

the Outlook

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills
4451 Dunsmore Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214
www.uuverdugo.org

June 2015

Volume 20, Issue 6



A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

10:30 AM

Children's Religious Exploration Education class concurrent

Unitarian Universalist
Church of the Verdugo Hills
818.248.3954
uucvh@uuverdugo.org

Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford
Minister

Deborah Rice
Ministerial Intern

Elizabeth Brown
Director of
Religious Exploration Education

Ann Kleinsasser, *President*
Linda Hunt, *Vice-President*
Cindy Lopez, *Secretary*
Gary Clark, *Treasurer*
Terresa Jones, *Administrator*



IMAGINE

a religion that embraces
many different beliefs.
Where all are accepted;
where we cherish the
process of developing our
own spiritual path;
where we respectfully
support the paths of others.
Welcome to UUCVH!

June 7

"Relationships That Are Real" Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford

Interactions with family or friends can bring us both joy and sorrow. But life without these human connections can seem lonely indeed. And sociologists tell us that people in our country are in serious need of greater bonding with each other. So how can we nurture these kinds of contacts – the ones that give us a sense of joy and wellbeing? You may just leave this service with a bounce in your step and some new possibilities for your life.

June 14

"Sin Boldly" Rev. Dr. Karen Stoyanoff

In the 1500s Martin Luther initiated the Protestant Reformation by proclaiming "here I stand; I can do no other." Many of his principles do not resonate for most UU's today, but one has possible wisdom for all of us: "sin boldly." Join us this morning to learn what he meant and how we might incorporate this pronouncement into our 21st century UU faith.

June 21

"Farewell but not Goodbye" Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford

The French have a way of distinguishing between a temporary separation from someone and a lasting one. The phrase "au revoir" is rather casual and simply means "until we meet again." In contrast, the word "adieu," seldom used today, suggests what the speaker believes will be a long, or even permanent, break. And there are even theological implications for these two kinds of expressions. Let's make this Sunday an example of positive leave-taking - and a Happy Father's Day too!

June 28

"Jimmy Carter For Women" Ann Kleinsasser, Lay Leader

This Sunday we examine our local clergy's responses to former President Jimmy Carter's decision to sever ties with his Southern Baptist faith over women's rights. Carter writes, "This discrimination, unjustifiably attributed to a Higher Authority, has provided a reason or excuse for the deprivation of women's equal rights across the world... Women are prevented from playing a full and equal role in many faiths. Nor, tragically, does [it] stop at the walls of the church, mosque, synagogue or temple."

MINISTER'S MUSINGS



Monday, June 1 at 7 PM

All skill levels welcome.
Knitting Circle meets in
members' homes. Contact
Linda Hunt for details.



Tuesday, June 2

From 7:30 - 9:30pm

At UUCVH

UUJMCA LA/Valley Cluster
Invites you to **"Make It Fair"**
Change Prop 13 to make
property taxation fair and
effective!
Refreshments provided.



Thursday, June 4

Membership Committee
11:00 AM



Sunday, June 7

First Sunday Potluck
11:30am
Please bring a brunch or
salad item to share.

Dear UUCVH Members and Friends,

My time with you is coming to a close at the end of June, and I have a few things I would like to share before I go. One thing is that I have been honored to be your minister for the last 5 years and that I leave you with many joyful memories. And I will miss you deeply but will not be able to return or be in contact with you for at least a year because of the UU Ministers Association code of professional ethics.

I also want to share with you that I am very excited about your unanimous vote to call Rev. Gordon Bailey to be your settled minister. I sense that he and his wife Lisa will bring a wonderful energy to UUCVH and a new trajectory for your efforts. I look forward to hearing great things about you in the years ahead.

My hopes for your future are:

- That you will continue your strong sense of "Beloved Community" with care and connection;
- That you will honor and celebrate your many positive accomplishments;
- That you will grow in numbers and in spirit;
- That you will strengthen your outreach to the community by sharing the "good news" of Unitarian Universalism;
- That you will work for Justice in your community, state, country, and world;
- That you will have a strong connection to the larger UU community;
- That you will know what amazing people you are!

All my Love and Blessings to You,
Rev. Betty

June 22 - 28

Portland, Oregon

Rev. Betty will be attending the UU Ministers Association Ministry Days in Portland, Oregon, from June 22 to 24, and she and Tom will be delegates to the UU General Assembly from June 24 to 28. In case of ministerial emergencies, please contact the UUCVH office for coverage.



Monday, June 8
Committee on Ministry
Dinner
7:30 – 9:00 PM



Thursday, June 11
Gnu UUs Dinner Meeting
5:30-7:30 PM
Contact Paula Hallowell,
Chair of the Gnu UUs for info!



Friday, June 12
Women's Group Potluck
12:00 - 1:30pm
Contact Deane Phinney for info.
You are also welcome to "just
show up" for potluck lunch!
*Aesthetics Committee
following lunch!



