



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	3
RE News	4
Outreach Director	5
Calendar	11

This newsletter is published online monthly by members of the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Download your copy at 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: cvuuf.org/news/announcereg

Online Calendar

Fill out form at: cvuuf.org/calendar/request

Facebook

Email: 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 May, we are studying the ninth step: "Concern for Everybody".

May 4 — Make Place for the More Distant Other — Rev. Lora

Brandis and Justine Fischer, DRE— During the ninth step to a compassionate life, author Karen Armstrong asks us "to expand our horizons to make place for the more distant other." For many, a great distance is created by poverty. Informed by her work with the California PTA, Director of Religious Education Justine Fischer will share the pulpit with Rev. Lora to tell the courageous stories of those separated from us by local and global poverty.

May 11 — Give Just Peace a Chance — Rev. Lora Brandis —

Mother's Day was originally founded as an antiwar rallying cry by Unitarian Julia Ward Howe. John Lennon's "Give Peace a Chance" became an anthem of the anti-war effort in America in the 1970s. Just as we update Mother's Day each year by expanding the celebration to honor all types of mothering, we can update the peace movement by expanding our efforts to stop dangerous fundamentalism before it starts. We can give "just peace" a chance.

If you would like to have your child dedicated to the church during the first service, please contact DRE Justine Fischer.

May 18 — Malice toward None, Charity for All— Merlin Snider—

We think we know the story of Abraham Lincoln, how he came from humble frontier beginnings, became a self-taught lawyer and our 16th President, signed the Emancipation Proclamation, authored the Gettysburg Address, preserved the Union, only to die tragically at the hands of an assassin. We know he suffered great personal losses in his family, but we know less about how he suffered from a life-long depression, how he managed it, and used it empathetically to show concern for everybody, friends and enemies alike, "with malice toward none and charity for all."

May 25 — Muhammad's Night Journey — Rev. Lora Brandis —

Muhammad's Night Journey reverses the typical pattern from Arabic poetry that depicts the poet embarking on a night journey and returning joyfully to his tribe. The Prophet Muhammad's journey to Jerusalem and his Ascension to Heaven describe an archetypal truth rather than a factual truth. It is a journey beyond ego to reunification with the whole human family. It is a journey toward concern for everybody.

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, some can even be downloaded to your iPod.



Muusings from Reverend Lora

*Then, when it is worst and nothing helps,
they burst, as if in ecstasy, the first buds of the
tree,
when fear itself is compelled to let go,
they fall in a glistening veil, all the drops from
the twigs,
blinking away their fears of the new,
shutting out their doubts about the journey,
feeling for an instant how this is their greatest
safety,
to trust in that daring that shapes the world.*

--Karin Boye

These are the words we heard together when more than 150 of us filled our Fellowship Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, celebrating in a way that is unique to our Unitarian Universalist heritage. Coming together for our annual Flower Communion we acknowledged how each of us brings a gift to this community, how the sacred is all around us and how our living tradition builds on the faith of our ancestors constantly recreating itself with rituals that bring depth and meaning to our daily lives. We also acknowledged the human Jesus of Nazareth as one who trusted “in that daring that shapes the world.” Walking out of that sanctuary Sunday morning many of us started our week inspired to trust, to dare and to take risks to live – in the words from our mission – with spiritual courage.

The next Sunday that trust was broken for many by a frightening reminder that our religious communities are no longer the sanctuaries we once thought they were. A mentally unstable individual attending the second service behaved in such a way that concerned and frightened many in worship. I was on my way back from our District Assembly in San Diego and found out about the incident in phone calls with Justine and various members. I am deeply grateful to those of you who responded to the event with mindful and compassionate concern for all. I am especially grateful to Justine. I am fortunate to serve this congregation with her and be reminded on a daily basis of the skills she brings to a job that is a calling, a calling that does not easily fit into a standard job description.

As we rebuild the trust that may have been broken that day, please know that leadership is taking steps to create a plan that empowers the entire community to know how to respond to such incidents. I also want you to know that the Songbird Office Park hired a security company several months ago that patrols our parking lots all seven nights a week. They are also present on Sundays during the day. Willie and I met with the security officer later that evening and were able to give him a description of the man and his car, thanks again, to all of you who responded with deep concern for this community.

