



# CVUUF News

## Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

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The theme for January is Beloved Community. The source is our second source: Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love. The main suggested reading is *The Selma Awakening* by Mark Morrison-Reed.

## Upcoming Sunday Services

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](mailto: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](mailto:minister@cvuuf.org)



**January 4 – Creating a Future Story – Rev. Lora Brandis** — Come and participate in our annual burning ritual as we let go of the old and make room for the new. We pause for a moment to acknowledge the year that has just past and to ponder how we create a future for ourselves, this community and the world. Mourning our losses and celebrating our triumphs, we rest long enough between now and what's next to breathe and to take stock of who we are now.

**January 11, 9:15am – Beloved Community – Rev. Lora Brandis** — As Unitarian Universalists we strive to create beloved community - a community where love is present. It sounds simple enough, but most of us hear the struggle behind the label, the complexity lurking just below the surface. Still we strive; we dream dreams and we have visions. **NOTE: There will be one service only today, followed by the Mid-Year meeting of the congregation.**

**January 18 – Why Selma Matters – Rev. Lora Brandis** — Mark Morrison-Reed writes, "For Unitarian Universalism, whose most progressive elements had long been champions of freedom in its broadest sense, Selma was a test." Fifty years ago, Unitarian Universalists were challenged to answer Dr. King's call and show up in Selma. Many did; two died. What was Selma's impact on our religious movement? What do the events of fifty years ago mean to us today when the streets of our country are filled with people holding signs proclaiming "black lives matter?"

**January 25 – A Ministry of Presence – Rev. Lora Brandis** — Many of us are first drawn to a church community during a time of transition in our lives. A loved one dies, we're going through a divorce, we want our children to have a liberal religious education. At first, we attend the "church of the me" only getting our own needs met. Soon we discover that being in beloved community means our presence is needed to minister to others. No longer satisfied with just getting our needs met each Sunday, we come to church to serve.

**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

"Quick dance, shuffle of losses and leaves, only the things I didn't do crackle after the blazing dies." from  
'Burning the Old Year' by Naomi Shihab Nye

One of the rituals I have shared with you since I came here three years ago is the annual burning bowl ritual. It is a practice I learned at First Unitarian Church of Dallas. Many churches participate in this annual ritual, including Unity and Centers for Spiritual Living. Many of them practice it differently than what I learned. In addition to burning a piece of paper with what you want to let go of written on it, many burn a piece of paper with what they want to manifest in the New Year written on it. They practice the ritual not only to burn the old year, but to also have a hand in creating the new one.

I have consistently preached against using the ritual to create the new year. I prefer the theology of allowing the year to unfold as it will. There is danger in thinking we know how the future will turn out. I suppose that's why the second piece of paper is burned along with the first. The ritual, when practiced this way, helps us to embody humility. Willing to let go of the old, we are also willing to let go of what we think the future will look like.

I've been thinking a lot about the future lately - yours, mine and ours. Our future together is short, lasting only about seven more weeks. I have so much more to say to you and I am feeling pressured to get it all in. Your future is different now that I am leaving. My future is different now, filled with uncertainty. As of February 23rd I will no longer be your minister and our relationship will be complete. That's a future that none of us could have predicted.

When we gather to participate in this year's burning bowl ritual I will invite you to practice the ritual in the way I have resisted - I will invite you to imagine what this new year might bring for you, for the community, for the world. I know that's a lot to fit on one tiny piece of paper so you may need to pick just one. One year is such a short time. You are not being asked to create the entire future, after all. You are being asked to uncover your "future story" and possibly in the pause we will take between burning the old and envisioning the future you will discover something new, something unexpected.

In the poem "Burning the Old Year" Naomi Shihab Nye writes of "losses and leaves" and the lingering weight of things left undone. "Only the things I didn't do crackle after the blazing dies." I know that I will leave here with things left undone, things left unsaid. That is as it should be. Maybe this version of the future we are about to walk through doesn't look like we thought it should. Maybe the future never looks exactly like we thought it should. There's so much possibility in the flame of time. After the blazing dies we can begin to create anew.

May it be so and Amen.

