



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA
Growing in Spirit, Living with Compassion, Inspired to Serve

VOLUME 51,
ISSUE 11
NOVEMBER, 2012

The Victoria Unitarian

Services in November

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

FALL BACK! DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS AT 2:00AM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Nov 4 Cracked! How the Lights Gets in
Rev. Debra Thorne



Debra Thorne is the Minister Serving Beacon United Church. "We spend our lives growing in strength, resilience and independence believing that this is the very best way to succeed in life. Along comes an upstart poet from Montreal who captures another truth. Leonard Cohen says that it is when we are cracked open that we are really strong. Then there is Father Jean Vanier, founder of L'Arche Communities, who suggests that what the world really needs is our weakness. Perhaps it's all true!

Nov 11 Letters from the Front
A lay-led Service of Remembrance



Together, we will share some traditional Remembrance Day observances enhanced by music from the Pick Up Sticks and Chalice Choir. We will hear some of the many voices that spoke to each other via letters during war time.



Nov 18 The Spirituality of Belonging:
Community, Membership and Association.
Rev. Antonia Won

Belonging is a basic human need and why we come to church. How we belong and what we belong to indicates what we value and are committed to. James Luther Adams said, 'By their groups, ye shall know them.' As Unitarians, we share no single sacred text or belief about God or tradition of spiritual practice, in the pursuit of being inclusive. So how do we stay together? How does membership factor in? And what's spiritual about it?

Nov 25 Choice in Dying - It's a Matter of Justice!
Wanda Morris



In May 1993 the member congregations of the Canadian Unitarian Council adopted a resolution supporting choice in dying. Almost twenty years later that support has not wavered. For many Unitarians, choice in dying is a matter of justice. In this service Wanda Morris, a long-time Unitarian and the Executive Director of Dying with Dignity Canada, will review some of the issues around choice in dying and their relationship to our Unitarian principles and sources.

 denotes Chalice Choir

 denotes Women's Choir

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The deadline for submissions to the
December issue of the newsletter is **November 13**.

SEL EBRATING WITH COMPASSION AND LIGHT

As the days darken, asking the question “*what light can I bring others?*” becomes increasingly important. It is a question I am asking myself as part of a Co-operative Inquiry that involves colleagues from across the country. Together, we reflect on the work that we do and how we might do it better. Our facilitator is Nicky Duenkel, who once worked as DRE in Ottawa (and so understands us). She now teaches at Cape Breton University with a focus on Transformative Learning and, truly, she is guiding us in our own small transformations.

In turn, SEL-CY continues to aim for curriculum that is transformative.

Social Action is a topic that comes up in all the groups, and is all about *bringing light to others*. The Primary Group is considering the local homeless and farmers worldwide as they work to fill small piggy banks they’ve made. Junior Youth can’t wait to do a Popcorn Fundraiser for a worthy cause. All groups look forward to hearing stories about our church Lifeline project in the coming months. Senior Youth decide on loans to KIVA participants on a regular basis, and several of them organized and/or attended a UU Youth Conference focused on mental health issues – which of course is both a social action and a personal issue.

In that vein, the question of *bringing light* has another side: *how do I need to care for myself so that I can care for others?* To help answer this, SEL-CY is delighted to be offering a Mindfulness Training workshop to all three youth groups on November 25. As workshop leader Margo McLoughlin writes, “By training ourselves to notice what’s happening with real compassion and interest...we begin to recognize that happiness really is an *inside job*.” In January, she will offer a similar workshop aimed for families with young children.

Celebrating important events can be another way of bringing light to ourselves and others. As the Intermediate Group continues to learn about Holidays and Holy Days from religions around the world, they are learning about the things that those religions, and especially our own, view as important: from harvest celebrations to asking big questions to serving others.

In ways both big and small, the SEL-CY program aims to live our mission of “Strengthened in spiritual growth, supported in diverse community, we strive to transform ourselves and heal our world through compassionate action.”

Wishing you light in your life, Faye Mogensen

Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth



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

Board Splinters from the September Meeting

The board approved the renewal of our mortgage, held by Coast Capital Savings, for a maximum of \$237,000 as a one-year closed mortgage at a rate of 4.64%. The mortgage includes the total amount that was held in the line of credit, which the credit union has now cancelled, explaining that it was approved to finance renovation costs of Lion Hall.

The Board approved an extraordinary congregation meeting Sunday November 4 at noon to revise the ministers' contracts. As an employer, the church wishes to expedite the permanent residencies of the Reverend Melora and Shana Lynngood under provisions of the BC Provincial Nominee Program. The BC program restricts employers to hiring only full-time employees under this provision so the congregation will be asked to approve the hiring of Rev. Melora as full-time minister and to accept the resignation of Rev. Shana.

The Board approved the appointment of a new accounting firm, McLean, Lizotte, Wheadon and Company.

A Finance Research Task Force, consisting of John Hopewell and Jane Wilson, has been appointed by the Board to prepare an analysis of the church's past financial performance, its current status and future outlook.

The Welcoming and Celebrating Diversity Committee has been renamed the Diversity Committee and becomes a sub-committee of the Social Responsibility Committee.

