



The Victoria Unitarian

Services in June

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

June 3 **Avatar and the Pipeline**
Amanda Tarling and Dick Jackson



Avatar, the most popular movie of all time, has a resounding spiritual theme. The words to the theme song "I See You" reflect one of the film's religious concepts akin to the concept of the Sanskrit word "Namaste". What lessons can we learn from *Avatar* to help deter the development of the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline?

This service is a "pulpit swap" with our sister congregation in Victoria, Capital Unitarian Universalist Congregation. While Capital folks are preaching for us at our church, our minister, Rev. Melora Lynngood, will be preaching for their congregation downtown.

June 10 **On the Streets Where You Live**
Rev. Allen Tysick



This faith community has an impressive record of assisting the poor. But who are these people? What are they thinking? Rev. Allen Tysick, who last year retired as executive director of Our Place, is now on our downtown streets daily, helping the addicted, the mentally ill, the utterly depressed. These people are what he calls "my family." Supporting Allen is our second HOW project this year. But these are mystery people to most of us. Come find out more about them.

June 17 **Stories of Gratitude**
Rev. Shana Lynngood, Faye Mogensen, and Friends



This Father's Day we will reflect with gratitude on the many people in our community who give so much heart and energy to our togetherness. We'll hear stories of fathers, grandfathers, teachers, children, and more. Saying thank you is an important component of our spiritual lives. Join us in thanking those who make so many events and activities in our congregation possible. Please bring a flower to add to our congregational bouquet as we will share in a variation of our traditional flower communion.

(Note: See page 2 for suggestions about what kind of flowers to bring).

June 24 **Intergenerational Blessing of the Animals**
Rev. Melora Lynngood

Special General Meeting prior to this service at 9:30am. (See page 8).

Come one, come all! Come bipeds, come quadrupeds! Dogs, cats, gerbils, lizards, fish, teddy bears—all are welcome! In this service, we honour the gifts that animals bring to our lives. Bring your pets (appropriately leashed or caged), beloved stuffed animals, or mementos of your pets (eg, If your cat would not enjoy such an outing, bring her photo and her favourite toy or collar.) There will also be a time to remember the pets we have lost; bring photos and mementos of any beloved animal companion you would like to remember with a candle lighting. This is a participatory service for all ages—kids are welcome to stay for the whole service.

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The deadline for submissions to the
July issue of the newsletter is **June 12**.

CELEBRATING WITH FLOWERS

FAYE MOGENSEN

UU minister Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote “the earth laughs in flowers.” On these flowery spring days, I couldn’t agree more! I hope that we’ll all be “laughing in flowers” throughout the spring, and especially on June 17, during our special multi-generational service called “Stories of Gratitude.” We’ll share appreciations and experience the plant and seed (*or chicken and egg*) question: Does happiness make us grateful, or does gratefulness make us happy? We invite each of you to bring an *unscented, low-pollen* flower to express something you cherish in our church community.

To express my own gratitude properly, I would need an enormous bouquet. A half hundred or

so would be for each of the children who are part of the church. Getting to know them is truly a treat for me and I thank you all for the opportunity. I feel like each and every one of the children is blossoming in his or her way, with wisdom, generosity and kindness.

At least three dozen more flowers are needed for the many treasured and talented volunteers and leaders of the church who help create the children’s program, put on multi-generational events or smile as we come in the door. In particular I’d like to thank the SEL-CY team members Marion Sollazzo, Martha McDougall, Victoria Barr and Bonnie McCallum.

Another 200 flowers would help show my appreciation to all of you who come to church and bring something special to our community.

While the flowers bloom, the 2011-12 Spiritual Exploration and Learning program is winding down—the last official program day is June 10. We’ll continue to offer a child minding service throughout the summer with loving care provided by our team of child minders and some adult volunteers. If you prefer, you and your children are always welcome in the sanctuary—or if it’s more relaxed for you—in the Lion Hall. We begin our program anew on September 9.

Warmly, Faye

In choosing flowers to bring to the June 17 service...

Consider those with allergies.

In general double-petaled, “formal” or other hybrid flowers have the lowest pollen—they are the varieties with a high number of petals per flower.

Best choices are double-flowered baby’s breath, chrysanthemums, dahlias, asters, begonias, carnations, hydrangeas, orchids, pansies, viola, impatiens, florist type hybrid tea roses, tulips, daffodils, alstroemeria, calla lilies, gerber daisies, birds of paradise and amaryllis

Please **do not bring lilies** or other flowers with heavy pollen.

Many of you have been asking how the maternity/ parental leave plans are coming along. Poached directly from our verbal report at the Annual General Meeting, here it is:

Rev. Shana and I, your co-ministers sharing one job, will be on study leave/vacation from July 2 to August 14. We will be on maternity/parental leave from August 14 to December 3. Rev. Shana and I will both return to work December 4 and return to the pulpit December 9.

We have lined up a great slate of **guest preachers** for you in the fall, including:

- **Rev. Meg Roberts**, who has served in Calgary, Montreal, and Edmonton (Sept. 16);
- Your former intern, now serving a congregation near Seattle, **Rev. Marian Stewart** (Sept. 30);
- **Rev. Nan Geer**, who is often described as ‘a real kick’, and who has recently retired from serving in Blaine, Washington (Oct. 7);
- the minister at North Shore, **Rev. Stephen Atkinson** (Oct. 21);
- **Debra Thorne**, who just got called to serve Beacon Unitarian Church (Nov. 4)
- And “our father of Canadian Unitarianism, hallowed be his name,” **Rev. Phillip Hewitt**, kicking it all off on September 9th.

