

# Coming Home

*The Newsletter of the Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists*  
VOLUME 22, ISSUE 11

*We are a religiously liberal, welcoming community, united in a responsible search for knowledge and spiritual growth. Bound by no dogma or creed, Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists value and promote peace, liberty, social justice, and environmental sustainability through personal, community, and global action.*

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In this issue...

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## Sunday Services

all services begin at 10am

**November 6:** "This I Believe": When I Say "God"—Tara Hawkins

**Children's Program:** Inner Peace, UU Principle 3

**November 13:** The Power of Play – Maureen Killila

**Children's Program:** TBA

**November 20:** Community: Bridging Differences – Lorien Belton

**Children's Program:** Teachers and Learners, UU Principle 4

**November 27:** TBA – Emily James

**Children's Program:** TBA

Join us for Sunday Services at  
**The Jay & Leslie Black Fellowship House**  
596 E 900 North, Logan, UT  
(435) 755-2888  
[info@cvuu.org](mailto:info@cvuu.org)



Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists is a [Welcoming Congregation](#)  
Visit the [cvuu.org website](http://cvuu.org) to learn more about our church community!



*Julianne & Tara*

## Tara's Corner

### "Giving Thanks"

I don't think it's an accident that we set aside time to give thanks in November. The harvest of the year is in. We can spend a moment reflecting on what we've gone through and be grateful to add that experience to our lives.

We tend to categorize our experiences: this one is good, that one is bad. A raise, a new baby, time with loved ones - good. Injury, a lost job, death - bad. According to these classifications, I've had a rotten year.

However, if I refuse to categorize my experience, and simply reflect on my growth as a person, I did well this year. I stepped out of my comfort zone and made space in my life for new things, new challenges, new people. I am grateful for the opportunity to dream new dreams.

The chill of winter is here. Let's take some time to hibernate now so we can blossom in the spring.



*Tara Hawkins, Lay Leader*



CVUU Board President,  
Dave Christian

## President's Page

### "UUs Need a Revival"

If you are a trend-watcher, you've seen the numerous media references to the decline of organized religion in the US. According to the Pew Trust, the "nones" (those identifying with no religious group) are the fastest growing non/religious group in the U.S. This, of course, corresponds with a general decline in religious participation nationwide.

One might assume that this would be a booming opportunity for Unitarian Universalists (UUs), given that the biggest minority of UUs are secular humanists (45%) and many of the rest are refugees from other religions. But sadly, UUs are declining too! We've lost 10% since 2008 (<http://www.uua.org/directory/data/demographics/uua-statistics>).

UUs need a revival. I'm not talking about tent meetings, halleluiahs and pulpit pounding. UUs don't go in for spiritual theatrics. But they'd better figure out what they do resonate with because they are declining right along with their more pious sister denominations.

Any clues as to how to save ourselves? Take a look at those membership stats. UUs hit their zenith in about 1968. We had 30% more members + Religious Education enrollment than today! What was going on? I believe that outrage over civil rights and the Vietnam War probably fueled the UU hey-day.

If UUs can revive themselves, they will need a fire in their belly. What will it be? We are hoping our Next Steps weekend (Nov 4-6) will help us generate ideas. If you cannot participate, share your ideas with those who will. Send me your thoughts: [dchristian999@gmail.com](mailto:dchristian999@gmail.com). Halleluiah!



*Dave Christian, CVUU Board President*

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#### Board of Trustees

Dave Christian  
*Board President*

Jay Black  
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Tara Hawkins  
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#### Program Staff

Julianne Larsen  
*Children's Program Coordinator*

Rowan Ferré  
*Childcare & Children's Program  
Assistant*

Lyndi Perry  
*Sunday Music Coordinator*

# In Our Thoughts



- ❖ Kim Sullivan, Bruce Pendery, Ian and Robyn Pendery and their family on the death of Cora Sullivan
  - ❖ Friends, members, and their families mourning the loss of loved ones
  - ❖ Friends, members, and their families struggling with physical or mental illness and other life struggles
  - ❖ *We hold in our hearts all of those around the world in harm's way*
- 