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Silent Spring

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson, which sounded the warning about the impacts of pesticides and other chemicals on the environment and human health. Her work led to the ban of the pesticide DDT in the 1970s.

Ideally, we should have a regulatory system which considers a newly developed chemical "guilty until proven innocent", requiring extensive testing before introducing it into the environment or using it for human consumption. How can the consumer avoid the effects of these chemicals that we are all faced with? In terms of food, one answer is to buy certified organic produce, which are grown without sprays, chemical fertilizers and GMOs. Economical alternatives include shopping at local farmers' markets, getting to know producers, gardening and avoiding the most heavily sprayed foods.

The Environmental Working Group (EWG) has been analysing pesticide testing and has come up with the "Dirty Dozen" and "Clean Fifteen" lists of foods with the highest and lowest pesticide residues (after washing and peeling). The EWG guide stresses that consumers should opt for organic when purchasing fruits and vegetables on the Dirty Dozen list.

Not much has changed in 50 years. Monsanto, the company that brought us DDT is now bringing us GMO crops, still without adequate testing and seeks to control the world's food system. However, a recent landmark long-term feeding study in France, found that rats fed a diet of GMO corn and/or Roundup developed cancerous tumours and internal organ damage. Your Environmental Action Team (EAT) has proposed a resolution to have Saanich declared a GMO-GE Free Zone.

The **Dirty Dozen** include: apples, celery, sweet bell peppers, peaches, strawberries, imported nectarines, grapes, spinach, lettuce, cucumbers, domestic blueberries, potatoes.

The **Clean Fifteen** include: sweet corn, pineapple, avocados, cabbages, peas, asparagus, kiwis, sweet potatoes, mangoes, eggplants, grapefruit, watermelon, domestic cantaloupe, mushrooms.

Naida Hyde

My life has been a journey of healing surprises. I grew up in Toronto and attended University of Toronto School of Nursing where I discovered, working in the local mental hospital, a love of working with deeply traumatized people. This led me to Boston and a graduate degree at Boston College in Psychiatric Nursing. In these years I also discovered feminism and my life's passion of helping girls and women empower themselves. I returned to Canada, graduating from University of Windsor as a psychologist.

One trip to Vancouver in 1977, breathing in the wildness of the ocean and the majesty of the tall trees, captivated my heart and soul and Vancouver was my new home. Psychotherapy with women, incest and sexual abuse survivors, became my life's work. In 1992 my new life partner Dr. Helga Jacobson and I founded and developed a women's healing centre, RavenSpirit, outside Nelson focusing on shamanic healing. We lived and worked there for 15 years.

We have been in Victoria for 4 years. I retired and have now volunteered yearly in Lesotho, southern Africa, pursuing my life's work with girls and women. I have been searching for a spiritual community in Victoria and have been happily surprised to find I feel unexpectedly at home in this building in the trees. The congregation and ministers have been unfailingly warm and welcoming and I look forward to many years of involvement.



Helga Jacobson

I was born in Berlin, Germany. My family is Jewish and we escaped from Nazi Germany to England where I grew up and was educated. My Master's degree is from the London School of Economics. I went to Cornell University for doctoral work. I am an Anthropologist. I did research in the Philippines and returned from there to take a teaching position at UBC in the Department of Anthropology. I taught there from 1966 till 1992 and was a founding member of the Women's Studies Program. Together with my partner Dr. Naida Hyde I moved to Nelson where we developed and ran a women's healing centre.

We moved to Victoria four years ago. I have no relatives here. I always wanted to be an Egyptologist and I now pursue that passion, researching Egypt. I am very slowly teaching myself to read hieroglyphs and through them the ancient language which only survives as the Coptic language of the Egyptian Christians. I decided to join the church because I like the principles and practices and sense of community

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER (Nov. 25)

Wanda Morris — A Bio - with a Unitarian twist:

Wanda Morris is the Executive Director of Dying With Dignity Canada. She is a Chartered Accountant, a past member of the Canadian Association of Public Speakers and holds a Master of Arts degree in Transforming Spirituality. Dying With Dignity (DWD) is a registered charity with over 2000 members across Canada; it's mission: to improve the quality of dying and expand end of life choices. DWD was started over 30 years ago in the basement of First Unitarian Church in Toronto and its current membership includes many Unitarians from across Canada. As a long-time Unitarian, former Lay Chaplain and past Sunday Morning Services Committee Chair, Wanda feels a special connection to these Unitarian roots.



OUT OF THE RAIN YOUTH SHELTER

The hot meal program for the Out of the Rain Youth Shelter has started. This year we will be making meals for *every* Sunday from October 21 until April 14.. Providing a hot, protein rich main course, buns, fruit and cookies for 30 homeless youth. In addition we will also be providing cookies, buns and fruit to augment the Monday meals.

Ways to help

- We are collecting toiletries and dark coloured socks, toques, and mitts/gloves.
- We will need lots and lots of cookies . Last year we took all the different varieties of cookies people made or bought and did an assortment in ice cream buckets. The kids loved the variety and the 'cookie buckets' became very popular!
- We need ice cream buckets! Lots and lots of them!

If you would like more information about this project, please contact Lisa or Mike Greenly.

Thank you for your support.

