



CVUUF News

Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

Upcoming Sunday Services

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

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/announcereq

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 February we are studying the sixth step: "Action."

February 2 — One Small Act of Kindness — Rev. Lora Brandis —

The actions we take to live a compassionate life don't have to be large and noticeable. One small act of kindness can change a life forever. An unthinking, off-handed, unkind remark or gesture can change a life forever, too. The sixth step to a compassionate life follows naturally after the fifth step — mindfulness. As we become more mindful of our automatic reactions, we can choose to be kind.

February 9 — The Loving Brain — Rev. Lora Brandis —

In the book *Buddha's Brain*, clinical psychologist Rick Hanson and neurologist Richard Mendius examine the lives of the great teachers like Buddha, Jesus and Muhammad concluding that these great spiritual leaders changed their brains in ways that changed the world. We can learn from these great teachers and the latest breakthroughs in neuroscience to find out how we too can use our minds to shape our brains for greater happiness, love, and wisdom.

February 16 — The 'G' Word — Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki —

Our faith movement provides a broad tent for religious liberals and we may differ significantly from each other in our views of the concept of God. Join Rev. Tamara as she explores the varied ways we approach the mystery of life, and how we might communicate effectively and find common ground despite our different conclusions. Rev. Tamara Casanova Suzuki currently serves as the Acting Associate Minister at Pacific Unitarian Church in Rancho Palos Verdes.

February 23 — The Daily Actions — Rev. Lora Brandis —

The Thirty Days of Love is a period of intentional action, service, education, and reflection to focus on the work of the Standing on the Side of Love community. A Christian Lenten practice, with its focus on prayer, charity and self-denial, is similar. As the Thirty Days of Love end and Christians prepare to begin the Lenten season, Unitarian Universalists can learn from both of these disciplines. We all need a proscribed period of time to uncover our beliefs and to assess what daily actions we can take to live from those beliefs.

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

The Platinum Rule: "Do unto others as they would do/have done unto themselves." In other words, treat others as they wish to be treated.

The Golden Rule may not take us as far along the path to a compassionate life as we had hoped it would. This is the thinking I have come back with after training I received during the recent retreat held for PSWD ministers and directors of religious education. I participated in "Who Are Our Neighbors?" a program to explore multiculturalism and develop intercultural competencies. This critical work is often challenging.

There are many versions of The Golden Rule; versions that improve on the simplistic "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Hinduism offers us this version from the Mahabharata: "Do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you." Daoism reminds us of our unity with the phrase: "Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain, and your neighbor's loss as your own loss." The Judeo-Christian tradition teaches us to "Love your neighbor as yourself; bear a grudge against no man. Whatever you hate, do to no man" (Leviticus 19:18).

"And who is my neighbor?" an expert in the law asks Jesus (Luke 10:25-37). Jesus responds with The Parable of the Good Samaritan. The radical nature of this story is best understood in its historical context. Samaritans and Jews were rivals, each laying claim to the true religion of the ancient Israelites. They despised each other and were forbidden from having any contact with each other. The story of a Samaritan helping a wounded Jew after others had passed him by would have shocked listeners.

"Who are our neighbors?" can be as jarring a question to us today as the question the lawyer asked Jesus. Hoping to test him, the lawyer was in turn tested by the parable. Who are our neighbors? How are we tested by our own response?

Before I left for the retreat, Bill Robinson contacted me to let me know that we have new neighbors moving in across the parking lot. The Carter Report, an evangelical group that holds beliefs that are different from many of our own, will be moving into two buildings next to our Sanctuary building. Our Unitarian Universalist roots in Christianity teach that we are called to love our neighbors as we love ourselves, just as our Christian neighbors are called. We are called to treat them as they wish to be treated. To do this we will need to cross the great divide that may separate us, just as the Samaritan crossed the great divide that separated him from the wounded Jew.

