



UU of SCV

The Flame

www.UUofSCV.org 661-254-7866

Santa Clarita's Unitarian Universalist Congregation

February, 2017

Sunday, Feb 5 – 10:30 am

Hidden Bonds: Body, Mind and Spirit Rev. Peter Farriday

An expanding body of rigorous scientific research increasingly indicates that our psychology and our physiology are profoundly linked. From that understanding, an addition layer of connection is emerging, called by some researchers "biocognition": how our cultural beliefs and practices affect our biology. This Sunday, we'll explore how this expanding awareness holds great promise for healing our deeply connected bodies, minds and spirits.

A Healing Prayer Circle will follow from 11:45 – 12:15.

Sunday, Feb 19 – 10:30 am

Presidential Spirit Rev. Peter Farriday

The annual commemoration of Presidents' Day raises an intriguing question: "Who might we consider the most "spiritual" presidents in our national history? And further, "How did their beliefs and levels of spiritual awareness affect their ethics, governing philosophies and policies... and how does this compare to our current situation?" Join us for an animated historical inquiry that also speaks volumes about today's national scene.

Our collection on this 3rd Sunday will be donated to NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (see article)

After the service join us for our second "**Hymn Sing**" led by music director Scott Roewe from 11:45 to 12:15. We will explore Unitarian Universalist hymns from the past, present and future! Lend your voice or come to listen (see article).

Sunday, Feb 26 – 10:30 am

Luminescence – The Light Within

An Intergenerational Service
Worship Host: Rick Kamlet



In this UU candle ceremony, we will celebrate the light within each of us, rejoice in our diversity, reflect upon the significance of our lives, refocus for empowerment and action, and revel in the ensuing renewal and recommitment. This year we'll hear new poetry contributed by ministers and UU members from around the country, and involve our most important resource – our children.

Sunday, Feb 12 – 10:30 am

Love Michael Guinn

Probably the biggest, most wonderful and important word in every language in the world. Chances are we use and feel some version of it every day, but what exactly do we mean when we say it? Is it too big or too simple to grasp? Is love an emotion or perhaps a choice? Come join UU Speaker Michael Guinn on Sunday February 12th as he returns to UU of SCV to explore the Gospel of Love. Oh, and there just might be some singing too.

SERVICES ARE HELD AT:

**SCV Senior Center Bldg.,
22900 Market St.
Newhall, CA
(½ block from Newhall Ave.)**

A Declaration of Conscience

Rev. Peter Farriday

On January 18th, I and many other UUs received a News Alert from the presidents of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. (The UUSC works internationally to right injustices and support affected persons.)



The statement introduced, and was followed by, a formal Declaration of Conscience concerning the results of the latest presidential election. I shared the Declaration aloud at our Jan. 22 worship service and encouraged congregants to sign it. As of this writing, the Board of UU of SCV is considering whether to endorse the Declaration on behalf of the congregation.

Below is an abridged version of the News Alert, followed by the full text of the Declaration. If you've already seen it, I feel it's important to keep in the front of our minds. If you haven't seen it, consider signing onto it at: <http://connect.uusc.org/l/103112/2017-01-17/gpgn2>. Or if you don't have computer access, please speak with or call me and we'll find a way to add your name. (My number is in the Member Directory.) You can also inform a Welcome Table volunteer on Sunday mornings that you'd like to sign on, and they'll let me know.

UU's have always been at the forefront of movements for inclusive peace and justice. Our voices may be needed now as rarely before.

Blessings,

Rev. Peter Farriday

UUA News Alert (dated 1/18/17, abridged by P. Farriday):

Dear Friends of Faith and Conscience,

We're writing with what we expect is the same urgent sense of concern you're feeling about the results of the presidential election and what will follow. Based on the many conversations we've had, we've concluded that in these extraordinary times we must be united in purpose to protect the values of our democracy and those vulnerable populations among us.

As a first step, we have prepared a Declaration of Conscience stating our commitment in these troubling times. By signing the declaration, individuals and congregations will be affirming our core values and declaring our willingness to put them into action.

