



# The Victoria Unitarian

## Services in October

Worship Service and Children’s Spiritual Exploration at 10:30am. Child-minding available 10am - noon.

**October 6      Our Future Beckons †**  
**Reverend Shana Lynngood**

We continue our Living with Compassion Theme and kick-off our annual Generosity campaign by contemplating our future. How might we need to treat one another in order to move forward together? How can we hold a common vision even if we sometimes hold divergent views? How do we continue to move forward and not allow differences of opinion to sidetrack us?

**October 13      When Bad Things Happen to Good People**  
**Reverend Melora Lynngood**

This topic was chosen by Stu Whitney, who won it in the service auction last spring. His question goes beyond ‘why do bad things happen to good people?’ to questions about whether ‘bad’ and ‘good’ have any intrinsic meaning, or whether they are merely social constructions, and if so, how that affects our notion of ‘when bad things happen to good people.’

**October 20      Generosity Sunday: Our Centre**  
**Reverend Shana Lynngood**



What holds us together? Why do we keep coming together in spite of the dispiriting days that sometimes come? The Chalice Choir will sing the entire Missa Brevis Mass, which lifts up our seven principles. Pledges will be collected as part of a ritual of commitment.

**October 27      Ghandi**  
**Reverend Fred Cappuccino**



The music of Tadeartis will be featured. (See page 2 for more about Reverend Fred and his work).

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† This sermon is a part of our preaching theme of the year: “Living With Compassion”

denotes Chalice Choir

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The deadline for submissions to the  
**November** issue of the newsletter is **October 15**.

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# SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION & LEARNING FAYE MOGENSEN

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## **SE**Lebrating at Church and Beyond

As I write, I am still smiling inside after our second annual youth camping trip - this time it was the "Goldstream Escapade" at the group site there. A big field, tall trees, and a great camp kitchen was the setting where eighteen wonderful youth played cooperative games, decorated and filled "warm fuzzy" bags for one another, worshipped, sang, laughed, roasted marshmallows, and, believe it or not, cooked and did dishes! The weekend was made possible by the generous gift of time from several parents - a warm thank-you to each of you. The resounding echoes afterwards were the same as last year, "let's do it again!"

This month, we'll be "out" again. Children, their parents and all others are very welcome to join the USC Run for Biodiversity as part of the Victoria Marathon on October 13; participants can run, walk or help out at the booth to aid the cause of supporting sustainable farming in Nepal. In September Robin Tunnicliffe, a local farmer on the USC board, showed the church children slides of the project. Mike Greenly will be leading a team-building session on October 6. You can read more about the run at <http://usc-canada.org/run-for-biodiversity/victoria/>

Another outing is to the North Vancouver church. Several youth, and perhaps several adults will be away on October 4-6, connecting with UU's from all over BC. To find out more, please visit <http://cuc.ca/bc-regional-fall-gathering/>

And what about our church home? I most especially want to celebrate and appreciate the many compassionate and enthusiastic leaders in the program. Fifteen of them are parents; twelve are caring adults who enjoy the gift of children. Perhaps you're surprised by the fact that there are almost thirty volunteers. Would you believe that there is still room for more? It takes many hands to make light work for all - and we like to share the joy too!

Speaking of joy, it comes in surprising shapes and sizes. One of our treasured volunteers is Anna Isaacs, and I celebrate her love of brainteasers! She tells me that she's had fun puzzling over the creation of an electronic registration system for the children and youth of our church. In mid-September, she and Karen Potts sent off sixty-five already-filled-in registration forms. I hope that by the time you are reading this, you will have responded to [registration@victoriaunitarian.com](mailto:registration@victoriaunitarian.com) with a confirmation that we have your information right, or corrections to the form.

I celebrate the range of skills talents and ways people find joy! May it always be so.

With warm appreciation to all, Faye

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## ABOUT REVEREND FRED CAPPUCINO

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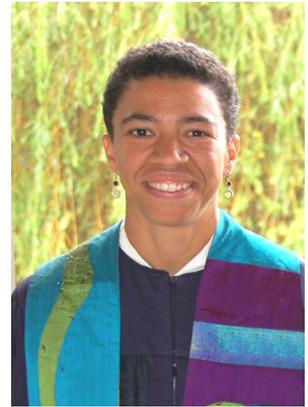
Reverend Fred Cappuccino is an annual visitor, best known as a founder with his wife Bonnie of Child Haven International, which serves children and women in South Asia. He has served Unitarian societies in Montreal and Ottawa.

Child Haven, founded in 1985, runs nine homes for over 1,250 destitute children and women in India, Nepal, Tibet, and Bangladesh, providing housing, education and training. Child Haven was named one of the Globe and Mail's "Top Five Canadian Charities".

