



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

## **Upcoming Sunday Services**

In	Th	ic	Issue
ш	- 111	112	1220E

Hines' Sight President's Message RE News Outreach Director	2 3 4 5 8
Calendar	8

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 (Sunday handouts/weekly email)
Email:

newsandnotes@cvuuf.org

#### Online Calendar:

Under the "CVUUF" pulldown at the top, follow instructions for "Request Event": http://cvuuf.org/webcal/month.php

#### Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ CVUUF

Like us

August 2 — Self-Care is Our Primary Job on Earth! — The Rev.

Tom Owen-Towle — Self-care furnishes the litmus test for being an awakened and responsible human being. I will address the six zones of my self-care regimen: mind, body, spirit, heart, soul, and conscience. This sermon will be based upon my book (just out!) entitled SELF: Caring for Our Best Gift. Copies will be available for purchase.

The Rev. Dr. Tom Owen-Towle has been a parish minister since 1967 and is the author of two dozen books on personal relationships and spiritual growth. Tom is a guitarist and parlor magician, who currently sings with seniors, mentors children and youth-at-risk, and volunteers with San Diego's homeless. Tom considers it a joy and privilege to be returning to the CVUUF pulpit.

August 9 - Feeding the Wolf- Rev. Anne Felton Hines - An old

Cherokee story suggests that we all carry within us two wolves - one of love and forgiveness, the other of anger and fear. As Unitarian Universalists who "affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion," how do we reconcile these two parts of our being?

August 16 - Once Upon a Time-Again- Michael Eselun - A

popular guest speaker here, and UCLA Oncology Chaplain, Michael Eselun will explore the meaning and hidden gifts that may lie in our stories, just waiting to be told again.

August 23 — It's You! — Rev. Anne Felton Hines — Who are we? What does it mean to be authentic — to "live out loud?" And what in the world does it have to do with Carmen Miranda?!

August 30 — This | Believe — This annual Sunday service is inspired by the radio series of the same name. Come hear some of the members of our congregation share stories of belief.

**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 <a href="https://www.cvuuf.org/worship/audiosermons">www.cvuuf.org/worship/audiosermons</a>, Some can even be downloaded to your iPod.



# Hines' Sight

Reverend Anne Felton Hines

My time away at the end of June and beginning of July was a perfect combination of vacation and professional travel, as I drove up to Portland, Oregon for General Assembly, with visits along the way with family members I hadn't seen for quite a while.

On my way up, I visited in Salem with my nephew and his wife – a visit made even more interesting because he's the D.A. of that county! It was enlightening to hear his views of the legalization of marijuana for recreational use.

While in Portland I visited two cousins on my father's side of the family. They presented me with a beautiful antique tin box that had been used by our grandmother (who died from cancer before any of us had a chance to meet her) to hold miscellaneous buttons; and an incredible Masonic sword that belonged to a great-grandfather (or maybe great-grandfather!).

Before leaving Portland I visited with a cousin on my mother's side of the family – actually a second cousin. And finally, on my trip home I spent a couple of days in Bend, Oregon with another second cousin, sister of the one I'd seen in Portland. So it was a lovely time filled re-connecting with family, which means a lot to me.

And G.A. had some powerful highlights as well – some of which you heard about from three Fellowship members at our worship service on July 19th.

I am always moved by the Service of Living Tradition, which honors our Unitarian Universalist ministry. Last year I was able to process up to the stage as a newly-retired minister, and this year I sat in a special "guest" section for my friend and colleague, Carolyn Price, who "walked" as a retired minister. I was also thrilled to watch Rev. Sara LaWall, for whom I had been "Teaching Pastor" throughout her four years of study at Meadville-Lombard Theological School, process with others who had received their "Preliminary Fellowship" for ministry.

And always, I am moved almost to tears (I'm not much of a crier) as the names of those ministers who died in the past year are read, and we stand in silence for them.

