Coming Home

The Newsletter of the Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists Vol. 22 No. 4 April 2016



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.

Sunday Services

All services begin at 10am



APRIL 3
The Death Café
Susan Buffler

APRIL 10
Investing in Community
Emily James

APRIL 17
Women's Rights
Tara Hawkins

APRIL 24
TBA - Earth Day

Join us for Sunday Services at
The Jay and Leslie Black
Fellowship House
596 E 900 N, Logan, UT
(435) 755-2888
info@cvuu.org
cvuu.org











Tara's Corner

"April is for Aphrodite"



April is named after the Greek Goddess Aphrodite; the goddess



Julianne and Tara

of love, beauty, pleasure, and procreation. All good things. As the weather starts to thaw, let's plant some seeds of love and see what beautiful things we can take pleasure in together.

Just yesterday, a friend gave me a small pot and asked me to write on it all my hopes for spring. I wrote, "faith, hope, and love." Then he had me choose a seed to plant and gave me dirt to plant it in.

I chose Morning Glory, which is a blue flower on a climbing vine. If it actually grows, the tiny pot it's planted in won't hold it long. However, it has a certain sentimental appeal to me because my family used to call me, "Tara Tory Morning Glory."

Let's make some plans for things we can do together, and watch our friendships grow into a beautiful, riotous garden.



Tara Hawkins, Lay Minister



The Birth of Venus by Sandro Botticelli – c. 1485 (Venus is Aphrodite's Roman name)

Who's in Charge Here Anyway?



Board of Trustees

Jay Black Vice-President

Lorien Belton Treasurer

Dave Christian President

Jennifer Courtwright Secretary

Chris Lant

Staff

Sharla Hart Organizational Coordinator

Jennifer Hamilton Director of Religious Education

Tara Hawkins Lay Leader

Emily James Worship Coordinator & interim Team Lead

Michelle Wiltgen **Music Director**

Susan Buffler

Communications Coordinator: newsletter, website, social cvuu.newlsetter@gmail.com



President's Page – "Dr. Dave"

Org Board Coming

There is a saying, "If you can predict, you can participate." We want to make it easier and clearer how to participate at CVUU.



Sharla, our Organizational Coordinator, and I are in the process of making an organization board or "org board." This will be a visual representation of our various CVUU teams, staff and groups. It will take the form of sheets listing each staff or board member, as well as all of our teams

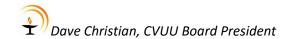
For teams and groups, we will list the leader, mission/purpose and members. We will post these sheets in a public place (e.g., the kitchen). This will make it easier to see our community's overall organization at a glance.

It will also make it easier to show our visitors and those new to our congregation our staff, teams, groups and where they might like to participate. Again, if you can predict, you can participate. Send Sharla or me any suggestions on how to make our org board more userfriendly!

email:

and groups.

Sharla Hart or David Christian





The Jay and Leslie Black Fellowship House

Features

"Why Our World Needs to Reclaim and Listen to Women's Spiritual Leadership: The Importance of Women's Spiritual Voices and Lived Experiences" - Naomi Tutu



On March 24, 2016, Tara Hawkins, Julianne Larsen, and several other CVUU members had the opportunity to hear Ms. Naomi Tutu speak about the importance of women's voices and spirituality in our churches up on USU campus. Ms. Tutu is the 3rd child of the Reverend Desmond Tutu. She also has many accolades and honors.

Ms. Tutu spoke of her own trouble growing up in the Anglican Church where their depictions of God were of a white male. She wondered how her being a black South African woman could be understood by a white male God. She is working on her Master of Divinity degree and got to thinking

how when we place God in a box, where he/she does not represent all of humanity, it sets us up for prejudice and privileged people who are "made in the image of God".

She spoke of the importance of hearing women behind the pulpit as well as see them cleaning the churches or caring for the sick. Why can we hold all these duties in the churches but not preach? She didn't grow up seeing women in leadership positions but now sees the potential for all churches to grow by letting all people who are called be leaders and preachers.

When she was asked what we can do in our own churches, she said that we should rock the boat. Tara asked the last question of the night, which was, "What do we do if white men just don't want to give up their privilege?" Ms. Tutu chuckled and then said that we need privileged traitors in our churches to turn over their privilege so others would do the same.