Our theme study together this year takes us into the ninth step during the month of May: “Concern for Everybody.” My concern is to provide a safe place for all to worship and engage in the deep work that calls us into a life-transforming practice of compassion. Compassion for each other, compassion for the stranger who surprised and frightened us, and compassion for the visitor who will come seeking community. Concern for everybody; no exceptions.

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.

President's Message



May is a time when congregations far and wide are engaged in the nuts and bolts of completing a church year and preparing for a new one. The Fellowship's leaders have our sleeves rolled up. Our tasks include closing the books on the current year budget and preparing a new budget for the upcoming year. We are reviewing input from the recent congregational survey and developing strategic plans for the future. We are assessing the congregation's staffing needs to ensure to the best of our ability that key roles are filled to support the well-being of the congregation and its members and friends.

Our fiscal year 2014 will end on June 30. At our annual meeting on Sunday, June 22, we will celebrate the wonderful year we've had, share reports from our Minister, Treasurer, and myself, vote on a budget and for candidates to serve in elective positions. Our leaders give their time, talent, and treasure. They are motivated by love and commitment to our mission and our community. We are fortunate to serve in a congregation with strong, active engagement and participation from members. Attendance at our annual meeting is an important part of that engagement. I encourage you to be there if you can.

I'm pleased to report that we are closing a mortgage refinance loan from Union Bank. The new loan will lower our interest rate and reduce our payments. The loan provides a fixed rate for a 20-year term, so the potential future impact of a variable rate increase that we have faced with our current mortgage will be removed. Union Bank has agreed to waive several customary upfront costs, which also represents a significant savings. Funding of the loan is expected by mid-May. Our success in the achievement of this mortgage refinancing is due to the generous pledges of our members, whose financial commitment gave the bank sufficient confidence in our congregation to grant approval. Special thanks go to our skilled Treasurer, Terry Hinricher, to Reverend Lora and to our Trustees for their great support throughout the process.

Our Leadership Cultivation Committee has completed its task of developing a slate of candidates for elected positions to be presented for vote at the Annual Meeting in June. Here are the candidates.

Board of Trustees: *Willie Lubka* (President), *Terry Hinricher* (Treasurer), and *Don Venardos* (Trustee at Large).

Conflict Resolution Committee: *Debbie Snider* and *Eric Halseth*.

For those who were not at church on Sunday, April 14, I want everyone to know about our belated celebration of the Fellowship Sweetheart. Our sweetheart this year is the beloved Lynne Herron, who enriches our lives and deserves our thanks in so many ways.

Our Unitarian Universalist community is a place to grow, find hope, develop compassion, deepen spirituality, nurture children, and contribute to the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part. Thank you for being here.

Willie, president@cvuuf.org

MANNA NEEDS

Boxed Potatoes
Cans White Beans
Catsup
Cooking Oil
Cold Cereal

Hamburger Helper
Pancake Mix
Mayonnaise
Mac & Cheese
Toilet Paper



Justine Fischer,
Director of
Religious
Education
(DRE)



May Birthdays

Sacha del
Bosque,
Kai Diesing,
Wynona
Goddard,
Daniel
Rasnow,
Dylan Rosen,
Griffin
Smith,
Ivy
Vernardos,
Benjamin
Damerell.

News From Religious Education

MAY RE

As we continue with our Compassion curriculum, we will focus upon "Concern For Everybody." PreK through middle school meet at 9:15 and high school at 11:00 am.

- May 4 – Concern For Everybody
- May 11 – Jane Goodall
- May 18 - Respect for the interdependent web
- May 25 - Spiritualist Teachings of earth-centered religions

CHILD DEDICATION

May 11 – Child dedication will be held on Mother's Day at the first service. If you would like to have your child dedicated or would like more information please contact Justine by Friday, May 2.

COMING OF AGE

May 18, 3pm—Join us as we celebrate our youth and the beginning of their spiritual journeys into adulthood. Participating in Coming of Age this year: *Joy Alsadek, Kelsey Fernald, Wynona Goddard, Emma Halseth, Jackie Rosen, Aidan Stough and Jake Venardos.*

KUDOS

...to *Laura and Tim McLean* for facilitating the Coming of Age Program

MIXTECO INDIGINA COMMUNIDAD ORGANIZATION PROYECTO (MICOP)

Join us for fun and laughter as we create pom pom jewelry with our Mixteco friends, Saturday, May 31, 2014, 2pm, at Harrington Elementary in Oxnard.