It is considered a great honor to be invited by the UUA President to deliver the sermon at this service, and this year it was Rev. Marlin Lavanhar, senior minister of the UU Church in Tulsa, OK. And it was clear why he was asked; it was a stunning sermon. (You can read it on the UUA website, uua.org.) And as always, the music was stupendous!

I also encourage you to watch the video of the Ware Lecture with Dr. Cornel West, who reminded us that we are who we are because of those who went before, and that what's most important is to live with integrity and honesty.

But perhaps the most moving presentation for me was the interview of Representative John Lewis by former UUA president (and past Director of Amnesty International-USA) Bill Schulz. Sponsored by the UU Service Committee, Rep. Lewis displayed a wisdom and humility that is rare. I felt I was truly in sacred space.

Next year G.A. will be held in Columbus, Ohio. I hope you'll consider attending – even being a delegate for CVUUF; I can guarantee that you will find it as inspiring as I and other UUs always find it.



Look for announcements in "News & Notes" regarding Rev. Anne's weekly schedule; or e-mail (<u>minister@cvuuf.org</u>).

You can also leave a message on the Fellowship answering machine.

# President's Message



UU Minister Rev. Gretchen Woods has found it helpful to use imagery of the "Circle of Leadership" from the book, *Truth or Dare: Encounters with Power, Mystery, and Authority* by Starhawk, a leader in earth-based spirituality, in the process of building leadership teams. The circle uses the four directions to cultivate understanding of the different ways people lead. From the North come "Dragons, those who care for the resources;" from the West come "Graces, those who share warmth and bring people together;" from the East, "Crows, who are far-seeing;" and from the south, "Snakes, those who bring up from below the things to be discussed that no one has wanted to address." And there are also "Spiders, who know what is going on in the whole web." Woods notes that the Circle of Leadership "points out that many types are needed for a truly healthy system and that those who sometimes are considered uncomfortable types are absolutely essential."

In July, four new Trustees began serving on our Board: Gaye Allan, Kathleen Holland, Tom Wolf, and Lea Halseth, joining with four continuing Board members; Terry Hinricher, Don Venardos, me, and Rev Anne. After our first session together I couldn't be more confident that our new Board of Trustees will provide an excellent circle of leadership.

Our congregation has an eventful year ahead, with lots to be excited about, lots to be grateful for, and many ways for members to be engaged in moving forward. One of the opportunities is our upcoming stewardship campaign. The Stewardship Committee is assembling a team of people to participate in a training session and then to invite 3-4 four fellow members to meet and talk about why we support our UU community and why it is important to be generous. These meetings are a wonderful way to deepen relationships while supporting our beloved fellowship. If you'd like to join the team, please contact any member of the Stewardship Committee (Don Cooper, Lea Halseth, Mark Surby, Susan Dixon, Michael Teasdale, or me).

After extensive discernment, the Board and Stewardship Committee have determined to discontinue the 12-month rolling pledge renewal cycle we've practiced in recent years and move to an annual schedule where all members renew in the same month. New members joining between the annual renewals will pledge when they sign the book and will renew at the annual pledging time. To accomplish the transition we will pro-rate or extend pledges until the annual renewal and start all pledges as of that month going forward. Our canvassers will explain how that works for each of us as we transition from the month when we've been renewing to the new annual renewal time.

The change means that the Pledge Committee led by Co-Chairs Frances Pardee and Susan Dixon, which has managed the year-round pledging process, will no longer exist in its previous form. Frances and Susan are both helping and supporting the transition. Many pledge captains who've worked on the year-round renewals will also participate in the new stewardship effort. Susan is serving on the Stewardship Committee. Frances will not be a member of the committee, but has graciously volunteered to provide information and know-how that is useful to that committee.

These two dedicated and talented women have played a vital role in helping our congregation make tremendous progress to greater financial and spiritual health. They deserve an enormous amount of thanks. Please join me in expressing much deserved gratitude to each of them. Frances and Susan – thank you!.

