsandnotes@cvuuf.org

Weekly

e-Announcements

Fill out form at: <http://cvuuf.org/news/announcereq>

Online Calendar

Fill out form at: <http://cvuuf.org/calendar/request>

Facebook

Email: minister@cvuuf.org



February 1 — Pieces of the Puzzle— Rev. Sonya Sukalski— Walking a trail, taking a pilgrimage, and navigating a labyrinth are metaphors for our life's journey. Folks who are hiking along the Pacific Crest Trail all have a similar destination in mind, though many different approaches to getting there are employed. Rev. Sonya Sukalski is the UU Fellowship of Tuolumne County's part-time minister. She recently completed a six-week, 400+ mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail.

February 8 — Home is... — Rev. Lora Brandis — "Home is where the heart is." "Home is where one starts from." "Home is the nicest word there is." The word "home" conjures up memory and meaning and, for some, longing for a place that no longer exists. We leave home for various reasons; we return altered by our wanderings knowing that home always resides at the center of our beings. As a follow-up to the speaker provided Saturday afternoon, we will invite those who have a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia, or who have lost a loved one to some form of dementia, to come forward and light a candle during the worship service. "Love begins by taking care of the closest ones - the ones at home."

February 15 — Gaia, Mother Earth and the Oneness of

Everything— Musician Jim Scott — The idea of Mother Earth or "Gaia" being a living organism with the same physical attributes as humans leads us to a deeper connection with our life support system. Churches can offer the spiritual response so timely now, as "the spirit of life on earth is in crisis." An activist for peace and the earth with his music, former co-Chair of the UU Ministry for the Earth, Jim helped create the "Green Sanctuary" program.

February 22— All Will Be Well — Rev. Lora Brandis — Julian of

Norwich was a 14th century Christian mystic perhaps best known for the saying, "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." Today we say good-bye to our shared ministry. Although our leave-taking feels abrupt and unplanned, all will be well. The congregation is equipped to envision what comes next and I am humbled by a calling that continues to take me to unexpected places. **There will be one service only at 9:15am, followed by a celebration of our shared ministry.**

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 <http://www.cvuuf.org>. Some can even be downloaded to your iPod.



Muusings from Reverend Lora

"Home is where the heart is." – Pliny the Elder
"Home is where one starts from." – T.S. Eliot
"Home is the nicest word there is." – Laura Ingalls Wilder
"Home is where your stuff is." – Rev. Lora Brandis

I found the perfect Christmas gift for my husband: a framed poster of an antique map of Texas with the words "Home is wherever I'm with you" graphically imposed over the map. I had it shipped to Dallas and when it arrived it was broken. My perfect gift was damaged. The artist was kind enough to replace it immediately; the package had been insured. My perfect gift had been restored to its original condition.

"Home is wherever I'm with you" could be a slogan for the way Frank and I have lived our married life for more than four years now. In our first year away from each other Frank stayed in the house we had rented after we sold our house in Dallas. I lived in three different houses provided by the congregations I served in Idaho and Utah. When I returned to Dallas to get ready to move to California I contracted with movers to bring my inherited stuff from Houston, I unpacked stuff that had been stored in our garage after the move and I had a huge garage sale in the heat of August and sold a bunch of stuff. "Home is wherever I'm with you" is sweet and romantic, but the burden of the logistics of yet another move has led me to conclude that home is where my stuff is.

I have lost count of how many times I've moved in my life. My father worked for an oil company so we moved every few years when I was growing up. Moving to Texas from Chicago as a teenager was a culture shock I will never forget. I have resisted claiming Texas as my home, but the truth is it has seeped into my bones. My children were born there. My sisters, their children and grandchildren live there. My husband remains there because our daughter is ill. Home is where my family is.

Home was supposed to be here with you, the people I love and who love me back. The best we can do for each other now is to remember how our time together will continue to shape who we are. I am a better minister because of you. I am a better person because of you.

Home is all of those clichés we like to quote about the heart and the place where one starts. Home is also more than a saying or a place. Home is the center of our beings, what we always carry with us – without the help of movers. Home is a deep sense of trust that life knows where it is going, even when we do not. T.S. Eliot said it best, "What we call a beginning is often the end and to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from. We shall not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time."

I will miss you all. (All of y'all.)

With love,
Lora

Rev. Lora has one day off a week, which is Monday. She schedules appointments in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. To reach her, please email her at minister@cvuuf.org or call her cell phone 805.410.3808. Due to the volume of email she receives, it may take her several days to respond to an email. Please feel free to call if you have a matter that needs immediate attention.



