

# the Outlook

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills  
4451 Dunsmore Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214  
[www.uuverdugo.org](http://www.uuverdugo.org)



## Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills

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[uucvh@uuverdugo.org](mailto:uucvh@uuverdugo.org)

**Rev. Gordon Clay Bailey**  
[RevGordon@UUVerdugo.org](mailto:RevGordon@UUVerdugo.org)

**Minister's Office Hours:**  
Please call for apt.

Elizabeth Brown,  
*Religious Ed. Coordinator*  
Marty Barrett, *President*  
Cindy Lopez, *Vice-President*  
Amy Starbin, *Secretary*  
Vivienne Payne, *Treasurer*  
Nancy Watkins, *Administrator*



We are Unitarian Universalists:  
a people of the open mind,  
the loving heart, and the helping  
hands.

Welcome to UUCVH!

April 1

**Looking Back, Paying Attention to the Present,  
Expectations Of a Great Future**  
Rev. Gordon Clay Bailey

Our journey together is coming to a close. We have hopefully experienced some things together that might give us a reason to reflect? The seasons require a closer look at birth, death and the concept of resurrection. Join us this Easter Sunday as we look forward with great expectations.

April 8

**Intergenerational Service- Spring Into Life**  
Rev. Gordon Clay Bailey

Come to UU Verdugo as we leap into a New Season. Join us for song, dance and hopefully a good time for children and adults of all ages.

April 15

**Our Journeys to Unitarian Universalism**  
Marty Barrett, Lay Leader

From time to time, during our Sunday service, we share stories with each other about our religious and spiritual journeys to Unitarian Universalism. This Sunday we will hear from several of our congregation members about their beliefs and what brought them to our church. It is a wonderful way to get to know each other better and to realize what a diverse and interesting group we are!

April 22

**We Need One Another**  
Rev. Gordon Clay Bailey

Into each life a series of events will happen. In a family and even in a congregation life will offer us loss, gain, grief and rejuvenation among the long list of feelings and emotions. Let us learn more than we know already about how to navigate the changing realities of life together as we lean on one another and move forward together.

April 29

**Leadership, Accountability, and Ownership**  
Rev. Gordon Clay Bailey

In our denomination and in our congregational life we elect leaders. We hold them responsible. We are a people of the Unitarian Universalist faith, have ownership of this faith, and a great responsibility to all that is our life together. Join us at UUCVH as we unpack a bit more and find greater resolve and commitment for the work of this church.

**Spiritually Speaking**  
**Rev. Gordon Clay Bailey**  
**April 2018**

Spring –A Time for Renewal

Spring is a time for renewal, growth, and expansion; we feel it in the air. Even though we can do this at any time during the year, it feels just right to do it during spring.

We seem to have that extra energy and focus to get physically active, take action, and create change and so it with us here at UU Verdugo.

This Spring is a great time to envision endless possibilities and boy do we need them here. It also is a time for us/you to use your creative gifts to reach new levels of personal and congregational achievement, wellness, happiness and success.

Spring is a good time to let go of the old and make room for the new. This can apply to the traditional spring cleaning but most importantly we need to apply it to letting go of old grudges, resentments, and anger that holds us back from enjoying inner peace and more happiness in our lives. I know I need this badly. That is part of the transition for you and me, letting go of the upsets and moving forward in our lives.

When we hold on to the old we keep ruminating and re-visiting old wounds and they keep us stuck. And sometimes we don't even know it. When we choose to let go of the old ways we make room for and open the door to endless possibilities that are waiting for us.

When we choose to let go of the old we can make great progress and hopefully alleviate some if not all of our emotional and physical challenges.

We all have struggles; it is called life. While it is true that some challenges are harder than others are, this only means that we have to work harder at letting go and moving on. We are all being guided through the learning process of figuring out life by overcoming its challenges; this is part of our earthly journey and UUCVH is no different.

So, while Spring naturally invites us to let go of the old to make room for the new, I encourage people to do it on a regular basis to optimize happiness and hopefulness. When it comes to transformation and renewal think of what Pablo Neruda said in one of his love poems, "I want to do with you what spring does with the cherry trees."

Be receptive to unforeseen possibilities and remember to be ready at any moment to give up what you are for what you may become.

In hope for a better tomorrow,

**Rev Gordon Clay Bailey**

## SAVE THE DATE

May 19, 2018  
Friendship Dinners

Plan to sign-up for this enjoyable evening where we share potluck dinners in members' homes and get to know each other better.

## ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2018 Annual Meeting of The Unitarian Universalist Church of the Verdugo Hills will be held **June 10, 2018, at 11:30am** in Fellowship Hall.