See you on Sunday,

Willie, president@cvuuf.org

# Religious Education News

## A NOTE FROM REV. ANNE...

#### Helping to Guide Our Children and Youth

During this year of transition, please consider volunteering as a teacher in our Religious Education program. Here are some things to know about this important ministry:

- -We need you two Sundays each month, for an hour at a time.
- -The commitment would be through June 2016, but as Sam Dickerson says, "time flies when you're having fun and our kiddos are fun!"
- -You will not be asked to create lesson plans; that will be done by the new R.E. director, and all needed materials will be provided.
- -You will never teach alone, but will have the support of a co-teacher or the DRE.

There will be a Teacher Orientation on Saturday, Sept. 12th, 10:00-noon.



## **DEADLINE EXTENDED!!**

# MICOP Back to School Donations

Please bring new backpacks and school supplies for elementary and middle school age children of the Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Program. Drop off **through August 16** at the Religious Education office upstairs in Fellowship Hall. Contact Maria Ornelas for more information.

# News From Our Outreach Director



Our back-to-school backpack drive for MICOP and the Mixteco youth continues (see page 4). The local stores are offering many back to school sales. Grab their coupons, take advantage of their promotions and let them help us get these kids off to a good start this school year. Bring donated backpack and school supplies to the RE office upstairs in Fellowship Hall by August 16. To know the MIXTECO community better, join some of your CVUUF friends at the "Night in Oaxaca" fundraiser on August 15th (see page 8). See Maria Ornelas for details.

Rachel Morris from VCCOOL (Ventura County Climate Care Options Organized Locally) is joining this month's Climate Action Team/ Citizen's Climate Lobby meeting on Sunday, August 2nd at 12:15pm. Rachel will discuss bills currently in the state legislature with opportunities for immediate action.

Walking the Walk UU Justice Summit and Camp August 8-12, Camp deBenneville Pines

It's not too late to attend the largest multi-generational UU justice conference, bringing together justice seeking UUs and their families for a weekend of worship, workshops, practical skill building, networking and community building. (see page 7). Scholarships (or two-for-one) may be available. Visit uujmca.org/walkingthewalk to register today.

Please join me and Liza Diniakos for dinner at 5:00PM on Sunday, August 23 in Fellowship Hall, where you can learn how we, as a congregation, can be an enduring voice for Reproductive Justice (see page 10). There are numerous opportunities to become involved, so whether you have limited time or many hours – if this is something that speaks to your heart, do come. (RSVP requested)

Feeding Hands will take place at Calvary Church on Tuesday, August 4.

If you have any questions, please find me on Sunday or email me at outreachdirector@cvuuf.org.



# CHANGES TO CVUUF SCRIPT PROGRAM

Vons is no longer supporting their escrip program. If you shop at Ralphs however, you can sign up or renew our benefits from your purchases <u>on or after September 1st</u>. They do not even let me (as coordinator) know who uses the program. I will put the paper that you need to bring with you in Fellowship Hall. The Ralphs store you use will swipe your club card and the paper with the barcode at the same time and we will continue to get dollars from them quarterly. Thank you to everyone who supports and has supported our efforts to raise funds this way. Your friends and neighbors who are sympathetic to our fellowship can also participate.

~JoAnn Van Reenan



# Your Ministerial Search Committee is Off and Running!

We held our retreat on 7/24-25, with Ken Collier, the Ministerial Search Representative for our district. We went over the details and timeline of the process that is intended to result in the congregation calling our next minister next April with a start date in August of 2016.

The seven of us: Christine Blasman, Arlene Bloom, Casey Dake, Sloane Powers, Penny Smith, Tim Snowber and David Barker are excited to be moving forward on the (mountain of) work ahead.

Over the next few months, we will be reaching out to you, our members, through conversations and a survey to learn what is important to our congregation and to you as we start this search.

