



Coming Home

The Newsletter of the Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists
VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4

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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Sunday Services

all services begin at 10am

- April 2:** This I Believe, Why We Have Invested in CVUU
Chris Lant; Worship Associate, Sandy Charlson
- April 9:** TBA – Jennifer Courtwright & George Wootton
- April 16:** Easter – Tara Hawkins
- April 23:** 4th Sunday Lecture: Teaching Social Justice
Jess Lucero; Worship Associate, Lorien Belton
- April 30:** TBA



Julianne & Tara

Tara's Corner

"Spring is Here"

April showers bring May flowers. My geranium is already blooming despite the gloomy weather.

April brings so many celebrations: Baby Animal Days at the American West Heritage Center from the 5th to the 8th, and our own Intergenerational Easter Celebration complete with an egg hunt for the children.

Come and bring a treat to share. I will bring orange juice if you bring champagne for mimosas. Let's celebrate spring in style.

Also, spring brings opportunities to do some gardening in our yards. If you like to be in the sun or have a green thumb we could use your help. Let's work together to beautify our sanctuary.



Tara Hawkins, Lay Leader



Jennifer Courtwright

President's Column

At the March 5th and March 27th meetings, the board discussed filling board vacancies, updates from the strategic planning process, and planning for next year's budget. These items will be presented and voted on at the Annual Congregational meeting on June 25th.

The Strategic Listening Sessions were successful and the strategic planning committee will be sending out an electronic follow-up survey shortly to gather additional feedback and prioritize action items from these sessions. Key points to be drawn from the two Listening Sessions to date were CVUU's desire to increase visibility, increase membership, and increase revenue to pay a staff that would deliver more services to the church and community.

Due to travel and work schedules a strategic plan will not be completed by the June 25th Congregational meeting but any pointed items that still need discussion will be highlighted and discussed during this time, with a formal strategic plan to follow in the early fall.

CVUU earned a \$600 profit from the Orange Fundraiser, which is down from the profit of about \$1000 a year ago, and from the \$1500 that we budgeted. Additionally, we will not be doing a fundraising dinner that was in the budget and therefore, even with some additional pledges and unspent funds in other programs, we will likely come out \$700 in the red in June at the end of our fiscal year.

In April and May, the stewardship team (Jim Evans, Sandy Charlson, and Lorien Belton) will be holding cottage meetings to discuss what CVUU means to you and why you pledge.

We have received great feedback on an organizational chart/ task list and Susan Buffler is summarizing it in a chart form to be hung up at CVUU so that everyone knows who to contact about what and how to match their interests with the appropriate committee. Susan and Lorien have also drafted a formal building policy for how to determine what groups use the building at what cost. The board has yet to discuss it in its entirety but agreed to start passing a plate for non-paying building users to donate to CVUU as they see fit.

The board is still in search of a member to fill Todd Seeholzer's position. Additionally, at the end of June, Jay Black and Jenny Norton (interim) will be leaving the Board of Trustees. At least 3 board positions will be available starting July 1st. There is currently a vacancy on the Nominating Committee due to Doug Jackson-Smith moving.



Jennifer Courtwright, President, CVUU Board of Trustees

In Our Thoughts



- ❖ Leslie Black and her family on the recent death of Leslie's mother
- ❖ Wishing Leslie Black a speedy recovery from knee replacement surgery
- ❖ Thinking of Matt, Dawn, and Libby Hansen. Matt's father Cal Hansen is in hospice at assisted living from injury due to a fall
- ❖ 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 rebirth...

"Sometimes you have to kind of die inside in order to rise from your own ashes and believe in yourself and love yourself to become a new person." - Gerard Way

"If you live in the dark a long time and the sun comes out, you do not cross into it whistling. There's an initial uprush of relief at first, then-for me, anyway - a profound dislocation. My old assumptions about how the world works are buried, yet my new ones aren't yet operational. There's been a death of sorts, but without a few days in hell, no resurrection is possible." - Mary Karr

Events & Activities

**April
6**

Socrates Café meets every month for stimulating questions and lively discussion. For more information visit the [Socrates Café page](#).

7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month
The Jay & Leslie Black Fellowship House (CVUU)
596 East, 900 North, Logan

Contact: Dave Christian at dchristian999@gmail.com

**April
8**

Circle Dinners: Circle dinners provide an opportunity to get to know CVUUsers you might not otherwise get to know. A few spots might still be available.

6pm, Saturday
Address provided following sign up

Contact: George Wootton or Jenny Norton to see if any spots are still available
gwootton01@comcast.net
jeanettemarienorton@gmail.com

**April
15**

Spring Yard Cleanup: Come and help with spring cleaning of yard and building. Join us for a fun social activity and a chance to meet new people. Kids are welcome.
9am (until about noon), Saturday
The Jay & Leslie Black Fellowship House (CVUU)
596 East, 900 North, Logan

Contact: Jean Lown at 435-760-2392 or jean.lown@usu.edu with any questions

**April
15**

Potluck! Celebrate Spring, Celebrate CVUU. The Membership & Stewardship Teams are "teaming up" to invite ALL members AND friends to gather and eat, drink, and be merry. Connect over springtime foods and celebrate CVUU!

