



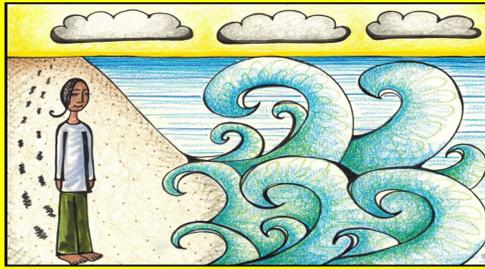
The Victoria Unitarian

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

SERVICES IN APRIL

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

Practices
to transform
ourselves and our
world
...
APRIL'S THEME



Courage:
THE PRACTICE OF
WALKING ALONGSIDE FEAR

April 5 Easter Sunday—Courageous Love Reverend Shana Lynngood

As we begin our exploration of this month's theme, courage, we will look at the life and ministry of Jesus through this lens. How did Jesus live out his beliefs in spite of the threats on his life? Does the Easter story of resurrection offer us a vision of the type of renewal and new possibilities that may await on the other side of courageous living?

April's theme graphic is designed by Worship Associate and Soul Matters Theme Group Participant, Penelope Hagan. She writes: "The artwork shows how we can stroll calmly and peacefully along the shore of life, even though there may be clouds looming in the distance. Sometimes a rogue wave or a tsunami rises up, causing disorder and fear, but we can choose to plant our feet firmly and stay on the solid ground of faith, justice, and compassion."

April 12 Beyond Borders: the Richness of Volunteering at Child Haven International Speakers: Maggie McLaren and Fran Pardee

Child Haven is a Canadian charity founded by Unitarians Bonnie and Reverend Fred Cappuccino that is well-known to many of our members. It has been supporting 1,200 homeless children in India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Tibet for 30 years, and offers an inspiring opportunity for meaningful volunteer work.

Maggie McLaren is a recent arrival in Victoria coming last May from Parksville where she was a key publicist for their annual Child Haven banquet. Since 2006 she has volunteered in India seven times! By profession she is a marketer and photographer who writes children's stories and does gardening as hobbies. Fran Pardee is a longtime member who has served our church in many roles.

April 19 Love, Fear, and Earth Day Marion Pape (Co-chair of our Environmental Action Team) and Rev. Melora Lynngood

As we consider the failing health of our planet on Earth Day, an array of different emotions wash over us – sorrow, fear, anger.... In this service, we consider how to uncover the love for our earth that is beneath them all – and how to harness the power of that love to engage in action with others.

April 26 Courage: The Practice of Walking Alongside Fear Reverend Melora Lynngood

We wrap up the month, with a personal look at our theme. What are you afraid of? How do you manage your fear? When have you been 'courageous?' What would it mean to you to engage in courage as a spiritual practice?

 denotes Chalice Choir

 denotes Children's Choir

 denotes Women's Choir

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The deadline for submissions to the
May issue of the newsletter is **April 14**.

SELECTIONS ON COURAGE

FAYE MOGENSEN

Parents are a courageous lot. It's a fine line to walk: maintaining boundaries while trying to inspire independent decision making; offering guidance while encouraging free will; sticking to our values even when they are NOT popular. Just when we've sorted out the best way to parent, or we think we have our children figured out, they change and we are compelled to risk yet another new approach. As we grapple to find our own courage, we also endeavour to encourage our children in all sorts of ways: to admit when they've done something wrong, to acknowledge enjoying something when their friends say it's "boring", or to step up, for example, to take the keys from a friend who has been drinking.

Courage, from the French word "couer," is following what our heart tells us, even when we don't know the outcome. As a parent I've learned that when I find the courage to be vulnerable, and express regret for something, they are incredibly forgiving. If I tell them I am struggling with an issue, they often have wise or compassionate words to offer. My courage is well rewarded, as together we move to deeper levels sharing and caring.

The children at the church pose similar questions and behave in ways that may challenge us. I applaud the many SEL-CY volunteers who are both generous and courageous. They come Sundays, with a plan in hand, and then adapt it, based on what their hearts tell them about what the children who are present most need and will best respond to. It is always a risk and, according to people like Martha and Forrest, always a reward!

I also applaud parents. In our secular society, the decision to take time for church goes against the norm. Thank you for allowing your children to be part of our always-striving-to-be-relevant church program.

Highlights for the coming month include:

- celebrating Easter, with courage *and chocolate (all ages)*
- returning to "World of Wonder", a curriculum that celebrates our Seventh Principle (Adventurers)
- celebrating a Passover Seder and the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi (Seekers)
- decorating the yurt, gardening and visiting our neighbour's organic farm (Questors)
- gardening and hiking and more (Youth)
- considering and celebrating the land beneath our feet and across the street, with a First Nations elder (to be confirmed)

I look forward to our times together,

Faye

Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth • 250-744-2695 • fayem@victoriaunitarian.ca

Planned Giving

Have you ever wondered how to leave a donation to the church through your RRSP or RRIF?

Do you have any other questions regarding legacy planning through your will?

Del Elgersma, who is a practicing lawyer, will be giving a short presentation after church on Sunday, April 12 at 12:30 pm. Please come join us in the Common Room after Souper Sunday and let us know if you are able to attend by contacting Frances Hancock at 250-477-1310 or John Hopewell at 250-721-3920. Thank you.

Courage: The practice of walking alongside fear

I remember when discussing this month's theme Reverend Melora had an extended discussion about the relationship between courage and fear. It didn't feel accurate to us to say that people who are courageous move beyond or through fear. The fear doesn't go away because we choose to act courageously. The fear - of loss, of illness, of injustice - remains no matter what. A certain amount of fear or anxiety seems to hover at the margins of the lives of all of us (sometimes less marginally and more centrally). The challenge, then, is to figure out how to live with fear. How do we live in such a way that keeps the fear from ruling the day or clouding our perception of everything?

The other aspect of courage that strikes me is that it can be seen not just in grand gestures—taking a stand in a march for justice—but in small ways as well. We are courageous when we speak up for our perspective in a room full of opposing views. We are courageous when we live in a way that feels authentic to us in a culture that portrays other paths as superior. We are courageous when in the midst of a time when we feel down and out we get out of bed and face the world.

As we explore courage this month, I invite you to consider one of the following questions in depth. Let whichever one feels most meaningful and pertinent to you to take you on a journey of exploration and self-discovery.

1. Who is the most courageous person you know? And has their courage been contagious?

Have you been honoring them in word and not in deed? It's one thing to celebrate someone's courage by telling others about them; it's another to celebrate them by letting them change you.