Many others are our neighbors, of course. As we grow and deepen our capacity for multiculturalism and develop intercultural competencies, we can begin close to home. We can listen deeply to someone else's worldview. We can learn to live compassionately. We can learn to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Lora

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

Special Collection • February 16, 2014

Unitarian Church of Uganda

Led by the Rev. Mark Kiyimba, the Unitarian Church of Uganda is the only Open and Affirming Congregation in Uganda. Each year since 2010 the church has organized a Standing on the Side of Love conference that brings together more than two hundred people. The struggle for LGBTI rights continues. Your generosity will support this year's gathering. Make your check payable to CVUUF, and note "Uganda" in the memo.

President's Message



January 12, 2014 was a day to remember. That morning, we welcomed twelve wonderful people who have chosen to join our community in a jubilant new member ceremony. In that ceremony, all present joined the members in affirming the rights and responsibilities of membership: regular attendance and worship services, voting at congregational meetings, making financial contributions, and contributing time and talent.

Rev. Lora's sermon "Mindful Eating, Mindful Life" deepened our awareness of how mindfulness of what we eat can take us to a more compassionate way of life.

The turnout of our membership was very strong at the Mid-Year Fellowship meeting, where seven volunteer leaders were elected to our new Leadership Cultivation Committee.

Our celebration of Rev Lora's achievement of Final Fellowship was an outpouring of joy. I'm grateful to Rev. Ken Brown, Executive Director of the Pacific Southwest District, for his participation. Thanks to everyone who helped plan and carry out the event. My heart is full with the amazing enthusiasm and love we shared that day. And I am grateful for Rev. Lora, and all she does to enrich our lives and help us realize our shared mission - to nurture spiritually courageous people who transform the world through justice and compassion.

During the President's report, I mentioned the service where Rev. Lora announced receiving Final Fellowship. "The Good Enough Dance," from Nov. 10, 2013, is available [here](#). I also referenced the "This I Believe" service of Aug. 25, 2013; find it [here](#). I also mentioned the video of the Rev. Lora's ordination. It's available [here](#). I encourage you to subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#). Thanks to Brian Pletcher for making these videos. I hope you will subscribe and share our worship service videos with others.

The stole we presented Rev Lora was made by Bonnie Blue Crouse of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, from an assortment of hand-painted batiks. Here are her comments about the stole,

When I start making a stole, I have a clear idea of what the customer wants and what I need to accomplish, but I do not work from a sketch. Though it will involve dozens of individually cut and sewn pieces, the design takes shape, top to bottom, as I go. Nothing is random. Each piece, placed with deliberation, becomes the stepping stone for the next one I select. It is a bit like working in the kitchen and humming your own music without concern for sticking to a song that someone else wrote. I let the fabric sing and I follow the design, one piece at a time, until I have accomplished what I have set out to do.

The rainbow is a universal theme of redemption, a promise made to all of humankind. It is a symbol of diversity and inclusion. It has meaning for chaplains doing hospice work and it has been adopted as the logo for ministries helping people struggling to recover from physical and emotional abuse. Like the rainbow flag that is seen at gay pride events, my interpretation of the rainbow is not meek or demure. On the spectrum of human eyesight, I am drawn to the bold primary colors and their neighbors up and down the scale.

Think of the cotton in this stole as a living thing, with DNA. It started its life in a sun-drenched field, on this continent or another, and began a journey that would take it through the looms and dye pots and warehouses of artisans and merchants. By the time it reaches my sewing machine, it is well-traveled. The geographical journey may be finished when a stole arrives at a house of worship, but its work is just beginning. It is now a part of someone's ministry. My hope is that it will enliven the services and celebration of an affirming faith community like yours.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve, and to be a member of this congregation.

See you on Sunday!

Willie, president@cvuuf.org



Justine Fischer,
Director of
Religious
Education
(DRE)

News From Religious Education

FEBRUARY RE

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

- February 2 – Action overview
- February 9 – Abraham Lincoln
- February 16 – The Right of Conscience
- February 23 – Humanist Teachings

COMING UP IN RE

- March 30 – *What the Little Ones Know:* Intergenerational Service (**No RE classes on this day**).
- April 6 – Religious Education Open House

KUDOS

...to the *Chalice Circles* facilitators for cleaning the RE rooms and making them shine! Sioe Hiang Han and Carol Rosenthal for joining the spiritual nurturer team! Chris Blasman, Robin Lindsey, Todd Hess and Frances Pardee for teaching Adult RE.

