



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

The Victoria Unitarian

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 1

JANUARY, 2012

Services in January

Worship Service and Children's Religious Education at 10:30am. Child-Minding available 10am - noon.

January 1 **Origins of New Year and Wassailing**
Christine Johnston assisted by Anastasia, Aaron, Lil, Emma, Mel, Pat, Allan, John and the Pick Up Sticks

Why is January 1 the first day of the New Year? Why is it associated with Scotland? What is Wassailing? Come and taste some creative dance, song, stories, poetry and harvest rites belonging to the season.



January 8 **Overflowing Rice Pots and Fancy Cows**
Rev. Melora Lynngood

Pongal is a four day Hindu harvest festival celebrated in India in mid-January. It is a festival that involves cleaning out the old to make way for the new, giving thanks, and celebrating what is sweet in life. In this service, we will reflect on the themes of Pongal and explore the insights it may offer to Unitarian Universalists.

January 15 **A Greater Citizen**
Rev. Shana Lynngood

As we continue our exploration of the theme of purpose, this morning we think about our role as citizens of the world. In many ways, our world feels smaller and we feel more acutely our connection to people all over the planet than ever before. What are the implications of our interconnectedness? What is our purpose as a member of a global community?



January 22 **Death and Dying**
Rev. Melora Lynngood

In explaining death to a child, it has been said, "Each life on earth is like a story- it has a beginning, middle, and end." In this service, we consider those final chapters of life. In anticipation of a workshop that will be offered on February 4 called, "What is a 'good death?'" we will ponder the spiritual challenges that arise in the face of death.

January 29 **Oh, the Places We've Been!**
Lay Chaplains Fran Pardee, Joyce Murphy, Liz Graham

Unitarians believe everyone has a right to a rite. This congregation has three active lay chaplains reaching out to non-Unitarians who wish to mark their major life events with rites of passage that reflect who they truly are. Hear some stories about the 'Who, Where, What and How' of your lay chaplains' work. Perhaps you would like to consider putting your faith into action in this way.



 denotes Chalice Choir

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The deadline for submissions to the **February** issue of the newsletter is **January 17**.

SELEBRATIONS OF CHANGE

FAYE MOGENSEN

I figure that since the wise ones say there is nothing constant but change, I may as well wish that the children's experience here be filled with compassion, creativity and meaningful change. Indeed, as we move into the New Year, the children's wing will be full of change.

The most basic change is the room "shuffle". By the time you read this, families will have received an email about all the room changes. January will be a month for patience and understanding, as the children settle into new places, new faces and, for some, new curricula.

January is also the month we begin our **MYSTERY BUDDY** program and it, too, has changed.

This year, we'll be adding a **Transylvanian Twist!** Buddy code-names will be European, and our party will be in benefit of our Partner (or Buddy) Church in Romania (formerly Transylvania). For those who haven't been part of the program, this is an opportunity to get to know someone from another generation within our church by exchanging letters for four weeks (February 4-26). You and your buddy write using a code name, slowly revealing clues about yourselves and, if you like, sharing information about the famous Unitarian whose name you are given. On March 4 at noon, your true identities will be revealed at the festive Transylvanian Party. Adults and children

alike, please let me know if you would like more information or to sign up. It's a lot of fun!

Making a new friend is always a welcome change and I look forward to helping nourish and celebrate new friendships at our church, with stronger connections to our "Buddy" Church.

Warmly, Faye Mogensen
Director of Spiritual
Exploration and Learning
FayeM@victoriaunitarian.ca
250-744-2695

(On the topic of change, note that I have also changed my email address – the old one will continue to work for a transition period, but the acronym is out of date and so I have changed to an address that uses my name!)

"Come Sing a Song With Me!"

Children's and Youth (includes Jr. Youth) choirs begin rehearsals on Sunday, January 8 upstairs in the piano room. Children's Choir is from 9:30-10:15. Youth Choir is from noon to 12:30. All are welcome.

Nancy Dobbs

Beginning Again

The beginning of a New Year is always a rich time for reflection. We are often drawn to the allure of a fresh start, of looking at our lives with renewed intention. I find that fascinating because on the one hand, we have a sense that we are who we are, we can make changes and tinker around the edges of our being, but feel that the fundamentals of our lives are mostly set. On the other hand, we also know that change is a constant element of our lives as well. Things we thought would happen, don't, and things we never expected show up. Many of the world's



religious traditions teach us that one of the greatest challenges of being human is to achieve a level of comfort with the changeable nature of life. Can we accept what is? Do we resist all that we didn't choose? Can we make choices knowing full well that things may not work out as we planned? As 2012 begins, I invite you to take stock of the blessings and challenges of your life. How do you hold it all? How might you approach some things differently this year? How will the lessons of last year continue to resonate within you?

As 2012 begins, I am aware that I feel more at home here in Victoria. I am aware as well that at about this point in a new ministry, it feels not so new anymore. Perhaps now that we have been your ministers for a while the novelty has worn off. You are not as excited or interested in seeing what we're up to or hearing what we have to say. As any of us who've been in a long-term relationship know, things get interesting (and more challenging and also richer) when we settle in and build a connection that can be sustained.

I wish you a 2012 filled with good health, loving connections, and joyful living.

Many blessings,
Rev. Shana

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Opportunity Knocks

At the AGM in May two new members will be appointed to the Committee on Ministry, which consists of our Ministers plus six members who serve three-year terms, staggered such that two new members join each year. Members are appointed by the Board from a list of prospective members, half of which are pro-

posed by the Board and half by the Ministers. Meetings are held monthly.

The mandate of the Committee on Ministry is to enhance a strong and healthy relationship between the professional Ministers and the Congregation by serving as a communication channel. As well, the Committee advocates for the professional devel-

opment of, and fair compensation for, the Ministers and it evaluates the relationship between the Ministers and the Congregation.

If you, or someone you would like to nominate, are interested in becoming a member of the Committee, contact any Board member before March 31.

We're fortunate to have a young and growing church. We can feel the energy on Sunday mornings. We're also fortunate to experience this energy in wonderful space. Our Sanctuary is light and bright and helps lift the spirits of us all. We have a colourful children's religious education centre and well-functioning Lion Hall.

This wonderful space takes care and attention, both in time and money, to ensure the facilities function well, looking their best for both us and our visitors. Our hardworking volunteers work and supervise many small - and sometimes fairly large - projects involving our buildings and grounds.

Next year's list of items in the operating budget, for example, range from pumping out our three septic tanks (at a cost of \$1,900) to pest control for \$50. Many of the items are common to any property owner and certainly familiar to a homeowner - roof and gutter cleaning, window cleaning, lock repairs, exterior painting, electrical fixture repairs. The list, as we know, can go on and on. We pay for these out of our operating budget. But we can only pay for so much from our members' pledges, visitors' contributions and money-raising events such as the book sale and auction.

I wish to emphasize that we are in excellent health when it comes to the day-to-day operations of our church. As a congregation we enthusiastically support our staff and

programs, both in time and money.

But aside from these ongoing program costs there are other major property items that the operating budget simply cannot cover. For example, one of the two heat pumps that keeps the Sanctuary warm in the winter and cool in the summer recently failed. Cost: more than \$13,000. The other is bound to fail soon. Another \$13,000. The hardwood floor in the Sanctuary desperately needs refinishing. Cost: \$5,500. The sewer pumps need refurbishing (and we better do them before they go!) Cost: \$2,500. Hot water tanks are reaching the end of their life. Another \$3,000. The floors in the farmhouse offices and boardroom are rapidly deteriorating. Cost: \$12,000. We must buy a generator to run the water system in a power failure so toilets work for our renters. Cost: \$5,000. There's more, as you would expect with any building as it ages.