Departing Ritual

We have just a short time left in our shared ministry together.
Shared – because that is how our tradition views ministry.
I was called by you to be your minister and, free to make a choice,
I said yes.

When I arrived here I was given a beautiful box decorated with
Justine's help by the children of this congregation.
At my first worship service with you I requested the children write
their wishes for themselves and for our shared ministry.

At my last worship service I would like all of you to write
wishes upon my departure.

Wishes, hopes, dreams...whatever last word you would like to share with me.

I'll invite you forward to place those wishes in the box and then I'll leave.

From time to time I will draw a wish from the box and remember our time together.

I'll remember our shared ministry to nurture spiritually courageous people who transform the world
through justice and compassion.

In gratitude, Rev. Lora

Help Needed for Farewell Party

MENU

Finger Sandwiches

Quiches

Breakfast Pastries

Fruits

Dessert and Drinks

Please see Mary Freed **right away** for donations of specific foods or donation of money
toward food. If you are able to set up or clean up, please speak with Anahi Quiroz. We
can't do our best without everyone's help. Thanks!

Transition Process Update

Ministerial Search Representative Visit March 22, 2015

Ministerial Search Representative, Reverend Ken Collier, will visit our congregation on March 22, 2015. Rev. Ken, who is Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, has received training to help congregations in search for a new settled minister. He will reflect on our upcoming search process, describe the procedures and timeline, explain the UUA's recommended best practices for selecting search committee members, and review the ways in which congregation members will be invited to provide input to the search process during the months ahead.

The plan for the day is for Rev. Ken to provide one Sunday morning worship service at 9:15, then lead a Town Hall meeting starting at 11:00 where he will respond to questions from the congregation. He will also meet with the Board and Leadership Cultivation Committee later that afternoon.

Ours is a democratic faith and the entire congregation will be involved in selecting a new minister. It is important that everyone understands what is happening as we move forward with the process. Please attend on March 22 if you can.

President's Message



Hello my fellow UUs.

During our recent Mid-Year Fellowship Meeting I stumbled a bit when expressing one passage from my report, so I'm taking this opportunity to say it again. Early in my term as Board President, I shared with you that working with Rev. Lora has been like being with "Janie Appleseed." She has planted many seeds here - seeds that have taken root and grown into strong trees that will continue to bear fruit for all of us, and our future members and future ministers, long after Lora has left this place. We've learned and accomplished a lot together. I will always be thankful for our time with Lora, for all she has given, and for the joy, growth, and service we've shared. I know I speak for many in saying, "Thank you Lora! Know that as you and your family move forward on your journeys, our love and prayers will be with you."

The future for our community of faith is filled with possibility. And here's some good news - we don't have to sort out the answers by ourselves. We're getting lots of help and support from the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Pacific Southwest District. And here's more good news. Our congregation is strong; filled with committed members who care deeply. And even more good news. Rev. Anne Hines is an experienced and talented professional who brings us tremendous skill, energy, and dedication. She and Lora have already planned out a full schedule of worship services through the end of the year!

Here are some key markers on the road ahead. On Sunday February 22, Rev. Lora will give her last sermon and we'll have a farewell celebration to have a good goodbye together. At the end of February, Rev. Anne Hines will join our leadership team for a retreat as she begins her ministry with us. Sunday, March 1 will be Anne's first Sunday in our pulpit. She is contracted half-time for six months (through August) after which we engage a full-time Interim Minister (which potentially could be Anne.) During March, the Board will begin developing a budget for FY 2016. On March 22, Rev. Ken Collier, UUA Ministerial Search Representative, will be here for a Sunday service and a Town Hall meeting with the congregation. The Leadership Cultivation Committee will identify a slate of candidates for a Ministerial Search Committee to be elected in the Spring, and a slate of candidates for the Board of Trustees to be elected at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 14. The Board and Rev. Anne will recruit a person to replace Justine Fischer to lead our Religious Education program after Justine leaves us in June. The MSC will conduct a search with the goal of calling a new settled Minister to join us in Fall, 2016.

The search process will be an enriching time of visioning, with involvement from all our members. To learn more about how UU congregations and ministers come together, a good place to start is the "Settlement Handbook for Congregations and Ministers" which is available free at uua.org.