This notice goes out in accordance to Bylaws as amended 2017.



## APRIL INTERFAITH CALENDAR

1

Easter - **Christian**

Palm Sunday –

**Orthodox Christian**

3

Mahavir Jayanti - **Jain**

6

Holy Friday - **Orthodox Christian**

8

Pascha - Easter-

**Orthodox Christian**

12

Yom HaShoah - **Jewish**

13

Lailat al Miraj - **Islam**

14

Baisakhi (Vaisakhi) – **Sikh**

19

Yom Ha'Atzmaut - **Jewish**

21

First Day of Ridvan - **Baha'i**

23

St. George's Day – **Christian**

29

Ninth Day of Ridvan - **Baha'i**

Visakha Puja - Buddha Day –

**Buddhist**

30

St. James the Great Day –

**Orthodox Christian**

30-May 2

Theravadin New Year - **Buddhist**

## President's Column Marty Barrett

Dear Friends,

"We are afraid to care too much, for fear that the other person does not care at all."

This quote from Eleanor Roosevelt was, when I first read it, a decades-old splash of cold water. On its face it says so much about the things that thwart our natural tendencies toward doing good — that our efforts won't be appreciated.

But it also countenances so many daily inequalities in our lives which may or may not have different contemporary names, from donor fatigue to atychiphobia (Fear of Failure: Why try at all if my goals are unreachable?) to co-dependence.

In the world of personal news platforms and social commentary, we might put too much spin on our caring because we are prepared either for apathy or for a negative, knee-jerk reaction. The backlash against the impressive and fierce Parkland students comes to mind as an example of our culture's destructive antipathy toward simply showing we care, even if our opinions are different.

In our UU community setting, that quote has a bearing on our occasional rifts that arise among a group of spirited, educated people, each of whom enjoys the simple pleasure of knowing they're right.

We are losing our minister in a few months, and my predecessor in this position also resigned. Two good, able, educated, spirited people. My goal in this gig, the goal of the Board, and the goal of you, the congregation of UUVerdugo is to recommit ourselves to Right Relations with each other, to throw open our doors, to draw seekers to us, and to seek people out. It is very simply the means of our survival.

Today, ask yourself: Are these differences of opinion insurmountable? Is there a bridge I can build? What is my fear of not being agreed with?

Like that guy Eleanor was married to said, "We have nothing to fear but fear itself." And we certainly should not be fearful of caring too much. I personally will not point and laugh at you if I see you caring too much.

Marty Barrett, Board President

# ASCENCIA

Lifting People Out of Homelessness

Friday April 13

Food prep begins at 2:00pm for meal service at 6:00pm.

1851 Tyburn Street, Glendale, CA 91204

Ascencia - volunteers needed to prepare food (2:30-5:00 pm) and then serve (5:00-7:00 pm) Friday, March 9. Please contact Reverend Bailey if you are available.



## Attention Ralphs Grocery Shoppers!

As part of their program to give back to the community, Ralphs contributes up to 4% of your monthly purchases back to UUCVH. All you have to do is designate UUCVH as your non-profit organization of choice. If you have done this in the past, you must renew in September. To receive funds, an official of the group needs to visit

Here's how to sign up or renew:

- Be sure to have your Ralphs Rewards card handy
- Go to [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) and either sign in or register
- Click on My Account > Account Settings > Community Rewards > Edit
- Enter UUCVH's organization code **83364** and click to search. Click button to select. Click Save to complete enrollment. Click Okay at top of page to save changes.
- If you do not yet have a Ralphs Reward card, they are available for free at the customer service desk at any Ralphs location.
- Do you use your phone number instead of your card at the register? Call Ralphs Rewards Card Hotline 800-660-9003 to get your Rewards Card number.
- Members must swipe their registered Ralphs Reward card or use the phone number that is linked to their registered Ralphs Reward card when shopping for each purchase to count.



Attention Amazon Shoppers Designate UUCVH when you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

## What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

## How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

## Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

## How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

## How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges.

Remember, only purchases at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), (not [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or the mobile app.) support charity. Look for the AmazonSmile badge in [Your Orders](#) to see which of your orders have supported charity.



OUTLOOK NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS  
DEADLINE!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

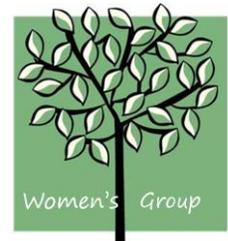
Tips to get your message out:

- ✓ Write it yourself.
- ✓ Proofread & correct.
- ✓ Include contact name with phone &/or email.
- ✓ Add date, time, location.
- ✓ Email items to the office

Note that Sunday Orders of Service Bulletin deadline is by the prior Monday.