2. Are you as "courageously vulnerable" as you'd like to be?

Bravery is often talked about as being hard, tough, strong, determined. But sometimes the scarier thing is to be tender, open-hearted or honest about your weakness. If you want to prove you are strong, try letting others know what scares you. Or how about real love? That takes a softer version of bravery. If you aren't brave enough to be vulnerable, you can forget the adventure of love or friendship. No close relationship was gained without those involved being willing to take the risk of allowing themselves to be really and truly seen.

3. When did you have the courage to admit you were wrong?

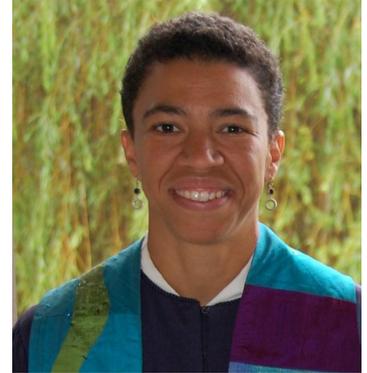
4. Do you have the courage to ask for help? And is that courage needed in your life right now?

What are you trying to achieve in life that you simply can't do on your own? And why aren't you asking others to help you get there?

5. When you have you been surprised by your own courage? Where did that courage come from?

Looking forward to our look at the places of courage in our lives,

Reverend Shana



Ministers Visit Neighbourhood Groups

As you may have seen in the January newsletter, in response to requests from Neighbourhood Groups for visits from the ministers, Reverends Shana and Melora are giving up birthday calls in 2015 and are instead visiting Neighbourhood Groups. The plan is that each of the 12 Neighbourhood groups will be attended by either Reverend Shana or Reverend Melora over the course of 2015.

James Bay, Oak Bay, and Royal Oak East received visits in February and March. These are the other visits that have so far been scheduled:

Esquimalt, Friday, **April 3**, 6 pm, Cedar Shores common room, Reverend Melora

Fairfield, Sunday, **April 26**, 3-5 pm, at Girards', Reverend Shana

Royal Oak West, Saturday, **May 2**, 5:30 pm, at Jaques', Reverend Melora

Nearby, Sunday, **May 24**, evening, Jane's and Sylvia's, Reverend Shana

Reverends Shana and Melora hope you will be able to attend! If your neighbourhood group is not yet on this list, talk with your convener about getting us on your schedule. We look forward to this alternate way of getting to know you and this vital aspect of our congregational life.

Sharing Your Ministry — What can YOU contribute this year?

Members of the FUCV Board of Trustees will be elected at the May 2015 Annual General Meeting. Your Nominating Committee is interested in hearing from any members who are interested in finding out more about serving the congregation in this way. We'd like to speak with you to discuss your interest and let you know more about the available positions. Please contact one of us to find out further information as we have recently developed job descriptions for each role. Here is a brief summary of what Board members do for us.



The Board of Trustees is the formal governing body of our community, and is entrusted by the membership to help put the purpose and mission into action, implement and evaluate programs and ensure responsible stewardship of resources. The Board is responsible for these six matters:

Purpose – determining what community need(s) the FUCV wishes to address and how they will fulfill it.

Progress – setting the rate at which the congregation takes on activities, programs and services to fulfill its mission.

Continuity – making sure that there are enough financial and human resources in place to guarantee the ongoing existence of the organization.

Identity – clarifying to the congregation the organization's values, beliefs, and services.

Leadership in direction setting and strategic planning to include:

Hosting at least one annual Board retreat.

Generating the Board's annual priorities and budget, and

Reviewing and updating a five-year strategic plan.

Strategic governance and leadership, including legal, insurance and financial matters; AND acts as a working Board via the Council Liaison role for operational issues as and when required/appropriate.

All Board members:

- Are a leadership presence at the church.
- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with professional ministry team and administrative staff.
- Serve as liaisons to groups or other special functions of the Board and in ad-hoc committees/task forces as needed for policy or procedure development.
- Play a liaison role with the congregation by encouraging open communication and democratic decision-making: attend and support congregational meetings, functions, and other activities/events that require or would benefit from representation of Board members.

'Our Spiritual Journeys'

Vancouver Island Unitarian Spiritual Retreat

Friday evening to Sunday afternoon, April 24-26

at the beautiful

Cowichan Lake Outdoor Education & Conference Centre
(1h30 from Victoria, 1h from Nanaimo)



Take time away from the busyness to reflect on your spiritual journey: where you've come from, where you are now, and explore what your next steps might be. We offer opportunities for small group sharing, contemplative practices, worship services, time for your own rest and renewal, as well as time to play and get to know one another better.

Registration fee is \$300. **Final registration deadline is April 10.** A few subsidies are available.

To register, go to <http://viuc.unitariancongregation.org/spring-retreat/>

Further registration and subsidy information: Rosemary Morrison (rsmrymorrison@gmail.com)

For more program details: Meg Roberts (mroberts@uuma.org)

Sponsored by the Vancouver Island Unitarian Committee

Board meeting February 25

- Board members discussed whether the Church was "nickel and diming" its members too often with such things as a baked goods donation basket at Sunday coffee hour or at "Souper Sundays". The Finance Committee has been asked to review money raising activities and to report back to the Board.
- Whether or not to change the "First Unitarian Church of Victoria" name will be the subject of on-going review over the next year, trustees decided.
- Currently our Constitution says our purposes are: a) "to foster liberal religious attitudes and living through group study, worship, service work and recreation and, b) to further individual freedom of belief, the advancement of truth, the democratic progress in human relations, humanity undivided by nation, race, sexual orientation, or creed and allegiance to the cause of the united world community." Trustees are considering asking the congregation to revise these words so as to present a wider social justice picture of church's activities, in part to meet the requirements of the Canada Revenue Agency and our status as a registered non-profit religious society.
- The ministers reported to the Board that they are meeting with the Committee of Ministry to determine an ideal time for a sabbatical leave. The sabbatical may be for four months in the spring of 2017 but no decision has been made.
- The Board voted to change the name of the "Council Chair" to "Council Liaison".
- Board members endorsed a movement for seniors co-housing, involving church members but not restricted to them. The group has been given permission to use church meeting space.
- The Board welcomed new members Rebecca Forest Sterling, Kym A. Hinz and David Graham Smith.