Our excellent financial health means we can pay for these items over time by using our mortgage or line of credit. Just as it is normal for a young family to have a mortgage on their home and obtain a loan to buy a car, we must borrow to pay for our essentials to keep our major asset healthy.

Over the years we have successfully paid down much of our mortgage—it is now under \$170,000 which is a remarkably small amount for a property that is worth nearly \$2 million. That's

only 8.5 percent. The board is duty-bound to protect the church's assets. It has agreed that the best way to cover the essential property costs we face is by increasing our mortgage when it comes due this August—it is a crucial investment for our future. The exact amount and term for the mortgage will be assessed by members of the property and finance committees. Once these figures are determined you, as a member of the congregation, will be asked to approve the change.

If the congregation agrees to this change we may then launch a new program to raise capital funds and more rapidly pay off the mortgage - perhaps by selling bonds at guaranteed interest rates to members, or perhaps a variant of an RRSP church members' plan used successfully by the North Shore Unitarian Church in Metro Vancouver..

Please join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 8 at noon for a discussion on our current financial status and on a further exploration of the mortgage.

Covenant Question

When you ask a friend how they are enjoying their Chalice Circle, they begin to tell you some personal information confided to them by another of the members and you suddenly feel uncomfortable. What should you say? (See answer on page 18).

Workshop: What is a "Good Death?"

Saturday, February 4th, First Unitarian Church of Victoria, Lion Hall

TWO Sessions (Choose one)

9:30am-12:30pm or 1:30-4:30pm

Led by Dr. Betty Donaldson, Chair of Choices in Dying Monitoring Group for the Canadian Unitarian Council, and Member of Comox Valley Fellowship.

Using readings, music, and meditation, Betty invites people into an interesting and meaningful exploration of the concept of a "good death". Participants will have an opportunity to share their experiences of being an observer of people who have had such passages; and will have a chance to consider what they might do to prepare for their own.

Suggested donation is \$5. Registration will cover costs of workshop; any amount received beyond costs will be donated to the CUC Choices in Dying Monitoring Group.

Each workshop will be limited to 15 participants. 15 in the morning + 15 in the afternoon = 30 total. Sign up by contacting Margot Lods 250-920-3893 or mlods@shaw.ca

Submitted by Rev. Melora

Circle Dinners

Circle Dinners are a great, informal way to meet and socialize with other church members and friends. We meet in each other's homes in small groups of six to eight people on the last Friday of each month. They have been a long time tradition in our congregation. If you would like to join us for good food and interesting conversation, call Elaine Hanson at 1-250-743-9644 or email elainehanson@shaw.ca.

GLBT Film Night

Saturday, January 28th, 7:00pm in the Lion Hall

Everyone is invited to the FUCV GLBT Group's FAFN. How's that for alphabet soup? Translation: A group of Gay and Lesbian members of our First Unitarian Church, their friends and family, and allies have had a couple of very successful potluck dinners, and have decided that for our next activity, we'd like to have a Film Night (our First Annual—or maybe semi-annual).

We will be screening two award-winning films: 1) "Pants on Fire" is a short film by our own Maureen Bradley, which explores issues of trust and includes well-known actress Thea Gill, and 2) A feature documentary "She's a Boy I Knew" is a film about love, family and trans sexuality" by Gwen Haworth, a Vancouver filmmaker.

There will be no potluck dinner on January 21st, as previously planned. However, popcorn will be served at the Film Night on January 28th—bring your favourite popcorn toppings. Please phone Nellie or Laura at 250-595-6383 if you have any questions about this event. Admission is by donation.

Forum:

Taking Care of Our Church

Sunday, January 8, 12 noon in the Sanctuary

Join Board, Property and Finance Committee members in a discussion about our buildings and grounds. By increasing our mortgage we can maintain and improve our valuable assets.



Hello,

My name is Nathan. I am five years old and attend Island Montessori. The church has supported my school in so many ways

and for that I wanted to say "thank you". I also wanted to share with you a little about who I am and how much being a part of this school has made me into the great kid I've become.

I am little brother to Alyssa (7) and big brother to Jack (1). I am the middle child and I am truly unique in every sense of the word. I will melt your heart and open your eyes to an entire new world. This is my purpose on earth I'm sure

I was born with a very rare genetic syndrome called Rubinstein-Taybi (RTS). It's a defect in my genes that occurred while I was in my Mom's tummy. This condition is so rare (1 in 300,000 births) that most doctors

here in Victoria are not familiar with it. It took over two years to diagnose me. My thumbs and big toes are broader than yours and I have facial features that are specific to my syndrome, like down-

slanted eyes (my Mom calls them smiley eyes), arched eyebrows, and very long eyelashes (every woman's dream is to have my eyelashes), I even have an extra



toe. I am also smaller in size than kids my own age. My motor skills and cognitive development are slow but once I learn something

I've got it down.

A year ago, I was diagnosed with Autism and that diagnosis has allowed me to get to more help and people understand me a little bit better as a result of it. So in some weird way it's a good thing! I told you I was unique!

I cannot speak, but I communicate my needs clearly. My parents understand all my needs and know my vocalizations well. Just because I can't talk doesn't mean I don't understand



what you're saying. My feelings can be hurt just like yours. My school has helped me learn how to communicate my needs and wants with pictures and I am now

going to start using my iPad to do this.

I eat through a tube that goes directly into my stomach- it's called a G-tube and it kind of looks like a blow up button that you would find on an inflatable toy. I, however, am not an inflatable boy! I got this little miracle gadget when I was five months old. I needed it because I could not swallow without getting food into my lungs. I also had an operation that tied the top of my stomach in a knot and this helped me keep my food down and stopped me from having constant burning in my throat and chest. It has kept me alive for the last five years but now Mom has said that it's time for me to learn to eat. I am discovering the taste of food. Eating is so complicated and such hard work. I have to learn HOW to do it. I have to learn to chew, to swallow and move my tongue around to push food in different areas of my mouth. I have to learn textures too - a big challenge for me. Eating is more than food it's also a very social thing, so that adds another challenge because of my Autism. I'm easily overwhelmed because I see and hear everything. I hear the lights hum and the clock tick. My senses are heightened in every sense of the word. Everything is emphasized in my head and sometimes my head

A BOY NAMED NATHAN (CONTINUED)

hurts because of all of it. It can be very scary for me.

I'm a complicated little guy, yes I have RTS and I'm Autistic but I'm not stupid, I'm actually very smart. The teachers at the school and my aids recognize just how brilliant I am and I constantly surprise them along with my parents.

I enjoy working with letters and numbers a lot. I sense that these letters are powerful and one day I will be able to communicate and express myself freely by combining these letters. Some have said I'll be writing books!

I have had and continue to get incredible support and love from my Mom and Dad and Katey (Mom says she's her angel sent from above). Katey works hard to help me: she makes me do all the things I don't want to do (like eat). Katey gives me so much love, support, and understanding and in doing this she also gives my parents the extra support and love that they need too! My parents have a big job taking care of me and I know they worry that they aren't good enough but I know differently. My parents too have special needs and I think people forget that sometimes. My

educational team and therapy team have all contributed to my success. It can be incredibly frustrating working with me, but I will do great things in my life in spite of my challenges.