## On strength...

*"No one saves us but ourselves. No one can and no one may. We ourselves must walk the path."* - Buddha

*"Life is very interesting... in the end, some of your greatest pains, become your greatest strengths."*

- Drew Barrymore

*"Nobody can hurt me without my permission."* - Mahatma Gandhi

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# Upcoming Events



**November 5-6:**

**SPECIAL EVENT!**

**All Members and Friends of CVUU are invited to participate**

## **November 5 & 6! NEXT Steps Weekend Visit**

On Saturday afternoon **November 5**, CVUU will be conducting two workshops on *Goals and Priorities for the CVUU Congregation*. This is a key part of our Next Steps Weekend with UUA paid consultant Kay Crider. We would like every member and friend of CVUU to **plan to come to one of two 90-minute sessions: either 1:00- 2:30 pm or 3:00- 4:30pm.**

After the service on **Sunday November 6**, Ms. Crider will give about a 90 minute report/presentation on her **findings and recommendations**. Plan on staying until 1:00pm and sharing finger food and some thoughts about CVUU's future. Childcare will be provided for both events. See ya'll there!



*Chris Lant, CVUU Board Member*



## November 5: Come Back Home! CVUU Fall Potluck

CVUU wants you to come back to the church for an evening of fun and memories! Please join us to connect and reconnect - with friends who remember you and with some new friends too.

### Saturday November 5, at 6 pm

(gather at 6, dinner at 6:30)

The Jay & Leslie Black Fellowship House (CVUU)

596 East, 900 North, Logan

P.S. This is NOT about fundraising or anything other than connecting and reconnecting - come have some fun!



Mingle, eat, drink & be merry!



Bring your favorite dish to share and pass the word on in case some don't check their email

Please let Sandy know as soon as possible if you will be attending. Thanks!

[s\\_charlson@hotmail.com](mailto:s_charlson@hotmail.com)



## November 12: Save the date! Cache Valley Community Alternative Gift Market: A Community Tradition

9 am – 2pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 200 West Center. Lunch will be available.

We need your help with table sponsorship, music at the event and advertising before the date. If you would like more information please see <http://www.altgifts.org/> or if you would like to volunteer to help contact Jenny Norton at 435-757-9660 or email [jeanettemarienorton@gmail.com](mailto:jeanettemarienorton@gmail.com)

Please download and print the [Cache Valley Community ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET.pdf](#) and spread the word!

### Why?

Give in honor of a friend or relative, an alternative gift of food, medicine, livestock, or education.

❖ Gifts will be sent to areas with great needs around the world and here at home

❖ When you purchase an alternative gift, you will receive beautiful gift cards with informational inserts describing your gift

### Through your actions ...



the hungry eat



children learn



slaves are freed



newborns have a healthy start



expectant moms survive childbirth



the sick receive medical care



trees are planted



small businesses are launched



- ❖ Your gifts of peace and compassion *will* change the world! These alternative gifts are life-saving gifts of hope
- ❖ Your gifts empowers the poorest of the poor on our planet to sustain life and to build a future for subsequent generations

When people share with their world neighbors; a more peaceful, equitable global community can flourish.

If you cannot make it on Saturday, we will also take orders and have catalogs and some cards available at:

*Cache Valley Unitarian Universalist*  
 Sunday, November 13 and December 4<sup>th</sup>  
 11:30am-12:30pm  
 596 East 900 North, Logan, UT

*Global Villages Gifts*  
 69 East 100 North, Logan, UT



Various community groups staff tables at the 2015 Alternative Gift Market - photo credits: Jenny Norton



**Saturday November 12: Next Leaf Cleanup: YOU are invited to participate in a CVUU Yard Activity - 10 am. until noon**

Help rake leaves for the final yard clean-up of the season. Join us for a fun social activity. Kids are welcome. Bring gloves and rakes.