Sunday, June 14
Spiritual Explorers Group
12:30 - 2:00 PM
All are welcome! Come
discuss a new spiritual,
religious topic each month
with openness and respect.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

From the very first time I met Rev. Betty, I could feel the energy and enthusiasm that became such a vital force for our church. She is a born leader and her presence among us has brought us together and energized our congregation in so many ways! And now, how do we say good-bye? With appreciation for all she has brought to us. With the knowledge that we have been enriched by her words and actions. With happy memories of puppets, laughter, parties and all the fun we have shared. With visions of purple in our dreams. With sadness that we will not have weekly contact, but with gladness knowing that she will be entering a new and exciting stage of her life (and spending less time on those long freeways!)

And although Rev. Betty is the one who has been our minister, we have an equal attachment to the man who calls himself "the minister's wife." Tom immediately became an integral part of our church, making connections with each and every one of us. He has a knack for cordially greeting newcomers and integrating them into our midst. We have benefitted from his expertise in financial matters as well as participation on various committees. He's also a crucial participant at game nights; and no party or friendship dinner would be complete without his legendary brownies!

Although we will greatly miss you both, we send you off with all good wishes and the knowledge and happy anticipation that our paths will continue to cross.

Ann Kleinsasser



Sunday, June 7 at Noon **Annual UUCVH Congregation Meeting**

This important meeting is where we elect officers, review where we've been, and plan for the year ahead!

Following the Potluck Luncheon, all members are requested to attend this important once-a-year meeting.

The nominees for 2015-2016:

- ⊕ President Ann Kleinsasser
- ⊕ Vice President Roy Lopez
- ⊕ Secretary Vivienne Payne
- ⊕ Treasurer Gary Clark
- ⊕ Trustee (term ends 6/18) Pat Berberian
- ⊕ Nominating Committee Howard Richman
- ⊕ Nominating Committee Cindy Lopez
- ⊕ Nominating Committee Alan Kleinsasser

**DRAFT UUCVH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Of May 20, 2015**



MOVIE NIGHT
Tuesday, June 9
6:30pm

Hosted by Paula Hallowell



“With Six You Get Eggroll”
1968 G 95 minutes

Widow Abby McClure (Doris Day) manages lumberjacks by day and looks after her three sons by night. One day, she meets nice-guy Jake Iverson (Brian Keith), a widower with a daughter. They fall in love, get married and try to blend their two families into one functioning unit. This film also marks the acting debut of George Carlin. Co-starring Barbara Hershey, Alice Ghostley, Jamie Farr, Pat Carroll.



Thursday, June 18
Valley Cluster UU Ministers
at UUCVH
9:00 – 10:30am

Present: President Ann Kleinsasser, Treasurer Gary Clark, Secretary Cindy Lopez, Trustees Howard Richman and Celia Eiben, Minister Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, Administrator Terresa Jones and Minister Candidate Rev Gordon Bailey.

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm. The chalice was lighted and members checked in.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 4-18-15 were approved as read. Agenda reviewed, Ann added to Old Bus.

Treasurer: Report submitted by Gary. Working on budget for next year. Financial committee gathering info from all other committees. Nine pledge cards returned so far. Canvass Co-chairs Cindy and Roy Lopez to follow up with outstanding members. Annual fundraising event TBD.

Minister: Report of activities for April/May reviewed. LA Valley Cluster will need to replace Rev Betty as co-chair. Economic Justice project cont.

Search Committee: Candidating week in progress and running smoothly. Sponsoring Ice Cream Social 5/22. Members of SC [Deane Phinney, Vivienne Payne, Roy Lopez, Howard Richman] will form new Committee on Ministry.

RE Committee: Met 5/19 to discuss summer projects. Task force needed to overhaul Children’s Center, incl playroom, art room and library. Will sponsor Family Event TBA.

Worship Committee: Need new chair. Some new members added. Will need to fill four sermons this summer, ideas being submitted, TBA. Need projector and laptop for multi-media presentations.

Old Business:

- Annual report in progress, Terresa needs reports from committees.
- Canvas dinner successful. Campaign planning for 2016 to begin in Sept.

New Business:

- Interview to be scheduled for RE Asst candidate.
- Proxy votes for minister candidate “vote to call” on 5/25: Deanne Phinney for Paula Hallowell and Ann K for M’lou Dietzer.
- Outreach via Twitter TBD.
- Paula Hallowell's work on arranging for heating system repair was recognized and appreciated.

The chalice was extinguished and meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.
Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 17th, 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Lopez, Secretary



**Monday, June 15
Staff Meeting
6:30 – 8:00 PM**



**Wednesday, June 17
UUCVH Board Meeting
7:00 PM**

SAVE THE DATE:

**Tuesday, July 14
7:00pm at UUCVH**

**Roy Zimmerman is back
“Faucet’s on Fire!”
see flyers in Fellowship
Hall**

The *Outlook* Newsletter is published monthly by The Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills
www.uuverdugo.org

Deadline for submissions is Friday, June 19.

Editor reserves the right to edit for content and/or space.

UUCVH © 2015



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF US!