I don't need to be typical to be amazing, I just need to be me.



FUCV FOUNDATION

Call for Grant Proposals

The First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation was established to promote the principles and values of our church. Currently the Foundation has contributions invested with the Victoria Foundation totaling approximately \$53,000. Income from approximately \$28,000 of these funds is dedicated to supporting First Nations post-secondary education through the church. Income from approximately \$24,000 is directed by request of the donor to support the music programme and/or social respon-

sibility programmes of the church.

The Foundation board recommended to the annual meeting in June, 2011 that the Church enter into a three-year agreement with Camosun College to fund a bursary of at least \$500 for First Nations students with income from the First Nations Fund. This year the board is recommending a second three-year bursary of \$500 for a total disbursement of \$1,000

This year we anticipate that around \$800 will be available from the remainder of the funds.

FRANCES HANCOCK

The Foundation is currently seeking proposals from church groups who need a grant to fund music or social responsibility programmes of the church. Applications must be for enhanced activities not normally supported by the church budget and must cover costs not yet incurred.

An application form is available at the church office or from any of the individuals listed below. Deadline for proposals is March 31.

Please refer questions to Frances Hancock or Judy Gaylord.

CLARE VIPOND, CHALICE LIGHTER FOR JANUARY

Clare Vipond is our Chalice Lighter for January, in recognition of her many contributions to the life of our church.

Right after joining the church in June of 2003, Clare and her husband, Don, joined the Social Responsibility Committee (SRC), devoting their energies to poverty issues, including initiation of the Lifeline List Project, the collection of clothing, socks and towels for the homeless in mid-winter and the Back Pack project annually in August. They also arranged for speakers on poverty issues in June each year.

When the Ethel May Fund was established to aid single parents and children, Clare and Bert MacBain were asked to be co-trustees. This fund also supports our Sandy Merriman dinner project, which cooks and delivers 90 casserole meals a month to this Victoria shelter for women. After chairing this project for four

years, Clare stepped down but she still collects donations for it in that little red box on the SRC shelf in the hall. Jim Hackler asked Clare and Don to serve as the SRC representatives for the Zoie Gardner Fund (under the auspices of the Cridge Centre for the Family), established by Jim to improve the lives of needy mothers and children.

Clare also served on the board for a two-year term as Chair for the Worship and Celebration Council, as it was called then. She was also a member of the Lay Chaplaincy Committee and for several years on the Worship Committee.

Clare and Don are facilitators for their Chalice Circle and are active members of the Spirituality Group. Clare takes a regular turn as service leader. Now she is looking for a more incidental involvement with the church; for exam-

ple she recently helped with taking inventory of the library.

Clare's co-workers speak of her in glowing terms. From Bert MacBain: "I have found her to be a pleasure to work with in all our interactions, an engaged, compassionate and sensible colleague. She has become a trusted friend." From Lisa Greenly, who worked with Clare on the Worship and SRC Committees and who belongs to the same Chalice Circle, "I admire Clare because she is thoughtful, warm-hearted; I value that she is hardworking and thorough."

It will come then as no surprise that Clare's favourite principles among the seven guiding Unitarian Universalists are the first and the last, promoting: "the inherent worth and dignity of every person" and "respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

SRC AWARD

PHILIP SYMONS

When Earle Anthony was chair of the Social Responsibility Committee some years ago, he provided an annual award at the SRC's December potluck dinner to someone whom he thought had done especially good work during the year.

On December 13th, the award was given to Lisa Greenly in

recognition of the outstanding work she has done for KIVA, for the HOW projects, and most recently for the meals she and her husband Mike have been providing on Sundays for youth at the Out of the Rain Youth Shelter. The award, given by SRC members, was a gift certificate from a local bookstore.

Rabbie Burns

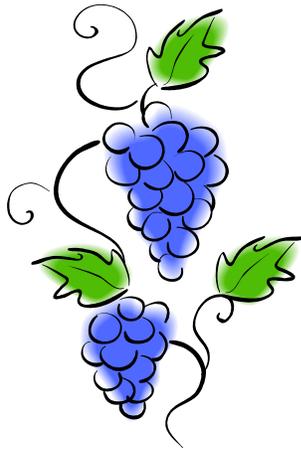
RABBIE BURNS will be celebrated on January 27 in the usual FUCV manner. Anyone interested in contributing to the programme should contact Christine Johnston asap. Those interested in assisting at the dinner preparation, call Susan Lean.

Penny Furnes

Penny arrived at night in a nasty snowstorm in Calgary, Alberta. She grew up with two sisters and went to six schools in Calgary. She was called Helen Pinell.

She took a secretarial course and worked at the Bank of Toronto. The pay was a meagre \$60 a month, so she looked for a better paying job at the Colonel Belcher Hospital. (\$80 per month) She worked there till 1947 when she married Ted Furnes. In those days a woman had to leave a government job when she married.

She inherited her father's political genes. She was elected treasurer of the C.G.I.T. movement in Calgary in her early teens and later was president of the Young CCF group known as the New



Era Club. She did a lot of door to door canvassing. A CCF. MLA in the Alberta Provincial Government, a Mr. Leisemer, proposed the "toast to the bride" at her wedding.

Ted and Penny moved to Valleyview, Alberta in 1953 for his job with Amerada Petroleum. It was a challenging life with no bathroom, one town pump and water bought by the barrel. She had two children in diapers at the time! Nearby truckers left their trucks running all night to prevent freezing up.

They moved to Fort St. John, BC in 1955 when Ted took a job with an explosives company. He travelled a lot up and down the Alaska Highway. Penny kept the home fires burning and also had

a part-time job with the Superintendent of Schools.

Ted's company moved to Vancouver and the family moved to Ladner, BC in 1958. Penny worked as secretary in the School Board office and states she trained four different superintendents in her career. She was also very involved with the NDP in Ladner and was local office manager in three elections. It was exciting when the NDP government was elected in 1972. She was active in the Voice of Women, CUSO and the Unitarian Church among others. She met wonderful people. Penny and Ted set up recycling in Ladner. Penny nervously presented a proposal for a recycling depot in Ladner to the town council. It was successful and they eventually achieved curbside pick-up.

They heard Philip Hewett speak in 1959 and knew where their family belonged. They have been involved with Unitarian Universalism since then.

When Ted retired they travelled to Cuba, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Ukraine, England, Scotland, Canada and the USA. They loved Elderhostels.

Volunteering was always important and they were delighted to work on Lynn Hunter's campaign, running for Federal Member of Parliament.

Penny feels life is an interesting, challenging, experience for her.

MUSIC NOTES

PHIL HALLMAN

Happy new year everyone!! Welcome back to another fabulous year of music.

The Chalice, Men's, Women's, Youth, and Children's Choirs are back up in full swing; we are presenting some exciting music this spring!

Our Inaugural Hand Bell Choirs are starting at the end of January. Stay tuned

to the E-Weekly for details. If anyone would like to try a hand bell, I will be bringing them out after the January 15th service. Please feel free to come and try ringing a bell!

Have a wonderful January.

Choir Dates

January 15	Chalice Choir meets at 10am
January 29	Chalice Choir meets at 10am

Are You New to Our Church? Welcome!!