Board meeting March 18

- Treasurer Bob Dobbs reported that Expenditures are off to a much slower start than income. There is a surplus to date of over \$19,000. Island Montessori has paid about two-thirds of their year's rent.
- Due to pressure of outside work Susan Layng has resigned as a Board Trustee and the Liaison for the Outreach Council. Lisa Greenly will provide input from the Social Responsibility Coalition and President Shirley Travis will provide information as required from Lay Chaplains.
- A Media Review Committee, under the Administration Council, has been established to assess and edit articles or other media submissions for content appropriate to the Church's purpose.
- Trustees voted to appoint Pat Kinrade as our one delegate to the General Assembly for the Unitarian Universalist Association conference in Portland at the end of June. Both our ministers are also delegates.
- Trustees also voted to appoint Betty Sherwood to the Nominating Committee to replace Leslie Gillett, who has resigned.
- Trustees voted to establish a revolving fund called the Guest Musician Fund which will finance musical performances at Sunday services when the choirs are not performing.
- The Board welcomed new members Don and Eleanor Lloyd and recorded the death of member Shurly Mazerolle.

Resources Saved

The Sustainable Materials Management Group of Cascade Recovery Inc. has certified that First Unitarian Church of Victoria, through their participation in the Recovery PLUS Program, attained the following achievements in December 2014:

- Total Material Recovered: 1.1 metric tonnes.
- Landfill Reduction: 6.5 cubic yards.
- Energy Saved: 14,590 kwh.
- Carbon Dioxide Emission Reduction: 4.5 Te CO₂e.
- Water Saved: 8.6 barrels.
- Tree Saved: 14 mature trees.
- Diversion Rate of 100%

Environmental Action Committee

New Program Downtown?

Would you be interested in participating in a regular Congregational program downtown? It could be a monthly pot-luck followed by a speaker or something else. It could be for singles or open to all. If you are interested please attend a short meeting, noon to 12:30, on Sunday, April 5 in the Farmhouse Common Room. If you are interested but unable to attend the meeting, please contact John Hopewell (at hopewell@telus.net or [250-721-3920](tel:250-721-3920)) with your interest and ideas.

—on behalf of SELA

CHALICE LIGHTER OF THE MONTH - BERT MACBAIN

I was born into a typical working class family in a tiny outpost in Newfoundland. My family attended the United Church, which was quite evangelical at that time and in that place, and the church's doctrine was reinforced by the religious teachings in the United Church school. I can remember, as a young child, declaring that I would be a Christian when I grew up! So how did I get from there to here, a humanist who rejects the supernatural and the idea of an intervening god? Fast forward a few years and I'm in a large Toronto high school, grade eleven ancient history class, studying the rise of different religions. Could it be that Christianity was not the only 'right' way?! A few years later, a newspaper article featured a local Unitarian minister who had some interesting views on religion. The rest, as they say, is history.

I have been a Unitarian for over 50 years and belonged to churches in Toronto, St. Catharines, Mississauga, Edmonton and Calgary before joining this church 19 years ago.

Unitarian principles, and the social justice activism of the various Unitarian churches, proved a good fit for the issues dear to my heart: peace issues, women's rights, civil rights, anti-apartheid boycotts, environmental issues, etc.

My current main involvement with this church is with the Social Responsibility Coalition. (My first 'social action' here was to persuade the powers-that-be that we really could afford to buy fair trade coffee for our Sunday morning brew. Hard to believe that there was great resistance!)

In 1998, I began working in the church office as office assistant and became the administrator in 2000. Since retiring in 2005, social justice has been my passion and I'm currently a trustee of the Ethel May Trust Fund and a proofreader for *Just News* and the Discussion Papers of Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice.

I treasure being able to work out my own theology among a diverse, but nevertheless somewhat like-minded group of people. I treasure our seven principles and our sources that remind me of the kind of person I want to be, although often falling short of that goal. Unitarianism has been a central part of my life, and served me well, for more than 50 years. I think I'll stick with it for the rest of the journey.

Suellen Gunther says: "Bert's experience as a legal secretary is invaluable to the Membership Committee, as she is helping us create up-to-date committee guidelines. Also, she knows the congregation well from her many years as church secretary, so she is especially helpful in keeping track of our long-time members. In addition, she loves to bake, so she often provides refreshments for our newcomer gatherings".

Clare and Don Vipond say: "Bert MacBain has been a social activist all of her adult life and she has stayed focussed on issues like homelessness and gender inequality, among others and she is fearless in speaking up".



New Worship Associates Wanted!

- Would you like to grow your spirit?
- Are you willing to share something of your own story?
- Do you like writing in your own authentic voice?
- Are you organized and responsible?
- Would you like to learn how to help create worship services?
- Would you like to work with our ministers and deepen your relationship with our congregation?

We are now accepting Applications for three new Worship Associate positions beginning September 2015. Contact rev.melora@gmail.com or 250-891-6330 for an application form and/or to learn more. Training and mentoring is provided. Terms are generally three years. We strive to create as diverse a Worship Associate Team as possible. Consider adding your voice to our team!

In Praise of UU Neighbourhood Groups!

Now that we are settled in our new abode at 1394 Vista Heights, we wonder how this huge move from a big house to a smaller one went so smoothly. The answer is: OUR UU OAK BAY NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP and many more UU friends, too many to mention by name - it was you who made it happen! You did the garden tidy-up, the hauling, transporting, packing and unpacking, made surprise meals, did electrical work, hung pictures and much more! You kept us sane and healthy!

We are so grateful! Our UU community with its Neighbourhood Groups is such a blessing! Thank you for your many hours of caring and hard work. What would we have done without you?

Thank you, thank you! And please do visit us soon!

Philip Symons and Marya Nijland

Ballot Results



The order of funding for the HOW 2015 projects is as follows: the Victoria Youth Mental Health Support program will be funded first, followed by the Beekeeping project in Rwanda and then the Conflict Resolution Training in Bethlehem. While the Victoria project was the clear choice to be funded first, only a handful of votes separated the Bethlehem and Rwanda projects.

Thanks to the sponsors of all the excellent proposals and to everyone who cast a ballot. Now the real work of getting the projects up and running begins.

These projects are funded solely through personal donations by the congregation. No funds from the general budget are included. There are three ways to donate: donations can be placed in the collection baskets on Sundays as long as they are clearly marked as designated for HOW, cheques and cash can be brought to the church office, or you can mail in your contribution. Once funding for the youth mental health project reaches the goal amount it is then closed to further donations. We move on to the beekeepers of Rwanda and then to the Bethlehem training.

1 Victoria Mental Health Youth Project

The **Teens2Twenties Support Group** (ages 15-25) provides tools and support for those with a mental illness to assist them in managing their illness and to provide them with encouragement which instills self-confidence and often inspires them to be healthy. A project of the Bipolar Disorder Society of BC, this is the only youth-centered group in Victoria for youth dealing with mental health challenges.