We talked with her after and she was very gracious and kind.



New CVUU HIKERS group

CVUUer Susanne Janecke and Marilyn Hammond are planning to lead a group walk or hike for CVUU on the **fourth Sunday of every month during the walking season**. Please join us if you can. We will meet at the **Forest Service parking lot at 1:30pm** and would be out for a few hours.

Car pools and biking are encouraged. Please bring water, sturdy shoes, a hat, sunscreen, and a sack lunch if you don't have time to eat your lunch beforehand.

We plan to select trails that are suitable for a range of ability levels. These might include the Bonneville Shoreline Trail, River Trail, Green Canyon, Wood Camp, Mill Hollow, or Spawn Creek. Feel free to suggest your favorite walk or hike. The first hike will be on April 24th. For more information, **contact: Susanne Janecke.**

Action Teams

Programs & Action Teams



BuildingRyan Dillingham & Todd Seeholzer

Caring Leslie Black Marlene Conner Nyla Newman

Social & Environmental JusticeJenny Norton Paul Rogers

Grounds lean Lown

Membership/Fellowship Open

Religious Education Jennifer Hamilton

Worship/Sunday ServicesInterim Worship Team Lead: Emily James





Thank You to everyone that purchased oranges for the Youth fundraiser. We raised over \$1300! A very special thank you to Susanne and Jim Evans for their recent donation of \$2000 to the Youth Group from the Karen Evans Fund.

This amazing donation along with the other fundraisers, makes it possible for our entire youth to go to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in June for two days of service and for our high school group to get to New Orleans this summer for the UU Activate youth leadership summit to gain hands-on experience in Racial Justice and Beloved Community.

I couldn't be more grateful and overjoyed.



Fundraising via Natural Grocers Gift Cards

Do you do any of your shopping at Natural Grocers?

If so, consider buying gift cards through CVUU to use for your shopping there. It's the same cost to you, but if you buy gift cards from CVUU, 5% of the amount you spend is donated to CVUU! When many of us participate, it adds up to an important contribution to our community.

You don't have to be a member of CVUU to participate. Even if you don't attend CVUU regularly, but just value the presence of this resource in our Logan community, consider this as a way to show your support for the values and programs we encourage, like comprehensive sexuality education for teens, safe space for LGBT and homeless youth in our community, and a community where personal spiritual journeys are supported and respected.

Gift cards come in \$25, \$50, and \$100 amounts. Some people buy a regular amount each month; others just purchase a card when needed. **Contact Lorien at 435-770-2413** if you are interested.

And hey, you get gift cards with cute little owls on them.





CVUU Building & Grounds Reminders

Spring Cleanup!

All building users are invited to participate in CVUU Yard & Building Clean-up Days: April 2 & 3

Saturday April 2 starting at 9am (until noon or 1 pm)

Sunday, April 3 after the service

Help with spring cleaning of yard and building interior. Join us for a fun social activity. Kids are welcome. Questions? **Contact Jean at 435-760-2392**.



COMPOSTING REMINDER: Yes, we do compost. Use the blue bucket on the counter left of the sink. Please dump into compost bin on east side of building as needed.

Please help yourself to the empty plant pots in the backyard.



RECYCLING: Please help make CVUU a true Green Sanctuary

DO

- ➤ **USE** the new **BLUE BIN** recycling container under the kitchen counter
- ➤ **BE** more conscientious about separating trash and recyclables
- ➤ GLASS RECYCLE: Rinse glass containers and place in basket under the sink in the CVUU kitchen
- **EDUCATE** yourself **and your children** about the difference between trash and recyclables
- Make **SURE** that items are recyclable (Items might not be even if they have the recycle symbol)
- > Plastic bags are **NOT** recyclable
- > Put any items with food (even if marked with a recycling symbol) in the TRASH
- > Put **Paper towels** and **tissues** in the **TRASH**
- Take a few minutes to **educate** yourself and your children

LOGAN CITY RESIDENTIAL COLLECTIONS: RECYCLING Help out the folks who sort the recycled materials and **remove any trash and contaminated containers.**



PLANTS: Please check and water indoor plants in dining room and room reading/library/cry room as needed. Please avoid overwatering.



