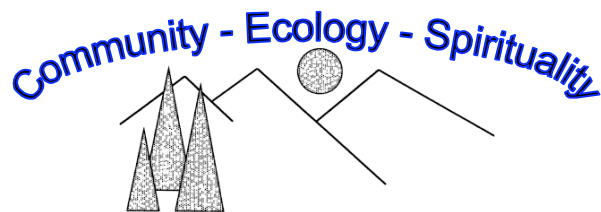


Coming Home

The Newsletter of the Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists



Vol. 16 No. 2 February 2010

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.

Upcoming Services

Sundays at 10 am:

February 7: The Spirit in World Religions

Beth Walden

February 14: Intergenerational: Love Fest

Sarah Ringueberg and Eva Mayfield

February 21: The Sixth Principle

Beth Walden

February 28: A Gospel Celebration

Beth Walden and Mary Jackson-Smith

Fridays at 7 pm:

February 19: A social justice film and discussion on international politics

Services are held at 596 E 900 N, in Logan.



Volunteering

Because of Cache Community Connections, I had the opportunity to volunteer at the Food Pantry one evening this month. It was one of those bitter nights, and the warehouse doesn't have good heat. I had dressed for it: turtleneck, sweatshirt, vest, coat, hat, gloves. There were about eight of us, and a lot of work to do.

Our first task was to bag canned goods from a box that was a four foot cube. We were instructed to put about 6-8 assorted cans in each bag, tie the top shut, and put it into a big bin. Even though we were told to just put in a variety, I found myself trying to get a balanced variety; some vegetables, fruit, and some tuna. Many of the cans were dented, but they were OK as long as the rim was not damaged. I thought about the people who would be receiving these sometimes-dented cans as their only means of feeding their families. It wasn't long before the coat came off, but not the feeling of gratitude that I could do something to help some whom I am sure are my neighbors.

My second task was bagging rice, flour, and sugar from a big bin. Wearing plastic gloves, I scooped the powders into smaller bags, and then Dean Quayle sealed them shut on a machine that melted the edges. My vest became covered with a sheen of white. Others in the group bagged individual packages of Kool-Aid and gravy and spice mixes. Other volunteers made four-roll packages of toilet paper out of pallets of rolls.

When we finished, I was tired and satisfied. I felt that rush of contentment that comes when you've been able to make a difference in someone else's life. Let me know if you would like to help, and receive the reward of deep satisfaction on one of our volunteer nights in the coming months.

This past week, I was on the receiving end of someone else's volunteering. This semester I teach on the third floor of a building with no passenger elevator. Last Thursday I had a huge stack of papers along with my usual teaching materials. I thought that if I put them in a box, and strapped the box to one of those small airport luggage carts, I could drag it up the stairs.

So far so good, as I made my way across campus. However, the stairs have a small overhanging lip on them. Still, with some juggling, it was doable. I was on the third step when a young woman coming down the stairs volunteered to carry my box and cart up the stairs. I told her that part of way would be a great help, but I was headed for the third floor. She said, "No problem," and carried it all the way to the top.

On the way up the stairs, I remembered my evening at the Food Pantry, and how good being of use made me feel. This young woman was grinning as she climbed the stairs. This, I knew, was a perfect win/win situation. She received the satisfaction of helping another, and got my materials to the third floor. I was happy to help make her day, just by truly needing her.

Beth Walden, CVUU Lay Leader

Pardon the President. . .

Where does the time go? Seems that this past month has slid by in a rush and I'm bracing myself for the reality that January is over. Lots going on, but not enough time to savor the moment. Will work on that...

A quick update on the CVUU Board activities this month:

First, the RE committee and I have been working to develop a plan for kicking off a reinvigorated youth program for our CVUU middle- and high-school kids. Our idea is to develop a mix of low-intensity activities or events that can help these kids stay engaged with CVUU and to encourage them to work on issues and projects that pursue the CVUU mission. After much thought, the Board has decided to set aside funds to pay a "Youth Program Coordinator" to work part-time over the next few months to get some of these programs up and running. If you are interested in the position, see our advertisement elsewhere in this newsletter, or on-line at: http://www.cvuu.org/docs/Youth_Program_Coordinator.pdf. Feel free to nominate or recommend someone who might thrive in this role. If you are a youth (or more likely, a parent of a youth), and want more information – contact me or Jordan Leary, our RE Committee Chair.

At our last Board meeting, we also heard an update from Leslie Black, Membership Committee Chair, regarding efforts made to inform our inactive members about the recent changes in our bylaws regarding the categories and expectations of membership. We have sent letters and made calls to most of these folks to encourage them to let us know if they wish to renew their membership in CVUU. If you want more info on options for membership – please look at the copy of the bylaws on our CVUU website.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone (who isn't already overcommitted with CVUU work) to **consider volunteering for various important tasks** that we need to address. Specifically, we are looking for people to help clean the building and to offer childcare for kids too young for RE on Sunday mornings. If you have been looking for a way to contribute time & energy, now is a good time to let us know!