We may also reach out to members with valuable skills that will help us with some of work that will need to be done as we collect input and present ourselves to prospective ministers in search.

## Please help us succeed by participating in the survey and conversations

and by helping in areas where we may reach out to you.

Look forward to future newsletter updates on our progress.

David Barker, Chairperson of the Ministerial Search Committee (MSC)

(Lea presented her testimonial below on Sunday, June 21, 2015)

Good morning! My name is Lea Halseth. My husband Erik and I have been UUs for five years and have attended CVUUF for three of those years.

This is the first of several testimonials where members and friends of the fellowship will be telling all of us about their pledging stories their personal celebrations of CVUUF. If you were in attendance at last week's annual congregational meeting, you are already aware of the new budget and our desire to provide financially for all of our goals. We as a congregation are in the midst of some really big changes. We are planning ahead for the arrival of a new minister and Director of Religious Education and where we want to see our fellowship in the next couple of years. We are thriving forward to reach goals to make our fellowship even more amazing than it already is.

Last Sunday, I was elected to serve on your Board of Trustees starting in July and am co-Chair of the new Committee on Stewardship. Part of the Covenant for the Stewardship Committee is that each of the members serving are to live and give more generously, and more specifically, are increasing our pledges in direct response to the call for increased generosity in our newly-adopted budget.

Our family is personally going to double our annual pledge to the fellowship. As a single-income family, it's going to be stretch for us, but it is a necessary stretch. CVUUF is our family's spiritual home. Our time spent here, amongst all of you, enriches our lives and broadens our perspectives. We have experienced first-hand just how amazing the religious education program is because we have three children in it!

On another note, I was just in the best Chalice Circle ever. And yes, I really do think it was the best. Before joining the group, the very thought of having to just sit quietly, practice active listening, and NOT fix or do or comment upon what the others said, was absolutely mind-boggling. I am a fixer. I am a do-er. Type As aren't listeners, right? I learned that something so seemingly simple as listening could be so very enlightening and personally rewarding. Being in a Chalice Circle has improved my marriage. I have become a better person, a better wife, and a better mother, thanks to that experience, courtesy of CVUUF. This fellowship is my spiritual home, the place that my soul is nurtured, and the place where I grow.

My desire is to be an Evangelist for Unitarian Universalism, and for this fellowship. I ask that you join us in thriving forward together by living and giving more generously in this exciting time of opportunity and growth.

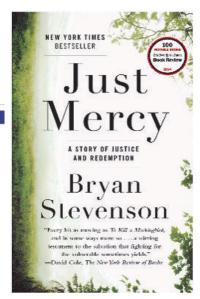
Thank you!



#### **UUA Bookstore**

Your Search for Truth and Meaning Begins Here

The 2015-2016 <u>UUA Common Read</u> is *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. Get a great start to the church year by gathering a group to participate in a shared discussion of vital issues that resonate across our faith movement.





## **District News**

CAMP DE BENNEVILLE PINES IS MOVING FROM DISASTER INTO RECOVERY

Although camp was closed only four weeks, it is critical to recoup lost income in conjunction with serious unexpected fire-related expenses. The **Help Support Fire Relief Fund** has been created for Camp de Benneville Pines to alleviate Initial Fire losses of \$105,750.

Replace Initial Loss of Income – (\$74,000)
Food loss – Spoiled during camp closure (\$5,000)
Hire Civil Engineers to develop an erosion protection plan (\$7,800)
Install Straw Wattles to reduce erosion up behind camp (\$9,150)
House & Feed Volunteers – (\$3,800)
Unexpected Miscellaneous repairs this summer (\$6,000)

Major reinforcements above camp to stabilize the mountain for safety and removal of burned trees are essential over the next weeks and months. Most jobs will require specialized professionals in addition to the effort of volunteers. A work schedule for volunteers will be established.