LIGHTS: Last person(s) out turn off **ALL** lights inside and out (including downstairs/make sure you go down and check) and make sure all doors and windows are locked. Thanks!



SOLAR POWER: Check it out! **CVUU solar power production**

Regular Happenings



Cache Youth Resource Center (CYRC)

The <u>CYRC</u> is a youth drop-in center open every Friday 4:30-7:30 to any youth age 14-23. We are a safe and supportive space for LGBTQ youth. Meets at CVUU in the Youth Room/north entry



Socrates Café meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month for stimulating questions and lively discussion. We meet right here at CVUU.

Participants are invited to submit a question or topic to discuss. We vote for our favorite question and then the discussion begins! We wrap up by 8:30. We are one of over 600 Socrates Cafes meeting worldwide.

email <u>Dave Christian</u> to be added to our reminder list. For more info, check out <u>Philosopher.org</u>. Hope to see you!



Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group

Join the CVUU Ewe Ewes (get it!) every Thursday evening at 7pm at CVUU for an evening of sharing, fiber arts and crafts. Beginners welcome! Snacks and a bit of wine are usually served. U do not have be UU (or drink wine) to join the Ewe Ewes!



Contact Susan at **info@cvvu.org** to confirm if the group will meet on a given evening OR join The Ewe Ewes Fiber Arts public **Facebook Group page**



Financial Planning For Women

Improve Your Personal Finances!

Need help sorting out your personal finances? Trying to figure out how to afford college tuition? Not sure about you're a set allocation for retirement? 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 teaches 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 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

Financial Planning for Women

April 13: Basics of Life and Health Insurance
May 11: Protecting your Home with Insurance
June 8: Mutual Funds for IRAs and other Goals

July 13: Best Ways to Save for College

Join us at 11:30-12:30 p.m. in USU Taggart Student Center Room 336 (bring your lunch) or 7-8:30 p.m. at the USU Family Life Center, 493 North 700 East, Logan (free, easy parking). The longer evening session allows for more discussion. No charge; all ages and knowledge levels are welcome. Men are always welcome.

For information: 435-797-1569 or email <u>Jean Lown</u>

Financial Planning for Women on Facebook

Check the searchable FPW Blog for lots of great consumer and financial planning information:



Newsletter Best Practices

Submit newsletter items and direct questions to: Susan Buffler at cvuu.newsletter@gmail.com

- Articles preferably no longer than 250 words preferably in Microsoft Word
- ➤ Any submission subject to editing [©]
- Photos encouraged
 - Make sure you have permission in writing / or attribution to use an image, particularly from parents of children.
 - Do NOT use images from the internet unless they have <u>Creative Commons</u> licenses (include license with image)

CVUU Calendar for April 2016

Sun.	M	T	W	Th.	F	Sat.
All activities listed here are held at the <i>Jay and Leslie Fellowship House</i> located at 596 <i>E.</i> 900 <i>N.</i> , Logan, UT unless otherwise noted			Amrita Yoga 6:30pm	O.W.L. 6pm Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	1 CYRC 4:30pm (see p. 6)	Spring Indoor / Outdoor Cleanup 9am-noon
3 Sunday Service The Death Café Spring Indoor / Outdoor Cleanup 9am-noon	4 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	5 Socrates Café 7pm see p.6	6 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	7 O.W.L. 6pm Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm see p.6	8 CYRC 4:30pm	9
10 Sunday Service Investing in Community	11 Citizen's Climate Lobby meeting 6pm Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	12	Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	14 O.W.L. 6pm Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	15 CYRC 4:30pm	16
17 Sunday Service Women's Rights Building Bridges Youth RE - 1pm	Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	19	Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	21 O.W.L. 6pm Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	22 CYRC 4:30pm	23
24 Sunday Service TBA Earth Day CVUU Hikers meet at USFS Station at 1:30pm (see page 3)	25 Cache Valley Buddhist Sangha 7:15pm	26	27 Amrita Yoga Satsang 6:30pm	28 O.W.L. 6pm Ewe Ewe Fiber Arts Group 7pm	29	30

^{*}Deadline: the evening of the third day before the end of the month. Items received after the deadline will not be posted for that month.