



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

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News & Notes

Email: newsandnotes@cvuuf.org

Weekly

e-Announcements

Fill out form at: cvuuf.org/news/announcereq

Online Calendar

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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 April, we are studying the eighth step: "How Should We Speak to One Another?"

April 6 — How Should We Speak to One Another? — Rev. Lora Brandis

— Our faith is guided by a set of ethical principles sustained by wisdom found in a variety of sources that religious people throughout the ages have turned to for practical steps in order to live with integrity. As members of this Fellowship we covenant to speak honestly and directly to someone with whom we disagree or have a concern. We assume good intentions and use compassionate language in our exchanges with each other. Sometimes we fall short, knowing that we can be called back into covenant to continue to learn how we should and can speak to one another.

April 13 — How Should We Listen to One Another? — Rev. Lora Brandis

— We usually think of listening as something passive. We want to act, to listen and to offer advice or argue our position. Listening is a different kind of "doing" where we offer our presence as a gift freely given. True listening means that we listen with our entire beings to not just the words being spoken, but also to the way the words are said, to what is underneath the words. Listening well we learn to trust that our presence is enough; our focused attention does make a difference. **Fellowship Sweetheart will be announced today.**

April 18 — 7pm, Good Friday Service — Every day we all participate in tiny betrayals that draw us toward darkness. Join us as we mourn together the betrayal bound up in the ancient Christian ritual. Ritual can hold the emotions too big for our bodies to contain. This ritual each year, reminds us how to sit with our despair until hope arrives. Special music by a women's ensemble conducted by Tom Powers.

April 20 — What Would Jesus Say? — Rev. Lora Brandis — Reza Aslan's *Zealot*: *The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth* sparked a controversy when it was published because its author proposed that Jesus was one of many in a long line of zealots who led uprisings, many violent, against the power of Rome. Also, a Fox News correspondent questioned the author's right (Aslan is an Iranian-American Muslim) to tell the story. Rather than asking "what would Jesus do" this Easter Sunday, we'll ask "what would Jesus say" and how answering this question helps us understand how we should speak to one another. **Please bring a flower to church for the celebration of our annual Flower Communion.**

April 27 — The Ocean-Cradle of Life and Death — The Chalice Players — Chalice Players will present a dramatic piece on how we communicate in life about death. First from the patient's side, we will discuss the stages of a Christian concept of living and dying from Elisabeth Kubler-Ross's writings. Secondly, we will hear from a Hospice volunteer about people of other religious affiliations who dwell within our ocean cradle. And third, we will end with a UU minister and those who advocate an end to life with compassionate choices. The music of the great bard Pete Seeger, who died in February, will be honored in the service.

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

Spirit of my longing and lonely heart, help me travel through the barren borderlands that separate me from others. Teach me to willingly explore relationships with those who frighten or threaten me, grant me the courage to risk confidently my own comforts, that I might make others more comfortable. And when I am burdened by the isolating choices I have made, grant me the wisdom to invite a stranger to travel with me. — Stephen Shick

The day before I left to serve as the chaplain for the Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry trip to the border someone said something that hurt my feelings. It cut to the core of who I believe myself to be as a spiritually courageous person seeking to transform the world through justice and compassion. I chose to ignore the remark and focused on preparing to serve the ten people I would accompany through the barren borderlands. I chose to leave behind my “first world problem” in order to cross a border that not only separates me from others, but divides families and challenges basic human rights.

The trip started the next day with a carpool of six of us from four different UU congregations. Maria Ornelas drove us in her van to Chula Vista where we met Mar Cardenas Loutzenhiser, our hostess for the next four days, other members of the trip and two representatives from Border Angels. We boarded the trolley for the border and walked easily across into Tijuana. Our first stop that day was the drop off point for deportees. Unable to see where the buses drop off on the United States side, all we could see was a bridge, a guard and an empty promise from the Mexican government to help deportees when they arrive. No one was arriving while we were there, but we were told that the buses can arrive any time, even in the middle of the night. Deportees file past a newly placed temporary building plastered with signs declaring that help is here. Peering inside we saw unused office furniture and equipment waiting for staff to arrive. So far, the Mexican government has not provided staff to fill the building with much needed social services.