SPAGHETTI NIGHT

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet new people or catch up with friends over a casual, fun, delicious meal.

Dinner is by donation. **Everyone is welcome !!**

Spaghetti is served with a choice of two very yummy tomato sauces, meatballs or vegetarian, – plus garlic bread.

Please bring salad, dessert or beverage to share.

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



THE COMMITTEE FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE WCDC NEEDS YOU!

Are you excited by promoting diversity in our church community? Is there activism around diversity that you'd like to participate in? Do you love a good potluck? Then you might be interested in joining the Diversity Committee (formerly known as the Welcoming Celebrating Diversity Committee, pending approval by the board). We meet a few times a year, and plan the annual Pride Service and Diversity Service, as well as three or four social events, such as potlucks, speakers, and film nights. This year, in our new position under the SRC, we will be supporting action around Canada's immigration policy (which currently excludes GLBT people seeking refugee status who are not from 'at risk' countries). If you'd like to be involved, please email Karen Lee Pickett (klp@kaleepi.com) or Laura Doyle (lauradoyle@shaw.ca).

Come See and Find Out!

While meaningful things can happen anywhere, we're lucky at First Unitarian to have a place with limitless potential to support their occurrence—Our Library.

Our Library is tucked away near the outside door in the hallway beside the sanctuary. Although it's often used for meetings, its door is never locked. You're welcome anytime and there is usually someone there to help you out during the half-hour before and after Sunday services.

Our Library is small and focused on issues that help or challenge our ability to really BE Unitarians. Its not a busy community library, nor is it an imposing academic one. Its low-tech, using a real card catalogue to record what's where and paper cards in each book that you sign (with your phone number please), date, then leave in a basket when you want to take a book away with you. You can keep a book for a month before you'll get a polite phone call reminding you to bring it back or renew it. Oh yes, and Our Library contains books and magazines only—no CDs, no DVDs, no MP-any-things—just books and magazines.

But what books and magazines! On the shelves of Our Library you'll find books for kids and youth, stories (yes, novels) that have made a difference in the life of some person in our community, books written by a person in our community, information that is valid and up to date on 'BIG ISSUES'. Global climate change, how poverty can be reduced and We have books of people's opinions and experiences relating to 'BIG QUESTIONS' such as 'why are we here?' 'why do I love him (or her)?' 'what makes me a good (or bad) person?' or 'what happens after I die?' We have developed lists of our books to help you follow a topic, bibliographies of Unitarianism, Spirituality, GLBTQ and more. They're all in the library and on the church's web site <http://www.victoriaunitarian.ca/programs/library/index.php>.

Our Library provides lots of information, but the real magic of it (and its greatest potential to lead to meaningful things) is that Our Library generates lots of questions. Looking for answers to questions (whether you find them or not) is a sure-fire way to experience meaning.

Because its OUR Library we get to choose the books in it. Do you have or know of a book we don't have, but should? Do you subscribe to a magazine we all should read? Talk to one of the Library Team about donating (please don't just bring it in, our space is very limited) or tell us about it and help us build our wish list of books that we ask to be donated or purchased.

Again, because its OUR Library its our job to keep it active and used. The next time you're a bit early for a meeting, a service or Spaghetti Night come in and check it out. Check out a book!

If you really like what we're doing (or really don't), join the Team. Talk to anyone on the Library Team about joining it (or phone the church at 250-744-2665 or email churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca).

Interested in meaningful things? Come to Our Library!

DO YOU LOVE TO READ? LOVE BOOKS? If you do, the Library Team needs your help!

There are three ways you can help build Our Library:

1. Email Louise and volunteer to help staff the library (louise.parsons@shaw.ca)
2. Join the Library Team and help determine what's available .(louise.parsons@shaw.ca)
3. When you see requests for specific books in E-Weekly or the newsletter, you can donate one of them or the cost of purchasing one of them.

Our Library depends on ALL of us!

We Care!

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

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY COMMITTEE

DEFENDING DEMOCRACY AGAINST ROBOCALLS

PHILIP SYMONS

A poll conducted by EKOS Research after the last federal election on May 2, 2011 found that a significant number of opposition supporters in targeted ridings received deceptive phone calls (robo calls) telling them their polling stations had moved. The margin by which Conservative candidates won in nine ridings was sufficiently small that it could have resulted from the loss of votes from opposition supporters who, as a result of those calls, were unable to find their polling station. Those robo calls undermined Canadian democracy, and broke the law.

On March 27, 2012 the Council of Canadians announced that they had launched a lawsuit in the Federal Court of Canada to ask that byelections be ordered in seven of those nine ridings. In August the Federal Court announced that the Council of Canadians case would be heard on December 10-14.

Your Social Responsibility Committee's Action of the Month for November is in support of the Council of Canadian's court case to uphold the law and defend fair democratic elections in Canada. The Council of Canadians will be the recipient of November's Share the Plate collection.

SOCKS, GLOVES, SWEATERS

DON VIPOND

It's dark and wet and scary out there As we settle in front of our television sets these evenings, warm and dry, well-fed and more-or-less contented, it's hard to imagine what it's like living (or maybe just surviving) on the downtown streets. Being out there in the dark, without a home.