**Envisioning our Future**

Believe it or not, Reverend Melora and I have just begun our fourth year as your ministers. In the time we have been with you the growth in energy and excitement and enthusiasm for the church has been palpable. We have seen many new families joining the church. The parking lot and sanctuary are packed most Sundays. We have created a new mission statement and focused more on what it means to be a beloved community. In short, we have done a great deal to strengthen our sense of communal purpose—why we are here and what it means to be a spiritual community. This has served us well.

I believe this year is a critical one. I think we are at something of a crossroads. Because (overall) things are going well at the church it will be tempting to decide to stick with the status quo. Not wanting to rock the boat or risk making mistakes, we may choose to take the comfortable route, continuing along apace and doing things as we have always done them. On the other hand, we could decide that because we have created a solid foundation these past several years it is now time to try some new things. We could try some outreach efforts - the Board has invited me to consider offering some discussions on atheism out in the community, for example. We can look into new forms of advertising and getting the word out about the wonderfully unique message of Unitarian Universalism. Our thriving children and youth programs could use more support. We were moved and touched by the service the youth led for us last June and we could invest in their spiritual flourishing and that of all of our children by hiring an assistant to work with them and Faye. Our music program will also be undergoing changes. As many of you have by now heard, Phil Hallman will be leaving as our Music Director effective December 15. We are sad to see Phil go, and indebted to him for all of the wonderful work he has done growing the music (the Chalice Choir now has over fifty voices). We want to build on this legacy and hire a new Music Director who will continue to strengthen the program and have the resources to hire guest musicians and section leaders for the choir, and so much more. You get the picture. There is so much we can do together. I hope you will keep all of these visions in mind as we enter our Generosity campaign season. We will be asking you to consider raising your pledge this year so that these dreams (and many others) can come true.



With faith in our future,  
Reverend Shana

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**A Giant Thank You!**

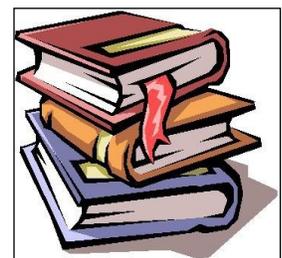
...to everyone who helped to make the Giant Book Sale, Art and Bake Sale a success. Thank you to everyone who donated books, baking, and art. Thank you to everyone who hauled books, sorted them, organized them, bought them, sold them, and counted the money. Thank you to everyone who put up signs, told their friends, and brought in books for their neighbours. Thank you to the church office staff for their assistance and support.

Thank you to Suzanne Beauchamp for organizing the Bake Sale, and Betty Sherwood and Terry Czyz for their work on the Art Sale.

A special thank you to the clean up crew, who transformed the room back into a sanctuary.

With the help of all of you, the Tiny Book Sale raised \$84.70. The Art Sale raised \$251.

The Bake Sale raised \$429. The Book Sale raised \$3,178. Altogether we brought in \$3,858 for the church..



It's pledge month and a good time to think about why we do things here at church.

And to think about building on our tradition and explore what we can do and how we can do it better given the time and money.

Your Board has two dream items for this year's Generosity Campaign. One is a part-time position to work with Faye Mogensen, our Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children, as a youth advisor to help with our successful youth program. Cost: about \$6,000 for salary.

And the other Board dream is a Church outreach project. We hope our pledges will grow so Reverend Shana Lynngood may present Spirituality for Atheists, followed by a public discussion, at four or five community centres or libraries around the region. Cost: about \$2,000 for rent, publicity and compensation. Reverend Shana's sermon on this subject proved surprisingly popular last March. We suspect others in the Greater Victoria area are also fascinated by this topic: Do atheism and spirituality meet or are they mutually exclusive?

We can do this, and many more new things, if we each agree to increase our pledge. It's easy to stay where we are, growing gradually perhaps, but settling into a comfortable routine without too much challenge. But we have to dig deeper and work harder if we truly want our message to get out to others. As the largest Unitarian church on the Island we have a vital responsibility to reach out. We have a great story to tell!

If we each added \$10 more per month to our own pledge we would easily raise \$300,000, our goal for this year and about \$20,000 more than last year's total. Our average pledge for 2013 was \$1,396, up from \$1,241 the previous year, and 57% of us increased our pledges.

How much you wish to give is your private choice. Whatever it is we know you give with love. For those who may be newer to our church, or wondering what to give, the Unitarian Universalist Association suggests this as guide:

- **Supporter.** If the congregation is a significant part of your life and it promotes your spiritual growth consider giving three percent of your gross income (that would be \$1,500 a year if your gross income is \$50,000.)
- **Sustainer:** If the congregation is a significant part of your life and it promotes your spiritual growth consider four percent of your gross income (\$2,000 per year if your gross income is \$50,000.)
- **Visionary:** If you are committed to both the present and future growth of the congregation consider five per cent of your gross income (\$2,500 per year for a \$50,000 gross income level.)
- ◆ **Full Tither.** Designate ten percent of your gross income (for a pledge of \$5,000 per year if it is \$50,000 gross income.)