We will be vigilant of administration actions, policies and verbal assaults that undermine the principles of our declaration or disparage, threaten or attack innocent people. We will respond by speaking truth to power and mobilizing support for those who are under siege. This is not about partisan politics. It is a commitment to speak out and to act in support of basic human rights.

We cannot predict what the future will bring, and we do not pretend to have all the answers, but we can and will be ready for the struggle ahead of us. Join us in transforming faith into action, sign the Declaration of Conscience today, and please encourage others to sign as well.

*In Faith and Solidarity,
The Rev. Peter Morales, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association
Hon. Thomas Andrews, president and CEO of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee*

"Declaration of Conscience"

(full text, dated 1/18/17):

"At this extraordinary time in our nation's history, we are called to affirm our profound commitment to the fundamental principles of justice, equity and compassion, to truth and core values of American society.

"In the face of looming threats to immigrants, Muslims, people of color, and the LGBTQ community and the rise of hate speech, harassment and hate crimes, we affirm our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

"In opposition to any steps to undermine the right of every citizen to vote or to turn back advances in access to health care and reproductive rights, we affirm our commitment to justice and compassion in human relations.

"And against actions to weaken or eliminate initiatives to address the threat of climate change – actions that would threaten not only our country but the entire planet – we affirm our unyielding commitment to protect the interdependent web of all existence.

"We will oppose any and all unjust government actions to deport, register, discriminate, or despoil.

As people of conscience, we declare our commitment to translate our values into action as we stand on the side of love with the most vulnerable among us.

"We welcome and invite all to join in this commitment for justice. The time is now."

THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES

Exploring Unitarian Universalist Hymns, Part 2

Scott Roewe, Music Director

Feb 19th
after the Service

For those who are interested in exploring Unitarian Universalist hymns from the past, present and future, we held the first hymn sing session on January 19th, and the second session will be held right after the service on February 19th.

All are welcome, and you'll get an opportunity to tell us what you like and what you don't.

About the weekly music, the search each week for the right music and the correct words that go with the music is quite an adventure. With a religion that makes a deliberate point to embrace diversity, the journey is even more dramatic! Your input will help with that.

If you are member of the congregation, your ideas and feedback are appreciated, both negative and positive, for it is all constructive.

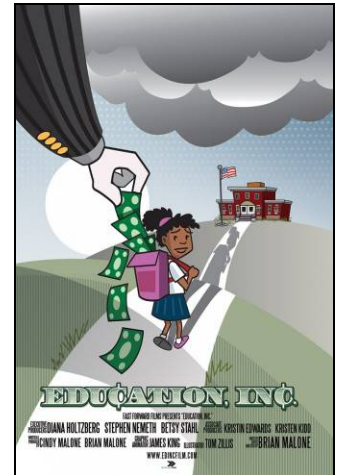
Please join me in the quest to find the right words and music, by sharing your thoughts and feelings in a constructive manner.

Conversation, Dinner (Pot Luck) and a Movie

The Social and Environmental Justice Team

February 10th at 6 pm

All are welcome to join us for a spirited evening of lively conversation, gourmet quality dining, and a first rate movie. The February film is **Education, Inc.**, a documentary about how money and politics are changing our schools.



"The brilliant award-winning film-makers, navigate their way through a diabolical scheme to "reinvent" education." The Huffington Post

We begin the evening at 6 pm at the home of Sally White, 26242 Park View Road, Valencia, 91355. You can RSVP to sallywhite24@sbcglobal.net, or call Suzie Rizzo, 805-490- 1057, or Sally at 661-259-9407.

Congregational Meeting on February 12th

A mid-year Congregational Meeting will be held after the service on February 12, 2017. A report on budget and finances will be given, the Nominating Committee will be elected, and the congregation will vote on whether to approve revised By-Laws.

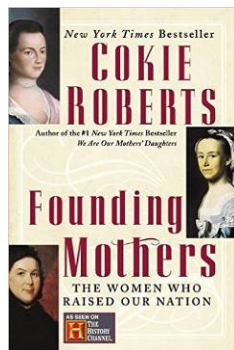
All congregation members were sent a copy of the intended By-Law changes 30 days beforehand. Please remember to review them before the meeting. No print copies will be provided at the meeting on February 12. A vote to approve or not approve them will be taken at that time.