With great joy, I write this column! It was an exciting and busy time during Candidating Week at UUCVH in May. We all got to know Rev Gordon and his lovely wife Lisa over several meetings and “get-togethers.” It was a pleasure to meet Jennifer and Kai at the Friday ice cream social and again on Sunday.

We experienced Rev Gordon’s terrific energy during his two sermons. And, we learned so much more about the man selected to be our candidate than any resume could inform. We shared a lot and we laughed a lot together!

When the week came to a close, the congregation met for a formal meeting and vote whether to call Rev Gordon Bailey as our minister.

The vote was enthusiastic and unanimous!

We are so delighted that Rev Gordon accepted our call to ministry! Pictured above is President Ann Kleinsasser signing a mutual agreement with Reverend Gordon Clay Bailey who begin service as our new minister on September 1st 2015.

That said, I have a feeling that we’ll see Rev Gordon sooner!

Welcome to UUCVH!

COME INTO THE CIRCLE
Chalice Children



This month we have been exploring the concept of change.

With many changes approaching our congregation, the children have noticed new faces and have heard information about our wonderful Reverend Betty leaving to retire. These concepts can bring up wonders and worries for young children, so it is essential to provide as much opportunity to explore and understand what is currently happening.

While we explore these concepts much of our discussion and exploration reflects the principles we have been learning. For example, we noticed that Reverend Gordon Bailey is a male and that he is different from Reverend Betty. We talked about the wonderful things we noticed about Reverend Baily and the wonderful things we noticed about Reverend Betty... they both tell really wonderful stories and are kind. While they are both different, they are both special and unique.

We are also talking a lot about how families come together and that some of our friends have alternative family structures and how special each family is. It is wonderful to gain insight into the mind of children. They are naturally inquisitive, curious and open to understanding the differences of others in a positive way. This provides adults with incredible opportunity to expose our children to differences and embrace the importance of diversity in life.

We have been spending many of our days making things for people we care about, whether it is a family member, a new reverend or just a good friend at school. Kindness is a concept this group has latched onto and they are very mindful with one another when working together and talking with one another. They are quite an insightful group of learners.

As the summer months approach and we prepare to say “see you soon” to Reverend Betty, I know we will be exploring what it means to change and what it means when you don’t see someone all the time. We will talk about how to stay connected to those we love and that even when life brings change, there are a lot of wonderful things that stay the same and help us to feel grounded. We can’t wait to see what our wonderful children share with us in the months to come!

Warmly,

Elizabeth & Rachael

Elizabeth Brown, Director of Religious Exploration Education
Rachael Myers, RE Assistant

June 2015 at UUCVH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All events take place at UUCVH unless otherwise noted	1 7:00pm Knitting Circle @ member's home	2 7:30-9:30pm UUJustice "Make It Fair" Refreshments provided.	3 10-12pm Cleaning Service	4 11am Membership Comm	5	6
	7 10:30am Worship Service "Relationships That Are Real," Rev Dr Betty Stapleford 11:30am Potluck Lunch 12:30-1:30pm Annual Meeting" 2-3:30pm Shared Ministry	8 7-9pm Committe on Ministry Dinner	9 6:30pm Movie Night "With Six You Get Eggroll"	10	11 5:30-7:30pm GNU UUs Dinner meeting	12 12-1:30pm Women's Group Potluck Luncheon
14 10:30am Worship Service "Sin Boldly" Rev Dr Karen Stoyanoff 12:30-2pm Spiritual Explorers Group	15 6:30-8pm Staff Meeting 6-8pm Private Rental	16 "	17 7:00pm Board Meeting	18 	19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	20 <i>Litha at sundown Summer Solstice</i>
21 <i>Father's Day</i> 10:30am Worship Service "Farewell But Not Goodbye" Rev Dr Betty Stapleford	22	23	24 <i>General Assembly in Portland, Oregon begins!</i>	25	26	27
28 10:30am Worship Service "Jimmy Carter For Women"	29	30				

SAVE THE DATE!

June 1 Knitting Circle 7:00pm
June 2 Rev. Betty presents Burbank City Council Invocation 6:00pm
June 2 UU Justice Ministry "Make It Fair" @ UUCVH 7:30-9:30pm.
June 4 Membership Comm 11:00am
June 7 First Sunday Potluck Lunch 11:30am
June 7 UUCVH Annual Meeting 12:30-1:30pm
June 7 Shared Ministry Team 2-3:30pm
June 8 La Crescenta Sheriff's Clergy Council 11 am-1pm
June 8 Committee on Ministry dinner meeting 7-9 pm
June 9 Glendale Religious Leaders meet @ Glendale YMCA 12-1:30pm
June 9 Movie Night "With Six You Get Eggroll" 6:30pm
June 11 GnuUU dinner meeting, 5:30-7:30pm
June 12 Women's Group Potluck Lunch at noon
June 14 Spiritual Explorers 12:30-2pm
June 15 UUCVH Staff meeting 6:30-8pm
June 17 Board Meeting 7:00pm
June 18 Burbank Ministerial Association 9-10:30am
June 19 Outlook Newsletter deadline
June 21 *Summer Solstice*
June 24 General Assembly in Portland, Oregon begins



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