Also, because we can’t really stay away from you that long, our

whole family—including the new baby—will come to church, and **Rev. Shana will preach the sermon on Canvass Sunday, October 14.**



To supplement the congregation’s already robust care and concern system, between September 3 and our return on December 4th, we will have a **Pastoral Care Crisis Team** in place, who will be there for the kind of calls for which

you would want the ministers. Their names will be listed in the July newsletter.

Margaret McKelvie, chair of Human Resources, will be taking over **supervision of staff** (Administrator, Music Director, and Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning) from September 3 through December 4th.

If you are ever not sure who to go to with an issue or question you would normally take to one of us, we will also have set up a **Parental Leave Team** who can either handle your concern or direct you to someone who can. This team will be made up of former president Suellen Guenther and the six members of the **Committee on Ministry**: Don Armstrong, Dave Andersen, Martha McDougall, Joyce Murphy, and two others yet to be named.

That’s the plan. As I said at the Annual Meeting, as the anxious one in our relationship, I must admit, I am a little...well...anxious about how everything will go while we’re away.

I’ve taken comfort however, in something I’ve noticed about you as a congregation. I’m not sure if it is because many of you have lived a good long while, or if it is because you are Canadian, or if it is because you are simply more spiritually evolved than some, but I’ve noticed that you don’t easily get ruffled by the bumps of church life.

When we announced our baby plans, we thought a bunch of you would seize up in anxious fits—“What? You can’t go away!!” Instead, we got the opposite reaction—“You think you should come back to work in September? Don’t be ridiculous!” “October? You don’t need to do that!” “Really, take time to be with the baby. We’ll be fine. It’s just a short three months in the long life of this church. We’ll be fine.”

That long range perspective, the understanding of what does and does not count as a “life and death” issue, and that “we’ll be fine” attitude is all so calming.

I saw this spiritual wisdom surface at the listening circle we had last month on the topic of which tapestry to display in our sanctuary. People have strong feelings about those tapestries. But I witnessed people rising to a higher level, holding the good of the larger community—taking the possibility of not ‘getting their way’ as an opportunity for spiritual practice.

I’ve seen it as people sort through our building and financial issues—the complexity of which often got me in knots. There have been confusions and frustra-

continued on next page.

FROM YOUR MINISTER (continued)

tions...but overall, what I see is a lot of good will, a “we can do it” attitude.

To that end, Rev. Shana and I have for you a challenge—an extra credit spiritual assignment for when we are gone. This past year, you discerned and articulated your mission. The next step will be figuring out a way to intentionally live our mission—how to act on our mission. I am beginning to put together a team of folks who will guide us in this process. The work will begin in earnest after Rev. Shana and I return from maternity leave. In the meantime you can begin the work without us. After all, the church is the people. Especially in a bottom-up democratic religion like Unitarian Universalism, the church is not the minister. The church is the peo-

ple. That’s you. The church is you, and the mission is yours.

So while we are gone, Rev. Shana and I would like to ask you to consider taking on as a spiritual practice intentionally living out our mission.

We are going to ask each of the guest ministers in the fall to choose a sub-theme of our mission on which to preach. We’re asking you to do the same.

Which aspect of our mission would you like to practice living while we are gone?

1. Spiritual deepening?
2. Finding enrichment through diversity?
3. Welcoming others into, and supporting one another within, our community? or
4. Working to help heal our world?

If you don’t know which to choose, may I suggest #3. While we are gone, practise welcoming others into this community and supporting one another. Each Sunday, do one thing to make someone feel welcome at our church. Each week, do one thing to support someone else in our church community. Tell us how it went when we return.

We will miss you. We believe in you. We look forward to hearing about all the ways in which you lived out our mission while we’re away.

*Strengthened in spiritual growth,
supported in community,
energized by diversity,
we strive to transform ourselves and our
world through compassionate action.*

So may it be. Amen.

Memorial Tea for Marjorie Mader

3:30pm, Wednesday, June 6

Church members and all friends of Marjorie Mader are invited to gather to honour Marjorie’s life at a Memorial Tea on Wednesday, June 6, at 3:30pm, in Lion Hall at church. Rev. Shana will facilitate the sharing of memories. Philip Symons will coordinate logistics, contact phil-mar@islandnet.com 250-592-6484 to help or with questions. Those who are able are invited to bring tea food to share. Everyone is welcome.

Thanks from Rainbow Kitchen

I just wanted to say thank you to you all for honouring our volunteer Walter Adams at your Unsung Heros Banquet. I think it was a huge success. Not only did we honour one individual but gave recognition to so many who devote their time to volunteering and contributing to our community. Everyone I talked to seemed to have a very good time. Sometimes after events like this I wonder if it was worth all the hard work and putting other personal things aside to make it happen. I'm convinced that it is. As long as we don't forget to take time for ourselves to recuperate. I'm doing just that. I'm walking the Camino de Santiago. Actually on a short break to attend to some business details at home. While I'm in this place between these two worlds, I can't help reflect on how important events like the Unsung Hero are in our life's journey. So thank you all for your commitment to this event and especially you Unitarians for your leadership. It was a pleasure to get to know you.

Garth Walmsley, Chairman of Board
of Directors, Rainbow Kitchen,

Rev. Allen Tysick will speak to our congregation on Sunday, June 10. He will tell us about the people we want to help—but at a distance. These are the homeless, the addicted, the mentally ill, frequently ghost-like figures who at night huddle in the corners of downtown Victoria.