Youth are often stigmatized, suffer isolation and fail to realize their full personal potential upon diagnosis. This Support Group, which meets weekly, significantly improves the self-confidence, social skill-set and resilience of individual members through mentorship that encourages development of a personal plan to manage family life, social re-integration and enhance career and educational prospects in the workplace.

HOW 2015 funding of \$5,000 will help to keep the program running between September 2015 and August 2016. This project is sponsored by Robin Sacker-van Gessel.

2 Beekeeping Project in Rwanda

The beekeeping project in Rwanda is one of many such world-wide actions set up through the Victoria-based charity Innovative Communities. Beekeeping can provide an opportunity for an escape from subsistence farming. In 2012, 30 Rwandan families were trained in basic beekeeping and provided with one hive each. They formed a collective producing 300 kg honey. In 2014, half the colonies were lost through excessive rain; the beekeepers' limited training prevented them adapting.

The founder of the project and a master-beekeeper are now in Rwanda to assess existing conditions, devise/ implement methods to overcome challenges, and increase production. They wish to train some Rwandan villagers in advanced beekeeping, deliver computers for continuing support through the internet and provide new hives/other supplies to enhance the sustainability of the collective.

The HOW 2015 project budget is \$4,750 for new hives/ protective gear, a centrifugal honey extractor, and stainless storage tanks to enhance the quality of final product for increased marketability and price. This project is sponsored by Adrian Fine.

3 Conflict Resolution Training for Kids and Youth in Bethlehem

WPAM is a family counseling centre in Bethlehem, in the occupied West Bank, Palestine. It was founded in 1995 and is funded by Kairos and other charities such as Oxfam.

Its mission includes religious and gender equality, specializing in treating wife abuse, in family and community reconciliation in a society where there is little real civil society or law or real justice. There is a large Israeli settlement overlooking the town but the settlers are forbidden by the military to enter Bethlehem so the centre serves only Arab Christians and Moslems. Depression, fear and anger are prevalent, especially in the large nearby refugee camp. The centre staff use traditional Arab/Western conflict management skills.

Peers Training Peers is a new project, intensive conflict resolution training for 50 children and 30 youth, especially chosen for their potential leadership skills. After three months of weekend workshops, they plan regular follow-up by experienced staff in four schools and three rec centres. This HOW 2015 project, with a cost of \$5,000, is sponsored by Christine Johnston.

Charter 101: here's an option for you to consider

The David Suzuki Foundation has evolved into an internationally recognized organization dedicated to the health of our world. Building on David Suzuki's scholarly gift for integrating scientific insights with humanitarian, social and planetary needs, the DSF works with an open circle of volunteers and professionals to suggest solutions to us on a wide range of local and global issues that the Foundation believes threaten our collective well-being.

This article is an invitation to you to consider the merits of one of the foundation's cornerstone projects, the "Blue Dot Campaign". Simply put, this campaign is dedicated to the ultimate goal of creating, in the Canadian constitution, a Bill of Rights for our shared environment. Such a bill would reflect a shared belief in our inherent right to a healthy environment – clean water, fresh air, healthy food, and a say in decisions that affect us; definitely consistent with our seventh principle to respect the interdependent web of life of which we are a part.

How do we get to a bill of rights on any issue? To achieve this goal, the campaign envisages a grass-roots approach, beginning with the coming together of Canadians in neighbourhoods to enshrine these rights at the local levels. This movement seeks to have local communities pass municipal declarations respecting people's right to live in a healthy environment.

If many communities invite action from all levels of government, the next step would be to have our provinces follow suit and pass environmental bills of rights. If seven out of ten provinces representing more than 50 per cent of the Canadian population recognize our right to a healthy environment, the ultimate goal would be to amend the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, to protect the right to clean air, fresh water and healthy food for all Canadians.

The Blue Dot campaign is meeting with early success, with BC communities such as Richmond, Victoria, Vancouver and Saanich making declarations that confer the inherent rights of its citizens to clean air and water within these communities. Yet we all know that the movements of air and water show no respect for community borders. A national voice is what's needed. As always, your awareness, your opinions and each and every voice matters.

Help! I'm Dying. Who will care for my beloved baby?

Now that I have your attention, let me elaborate. My name is Don Vipond, I am 82 years old and I have been the volunteer administrator of a church project called the Lifeline List for the past ten years. And I'm fried, worn out, done in, dozy. I need to be replaced, before I start to make dumb mistakes.

But replaced not just by anyone. This project is too important, too useful, it serves our needy neighbors too well for that. My replacement needs to be someone who can love my baby as I have. And that claim reveals a problem. I have an unhealthy possessiveness. Although I introduced the project all those years ago, it is not my baby. It's our baby. It's supported by about 90 people in this congregation. You can sense I'm having trouble letting go.

If you don't already know something about the Lifeline List, you can't possibly love it enough to qualify. Sorry, but that's the truth of it. For those left, let me describe the job qualifications as I see them. You need: a sense of humour, compassion, patience. You will probably be between 50 and 75 years of age. You need to have a fundamental love of people, a respect for them and a capacity to accept their flaws, at least in the short term. You need to be able to keep your mouth shut. You need a willingness to keep careful records because you are handling money people have entrusted to you. You need about an hour a week on average but this part is not at all tidy. There will be nothing to do for three weeks, then you will be handling three situations within two days. It has always been that way.

Remuneration: You will be positioned to see up close some hard-pressed people lifted over a bump in their life path that they thought was insurmountable. You will taste gratitude beyond words. This job will feed your soul.

Think about it. If you find tomorrow or the next day that you are still intrigued, give me a call and we can talk over coffee, as often as need be. If and when we agree upon things, I will mentor you for several months. I would like to do that.

Don Vipond: 250-652-5491.

PS My passion is that when I die, the Lifeline List Project continues without missing a beat. Am I dying? Not in the short term that I know of. But we're all dying. Some of us are closer to the end than others. Exciting, isn't it?

Connect with Unitarians and UUs across Canada!

Get the semi-annual publication, 'The Canadian Unitarian': <http://cuc.ca/the-canadian-unitarian/>

Join an email discussion group: <http://cuc.ca/email-discussion-groups-e-lists/>

Get bi-monthly e-news at: <http://cuc.ca/cuc-eneews/>

Ideas are the mightiest influence on earth. One great thought breathed into a man may regenerate him.

—William Ellery Channing

Earth Sunday: “The Future Of Energy” Film at FUCV

The Future of Energy: A Love Story will be screened on Earth Sunday following the service. The 400,000+ people who took climate change to heart and are implementing a global revolution in renewable energy applications around the world inspire the film. Did you know that more than 2/3 of solar installations were implemented between 2010 and 2012?