If you have recently started attending worship and/or events at the First Unitarian Church of Victoria, welcome!! We are so glad you are here! If you would like to know more about our church and our faith tradition, you are invited to attend either or both of these events:

Orientation

Date: Sunday, February 5, 12noon-1pm

Location: Boardroom (in the Farmhouse just north of the main sanctuary building).

Whether you just walked in the door or have been coming several months, the orientation will give you basic information about our congregation and ways to make connections in our church community. *Childminding will be provided.*

Considering Membership

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Location: 1651 Barksdale Drive. Call Helen at 250-477-2189 for directions.

A gathering designed to give you the information you need in order to determine whether you would like to officially become a Member of our church. Whether you join right away, not yet, or not at all, the evening promises to be informative and enjoyable, as we will be talking about things that matter in a small group setting with warm and interesting people. *Childminding can be provided upon request.*

To sign up or if you have questions, please contact Rev. Melora at rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca or 250-744-2601, voice mailbox #1 or cell 250-891-6330. We are so glad you have found us and we are looking forward to getting to know you.

CANVASS 2012 REPORT

LORNA ANTHONY

making our MISSION:POSSIBLE

The 2012 Canvass Committee is ready to self-destruct. On behalf of the committee, Bob Dobbs, Nancy Dobbs, Gloria Turner, Liz Graham and Rev. Shana Lynngood, I would like to give many thanks to our members and friends who responded so generously to our Canvass. We are in difficult economic times but you dug deep. Many are unable to make a financial commitment at this time but give as they can. We are truly grateful.

Whether pledging or not, it is most appreciated by the committee to know of a person's intentions so that the most accurate estimate may be made. As of the newsletter deadline (December 18), our totals were:

- Total received - \$267,208. (We are still optimistic of reaching \$270,000 once all pledge forms are received).
- Pledge units received - 201
- Average pledge - \$1,243
- Range of annual pledges - less than \$100 to over \$7,000
- Median pledge - \$960

The pledge total for last year (as of December 31st) was \$259,486 from 210 units.

When paying your pledge through the year (or making any other donation to the church), you will receive an annual tax receipt in February for the previous year's donations.

Liz Graham's canvass quilt was won by Elaine Dakin.

With every good wish for 2012,

Lorna Anthony, Chair

A Sub-Committee on Drugs and Health of your Social Responsibility Committee is being revived. Its first action of the month is to support "Access Health Centre" run jointly by the Victoria Cool Aid Society and AIDs Vancouver Island (AVI). This Centre and Cool Aid serve over 6,000 people struggling with homelessness, addictions, and mental health issues. It provides harm-reduction and prevention,

education and support services, a dental clinic, a pharmacy, counselling, and a range of improved services, from group medicine to 8,000 nutritious meals for Victoria's most marginalized citizens. Cool Aid is a major Victoria organization struggling to overcome the consequences of poverty on health in Victoria. Over the past year, 510 new patients were welcomed at the Cool Aid Community Health Centre; there were

5,301 dental encounters at the Cool Aid Dental Clinic (up 1,570 over last year)

Cool Aid is only a Band-Aid; the real problem is poverty. However, the deficiencies in health care of needy Victorians is a like an open wound, a wound that needs an even larger bandage. \$880,000 of \$5.3 million remains to complete the fundraising campaign. We ask for your help.

INVITATION TO ALL ARTISTS

ARTS & AESTHETICS TEAM

For many years now, we have had the tradition of showing artwork of members and friends of our congregation on our sanctuary wall. Artists among us were given the opportunity to show their work. In turn, they enhanced our church environment. The Arts and Aesthetics Team now would like to extend this opportunity to the greater public to widen our horizon.

There are few guidelines to be noted:

1. The Arts and Aesthetic Team will oversee the kind of art

that will be chosen to be placed in our church.

2. The art pieces on display will not be covered by insurance for theft nor damage. Art pieces will be shown at the artists' risk.
3. A member of the Arts and Aesthetic Team will assist artists in hanging or placing their art pieces.
4. Each show will be for one month all through the year except December.
5. If some art pieces are for sale and are being sold the church

will receive 15% of the sale price.

We hope this new policy will enrich our art experience within the church and at the same time help with our church expenses.

If you have any questions, please contact Hanny Pannekoek (co-chair) at 250-385-2299 or Betty Sherwood (co-chair) at 250-382-4646.

Mariko Matsumoto

Thanks to Wreath Makers

Thank you to our wreath makers. On a cool Saturday in December, nine of us gathered in the sanctuary to the sweet smell of coffee, tea, muffins and carrot bread. From a flurry of evergreens, ribbon, cones and sparkling balls, twelve beautiful wreathes emerged to grace our walls. Thank you to Chris Mion, Marion Irish, Liz Graham, Sandra Jordon, Lil Lawrence, Emma Lentz, and Hugo Sutmoller. from Hanny Pannekoek and Betty Sherwood

HOW 2011: A report from Diane McLaren

Here are three photos taken of my recent visit to the school we are supporting in Chiang Mai.

"Thank you for supporting our school", and "I like to study English and Shan" (their State language) are themes of home-made cards the children sent me after my visit to the construction camp

where Pi Mok school sits among ramshackle homes.



They were all neatly dressed and attentive even though it was evening and they had been in regular school all day. More girls than boys are here, ages from 5-14, along with several toddlers.

"School" is an elevated platform with three partial walls and a plywood and



bamboo roof, not water-proof. "desks" are three sheets of wood set a foot off the floor. Children sit shoeless at them and pay close attention to one of their young male teachers who is teaching them the words 'happy' 'sad' and 'smile'. He holds a whiteboard as he draws the lesson; they eagerly say, read and

write them. At another table younger children are being guided in a different lesson by the other teacher. They are dreaming of a better world through education, made possible for 2012 by us at First Unitarian. Afterwards, I distributed chocolates, a rare treat as they are very poor.

They want you all to know how grateful they are for your help.



HOW Time - First, the ideas

Our church's Healing Our World (HOW) projects have built an impressive record over the past six years. This congregation has supported 12 projects—three local and nine international. These projects have educated, protected, fed, employed and nurtured needy children and adults.

But a HOW project always begins the same way—with an idea from you. Please think of a way we can join together to make a difference in some corner of the world. Then write down your proposal and give it to Lisa Greenly, Kellina Dyer, June Fukushima or Don Vipond by February 5th. Be sure and include the following information:



Date **Your name** (feel free to form partnerships) **Project Location** **How much money is needed?**
Termination date **Description** (briefly outline the needs involved and what this project will accomplish)