Instead, returning deportees find help from shelters, Catholic charities and the Border Angels who make frequent trips to the border with donations. The women we met that day had traveled from Salt Lake City with a carload of donations to give to Casa Refugio Micaela, a shelter that houses migrating men. That was our second stop. During our trip we visited with the women of a Colonia, another men’s shelter, the Ollin Calli collective that opposes exploitation of workers in the maquiladores and an orphanage. We also volunteered in the garden at the border wall and helped to serve breakfast for about 1,200 souls at the Desayunador Salesiano Padre Chava. We also met more than 60 families and LGBT activists preparing to cross the border in an act of civil disobedience. Afterwards we participated in a binational communion service in Friendship Park. The four days were richly intense and filled with blessings.

Returning home to my “first world problems” I was reminded that we humans have a tendency to compare ourselves to each other. How can I feel badly about my one small life when there is so much suffering? Shouldn’t I feel guilty about the ease with which I can cross the border? Perhaps. Perhaps it would be better to find out what I can do to ease another’s suffering, to be willing to explore relationships with those who frighten or threaten me and to be willing to risk confidently my own comforts. “Spirit of my longing and lonely heart, help me travel through the barren borderlands that separate me from others.”

Lora

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

President's Message



Last month I shared that our Board of Trustees is working to develop a three year strategic plan. Prior annual strategic plans have been of great help for setting direction, focusing resources, and promoting teamwork. Our intention now is to extend the horizon of our vision for the congregation's journey forward.

One of the luminaries in UU leadership development, Rev. Renee Ruchotzke, posted a pertinent perspective on strategic planning at the "Growing Vital Leaders" blog.

How many of us knew exactly who or what we wanted to be when we "grew up?" Instead, many of us made choices that led us in a certain direction. As we started down a particular path, our choices helped us to discern where our path might lead us next, and so on. We may have encountered an unexpected obstacle....or a surprising opportunity that sent us in a different direction. The economy might have changed to eliminate a career choice or technology may have shifted to create a new one.

For decades churches (following the example of the business world) used a "long range planning" method of planning for the future. This method involved used current trends, extrapolating them to forecast future growth. This method would enable congregations to plan for building expansions and additional staff. This was a great model for the 1950's and 1960's when growth was relatively stable. But times have changed. And most folks in congregational leadership know that the religious landscape has really changed. In response, many organizations started thinking about planning for the future using an ongoing strategy and using that strategy to make decisions. One major result was that — in a "strategic plan" — adding staff or improving/enlarging the church campus became means (instead of ends) of following the visionary goals set forth in a strategy: "We want to transform our members through deep faith development. Let's hire a full time professional religious educator." "We want to be able to provide emergency shelter for our community's homeless population. Let's be sure to include showers and a commercial kitchen as part of our new fellowship space."

When your congregation's leadership decides to be intentional about strategic growth, they can't possibly predict what the congregation will look like in 5 or 10 years. However, your leaders can set the direction and help to foster a system of discernment that will guide decision-making and the allocation of resources. (Of course, in order to do this, the membership as a whole must first develop a shared understanding of your core values and a shared vision of what you aspire the congregation to become.)

You can't predict all of the possibilities that you'll have in your future. But you can articulate and create clarity around your shared values so that you will be ready when you encounter those opportunities which resonate with the heartstrings of your congregation.

Our Board is striving to follow the path Rev. Renee Ruchotzke has articulated. Your voice and input is vital to the process.

See you on Sunday!

Willie, president@cvuuf.org

No, it's not Valentines Day...
but it's never too late to announce our
2014 Fellowship Sweetheart!
Please come to Service on
April 13, 2014 to
celebrate this special
recognition.





Justine Fischer,
Director of
Religious
Education
(DRE)



April Birthdays

Lucas Cho
Miller,
Draven
Lopez,
Grant
Schlaus,
Aidan
Stough &
Julie Zavala.

News From Religious Education

APRIL RE

Pre K- Middle school meets during the first service and YRUU (high school) meets during the second service. Child Space is available for our smallest ones at both services .