A whole different set of questions arise: Will there be room for me at one of the shelters tonight? If so, who might be alongside me? If not, where do I bed down? And who might be alongside me there? Will the cops roust me before morning? Where can I go, just to be safe? Victoria is another world at night. Gone are the well-behaved tourist crowds. Out come some sorry and sick people with major issues, some of them predators, some of them pathetic. When you have no place of your own, no real friends, when it's wet and chilly, that spells sleepless. Despair. There are small things we can do. Street people forever need socks, gloves, sweaters, scarves, blankets, sleeping bags, towels, waterproof footwear, hats. We can prowl through our cupboards and make a gift of such things. Bring them to the church, leave them beside the SRC shelf, we'll take care of the deliveries. Thank you. Don Vipond ([250-652-5491](tel:250-652-5491))

CUC CONDEMNATION

PHILIP SYMONS

The Conservative Government of Canada recently cancelled contracts of non-Christian prison chaplains. The Government justified this as a cost-cutting measure.

Dr. Gary Groot, President of the Canadian Unitarian Council, and the Reverend Julie Stoneberg, President of Unitarian Universalists Ministers of Canada, wrote to Prime Minister Harper on October 10, condemning this action. "(B)y employing only Christian chaplains, the Government is tacitly giving preferential status to Christianity," they wrote.

They continued: "We stand with other faith leaders in calling this unconstitutional, and strongly urge you to reconsider the decision. We further encourage you to demonstrate your support of freedom of religion for all Canadians by ensuring that prisoners have access to appropriate spiritual care and access to chaplains who are trained in multi-faith competency...".

We are pleased to see Dr. Groot and Reverend Stoneberg maintaining our Unitarian Universalist reputation for defending social justice.

Cadboro Bay. This group was part of the team who prepared the Souper Lunch for us on September 30. This proved to be a very busy Sunday, with a lot of people either away or involved in other responsibilities, so Val Roberts found it difficult to recruit enough people to help. However, they did manage to pull it all together.

Esquimalt. Betty Sherwood writes, "We will be gathering at my house for our Friday November 2 potluck dinner. Then on Sunday November 11 we will be joining up with the Farout Neighbourhood Group to provide another wonderful batch of soups and desserts for Souper Sunday after the Service at the church." This group also organized the lovely reception after the memorial service for Senga Stirling on October 19.

Fairfield. Diana Smith writes, "The Fairfield Neighbourhood Group met for an *International Appetizer Night on Sunday, September 30* to share appetizers that related to a place travelled to, called home, and/or longed to visit. We discovered through creating a collective map, that we are a well-traveled group – all continents, except Antarctica. Stories of 'soulful' experiences in the places we've been and the adventures we have had warmed our collective hearts. The informal and family-friendly late afternoon format worked well. We thank everyone who 'stepped' up to bake for the after service goodies for the five weeks in September. We plan to meet next on December 2."

Far Out. This NG group is working with Esquimalt to prepare the November 11 Souper Lunch.

Gordon Head. This group worked with Cadboro Bay to organize the September 30 Souper Lunch and found it difficult to recruit enough help, even though they are a large group. The lunch was enjoyed by many of us and generated nearly \$500 for the church.

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Mary Cramer writes, "On Saturday, October 13, the Gordon Head NG helped one of our members, Mary Canty, celebrate her 90th birthday. She had a wonderful party at her home with around 80 friends and family in attendance. We assisted with the food preparation, serving and keeping the drinks filled. It was a memorable occasion and we really enjoyed being a part of her wonderful celebration. We have had a large potluck, put on the September Souper Sunday and helped Mary with her party...all in the last 7 weeks. We are now going to rest!"

Grand Central. Linda Nicholson-Brown reports that a small group, including one child, gathered at her home on October 6 for a potluck. Their next event will be a gathering on December 1 at the home of Sylvia Krogh and Alan Boyle, who come from Alberta to spend the winter in Victoria. Grand Central baked the delicious goodies for coffee time in October.

James Bay. Pat Kinrade reports that one of their members has moved to Beckley Farm Lodge. This group is hoping to have a potluck sometime in November.

Nearby. Jean Simpson writes, "On September 22, Terry Czyz led a group of seven around Heritage Acres. He talked about his contribution as a blacksmith and the development of a trail that he 'decorated'. Our pictures were taken at a couple of these sites. He also discussed the actively used church there and, as well, he gave an encouraging description of a local winning sportsman who made his own boats/canoes. Some folks then headed towards a picnic table to visit over very loud music. I continued to explore old artifacts only to find some I remember from my childhood. I guess that makes me officially 'old'." This group is now busy planning a pre-Christmas potluck.

AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD cont'd.)

Oak Bay. Karla Thomson writes, "We will be meeting on October 20 at Phillip and Marya's.

The theme for this pot luck is 'Where were you 50 years ago and what were you dreaming of?' Everyone has been asked to bring a photo of themselves from 50 years ago. This could be interesting as we could find we have members who are not yet 50! In fact some of the young people may have VERY interesting answers to this topic." I can't wait to hear Karla's description of how this theme worked out and which pictures the under-50 members chose! This group will also be providing the treats during coffee time in November.