The transition brings opportunities for each of us to blossom as a Unitarian Universalist and as a church member. As we go through this transition, we may have mixed feelings, with some sadness and nostalgia at the same time as excitement and anticipation. Whatever you feel, share it honestly and listen to others - it's a chance to strengthen the ties that bind. The time ahead gives us collectively an opportunity for spiritual renewal, to build a community that nurtures spiritually courageous people who transform the world through justice and compassion.

See you on Sunday,

Willie, president@cvuuf.org

**Join the Living Legacy Project for
Marching in the Arc of Justice
A Conference Honoring the 50th
Anniversary of the Selma Voting Rights
Campaign
March 5-8, 2015
www.uulivinglegacy.org**



Justine Fischer,
Director of
Religious
Education
(DRE)

News From Religious Education

FEBRUARY RE

Pre K/K, 1-4th grade and 5th-8th grade meet during the first service and YRUU (high school) meets during the second service. Child Space is available for our smallest ones at both services.

Our theme this month is Renewal. We will also focus on this source from Our Living Tradition: *Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.*

FAREWELL

On Sunday, February 15 the children will be making farewell cards for Reverend Lora. If your child is not attending that Sunday, and they would like to make a card, please do so at home. We will be giving them to her at the service on Sunday, February 22.

On a personal note - Lora, it's been a joy, a pleasure and there have been some wild adventures. Holding you close now and always.

MIXTECO INDIGINA COMMUNIDAD ORGANIZATION PROYECTO (MICOP)

Join us in sharing arts and crafts with our Mixteco neighbors. Monthly meetings (dates below) are held at the following locations:

Haydock Intermediate School
647 Hill St.
Oxnard, CA 93033

Saturday, February 28, 2015, 1-6pm
Saturday, March 28, 2015, 1-6pm
Saturday, April 25, 2015, 1-6pm
Saturday, May 30, 2015, 1-6pm

IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES

3/29/15 Annual Youth Service

4/25/15 Children's Book donations

We will be collecting new and **gently used** children's books for children birth through 7th grade February- April.

5/17/15 Coming of Age Service

To be held during both the first and second service. For more information about COA contact Dana Ryon or Erik Halseth.

6/7/15 Annual Bridging Service

SPIRITUAL NURTURERS NEEDED

Our Religious Education Program relies on the time and talent of our congregation. We are still in need of two nurturers for the coming year. We need one more nurturer in grades 1-4 and another in grades 5-8.

If you would like to volunteer or ask questions regarding Religious Education, I can most easily be reached at dre@cvuuf.org.

Yours in faith,

Justine

Special Collection •

February 15, 2015

MANNA

Make your check payable to CVUUF, and note "Manna" in the memo.



February Birthdays

Piper
Snowber

More News From Religious Education

OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL) SCHEDULE

Three programs are starting for the following age groups: high school, grades 4-6 and K-1.

High School OWL (grades 10-12) (Facilitated by: Robin Lindsey and Tom Smith)
Classes are from 1-3pm on the following Sundays: February 1 (note: 12:30 –2:30pm this day only), 8, 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, April 12, 19, 26 and May 3

Grades 4-6 OWL (Facilitated by: S. Krystal McCauley and Tom Stough) **K-1 OWL** (Facilitated by: Carol Jones and Brian Pletcher)

Classes are from 11am-12pm during the second service on the following Sundays:
February 1, 8, 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22

COMING OF AGE

Coming of Age is a time of religious, spiritual and personal exploration. It is also a time of reflection and building relationships. Youth often make deep connections to their peers, mentors and facilitators. It is assumed each participant and their parents/guardians will dedicate their time and focus to this program.

Facilitators for the 2015 Coming of Age program are: Dana Ryon and Erik Halseth.

- The program is open to youth who are: born in the year 2001; or in 2000 if they did not participate in 2014 Coming of Age.
- Registered in the CVUUF Religious Education Program
- Children of members or affiliates of the Fellowship

The initial youth and parent meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 11, 2014 from 1:00 – 1:30 pm.** We will be meeting upstairs in Fellowship Hall in the Middle School room.



Welcome Greg Whitmore!!

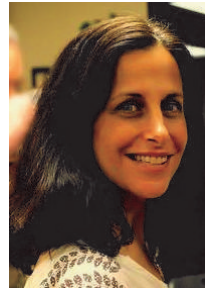
Greg Whitmore has served as organist, pianist, and music director at many churches for the past 20 years. Greg is currently the Director of Choirs at the Buckley School in Sherman Oaks, where he teaches students in grades 4-12.