- April 6 – “How Should We Speak to One Another?”
Overview
- April 13 – Susan B. Anthony – a voice for justice, equity and compassion
- April 20 - Inherent Worth and Dignity
- April 27 - Prophetic Deeds of Women and Men

RE OPEN HOUSE

Ever wonder what happens in RE? Come visit the classrooms, see projects and learn about the program. On this day, we will be painting old LP's. Come see the art and share in conversation.

KUDOS

...to all the participants in the annual youth service

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 20.**

COMMUNITY BUILDING—Join us monthly to 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: April 26 ***Día de los Niños***, May 31, and June 28.

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

*Yours in faith,
Justine*

Adult Religious Education

Living Compassionately

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

Rev. Lora and Justine 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.

ANNUAL MIXTECO / INDIGENOUS CONFERENCE 2014

SAVE THE DATE!



Photo taken by David Bacon

We invite you to learn more about Ventura County's indigenous immigrant community of 20,000 individuals. Our one-day conference will feature indigenous farm workers describing their work and daily lives, with seminars on:

- Providing health services to the indigenous community
- Working with interpreters
- Mixtec birth practices
- The indigenous community and the law
- Mixtec women's lives and philosophy

For more information
Call MICOP's office (805) 483-1166
www.mixteco.org
arcenio.lopez@mixteco.org

Event Co-sponsored by:



APRIL 25TH, 2014

8:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

OXNARD COLLEGE

4000 SOUTH ROSE AVE OXNARD CA, 93033

**Registration Fee is \$75: Includes continental breakfast, traditional Oaxacan lunch and conference materials*

News From Our Outreach Director



There is much to report from the Outreach area this month !

Our **Feeding Hands** team is always looking for people to join them – especially at-home cooks. The need for the food we prepare and serve sadly has been growing. We are so pleased we are able to help. Any questions on how to participate, contact Phoebe Rivera or Anne Ewell.

Community Forum will be taking a hiatus. Matthew and I would like to thank our extraordinary CF team who has been so dedicated the past (almost) 6 years for all your hard work. We are assessing where we are and looking at the direction it will take in the future. Stand by for much more information on new developments as they come up. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with either of us.

We are excited to announce a brand new ongoing poetry and music program called **Muses**. In partnership with Bobbi Rudin, we will present quarterly poetry readings accompanied by some musical performances. Poets and other performers will have the opportunity to sign up for a spot and share their art and passion. For those who have been asking over the past few years “what about events in the daytime?” – your time has come. These will be Saturdays at 3:00pm. Mark your calendars for our launch on June 7th.

We are looking at launching two more social action groups. The first will be a **Climate Action Group**. I have taken names already for people interested in participating and will be contacting them shortly. The second would be starting a local chapter of **Moms Demand Action**, a nationwide organization of moms, dads and any interested party who thinks it is time to truly address the issue of gun violence and the gun culture in America. If you want to get involved in either, please let me know. My email address is outreachdirector@cvuuf.org.

Finally, big thanks to Christine Farrell-Espe, Carol Robinson and Monika del Bosque for coordinating our special reception with Bruce Knotts, the director of the UU-United Nations Office.

Please Welcome Our New Administrator



Jessica Lesko is a lifelong Presbyterian. If she looks familiar, it might be that you saw her as one of the expert witnesses in 8. Jessica also has another way that she is connected with us, she and Justine went to high school together! You'll find Jessica at the fellowship from 9am to 1pm on Wednesdays and Fridays, and on the 2nd and 4th Sundays from 10am to 2pm.

Jessica can be reached at the church 805-492-8751 or admin@cvuuf.org.



Community Forum

Saturday, April 12, 2014, 7:30pm

CLIMATE CHANGE: A Moral and Spiritual Imperative



Climate Change activist **Sharon Markenson** will share what each of us can do to help save the planet: "there is much more than most of us realize".

A participant in Al Gore's Climate Reality Leadership Training, Markenson will speak in detail on:

- up-to-date climate science;
- recent extreme climate events;
- natural & human systems affected by global warming and the political, social, economic fallout of these conditions.

Markenson will lead a discussion following her talk.

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>



PSWD District Assembly

April 25-26, 2014

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego
4190 Front Street, San Diego

The Pacific Southwest District and Camp de Benneville Pines welcome you to their combined annual meetings--aka District Assembly. We're throwing a party – and you'll want to make sure your name is on the list.