This is indeed a good news story about transformation as people are honouring the sacred in life, a deeper relationship with earth as it slowly dawns that we are living in an important moment in time.

The future of energy introduces us to leaders in the environmental movement such as Joanna Macy, Bill McGibben and Jeremy Rifkin. They are both inspired and inspiring and the optimism takes over even in the face of a very short timeframe to make the shift to non - fossil fuel energy.

This new documentary is being distributed differently as trusted organizations like FUCV receive a link to screen it in smaller groups. In fact, the filmmakers are still crowd sourcing funds to prepare a final copy of the film for distribution.

Sierra Club BC obtained a copy of the film and has been working with BCSEA and the First Unitarian Congregation of Victoria to present this film to us. They hope to send a person to introduce the film and hold a discussion following this one-hour special.

Join us on Earth Sunday, April 16 at 12 noon. Sandwiches will be available.

Will We Walk with Pride this Year?

My name is Dar Gareau-Levy and I am The Social Responsibility Coalition’s Diversity Team chair and its only active member. I need your help to carry out our church’s mandate to participate in this year’s Pride Parade and Festival.

Our church has walked in the Pride Parade for more than fifteen years, and has had a table at the festival for at least ten. I care very deeply for the cause and think that at the very least it is important for our church to continue to send out the message that we are a welcoming congregation. Despite our community’s wonderful ability to accept, and even celebrate such diversity, there are still many people in this world who do not, and so it can still be a very cold and often dangerous place for someone coming out as lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, or intersexed person.

Recently, however, I have taken on the role of Worship Associate, which I love, and I wish to give as much of myself to that ministry as I possibly can. I realize however, that I cannot be both a Worship Associate and the only active member of the Diversity team without one or both positions suffering, and since the responsibility of organizing the church’s participation in Pride Parade and the Festival includes physically being able to fill in as a parade marshal, or setting up and taking down the festival booth if volunteers are unavailable, the decision has in fact been made for me. My arthritis has made it so that I am unable to carry out such tasks, and frankly, the thought of finding myself in the position of having to do either frightens me because I know that I am no longer capable of doing it.

If someone reading this thinks that diversity work might be for them, please, get in touch with me, or with Lisa Greenly, the Social Responsibility Coalition’s chair asap if you wish to take on June’s action of the month. I would be very happy to stay on as a member of the team, and possibly even as chair if there are others willing to share the work and responsibility. But I am sorry, I can’t do it alone; if I am to do it at all I need your help.

~Dar Gareau-Levy - Diversity Chair

Call to All Women of Our Church Who Are Interested in Forming a Women’s Group

Two women groups loosely connected with our church are organizing an event to share their experience, rituals and activities, and offer support to women who would like to form a group. This is in response to requests of some women to join the existing groups. However, both groups have set limited numbers of members; not to be exclusive but to maintain the intimate and personal nature of the group. The size of the group is also chosen to make it possible to meet in each other’s homes.

To offset this limitation we are holding an event open to all women of our church. We would like to hear from women who would like to be in a women’s group and would be interested in coming to this gathering.

So far we have heard from eight women. In consultation with them we have set the date of the event on Sunday afternoon, May 3. Please contact us if you are interested, even if you can not join us at that time .

Susan Bowers, bowers.susan@gmail.com or Hanny Pannekoek, hannyhugo@shaw.ca. Blessed be.

Path to Membership

*Are you new to our church?
Have you just discovered our church or are you a Unitarian from elsewhere?
Would you like to know more?*

We know it can be daunting to get to know people when everyone seems to already know everyone. And we know it can be hard to get to know us in the coffee hour. So, if you would like to get to know us better, we hope the steps below will help.

STEP ONE: Drop by the Visitors' Table near the front of the sanctuary. Ask questions. Fill out a Visitor Welcome form on which you can indicate if you would like to receive the monthly newsletter, weekly electronic mini-newsletter, be connected to your Neighbourhood Group, or have your own name tag.



STEP TWO: Church Orientation. A gathering for all newcomers, whether you have just walked through the door or been coming for several months and want to know more about us, whether you eventually become a member, or choose to be a friend of the church. The Orientation provides basic information about our congregation and ways to make connections. We share a light lunch, and child minding will be provided on request. The next Orientation will be on April 19 at 12 noon – 1:00 pm.

STEP THREE: Considering Membership session. This will help you 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 session will be informative and enjoyable, as we will be talking about things that matter in a small group setting with warm and interesting people. Lunch will be available and childminding will be provided on request. The next Considering Membership will be on May 3, 2015, 12 noon – 2 pm.

STEP FOUR: Application for Membership. Fill out the application found in the membership packet. Submit the application and a financial pledge or contribution to the church office. After the Board approves your application, you become a member. Voting privileges commence 60 days after Board approval and you will be recognized at the next New Member Ceremony.

To sign up for the Orientation or Considering Membership sessions, or if you have questions, please contact Reverend Melora at rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca or (250) 744-2601, voice mailbox #1 or Cell (250) 891-6330. Both these sessions will be held on Sundays, after the church service, in the building just to the north of the Sanctuary building, in the Farmhouse Common Room.

The date of the next New Member Ceremony will be announced soon.

Another event to watch for:

Periodically Reverend Melora offers a two-part event called Introduction to Unitarian Universalism which 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.

ART IN THE SANCTUARY

Tess Steele created mixed media collages when she was inspired by the images and experiences she had while traveling in the Middle East with her daughter. She calls them the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. They are a series of four and they are numbered in the order to be viewed.

Tess has a Fine Arts major; she sees her work as putting her ideas in order rather than creating 'art'.

She first joined this church in 1962 and feels it is her home community. After some years of being away she has returned to the church just this year.

SHARE THE PLATE

April is Earth Month

Incorporated in 1990, the David Suzuki Foundation has evolved into an effective and internationally known organization dedicated to the health of the world. The Foundation works with volunteers and professionals to offer solutions to a wide range of local and global issues. This month, we will Share the Plate with the David Suzuki Foundation. See the SRC article for more information.

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.

Cadboro Bay: This NG will be working with Western to host the Souper Lunch on April 12. Then they will be busy planning for their very popular offer for the auction: "Bocce, Beer, and Burgers".

Esquimalt: April will be a busy month, as Equimalt is gathering on April 3 at 6:00 pm at Cedar Shores and welcoming Reverend Melora to their potluck. They are also the group who will be providing us with treats during coffee time on Easter and all the other Sundays in April. Thank you to Jan Thomson and Marion Pape for organizing the baking!