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way and often did so with a twinkle in his eyes. The fact that so many of our group came forward to make the memorial reception happen testifies to the special place he has in our hearts. I told one of his sons that we would like to stay in touch with Winnie, which, he said, would be most appreciated. Our next potluck will be on Tuesday October 23 at our home."

Royal Oak West. Fran Hancock reports that this group is planning a winter potluck at Sandy and Dennis Jaques' home and are hoping to set a date.

Royal Oak East. Hanny Pannekoek writes, "The most important and deepest felt event for the Royal Oak East Neighbourhood Group was the death of Dick Bocking. All of us have a very high regard for him and have admired his determination to take care of himself and Winnie. At times we really wished that we could be of help but he insisted that he was managing just fine. He was a very faithful participant and contributor of our group gatherings and activities, was present in a supportive, affirming

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Western. Elaine Hanson writes, "Our group met for a pot luck dinner on Saturday, September 22 at our place here in Cobble Hill. Great company and great food as usual. David and John entertained us with music and song. David played a very moving tribute to John's sister, Grace and to Senga; although Senga was not a member of our group she was always a welcome visitor to all of our gatherings; we will miss her. We will meet again on Saturday, October 27 at the home of Mac Elrod."

BE PREPARED. DON'T BE SCARED!

Meet with Terry Saturday November 10 at 9:30 to 11:30am, in the Lion Hall at the Unitarian Church, across from the Red Barn Market on West Saanich Road. He will help you prepare for THE BIG ONE!!! OR any other disaster to survive until normalcy is restored. Be ready to take notes and ask questions.

Terry's own Emergency Kit will be on display, with lots of information from Peninsula Emergency Measures Organization.

Contact: Terry Czyz terrcz@gmail.com or 250 -655- 3027.

GARDEN AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING

Earle Anthony

The Annual General Meeting of the Garden and Grounds Committee will be held in the Church Library on Sunday November 16 at 12:15 pm.

The Agenda for this meeting will include:

- 1) Election of Officers for 2013/14
- 2) Review of 2012 Activities
- 3) Discussion of 2013 Activities
- 4) Veggie Garden Plots
- 5) All those concerned about the appearance and maintenance of the Church grounds and parking lots are urged to attend.

Resources for Congregation During Ministers' Parental Leave

~Post this list on your fridge or by your phone~

Our ministers, Reverends Shana and Melora Lynngood, are taking 16 weeks of parental leave (August 14 – December 3). They will return to their regular full-time co-ministry (1/2 time each) on Tuesday, December 4th, 2012. While the ministers are away, the congregation will have both ongoing resources and special supplemental resources to support our continuing shared ministry.

While our ministers are away, and every day, let us take care of one another, and, as our mission says, “strive to transform ourselves and our world through compassionate action.”

Oversight		
Committee on Ministry, ongoing function	Stays attuned to congregational health; supports the optimum functioning of the professional ministry	Don Armstrong, co-chair 250-220-2240 armstrongdon@shaw.ca Dave Andersen, co-chair 250-479-1499 david.andersen@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca Martha McDougall 250-744-1541 Martha.McDougall@broadmeadcare.com
Parental Leave Team (Committee on Ministry plus former president) July 2 – Dec. 3	Answers and refers to the proper resource queries about issues or concerns you would normally take to a minister (i.e., When you don't know who to call, call these folks, and they will help.)	Earle Anthony 250-592-4831 earleanthony@shaw.ca Joyce Murphy 250-598-1506 joymur@shaw.ca Sonya Ignatieff 250-380-4015 sonyaignatieff@shaw.ca <i>Parental Leave Team includes Former President:</i> Suellen Guenther 250-727-0454 sguenther@shaw.ca

Worship		
Worship Committee, Ongoing function	Coordinates lay led services and guest preacher services	Chair, Pat Kinrade 250-361-4336 pkinrade@shaw.ca
Guest Ministers	Preach the Sundays our ministers would normally preach	
November 4	Debra Thorne, minister serving Beacon Unitarian Church	
November 11	Lay led Service of Remembrance	
November 18	Rev. Antonia Won, Canadian Unitarian Council, Congregational Development for Western Canada	
November 25	Wanda Morris, Executive Director of Dying with Dignity	
December 2	UN Sunday	

Pastoral Care, Practical		
Care and Concern ongoing function	Organized through Neighbourhood Groups; provides practical support with a caring spirit (casseroles, cards, visits). Each Neighbourhood Group has a Care & Concern contact person and a Care & Concern Liaison	Daphne Dunbar, Chair 250-381-7648 d.dunbar@shaw.ca
Neighbourhood Group	Care and Concern Contact	Care & Concern Liaison
Farout	Sandra Jordan 250 654 0672	Pam Harte 250-656-4893 plharte@islandnet.com
Nearby	Pam Harte 250-656-4893 Rosemary Harris 250-652-3629 Sylvia McDonald 250-652-1255	
Royal Oak West	Dolores Appleton 250-658-0855 Donna Greenberg 250-727-6793	