Board President, Glenn Noreen, states that "we will be soliciting for both financial support and manual support. We need to set sandbags and hay wattles in strategic areas on the hill above camp to help direct any additional water flow away from our buildings. We will need a lot of helping hands to accomplish this task before the rainy season sets in. We will also need the financial support to help close the gap."

# 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."



By JULIA PRESTON, New York Times July 25, 2015

A federal judge in California has ruled that the Obama administration's detention of children and their mothers who were caught crossing the border illegally is a serious violation of a longstanding court settlement, and that the families should be released as quickly as possible.

Judge Dolly M. Gee of Federal District Court for the Central District of California found that two detention centers in

Texas that the administration opened last summer fail to meet minimum legal requirements of the 1997 settlement for facilities housing children. -more—



**Yemen -** The chaos caused by bombing and fighting in Yemen has meant that many children have been unable to attend school. In response, UNICEF has begun to offer catch-up classes to Yemeni children.

**US Prisons -** United Nations human rights experts have called the United States government to allow their participation in investigating and undertaking needed criminal justice reforms in the country. They particularly cite "unacceptably high rates of incarceration, the disparate impact of such policy on racial minorities, overcrowding and the extensive use of solitary confinement."

**Elections in Burundi -** Recent elections in Burundi have been carried out in relative peace. Violence erupted in that country two months ago, forcing thousands to flee the country, when President Pierre Nkurunziza announced he would be running for a third term (Burundian law permits only two terms for its head of state).

**Climate -** The Earth, indeed, is heating up. January to June 2015 marked the hottest 6 months in our planet's recorded history, according to a report by the UN World Meteorological Organization. UN Secretary General Bam Ki-moon urges leaders of Member States to keep the drastic effects of climate change in mind at the upcoming UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris in December.



## WELCOME TO NIGHT IN OAXACA

August 15, 2015, 5 to 9pm Oxnard Performing Arts & Convention Center (805) 535-8861







## **OAXACAN MOLE DINNER**

Savor the famous mouthwatering dish of Oaxaca prepared from a local Mixtec famly recipe.



#### **OAXACAN TASTING TABLE**

Experience traditional treats including memela corn cakes, flor de calabaza zucchini flower quesadillas, and don't miss chapulines: fried grasshoppers!

## **ARTISAN MARKETPLACE**

Browse and purchase homemade jewelry, bags and clothing from local vendors.



## **TEQUIO YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS**

Congratulate our young indigenous leaders as they receive college scholarships.

## **OAXACAN MUSICIANS AND DANCERS**

Enjoy the beauty of this rich culture, performed by Oxnard residents.



# REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

Dear Friends,

The beginning of the Statement of Conscience on Reproductive Justice passed at the 2015 General Assembly of the UUA states "As Unitarian Universalists, we embrace the reproductive justice framework, which espouses the human right to have children, not to have children, to parent the children one has in healthy environments and to safeguard bodily autonomy and to express one's sexuality freely. "-read more-

We are inviting you to help us create a Reproductive Justice team at CVUUF. Our aim is to intentionally broaden the reproductive justice work that we do at CVUUF. Because we are all busy, we have come up with a way that we can fit this effort into our lives without much extra time. Please join us for dinner Sunday, August 23 at 5:00pm in Fellowship Hall to learn more about how we can expand CVUUF's commitment on this vital issue from our excellent OWL program to a future where comprehensive reproductive justice is strongly supported by our members. As they said at GA: "come for the Choice, stay for the justice."

Please RSVP. We look forward to hearing from you. Liza Diniakos & Pamela Lopez

# Write for Your Rights



August 30, 2015 12:30 - 2:30pm

> Unitarian Universalist Church 5654 Ralston St., Ventura

Join us for a large-scale, letter writing event in support of access to reproductive health.

This fun afternoon of activism is free and open to the public. Complimentary refreshments & door prizes. VCRRN will have letters on a range of reproductive health care topics prepared for you to sign. These letters will send a strong message from our community to our elected representatives.