Fairfield: Herb and Phyllis Girard are hosting a Fairfield gathering at 3:00 pm on April 26, when they will all enjoy a visit with Reverend Shana.

Far Out: With the assistance of the Memorial Team, this group hosted the Memorial Service Reception in February for much-loved NG member, Sandra Jordan.

Gordon Head: Mary Cramer has had her group providing goodies for all five Sundays in March. When they have recovered, they hope to gather at the Hvozdzanski's soon, perhaps in late April.

Grand Central: Patty Disbrow reports that new NG members Philip and Marya are hosting a Mother's Day potluck on May 9 at 5:00. They will be sharing pictures and two-minute stories about their mothers, so that may initiate some very interesting conversations!

James Bay: Lynn Hunter reports, "The James Bay Neighbourhood Group, in wonderful collaboration with the Oak Bay Neighbourhood Group, pulled off a successful Sunday Souper in spite of a number of obstacles sent our way: the start of Daylight Saving time AND the church service being an hour later so that the Saltspring Island people could attend. Despite the attendant confusion caused by these changes, the team rallied and raised \$497 for the church. Thanks to everyone for the excellent teamwork. Our next potluck will be a lunch at Myra Rippon's home on Monday, April 13".

Nearby: Hard working Nancy Dobbs sends us this update, "In April, Nearby will be resting up for May. In May, Nearby will provide the after-church goodies, and gather for a potluck supper on May 24. Jane Bramadat and Sylvia McDonald will be hosting the gathering and Reverend Shana will be our special guest".

Oak Bay: This is another busy group. Karla Thomson writes, "The Oak Bay group had a very popular pot luck the night we were honored with Melora's presence. We had good fun with our photo game and this helped Melora to learn some more facts about the lives of those who were there. Right on the heels of our potluck we hosted the March "Souper" lunch with James Bay. With 97 bowls of soup served, it was certainly successful. We now have a break from all the cooking and eating until our next gathering in mid May".

Royal Oak East: Hanny Pannekoek reports, "Royal Oak East had the first gathering of this year on March 7. As agreed we met on a Saturday late afternoon for appetizers and desserts. Reverend Shana was our special guest, which made it extra special. It gave her and us the opportunity to meet in a social and leisurely setting. As always, the turnout was good, the food delicious and the conversations lively. Afterwards we had our usual circle. The main topic was about the idea of offering something as a group for the auction. Many good ideas came forward and a small working group was formed to explore if and how we could make this happen. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday June 9".

Royal Oak West: From Fran Hancock we hear, "Sandy and Dennis Jaques have kindly offered to host a potluck dinner on Saturday, May 2, at 5:30 pm in their "child friendly" home. We look forward to having Reverend Melora join us."

Western: A very tanned and relaxed Susan Lean is hoping to organize a potluck for the end of March.

Louise Carnegie (maiden name Whitfield) 1857-1946, grew up in New York City; and Teddy Roosevelt is reputed to be a playmate. She married Andrew in the Universalist church of her parents called the Church of the Divine Paternity. Notwithstanding the great wealth and prominence of her husband, Andrew Carnegie (the wealthy steel maker and philanthropist) she played her individual part in all his philanthropies as a counselor and an enthusiastic co-planner in his hopes for the betterment of the human race. From 1901-1919 they gave away almost 90% of his fortune or \$350 million (in 2015, \$4.76 billion) to many charities e.g. Carnegie Hall, Public Libraries, Museums, Universities, International Peace work, Red Cross, etc. They attended the Fourth Universalist Society in New York City and donated the original organ, but later she was also a member of a Presbyterian church, an occurrence not uncommon in those days, that is, to belong to a traditional as well as a more free-thinking church.



2015 Winners and Moving Forward

Thank you to everyone who participated in the RideShare bean jar game in January and February. We were really pleased that so many people took part, shared their ideas, and began to organize themselves for further RideSharing. The results of the bean jar game have been tallied with the standings as follows:

- 1st Place – Team 4 – Western, Esquimalt & James Bay Neighbourhood Groups (710 beans)
- 2nd Place – Team 1 – Far Out, Nearby & Royal Oak West Neighbourhood Groups (630 beans)
- 3rd Place – Team 3 – Grand Central, Oak Bay & Fairfield Neighbourhood Groups (534 beans)
- 4th Place – Team 2 – Gordon Head, Oak Bay & Royal Oak East Neighbourhood Groups (239 beans)

Congrats to the winning team! We will be offering the beans to your neighbourhood group organizers for use in future potlucks, volunteer cooking, or church meals. And congrats to all the participants because you helped to meet our goal to fill the jar, which means the SRC will donate \$100 to RAVEN Trust to help First Nations in their legal battles to protect our environment. Finally, congratulations to everyone who took the time to think about how to make their transportation more environmentally friendly.

The EAT is excited that this initiative has created some fantastic momentum within our congregation to continue to improve our transportation. Various committee members have mentioned that phone conversations are replacing driving to church for meetings and members of the congregation are actively encouraging ridesharing when they do have to attend in person. For Sunday RideSharing, pick up spots are being revised, along with details such as suitable bus trips to drop-off locations.

We are also exploring a model RideShare Neighbourhood Group Support System with the folks in the Esquimalt Group. The system will involve 8-10 people who are in need of rides to church or who can offer transportation to others, and who can communicate that within the group. We hope eventually to use this model to create similar systems in the other Neighbourhood Groups. The EAT will continue to explore options and areas of focus, including connecting with other congregations who have successfully implemented RideSharing systems.

We hope that the beautiful spring weather will motivate us all to get back on our bikes when possible, and when it's not, let's continue to RideShare!



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



Listening With Heart:

Deep Listening Skill Development for Building Beloved Community

Saturday, April 18th

9:30am - 3:30pm

Listen with the ear of your heart . . .



Please join the First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo for a day-long workshop exploring what it means to "Listen with Heart" as a base for community integration.

Presenters:

Joan Carolyn, CUC Congregational Development Representative
April Hope, Social Responsibility Coordinator for the CUC



Please register at <https://eventbrite.ca/event/15751576389/>, registration opens March 1st.
Lunch will be provided by donation.

*This workshop is being brought to you by the Canadian Unitarian Council and the
First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo.*

For further information, please contact Patricia Hofstrand phofstrand@shaw.ca 250-753-9469.

First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo, 595 Townsite Rd., 250-755-1215
e-mail: info@ufon.ca website: www.ufon.ca

Child Haven International Fundraiser Dinner

Let us get together to enjoy a multi-course vegetarian Indian gourmet meal.