Join Us for Social Lunch-After-Service Membership Team

Join UU of SCV friends for Lunch-After-Service on Sunday, **February 19**, 12:30 pm (after the Hymn Sing), at Coco's Restaurant, 24930 Pico Canyon Rd. in Stevenson Ranch, just off Lyons Ave. Let's meet and eat, all the while making new connections with one another!

Book Club John & Susan Cooper

The Book Club selection for February is *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts. The author, a noted journalist and political analyst, looks at the wives, sweethearts, mothers, sisters and daughters of the men who were fighting in the Revolutionary War or serving as statesmen or ambassadors. Roberts relies on a great deal of original source material to appreciate the wit and wisdom of these amazing women.



The Book Club will meet Wednesday and Thursday, the **15th and 16th of February** at six o'clock at the Coopers'. Please let John know what night is your preference to attend, then read the book and come and enjoy good food, good company and conversation about good books.

For more information, contact John Cooper cooper91355@gmail.com.

Just-4-Flavor Dining Susan & John Cooper

The Just for Flavor International Dining Group meets once a month at a local and usually ethnic restaurant to enjoy good food and to socialize with fellow UUs. The dining destination is hardly ever known at press time but check with John or Susan after the first of the month to find out where we will be meeting.

Wherever that is, we will be dining there at six o'clock on Tuesday the **28th of February**.

cooper91355@gmail.com or rsbrant@yahoo.com.

Compassion in Action

Such Generosity in Recent Charitable Collections!

Barbara McCoy

Our UU of SCV congregation continues its generosity with 3rd Sunday donations!! As a follow-up to articles in last month's Flame – we have received thank you letters from Bridge to Home and a couple from the Domestic Violence Center (for the general collection and for the teen gift cards) for our support – copies of two of the letters are posted later in the newsletter.

In January, we sent \$438.95 to Single Mother's Outreach of SCV.

Since July 1 the UU of SCV has contributed over \$2700.00 in money and gift cards to local service organizations. Pretty cool in my book -- thank you!

This Month's Third-Sunday Collection for NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness



NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. A guest speaker will provide more details for us about their local services.

What NAMI does (from their website):

We educate. Offered in thousands of communities across the United States through NAMI State Organizations and NAMI Affiliates, our education programs ensure hundreds of thousands of families, individuals and educators get the support and information they need.

We advocate. NAMI shapes national public policy for people with mental illness and their families and provides volunteer leaders with the tools, resources and skills necessary to save mental health in all states.

We listen. Our toll-free NAMI HelpLine allows us to respond personally to hundreds of thousands of requests each year, providing free referral, information and support—a much-needed lifeline for many.

We lead. Public awareness events and activities, including Mental Illness Awareness Week and NAMIWalks, successfully fight stigma and encourage understanding. NAMI works with

reporters on a daily basis to make sure our country understands how important mental health is.

NAMI relies on gifts and contributions to support their work.

Social & Environmental Justice

THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TEAM INVITES YOU!

The SEJ Team

The SEJ Team is the focal point for participation in activities that advance the causes of social and environmental justice. Our role is to learn while exploring the issues and then share what we have learned with the congregation. We would love to have each of you join us, and share in the experience as we grow through our examination of the issues. You may contact Suzie Rizzo at baroness1@sbcglobal.net, or Sally White at sallywhite24@sbcglobal.net for additional information.

Our regular monthly meeting is held on the 2nd Sunday at 11:45am, following Services. However since the Congregational Meeting will be held on the 2nd Sunday this month, the SEJ team will meet on the 3rd Sunday, February 19th. As always, every member and visitor is equally welcome to join us!

February 10 – Conversation, Dinner and a Movie

*See the article on page 3 about the screening of the movie **Education, Inc.***

February 19 – Social and Environmental Justice Team

Meeting at the Senior Center. The meeting starts promptly at 11:45. All are welcome!

February 19 – Third Sunday Outreach - The recipient this month is NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. *See the article on this page about the work NAMI does.*

February 21 – The SEJT monthly 3rd Tuesday political discussion group under the direction of Roselva Ungar will be held at the home of Roselva Ungar. The meeting will be at 6 p.m. Please bring finger foods and pot luck dishes to share. RSVP Roselva at (661) 263-2049, or roselvau@gmail.com.