Pledged and unpledged (which is separate from the Generosity Campaign) money represents about seventy percent of our church income. I think it's fairly certain that there is only so much we can raise from our other fund-raising projects and other income areas of church life, such as rents.

So, it's up to us. Thank you for your generosity – both in time and money. We have a great future together.



**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](mailto:laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca)

The Board voted to approve the Finance Committee recommendations to pay down the mortgage by \$32,083 using funds dedicated to that purpose (the Mortgage Fund and a donation) and to seek a renewal for five-year closed term at 4.70% with an amortization of eighteen years. If approved by Coast Capital Savings monthly payments will be \$1,352 (down from \$1,535). The mortgage is renewable on October 1. Our new mortgage balance would be \$197,375.

The Board has directed Council Chairs to ask all committees and teams to review their major capital assets and provide a long-term estimate for maintenance/repair/replacements to the Property Management Committee Chair. This report should include: item description, estimated life expectancy of the item, estimated annual maintenance costs, estimated periodic maintenance costs and final replacement costs.

The Board voted that \$350 be expended annually to add coverage on our insurance policy for injury or death of volunteers who are working on church business.

The Board recorded three new members: Ross Beauchamp; Roberta Clair; Katherine Maas. The Board also recorded the deaths of Manfred Pape (died on May 27, 2013) and Ruth Humphreys (died on August 3, 2013).

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## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A LAY CHAPLAIN?

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On behalf of our church, the Lay Chaplaincy Committee is recruiting two new Lay Chaplains to assume the role when the terms of two of the current Lay Chaplains (Joyce and Liz) end. The work of a Lay Chaplain is to co-create ceremonies, including child dedications, marriages, memorials and other rites of passage to mark life's significant events. We are seeking men and women who are: members of our congregation; have a solid working knowledge of Unitarianism; good judgment and communication skills, compassion and empathy and a willingness to participate in a training program prior to appointment, as well as ongoing training as a Lay Chaplain. Typically the term of a Lay Chaplain is for six years.

Prior to appointment as a Lay Chaplain there is typically a one-year period of mentorship and training. It is hoped that both Lay Chaplains in Training would begin service in February of 2015.

Weddings are the most common ceremonies conducted by Lay Chaplains and take place primarily on summer weekends. Availability during that time is important, but with three Lay Chaplains at FUCV to share the workload, it is possible to have some time away. Lay Chaplains receive a fee for their services, but the honorarium is not intended to be a primary source of income.

A Basic Lay Chaplaincy training is being offered in Vancouver November 22 – 24, and anyone considering the position is strongly encouraged to attend. It will give them an excellent sense of what is entailed in the role. Following that weekend, people who would like to be considered for the position must complete an Expression of Interest form, available in the Lay Chaplaincy box in the office. Please leave the completed form in a sealed envelope in the same box. Deadline for completion of the form is December 31, 2013. Interviews with interested candidates will take place in the new year.

If you are interested in knowing more about the role, please speak with one of our current Lay Chaplains: Fran Pardee, Joyce Murphy, or Liz Graham.



**Our Earth Needs Us**

On the coast and throughout B.C., the weather this summer has been unusually sunny with very little rain and warm temperatures day after day. For most of us, it has been a fantastic summer with swimming, gardening, picnicking and a myriad of other outdoor activities. For others, the lack of rain has been difficult.

Whether we are experiencing global warming or not, weather is at the very least unpredictable and much of the time disastrous. In addition, warming temperatures, rising sea levels, and the melting of the polar ice caps are just some of the evidence that climate change is no longer debatable, but is with us now and into the future.

Every day we are confronted with the damaging impacts of climate change brought on by the extraction of oil and gas, modern farming practices, pollution of our water and oceans, coal mining and exportation, to name a few. It seems almost overwhelming and yet there is much we can do to improve the situation.

We have a moral, ethical and survival imperative to ensure ecosystem health for ourselves and future generations. In the spring, First Unitarian Church of Victoria became an official signatory to the Earth Charter, along with thousands world wide working to improve environmental protection. In the coming months, your Environmental Action Team (EAT) will be offering a workshop or two on this important document with subsequent action plans.

The UU—United Nations Office has been communicating with us and other congregations in the formation of Climate Action Teams (CAT). They are encouraging educational events and workshops as well as actions at the local, provincial, national and international levels.

EAT has been active in providing both educational programs and actions on climate change for several years and will be continuing our efforts in cooperation with these initiatives. These are dynamic times and we encourage congregation members to become informed and involved. We meet after church every second Sunday of the month. If you are interested in any of our activities, contact Marion Pape, co-facilitator/chair at [marionpape@shaw.ca](mailto:marionpape@shaw.ca).

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**MUSIC NOTES****PHIL HALLMAN**

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Happy October everyone,

You may have heard, this will be my last fall season with the church. My partner and I have decided to head out east at Christmastime to build a family and career in southern Ontario. Leaving the church has been a rollercoaster of emotions and I know come December I'm going to be a wreck. This has been the best job I have ever had, and I will miss all of you.