I have known Allen for about 20 years and he continues to fascinate me. He is a United Church minister with a familiar Christian perspective and he is also compassion on legs. For years, as executive director of Our Place, he spent his days among what many think of as the dregs of humanity and has come to love them. How can that be? I have asked him to tell us and I hope he will.

Allen starts his day before dawn, bringing a van stocked with coffee and doughnuts, socks and blankets to street people.

“I was waking up the poor and homeless as usual this morning,” he writes. “I saw about 58 men and women. I am always struck by their compassion and concern for one another. Kenzie is a young

man wired to cocaine, homeless, sick, judged, beaten down himself, yet he told me that he had seen an older man sleeping at Quadra Park under a bush, sounding sick. He asked me if I would take a look at the old fellow to make sure he was okay.

“I thanked him and when I had finished, I headed over to Quadra Park. The old man was easy to find, in a red sleeping bag underneath a bush. It was Shane. I knelt down beside him, placed my hand on his forehead; his temperature obviously high. Shane opened his eyes ‘It’s you Rev, thank God. I’m really sick.’ As he struggled to climb out of his sleeping bag, his odour filled the air. Yet as I lifted him to his feet, his arm over my shoulder; this intimate smell of the man became one with my body and it is no more.

“I helped him to the van and off to the hospital we went. Along the way, Shane said to me ‘I really don’t think anyone understands my loneliness. People point to my addiction and suggest treatment but no one sees my loneliness, It

is like I am a kid and there is a dark cave that my mother told me never to go into, for the monster lives there. Yet the cave keeps calling me. I am scared to wake up in that cave, so I drink as much as I can as often as I can.”

The Dandelion Society, which supports Rev. Al in his day-to-day street work, is our second HOW project this year, the one we are fund-raising for at the moment. Come and hear where your donation will go.

Garage Sale

Saturday, June 9, 9am-3pm

2125 Lansdowne Road
Proceeds will go to VIRAC
(Victoria Interfaith Refugee
Assistance Committee)

Donations of small household items, treasures and curios are most welcome—

contact Marya at
philmar@islandnet.com
or 250- 592-6484.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!



Avatar Movie Night

Friday, June 1, 7pm at
the Lion Hall

Get ready for the June 3 Avatar Sunday service with this Avatar movie night. Donations gratefully accepted (but not ex-

pected). We'd love to have you join in the fun, so don't let money stop you! If you can't afford to pay, please come anyway. Money raised will support young adult ministry.

Covenant of Good Relations Question

You feel passionately about which tapestry you want to see on the Sanctuary's front wall. How can the Covenant help you live with a decision with which you don't agree?

(see page 15 for answer)

The unused boardroom is a silent symbol of the current state of our property.

For a number of months the boardroom has waited, empty and unused, while the board searches for ways to finance repairs required for the 30-year-old poorly constructed room. Will we ever be able to make the essential boardroom renovations?

It has been clear for some time that we simply have not been spending enough money on our property. For the most part we have managed to ignore this difficult truth by dealing only with the necessities while averting our gaze from the more costly work that is required.

The inattention has largely been caused by a desire to promote our active children's, youth and adult programming and services with a robust ministerial and support staff. We have admirably succeeded in this quest and, as our visitors tell us, we have much to be proud of.

But now the time has come to turn some of our energy and fi-

nances to our property. Allan Dakin, and his property crew have prepared a fairly extensive list of things we must do now, things we should do now, and of the major things we certainly will have to do over the next five years.

None of this is a surprise to those who live in a house or condominium—property upkeep is a constant financial concern.

Every year we fall short by about \$15,000 to pay for our property's maintenance which really should be covered by our annual pledges.

As well as that, we should have about \$100,000 in savings contained in our Property Fund (it's now minus \$7,000)—money that would be instantly available for major things such as repairing the boardroom.

At our Annual General Meeting on May 13 the members who attended rose to the challenge of filling our Property Fund over the next five years. Board member Anna Isaacs had prepared a simple survey asking those attending

whether they would contribute to the fund.

Twenty-three people immediately indicated they would donate to the Property Fund and, in total, committed \$25,300 that day. Another 10 said they'll donate to the Property Fund, but have not yet decided how much. (Four said they had yet to decide about whether to donate.)

That's an amazing response. We have reached a quarter of our goal from fewer than 10 per cent of our members.

I hope you'll consider taking part in this Property Fund drive. You can spread your contribution over five years. If you decide you can afford to contribute \$2,000, pay \$500 each year—less than a cup of coffee a day. Or if you can afford \$500, pay \$100 each year, which is about a 25 cents a day. And it's tax deductible.

Our buildings will thank you, as you'll know by their well-maintained appearance.

Giant Book Sale

Did you stock up on summer reading at the Times-Colonist Book Sale?

Would like to give them a good home after you have read them?