LORA

## Mid-Year Meeting Sunday, January 11

Your attendance is requested.  
There will be only one service on the 11th. Please come to the service at 9:15am and plan to stay for this important meeting.  
Childcare will be provided.

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](mailto: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



Dear Friends,

Last week a professional associate I've known for several years, who I've always regarded as an intelligent and caring person, surprised me by expressing some ugly racist commentary. The remarks reminded of hate mail my family received in the 1960s when my parents were active in the civil rights movement, depicting crude images of human beings as animals. I was stunned to hear such racism being expressed as if it was OK and socially acceptable. I stated my disagreement and did my best to affirm the moral principles we Unitarian Universalists teach and strive to live by.

Racist talk is NOT socially acceptable; witness the downfalls of many famous people who used the "n" word, and my colleague surely knows that. If I were African-American, I'm sure she would never have made such statements, so she unintentionally offended me by assuming the color of my skin meant I wouldn't mind hearing such opinions.

After that encounter I wondered yet again, as I have so many times, what more can I do to bring an end to the oppression and injustice caused by racism. Martin Luther King Jr. was right when he wrote "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly." We all share a moral imperative to eliminate racism, in all the forms it takes and in all the places it exists, including in our own unexamined attitudes. Such self-examination would make a worthy New Year's resolution.

As members of the Conejo Valley UU Fellowship, the start of a new year is an excellent time for a renewed conversation about our mission: "to nurture spiritually courageous people who transform the world through justice and compassion." How can our community be a more effective agent of courage, justice, compassion, and transformation? I suggest two readings. First, [Martin Luther King's 1963 Letter from Birmingham Jail](#), even if you've read it before. It's one of the most important statements about race ever written and is filled with truth that remains more relevant than ever. Also, [A Response to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail"](#), published 50 years later, in 2013, by a group called Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A. While this document is written from a Christian perspective, it offers vital reflection for any community of faith. Both documents are easy to find online. The principles that unite us as Unitarian Universalists are directly applicable to the struggle for equal rights and equal justice for all people. Let's work together to be ever-stronger allies in that struggle.

In Faith,

**Willie**, [president@cvuuf.org](mailto: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](http://www.uulivinglegacy.org)

# Transition Process Update

As discussed at the Town Hall meeting on December 7, here is a summary of key milestones in the congregation's upcoming transition process.

Rev. Lora's last worship service, followed by a farewell celebration will happen on Sunday, Feb 22. On February 27, Rev. Anne Hines will begin serving as our Consulting Minister; her first Sunday in our pulpit will be March 1. Rev Anne's term as Consulting Minister, serving half time, will be for six months, through mid-August, 2015. After that six-month period, we will engage a full-time Interim Minister to begin serving in the fall of 2015 for one year. The Interim Minister will be selected and hired by the Board with assistance from an Interim Minister Search Team. The Interim Minister Search Team will have three members, including one Trustee. The Trustee member will be Don Venardos. The two additional team members will be named by the end of January. We expect to select an Interim Minister and consummate a contract by the end of April, 2015.

A Special Congregational Meeting will be called in April or May of 2015 for the congregation to elect a Ministerial Search Committee. Candidates for the Ministerial Search Committee will be nominated by the Leadership Cultivation Committee. The Ministerial Search Committee will undertake a search process, intended to culminate in a new settled minister being called by our members in April or May, 2016 and to start full-time in the Fall, 2016. One of the Ministerial Search Committee's important duties will be to keep the congregation well-informed, so we can all expect to be hearing from them on the details of the search process. They will need lots of support and input from all of us as well. Anyone who is curious to learn more ministerial transitions and the search process can find lots of information at the UUA web site ([www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)) – just search for the term "transitions."

June 7, 2015 will be Director of Religious Education Justine Fisher's last Sunday with our congregation. Our Consulting Minister, Rev Anne Hines and the Board of Trustees will work closely together, with input from Justine, to define the scope of duties for a new Director of Religious Education to join us after Justine's departure. The Board of Trustees and Rev. Anne will work together on the process of recruiting a new DRE.

Lora and Justine are each doing excellent work to ensure smooth transitions. We are also getting lots of help from the Pacific Southwest District and the UUA Transitions office. Members are rising to the occasion beautifully as we prepare for next chapter in our journey together with faith, confidence, commitment, and love.