March 1 – A very Important hearing on the Chiquita Canyon Landfill will be held at West Ranch High School, 6 p.m. This is an important community matter that the Team is following. Please contact Sally White at 661-259-9407 or Suzie Rizzo at 805-490-1057 for additional information.

Religious Exploration

Religious Exploration Recap from January

Chris Hankla

January 1: Since New Year's Day is typically a time when families gather together to celebrate, it was decided to not hold Religious Exploration classes for youth on this Sunday.

January 8: Given that UU of SCV was locked out of the Senior Center on this day, services were held outside under the trees in the parking lot. Families with children joined with adults to worship in the out-of-doors.

January 15: This Sunday in Religious Exploration participants explored the Big Question – “What should I do with my life?” They discussed what gifts they have to offer the world, if they have a calling, long and short range goals/plans, needed preparation, next steps, and the role of happiness in their lives.

January 22: This Sunday in Religious Exploration focus was again on the Big Question – “What should I do

with my life?” Participants discussed sources for advice in pursuing their dreams and desires in the years ahead.

January 29: This Sunday in Religious Exploration participants explored Unitarian Universalist responses to the Big Question – “Do I have a soul?” They discussed connections between the terms “soul,” “inner self,” “core spirit,” “the voice still and small,” “God,” and “the Divine.”

News

Be Part of This Year's Luminescence Service!

Rick Kamlet

We'd love to have you in our Feb. 26 Luminescence celebration!!! – a wonderful service where we celebrate the light within, rejoice in diversity, reflect upon our lives, refocus for empowerment, and revel in renewal.

There are a lot of parts—candle lightings, poetry, and opportunities to share your thoughts about various topics—and so plenty of opportunities to be a part of it.

If you're interested, contact Rick Kamlet at rkamlet@ca.rr.com as soon as possible, ideally by Feb. 1st.

From the Board

Glenda Nowakowski, Board Secretary

- A mid-year Congregational Meeting will be held on February 12, 2017. A mid-year report on budget and finances will be given, the proposed revised bylaws will be voted upon, and the Nominating Committee will be voted upon.
- Eric Klatt has been appointed to fill the vacant Member-at-Large position on the Board.
- The Board is starting to work on a Privacy Policy.

Remember to Sign Up

Barbara McCoy

Another reminder to all about Passive Income to UU of SCV. The following are easy ways to contribute to our growth and financial stability:

Ralphs Grocery – Do you shop here? Do you have a Ralphs' card that is tied to UU of SCV? If you don't, see me and I will give you info on getting registered.

Amazon – Buy on line. Go to the UU of SCV web site, click on giving and then click on Amazon.

Tribute Cards – Has someone done something for you that you would like to honor them for? Fill out a tribute card (available on the membership table) and contribute any amount in their honor. Pam Jaffke handles this program – see her or me with questions.

As always we are most appreciative of your efforts on our behalf.

Birthdays & Membership Anniversaries

UU Membership Anniversaries

Susan Cooper	2/24/2002
Mary Indermill	2/24/2002
Rich Jaffke	2/24/2002
Rick Kamlet	2/24/2002
Trish Lester	2/24/2002
Linda Lott	2/24/2002
Rick Lott	2/24/2002
Sara Brown	2/05/2006
Lesley Yadon-McNutt	2/05/2006
Ed Fella	2/24/2013
Karen Ratliff	2/02/2014
Kevin Ratliff	2/02/2014

UU Birthdays for February

Bruce Glad	2/03
Dottie Healy	2/05
Ed Fella	2/08
Chris Hankla	2/15
Sally Thompson	2/20
Mary Indermill	2/21
Lois Linnert	2/22

CALENDAR

(See Most Recent Calendar Updates at www.UUofSCV.org)

Sunday Services

- 5 **Sunday Service**
Hidden Bonds: Body, Mind & Spirit
Rev. Peter Farriday, 10:30 am

Healing Prayer Circle,
11:45 am – 12:15pm

Worship Team, 12:30 pm, Rich Jaffke's home

- 10 **SEJ Team Presents: Conversation, Dinner & Movie,** 6 pm, Sally White's home
(see article)

Sunday Services

- 12 **Sunday Service**
Love
Michael McGuinn, 10:30 am

Congregational Meeting,
just after the services, all welcome to attend but only members may vote.