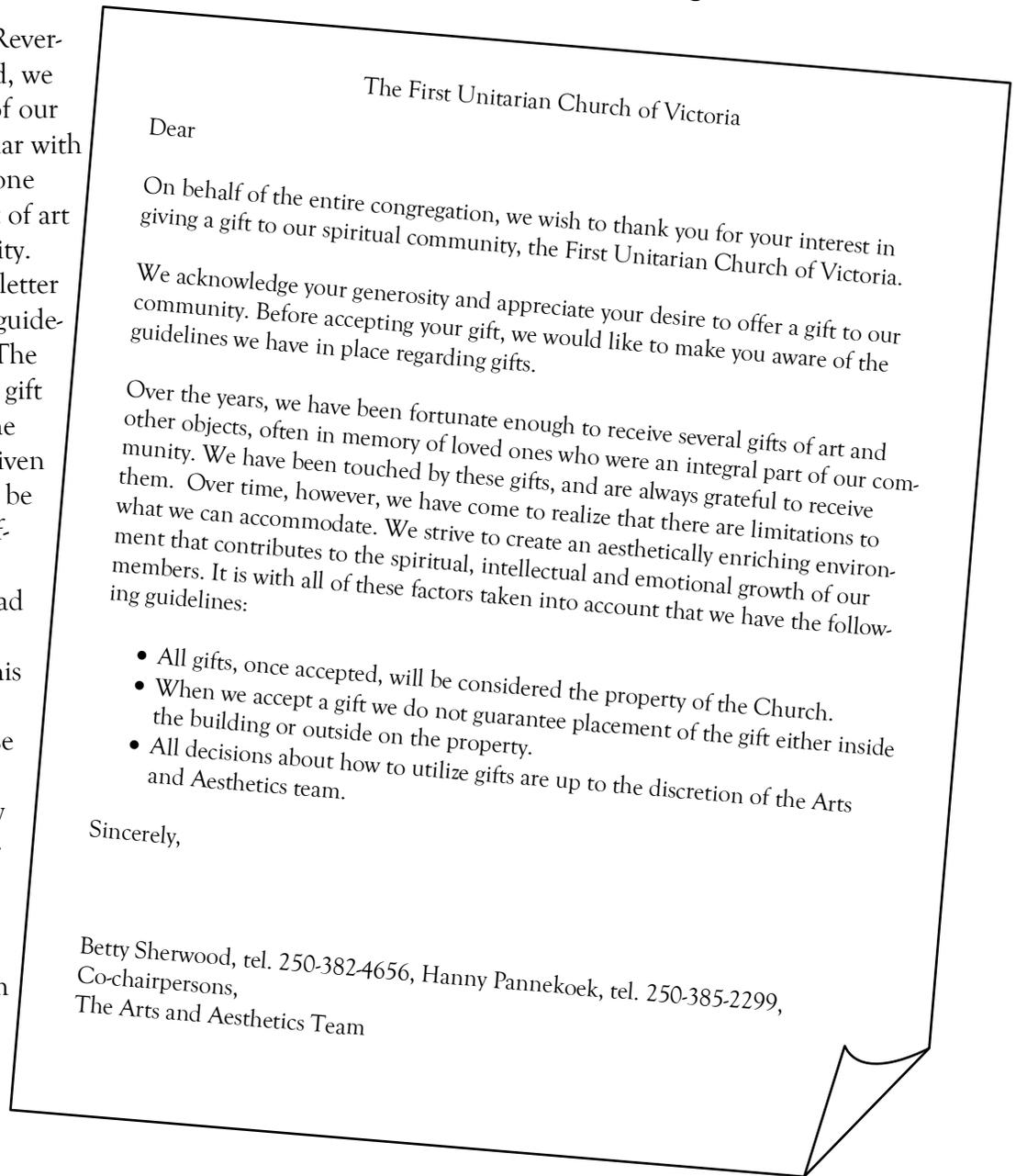
Our thanks for keeping HOW healing.

from the Arts and Aesthetics Team - Sharing Information

After consulting with Reverend Shana and the Board, we would like all members of our congregation to be familiar with how to respond to someone who wishes to offer a gift of art to our spiritual community. We now have an official letter in which we explain the guidelines for accepting gifts. The intent is that, **before** any gift of art will be accepted, the potential donor will be given this letter. The letter will be available at the church office.

We ask all of you to read the letter below. It is our hope that by following this procedure we will avoid disappointment or unease either on the part of the potential donor or of any member of our congregation.

Respectfully,
Arts and Aesthetics Team



ARTIST FOR JANUARY

We are fortunate to have Liz Graham's beautiful quilted art work on the walls of the Sanctuary for the month of January.

All members, friends, and newcomers to the church can be part the Neighbourhood Group where they live. Have you been invited to the gatherings of your Neighbourhood Group? If not, please contact the church office and we will get you connected.

Cadboro Bay

Nineteen people in this newly reconfigured group met at Earle and Lorna Anthony's on December 15 for food, wine, and fellowship. The Anthony's is wheelchair accessible, so Howard Petch was able to attend, and the event was early enough to allow choir members to get to choir practice later that evening. Cadboro Bay aims to meet quarterly, so their next party will be in the spring, after the Tibbles return from Mexico.

Central

Central will be meeting next on Saturday, January 7 at Nellie Van Leeuwen's and Laura Doyle's for a 5:00pm potluck. Members of this group are also our intrepid bakers for after-church coffee time in January.

Esquimalt

Betty Sherwood writes, "One cold Saturday afternoon in December, eleven of us gathered by the fireside, with Christmas stars lighting the windows. Laughter filled the house as we sipped mulled wine, tea or coffee and ate from a lovely assortment of homemade cookies and squares that we had all brought. As each person left, they filled up a container of various cookies to take home for the Christmas season. All the cookies were happily packed away and my three dozen espresso chocolate dipped shortbread vanished in a flash! It was a wonderful afternoon and seemed to capture the true spirit of community."

Fairfield

Phyllis Girard and Lynn Beak are the new co-convenors of the Fairfield group, assisted by a convenor team of Herb Girard, Linda Stanton, Pauline Kenneally, and Diana Smith, who share some of the other jobs. The convenor team met and considered what they liked about their group and what they wanted more or less of.

They found their group has a "desire for ritual such as lighting the chalice, a singing grace, and a closing and would like to see more focused theme discussions and conversations" with an openness to new ideas. They value sharing food and regular gathering times, with a desire to plan a year in advance. Accordingly, the group plans to meet six times a year, alternating between a rented venue and private homes, to reduce the work of hosting.

Fairfield will be meeting next at Phyllis and Herb Girard's on Sunday February 12 at 2:00 for a focus around LOVE.

Farout

Barbara Nyland reports this group is planning to meet for a potluck in January.

Gordon Head

Gordon Head has talked about meeting in January, but nothing yet has been planned.

James Bay

James Bay is hoping to have a potluck in January at Ellen Gabelmann's.

AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD (CONTINUED)

Nearby

The big news for Nearby is that Jean Simpson has agreed to be the convenor, which will ease the load for Barbara Nyland who was convening both Nearby and Farout. As Jean is one of our newer members, Bert MacBain, Penny Furnes, Barbara Nyland, and Nancy Dobbs have all agreed to support her as she learns the ropes.

Oak Bay

Nineteen members met on November 19th (how's that for symmetry!?) at Karla and Jim Thomson's for "an amazing potluck with no shortage of conversation as old friends met and new friends were made." During a short, productive organizing meeting between the main and dessert courses, the group has set six potluck dates, with the next being January 21 at Jean Evan's. Mike Graham has agreed to be the Care & Concern contact, Nan Fairchild will phone, and Marya Nijland is co-convenor.

Karla writes, "There are still several members of this group that we are hoping will join us for future get-togethers. The more the merrier, maybe crowded but hopefully all will be happy to be getting to know more members of our church and especially those who live nearby."