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Gordon Head	Mary Cramer 250-477-1615	Ross Beauchamp
Cadboro Bay	Valerie (Tibbles) Roberts 250-477-7192	778-433-2829
Royal Oak East	Elaine Dakin 250-744-1357	beau77w@yahoo.com
Grand Central	open	Suzanne Dearman
Oak Bay	Karla Thomson 250-598-4485	250-592-4835
Fairfield	Pauline Kenneally 250-388-6865	
Western	Emily Whitney 250-642-5546	Barbara Boyle
Esquimalt	open	250-381-0264
James Bay	Nanw Cariad 250-383-0908	barbara.boyle@shaw.ca

Pastoral Care, Emotional		
Pastoral Care Crisis Team July 2 – Dec. 3	An empathetic presence to accompany people through crisis; emotional support rather than practical support. Choose any of the following, or call a co-leader and he or she will connect you with an available team member.	
Clare Vipond, co-leader	(250) 652-5491	donandclare@shaw.ca
Pam Harte, co-leader	(250) 656-4893	plharte@islandnet.com
Laura Doyle	(778) 426-0300	luradoyle@shaw.ca
Don Vipond	(250) 652-5491	donandclare@shaw.ca
Tracy Taylor	(250) 380-6824	tracyschultz@yahoo.com
Andy Lee	(250) 479-0960	andrew.lee@firley.ca
Don Armstrong	(250) 220-2240	armstrongdon@shaw.ca
Jan Thomson	(250) 480-1462	aurora2u@shaw.ca

Dispute Management		
Dispute Management Resource , ongoing function	This resource is available to anyone and/or group experiencing an impasse in their relationships due to strong differences of opinion in working on Church matters; a block which interrupts the flow of working well together. Getting back on track will invite the participants in a solution-focused process of co-creating of ideas leading to successful outcomes of the past. This service is really quite "behind the scenes".	Cameron Egyeda 250-382-9896

Staff Supervision		
Human Resources Chair , filling in for ministers Sept. 3 - Dec. 3	Supervises Senior Staff: Office Administrator, Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth, and Music Director	Margaret McKelvie 250-380-3987 mmckelvie@Richmond-Systems.com

Rites of Passage		
Lay Chaplains , ongoing function	Rites of passage for Non-Members/ Friends (fee)	Joyce Murphy, Liz Graham, Fran Pardee laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca
Lay Chaplains filling in for Ministers, July 2 – Dec. 3, 2012	Rites of passage for Members and Friends (no fee; church pays chaplain)	

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF OUR CHURCH?

Come to a "Considering Membership" gathering, an evening designed to give you the information you need in order to determine whether you would like to officially become a Member of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria. We'll talk about what it means to be a member, the responsibilities and benefits of membership, how to make meaningful connections within our church community, and we will answer your questions. At the end, you can decide whether you would like to join now, not yet, or not at all. Whatever your decision, 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. The program will be led by Suellen Guenther and will take place at the home of Helen Hvozdzanski.

Date: Tuesday, November 13, 7:00pm-9:00pm

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

RSVP: Suellen Guenther at sguenther@shaw.ca or 250-727-0454

Child minding can be provided upon request.

Note: This is technically 'step 2' on the 'pathway to membership.' Step 1 is attending an orientation. However, if you feel you are ready to 'consider membership' now, you are welcome to attend this gathering even if you didn't make it to the last orientation. The next orientation will be announced soon.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

This annual event is back, with some new twists!

Menu details will be provided when you buy your tickets after the last 3 services in November, in the Lion Hall.

Tickets \$20.00 Per Person

Note change of date.

GIANT CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE DECEMBER 2!

Start now to bake for this popular Church fundraiser! Bring your creations to the Lion Hall tables prepared for it before the service. If you must drop them off Saturday instead, they **MUST** go in the fridge to thwart the mice! Suzanne Beauchamp is organizer: 778-433-2829 or suz46b@yahoo.com

BOOK SALE AND BAKE SALE WRAP-UP

Did you bake or cook for the bake sale? The bake sale generated \$727 for the church!

Did you bring books, sort books, organize them, sell them, buy them, or pack up the leftovers? The book sale brought in \$2520 for the Church.

Did you find a few books at the mini book sale? That sale brought in another \$119 for the Church.

Altogether, this fundraiser contributed \$3361 to the Church!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed in any way.



CHRISTMAS RE-GIFTING SALE



It's time again to clean out the corners and donate treasures to the Re-Gifting Sale, which will take place on December 9 and December 16, before and after the Sunday service. Items for re-gifting are those that are close to new or old and interesting. All monies earned will go to the Property Fund. Bring items for donation to the church office and Nellie will pick them up there. Any questions, call Nellie Van Leeuwen at [778 426-0300](tel:7784260300).



Happy November everyone! I still can't believe that our church has a handbell choir. It was only three years ago that I was down in Portland at the UUMN conference playing with their handbell choir, and I was thinking that this would be a wonderful asset to our music program. Two and a half years later and we receive our bells, and three years later we have a handbell choir that meets regularly. Thank you to everyone who has shown their support for the music program in this church. We have something very special here, and I'm so proud to be a part of it.



Choir Notes

November 4: Chalice Choir meets at 10:00
November 11: Chalice Choir meets at 10:00
November 25: Women's Choir meets at 10:00

With the holiday season approaching, I want to remind people that our music program tries to sing a diverse range of music. As we may sing pieces from different religions and cultural backgrounds, we always try to pick pieces that will appeal to the congregation as a whole, while fitting in with the theme of the sermon and the service. You might not agree with some of the words or message that are in some of our pieces, but they might really appeal to your neighbour.