On the first item, I first want to thank Peg Hennon for her long weeks of service as the main person keeping the CVUU building tidy and clean. If you don't know, Peg and her husband Allen Howard (both CVUUs) are heading off to Brazil soon for a one-year sabbatical. The good news – they'll have a wonderful time. The bad news – we need to find NEW people to step in and help keep the building clean. I have developed a draft 'check off sheet' that can be used by volunteers to keep track of what is being done each week (it will be put on the closet door in the library at the top of the stairs).

However, if you think you want to help on a semi-regular basis, contact me and/or Dawn Holzer and we'll get you set up.

On the latter item, since some of our regular childcare kids are now old enough for RE classes, we are reluctant to budget for a regular childcare person each week. Rather, the Board is suggesting that we ask members of our congregation if they are willing to serve in this capacity on an as-needed basis from week to week this spring. If you are interested in helping, let Jordan Leary know.

Doug Jackson-Smith
President, CVUU Board of Trustees
jacksonsmith2@comcast.net
435-760-7377



The membership committee has sent out a call for some additional snacks for Sunday mornings. The children have concurred.

RUaUU? Orientation for Newcomers

Have you ever wondered what Unitarian Universalism is all about? CVUU extends an invitation to **Newcomers and Recent Visitors** for an information and orientation session on Feb. 7th. Please join us downstairs at 11:15, after the Sunday service, for light refreshments and the opportunity to get better acquainted. Child care will be provided.

Our lay-leader Beth Walden and member Leslie Black will present some orientation information and answer questions you may have about Unitarian Universalism. There will be a short video on "Voices of a Liberal Faith", with a discussion afterwards.

We look forward to this opportunity to find out what you are looking for in a church home, and hope we have made you feel welcome here – because you are!

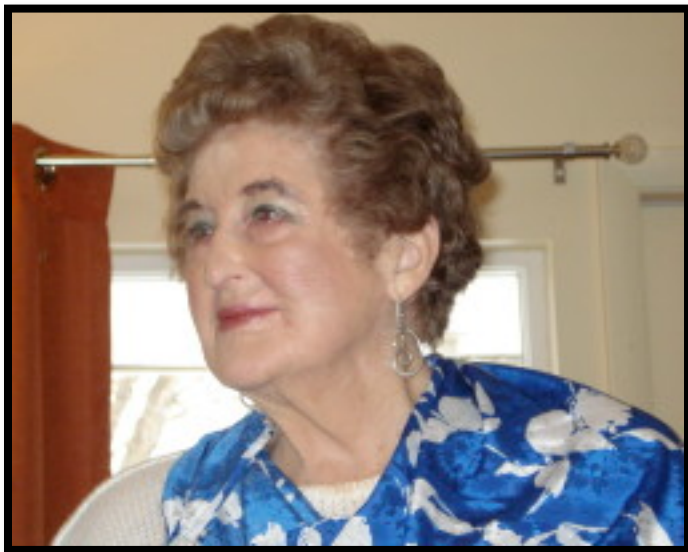
Leslie Black, Membership Committee

Welcome New Member!

On Sunday, January 24th CVUU welcomed Harriet Frink as a new member. Hope you enjoy getting to know a bit more about this lovely lady. She has been a Unitarian her whole life and is a wonderful addition to our CVUU community!

Harriet Anderson Frink was born Aug. 13, 1924 to Horace and Annie Bartlett Anderson, active members of the First Unitarian Church, Detroit, MI. Although the trip to church involved both a street car and bus ride, Harriet managed to maintain a perfect attendance record throughout her school years. She was active in the church youth group where she met her future husband when she was only 14 years old. At the tender age of 18, she married the love of her life, Mark A. Frink. They had four daughters who kept them busy at home and as PTA presidents, scout leaders, and band booster parents.

Harriet and Mark stayed in the suburbs just north of Detroit while raising their family. They worked diligently at establishing a fellowship that eventually became the Birmingham MI Unitarian Church. After a short stint in northern Michigan, they retired to Florida where they were active in the Sarasota Unitarian Church. When Mark passed away in August of 2001, a wonderful celebration of his life took place with that congregation.



In August of this year, Harriet moved to Logan, Utah to start a new chapter of her life near her daughter, Leslie. Although she may lament leaving the warm climate of Florida, she is very content to attend concerts, enjoy visits of extended family and especially to become a part of the welcoming and thriving Cache Valley Unitarian Universalist congregation.

Leslie Black, Membership Committee

Field Trip to Campbell Scientific

Renewable Energy Projects Tour

All are welcome, youth welcome, especially high schoolers.

When: Friday, February 12th. 4 pm - 5:15 pm

Where: 815 W. 1800 N.

Meet at Campbell Scientific parking lot between 3:45 and 4 pm.

Who: Hosted by Robert Carpenter

Application Engineer, Renewable Energy Group

What: See systems that use geothermal energy to heat the buildings, and the solar panel tracking system that is in development, and additional systems.