[**POTLUCK DETAILS HERE !**](#)

6pm, Saturday (meet at 6:00, dinner at 6:30, short presentation at 7:30)
The Jay & Leslie Black Fellowship House (CVUU)
596 East, 900 North, Logan

Contact: RSVP to Sandy at s_charlson@hotmail.com

**April
18**

Adult Religious Exploration Book Group: *12 Steps to a Compassionate Life* by Karen Armstrong (chapters 9-12). Final discussion of Karen Armstrong's book "*Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*"

7pm, Tuesday
Meet in the CVUU Youth Room
596 East, 900 North, Logan

Contact: Jennifer Courtwright at courtwtjl@dukes.jmu.edu

**April
22**

March for Science Community Event

11:00am-1pm, Saturday
Cache County Courthouse
179 N Main St, Logan

Interfaith Earth Day Celebration Community Event

12:30-2pm, Saturday
Logan Tabernacle
50 N Main St., Logan

Contact: Paul Rogers p.rogers@aggiemail.usu.edu for more information

**April
23**

Spring Yard Cleanup II: Come and help with spring cleaning of yard and building. Join us for a fun social activity and a chance to meet new people. Kids are welcome.

11:30am after the Sunday service
596 East, 900 North, Logan

Contact: Jean Lown at 435-760-2392 or jean.lown@usu.edu with any questions

**June
25**

Annual Congregation Meeting (first notice): Mark your calendars! Join us for Board of Trustees and Nominations Team elections, as well as updates on the budget and the strategic plan.

11:30am after the Sunday service
596 East, 900 North, Logan

NOTE: Input and questions welcome. Only members may vote.

Announcements



Strategic Planning Survey (April): As you may know, CVUU is currently building a strategic plan. The committee of Bonnie Glass-Coffin, Susanne Janecke, and Chris Lant thanks everyone who attended the engaging listening sessions on Feb 12 and 26. Drawing from information obtained through the listening sessions, sometime in April Organizational Coordinator Susan Buffler will send out a short, but thoughtful, Qualtrics survey that seeks to better understand your priorities for CVUU over the next few years. We would really like to hear from you! - *Bonnie, Susanne and Chris*



Fundraising the Easy Way! Natural Grocers Cards for sale: Buy \$100, \$50, or \$25 cards at face value and CVUU gets a 5% donation.

Contact Lorian at 770-2413. If you shop there anyway, think about it!



Have Feedback on CVUU Services? Ideas, comments, or concerns about CVUU services? Please give compliments directly to those giving the services, but direct any complaints or concerns through Jennifer or Susanne.

Contact: Jennifer Courtwright and Susanne Janecke are the main points of contact, regardless of who conducted the services.



Ongoing Tasks: Please, everyone pitch in when you see the need

- Empty waste baskets
- Take hand towels home to wash
- Water house plants
- Properly distinguishing between trash and recycling and putting in appropriate receptacle
- Empty trash & recycling into the proper outdoor bins
- Take bins to the curb Monday evening & bringing them in after Tuesday pick-up
- Help keep our building clean

Contact: Jean Lown 435-760-2392 or jean.lown@usu.edu



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

Energy in Action

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

➤ People, Activities, & Action Teams

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

CVUU FAQ: All of your questions about CVUU answered!

Thanks to Susanne Janecke and Jim Evans for putting together this informative Frequently Asked Questions document. Please distribute to those who might have questions about CVUU.

Learn more [ABOUT CVUU: FAQ](#)

Orange Fundraiser: Thank you to everyone for your support of CVUU and the Cache Refugee and Immigrant Connection via the winter **2017 Orange Fundraiser**. If you missed it this year, you will have to wait until next year to purchase these amazing tasting beauties!



Oranges with breakfast - *photo credit: Susan Buffler*



The bottom of the barrel! - *photo credit: Susan Buffler*



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 if you are the last to leave. Check basements lights. Also, check out the CVUU [solar power production](#).



Newsletter Submissions: Best Practices

Submit newsletter items and direct questions to: **Susan Buffler** at coordinator@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! **Contact:** Susan for information about posting to the CVUU Facebook page.



Organizational Coordinator: Susan Buffler is the current CVUU Organizational Coordinator.

Susan is the **Point of Contact** for the following:

- Building use and rental
- Scheduling ANY CVUU or private event /activity, etc. (so events do not overlap)
- Website, monthly newsletter, social networks, Google Groups listserv
- Referral to appropriate staff / Team members
- Miscellaneous questions

Please send inquiries and schedule events through Susan at coordinator@cvuu.org

Connect with us!



Join us for 10am Sunday Services at
The Jay & Leslie Black Fellowship House
596 E 900 North, Logan, UT
(435) 755-2888
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!



CVUU Church Calendar: April 2017

Sun.	M	T	W	Th.	F	Sat.
 <p>All activities listed here are held at the Jay and Leslie Fellowship House located at 596 E. 900 North, Logan, UT unless otherwise noted.</p> <p>See the Connections tab on the cvuu.org website for details about our regular activities</p>						1
2 Sunday Service This I Believe: Why We Have Invested in CVUU	3 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	4	5 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	6 Socrates Café 7pm <i>see p. 4</i> Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	7 CYRC 4:30pm	8
9 Sunday Service TBA	10 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	11	12 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	13 Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	14 CYRC 4:30pm	15
16 Sunday Service Easter	17 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	18 Adult RE book group 7pm <i>see p. 4</i>	19 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	20 Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	21 CYRC 4:30pm	22
23 Sunday Service 4 th Sunday Lecture: Teaching Social Justice	24 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	25	26 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	27 Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	28 CYRC 4:30pm	29
30 Sunday Service TBA						