He was a past winner of the Dallas Music Teacher's Association Collegiate Piano Competition. He has sung in the choruses of The Dallas Bach Society, and the Fort Worth Opera, and performed in theatrical productions at ICT Mainstage in Irving, Texas including *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel's Prince), *Once Upon a Mattress* (Minstrel), *The Secret Garden* (Fakir), and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Reverend Sprague). He performed in the ensembles of Guys and Dolls, Candide, and La Cenerentola during a nine-week summer program at The Seagle Music Colony in upstate New York in 2009.

In 2008 he was accepted to perform in a five-week series of masterclasses at the Franz Schubert Institute in Baden bei Wien, Austria. Throughout the five weeks, he performed 24 lieder for legendary performers Elly Ameling, Wolfgang Holzmair, Walter Moore, Julius Drake, Wolfram Rieger, Rudolf Piernay, Rudolf Jansen, Edith Wiens, and Michael McMahon. In 2007 he was selected to sing in a masterclass for mezzo-soprano Sarah Walker at the Ardingly International Music School in England.

Greg is a songwriter and a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP). He earned his Master's Degree in Piano Performance from Southern Methodist University, and his Bachelor's Degree in Music from The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. He studied voice privately with Brian Schexnayder. Information about Greg, his teaching or his music philosophy can be found on his [website](#).

News From Our Outreach Director



Periodically I receive news on a local justice events that would be a great fit for CVUUF, but am not able to personally represent us at everything that is out there. If there are justice issues you are passionate about, please let me know. I hear of opportunities regularly in the areas of reproductive, environmental, economic, immigrant justice, etc. I am always eager to share the opportunity for our membership to a) go to these events for an opportunity to network and learn and b) represent CVUUF to organizations that support the same issues. Seek me out or email me at outreachdirector@cvuuf.org.

This **Tuesday, February 3rd** is another opportunity to participate in **Feeding Hands** at Calvary Church. We expect approximately 115 guests this week.

Saturday, February 7th, our **Community Forum** will be presenting *Adapting to Alzheimer's – Support for When Your Parent Becomes Your Child*. Please note the special time of 3:00PM for this important conversation. Details for this event can be found on page 8.

Friday, February 13th at 7:30pm, our **Community Forum** is honored to have our own State Senator Fran Pavley give *A Report from Sacramento* (page 8). For this event, we are partnering with the Ventura County Climate Hub (our local base for 350.org) and Ventura County Climate Care Options Organized Locally (VC COOL). The auspicious timing of this event gives us the opportunity to participate in 350.org's acknowledgement of Global Divestment Day. Come early and join in a group photo to show our solidarity. (If you didn't know, the UUA voted to divest from fossil fuels at last year's General Assembly.)

Climate Action Team (CAT) — Meets Wednesday, February 11, 7:30pm in the Board Room. Contact: cat@cvuuf.org.

Escalating Inequality — Meets Monday February 23, 7-8:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Escalating Inequality is the 2014 (CSAI) Congregational Study/Action Issue. We are using "Capital in the 21st Century" by T Piketty for study and discussion. Contact: Michael Teasdale.

Mindful Eating — Sunday, February 1 at 5:00pm in Fellowship Hall. We will do a recipe exchange of our favorite recipes of 2014. Bring the recipe to share with others and we will begin a Mindful Eating Book of Tips and Recipes.

REACHING OUT...

The current Community Forum team (pretty much Matthew and me) will no longer be the point people in presenting Community Forums after April 2015.

I hope that this program will not go away.

Our intention was to give up leadership a year and a half ago, and it is truly time.

If you want to create a new committee, take on the leadership, or present occasional forums, let me know, and we will see how we can move forward with this.

It's been a joy – and with 120 forums under our belt, we are anxious to see who will lead it from here.

Pamela



Community Forum

Saturday, February 7, 2014, 3pm

Sherry Lynn Harris



Author of *Adapting to Alzheimer's: Support for When Your Parent Becomes Your Child*, Harris will present information on Alzheimer's disease coming from a personal experience perspective. Her information is appropriate for families dealing with the effects of this disease in early and advanced stages, as well as caregivers, and the public at large. Her presentation will include positive preventative tools for preserving the aging brain. She has worked closely with

Thousand Oaks Senior Concerns and has given her talks throughout Ventura County. [Visit her blog.](#)

Friday, February 13, 2014, 7:30pm

STATE SENATOR FRAN PAVLEY

A Report From Sacramento



State Senator Fran Pavley will be our special guest to discuss the important environmental issues being addressed in Sacramento. We will explore the state's independent scientific study on fracking, the response to our water crisis and efforts to continue California's climate change progress, as well as other vital environmental issues and their economic and health impacts.