The Friday night keynote will be truly inspirational. Rev. Meg Riley, minister of the Church of the Larger Fellowship, will present “21st Century Faith: To Infinity And Beyond!!! “

Attendees can choose from 17 workshops as well as plenty of worship and celebration. Save the dates and check the [PSWD website](#) for more information.

If you are interested in sharing rides, contact ADR Don Cooper.



Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth

Earth Day 2013–15: Working Towards Sustainable Communities

Photos (left to right): Flickr/CC: Lvidmar, Powershift West 2009. Miami-Dade County, FL. Flickr/CC: Corey Templeton, Maine Farmers Market; kinikkin reims, Salmon Habitat; Whirlekid, Where's the Dressin?

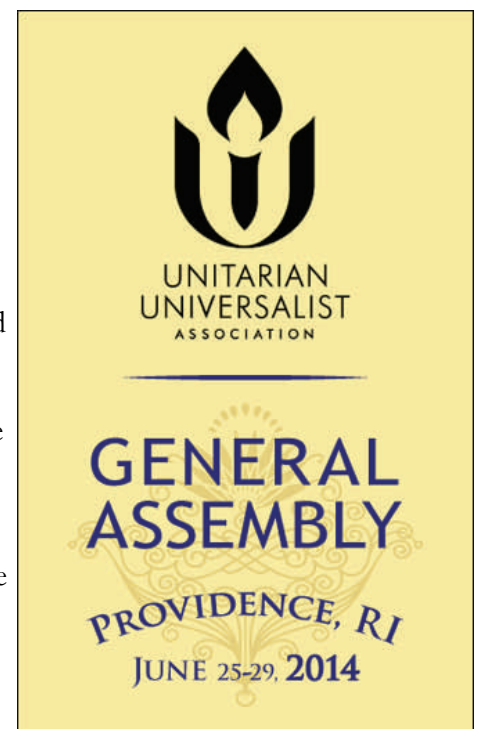
For Earth Day 2014, UUMFE is inviting congregations to connect to one or more issues that relate to realizing economically, environmentally and socially sustainable communities.

GA 2014: *Love Reaches Out*

Our association's General Assembly this year is in Providence, Rhode Island June 25-29.

In addition to the usual events, this year Reverend Lora will be among those recognized as newly fellowshipped clergy during the Service of the Living Tradition.

Registration and reservations in the on-site hotel are now open, so this is the time to make plans. Details are available on the [UUA website](#).



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, we hope you will support the following programs.

DETAINEE VISITATION

Adelanto Detention Facility

Friday April 11, 2014, 8:15am

Monday April 21, 2014, 8:15am

Contact: Gordon Clint or 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.

The Truth About Solitary

Shelter Rock: The Truth about Solitary

[Below is an excerpt from news coverage of an event held March 25 at the UU congregation in Manhasset, NY. For the full story, [click here.](#)]

"The [panel] event marked the start of the [congregation's] [Shelter Rock's] plans to travel to Albany in May to lobby state legislators to pass the Humane Alternatives to Long-Term Solitary Confinement Act, which would limit the number of consecutive days in which prisoners in New York could spend in solitary confinement.

According to the New York Civil Liberties Union, approximately 4,500 prisoners across the state live in solitary confinement.

Under the [proposed] legislation, prisoners could spend no more than 15 consecutive days in solitary confinement, or 20 total days within a 60-day period. Prisoners would also be placed into therapeutic programs to help rehabilitate them into society."

APRIL 5th NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

nearby events

San Fernando Valley

Saturday, April 5,
9am—Banner Holding
(405 Fwy & Burbank Blvd.)