MICOP

BOOK COLLECTION—We will be collecting new and gently used books for the children of **Mixteco Indigena Comunidad Organization Proyecto (MICOP)**, our migrant friends, for the Dia de los Ninos celebration in April. Please drop them off to the RE office through April 26, 2014.

COMMUNITY BUILDING—Join us monthly to create cereal jewelry and a craft with MICOP kids. We meet with the kids at Harrington Elementary in Oxnard while the adults hold their community meeting. The meeting schedule is Saturdays February 22, March 29, April 26 **Dia de los Ninos**, May 31, and June 28.

SPANISH TUTORING—For those who have a basic level of Spanish, MICOP is also requesting assistance Tuesday-Friday nights from 6-8 pm, at their Spanish as a second language class. This class is led by a teacher, but they like to have one on one with the Mixtec speakers as they learn Spanish. For more information visit www.mixteco.org.

For information regarding Religious Education, I can most easily be reached at dre@cnuuf.org.

Yours in faith,
Justine



February Birthdays

Piper
Snowber and
Amanda
Zavala.

Adult Religious Education

Living Compassionately

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

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

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 (see page 6) – This monthly program hosts speakers & performers, shows films, and presents theatrical or musical events. Usually about half (or more) of our audience are local, non-CVUUF folks. Ways to participate include: attend a planning meeting on the first Tuesday of the month (right after Feeding Hands); help booking events; assist with audio & lighting); welcome our guests as they arrive; help set-up and clean-up. Contact: Anahi Quiroz.

Detention Witness (see page 9) – This is an eye-opening experience. Join on the monthly visits to the Adelanto Detention Facility where many men without citizenship are held with little or no recourse for months on end. During these trips, two-person teams will sit and talk with a detainee for one hour. This particular program requires a full-day commitment. CVUUF is becoming a recognizable face in the campaign to focus attention to the issue of indefinite detention facing so many immigrants today. Contacts: Gordon Clint, Liza Diniakos, or Rev. Lora to learn about this vital program.

Feeding Hands – On the first Tuesday of each month, a team of dedicated volunteers cook dinner (either in our kitchen or their homes) to be served to our area's homeless community at Calvary Church. All are welcome to help prepare the food, serve it, or clean-up the next day. It is a wonderfully rewarding experience. Contact: Phoebe Rivera or Anne Ewell.

Letter Writing to Prisoners in Solitary Confinement Several Sundays a month, letter writing sessions are held for prisoners in solitary confinement who are starved for connection. The dates when letter writing sessions are being held can be found on our calendar at cvuuf.org. Contact: Maria Ornelas.

MICOP (The Mixteco Indigena Comunidad Organization Proyecto) (see page 4) A project of both Religious Education and Outreach, join us for our monthly events volunteering to work with the children in this very underserved community. A wonderful opportunity to share with your children as they meet and play with kids whose lives are very different from our own. MICOP is also seeking Spanish-speaking volunteers to help tutor English on an ongoing basis. Contact: Justine Fischer.

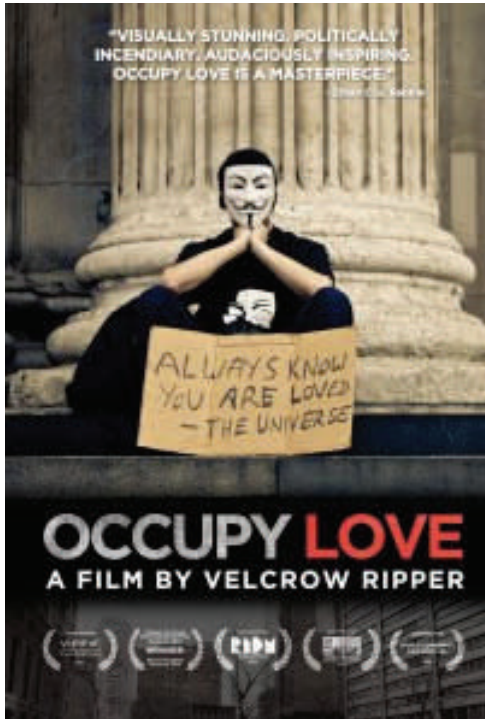
MANNA NEEDS

Canned Veggies
Cans Black Beans
Cans Pinto Beans
Cans Refried Beans
Mayonnaise
Tomato Sauce
Hamburger Helper