Enjoy the music, Phil

CIRCLE DINNERS

ELAINE HANSON

Do you want to make friends and get to know others in the congregation? Reverend Melora said in a sermon last year that so often we hear things about people at their memorial service that we wish we had known while they were still with us.

Circle dinners are an excellent way to get to know people beyond the Sunday "Hello". We meet in small groups of six to eight people in each others' homes; each person contributes to the meal and everyone takes their turn at hosting. A record number of people attended our first dinners of the new season on September 28. Five hosts were needed to accommodate everyone .

What some diners have said:

"It is great to meet and talk with people outside the church setting" ... "deepens sense of community to get to know people on a more intimate level" ... "one can hear better and contribute more easily to the conversation" ... "we like the way the menu is planned, not like a pot luck where you may end up with all salads and no dessert" .

Our next two Circle Dinner nights are October 26 and November 30; there are no circle dinners in December; we start up again in January.

If you are new to the church (you don't have to be a member) or even if you are a long-time member who has thought about joining us but haven't 'got around to it' please know that you are invited to do so now. To join or if you would like more information please call or email me ... Elaine Hanson 1-250-743-9644 elainehanson@shaw.ca

ATTENTION CHURCH LOOPIES

STU WHITNEY (DEDICATED LOOPY)

Did you know that for 10-15 minutes prior to the start of our Sunday service, calming, relaxing music can be heard on our loop system. The greater joy is that the cacophony prevailing in the sanctuary at that time is not heard, only the music, with your hearing aid set on "T". True, and you already know this, you cannot visit or even eavesdrop on other conversations and listen to the loop at the same time. But I thought you might like to know about this relaxing alternative. It is a fine way to get into the mood for the service when you do not feel like participating in the usual pre-service circus. Try it sometime. You might like it. I do.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Gloria Turner	10	Faye Mogensen
2	John Lancaster, Linda Nicholson-Brown	12	Brock Brown, Pauline Kenneally
3	Lance Young	19	Doug Seeley, Lila Watson
4	Marion Sollazzo	20	Diana Black
6	Laura Porcher, Mike Thorne	22	Bob Van Alstyne
7	Louise Parsons	25	Tatha Cornish, Naida Hyde
8	Penny Furnes	28	Robert Gifford
9	Lorna Anthony, Bob Dobbs, Andy Lee, Joe Fleming		



NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Mel Johnston's new email:
johnston@ryerson.ca



SANDY MERRIMAN HOUSE AND THE FUCV

Since 1995 Sandy Merriman House has been an emergency shelter for women. It began in 1994 when a group of concerned citizens met to discuss the plight of women who were abused, at risk, or living in inadequate housing, or were even living in the streets of Victoria. By December 1995 the project was up and running.

Why is Sandy Merriman so called? The planners recruited disadvantaged women eager to learn carpentry skills and together with professionals they were able to renovate a house in downtown Victoria to create this shelter. One of these women died of an accidental drug overdose and the shelter is named to honour her.

Its services are available without charge to all women over the age of 19. Administered by the Victoria Cool Aid Society, Sandy Merriman House provides a safe haven with 25 beds. Usually women may stay for 30 days. Hygiene supplies, clothes and counseling services are offered, as well as unlimited tea, coffee and juice. There are laundry and shower facilities. The programs include Street Nurse Clinics, arts and crafts, Baking Night and Movie Night. Members of our Church regularly supply toiletries, clothes and personal necessities.

Sandy Merriman House also offers day time drop-in facilities. The drop-in initiative averages 800 hot and nutritious meals per month and again our Church is lending a hand. The Director of Cool Aid tells me that not only the clients but also the staff are most appreciative of our efforts!

We have a team of volunteers, presided over by the Social Responsibility Committee, which once a month prepares casserole meals for 90 and delivers them to Sandy Merriman House. This takes place once a month on second Tuesdays in the Sanctuary kitchen. Two cooks are needed per session; a session usually lasts two to three hours, depending on the recipe. Special Funds are set up to pay for supplies we use.

The cooking team always welcomes new recruits! If you'd like to participate, call Coordinator Barbara Nyland at 250-656-9276, or email her at barbcher@islandnet.com. Or contact Clare Vipond of the SRC, at 250-652-5491; email donandclare@shaw.ca.

You'll find that membership on our team is a most rewarding experience, not only for the meals we prepare, but for the new friends we make among our co-workers!

First Unitarian Church of Victoria

5575 West Saanich Road • Victoria BC • V9E 2G1

Phone: 250-744-2665

churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca • www.victoriaunitarian.ca

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4:30pm • Sunday 9:00am-1:00pm

Co-Ministers

Reverend Melora Lynngood • Reverend Shana Lynngood

*Away on parental leave until December 4th**

Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat

250-652-1272

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

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
Vice-President	Thane Waldie	250-658-4258
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Outreach	Laura Doyle	250-595-6383
Property Management	Allan Dakin	250-744-1357
Spiritual Development	Forrest Smith	250-595-2538

*We have a robust system set up to support the congregation during this time. If you have a matter you would ordinarily take to a minister, contact the Committee on Ministry (Co-chairs, Don Armstrong 250-220-2240 armstrong-don@shaw.ca and Dave Andersen 250-479-1499 david.andersen@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca). If they can't address the issue themselves, they will connect you with someone who can.