**Choir Dates**

Oct 20 - Chalice Choir meets at 9:50am

Oct 27 - Chalice Choir meets at 10:00am

On a happier note, the choir is hosting a workshop this fall with Kathryn Whitney. Stay tuned for more information.

On October 20, the choir will be performing our entire Mass that we commissioned a few years ago. The choir is looking forward to presenting this work on Generosity Sunday.

Also mark your calendars for our Christmas concert, and my final concert at the church. It will be December 6th at 7:00pm. I hope you all can make it. It will be the event of the century!

Have a wonderful month,  
Phil.

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

## Orientation

**Date:** Sunday, October 6, 12 noon – 1pm      **Location:** boardroom

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

### Introduction to Unitarian Universalism – Part 1

**Date:** Sunday, October 13, 12 noon – 2pm      **Location:** boardroom

### Introduction to Unitarian Universalism – Part 2

**Date:** Sunday, October 20, 12 noon – 2pm      **Location:** boardroom

This two-part event is designed to give more in-depth information about UUism. Whether you are not yet a member, a new member or have been a member for a long time, if you wish to know more about our denomination, this is for you.

## Considering Membership

**Date:** Sunday, November 10, 12 noon – 2pm      **Location:** boardroom

A gathering designed to give you the information you need in order to determine whether you would like to officially become a Member of our church. Whether you join right away, not yet, or not at all, the afternoon 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.

*Light refreshments and childminding will be provided for all these events.*

To sign up or if you have questions, please contact Reverend Melora at [rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca) or Cell (250) 891-6330. We are so glad you have found us and we are looking forward to getting to know you.

## B.C. is Becoming a Major Contributor to Climate Change

British Columbia has had an enviable reputation for reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) contributions to Global Warming. This is changing. Greenhouse Gas producing coal, especially coking coal, mined in both the USA and Canada, is already exported from facilities in Vancouver, and these are to be expanded several fold. Then, export of enormous quantities of natural gas in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is planned from plants in Kitimat and Prince Rupert. This gas will come primarily from the fracking of shale in Northern B.C. Fracking involves the use of water laced with toxic chemicals and forced into shale under pressure to release gas trapped in the cracks. It contaminates ground water, and nearby streams, and pollutes the air.

Liquefaction of natural gas requires very large amounts of electrical power which would require building a dam on the Peace River at taxpayer expense. Worse, it is clear that in the future B.C. will be a major source of Greenhouse Gas in the world from natural gas and coal exports. Damage to the environment of Northern BC from fracking and construction of pipelines and transmission lines will be widespread. That the Greenhouse Gas may be burned elsewhere does not absolve B.C. from responsibility for its export.

The SHARE THE PLATE recipient for October will be the Dogwood Initiative, a Victoria non-profit for thirteen years. Their mandate is to give BCers decision-making power over the use of land and water. They have two major campaigns: No Tankers and No Coal Expansion. This month, visit the SRC Shelf in the church foyer to sign petitions relating to gas extraction by fracking and the expansion of coal exports. For more information see <http://dogwoodinitiative.org>.

**Action on Climate Change**

Canadian Unitarians For Social Justice *is taking action on climate change by supporting [www.climatefast.ca/](http://www.climatefast.ca/)*. President, Reverend Frances Deverell, and VP Margaret Rao will be doing a partial food and carbon fast on parliament hill between September 21 and October 2.

**We need your support!**

- Visit your MP if they are in town, or write them!
- Use the Sunday Service or service elements posted at [www.cusj.org/actions/](http://www.cusj.org/actions/)
- Organize or attend a vigil in your city on October 2.
- Talk about climate change and what we have to do to lower our collective emissions of greenhouse house gases with your friends.

**We want politicians to:**

- End subsidies to oil companies.
- Put an effective price on carbon.
- Focus policy aggressively on renewable energy sources.

**It is time to take our heads out of the sand. Take the pledge. Do what you can this week to raise awareness. Our fast is our prayer for a change of heart amongst the Canadian people.**

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**GRAPEVINE****DAPHNE DUNBAR**

This picture is of **Kjerstin Mackie** and her cousin at the Helsinki Finland Pride Parade. “We had fun, and I wore my special Victoria Unitarian ‘Proud of Diversity’ t-shirt!” June 29, 2013.



**Gloria and John Hopewell** spent two months in London and a week in Wales and Lincoln.

The highlights of their London visit were the Chelsea Flower Show and a concert at the Royal Albert Hall where they heard a two-hundred-voice choir singing the Ode to Joy; they also went to many West End theatres and on Canada Day celebrated with other Canadians in Trafalgar Square.