We'll be happy to accept them for our Giant Book Sale on

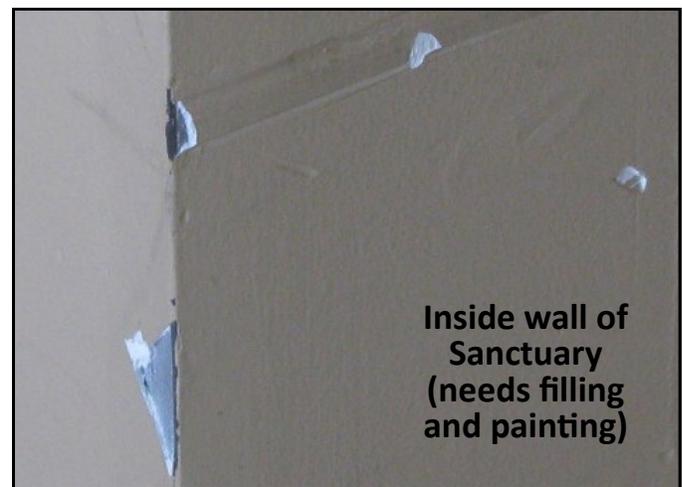
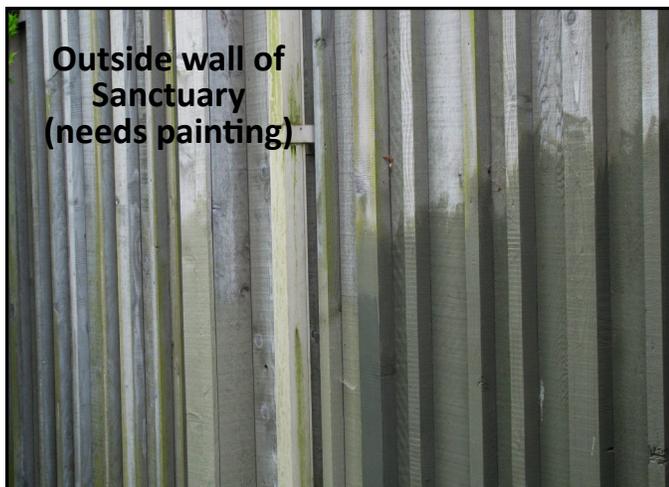
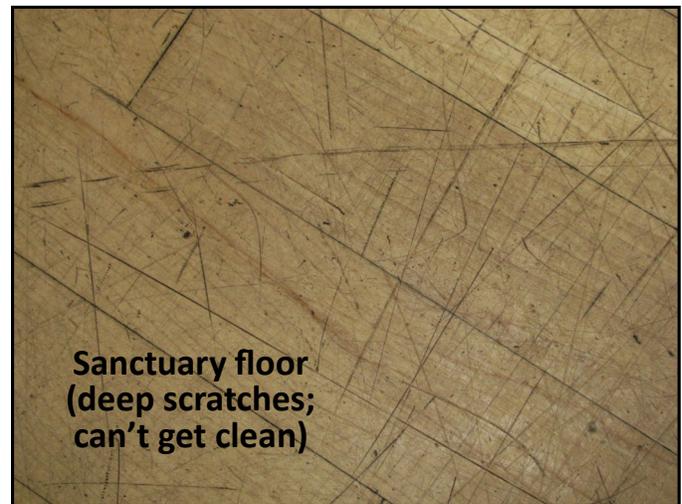
Saturday, September 29.

Do you have books you need to get out of your hair now? Please contact Peter Hancock, at pdhancock@shaw.ca, 250-477-1310, or bring them to his home at 5510 Forest Hill Road and leave them by the sheltered entrance, if no one is home. If you bring them to the church, please let Peter know where you have put them.

Please do not donate textbooks, encyclopaedias, Reader's Digest Condensed books, computer books, or magazines. They don't sell and we have to haul them to recycling.



OUR FIXER-UPPER





Announcing a
**Special
General Meeting**
9:30am, Sunday, June 24

This very important meeting is to obtain congregational approval of the following Board-motions:

Moved that whereas, we transferred \$20,000 to the mortgage from the line of credit in 2008, and currently hold a loan for capital improvements of \$34,000 for the Montessori School, we renew the mortgage to include these funds.

Moved that the board endorse borrowing up to a maximum of \$50,000 from the Endowment Fund and moving it to the Property Fund for expenditures for essential property maintenance including material, system and equipment replacements.

Why Increase Our Mortgage?

Our mortgage comes due on August 1. We propose to transfer about \$54,000 of debt from our Line of Credit to our mortgage and this requires congregational approval.

We have a particularly tight budget this year, and we expect to meet that budget. However, our income and expenditures in any given month vary and we need cash or credit to buffer these variations. Also, our General Fund balance has fallen into negative territory (-\$1,161). Since our General Fund underwrites all of our other Funds, it is important that we have sufficient cash or credit to meet any net drawdown of our Discretionary or Revolving Funds.

Currently we have almost no cash on the asset side of our balance sheet. We are buffering cash flow variations with a \$100,000 line of credit (LOC) from our bank. We pay a very favourable interest rate of 3% on our LOC debt. However, the balance owing of around \$70,000 (end of March) doesn't leave us much credit room to buffer cash flow variations.

Included in the balance owing on our LOC is the approximately \$34,000 owed to us by the Montessori School, and \$20,000 that was transferred from our mortgage about three years ago to obtain a more favourable interest rate. We propose to transfer this \$54,000 to our mortgage.

Our mortgage, currently at about \$166,000, is low in terms of our property value and our annual budget. Our current interest rate is 6.3% and our annual payments (principal and interest) are just over \$18,000.

The proposed increase in our mortgage would bring the amount owed to around \$220,000 at an expected interest rate of 4.5%. Our annual payments, in spite of the higher balance, would fall to less than \$15,000 due to the much lower interest rate.

Maintenance Postponed

Our property is showing the effects of too many years of postponed maintenance (see page 7). Paint is peeling. Wood is rotting. Our sanctuary floor badly needs resurfacing. Our boardroom has been out of service for months and needs expensive repairs or replacement. Have you noticed the carpets in the office lately? Or the farmhouse carport? We must not let this deterioration continue.