Ad sponsored by the Social Responsibility Committee

HAIR SERVICES!

Our two young Palestinian refugees are most enterprising. They want to work as well as study English. They have joined an interesting team at Ethno Concepts where the focus is male as well as female. It is located downtown near the top tourist spots and is a very jazzy store with lots of hip additions. An experience!

Regular hair treatments, cuts and trims, plus braiding, weaving, dreadlocks, cornrows, electrolysis, facial waxing, and neck and shoulder release massages.

BIG OPENING Saturday, November 3 — 9am-5pm

15 minute service by donation.

707 Douglas Street 250-590-1306 for English and French 250-857-8067 for Arabic

Do drop in!

EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Time	Event	Location
11/1	7:00pm to 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
11/2	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Jammers	Sanctuary
	7:15pm to 9:30pm	Mindful Yarning	Offsite location
11/3	12:00pm to 5:00pm	Planning Meaningful Memorial Service Workshop	Lion Hall
	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
11/4	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TODAY (clocks to be turned back one hour)		
	10:30am to 11:30am	Sunday Service	
	12:00pm to 2:00pm	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
11/5	11:45am to 2:45pm	Hall Rental	Lion Hall
	5:45pm to 9:30pm	Hall Rental	Sanctuary
11/6	-----		
11/7	9:00am to 12:00pm	Spaghetti Night Cooking	Kitchen
11/8	7:00pm to 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
11/9	6:00pm to 9:00pm	Spaghetti Night	Sanctuary
	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Youth Group Gathering	Fireside Room
11/10	9:00am to 12:00pm	Earthquake workshop	Lion Hall
	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Private hall use	Lion Hall
11/11	REMEMBRANCE DAY		
	10:30am to 11:30am	Sunday Service	
	11:30am to 1:00pm	Souper Sunday	Sanctuary
11/12	9:00am to 5:00pm	Youth Group Gathering	Sanctuary
	11:45am to 2:45pm	Hall Rental	Lion Hall
	7:00pm to 9:30pm	Hall Rental	Sanctuary
11/13	9:30am to 1:30pm	SELA meeting	Sanctuary
	9:30am to 12:00pm	Learning Circle	Library
	1:30pm to 4:00pm	Food Prep/Sandy Merriman House	Kitchen
	6:45pm to 9:15pm	Social Responsibility Committee	Lion Hall
	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Considering Membership meeting	Offsite location
11/14	10:00am to 11:00am	Library Team	Library
11/15	7:00pm to 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
11/16	8:00am to 2:00pm	Out of the Rain Cooking Bee	Kitchen
	7:15pm to 9:30pm	Mindful Yarning	Offsite location
11/17	12:00pm to 5:00pm	Planning Meaningful Memorial Service Workshop	Lion Hall
	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Diversity Potluck	Lion Hall
11/18	10:30am to 11:30am	Sunday Service	
	12:15pm to 1:00pm	Garden and Grounds AGM	Library
11/19	11:45am to 2:45pm	Hall Rental	Lion Hall
	7:00pm to 9:30pm	Hall Rental	Sanctuary
11/20	12:30pm to 2:00pm	Committee on Ministry	Library
	2:30pm to 4:30pm	Worship committee	Library
11/21	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Care & Concern	Library
	6:00pm to 9:00pm	SELCY Team	Library
11/22	7:00pm to 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
11/23	-----		
11/24	9:00am to 4:00pm	Dying with Dignityambassador Training	Lion Hall
	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
11/25	10:30am to 11:30am	Sunday Service	
	12:15pm to 2:00pm	Dying with Dignity Workshop	Sanctuary
11/26	11:45am to 2:45pm	Hall Rental	Lion Hall
	7:00pm to 9:30pm	Hall Rental	Sanctuary
11/27	9:30am to 12:00pm	Learning Circle	Library
11/28	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Board Meeting	Lion Hall
11/29	7:00pm to 9:30pm	choir practice	Sanctuary
11/30	-----		

DOES YOUR HOME NEED..

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



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Postage paid at Victoria, BC
5575 West Saanich Road
Canadian Publications Mail
Sales Product Agreement No. 40010260



THE VICTORIA UNITARIAN

is a monthly publication of the
First Unitarian Church of Victoria.

The **deadline** for submissions to
the **December** issue is **November 13**.
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 and Barbara Nyland
(editors); Doreen Burgess and Myra
Rippon (proof-readers); and Karen
Uldall-Ekman (production,
distribution and paid advertisements).

Board Members on Duty for November



November 4	Thane Waldie
November 11	Thane Waldie
November 18	Allan Dakin
November 25	Bob Dobbs

BABY CHANGING TABLE NEEDED

Do you have a fold-down baby changing table that you could donate to the Church for our large washroom? Reverend Melora says that one of the most frequently asked questions by new families is 'Do you have a baby changing table available?' Little Demetrius could use it too.