They visited many major historic sites including Hadrian's Wall, Stonehenge and the Roman Baths. In London they saw Gloria's sister and in Lincoln they visited John's family including a one hundred year-old aunt. Their daughter Andrea and her family, from Ottawa, were with them for ten days.

**Recommended Video**

The Environment Action Team recommends you watch the following video. **A Silent Forest. The Growing Threat, Genetically Engineered Trees- Full Movie** - 47 minutes.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w437uQf\\_A7c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w437uQf_A7c)

We have to wonder what they will alter unnaturally next!

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# OUR INNOVATION TEAM

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**The Innovation Team** is an experiment (a beta-test) at First Unitarian Church to help/focus our beloved community to fully bring our mission ‘growing in spirit, living with compassion and inspired to serve’ into action. We will be a space/team/place that will:

- ◆ Support those with good ideas to get going/flourish
- ◆ Listen deeply to complaints/challenges, and support the resolution to get to ‘yes’
- ◆ Encourage communication and collaboration with each other, through relationship building, learning about the gifts and assets of each other, and being an advocate for a learning culture that fosters each person to offer their best.

## Here’s how you might become engaged:

- ◆ Our first step: We want to get to know you! We will be inviting many of you to have a One-To-One with us, a personal conversation to share life stories, talk about our commitment to the Mission, and the talents/gifts YOU have to offer.
- ◆ Check out the ‘Innovation in Action’ webpage in the Community Section of the FUCV website for further background and resources.
- ◆ Join us. We are open to and welcome YOU to become a part of the team. Be in touch if this idea ‘calls to you’

## We will encourage wise action in the next few months by:

- ◆ Opening up the call for leaders ‘in every chair’
- ◆ Having ‘one-to-ones’ with many individuals and families
- ◆ Becoming visible to the congregation (page on website, a service in November, a survey, regular contributions in the newsletter, Facebook page and Eweekly).

We are an emerging team of six congregants plus several individuals ‘in the loop’, supporting and supported by Reverend Shana: John Waters, Jane Wilson, Diana Smith, Dar Gareau-Levy, Leslie Gillett, and Forrest Smith.

The image to the right captures our goal.



## Planned Giving

We have planned to leave a gift to the Church, so that liberal religious education can continue to thrive in this Community.

*Fran and Peter Hancock*



## Covenant of Good Relations

### Question:

You notice a preschooler actively pushing through the crowd in Lion Hall looking for a parent and you see an unsteady senior with a cane who is carrying hot coffee. What does the Covenant of Good Relations suggest you could do?

**See Page 11 for the answer**



# B.C. REGIONAL FALL GATHERING: MEANING, JOY, JUSTICE



October 4 - 6, 2013, hosted by the North Shore Unitarian Church  
(And the Youth Con too!)

**The Transforming Power of Ritual** with Amanda Tarling, Lay Chaplain Trainer, Capital Unitarian Congregation.

Sacred ritual marks both the transient and permanent in the journey of our lives. Can we learn to shift the focus of our busy days by reframing our lives with meaningful ritual? Take this invitation to immerse yourself in ritual in order to return the wonder, awe and delight in being alive!

**Indigenous Cultural Communication.** Engaging in new territory while staying connected to spirit with Wedlidi Speck, Namgis First Nation member, Director of Aboriginal Service Change for Ministry of Children and Family Development

Have you heard of ‘cultural competence’? We’ll look at what we need to engage someone from a different culture effectively, and seek understanding and appreciation for cross cultural conflict, cultural rubs, and what works.

**Sustainability and Social Justice** with Dr. Jim Stephenson

Calling all social justice seekers! A look at what’s happening in each congregation on the sustainability and social justice front(s), how we might work together and the role of Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice (CUSJ).

**Joyful (Sexual) Diversity!** With Samaya Oakley, Minister, First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo, Our Whole Lives Trainer and Facilitator

This is for “Straight” people who want to make a difference, and Queer people who want to figure out how they can share their experience. If you missed the annual conference in Calgary, this is your chance to take this well-received seminar!

Register at <http://cuc.ca/bc-regional-fall-gathering/> by September 30 (September 22 for children). Subsidies available.



## Child Haven International Fundraiser Evening

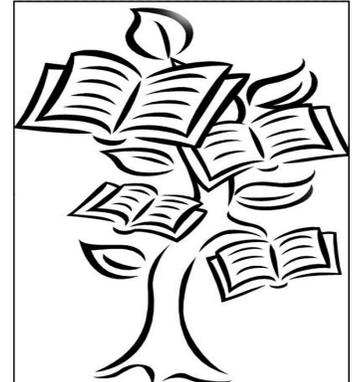
Our Annual fundraiser for Child haven International will take place this year at the church in November. This is a very special year as Bonnie and Fred Cappuccino, Directors of Child Haven are celebrating their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary. Child Haven International now cares and provides basic shelter, nutritious meals, clothing and education for eleven hundred children in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Tibet. This organization is twenty-six years old and the only fundraising done is by dedicated and compassionate volunteers in the form of Community dinners. This year we will have an Authentic Indian dinner with Bollywood Dancing. Many of the dancers will also be performing at UVic on November 2 to celebrate Diwali.