Sen. Pavley represents Senate District 27 - including portions of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties - in the California Legislature. While in the Senate, Fran has been focusing on education, water, consumer protection, and creating a clean, secure energy future for California and the U.S., causes she has championed over the course of her career.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, March 14—Muses III

Saturday, April 11—Climate Action Team

Community Forums are free, but donations are appreciated always!

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

WE are on the Side of Love

The national Standing on the Side of Love organization is "a community of people compelled to speak out against oppression, united in the common belief that love is the ultimate guiding force of our world."

If you believe that all people deserve dignity, find a seat at the following.



Crowdfunding Social Justice Work with FAITHIFY

Wednesday, February 11, 5 to 8pm

Organizers at Faithify will host a special webinar on crowdfunding. It'll be a chance to learn how to use digital tools to amplify and fund faith-rooted work for change. [Register here.](#)

The poster has a warm, yellow-orange background with a faint rainbow. At the top left, the text 'LATINO THOUGHT MAKERS SERIES' is written in a serif font, with 'LATINO' in red and 'THOUGHT MAKERS SERIES' in dark red. Below this, the word 'presents' is in a smaller, italicized serif font. To the right, the title 'IT GETS BETTER' is in large, bold, dark red block letters. Above the title, the text 'FREE MUSICAL PERFORMANCE:' is in a smaller, dark red sans-serif font. In the center, there is a row of seven diverse young people (four men and three women) looking off to the side. At the bottom, there is a block of text in a small sans-serif font: 'SPEAK Theater Arts, the Gay Mens Chorus of Los Angeles (GMCLA) and the It Gets Better Project bring this exciting new, comedic musical work to Oxnard that aims to offer resources and hope to young LGBT individuals who face harassment and bullying. This performance kicks off the it gets better national tour and is done with an emphasis on reaching Latino communities in rural areas.' Below this text, the date and time 'Wednesday, February 4 7:00pm' are in a bold sans-serif font, followed by the location 'OXNARD COLLEGE Performing Arts Center Auditorium' and the words 'FREE EVENT' in large, bold, dark red block letters. The bottom of the poster features a colorful rainbow graphic.



PACIFIC SOUTHWEST District News

BELOVED COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

PSWD and Pacific Region District are co-presenting the Beloved Community workshop, led by Rev. Deborah Holder and Rev. Tera Little.

Congregational teams are invited to join together on Saturday, March 21, 9 am - 4 pm in beautiful San Luis Obispo.

It will be a dynamic day of learning how to build Beloved Community in our congregations and community.

You'll go home with concrete ideas and resources to create congregation-based justice ministries that restore community and build right relationships among us all.

We'll laugh. We'll dance. We'll sing. We'll learn. We'll be changed.

If you are interested in being on this team, please contact Willie Lubka.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY 2015

April 24-25, 2015, Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Chandler, AZ

Theme: "The Vitality of Interdependence," Keynote: The Rev. Scott Tayler, Director of Congregational Life.

The Pacific Southwest District (PSWD) of the Unitarian Universalist Association supports 50 congregations in Arizona, southern California, and southern Nevada. This and six other districts comprise the Pacific Western Region of the UUA. Find out more, pswduua.org.



AUDITIONS!

AUDITIONS!

CVUUF Chalice Players will hold auditions for its April 26, 2015 presentation that

will center on mental health. Please fill out a form between services in the Social Hall on the first or second Sunday in February. Five actors will be cast in the production. A meeting on the third Sunday in February will give full information on casting and rehearsals.

For further information, please contact Mary Ellen Bruskotter, Chalice Players Director.

PASTORAL CARE

CVUUF Neighborhood Networks are a way to connect in times of need with those of us living close enough to bring you a dinner, give a ride, help with car troubles etc.

To contact your neighborhood, send an email to: neighborhood@cvuuf.org.

For more serious pastoral care please email pastoralcare@cvuuf.org.

ART WALL

Calling all Artists,

We are proud to begin a new program of displaying art in Fellowship Hall.

If you are an artist or you know someone who would like to display 8-10 pieces of 2 or 3 dimensional art, we want to hear from you!

Art Exhibition Agreement forms are now available in Fellowship Hall, or by contacting artwall@cvuuf.org.