In gratitude,

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

## January 11, 2015 Mid-Year Fellowship Meeting Agenda

### Reports

Minister  
President

Treasurer  
Transition Process Update

### Election

Three individuals to two-year terms on the Leadership Cultivation Committee.  
The Board is pleased to present the following candidates: *Riley Neel, Ellen Smith, and Claudia Barton.*  
Additional nominations may be made from the floor or by written notification to the Secretary,  
with the acceptance of the nominee.



**Justine Fischer,  
Director of  
Religious  
Education  
(DRE)**



## **January Birthdays**

**Abby Cho  
Miller, Jake  
de Ronde,  
Maya Espe,  
Alan  
Goddard,  
Ethan  
Halseth and  
Lowell  
Welch.**

# **News From Religious Education**

## **JANUARY 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 Beloved Community. We will also focus on this source from Our Living Tradition: *Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love.*

## **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

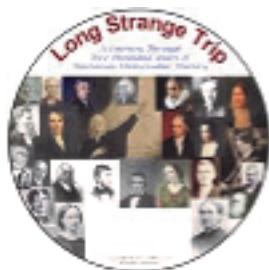
Saturday, January 31, 2015 , 1-6pm  
Saturday, February 28, 2015, 1-6pm  
Saturday, March 28, 2015, 1-6pm  
Saturday, April 25, 2015, 1-6pm  
Saturday, May 30, 2015, 1-6pm

## **NEW VIDEOS IN CVUU LIBRARY**

### *Long Strange Trip*

A six-part series detailing the history of Unitarian and Universalist thought from the beginning of the Christian era to what we know today as Unitarian Universalism. Each film is approximately one hour in length and is Close-captioned.

Also, *Solitary Confinement: Torture in Your Backyard* produced by National Religious Campaign Against Torture.



# More News From Religious Education

## OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)

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

### Parent Orientation:

**Sunday, January 11, 1:30 to 3:30** (after the Mid-Year meeting). Parents must attend the orientation meeting for their child to participate. Please RSVP to the appropriate facilitator if you haven't already. We need 6 children in each group for the classes to be held.

### High School OWL (grades 10-12)

Facilitated by: Robin Lindsey and Tom Smith  
Classes are from 1-3pm on the following Sundays:  
January 25, February 1, 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

Graders 4-6 and K-1 OWL classes are from 11am-12pm during the second service on the following Sundays:

January 25, 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.

## Special Collection • January 25, 2014 UULA Bond Fund

Since 2008, First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles Bond Fund has been available to respond promptly in assisting eligible and worthy individuals gain their freedom while fighting deportation.

Make your check payable to CVUUF, and note "UULA Bond Fund" in the memo.

# News From Our Outreach Director



*Happy New Year!*

*Is one of your resolutions to be of service? There are many opportunities through our various outreach programs. If there is something that speaks to your heart, a special project you want to bring forward, please contact me at [outreachdirector@cvuuf.org](mailto:outreachdirector@cvuuf.org) and we'll do what we can to make it happen.*

*I look forward to working with you this year.*

**Climate Action Team (CAT)** — Meets **Wednesday, January 14th, 7:30pm** in the Board Room. Contact: [cat@cvuuf.org](mailto:cat@cvuuf.org).

**Community Forum** — January is busy with two Community Forum presentations—*When Living Alone is Not Enough*, about long-term care needs; and a wonderful performance of Howard Zinn's *Marx in Soho*. The descriptions can be found on page 7. Please join us. Contact: [forum@cvuuf.org](mailto:forum@cvuuf.org).

**Escalating Inequality** — Meets **Monday January 26, 2015, 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.

**Feeding Hands** — On the **1st Tuesday of each month**, dinner is provided to those in need from our local community. Feeding Hands served 107 dinner guests last month. We have been told that we serve the best food and smiles! Your help is always welcome as a cook, server or companion to the diners. This is especially helpful in the winter months. Any and all who want to be involved are greatly appreciated. Contact: Anne Ewell.

**Mindful Eating** — If your New Year's resolution has anything to do with how you eat, you may want to join our Mindful Eating Group. Mindful Eating returns from its holiday break on **Sunday, January 25th 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.



