



COMMUNITY • ECOLOGY • SPIRITUALITY

newsletter

JUNE 2022

## OUR MISSION

CVUU strives to be a caring religious community that encourages and supports the sharing of ideas and experiences of all who travel rich and varied spiritual paths.

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

Join us each Sunday at 10 a.m. in person or online. Our address is 596 East 900 North, Logan, UT 84321 and the zoom link can be found at [CVUU.org](https://www.cvuu.org).

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**JUNE 5**

Flower  
Celebration

**JUNE 12**

Discussion:  
Celebrating  
Blessings

**JUNE 19**

CVUU  
Unplugged: A  
Music Service

**JUNE 26**

Soul Matters  
Homily

## ANNUAL MEETING

Join us on Sunday, June 12, 2022 at 11:20 a.m. for the CVUU annual meeting – in person or online! We will take a poll about wearing masks, introduce new staff, vote on next year's budget, and more! Masks required during the meeting.

Questions? Please contact CVUU Board President, Ethan Payne at (801) 319-6940.

## NEW CVUU STAFF

### CONNECTIONS COORDINATOR – VELLA STONE

Vella grew up in St. Augustine, Florida for the first 13 years of her life and has been a Cache Valley resident ever since. After graduating high school from Sky View, she received her Political Science Degree from USU, but not necessarily in that order. In that time she managed to live in Alaska, Oregon, Florida, Costa Rica and then back to Utah. she has a bernedoodle named Rex, who she loves to take on hikes or for a run in the evening. In January of 2021, she gave birth to her son Jasper and he has been her whole world ever since.

Vella grew up LDS, Catholic and Baptist and really enjoyed the sense of community that brought to her life, but she did not agree with a lot of what she was hearing. Later in life, she found herself wanting that connection again but without all the pressure and a friend recommended she attend CVUU with them. From then on, she felt a part of a community that would accept her for who she is. Working for CVUU, she hope to be a part of continuing to create a space for those who need somewhere safe to find themselves.

## **CONTINUED - NEW CVUU STAFF**

### **ORGANIZATIOAL COORDINATOR - KARLINE VALENTINE**

Karline grew up in Las Cruces, New Mexico and moved to Utah in 2012 to be closer to family. She taught music and math in the public schools in New Mexico for 6 years before moving to Utah, where she found her passion in caregiving and church administration. She learned about Unitarian Universalism while caring for Cal Hansen, father of CVUU's Matt Hansen. Over the past ten years, she's worked as a caregiver for several elderly members of the UU Church in Ogden and spent 5 of the years as the church administrator for UUCO. She's excited to continue the UU journey working with and for CVUU!

Karline lives in Ogden with her 16-year-old Havanese pup named Melody (a name chosen during her time in college studying music education). She enjoys walks with Melody, gardening, and home improvement DIY projects.

### **STAFF ROLES**

The Connections Coordinator will be working to enhance community experiences, including welcoming visitors, organizing fellowship opportunities and connecting volunteers to action teams. The organizational coordinator will provide administrative support to all staff and leaders, be a hub of communication and record keeping, and will work with the connections coordinator to enhance experiences in the community. Both roles will support the worship team.

### **CONTACTING STAFF**

Vella can be reached at [vella@cvuu.org](mailto:vella@cvuu.org) and Karline can be reached at [karline@cvuu.org](mailto:karline@cvuu.org).

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### WORSHIP TEAM

Lots of opportunities to support the worship team! Whether you're interested in serving as a worship associate, offering a reading from time to time, helping find speakers, or \_\_\_\_\_ . . . we'd love to have you! Call or text Sondra if you're interested in helping out: 435-760-0399.

### CVUU YARDWORK AND LANDSCAPING

Thank you to Jean Lown for all her hard work, year after year! She is back at it this year and has been emailing about opportunities to help. Keep an eye out for more of those.

### FELLOWSHIP

Thank you to Susanne for organizing a walk in May. If you have ideas for ways to be together, we want to hear them! If you're able to offer a fellowship opportunity, please reach out to Karline at [karline@cvuu.org](mailto:karline@cvuu.org).

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CVUU Board meetings are happening online. The next CVUU Board meeting is on June 9 at 6 p.m. Contact CVUU Board President, Ethan Payne, with any questions: 801-319-6940.

Highlights from the last Board meeting can be found on the next page.

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

1. Hired a new connections coordinator, Vella Stone, to facilitate greeting at services, track participation and membership, recruit speakers for services, etc.
2. Purchased a used iPad for new attendees to sign up for email list, avoid handwriting errors.
3. Planning a new OWL program to teach sex-ed to middle schoolers, details and schedule TBA
4. Annual congregational meeting will be after service on Sunday June 12 at 11:20 a.m.

## HUMOR

### On the subject of lawns

*This conversation between God and St. Francis came to us from cyberspace.  
Email spreads information from far and wide. We just didn't realize how far its reach was!*

**GOD:** Frank, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there in the U.S.? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistle, and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect, no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees, and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But all I see are these green lawns.

**ST. FRANCIS:** It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers "weeds" and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

**GOD:** Grass? But it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds, and bees, only grubs and sod worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

**ST. FRANCIS:** Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

**GOD:** The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

**ST. FRANCIS:** Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it, sometimes twice a week.

**GOD:** They cut it? Do they then bail it like hay?

**ST. FRANCIS:** Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

**GOD:** They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

**ST. FRANCIS:** No, Sir. Just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

**GOD:** Now let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

**ST. FRANCIS:** Yes, Sir.

**GOD:** These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

**ST. FRANCIS:** You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

**GOD:** What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life.

**ST. FRANCIS:** You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

**GOD:** No. What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter and to keep the soil moist and loose?

**ST. FRANCIS:** After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. The haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

**GOD:** And where do they get this mulch?

**ST. FRANCIS:** They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

**GOD:** Enough. I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

**ST. CATHERINE:** "Dumb and Dumber," Lord. It's a real stupid movie about.....

**GOD:** Never mind, I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.