Date: April 18

Where: Ukrainian Centre, 3277 Douglas Street (between Mayfair Mall and Uptown)

Time: 6:00 pm Doors open; 6:30 pm Supper

Tickets: \$30/ticket

Please contact Christine Johnston at 250-385-5444 to purchase your tickets.

The net proceeds will be donated to Child Haven International (www.childhaven.ca).



CO-HOUSING GROUP

Our co-housing group is gaining momentum, after three well-attended meetings, a tour of the passive house that is under construction downtown, an information session at the public library and our first potluck. Two of our members visited the Pacific Gardens co-housing community in Nanaimo. Imaginations are running wild with the endless options of self-design. Check out this "vertical forest" in Italy:

<http://www.thisiscoossal.com/2015/03/a-multi-story-urban-treehouse-that-protect-residents-from-air-and-noise-pollution/>

Anyone curious about the possibilities of intentional community is encouraged to meet with us. A workshop on Getting Your Co-Housing Community Built is planned for late April.

Earth Walk

Earth Walk this year is on Saturday, April 2. UU's and friends will meet by noon in front of the Legislature. Watch for the Unitarian banner. The walk will begin at 12:30 and finish at Centennial Square where there will be booths, speeches and music. For more information call: Steven at [250-888-2588](tel:250-888-2588).

We Care!

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

Daphne Dunbar at 250-381-7648
Val Roberts at 250-477-7192
or your Neighbourhood Group Care & Concern person

Catch Auction Fever

food

FRIDAY APRIL 17

funds

friends

fun



6:00 Catch the Early Bird Specials

Silent Auction and Bar Open

6:45 Win a cake in the Cake Walk

7:00 LIVE AUCTION BEGINS

8:00 Silent Auction Closes

Raffle Basket Draw

8:20 Bar Closes

9:00 or earlier Auction Over

Home with your Treasures

DON'T MISS IT!

Auction purchases — Cash or Cheque only. Childminding available if requested by April 10.



A LITTLE IDEA OF WHAT TO EXPECT AT

Auction Fever 2015

MASTER LIST FOR LIVE AUCTION 2015

History Tour of Victoria: presented by Peter Scales, MA. Two hours. Up to 3 people. Cash value \$50.

Christmas Pudding: Traditional English Christmas Pudding in a 6" bowl (x 2) with hard rum sauce delivered in December. The purchaser will need to steam it for about three hours the day it's eaten. Offered by John and Gloria Hopewell.

Indonesian Dinner: An intimate Indonesian Dinner for four, cooked by "Chef" Philip Symons and assisted by his wife Marya. Offered twice. Date for both dinners to be determined. Dinners will likely be in September. Offered by Philip Symons and Marya Nijland.

Handyman Services: Three hours of minor repairs around the house or yard cleanup. Offered by Andy Lee. This service is being offered to the three highest bidders.

A mould and moisture survey of a residence by John Tiffany "Tiff". I will do a detailed visual inspection for mould, as well as check for potential moisture sources, including the use of a moisture meter. A report of my findings and recommendations will be issued. I have performed over 10,000 of these types of surveys. The opening acceptable bid is \$200 (a \$500 value).

Creative Dinner with Wine Pairings: Healthy can be delicious! Enjoy a dinner with wine pairings at Kristina's house. Tasty omnivore dishes, all gluten- and dairy-free, will be paired with carefully chosen BC wines. Hors d'oeuvres on the patio at 5:00, weather permitting, and dinner inside at 6:30. Friday, August 14. Space for seven lucky diners! Offered by Kristina Stevens.

Bocce, Beer and Burgers Sixteen people are invited to the home of Chris Cook and Shirley Travis on July 4 to enjoy their sunny back yard on Ten Mile Point. Prizes for style, and of course the winning team. Hosted by Cadboro Bay Neighbourhood Group.

Picnic at Sidney Spit. Travel by ferry to beautiful Sidney Spit for a picnic of devilled eggs, chicken, potato salad, watermelon, and more for 10 people in July or August. Complementary ferry ride included. Offered by Suelen Guenther and Bob and Nancy Dobbs.

Hen Party. Enjoy delicious food, fun, and fellowship at a lunch for seven in a charming country setting. September 12 at 12:00. (Sorry, no roosters.) Offered by Astrid Firley-Eaton.

Explore Hornby Island: Stay on our treed acre, near the ocean, for a week in the summer of 2015, as you enjoy Hornby's many attractions. There is a one-room cabin (queen hide-a-bed but no indoor plumbing), 23-foot travel trailer (sleeps two adults and two kids) and a grassy area to set up tents. Call us for details (250 - 744-1357). Offered by Allan and Elaine Dakin.

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Barcelona Dinner: Hola! Tapas, paella, insalata, flan, vino. All good things of Spanish cuisine, but we won't make you wait until 9 pm. Eight places on June 6 at 7 pm. Offered by Liz and Mike Graham

Pet Portrait: Dog, cat or bird.... Working from your photo, Liz will create a portrait of your pet in fabric. Finished size about 14 x 17 inches. Offered by Liz Graham

Christmas Dinner: for six on December 25 in our home. This will be a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings and dessert will be carrot pudding with sauce. Eight of us will enjoy sharing this special meal with sharing of stories from Xmas past and celebrating our togetherness through January 1. Offered by Karla and Jim Thomson.

Dinner and Jazz Vespers: Pre Jazz Vespers Dinner on **Sunday, April 19** at 4:30pm. Dinner will be finished in time to attend the nearby Jazz Vespers at UVic Chapel. Six people. Offered by Lorna and Earle Anthony.

West Indian Dinner: Authentic West Indian dishes prepared by Reverend Jane and Kimberly Bramadat for eight people on Saturday, September 26 at 5:30 pm. There'll be curry for sure and much more!

Salmon BBQ for Eight. Salmon BBQ dinner with all the trimmings at our James Bay condominium home overlooking the inner harbour. We can comfortably accommodate eight guests. Friday evening, June 5 for this gathering. Offered by Lynn Hunter and Don Armstrong.

Sailing on a Summer Day. Spend a day (10:00 am to 5:00 pm) sailing on the Salish Sea on our 26-foot Tanzer sailboat. Drinks and snacks provided on this day-trip, with a no-host restaurant lunch at Cowichan Bay or Genoa Bay. Two persons maximum. \$30.00 per place minimum bid. Time negotiated depending on weather. Offered by Farrell and Penny Boyce.