For information regarding Religious Education, I can most easily be reached at 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 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.

News From Our Outreach Director



What is "Outreach," you may say? Anything organized from within CVUUF that reaches outside our doors. Our community is busy, busy, busy and there are many ways you can get involved!

Community Forum (below) – Last month I reported that Community Forum will be taking a hiatus. Here is what has been happening since then. The committee will be staying in place to help provide a structure for future forums. The big change is that the committee will no longer be coming up with the ideas for the events – that will come directly from you – our community. The first community generated event will be **Friday, May 9th – NAMI – In Our Own Voice**, brought to you by one of our chalice circle groups as their service project. We encourage other chalice circles to consider this too. At the moment plans are in place to have a forum exploring our faith's OWL program, a couple are being considered from our immigrant justice team as well as other groups. If you have an issue you are passionate about, and at least a couple people who are committed to working with you on creating a program, the Community Forum committee is here to help the event happen. We can offer a lot of support, or minimal structure, depending on your needs.

MUSES – Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 7th for our first "Muses". This will be in the AFTERNOON– for those of you who have been looking for daytime events. Matthew Weisman is coordinating this ongoing poetry, music and performance program. If you would like to be part of the team or have interest in signing up for an eight-minute slot to read, recite, perform, etc., contact Matthew.

Climate Action Team – We have just launched a new Climate Action Team. Look for more announcements on this. If you have any questions, please contact me at outreachdirector@cvuuf.org.

2064 Visioning Program (see page 9) – We have an opportunity outside of CVUUF to impact the direction of Thousand Oaks. As they celebrate their 50th year as a City, the City Council is looking forward to what the next 50 years might look like. The "2064 Visioning Program" is a community exercise to develop a general road map with guiding principles for the City through the year 2064.

Mindful Eating – Explores topics of mindful and ethical eating, and how our food choices (in purchasing, preparation, etc.) affect our lives, community and planet. Mindful Eating meets monthly and is an open group, but always requests an RSVP so that the meal can be properly planned. As a service to our community, the ME group will host coffee hour hospitality on the following Sunday (either the 1st or 5th Sunday of the month). Contact: Dana Ryon.



Community Forum

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

IN OUR OWN VOICE, Friday, May 9, 2014, 7:30pm



In Our Own Voice is a community education program that unmask mental illness, using speaker stories to illustrate the individual realities of living with mental illness.

Two speakers share their own compelling personal stories about living with mental illness. As they are joined by others across the nation by video, their struggles and progress toward recovery will inspire and give you hope!

Community Forums are free, but donations are appreciated!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

PROVIDENCE
RHODE ISLAND

JUNE 25-29, 2014

Our association's General Assembly program includes worship, general interest programs on a variety of topics, and a business agenda. In addition, this year Reverend Lora will be among those recognized for having obtained Final Fellowship during the Service of the Living Tradition.

The Ware Lecture will be given by Sister Simone Campbell. She is the National Coordinator of NETWORK, a National Catholic Social Justice Lobby. She has led multiple "Nuns on the Bus" tours to promote immigration reform and oppose cutting government programs for the poor. Sr. Simone has often been featured in the national and international media, including recent appearances on *60 Minutes*, *The Colbert Report*, and *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*.

The business agenda features five proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAI):

CSAI 1 - Empowerment: Age and Ability Reconsidered

CSAI 2 - Ending the War on Terror

CSAI 3 - Escalating Inequality

CSAI 4 - Gun Violence: A Public Health Issue

CSAI 5 - Renewing and Securing Our American Democracy

Debate and votes will be held to select the next CSAI. There are no contested elections this year. More information on the business agenda can be found [here](#).

Registration is now open, so this is the time to make plans. Details are available [here](#).

Don
Cooper
ADR



Time to Update Your Address Books...

24 Farnsworth Street

Boston, MA 02210

...and mark your calendars!

The move will begin **May 16, 2014**, and the air is filled with excitement. However, something arose during this transition that is surprising and powerful—an opportunity for the UUA to lead the way toward a greener world.

The UUA is in the process of seeking a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. The LEED certification will be an acknowledgement of the importance placed on creating a green workplace. The hope is that our efforts will be a model that other organizations and architects will follow.