Royal Oak East

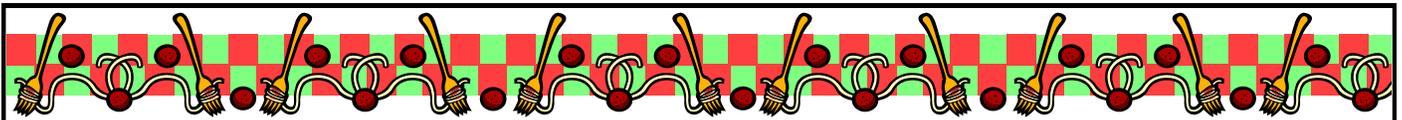
This group held their fourth and final potluck on November 22 at Mary Ellen and Bruce Nicol's. Hanny writes, "Our group likes to get together for lively conversations and good food." The group considered a request from someone outside their NG who wanted to attend their gatherings and decided to offer an invitation to visit once, so they could all get to know each other. The group has agreed to have four potluck gatherings next year.

Royal Oak West

Group members, Susie and Simon Williams, have just returned from a trip to South America, so Royal Oak West is hoping to gather in January for a "movie night" to see their photos from the Galapagos Islands and other exotic places. This group will also be hosting a Souper Lunch on January 29.

Western

Susan reports that a small group, including three children, gathered at Oz Tilson's on November 19 for a potluck. This NG provided the baking for coffee time in the busy month of December and will meet again in January for another potluck.



Friday, January 13th at 6pm

Spaghetti Night

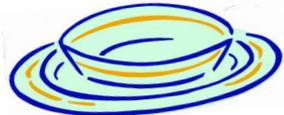
Everyone is welcome!!

Spaghetti Night is a multi generational event. An opportunity to meet new people or catch up with friends over a casual, fun, delicious meal.

At 6pm we gather in the Sanctuary for a joyful time together. Spaghetti is served with a choice of two very yummy tomato sauces, meat or vegetarian, - plus garlic bread.

Dinner is by donation; bring salad or dessert to share.

To help with clean-up please bring your own plate and dessert bowl.
A rinsing station will be provided.



2011 Recommended Reads From Your Library Committee

We have had some requests to compile a few of our 2011 recommended reads, all of which are available from your church library. So from our E-weekly contributions, here is our 2011 list of recommended reads. So please, come and check out:

- A LONG AND TERRIBLE SHADOW by Thomas R. Berger. One of our finest legal minds, Berger has initiated many legal changes in our society. In this book he writes movingly about 500 years of European occupation of our continent.
- OUT OF THE FLAMES by Lawrence and Nancy Goldstone. The story of Michael Servetus, one of the early thinkers that Unitarians acknowledge as an early Unitarian. He was burned at the stake in Geneva as a heretic for challenging Calvin in 1553. His portrait is hanging in our hall.
- ETHICAL ISSUES: Perspectives for Canadians, edited by Eldon Soifer. A collection of thoughtful essays on many topics that concern Canadians generally and particularly Unitarians. Topics range from multiculturalism to *in vitro* fertilization to pornography and many more.
- SAFETY FIRST by Nicholas Regush. The author presents many cases of medical treatment from breast implants to improperly tested drugs to illustrate his case that safety is not always first in health care.
- STEADFAST HOPE: The Palestinian Quest for Justice. Prepared and published by The Israel/Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church, USA This is an excellently presented study and action guide to this issue, with history, photos, stories, with an 80-minute CD enclosed, as well as a closing section on “digging deeper”, questions to encourage productive group discussion.
- KEEPING OUR COOL: Canada in a warming world by UVIC professor Andrew Weaver. Excellent explanations and illustrations on climate change. He does, however, thank his bottled water company for their service. (For many of us bottled water is part of the problem).
- HINDUISM. One of the oldest religions is described in this collection, edited by Louis Renou. The book includes the history, philosophy, myths and structure of this religion.
- HINDUISM: THE WORLD'S OLDEST FAITH, by K.M. Sen; a guide to the nature and function of Hinduism.
- ISLAM, one of the world's major religions is revealed in three of your library's books on this subject:
ISLAM by Abdulaziz Moledina: a brief survey of the basic teachings of Islam;
ISLAM by Karen Armstrong: a brief history of this religion; and another study of its teaching;
ISLAM by John Alden Williams; illustrates the beauty of faith.
- ON BEING A UNITARIAN and THE UNITARIAN WAY. Long time Unitarians and newcomers both will gain understanding and insight from Phillip Hewett, our esteemed philosopher and Vancouver minister who has also served our congregation.
- PATH WITHOUT DESTINATION by Satish Kumar. Fascinating chronicle of a once Jain monk, now founding editor of the beautiful RESURGENCE magazine; he writes about homemade bread, holy cows, friends, peace activism, education and the meditation of walking (and more).
- BEING AND NOTHINGNESS by Jean-Paul Sartre. A classic inquiry into the heart of being by the famous French philosopher. Timeless in its intellectual clarity.
- GOD'S DOG: CONVERSATIONS WITH COYOTE by Webster Kitchell. Better written and better content than the thousands of pop-philosophy and pop-psychology books that fill our shelves. Insight, originality, interest, and humour.

THE GOD DELUSION by Richard Dawkins. A readable, reasoned and convincing essay by a noted Oxford professor who believes that society and people should act on the search for truth rather than unquestioned faith.

THE SONG OF EVE: AN ILLUSTRATED JOURNEY INTO THE MYTHS, SYMBOLS AND RITUALS OF THE GODDESS by Manuela Dunn Mascetti. Lovely images and well-organized descriptions from women as lover, seductress, virgin, wise woman, priestess and muse.

Following the brilliant presentation by Sara Comish in June on Leo Tolstoy, we found his "THE LAW OF LOVE AND THE LAW OF VIOLENCE" in our library. It was a gift to the church by our wonderful peace activist, Berta Schmidt.

ROBERT SERVICE: A Great Canadian Poet's Romance with the North by Elle Andra-Warner. A compact and interesting history of one of our popular poets who wrote about the wildlife of the Yukon.

PRACTISING PEACE IN TIMES OF WAR by Pema Chodron. One of many books by a USA author recommended by our ministers.

CULT of IMPOTENCE and SHOOTING THE HIPPO by Linda McQuaig, Canada's witty, observant and always readable political journalist.

MAN'S SEARCH FOR MEANING by Viktor Frankel. This book was the basis of Francis Dearman's recent sermon. One of the most profound works ever written about our place on earth.

THE GREAT WAR FOR CIVILIZATION: THE CONQUEST OF THE MIDDLE EAST by Robert Fisk. Essential reading for an understanding of current events in Middle East and North Africa.

COLLECTED POEMS, ARCHIVE FOR OUR TIME, JOURNEY WITH MY SELVES by Dorothy Livesay (October 12, 1909 - December 29, 1996), one of Canada's most respected, enjoyed and talented writers. We were fortunate to have such a distinguished and creative poet with our church for several years. The library has two of her collections of poetry and her memoir.

GUARDING SACRED EMBERS. Editor: Linda Weaver Horton. 2011. A new and excellent history of Canadian Unitarianism. "Let there be lightening in our veins and passion in our stance..." John Hanley Morgan, as quoted in this book.

A YEAR OF LIVING GENEROUSLY: DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONT LINES OF PHILANTHROPY by Lawrence Scanlan. An engrossing account of the author's involvement in 12 different organizations—from cancer hospice to water activism to animal therapy for disabled adults and children—with his thoughtful reflections on the act of giving.

ALLEN MILNE'S ODYSSEY: the adventures and recollections of a very active member of FUCV and an engaged citizen; Allen is still writing and participating in our community.