10:30am—Press Conference
Van Nuys Government Center
6262 Van Nuys Blvd. Van Nuys, CA

Los Angeles

Saturday, April 5, noon to 2pm
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA

LET'S CARPOOL! Contact Liza Diniakos

California organizations include:

National Day Laborers Network
California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance
Los Angeles and Inland Empire Immigrant
Youth Coalitions
Orange County and Antelope Valley Dream
Teams
Pasadena Job Center
Dream Team Los Angeles
CLEAN Car Wash Campaign
San Bernardino Community Services Alerta
Cali
Centro de Asistencia al Inmigrante
El Faro, the border church

TWO MILLION, TOO MANY!
JOIN US APRIL 5TH AS WE DEMAND THAT OBAMA SUSPEND ALL DEPORTATIONS

CALIFORNIA SAYS:
*NO POLICE
&
ICE COLLABORATION
*STOP ALL DEPORTATIONS
*DEFERRED ACTION FOR ALL
#CIYJA

#NOT1MORE
DEPORTATION

**STOP
DEPORTATIONS**

APRIL 5th DAY OF ACTION

bit.ly/april5n1m
THERE'S STILL TIME TO TURN AROUND.
STOP BEFORE YOU REACH 2 MILLION.
#2Million2Many

facebook.com/NDLON · twitter.com/NDLON · #not1more



[This letter can be found on the [Standing on the Side of Love blog](#), "Two Million is Too Many", March 26, 2014.]

Dear Friends,

It has been clear for a long time that our nation's immigration system is broken and unjust. I am proud of how Unitarian Universalists have put our faith and values into action by standing on the side of love with immigrant rights organizations and communities. Our Justice General Assembly in Phoenix in 2012 was a prominent example of our commitment to the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

But years of advocacy and activism have not resulted in immigration reform. In fact, since 2008, more than two million people have been deported from the U.S. That's more than 1,000 people every day. And still Congress does nothing.

To address this ongoing tragedy, our partners at the National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) are holding a [National Day of Action on April 5th](#) for groups across the country to tell President Obama that after two million deportations, it is past time for executive action to stop the deportations. We will urge the President to grant deferred action as he did for the "Dreamers," the children brought to this country by their parents seeking a better way of life for their families. Congressional inaction makes this executive action absolutely necessary.

Four years ago, I initiated an [interfaith letter](#) calling on the President to suspend the Immigration Custom and Enforcement Secure Communities Program that has created a devastating mass detention and deportation system in this country. I asked Maria Hinojosa, producer of the Frontline film *Lost in Detention*, to speak as our [Justice GA Ware Lecturer](#). I have consistently urged administrative relief for our migrant communities, while continuing to press Congress for compassionate immigration reform. While we wait for the Congress to create a framework for immigration reform, it only makes sense to provide relief from deportations for those who would be included in an immigration reform bill.

I hope that you will respond to NDLON's call to action. Please visit NDLON's [#Not1More website](#) to find an April 5th action near you [or see p. 10] or to add your own action to the map. And I urge you to sign the [Petition to President Obama](#).

On April 4th, I will be speaking at the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO) Spring Conference for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We know that we are one human family. Indigenous communities on the border often say, "We didn't cross the border, it crossed us." They too are suffering from our broken immigration system. I will ask people at the conference to observe the April 5th National Day of Action and to sign the petition. Two million deportations is a sad milestone. Two million is too many.

**Love has no borders. Love keeps families together.
Love respects the inherent worth and dignity of all people.**

In faith,

The Reverend Peter Morales, President, Unitarian Universalist Association



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

First Monday of Each Month

Quilters & Crafters

Monday, April 7, 7pm

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



UU COUPLES RETREAT

VENTURABEACH
MARRIOTT

Friday Evening, October 10 -
Sunday, October 12, 2014

This Fall, Rev. David Pyle will facilitate a UU Couples Retreat at the beautiful Marriott Hotel in Ventura Beach. Designed to examine, enrich and strengthen healthy committed relationships with our Unitarian Universalist values, it is offered to same-sex, opposite-sex, married and unmarried committed couples. It promises to be an inspiring weekend.

The cost is \$450 per couple, which includes two breakfasts and lunch. We trust that you will find romantic dinners on your own at one of many excellent restaurants nearby. A deposit of \$100 is due on or by May 1st with the remainder due by Aug. 1st.

For more information or to sign up, contact the Spiritual Growth Coordinator of the UU Church of Ventura, Celia Ortenberg at 984-8089 or ortenbc@gmail.com, or sign in at the Spiritual Growth Bulletin Board in Berg Hall.



April 2014



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

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

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Justine Fischer, Director of Religious Education, dre@cvuuf.org
Pam Van Uden, Religious Education Administrator
Robin Swenson, Choir Director, choirdirector@cvuuf.org
Jessica Lesko, 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!