Please contact [sandrajordanca@yahoo.ca](mailto:sandrajordanca@yahoo.ca), or Christine Johnston (250-385-5444) if you would like to volunteer for this event or need more information.

We hope you will all support this amazing organization and come to this event. More details re date and time to come. More information about Child Haven at [www.childhaven.ca](http://www.childhaven.ca).

**'Treasures' from Our Library - *Everyone Is Right*** by Roland Peterson. Call number 215 Pe.

I've always thought to get down to serious reading when the time was 'right' - and it just never seemed to be the right time. Each day too many other and important things needed to be done, or I was too tired from trying to do all that to do anything but sit and vegetate. This summer one of those important things I HAD to do was work towards weeding then cleaning Our Library - and it turned out to be a 'right' time too - bonus! I found a book in Our Library that looked only marginally interesting when I was there but got more interesting once I took it home. I took it because I thought it was a modern look at Comparative Religion (and it is - kind of). As I began to read it I was turned off because I found its bias seemed to be esoteric (and it is - I think) so it sat for a couple weeks on my reading pile, unread. I picked it up again this morning and read some more. I still don't know if I agree, but this book made (and continues to make) me think about what I (and others) believe - I find it truly a 'Treasure'.



**There've Been Some Changes Made**

As soon as you enter you'll notice that Our Library looks different. Over the summer we've worked hard to make the library more inviting, the books in it easier to see and to give it a good freshening up.

Once you find something interesting, taking it home is easy. Inside each book is a card, just print the date you took it, your name and your phone number on the card (we even provide pencils) and put the completed card in the basket provided. The book is yours for a month. When you're done return it to the basket ... and pick another.

Every book there is either new, has been written by (look for the Tree of Life symbol on the spine) or has been read by someone in our congregation. Once you've checked it out, might we suggest contacting the previous reader? Who knows, you might find a 'new' friend (whether you agree about the book or not).

We're doing everything we can think of to make Our Library a comfortable and usable space. If there are books you'd like to read please let us know at [library@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:library@victoriaunitarian.ca)

**What? No More Circle Dinners?**

That's up to you! Elaine Hanson has stepped down as coordinator of this very popular event. She has asked for a volunteer to take her place, but to no avail!

Please step up to the plate, so to speak, and take your turn! Elaine will fill you in on your duties. She is away now, so contact Barbara Nyland at [barb-cher@islandnet.com](mailto:barb-cher@islandnet.com)

Many thanks, Elaine for all your patience and good work in the last four years! You arranged so many happy meals and evenings.

**Covenant of Good Relations**  
Answer to question on Page 6

The Covenant stresses that children deserve respect too but this child is also in danger, so I would respectfully and kindly stop them and offer to help them find their parent. Warn the child too of hot coffee. If another person is also watching, the other could offer to carry the senior's coffee to a table and maybe comment that there were some active preschoolers around who could accidentally upset their coffee.

*All members, friends, and newcomers to the church can be part of the Neighbourhood Group where they live. Groups meet monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, or occasionally. If your group is missing from this column, there was nothing to report this month. If you don't know which group you are in, please phone the church office.*

**Esquimalt:** Thirteen members of this group gathered for a potluck at the Hopewell's on an evening in late August that was warm enough to sit outside by the water. Esquimalt then got busy, working with James Bay, to prepare the Souper Lunch for September 15.

**Fairfield:** Diana Smith writes, "The Fairfield NG welcomes Nanw Cariad as the new convener, and looks forward to the opportunity for rejuvenation and renewal that provides. We have found that the convening team approach has worked well in the past two years, and invite Fairfield residents to join Nanw in that role. We are planning a get together on November 3; details will be forthcoming. Mark your calendars now!"

**Far Out:** Barbara Nyland writes, "On Saturday September 14 the Far Outs hosted the Ruth Humphreys Memorial Service reception, but we were short-handed and could not have managed without the cooperation of our special Memorial Event Team! Many thanks to the Far Outs Sandra and Jim Jordan, Louise Cole and Phyllis Aherne, and a round of applause for the Memorials Marya Nijand, Philip Symons, Pat Kinrade, Joyce Murphy, Don and Clare Vipond, Christine Petronis, Penny Furnes, and Bert MacBain. And many thanks to all who brought such delicious finger foods."

Far Out will soon be welcoming seven new members who are coming into their group due to a change in their southern boundary.

**Grand Central:** This group has been providing goodies for the after-church social hour in September, and they will be meeting September 28 for their Fall Gathering at the home of Linda Nicolson-Brown, their convener.