Property Fund Campaign

A campaign to receive donations to our Property Fund was initiated at our AGM. We hope to obtain donations of at least \$100,000 over a five-year period. Commitments to date exceed \$28,000. We need and hope to have a significant number of our members make a financial commitment to getting our buildings and grounds back in good shape. Please tear out the form on the next page and drop it off at the office, or deposit it in the box provided for the purpose at Sunday services, or mail it to Treasurer, First Unitarian Church of Victoria, 5575 West Saanich Road, Victoria, BC V9E 2G1.

First Unitarian Church of Victoria

Property Fund 2012-2016

COMMITMENT FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please return this form to

Treasurer,
First Unitarian Church of Victoria
5575 West Saanich Road
Victoria BC V9E 2G1

Commitment Details

My total commitment to the Property Fund for the five-year period, 2012 through 2016, will be

\$ _____

I will pay the following amounts in each year

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

I have already made payment in the amount of \$_____.

My cheque(s) in the amount of \$_____ is/are enclosed.

Note: Please ensure that all cheques payable to the Property Fund are so marked.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This space is for any comments you may have about your donation, the campaign, or the church.

Thank you for your participation!

Cadboro Bay: The big event in the Cadboro Bay NG in May was the wedding of Shirley Travis and Chris Mion. Members of the NG provided assistance with the planning and the reception.

Esquimalt: This NG will be gathering at 2:00pm on Sunday, June 3 at the amenity room in Cedar Shores for a picnic lunch. Weather permitting, they will share finger food and sit outside, donning or shedding layers, depending on the temperature. Luckily, they can move inside if necessary. This group will also be busy baking for the June coffee hour after church.

Fairfield: The "F" team of Fairfield and Far Out will be our hosts for the Souper Lunch after church on May 27, just in time for the plant sale afterwards.

Far Out: This group will be busy, cooking and baking for the Souper Lunch and then gathering a few days later on June 1 for a potluck at Sandra and Jim Jordan's.

Gordon Head: Convenor, Mary Cramer, writes, "Our NG had a potluck at Mary Canty's on Sunday, May 6th. We had 20 people attending and we had lots of good food and conversation. There was no specific agenda, which seems to be the way we like it. We welcomed Mickey and Jo Girard to GH NG. They have been in our NG for a year or so, but this is the first event that has worked out for them to attend."

Grand Central: Using email and the small group who gathered for a potluck on May 5, the Central NG unanimously voted to change their name to Grand Central. Their convenor, Linda Nicholson-Brown, attended the CUC Leadership Symposium in Ottawa in May, representing our church as a delegate, and she continues to work to help people in this new group make connections with each other. They hope to gather again at Rowena and John's in the summer.

James Bay: Convenor, Pat Kinrade, writes, "James Bay NG enjoyed a NG lunch at the home of Mel and Christine Johnston on May 1; we welcomed Nan Fairchild who has moved to James Bay from Oak Bay".

Nearby: Ten people from this NG, including one child, gathered at Butchart Gardens on April 29 for a fascinating tour of the gardens. Madelaine and Brad Clarke, who both work at the gardens contributed lots of behind-the-scenes information about the background, history, and operation of the gardens. Other groups might want to consider organizing a similar tour!

Oak Bay: Fourteen people gathered at Liz and Mike Graham's the day before Mother's Day for a potluck with "mothers" as the theme. Those who attended brought a dish their mother used to make and then they talked about all things related to mothers, including mothers of children, their own mothers, their mother's mothers, people who mothered them, and non-traditional mothers. This sounds like a winner, if a group is ever looking for a theme for a get-together in May! Oak Bay will gather again June 30 for a potluck at Jen & Lance Young's.

Royal Oak East: This NG meets again June 26 in a different venue. Convenor, Hanny Pannekoek, writes, "This time Helen and Thane Waldie are hosting the Royal Oak East Neighbourhood Group potluck. They live in a townhouse complex overlooking the bog (bird sanctuary and great walk around the reeds and pond). They have arranged to have the use of the recreation meeting room which is a lovely space with a great view. It is such a wonderful feeling that different members have been coming forward to host our events; it strengthens our group and encourages sharing in many other ways."

Continued on next page...

AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD cont'd.)

Royal Oak West: Convenor, Fran Hancock, writes, "Thank you to all those members in Royal Oak West who offered to bake "Mortgage Cakes" on Sundays in May for the church as your efforts are appreciated." Members of this group will also be assisting at the Memorial Tea on June 6 for their member, Marjorie Mader, who died on Mother's Day.

Western: Members of this NG will be driving to Cobble Hill on Saturday, May 19, for a potluck lunch at Elaine Hanson's and David Person's home. Elaine reports that they now have seven children in their group.

Tapestry Display

Outcome of the process regarding the two tapestries, from the Arts & Aesthetics Team.

We have listened to you! Setting aside the personal preferences of the Arts & Aesthetics Team members, we have come to a decision to suit the greatest number of those who replied to the questionnaire.

This is the plan: January till June "the Blue Planet" (six months); July till November "the Arbutus" (five months); December no tapestry. Due to repainting of the sanctuary no tapestry will be up this month.

When the outcome is not what you wished for, we are hoping that you can use this as a growth experience.

Sincerely, Betty Sherwood, John Waters, Mariko Matsumoto, Valerie Roberts, Hanny Pannekoek

GREEN CORNER

NIKKI WRIGHT

Keep the Pressure On

The Northern Gateway project invites the world's largest supertankers and dirtiest oil to the unspoiled waters of coastal British Columbia. It raises serious ecological concerns at global, regional and local scales, in addition to introducing the likelihood of devastating oil spills in a place that hosts some of world's most ecologically valuable and unique ecosystems. To fill Enbridge's pipelines and tankers requires a five-fold increase in production of bitumen, exacerbating the impact from this massive industrial development and accelerating Canada's contribution to atmospheric carbon and climate change.