Look for pictures and additional updates in the coming weeks of our newly-renovated green building!

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 justice programs.

DETAINEE VISITATION

Adelanto Detention Facility

Monday May 9 and May 22, 2014 8:15am

Contact: Liza Diniakos

CVUUF volunteers who have not yet visited are encouraged to share this meaningful experience. Two-person teams will sit and talk with each detainee for one hour. We should return to CVUUF between 5:00 and 6:00pm. Participants need to RSVP in order to receive the name of a detainee you can write so your visit will be expected.



Immigrant Day 2014—

Monday, May 19, 2014, 8am to 4pm

Sacramento

Contact: Liza Diniakos

Join hundreds of immigrants and advocates from across California for a day of advocacy, education and unity. Immigrant Day 2014 will raise a unified voice in Sacramento in support of state legislative proposals that advance immigrant integration and prosperity for all Californians. UU Justice Ministry of California is partnering with California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) and many other immigration justice organizations.

Please register by May 9. For more information, visit uujmca.org.

Everytown For Gun Safety

"As the gun lobby convenes in Indianapolis, there's a new posse in town. They're mothers, they're survivors of gun violence, and some of them are both. And they're dead set on disarming the NRA of its outsize political power."

"The NRA Meets Its Potent New Foe: Moms,"
Mother Jones



WE are on the Side of Love



A child stands outside the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Washington, where a for-profit prison company holds immigrants in detention for the U.S. government, during an April 5 protest by immigrant rights supporters, including many Unitarian Universalists (Marilyn Mayers, uuworld.org).

At detention center, immigrants kept indoors for years.

Unitarian Universalists continue vigils outside Washington facility where detained immigrants are held.

By Elaine McArdle, uuworld.org
4.14.14



Standing amid the noticeable stench from a nearby toxic waste site, scores of Unitarian Universalists joined hundreds of others outside the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Wash., on Saturday, April 5, to protest U.S. immigration policy. They rallied as part of a national day of action to stop the record number of deportations by the Obama administration.

With protests that day in more than 80 cities and in front of the White House, the rally at the for-profit Tacoma facility held special significance as a show of support for detainees who had been placed in solitary confinement for going on a

hunger strike March 7. Just a day before the protest, 20 men—including one who had not eaten for 25 days—were released from solitary confinement by order of a federal judge following an emergency petition by the ACLU and Columbia Legal Services. But at least three remained in solitary confinement on the day of the protest, including a U.S. Army veteran who supporters say is being punished for organizing a work stoppage—even though work at the center, which pays \$1 a day, is ostensibly voluntary.

[—click here to read more](#)



The GEO Group Announces 640-Bed Expansion of Adelanto Detention Facility in California

BOCA RATON, Fla. --(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr. 30, 2014-- The GEO Group (NYSE:GEO) ("GEO") announced today a 640-bed expansion to the company-owned, 1,300-bed Adelanto Detention Facility in California under an amendment to the existing contract with the City of Adelanto. GEO will finance, develop, and manage the \$45 million expansion, which will increase the Facility's total capacity to 1,940 beds and is expected to generate approximately \$21 million in additional annualized revenues. GEO expects to complete the 640-bed expansion and begin intake by July 2015. The City of Adelanto has an agreement to provide detention and transportation services for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

George C. Zoley, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of GEO, said, "The expansion of the Adelanto Detention Facility in California will play an important role in helping meet the need for federal detention bed space in this part of the country. We look forward to continuing to provide high quality services at the Adelanto Detention Facility under our long-standing partnership with the City of Adelanto."

Vision Just Ahead

Join us for the
Second Session!

- Tuesday -

May 6, 2014
6-8 pm

Visioning Committee	Meeting Location	May Topic
Environment	Conejo Recreation & Park District 403 West Hillcrest Drive	Open Space
Infrastructure	Municipal Service Center 1993 Rancho Conejo Blvd.	Housing
Economy	Thousand Oaks City Hall 2100 East Thousand Oaks Blvd. Oak/Park Rooms	Business Climate
Municipal Services	Newbury Park Library 2331 Borchard Road	Recreational Facilities
Civic & Community	Thousand Oaks Library 1401 East Janss Road	Senior Needs Assisted Living

What is the Thousand Oaks 2064 Visioning Program?