Participating organizations include: ACLU-SC Ventura County Chapter, League of Women Voters of Ventura County, Planned Parenthood Action Fund of Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties, Planned Parenthood of Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties, Temple Beth Torah, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Conejo Valley, Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura Social Action Coordinating Committee, Ventura County Women's Intercultural Network-California Women's Agenda, Ventura County Women's Forum Collaborative, and Ventura County Women's Political Council.

### Planned Parenthood 40th Annual Book Sale

September 19 through 28, 2015 Earl Warren Showgrounds

The used book sale offers nearly 200,000 books from current best sellers to antiquarian treasures in over 50 categories. A special opening night reception on Thursday, September 18th, 5 - 9 pm, \$30 admission fee, provides book lovers and collectors wine, appetizers and first choice of thousands of titles.

The regular sale, free to the public, will have additional books daily. For more information call (805) 722-1527, or visit booksale.ppsbvslo.org.



# August 2015



n» Finance ittee n» Opal Covenant  Women's Evening n» Drop-in Book	4 6pm» Feeding Hands  11 9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board meeting	5 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Stewardship Committee meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group  12 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation Group	6 9:45am» Jonquil Group  13 7pm» Sapphire group	Administrator hours  14  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	8 2:30pm» Emerald Covenant group 7pm» Movie Group
n» Finance ittee n» Opal Covenant  Women's Evening n» Drop-in Book	6pm» Feeding Hands  11  9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Stewardship Committee meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group  12  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation	9:45am» Jonquil Group  13  7pm» Sapphire group	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours  14  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	2:30pm» Emerald Covenant group 7pm» Movie Group
n» Finance ittee n» Opal Covenant  Women's Evening n» Drop-in Book	6pm» Feeding Hands  11  9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Stewardship Committee meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group  12  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation	9:45am» Jonquil Group  13  7pm» Sapphire group	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours  14  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	2:30pm» Emerald Covenant group 7pm» Movie Group
ittee n» Opal Covenant  Nomen's Evening n» Drop-in Book	11 9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board	Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Stewardship Committee meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group  12  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation	13 7pm» Sapphire group	Administrator hours  14  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	Covenant group 7pm» Movie Group
Women's Evening	9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation	7pm» Sapphire group	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	15
n» Drop-in Book	Group 7pm» CVUUF Board	Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation		Administrator hours	
			CVUUF Car	mpout	
	18	19	20	21	22
	7pm» Music Ministry Meeting	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group	9:45am» Jonquil Group	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	
	25	26	27	28	29
Nomen's Group	9:45am» Gardenia Group	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group		9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 7:30pm» Movie Group 1	9am» Chalice Circle Facilitators planning meetings 5pm» Auction Event Live Karoake
	Women's Group	Meeting  25  Women's Group 9:45am» Gardenia	Meeting  Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group  25  26  Nomen's Group  9:45am» Gardenia Group  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation	Meeting  Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group  25  26  Vomen's Group  9:45am» Gardenia Group  9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation	Meeting Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group  25 26 27 28  Women's Group 9:45am» Gardenia Group 9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Movie 7:30pm» Movie Group 1

# 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 (<u>map</u>) 805 492-8751 www.cvuuf.org

#### Staff

Rev. Anne Felton-Hines, Consulting Minister, minister@cvuuf.org
Samantha Dickerson, Summer 2015 Coordinator of Religious Education
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 2015-2016

Willie Lubka, Board President, president@cvuuf.org
Gaye Allan, Vice President
Kathleen Holland, Secretary
Terry Hinricher, Treasurer
Leah Halseth, Trustee At Large
Don Vernardos, Trustee At Large
Tom Wolf, Trustee At Large



#### additional UU resource links:

<u>Unitarian Universalist Association</u> (<u>UUA</u>)

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!