Questions? Contact Jean at 435-760-2392 or [jean.lown@usu.edu](mailto:jean.lown@usu.edu)

- **Sunday November 13:** In addition to the Saturday leaf raking event, there will be a **Final yard party** of the year Sunday November 13 after the service at CVUU. Informal attire!
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## Announcements



**Youth Coming of Age Program:** Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists will be offering a [Coming of Age Program](#) this winter through spring for youth grades 7-9. We need 3-4 facilitators to teach this scripted program. Facilitators will meet with youth 1-2 times per month and attend 2 overnight retreats (1 in late fall/early winter and 1 at the program's end in the spring). An informational meeting will be held in the next couple of weeks. For an overview of the *Coming of Age Program* [read more here...](#)

As a Cache Valley native, parent of a youth, and facilitator of this program for 2 cohorts of youth – I cannot express enough how invaluable and transformative this program is for the youth who participate. We all need community and as youth grow into their changing roles in society, they need the support, guidance, and friendship of compassionate community members.

Facilitators need not be UU members, though an alignment with UU values and guiding principles is important. If you or someone you know is interested in being a facilitator for this youth experience, please contact Leah:

**Contact Leah Hazlett** at 435-890-3315 or [l.hazlett@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:l.hazlett@aggiemail.usu.edu)



**Parked IN:** The two driveways at CVUU can hold more vehicles if some of us are willing to be "parked in" by people arriving after us. You can signal your willingness to be "parked in" by pulling far forward, and then affixing a yellow flag-rag to your back window using the associated suction cup.

The flag-rags are tied to the bannister on the south driveway and tied to the juniper skeleton in the north driveway. Don't forget to return the flag-rag to the bannister or juniper for the next user.

Those persons parking behind others can help by being alert for drivers trying to exit after the service." - Susanne Janecke



**Leaf Cleanup: Our Lovely Fall Yard!** (see Next Leaf Cleanup information on page 6/7)

Thanks to Robert Schmidt for encouraging the CYRC youth to help with leaf cleanup. It was a delightful surprise to find the yard almost leaf-free the Friday evening before Cora Sullivan's memorial service.

What LOTS more fun than going to the gym? Enjoying our delightful fall weather with an outdoor workout in the lovely CVUU yard! Rakes, broom, and other equipment are out in back ready for your workout! Stop by and get acquainted with our lovely yard.

Thanks to Susanne Janecke & Jim Evans for loaning their lightweight fabric “barrels.” Having the light weight barrels for transporting the leaves is SO much easier than raking leaves the length of the yard.

- Rake leaves into a pile and scoop them up with the super snow shovel into the barrels
- Back yard: deposit leaves into the border along the south and west fence
- Front yard: pile leaves on the grass parking strip (NOT under trees) so the city can siphon them up in late November to make compost

With the leaves hanging on longer each year, we will need help well into mid-November.



**Singing Group for Winter Solstice/Holiday Season:** Hello CVUUsers! I have heard some interest in putting together a singing group for the Winter Solstice/Holiday season. If you are interested in participating please send me an email or call or text as soon as possible.

If anyone wants to participate in helping set this up and selecting songs make sure to mention that when you contact me. Thanks so much, and looking forward to being part of the winter traditions here!

Contact Lyndi Perry at 435-237-9489 or [lyndiperry@gmail.com](mailto:lyndiperry@gmail.com)



**Snow Removal at CVUU:** Help needed. Please pitch in to help with snow removal this winter (and not just on Sundays)! Thanks to Bruce Pendery for using his snow blower to clear the drives and sidewalks of snow but he needs help. When there is less than 3” of snow, snow shovels are more effective.

- Avoid parking on the snow in driveways as it packs down and contributes to ice build-up
- Please shovel a space for your vehicle **before** parking in the driveways
- Sidewalks get a lot of foot traffic (especially during the week) which quickly packs the snow down to ice – please help keep walks shoveled
- Snow melt, sand, and shovels are located near the outdoor trash/recycling bins



### **Financial Advice for CVUU Community**

CVUU member Dr. Jean Lown provides financial advice on a sliding scale basis to the CVUU community in exchange for a donation to CVUU.