[communications@uuverdugo.org](mailto:communications@uuverdugo.org)

Thanks!



WOMEN'S GROUP POTLUCK

Friday, April 13 @ Noon

Women and those who identify as women, bring a dish to share & have fun!



Sunday, April 1

First Sunday Potluck

Following service at 11:30am

Bring a salad luncheon dish to share!

## UU Verdugo April Calendar

Sunday, April 1	10:30 – 11:30am 11:30am – 12:30pm	Worship Service First Sunday Potluck
Friday, April 6	1:30 – 2:30pm	Balance Class
Sunday, April 8	9 – 10am 10:30 – 11:30am 12 – 1pm	Membership Committee Intergenerational Worship Service Religious Education Committee
Friday, April 13	12 – 1pm 1:30 – 2:30pm 2 – 5pm	Women's Group Potluck Lunch Balance Class Guest Chef for Ascencia
Sunday, April 15	10:30 – 11:30am 12:30 – 1:30pm	Worship Service Social Action Committee
Wednesday, April 18	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	
Thursday, April 19	7 – 8pm	White People For Racial Justice Neighborhood UU Church
Friday, April 20	1:30 – 2:30pm	Balance Class
Sunday, April 22	10:30 – 11:30am	Worship Service
Friday, April 27	1:30 – 2:30pm	Balance Class
Sunday, April 29	10:30 – 11:30am	Worship Service



## RE REMINDERS:

1. If your child will not be attending church, we kindly ask that you email Elizabeth at [elizabethb@uuverdugo.org](mailto:elizabethb@uuverdugo.org) and let her know. This helps us ensure appropriate staffing each Sunday.
2. RE Committee meets every 2nd Sunday of the month from 12-1
3. Children's Chapel is the 3rd Sunday of the month (unless there is an intergenerational service)
4. Intergenerational Services are quarterly (dates posted on Monthly "At-a-Glance" on our corkboard)
5. If you would like childcare at your event, please email Elizabeth at [elizabethb@uuverdugo.org](mailto:elizabethb@uuverdugo.org) (at least two weeks before the event) with the following information:

Date:

Time:

Anticipated Attendee Info:

We will do our best to accommodate requests!

Thank you! The RE Department



### Children's Religious Education Elizabeth Brown

Spring is Here!

With springtime comes change, growth, new life, and hopefully lots of wonderful, refreshing rain!

We are looking forward to watching our sunflowers grow (by the side of the church) and planting some butterfly plants (thank you to the Lopez family for your contribution!). We can't wait to tend to our garden and see what happens!

This month we will be focusing on several concepts...we will be thinking a lot about change as we say goodbye to Reverend Gordon and also thinking about what will be the same. Change can often stir up emotions for both adults and children and part of our job in the RE department is to provide a safe space for those emotions. We will be thinking about ways we can honor the work Reverend Gordon has done and also how to say "see you later".

We will also be talking about our principles and thinking a bit deeper about what they mean for us as UU kids. Below is a beautiful interpretation of our principles and the reference we as a group will be using to talk about the principles and how they are applicable to our daily lives.

Finally, we will also be focusing on friendship in our UU group asking questions like (with the support of Tapestry of Faith Curriculum)....

What does it mean to be a friend?

What are helpful things to say?

What are hurtful things we have said?

How can we care for one another?

How can we repair a hurt friend's feelings?

Then, at the end of the month, we will be creating a covenant for our UU children's group.

We are going to be very busy and can't wait to share what we have done!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are working to get more supplies and books for our kids in the RE department!

Would you be willing to donate an item on our list? (posterboard to come)

Here's what we are wishing for :)

I Think, I Am!: Teaching Kids the Power of Affirmations  
by Louise Hay, Kristina Tracy (amazon)

The Pink Hat  
by Andrew Joyner (amazon)

I Can Handle It - Mindful Mantras (Volume 1)  
by Ms. Laurie Wright (amazon)

Stick and Stone  
by Beth Ferry, Tom Lichtenheld (amazon)

Round Table Puzzle- Kids Edition- Dinos  
(50 piece) (amazon)

Ravensburger Disney: Finding Dory Glow in the Dark Puzzle (100 piece) (amazon)

Ingooood Rainy Night Walk paper puzzle 1000 pieces (for older kids) (amazon)

Marble Run Toy- Melland 122 Pcs Marble Game STEM learning Toy (amazon)

Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls 2  
by Francesca Cavallo, Elena Favilli (amazon)

Please let Elizabeth know if you can help or take a leaf from our "wishes tree"!

Thanks so much!