As a Unitarian Universalist community we can keep resisting this project. To stay informed, attend a Raincoast slideshow and presentation. The Raincoast Con-

servation Foundation is working hard to keep Enbridge off our coast line. Look at their web site: www.raincoast.org for photographs, scientific research and editorials on the Northern Gateway Project.

We can also share information with each other, within our workplaces and neighbourhoods. We can keep up on our letter writing campaigns to Premier Clark premier@gov.bc.ca and to the editors of Canadian newspapers: The Globe and Mail: Letters@globeandmail.com; Vancouver Sun: sunletters@vancouver.sun.com; Victoria Times Colonist: letters@timescolonist.com; Vancouver Province: provletters@theprovince.com; Calgary Herald: letters@calgaryherald.com and the Edmonton Journal: letters@edmontonjournal.com

Together, we can stop Enbridge. Saying "No" to Enbridge is saying "Yes" to healthy ecosystems that sustain wildlife, local communities and local economies and meet our domestic energy needs through low carbon alternatives.

We Care!

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

Contacts

Daphne Dunbar
250-381-7648

•
Val Roberts
250-477-7192

Healing Our World (HOW) 2012

Project One: Brown's Town Primary School in Jamaica

Description: \$3400 to feed 30 pupils from poverty-stricken families breakfast five school days a week for one school year.



FULLY FUNDED

Project Two: Dandelion Society, Victoria.

Description: \$5,000 to supply Rev. Al Tysick with the goods he needs to care for members of the street community afflicted with addictions or mental illness. Rev Al will be speaking at our church June 10th.



Project Three: Yellow Wolf Powwow on the Tsartlip Tribal Lands near Brentwood Bay.

Description: \$2400 to cover the cost of the host Drum and Emcee for the Powwow which is a free gathering intended to encourage aboriginal youth back into their community. All cultures are invited to participate. Dancing, drumming and singing.

*Two great projects need our funding.
Please make your donation today!
For more information see our website at:
<http://www.victoriaunitarian.ca/files/HOW%202012%20projects%2020120404.pdf>*

Knives Sharpened... for a donation to the church!

Call Edo at 250-656-9276 and leave them in the box just outside the entrance to the church office.

Camp Pringle Weekend August 10-12

This year's Camp Pringle weekend will be run by Martha McDougall of First and Rosemary Kinley of Capital for all UUs on the Island and beyond. As usual a couple of camper-ships are available on request from the FUCV Denominational Affairs Committee for this fun Family and Singles weekend. Speak to Christine Johnston
(christine_johnston@telus.net)
in May or after that to Martha McDougall.

New Members



Sarah Harris
12-1821 Mackenzie Avenue
Victoria, BC V8N 6H5
778-433-8204
ssharris@me.com
NG: Gordon Head

Dennis & Sandy Jaques
4360 Vanguard Place
Victoria, BC V8Z 6X3
250-658-5649
sjaques@shaw.ca
NG: Royal Oak West

The Library is becoming OUR Library. First Victorian has a new team supporting one of our major resources, our library. Building on the great work of the previous Library Committee, we are determined to make “The Library” ‘OUR LIBRARY’.

Our goal is to make Our Library a warm and welcoming place that holds information that is of interest and is useful to our Unitarian community.

We’ve started by making small changes that freshen up the space, including new signs that make it easier to find our materials.

Over time we will add to our collection and make it accessible to all our community. You told us that you wanted more information about all things Unitarian. We heard you.

We also heard that you valued fiction that held special meaning. We’ve added a shelf and begun collecting books such as these and intend to offer a ‘book exchange’ for them—bring one and leave it, take one and read it—perhaps you, too, will be moved.

Volunteers are available to help you one-half hour before and one-half hour after each Sunday ser-

vice, but Our Library is never locked and an honor system allows you to borrow a book whenever it is convenient.

So...come visit! You’ll find Our Library through the warm red door in the back hallway, next to the back door and across from the Sanctuary.

If you love books, reading and making the library a helpful resource you may want to consider joining the team. We are small in number and would welcome more help. Contact Louise Parsons (louise.parsons@shaw.ca or 250-655-3811).

USC Run for Biodiversity

The USC’s Run for Biodiversity (R4B) comes to the Goodlife Fitness Marathon in Victoria on Sunday, October 7.

Are you a Runner or Walker?

We’re looking for people to join the USC Run for Biodiversity team as part of the Goodlife Victoria marathon, half marathon, 8 km, or kid’s marathon.

If you’d like to support USC’s work with seed-saving farmers by running or walking, or by being a volunteer at the event itself, contact the local team Captain Mike Greenly at mikegreenly@shaw.ca or 250-655-3663.

All R4B-Victoria runners and walkers who commit to raising \$100 will receive a specially-designed Run for Biodiversity t-shirt in appreciation for their fundraising efforts. *As a special thank you, the top 10 R4B-Victoria fundraisers will be registered for free!*

Where will Donations go? All donations will go to support USC’s work with seed-saving farmers in remote regions of the Central American country of Honduras. Our R4B-Victoria goal is to raise \$5,000 to support the community-based agricultural, biodiversity and environmental initiatives of our local partner, FIPAH, the Foundation for Participatory Research with Honduran Farmers.