Jean recently retired from teaching personal finance, investing, retirement and estate planning at USU and the Financial Planning for Women (FPW) seminars.

Jean provides advice on financial concerns ranging from budget and credit problems to investment asset allocation, college and retirement planning.

The standard rate is \$75/hour with reduced rates based on income.

Contact Jean at 435-760-2392 or [jean.lown@usu.edu](mailto:jean.lown@usu.edu)



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# What we are doing

Read the latest news on who's who and what we've been up to lately!

## ➤ People & Activities:



**Cache in on PRIDE:** Wow! The First Annual Logan Pride Festival held in downtown Logan was a big hit! Hundreds turned out for the festivities. These included faith and other groups, vendors, music and children's activities. CVUUsers staffed a table featuring the Unitarian Universalist [\*Standing on the Side of Love\*](#) campaign.



*George and Jenny have their photo taken. Photo credit: George Wootton*



*Andrew, Paul, and Robyn staff the CVUU Table: Photo credit: Susan Buffler*



*Rainbow party beads: Photo credit: Susanne Janecke*



*Mama Dragons Free Hugs! Photo credit: Susanne Janecke*

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## ➤ Action Teams

Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists could not operate without the dedication of members and friends who voluntarily donate their time and talent to keep programming and facilities running smoothly.

[Read more about our volunteer led Action Teams here...](#)



### **Building & Facilities:** Reminders

CVUU strives to be as green as possible. Read about our [compost and recycling](#) efforts.

Turn off the lights to save energy and make sure the doors are locked and windows closed if you are the last to leave. Check basements lights. Check out the CVUU [solar power production](#).



### **Membership... a few reminders!**

Greeters are needed for November 6, 13, 20, 27. Show up about 25 minutes before the service starts and be ready to hand out orders of service and assist newcomers. Easy! Let Sandy know if and when you are willing to do this important task.

[s\\_charlson@hotmail.com](mailto:s_charlson@hotmail.com)



### **Newsletter Submissions: Best Practices**

Submit newsletter items and direct questions to:

Susan Buffler at [info@cvuu.org](mailto:info@cvuu.org)

### **Google Groups Listserv Use Reminder**

Please limit posts to the Google Groups listserv to CVUU business only to avoid clogging up already too full email inboxes!

Use the [CVUU Facebook](#) page for other types of relevant posts. Contact Susan at [info@cvuu.org](mailto:info@cvuu.org) for information about posting to the CVUU Facebook page.

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### **Connect with us!**



Facebook



Pinterest




Website



Jean takes in the lovely fall colors in Logan Canyon

# CVUU Church Calendar: November 2016

Sun.	M	T	W	Th.	F	Sat.
		1	2 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	3 <a href="#">Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group</a> 7pm	4 <a href="#">CYRC</a> 4:30pm	5
6 Sunday Service <a href="#">TBA</a>	7 <a href="#">Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha</a> 7:15pm	8	9 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	10 Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	11 CYRC 4:30pm	12 Leaf Raking & Yard Cleanup 10am-1pm  Alternative Gift Market (see p. 5 for time and place)
13 Sunday Service <a href="#">The Power of Play</a>  Final yard cleanup party	14 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	15	16 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	17 Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	18 CYRC 4:30pm	19
20 Sunday Service <a href="#">Bridging Differences</a>	21 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	22	23 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	24 Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	25 CYRC 4:30pm	26
27 Sunday Service <a href="#">When I say "god" – what I mean</a>	28 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	29	30 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	 <p>All activities listed here are held at the <b>Jay and Leslie Fellowship House</b> located at <b>596 E. 900 North, Logan, UT</b> unless otherwise noted.</p> <p>See the <a href="#">Connections</a> tab on the <a href="http://cvuu.org">cvuu.org website</a> for details about our regular activities</p>		