Our church has a talented poet, Anne Swanell. Two of her collections are in our Library: MALL (Rowan Books, Edmonton, 1991) and SHIFTING (Ekstasis Editions, Victoria, 2008). Poems of life and place that resonate with our region and interests.

We have many talented writers in our congregation. Edo Nyland has written two very interesting books: ODYSSEUS AND THE SEA PEOPLE, and LINGUISTIC ARCHAEOLOGY: AN INTRODUCTION.

SAFE & SECURE by Al Etmanski is a very useful and thorough guide for BC citizens who need help in making a better life for family members and friends with disabilities.

RE-INVENTING A CONTINENT by André Brink. Distinguished and prolific South African writer reflects on power and change in Africa - relevant to the whole world in these changing times.

New Members & Friends

Dar Gareau-Levy
3140 Fifth Street
Victoria, BC V8X 1E7
250-384-7229
one.world@shaw.ca
NG Central

Ross Beauchamp
5427 Alderley Road
Victoria, BC V8X 1X9
778-433-2829
beau77w@yahoo.com
NG Royal Oak East



Lawrence & Sharon Boldt
60-7570 Tetayut Road
Saanichton, BC V8M 2H4
250-652-5009
lwboldt@shaw.ca (Larry)
callahanz@shaw.ca (Sharon)
NG Nearby

Jean Simpson
34-7401 Central Saanich Road
Saanichton, BC V8M 2B5
250-652-5519
jeans44@shaw.ca
NG Nearby

Scott Branch & Janice Hlady
6725 Charlene Place
Sooke, BC V9Z 0H4
250-664-6955
branchfamily@shaw.ca
NG Western

January Birthdays

- 1 Sonya Ignatieff, Jackie Bennett
- 2 Margaret Farnell, Patricia Disbrow
- 3 Betty Sherwood
- 4 Elaine Hanson
- 5 Cecil Bannister
- 7 Alastair Mont
- 8 Christine Johnston
- 9 Philip Symons
- 11 Pat McMahon
- 13 Aaron Bannister
- 13 Heather Sutherland
- 16 Jane Wilson
- 17 Laura Milne
- 18 Fran Pardee
- 20 Lynn Beak, Erin Gogal, Lynn Hunter
- 21 Robin Pike, Amy Anderson,
Nellie Van Leeuwen, Bob Thompson
- 23 Ruth Miller
- 24 Gerry Brimacombe, Lil Lawrence
- 26 Remi Odense, David Person
- 29 Mike Graham
- 30 Kiko Brown and Grayson Russell



Contact Changes

Jackie Bennett
205-520 Rithet Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1E2
250-590-4831
jbenett4920@shaw.ca
From Esquimalt NG to James Bay NG



Wilma and Ron Neilson
#411 - 1828 Island Highway
West Shore Lodge
Victoria, BC V9B 1J2
(same email and phone #)
From Esquimalt NG to Western NG

Answer to Covenant Question on page 4

In the Covenant of Good Relations, we covenant to respect absolutely the confidentiality and private disclosures of others. You could say, "I really care about Jane Doe, thank you for telling me. I will keep this information to myself".

GREEN CORNER

Hey all you UU's! Do you care about the environment? Do you want to have a say in what the Environmental Action Team does in 2012? You can help us by filling out our survey by Feb. 1st. The survey can be found on the table in the foyer or at the Survey Monkey website:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LK5P7C9>

This survey is an opportunity for you to have your highest priorities for the care of the environment addressed in 2012. Whether this takes the form of a letter campaign or joining in a march, we want to ensure your concerns are forefront of our work as a Committee.

Let us know what your value that

supports our 7th Principle – the interconnected web of life. Please return your completed hard copy survey to the office or to the SRC table in the Church foyer.

Thank you.

Environmental Action Team



Survey of Environmental Issues

Greetings,

In order to well represent this congregation, we need your response to the following questions. Please let us know what you value that supports our 7th Principle, the interconnected web of life. The deadline for the return of the survey to the SRC table or the office is **February 1st**.

1. Should this congregation focus on environmental issues on the (please check the ones most important to you):

_____ a) Local scale (local food production, contained urban boundaries, National Marine Conservation Area within the Strait of Georgia)

_____ b) Regional scale (future of Juan de Fuca lands, urban containment, sewage treatment plans)

_____ c) Provincial scale: (fish farms, clear-cutting, coal mining).

_____ d) National (oil extraction and transport, fisheries, climate change)

2. Below are topics that we have thought worth consideration. Please let us know your top three priorities.

_____ Mining

_____ Development of renewable energy

_____ Climate Change

_____ Transportation

_____ Fish Farms

_____ Indigenous rights/land claims

_____ Lumber extraction

_____ Consumption

_____ Pollution

_____ Protection of biodiversity

_____ Fisheries

_____ Development practices

_____ Local food production

_____ Fair Trade practices

Please list any other topics that inspire you towards action.

3. What environmental practices are you currently engaged in? How can we support you in these practices?

Thank you,

SRC Environment Committee

We Hold You in Our Love, *maintenant et toujours*

Submitted by Rev. Melora

We're adding a verse *en Française!* When we sing our children out to their classes on Sundays, we usually sing:

We hold you in our love as you go, as you go.
May your heart be at peace as you go.
To nurture the spark of your precious life
We hold you in our love as you go.

We usually sing this twice. Some of you suggested that it might be nice to sing the second time in French. The Worship Committee was intrigued and now, thanks to Robin van Gessel and her franco-phone colleague, we have a French verse:

Nous vous entourons d'amour, maintenant, et toujours
Que vos cœurs soient en paix, pour toujours.
Cultivons l'étincelle jour après jour
Nous vous entourons d'amour pour toujours.

The inauguration of this verse will be in the worship service on Sunday, February 4th, the day on which we launch our "Aspects of Love" worship and religious exploration theme of the month.

You can hear how this verse sounds—and practise singing along!—by clicking on a link on our website. On our main webpage, on the list on the left, click on "Programs", then "Music", then "New Music." Or, simply go to this link: <http://www.victoriaunitarian.ca/programs/music/newfilearchive.php>



The International Council of Unitarian Universalist Conference

February 7-12, 2012 in the Philippines

Join Unitarians and Unitarian Universalists from every continent for ICUU's historic Council Meeting and Conference meeting for the first time outside North America and Europe. South Sea Resort on Negros Island, the Philippines is the location for the gathering from February 7 to 12, 2012. Situated near the headquarters of the UU Church of Philippines in Dumaguette City, this remarkable seaside hotel will offer comfortable accommodation and a picturesque setting for ICUU's biannual Council Meeting.

The Conference theme "Sharing Our Faith, Transforming Our World" asks how we can "love alike" in appropriate right relationship. Creative tension in our multi-cultural dialogue will be explored through a variety of talks, workshops and other interactive experiences focusing both on our diversity and what we have in common. Some sessions will consider how the ways we express our faith can make an impact on social justice and the environment in our local communities.

Worship and spiritual sustenance will be a special feature of the gathering including acts of worship in the style and custom of different member groups, Chalice Circles for small group sharing and participative workshops focusing on creative arts such as dance and music.

Other highlights will include the opening night celebration attended by the leader of every UU congregation in the Philippines, to be broadcast live on television, and opportunities to experience more of UUism in the Philippines through optional tours. Pre- and post-conference tours are also available.