Why Run or Walk for Biodiversity? Biodiversity is all about food and farmers. It’s the earth’s life-support system, and nature’s brilliant insurance policy against disaster. If something fails, there’s a back-up plan: Biodiversity! Much is at stake for us all, and in a real sense, USC is helping farmers plant the Seeds of our very Survival. Help us run Wild for Food and Farmers! More information at <http://usc-canada.org/run-for-biodiversity/victoria/>



A FANTASTIC FESTIVAL

What an amazingly wonderful day it was! It was beautifully warm and sunny, and everyone seemed to have a great time. We were very fortunate that Fan Tan Entertainment donated their considerable time, energy and expertise to organize this event in order to raise awareness of the work Island Montessori does with children with special needs and low income families, and to raise funds for the Island Education Access Fund for bursaries for underfunded and unfunded children in our program. We are still in the process of accounting for the Festival income and expenses

but in the end will probably have made approximately \$5,000. It was a lot of work for the Fan Tan Group and for the Island Montessori staff, Board Members and parents, but the foundations are there now for future Festivals. Thank you to everyone in the Church who contributed to making this event a great success! We appreciate all the fantastic entertainers who generously donated their wonderful talents to entertain the children and families. It was also incredibly special to have Fred Penner here AND he is willing to come back next year (we'll have to remember to sing

SANDY EINARSON

"Fred Penner came back, we thought he was a goner. Fred Penner came back, he just couldn't stay away"). Hooray!

We hope everyone has a most wonderful summer.

Love from the children, families, and staff of Island Montessori.



A Note from Fred Penner

The first annual Island Children's Festival was fantastic. I was honoured to be a part of this new venture. We do tend to get wrapped up in our busy lives and forget about some of the basic values that hold us together. Saturday we were offered this balance. Dozens of families shared the music and fun and laughter at the festival but more importantly supported the Island Educational Access Fund and their work with special needs children. For more than 30 years I have toured the world performing for children and families and I never tire of seeing the glowing excited faces of the ageless audience. Memories were made on Saturday, and they will last a lifetime. Well done everyone!

See you next year,
Fred Penner



MUSIC NOTES

PHIL HALLMAN

I can't believe it's June already. It has been another great year for music in the church and I'm really excited for what next year will bring. I want to thank a few people for their hard work this year. Thank you to Braden Young, Kristina Stevens, Nancy Dobbs, Barbara Boyle, Shirley Travis and the Music Committee, Barry Wiebe, and everyone involved in the music program.

This month the Do-Drop In Choir is singing on June 10. This is an opportunity for everyone in

the church to come and sing for the service. You meet the morning of the service, rehearse two pieces, and then perform!

Have a wonderful summer.

Choir Dates

- June 3: Chalice Choir meets at 10am
June 10: Do-Drop in Choir meets at 9:30
June 17: Chalice Choir meets at 10

Contact Changes

Sandra Jacobsen
411-1466 Hillside Avenue
Victoria, BC V8T 5H5
250-370-1204
cell: 250-858-2764
sandy.italy@gmail.com
NG: Central



Correction

Nan Fairchild's address was incorrectly listed in the May newsletter. Her correct address is:

117 - 500 Rithet Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1E3
250-595-7241

New Email Addresses

Nille Fibiger-Crossman
nfrogbog@gmail.com
NG Royal Oak East

Wally du Temple
wallydutemple@telus.net
NG Far Out

Covenant of Good Relations

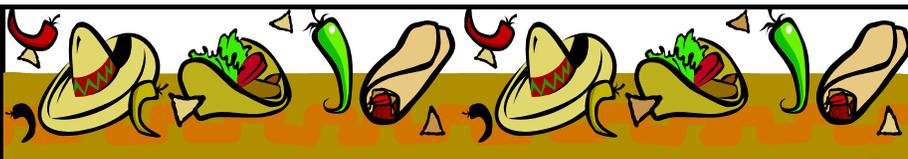
Answer

to question on page 5.

The Covenant provides a spiritual practice guide on how to treat differences of opinion with respect, compassion, and a consideration for the good of the whole. Start with yourself and then active listening to understand the concerns of the others.

Circle Dinners

will resume again in September.



Fiesta Night (aka Spaghetti Night)

Friday, June 8 at 6pm

Instead of spaghetti we will be serving tacos, chilli and much more!
Vegetarian options will be available.

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

Everyone is welcome!! Please join us!!

Dinner is by donation. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

To help with clean-up please bring your own plate and dessert bowl.

A rinsing station will be provided.

***Please note: There will be no Spaghetti Night in July or August.
See you on September 14th!***



Do you have a friend in need ... of a ceremony?

A wedding, child dedication or memorial?

Tell them about FUCV's

Lay Chaplains

It's what we do!

Email: laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca

New CUC Interim Executive Director

THE CUC Board of Trustees is delighted to announce that Vyda Ng has accepted our offer to take on the position of Interim Executive Director.

The Board of Trustees thanks the many people across the country who participated in the process of reviewing the job description of the Executive Director in early January. Out of that consultation came a recommendation to search for a two year interim executive director who has a strong knowledge and understanding of Canadian Unitarian Universalism.



Vyda is uniquely qualified for this position through her long involvement with the Canadian Unitarian Council, as a Board member, Board President, chair of two national CUC task forces, and in a number of other volunteer roles. In addition her experience within our Unitarian Universalist movement Vyda's prior experience as a counselor and as Executive Director of the Coalition Against Violence in St. John's have contributed to developing her skills in working with people with diverse points of view.

Her collaborative style of leadership and management bodes well for developing positive relationships and productive team building. Vyda enters the position with a sound core of Unitarian Universalist knowledge and a deep commitment to the UU movement in Canada, evidenced by her consistent participation in UU and CUC affairs. Her experiences both within our movement and in other non-profit environments amply demonstrate her leadership capabilities.