- 15/16 **Book Club,** 6 pm, Cooper's home
(see article)

- 17 **Board Meeting,** 12:30 pm, Rick Lott's home

Drum Circle – 7 pm, Beth Jenkins' home
(661-478-2036)

Sunday Services

- 19 **Sunday Service**
Presidential Spirit
Rev. Peter Farriday, 10:30 am

Hymn Sing, 11:45 pm, Senior Center
(see article)

Social & Environmental Justice Team
11:45 pm, Senior Center

Social Lunch-after-Service, 12:30 pm,
Coco's, just after the Hymn Sing (see article)

- 21 **SEJ Political Discussion** – 6pm, Roselva Ungar's home. (see article)

- 24 **Game Night** – 6:45 pm (new time!) Beth Jenkins' home (661-478-2036)

Sunday Services

- 26 **Sunday Service**
Luminescence – The Light Within
Rick Kamlet, 10:30 am

- 28 **Just-4-Flavor Dinner** – 6 pm (see article)

The Membership and Religious Exploration Teams will not meet in February.

Services are held at the SCV Senior Center's Main Building, 22900 Market St. in Newhall (½ block from Newhall Ave.)

Letters of Appreciation to UU of SCV for Our Congregation's Generosity



December 27, 2016

Unitarian Universalist Church
P.O. Box 800028
Santa Clarita, CA 91380

Dear Unitarian Universalist Church,

Thank you for your recent donation of gift cards valued at \$1050.00 to The Domestic Violence Center of Santa Clarita. Your donation will certainly be appreciated by the families in our Center.

Increasing costs and reduced government funding make donations more important than ever before. By donating to the Domestic Violence Center, you make it possible for us to continue to provide vital services such as the 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, and counseling services to victims of domestic violence and their families.

On behalf of the recipients of your generous donation, please accept our sincere thank you. Your kindness and consideration is deeply appreciated. We realize that there are many charities that you may choose to support. Thank you for choosing ours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Linda Davies'.

Linda Davies
Executive Director

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY
P.O. Box 220037; Newhall, CA 91322
dvc-scv.org

Office: (661) 259-8175 • Fax: (661) 259-1194 • 24-Hour Hotline: (661) 259-4357
DVC is an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit ID #68-0017331. Your donation may be tax deductible, please see your tax advisor for more information.



January 16, 2017

Unitarian Universalists of SCV
P.O. Box 800028
Santa Clarita, CA 91380

Dear Unitarian Universalists of SCV,

Thank you for your generous support over the past year. It is because of donors like you that we are able to help those in need in our community. Below is a list of your 2016 contributions to our organization. Our Tax ID Number is 95-4587823.

Date	Gift Amount
02/06/2016	267.00
10/27/2016	207.00

Total: \$474.00

We look forward to your continued support next year and to sharing our successes with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Silvia M. Gutierrez'.

Silvia M. Gutierrez
Executive Director

23752 Newhall Ave. Santa Clarita, CA 91321
Tel: 661.388.0080 | btohome.com
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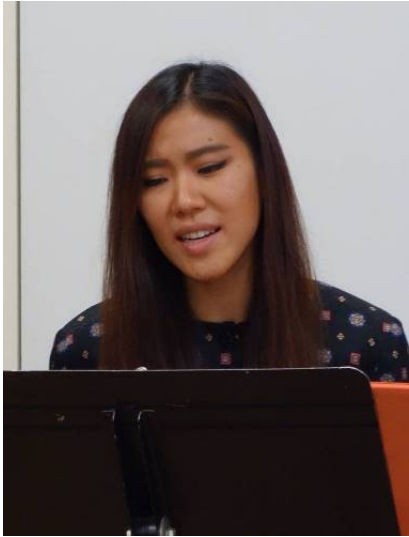
SNAPSHOTS

Services

Audio Recordings of most sermons/messages are posted on our website www.uuofscv.org website, under Worship → Sermons











UU of SCV at
Women's March
January 21st