**James Bay:** Pat Kinrade reports that James Bay NG enjoyed a dinner potluck at the home of Myra Rippon on Saturday August 31, with eight in attendance. They are looking forward to their next potluck in October and are searching for someone to host it. James Bay worked with Esquimalt on the September 15 Souper, and so many people attended that they ran out of buns. The ten pots of soup held out, however, and the lunch contributed \$520 to the church!

**Nearby:** We are pleased to announce that Nancy Dobbs has become the new convener for Nearby. As the former NG Coordinator, Nancy comes well equipped for the role! To ease over-crowding in this group, the boundary with Far Out has been changed, and seven members of the Nearby Group will now join the Far Out Group.

**Oak Bay:** Karla Thomson writes, "Jean Evans will be moving to Edmonton and will be sorely missed by the Unitarian Oak Bay Neighbourhood group." Oak Bay will be busy baking for coffee time in October.

**Royal Oak East:** Hanny Pannekoek reports that eighteen members attended a delicious potluck at the home of Nille and Mike, who created a very welcoming and festive atmosphere for dining and socializing. Then they all gathered as a large group to discuss several topics. They agreed their buddy system had value in helping them get to know each other, and they will have new buddies for the next six months. They discussed the format of name tags and decided they like the present style and they do not wish to identify their group with a sticker on the name tag. They decided they would like to use their large circle to get to know each other better, so at each gathering, four of their members will take about five minutes to share personal information about themselves. Now the group is looking forward to their next gathering on November 26.

**Western:** This group will be gathering at Mac Elrod's on September 21 for their next potluck.

Covenant Groups will be starting up again in mid January 2014 and running through to mid June. They are one of the many examples of small group ministry in this church - ways to deepen our connections to one another and to ourselves.

Groups of eight to ten people meet twice a month. Facilitation of the group is shared by two people, and topics are chosen from a suggested curriculum. Groups meet at different times and locations depending on the facilitators' and participants' availability.

Sign-up for those who would like to participate in the January to June Covenant Group sessions will take place in the Lion Hall on **November 10 and 17**. You will also find sign up sheets in the SELA mailbox in the church office if you would like to sign up earlier. Completed sheets should be returned to the SELA mailbox.

Creating groups based on co-facilitator and participant's availability will begin in late November. There will be a meeting of co-facilitators in early January before the groups start.

Please contact Fran Pardee of the Spiritual Exploration and Learning - Adult (SELA) team if you have any questions.

SELA team - Fran Pardee, June Fukushima, and Phyllis Aherne.

Reverend Shana provides much appreciated Ministerial support to SELA.

\* Spiritual Exploration and Learning—Adults

## Dying with Dignity

### Share the Plate: November 2013

November Share-the-Plate will be designated for Dying with Dignity, the national forum whose mandate is to educate Canadians and our legislative branches in the issues surrounding the Right to Die movement. Dying with Dignity has been working tirelessly in this area for over twenty years. They provide tremendous educational resources, blogs, forums and media ads to further advocate their position. They also keep us very up to date with the status of both the Supreme Court Appeal surrounding the Carter case as well as the proposed legislation which may come into effect in the Province of Quebec. As a result of the strong support Unitarians have always given this issue, we have had an active voice through our representatives on the CUC monitoring committee, Choices in Dying. More recently we worked closely with Dying with Dignity in March 2013 to hold a rally on the BC Legislature grounds in support of the Carter Case. We are currently working with Dying with Dignity in planning the fall rally for the World Right to Die Day, Saturday, November 2. A new subcommittee, Choices in Dying: Victoria has recently been formed working under the auspices of the Social Responsibility Committee. Together, we can achieve more. We hope members will support this Share the Plate initiative. If you wish to have a tax deductible receipt, please write the word 'SHARE' on your cheque and drop it in the weekly basket.



## Birthdays

### OCTOBER

- 3 Forrest Smith, Winnifred Bocking
- 6 Mike Thorne
- 8 Karen Furnes
- 10 Jim Newton
- 11 Mariko Matsumoto, Doreen Wood
- 12 Margaret McKelvie
- 13 Mary Canty, Barry Wiebe, Scott Branch
- 14 Doreen Burgess, Stu Whitney
- 15 Menno Tromp
- 19 Bonnie Halvorson
- 20 Lorna Shaw
- 22 Sharon Boldt
- 25 Virginia Daniel, Marion Pape
- 26 Fran Hancock
- 27 Allen Milne, Don Armstrong
- 28 Susan Lean
- 30 Diane Berry, Kent Haden, Helga Jacobson
- 31 Ruth Ellen Pozer-Telford



## Art in the Sanctuary for October Marleesha Keddie

Participation in a mandala workshop reconnected me with my love of making art. More importantly, it helped re-establish trust in my inner, guiding voice. Beautiful, expansive images appeared and demanded to be materialized. Each mandala (the circular symbol of wholeness) in my Dream Garden series is made by layering a selection of pictures, cut from gardening magazines, to create perspective. Some mandalas are made to play with colours, others to create peaceful spaces. All are a joy to make.