## ROY ZIMMERMAN SHOWS

Roy Zimmerman, political folk singer and regular performer at CVUUF, will be presenting his new show, "The Faucet's On Fire", a collection of all new songs.

**Saturday, January 24th, 8pm** at the UU Church of Studio City, 12355 Moorpark Street Studio City, and **Sunday, January 25, 2015, 12:15pm** at Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church, 7304 Jordan Avenue, Canoga Park. Contact the churches for ticket costs and more information.

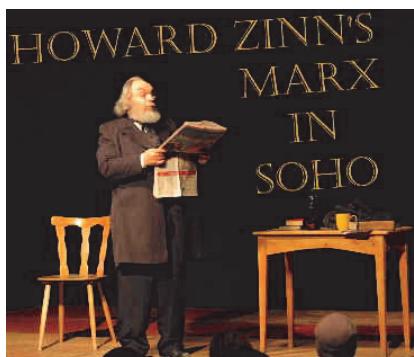


# Community Forum

**Friday, January 9, 2015, 7:30pm  
WHEN LIVING ALONE IS NOT AN OPTION**

What would happen today if you, your spouse or family member suddenly became unable to live alone due to a fall or illness? What kinds of facilities are available? What level of care is provided at each? What is the cost? Who is the decision maker?  
Kathy Terry, Field Services Coordinator of the Long Term Care Services of Ventura County, will present an evening of information about this very important issue. A Q&A discussion will follow her talk.

**Saturday, January 17, 2014, 8pm**  
A Special Live Theatrical Event  
Jerry Levy as Karl Marx in  
Howard Zinn's MARX IN SOHO



Historian and activist, Howard Zinn is most well known for his alternative portrait of American history. Here Zinn proves himself a talented playwright, presenting a play that is both enlightening and entertaining!

We gratefully acknowledge The Howard Zinn Revocable Trust for their kind permission for this presentation of Howard Zinn's "Marx in Soho".

\$15.00 Contribution Requested  
Tickets Available in Advance

Unless noted, most 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

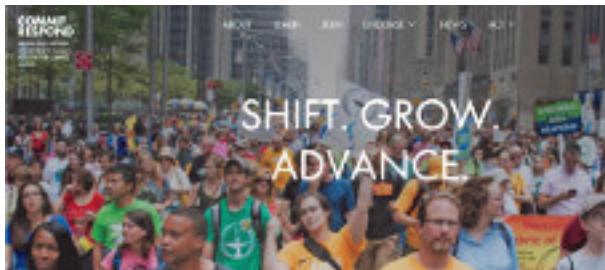
The national Standing on the Side of Love organization is “a community of people compelled to speak out against oppression, united in the common belief that love is the ultimate guiding force of our world.”

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



## VOTING RIGHTS

Mrs. Willie Nell Avery, registrar for Perry County, Alabama, talks about the changing nature of voter suppression tactics used throughout the country and the need for vigilance to secure our rights. [Listen to the interview.](#)



## NEW 30 DAYS OF LOVE

Since 2012, beginning on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and culminated with Valentine's Day, “The Thirty Days of Love was a collective visioning process about making sense of the present moment, and what we are called to do. We accomplished this through self-reflection, active listening, sharing personal and community stories, and celebrating our lives and our heroes for their courageous love.”

Many wanted a focus on one justice issue, so this spring, Standing on the Side of Love will join [Commit2Respond](#), for a month of climate justice.

**Between World Water Day and Earth Day**, we will make commitments and take actions to grow the climate justice movement, shift to clean, renewable energy, and advance the human rights of frontline, marginalized communities. [Please visit and find ways to participate.](#)

# PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT NEWS

## NEW ADDRESS

The district is changing to a new support staff model, the address:  
PSWD (Pacific Southwest District) c/o Throop Church, 300 S Robles Ave, Pasadena, CA 91101-2821.



## 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, [pswduu.org](http://pswduu.org).



## UUJM and UUSC Successful in Getting eBay to Drop ALEC

The Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of California with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Moms Clean Air Force, Forecast the Facts, Climate Parents, the Sierra Club and Common Cause successfully convinced eBay to leave the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) and stop denying climate change!



Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Ventura

5654 Ralston Street  
Ventura, CA 93003  
(805) 644-3898

## Pete Seeger Songfest with Singer Songwriter Jim Scott

On Friday January 9, 2015 at 7PM, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura will host a Pete Seeger Songfest with singer-songwriter Jim Scott. We'll honor Pete Seeger, singing many of his well-loved songs such as *If I Had a Hammer, Turn, Turn, Turn, Where Have All the Flowers Gone* and many others. Led by composer/guitarist Jim Scott, who knew Pete well and collaborated on many projects with the folk legend, Jim has compiled and arranged the "Earth and Spirit Songbook," a collection of over 100 songs of earth and peace by many contemporary composers, including Pete Seeger. His much loved "Gather the Spirit" and other songs are in the UU hymnbooks. He helped develop the Green Sanctuary program.

A prolific composer in his own right, Jim brings a warmth, and authenticity that turns any size audience into an intimate gathering. His lyrical melodies, well-crafted words, guitar mastery and humorous surprises moved Pete Seeger to call him "Some kind of a magician." Known to many as guitarist with the Paul Winter Consort and co-composer of their celebrated "Missa Gaia / Earth Mass."

Passes are available for a suggested donation of \$15.00 and may be reserved at 805-844-6546.

## MANNA NEEDS

Pancake Mix	Mac & Cheese
Syrup	Catsup
Hot Cereal	Chicken Noodle
Crackers	Soup
Jam & Jelly	Deodorant
Mayonnaise	



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
MINISTRY FOR EARTH

*Respect Life. Restore Earth. Renew Spirit.*

Explore the site and find free resources  
to use for your environmental activism.

## 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.

**Thanks.** Jo Ann Van Reenan



## Yule Public Pagan Ritual January 3, 2015 6:00pm in the Sanctuary

Once winter solstice passes, the days will start to become longer, but there are still many weeks of dark left to endure. As in days past, let us come together in fellowship to feast and recount the tales of the Wild Hunt. CVUUF Rabbit in the Moon and Raven's Cry Grove, ADF present a Norse Yule Ritual.

All are welcome. There will be a pot luck feast after the ritual. Bring offerings as well for the nature spirits, ancestors, and your personal deities. We will begin at 6pm sharp.



Unitarian Universalist  
United Nations Office

Want to find some information from a friendly staff person at the UU-United Nations Office? That's easy. Contact Allison Hess, she is excited about her new job and would be glad to assist you. For more information, email [unitednations@uua.org](mailto:unitednations@uua.org).



# January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal		6pm» Rabbit in the Moon Ritual
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:15am» Worship Service 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal 10:30am» Quilters meeting <b>11am» Worship Service</b> 12:15pm» Membership Committee Meeting 2pm» Gaming Afternoon 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	6:30pm» Finance Committee 7:15pm» Opal Covenant Group	6pm» Feeding Hands	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7:15pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation Group	7pm» Sapphire 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 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal <b>10:45am» Mid-Year Meeting</b> 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	7pm» Women's Evening Group 7:30pm» Drop-in Book Club	9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board of Trustees Meeting 7:15pm» Chalice Circle 2Tu	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Chalice Circle 2W 7:30pm» Climate Action Team 7:30pm» Meditation Group	9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» Brazilian dinner (auction event)	7:30pm» Community Forum
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:15am» Worship Service 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal <b>11am» Worship Service</b> 5pm» Movie Group 3 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting 6pm» NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	7pm» Chalice Circle 3M	7:15pm» Chalice Circle 3Tu 7pm» Music Ministry Meeting	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 12:30pm» Chalice Circle 3W 6pm» OA Meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group	7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	7:30pm» Movie Group 1	9am» Healthy Congregations workshop 5pm» Vegetarian Middle Eastern dinner (auction event)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:15am» Worship Service 10:25am» Children's Choir rehearsal <b>11am» Worship Service</b> 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	7pm» Women's Evening Group	9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» Chalice Circle 4Tu	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6pm» OA Meeting 7pm» Facilitator Chalice Circle	7pm» Sapphire group		1pm» Mexican Train (auction event)

# Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

# COVENANT OF GOOD RELATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

### Staff

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### Board of Trustees 2014-2015

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#### 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!