Vyda will start work on May 14 and will be at the Spiritual Leadership Symposium in Ottawa from May 18-20.

**First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation
Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation will be held Sunday, June 10, in the Sunflower Room at noon.

The main business will be to review Foundation activities and to award three grants for: 1) Out of the Rain which supports homeless youth; 2) Tsartlip Band Emergency Housing Assistance; and 3) two First Nations student bursaries at Camosun College.

Anyone interested in serving on the Board should contact Frances Hancock. The meeting will be brief. Information packages will be available at the church one week prior to the meeting.

**Accommodation Wanted
for Visiting Ministers**

Wanted: Accommodation for the visiting ministers who will be preaching while Rev. Shana and Rev. Melora are off on Maternity leave. Will you be out of town during any of these dates? Would you mind letting our visiting ministers live in your home for two nights over a weekend? Dates: Sept 16, Sept 30; Oct 7, Oct 21; Nov. 4, Nov 18.

Please reply to worship@victoriaunitarian.ca

Board Members on Duty for June

June 3	Bob Dobbs
June 10	Mike Graham
June 17	TBA
June 24	Forrest Smith



First Unitarian Church of Victoria

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Phone: 250-744-2665

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
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Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat
250-652-1274

Lay Chaplains

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
ccre@victoriaunitarian.ca

Director of Music

Phil Hallman
music@victoriaunitarian.ca

Church Administrator

Karen Uldall-Ekman
churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

Board of Trustees

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Outreach	Laura Doyle	250-595-6383
Property Management	Allan Dakin	250-744-1357
Spiritual Development	Forrest Smith	250-595-2538

Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
6/1	7:00pm to 10:00pm	Avatar film showing	Lion Hall
	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Contemplative Yarncraft	Offsite location
6/2	9:30am to 3:30pm	Social Responsibility Committee	
		Annual Spring Retreat	Lion Hall
	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
	4:00pm to 5:30pm	Diane Berry Fundraising concert	Sanctuary
	9:30am to 10:15am	Children' Choir Rehearsal	Piano room
6/3	10:30-11:30am	Sunday Service	
	12:00pm to 2:00pm	NG Convenors meeting	Fireside Room
	12:00pm to 12:30pm	Youth Choir	Piano room
6/4			
6/5	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Covenant Group	Library
6/6	3:30pm to 5:00pm	Memorial Tea for Marjorie Mader	Lion Hall

Continued on next page...

Events Calendar (continued from previous page)

Date	Time	Event	Location
6/7	7:30pm to 9:30pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
6/8	6:00pm to 9:00pm	Spaghetti Night	Sanctuary
	7:00pm to 9:00pm	SELA Conversation Café	Fireside Room
6/9	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
6/10	9:30am to 10:15am	Children' Choir Rehearsal	Piano room
	10:30am to 11:30am	Sunday Service	
	12:00pm to 12:30pm	Youth Choir	Piano room
	12:15pm to 1:30pm	Foundation AGM	Sunflower Room
	12:15pm to 2:00pm	Covenant Group: parents	Fireside Room
6/11	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Awakening Joy Support Group	Lion Hall
6/12	July Newsletter Deadline		
	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Book Worms Group	Offsite location
	1:30pm to 4:00pm	Food Prep/Sandy Merriman House	Kitchen Sanctuary
	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Social Responsibility Committee	Library
6/13	-----		
6/14	7:30pm to 9:30pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
6/15	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Contemplative Yarncraft	Offsite
6/16	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
6/17	FATHER'S DAY		
	9:00am to 10:00am	Library Committee meeting	Library
	9:30am to 10:15am	Children' Choir Rehearsal	Piano room
	10:30am to 11:30am	Sunday Service	
	12:00pm to 1:00pm	Library Committee Meeting	Library
	12:00pm to 12:30pm	Youth Choir	Piano room
	12:15pm to 2:15pm	SELA meeting	Sunflower Room
	10:30pm to 11:30pm	Parents Meeting	Library
6/18	-----		
6/19	12:30pm to 2:00pm	Committee on Ministry	Library
	2:30pm to 4:30pm	Worship Committee	Library
6/20	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Finance Committee meeting	Library
6/21	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Music Potluck	Lion Hall
	7:30pm to 9:30pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
6/22	-----		
6/23	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
6/24	9:30am to 10:30am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
	10:30am to 11:30am	Sunday Service	
6/25	-----		
6/26	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Book Worms	Offsite location
	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Care & Concern Committee meeting	Sanctuary
6/27	-----		
6/28	-----		
6/29	-----		
6/30	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room

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



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the **July** issue is **June 12**.

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);
and Karen Uldall-Ekman
(production,
distribution and paid advertisements).

June Birthdays

- 1 Dar Gareau-Levy
- 2 Clara Buttemer, Jean Simpson
- 4 Jean Foxall, Bridget Barr-Hoadley, Matea Branch
- 6 Bel Paul, Bruce Bennett
- 7 Jane Bramadat
- 8 Marion Irish, Dolores Appleton
- 9 Elizabeth Welliver, Allan Dakin
- 10 Kathryn Saunders, Mic Thorne
- 11 Margaret Johnson,
- 12 Rene Taylor-Lowen
- 13 Bonnie McCallum, Sevanna Grunwald
- 14 Gita John-Iyam
- 15 Andrew Beak-Taylor
- 17 Jan Van Gessel
- 19 Brad Clarke
- 20 Elizabeth McGugan
- 24 Joe Girard
- 27 Keiran Marrett-Hitch
- 28 Vera Tudor
- 29 Kieran Hall Locklin