For details, contact Sylvia Krogh at 778-440-6156, or check out the website below.

http://icuu.net/news/newsletter/Rev_ICUU_CM_12_Info_and_Registration_Details.pdf

First Unitarian Church of Victoria

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churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca • www.victoriaunitarian.ca

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am - noon and 1-4pm • Sunday 9am-1pm (closed during service)

Co-Ministers

Reverend Melora Lynngood

Office phone: 250-744-2601

rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca

• Reverend Shana Lynngood

Office phone: 250-744-2601

rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca

Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat

250-652-1274

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Fran Pardee 778-440-3098

Joyce Murphy 250-598-1506

Liz Graham 250-384-4351

laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca

Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth

Faye Mogensen 250-744-2695

FayeM@victoriaunitarian.ca

Director of Music

Phil Hallman

music@victoriaunitarian.ca

Church Administrator

Karen Uldall-Ekman

churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

Board of Trustees

Officers

President	Mike Graham	250-384-4351
Past President	Suellen Guenther	250-727-0454
Vice-President	Hugo Suttmoller	250-385-2299
Treasurer	Bob Dobbs	250-652-5438
Secretary	Jennifer Young	250-598-0020

Council Representatives

Administration	vacant	
Congregational Life	Anna Isaacs	250-472-0117
Outreach	Philip Symons	250-592-6484
Property Management	Allan Dakin	250-744-1357
Spiritual Development	Forrest Smith	250-595-2538

Events and Meetings Calendar — January 2012

1/1	NEW YEAR'S DAY Winter Break from all children's Sunday classes (starts again Jan. 8)	
	7:00 - 9:00am	Meditation First Light Sanctuary
	10:30 to 11:30am	Sunday Service Sanctuary
	11:30am - 1:00pm	Young Adult Gathering Yurt
1/2	Office closed (open Jan. 3)	
1/3	10:30am - 12:30pm	Mission Group Board Room
1/4	11:30am - 1:00pm	Staff Meeting Board Room
	1:00 - 2:30pm	Executive Meeting Board Room
1/5	7:30 - 9:30pm	choir practice Sanctuary
1/6	7:00 - 9:00pm	Contemplative Yarncraft Offsite location
1/7	10:00am to 12 noon	Non-Violent Communication workshop Board Room
	12:45 - 2:30pm	Meditation Fireside Room
	1:00 - 3:00pm	NVC Drop-in Library
1/8	10:30 am 12 noon	Children's Regular Programming resumes
	10:30 -11:30am	Sunday Service Sanctuary
	12:00 noon - 1:30pm	Forum Sanctuary
	12:00 noon - 1:30pm	Environment Library

Continued on next page...

Events & Meetings Calendar *(continued from previous page)*

12:00 noon - 1:30pm	Care and Concern	Board Room
1/9 -----		
1/10 1:00 - 3:00pm	Book Worms Group	Offsite location
1:30 - 4:00pm	Food Prep/Sandy Merriman House	Kitchen Sanctuary
7:00 - 9:00pm	SRC Committee	Board Room
1/11 7:00 - 9:30pm	Board Meeting	
1/12 7:30 - 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
1/13 5:00 - 9:00pm	OWL Course	Board Room
6:00 - 9:00pm	Spaghetti Night	Sanctuary
7:00 - 9:00pm	Owl Parents	Sunflower Room
1/14 10:00am - 12:00noon	Non Violent Communication workshop	Board Room
12:45 - 2:30pm	Meditation	Fireside Room
1:00 - 3:00pm	NVC Drop-in	Library
1/15 9:00 - 10:00am	Library Comm. Meeting	Library
10:30 - 11:30am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
10:30am - 1:00pm	New Members Ceremony	Sanctuary
11:30am - 1:00pm	Music Committee	RE Resource Room
11:30am - 1:00pm	Post-it Calendar meeting	Sunflower Room
12:00 - 2:00pm	NG convenors meeting	Board Room
12:00 - 1:00pm	Library Comm. Meeting	Library
1/16 -----		
1/17 9:00 - 12noon	Learning Circle	Boardroom
12:45 - 2:15pm	Committee on Ministry	Board Room
2:30 - 4:30pm	Worship committee	Board Room
1/18 1:00 - 3:00pm	Operational Finance mtg	Library
1:00 - 3:00pm	Care & Concern committee meeting	Board Room
1/19 7:30 - 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
1/20 7:00 pm 9:00pm	Contemplative Yarncraft	
1/21 10:00am - 12:00noon	Non Violent Communication workshop	Board Room
12:45 - 2:30pm	Meditation	Fireside Room
1:00 - 3:00pm	NVC Drop-in	Library
1/22 10:30 - 11:30am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
12:00 - 2:00pm	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
1/23 -----		
1/24 1:00 - 3:00pm	Book Worms	Offsite location
1/25 -----		
1/26 7:30 - 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
1/27 5:00 - 9:00pm	Rabbie Burns Night	Sanctuary
6:00 - 9:00pm	Circle Dinners	Offsite location
7:00 - 10:00pm	Youth Movie night	Board Room
1/28 10:00am - 12:00noon	Non Violent Communication workshop	Board Room
12:45 - 2:30pm	Meditation	Fireside Room
1:00 - 3:00pm	NVC Drop-in	Library
7:00 - 10:00pm	GBLT Film night	Lion Hall
1/29 10:30 - 11:30am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
11:30am - 1:00pm	Bake/Plant Sale	Lion Hall
11:30am - 1:00pm	Souper Sunday Lunch	Sanctuary
1/30 11:45am - 2:30pm	Yoga	Lion Hall
1/31 9:00 - 12pm	Learning Circle	Boardroom

Information for the calendar should be sent to the church office.

DOES YOUR HOME NEED..

- Renovation work?
- Carpentry?
- Paint?
- General repairs?



Call Brock Brown at 472-6065

Email: brock1492@shaw.ca

Reasonable rates
Excellent references

ConstructoGroup
Renovating for You
Stephen Lentz: 250-884-4340 www.ConstructoGroup.ca

Astrid Firley-Eaton Design

(250) 384-3405 fax (250) 479-0954
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web site: afedesign.ca

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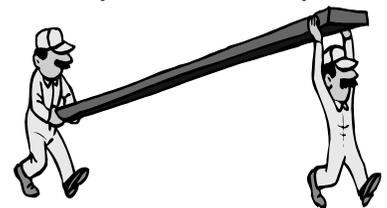
Care and Concern Committee
for hospital and home visits,
or just to talk...

Contacts

Daphne Dunbar at 250-381-7648
Val Roberts at 250-477-7192

Board Members on Duty for January

January 1 Philip Symons
January 8 Forrest Smith
January 15 Hugo Sutmoller
January 22 Anna Isaacs
January 29 Jen Young



THE VICTORIA UNITARIAN is a monthly publication of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria.

The **deadline** for submissions to the **February** issue is **January 17**. Copy to be sent to newsletter@victoriaunitarian.ca.

For those without e-mail, copy may be left at the church office. All copy is subject to editing.

Information for the calendar can be sent to calendar@victoriaunitarian.ca or left at the church office.

Feedback is welcomed.

Staff

Bob Dobbs (editor); Doreen Burgess and Myra Rippon (proof-readers); Isabel Jones (events calendar); and Karen Uldall-Ekman (production, distribution and paid advertisements).