## Contact Changes



Mary Cramer (Gordon Head NG)

[marycramer4455@gmail.com](mailto:marycramer4455@gmail.com)

Pat Conroy (Gordon Head NG)

[patricktconroy74@gmail.com](mailto:patricktconroy74@gmail.com)

Fran and Peter Hancock (Royal Oak West NG)

[fbhancock@shaw.ca](mailto:fbhancock@shaw.ca)

Cameron Egyeda: No email at present



Scott Branch (Western NG)  
778-977-6955

Janice Hlady (Western NG)  
250-514-3937

Katherine Maas: (James Bay NG)  
250-532-2361

Roberta Clair: (James Bay NG)  
250-532-1973



Lisa & Michael Greenly  
301 - 4394 West Saanich Road.  
Victoria, V8Z 0B5  
778-433-2231  
Emails the same

## First Unitarian Church of Victoria

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rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca

• Reverend Shana Lynngood  
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rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca

### Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat  
250-652-1272

### Lay Chaplains

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Faye Mogensen 250-744-2695  
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### Director of Music

Phil Hallman  
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### Church Administrator

Karen Uldall-Ekman  
churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

### Board of Trustees

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Vice-President	Linda Nicholson-Brown	250-474-7182
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#### Council Representatives

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Congregational Life	Linda Nicholson-Brown	250-474-7182
Outreach	Laura Doyle	250-595-6383
Property Management	John Tiffany	778-265-1210
Spiritual Development	John Hopewell	250-721-3920

## Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
10/1	9:00am to 12:30pm	Learning Circle	Boardroom
10/2	-----		
10/3	9:00am to 6:00pm 6:00pm to 10:00pm	envelope stuffing Music Program	Boardroom Sanctuary
10/4	7:15pm to 9:30pm	Regional Fall Gathering Mindful Yarning	Vancouver Offsite location
10/5	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Regional Fall Gathering Meditation	Vancouver Sunflower Room
10/6	10:30am to 11:30am 12:00 noon to 1:30pm 12:00 noon to 1:00pm	Regional Fall Gathering SUNDAY SERVICE Brain Science of Communication Orientation	Vancouver Sanctuary Sanctuary Boardroom
10/7	1:30pm to 3:30pm	Choices in Dying	Boardroom
10/8	9:00pm to 12:30pm 7:00pm to 9:00pm	Learning Circle Social Responsibility Committee	Boardroom Boardroom

Continued on next page...

## Events Calendar (continued from previous page)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
10/9	12:00 noon to 2:00pm	Care & Concern	Boardroom
	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Finance meeting	Boardroom
10/10	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Music Program	Sanctuary
10/11	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Community Dinner	Sanctuary
10/12	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
10/13	12:00 noon to 1:30pm	Finance Forum	Sanctuary
	10:30am to 11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	12:00 noon to 2:00pm	Unitarian Universalism Part 1	Boardroom
	12:00 noon to 1:30pm	Diversity Group	Chaplains Room
10/14	THANKSGIVING DAY		
10/15	12:30pm to 2:00pm	Committee of Ministry	Library
	2:30pm to 4:00pm	Worship Committee	Library
10/16	10:00am to 11:30am	Library Team meeting	Library
10/17	12:00 noon to 2:00pm	Board Meeting	Boardroom
	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Music Program	Sanctuary
10/18	7:15pm to 9:30pm	Mindful Yarning	Offsite location
10/19	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
10/20	Noon	Canvass lunch	
	10:30am to 11:30am	Parents' Group	Boardroom
	10:30am to 11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	12:00 noon to 2:00pm	Unitarian Universalism Part 2	Board Room
10/21	-----		
10/22	-----		
10/23	-----		
10/24	10:00am to 12:00 noon	Planned giving	Boardroom
	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Music Program	Sanctuary
10/26	12:45pm to 2:30pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
10/27	10:00am to 12:00 noon	Youth Worship	Lion Hall
	10:30am to 11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	11:45am to 1:00pm	Gratitude Circle	Boardroom
10/28	-----		
10/29	9:00am to 12:30pm	Learning Circle	Boardroom
10/31	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Music Program	Sanctuary

## 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**

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## THE VICTORIA UNITARIAN

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The **deadline** for submissions to the **November** issue is **October 15**.

Copy should be sent to [newsletter@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto: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 Events Calendar should be sent to [calendar@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto: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).

## You Are Invited to the Community Dinner Friday, October 11, at 6:00pm



What is the Community Dinner, you ask? That is the new name for our once-a-month gathering on the second Friday of the month. This is a very popular multi-generational event offering a great 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 dessert, salad or drink to share. *To help with clean-up please bring your own plate and dessert bowl. A rinsing station will be provided.***

## Board Members on Duty



October 6	Lynn Hunter
October 13	Mike Graham
October 20	John Hopewell
October 27	Lynn Hunter