Soup
Pancake Mix/Syrup
Toothpaste
Shampoo
other self-care items



Community Forum



Saturday, February 22, 2014, 7:30pm

An Extraordinary Film Presentation OCCUPY LOVE

The old paradigm that concentrates wealth, founded on the greed of the few, is causing economic and ecological collapse. The resulting crisis has become the catalyst for a profound awakening: millions of people are deciding that enough is enough.

Occupy Love features captivating insider scenes from the Egyptian Revolution, the Spanish Indignado uprising, Occupy Wall Street, Indigenous activists at the Alberta Tar Sands, the climate justice movement, and beyond. This film is a deep exploration of public love, and compelling stories of an emerging new paradigm.

Save The Date!

Saturday, March 22, 2014, 7:30pm

MOMS DEMAND ACTION for Gun Sense in America

Our programs are free but donations are gratefully accepted.

Community Forums are held at:

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

Join me in Raleigh, NC on Saturday, February 8

to help defend the freedom to vote.

If you have been following the headlines like me on voter suppression initiatives in North Carolina and other states, you are worried - worried about what this might mean for all those people facing disenfranchisement, future elections, and what democracy in this country looks like. I am worried too. And I need to do something about it.

I received an urgent call from the Rev. Dr. William Barber, president of the North Carolina NAACP, and UU ministers in North Carolina asking me and my fellow UUs to join the **Mass Moral March in Raleigh, NC on Saturday, February 8** and raise some national consciousness on this issue. Without a second thought, my answer was yes. Will you join me?



According to the ACLU, close to half the states in the U.S. now have some form of voting restrictions. These restrictions are making it harder for people to vote, particularly people of color, students, and people with disabilities. These tactics range from voter ID laws to the elimination of early voting and same day voter registration to new restrictions on voter registration drives and barriers to voting for people with criminal convictions. We need voting to be free, fair, and accessible! Now is the time to mobilize to defend the freedom to vote.

This isn't just about North Carolina. Just as Arizona became the flashpoint for immigration reform in 2010, immigration reform is a national issue. North Carolina represents how states across the country are trying to take away people's right to vote. Today, it's North Carolina, but tomorrow it could be, and perhaps already is, your state.

The Unitarian Universalist Association's 5th Principle calls on the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. If people's right to vote is taken away or denied, the democratic process is a sham. Defending the freedom to vote is fundamental to our values.

In 1965, hundreds of UUs went to Selma in response to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's call including the Rev. James Reed and Viola Liuzzo. They died to secure voting rights for all people. Now is our time to make it clear that any restrictions of voting rights will not be tolerated by the American people. Will you answer the call?

UU ministers in North Carolina need you.

People facing disenfranchisement need you.

Our democracy needs you.

In faith,

Peter Morales
President of the UUA



UU-UNO Weekend

As recipient congregation of the UU-UNO Blue Ribbon, **over the weekend of March 15-16, 2014**, we will be welcoming Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO) Director Bruce Knotts. To learn about this recognition, [click here](#).

On **Saturday, March 15, 2014**, we will be hosting a reception for him, and he will give our sermon on Sunday. You are invited to join us at the reception, and if you would like to volunteer in helping to make this event happen, or to bring food for the reception, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Christine Farrell.

Adult Religious Education



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

Monday, February 3 , 7:30 to 9pm

Our congregation was chosen to field test this new adult RE curriculum. Developed by the UUA, it is designed to create a deeper understanding of attitudes and actions relating to money within the context of UU values. The class is comprised of twelve weekly workshops. Register and questions: Todd Hess and Frances Pardee, leaders.