Mapquest address:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?city=Logan&state=UT&address=815+W+1800+N&zipcode=84321-1784&country=US&latitude=41.765346&longitude=-111.854123&geocode=ADDRESS>

Note: One must use 600 W to get to Campbell Scientific
Contact Susie Flann with any questions, 563-9000.

*Susie Flann, CVUU Social & Environmental Justice
Committee member*

Evensong

In Evensong, participants will explore individual life journeys through sharing thoughts, experiences, doubts, and current beliefs. We will meet on Thursday evenings from 6-8 PM beginning February 4th for 8 weeks at the church building.

Evensong is a good way to explore personal beliefs and possibilities and a great way to get to know a group of people.

Each week, we will follow an order of service, with the central event being a sharing time. We will be listening attentively and without interruption to one another.

For the first session, we will have a Show and Tell as part of the gathering. Please bring an object, photo, or memento to speak of to the rest of us.

As a statement of respect for one another, we will begin and end on time.

Please try to notify Beth Walden at bethwalden@hotmail.com or 770-9517 if you plan to attend; however, if you decide at the last minute to come, feel free to attend.

Beth Walden, CVUU Lay Leader

CVUU Youth Program Coordinator

We're looking for someone to kick-start and coordinate a CVUU youth program through the remainder of the school year (February - May 2010).

Qualities sought:

- Proactive and enthusiastic
- Good leadership and organizational skills
- Familiarity with UU principles and goals
- Experience working with and teaching youth
- Skilled at communicating and coordinating with others
- Comfortable using electronic communication and social networking

Duties:

Create a robust, engaging, and diverse CVUU youth program for middle school-age youth (and possibly high school) by:

1) Actively communicating and coordinating with the CVUU Director of Religious Exploration (DRE), RE Committee, parents, youth, and volunteers to identify a portfolio of specific events and programs to engage the CVUU youth in appropriate learning, service, and social activities.

2) Being responsible for either leading or finding volunteer leaders to organize and manage specific youth-program activities.

3) Engaging in regular communications with the CVUU community to ensure awareness of and attendance at CVUU-sponsored youth events.

4) Meeting monthly with the DRE and RE Committee to evaluate the effectiveness and progress of the youth program, and to ensure integration with other RE and congregational activities.

* While details of the types and frequency of youth program activities will depend on consultation with parents, youth, and other RE program activities, the envisioned ideal youth program might include a mix of Sunday morning activities, Friday night sessions and/or evening or weekend activities. Events might include team building, green or social justice service activities, spiritual growth and exploration, and/or recreation or social activities. A major part of the job of the youth program coordinator (YPC) will be to help identify and implement a reasonable mix of events that interest the

youth, pursue the CVUU mission, and do not overburden the YPC, the youth, their families, and program volunteers.

NOT required:

- Membership in CVUU
- Attendance at all services
- Attendance at board meetings (unless as a specific agenda item)

Time Commitment and Compensation:

The position is a part-time role with roughly 5-6 hours per week average workload. Compensation will be \$250 per month stipend for the four month period.

If interested:

Please submit your name, resume, and ideas for this position to Jordan Leary, RE Committee Chair, by January 31.

(435) 753-0136

jordan@jordanleary.com

Jordan Leary, RE Committee Chair

Financial Planning for Women

February 10: Credit and Debt: Tips for smarter borrowing including an update on the new Credit CARD law, the changing credit environment and strategies to pay down debt quickly.

Financial Planning for Women (FPW) is a monthly educational seminar that meets the second Wednesday at two times: noon -1:00 p.m. in the USU Taggart Student Center room 335. Bring your lunch. The same program is repeated in the evening: 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Family Life Center, 493 North 700 East, Logan (at bottom of Old Main Hill). The longer evening time slot allows for more discussion. Programs are free and registration is not required. For further information: (435) 797-1569; jean.lown@usu.edu; <http://www.usu.edu/fpw/>; <http://fpwusu.blogspot.com>

In 2010 FPW will be using the workbook *Money Talk: A Financial Guide for Women* (190 pages). Every participant will receive the \$23 workbook. Donations of any amount are appreciated.

Upcoming programs:

March 10: Are you covered? Insurance Basics

CVUU Calendar for February 2010

<i>Sun.</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Th.</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Sat.</i>
	1	2	3	4 Evensong 6-8 pm (see page 3)	5	6
7 The Spirit in World Religions RUaUU? (see page 2)	8	9	10 Financial Planning for Women (see page 4)	11 Evensong 6-8 pm	12 Field trip to Campbell Scientific (see page 3)	13
14 Intergenerational Love Fest	15	16	17	18 Evensong 6-8 pm	19 Social justice film and discussion on international politics	20
21 The Sixth Principle	22	23	24	25 Evensong 6-8 pm	26	27
28 A Gospel Celebration	Calendar entries in black are Sunday and Friday services; other events are in blue.					



Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists
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