As we celebrate our 50th year as a City, the City Council is looking forward to what the next 50 years might look like. The "2064 Visioning Program" is a community exercise to develop a general road map with guiding principles for the City through the year 2064. Five focus areas will be led by a City Councilmember and will meet once a month from April to October 2014.

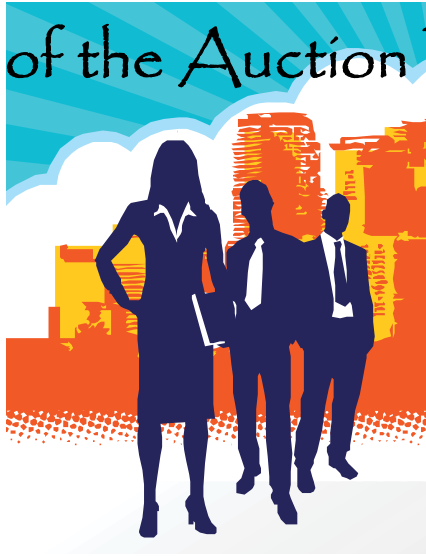


www.toaks.org/2064
#to2064

Tuesday Meeting Dates

May 6	June 3	July 1
Sept. 16	Oct. 7	

Be Part of the Auction Triumvirate



CVUUF's auction will take place in November and promises to again be a fun and profitable event for the whole community.

In lieu of having one chairperson for the event, the committee has divided up the jobs into three areas of responsibility.

We want your help. Please be aware that the most significant effort takes place in the six weeks leading up to the auction. It's also helpful if chair one is comfortable learning the auction software.

Recent auctions have yielded more than \$20,000 annually for the fellowship, largely because of the use of the software program developed by a Cleveland UU. It's conceivable that the chair one job could be shared by more than one person.

The first meeting to plan the auction will take place on **June 15th after the second service**, at which time the theme will be selected.

If you are interested in being a chair, please attend that meeting or contact Jo Ann Van Reenan, who can answer questions about specific responsibilities and time commitment.

New Women's Group



Gardenia's B (new name to be decided) has begun meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Format will remain the same in the new group. Come and check us out, we welcome new members and those who would like a smaller group. Contact Thelma Williams for more information!

Now on the First Monday of Each Month

Quilters & Crafters

Monday, May 5, 7pm



Bring your own project to work on. Refreshments provided. RSVP with Andy Pletcher or Liza Diniakos.



May 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10:30am» Writing to Prisoners in Solitary 11am» Worship Service 12:30pm» Membership Committee meeting 2pm» Gaming Afternoon 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	6pm» OA Meeting 6:30pm» Finance Committee 7pm» Adult RE: Rise Up & Call Her Name 7pm» CVUUF Quilters & Crafters	6pm» Feeding Hands 7:30pm» Community Forum Planning Committee	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 6:30pm» Chalice Circle1W 7:15pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation Group	12:30pm» Chalice Circle2Th 7pm» Sapphire covenant group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 7:30pm» Community Forum	2:30pm» Emerald Covenant group 7pm» Movie Group
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:15am» Worship Service 11am» Worship Service 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Women's Evening Group 7pm» Adult RE: Rise Up & Call Her Name 7:15pm» Chalice Circle2M 7:30pm» Drop-In Book Club	9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board of Trustees meeting	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Chalice Circle2W 7:30pm» Meditation Group	7am» Opal Covenant Group 9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10:30am» Writing to Prisoners in Solitary 11am» Worship Service 12:15pm» Adult RE: Living Compassionately 5pm» Movie Group 3 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting 6pm» NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	6pm» OA Meeting	7pm» Music Ministry meeting 7pm» Chalice Circle3Tu 7:30pm» Climate Action Team	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» CVUUF Council meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group	7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	4pm» Chalice Circle4F 7:30pm» Movie Group1	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:15am» Worship Service 11am» Worship Service 11am» Cottage Conversation 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 5pm» Mindful Eating 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Women's Evening Group	9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» Chalice Circle4Tu	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Facilitators Chalice Circle 7:30pm» Meditation Group	7pm» Sapphire covenant group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal		

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
Robin Swenson, Choir Director, choirdirector@cvuuf.org
Jill Kitsuse-Fulton, Administrator, admin@cvuuf.org

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Minister Emerita

Board of Trustees 2013-2014

Willie Lubka, Board President, 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!