Rise Up and Call Her Name

Mondays, February 3 through May 12, 2014

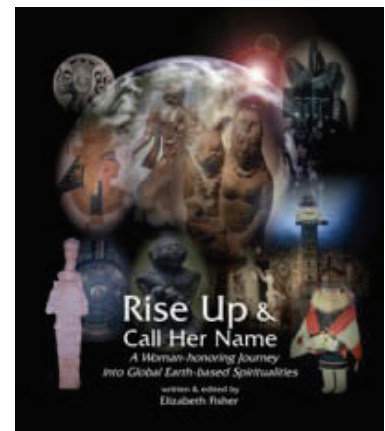
7 to 9:30pm

(skip February 17 and April 14)

This 13-week class explores women's spiritualities around the world through art, music, dance, journaling, group discussion and personal reflection.

\$25 for the sourcebook.

Register and questions: Robin Lindsey or Christine Blasman



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 February 24, 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.



"Deportations & Racism: Recent Changes in Deportation Policy and Practice"

Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Santa Monica

Sunday, February 2, 2014, 1pm

Tanya Golash-Boza, Associate Professor of Sociology at UC Merced, will describe how the number of detentions and deportations of undocumented workers have increased dramatically under Presidents Bush and Obama. Contact Gordon Clint, or call Peggy Rhoads at 310-254-5267



Hey CVUUF,
I need your help to document the Year of Compassion. Instead of conducting "talking head" interviews, I plan to "crowdsource" this year's video to all congregants with a camera. I hear that some people even have a camera on their phone! Take a moment before, after or during your CVUUF event to capture some compassion. Be creative. There are no rules. Or...catch some compassion in action in your everyday life. It can be staged or candid, funny or touching. It just has to be short - 10 seconds max. This gives you an excuse to attempt Random Acts of Kindness. Send me photos as well. Deadline is April 15th. Questions? Contact me.
Thanks! - Casey Dake

Are you a caring adult, who is interested in supporting a child or teen in need? Are you someone who believes that our community is only as strong as our most vulnerable members? If so, Casa Pacifica and Ventura County need you!

Casa Pacifica Centers for Children & Families seeks people with open hearts to open their homes and work with a challenged youth who desperately needs a positive support system in their life!



- Intensive Treatment Foster Care is designed to professionally train specialized foster parents to succeed in serving as a bridge for kids –
- We provide you with a support system that ensures the success of your role as a Foster Parent.
- Casa Pacifica's Foster Care Program is designed to give you state-of-the-art knowledge and training that is seamlessly translated into every aspect of life as a foster parent.
- It is our goal to partner with Human Services Agency to reduce the number of children living in congregate care within Ventura County... will you help us in that goal?

Contact Casa Pacifica Foster Family Agency at (805) 366-4355 or www.casapacifica.org

BETWEEN TWO SAINTS

(Valentine & Patrick)

MERLIN SNIDER
& Pretty Good Acquaintances

SATURDAY MARCH 1, 7:30PM

Also Appearing
HONEYSUCKLE POSSUMS

AN ALL WOMEN OLD TIME FIDDLING,
MOUNTAIN MUSIC, CELTIC, BLUEGRASS BAND



Conejo Valley Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
3327 Old Conejo Road
Newbury Park, CA 91320
805-492-8751

www.cvuuf.org
Merlinsing@mac.com

Suggested Donation \$18.00

poster by Michael Pittas



www.merlinsnider.com

A Joyful Celebration!



Please join us to celebrate Joy Alsadek's presence among us. You are invited to participate in a ritual to acknowledge Joy's gifts to us these past fourteen years. Please bring a 5-inch unwashed cotton quilt square that will be lovingly crafted into a quilt for Joy by our Fellowship quilters (contact Andy Pletcher with quilting questions).

Please also bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner to be held afterwards.

Saturday February 15th, 4pm
Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
3331 Old Conejo Road Newbury Park, CA 91320
For more information contact Dana Ryon

Thank You!