FEBRUARY 2015 EXHIBIT

The Imaginings of Michael John Pittas

"Theses are digital reproductions of original pen & ink and pencil sketches, works inspired by waking dreams. The images are the product of the imagination and are not literal translations of any reality. The works are usually narrative, telling a particular story. Or just done to explore a compelling image.

The work exhibited here has been produced over the last 2-1/2 years. I view the work as a kind of joyful therapy. The works have never been sold. This is the first time they are being exhibited."



SACRED EMERGING

A Gathering for Women with Carolyn McDade

Friday, February 20, 7 to 9pm

Saturday, February 21, 9am to pm

United Church of Christ, 370 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley, CA

This is an opportunity for women to come together and create a holy space,
Through song, reflection, and simple ritual, in community with other women.
We honor our own lives and the sacred that is ever emerging within us and around us...

For information: Joanie McClellan (joanmcclel@aol.com) or 818-599-0257 or Dawn Waring (dwaringca@yahoo.ca)
Since this experience builds community, a commitment is needed to circle on both Friday and Saturday.

CVUUF Hikers

Newton Canyon

Saturday, February 21, 2015

8:45am ~ 1:30pm

This is 2.5 hour, 5-mile round trip hike 400 ft elevation gain.. New carpool location: Westlake Village, off Westlake Blvd. near Townsgate (next to the Bank America and the Mobil station).

Bring 1.5 liter of water or more and your lunch/snacks. RSVP to Pete Hauger so he will know who is meeting at the carpool site.

CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



Sunday, March 1, 2015

Find a Coming of Age'er, it's that time of year.

Either donate to a walker or join the group!

Contact Tom Stough for details and visit the CROP Walk [website](#).

Scrip income dwindling.



Dear Friends. I've been shepherding the escrip program along for a number of years. This is a community donation that Vons and Ralphs make reflecting a portion of grocery purchases for members of CVUUF that have signed up with them annually and use their club cards. In the past we've made as much as \$800 a year but both chains have made changes to their program that have cut our money from them to around \$300.

Did you know? Vons no longer counts any groceries that are paid by credit card and Ralphs has prevented me from seeing who has signed up (for privacy reasons.)

Remember. If you want to be involved in this program, and if you pay with cash, check or debit cards, you must sign up annually. Let me know if you have questions.

VONS
Ingredients for life..



February 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15am» Worship Service 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal 10:30am» Quilters meeting 11am» Worship Service 12:15pm» Membership Committee Meeting 2pm» Gaming Afternoon 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	2 6:30pm» Finance Committee 7:15pm» Opal Covenant Group	3 6pm» Feeding Hands	4 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:15pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation Group	5 9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	6	7 3pm» Community Forum
8 9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal 11am» Worship Service 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	9 7pm» Women's Evening Group 7:30pm» Drop-in Book Club	10 9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board of Trustees Meeting 7:15pm» Chalice Circle 2Tu	11 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Chalice Circle 2W 7:30pm» Climate Action Team 7:30pm» Meditation Group	12 7pm» Sapphire group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	13 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 7:30pm» Community Forum	14 2:30pm» Emerald Covenant group 7pm» Movie Group
15 9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal 11am» Worship Service 5pm» Movie Group 3 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting 6pm» NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 7pm» Chalice Circle 3M	17 7:15pm» Chalice Circle 3Tu 7pm» Music Ministry Meeting	18 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 12:30pm» Chalice Circle 3W 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group	19 9:45am» Jonquil Group 6:30pm» Council meeting 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	20 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	21 8:45am» CVUUF Hikers
22 9:15am» Worship Service 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal 10:45am» Farewell Celebration 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	23 7pm» Women's Group	24 9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» Chalice Circle 4Tu	25 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 12:30pm» Chalice Circle 3W 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group	26 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	27 7:30pm» Movie Group 1	28

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

Staff

Rev. Lora Brandis, Minister, minister@cvuuf.org
Justine Fischer, Director of Religious Education, dre@cvuuf.org
Pam Van Uden, Religious Education Administrator
Greg Whitmore, Choir Director, choirdirector@cvuuf.org
Jessica Lesko, Administrator, admin@cvuuf.org
Eliseo Zavala, Custodian

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Minister Emerita

Board of Trustees 2014-2015

Willie Lubka, Board President, president@cvuuf.org
David Barker, Vice President
Michael Teasdale, Secretary
Terry Hinricher, Treasurer
Laure McKinnon, Trustee At Large
Karina Leppik, 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!