Thank you for participating in the recent Community Forum survey.

We were pleased with the response....approximately 30% of you participated.

Overall, the diversity of the events seems to be appreciated.

From your feedback we will be presenting Forum programs on different nights of the week to see if that works better (though the vast majority of you do prefer weekends.)

We are working to create a good balance of important justice issues and topics that are lighter in tone.

What you had to say is important to us.

In Fellowship,

The CVUUF Board and Community Forum

CVUUF Hikers

Solstice Canyon

February 22, 2014

8:30am ~ 2:30pm

Easy to moderate hike. New carpool location: Westlake Village, off Westlake Blvd. near Townsgate (next to the Bank America and the Mobil station). Bring 1.5 liter of water or more and your lunch/snacks. RSVP to Pete Hauger so he will know who is meeting at the carpool site.

CROP Walk

March 2, 2014

noon

Starts at CLU and it is totally concrete. Anyone can walk out their door and breathe the exhaust, so why do it in a group? To be a part of a larger ideal, helping the less fortunate. (A donation is required for this walk.) More details to come. Contact is Pete Hauger.

Now on the First Monday of Each Month

Quilters & Crafters

Monday, February 3, 7pm



We have a very special project to work on! (see page 12)
Come, learn the details. RSVP with Andy Pletcher or Liza Diniakos.



February 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
			7:30pm» Transitions Group 7pm» Pledge Captain's meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group	9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10:30am» Writing to Prisoners in Solitary 11am» Parent Support Group 11am» Worship Service 12:30pm» Membership Committee meeting 2pm» Gaming Afternoon 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	6:30pm» Finance Committee 7pm» Adult RE: Rise Up & Call Her Name 7pm» Adult RE: Wi\$dom Path 7pm» CVUUF Quilters & Crafters	6pm» Feeding Hands 7:30pm» Worship Committee 7:30pm» Community Forum Planning Committee	12pm» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 6:30pm» Chalice Circle1W 7:15pm» Transitions Group 7:30pm» Meditation Group	9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	2:30pm» Emerald Covenant Group 7pm» Movie Group
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 11am» Worship Service 11am» Parent Support Group 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	7pm» Women's Evening Group 7:15pm» Chalice Circle2M 7pm» Adult RE: Rise Up & Call Her Name 7pm» Adult RE: Wi\$dom Path	9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» CVUUF Board of Trustees meeting	12pm» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 7pm» Chalice Circle2W 7:30pm» Meditation Group	12:30pm» Chalice Circle2Th 7pm» Sapphire covenant group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours	4pm» A Joyful Celebration
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10:30am» Writing to Prisoners in Solitary 11am» Parenting Teens Support Group 11am» Worship Service 12:15pm» Adult RE: Living Compassionately 5pm» Movie Group 3 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting 6pm» NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	7pm» Adult RE: Rise Up & Call Her Name 7pm» Adult RE: Wi\$dom Path	7pm» Music Ministry meeting 7pm» Chalice Circle3Tu	12pm» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 7:30pm» CVUUF Council meeting 7:30pm» Meditation Group	7am» Opal Covenant Group 9:45am» Jonquil Group 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	9am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 10am» Quilting for Joy 6pm» Leadership Retreat	9am» Leadership Retreat 7:30pm» Community Forum
23	24	25	26	27	28	
9:15am» Worship Service 10am» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 11am» Parent Support Group 11am» Worship Service 12:15pm» Dharma Workshop 1pm» Quilting for Joy 5pm» Mindful Eating 5pm» Newcomer AA Meeting	7pm» Women's Evening Group 7pm» Adult RE: Rise Up & Call Her Name 7pm» Adult RE: Wi\$dom Path	9:45am» Gardenia Group 7pm» Chalice Circle4Tu	12pm» CVUUF Office Administrator hours 7:30pm» Meditation Group	7pm» Facilitators Chalice Circle 7:30pm» Choir Rehearsal	4pm» Chalice Circle4F 7:30pm» Movie Group1	

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!