After the Fair! Enjoy a day at the Saanich Fair (Saturday, September 5) at your own expense. Then come to Bob and Nancy Dobbs' nearby home for a hamburger/hot dog barbeque dinner (with vegetarian options) featuring Central Saanich corn on the cob and pie for dessert...and perhaps some singing. (Up to ten people).

Brewery Tour and Barbecue: Tour the Vancouver Island Brewery, followed by a German Sausage Barbecue with potato salad, sauerkraut, red cabbage coleslaw and more at Astrid and Andy's. Saturday, August 8 at 3:00 for 12 people. Sponsored by the Royal Oak Neighbourhood Group.

Island Getaway: Escape to quiet Denman Island for a three night mini holiday. Relax in a shared house situated walking distance to the village core. The private second floor offers two bedrooms and a private bathroom. Large deck, kids play room, fire pit, and screened-in gazebo. Lots of interesting pottery studios, lovely beaches and a lake with a public swimming dock. A family or two couples would be welcome to stay and share the kitchen facilities with the owner. Bring your own food and beach towels - bedding provided and make yourself at home! One additional tent is fine, so six people maximum. Well-behaved dog also welcome. Available July 2, 3, 4 or July 3, 4, 5. Minimum bid \$75. Offered by Leslie Gillett.

BBQ with Homemade Ice Cream. Barbeque for eight featuring homemade turkey &/or beef burgers or veggie burgers. Dessert will include homemade ice cream. Hosted by Mary Cramer and Pat Conroy on a summer Saturday.

See next page for list of Silent Auction items.

MASTER LIST FOR SILENT AUCTION

EARLY BIRD

Oak Bay Tea Party: Gather at Suzanne Dearman's heritage house at 10:30 am on Saturday, June 6 to watch the Oak Bay Tea Party Parade. After the parade, Suzanne will serve a delicious lunch of homemade soup and sandwiches. six people at \$15 each.

TREAT SHOP

Dutch Apple Pie. Two Gluten and Dairy free Dutch apple pies, offered to the two highest bids. Min. Bid \$10.00 Offered by Marya Nijland.

Basket of Fresh Vegetables and Fruit. I will provide a big basket of fresh-picked produce from my organic garden in August or September. Depending on the growing season and your preference, the basket may include cucumber, tomatoes, squash, zucchini, dried beans, greens, lettuce, turnips, peppers, pumpkin, carrots, and berries. Offered by Reese Willis

Sugared Nuts: A tin of my delicious sugared nuts (filberts, almonds and walnuts) from an old family recipe. Minimum bid: \$18. One tin each to the three highest bidders. Offered by Suellen Guenther.

Cold Comfort Ice Cream: A \$25 gift certificate for Cold Comfort Ice Cream, small batches made with local, natural, organic ingredients. Products include unusual flavours, dairy-free coconut milk ice cream, ice cream sandwiches, and ice cream cakes. Offered by Autumn Maxwell (daughter of Karen Furnes).

Almond Macaroons: Nanw will bake a batch of her delicate Almond Macaroons for you upon your request. Nanw's macaroons have been a popular feature at events sponsored by the choir. Offered by Nanw Cariad.

Homemade Granola. A glass jar full of Andy's delicious granola, one jar each to the two highest bids. Offered by Andy Lee.

Home made Ice Cream or Sorbet: I will make a batch (approximately 14 half cup servings) of ice cream or sorbet in the flavour you choose. I have made vanilla and chocolate ice cream and several fruit sorbets, but am willing to attempt other flavours if you prefer. I can prepare this for your special occasion with at least one week notice. One batch each to the two highest bids. Offered by Mary Cramer.

PRO SHOP

High School Tutoring. Three hours of tutoring for Math 9-11, Science 9 and 10, Biol 11, 12, 11 AP and 12 AP, or Chem 11 & 12. \$120 value. Offered by Ruth Welburn, MSc.

Flower Arranging Workshop. Learn how to do two basic traditional floral designs. 1. Low, Spreading Design - Good for dinner table setting. 2. Triangle design - for side table etc. There are six spots for a two-hour class on May 23 from 10 am to 12 noon. (Participants will bring an assorted bouquet of flowers. Everything else will be supplied.) Offered by Suzanne Beauchamp.

Have Truck - Will Haul. I will haul one pickup truck load for you anywhere in Greater Victoria. Minimum bid: \$40. Offered by Peter Hancock.

GIFT SHOP

The Devil's Ruse. Book written by Ruth Welburn. \$18.95 value.

Bedbug's Big Adventure: the Way of Saint James. Children's picture book by Ruth Welburn, reviewed in the March issue of the Bulletin of the Confraternity of the Way of Saint James in London, England. \$14.95 value.

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Tiger Eye Pendant. Cut, polished, and set by Donna Greenberg. Min. bid \$20

Jade Pendant. Cut, polished, and set by Donna Greenberg. Min. bid \$20

Rhodonite Bracelet. Cut, polished, and set by Donna Greenberg. Min. bid \$20

Handknit Wool Pullover Sweater. Heavy blue and grey sweater knitted by nurses in Newfoundland to support the wives of fishermen lost at sea. Brand new. Donated by Donna Greenberg. \$200 value. Min. bid \$100

Necklace and Earring Set: Pearl and crystal earring set strung on gray silk threads. Necklace length is adjustable by pulling on the two ends to make it shorter or longer. \$65 value. Min. bid \$40. Offered by Ruth Telford.

Bracelet: Pearl and swarovski crystal bracelet with silver clasp. Bracelet can be custom fitted after the auction for size. \$50 value. Min. bid \$30. Offered by Ruth Telford.

Watercolour: Original framed watercolour by Catherine Cardinal.

SPA

Massage Therapy. Gift certificate for a one hour therapeutic massage by Cheryl Varney, an experienced, registered massage therapist. (Her one hour massage lasts about 90 minutes.) Office in Esquimalt. \$100 value. Donated by Cheryl Varney. (Testimonial: Suellen Guenther or Barbara Boyle)

Chiropractic Treatments. Gift certificate for \$100 worth of treatments with Dr. Garth Edgar, Chiropractor. Offices in Royal Oak and Oak Bay. Donated by Dr. Edgar.

THE WELCOME MAT Set Price Items. Many Bids Welcome.

Marya's Lemon Marmalade. Thirty jars of Marya's popular Meyer's Lemon Marmalade. \$5 each. Offered by Marya Nijland.

Sing Along With The Pickup Sticks - Wine, Women and Song: Enjoy a glass of wine and some appies while you listen to a few songs. Join in a sing-along, singing folk songs and old favourites. Words will be provided. Back by popular demand! Friday, July 3, 7:00 in Lion Hall. Everyone welcome. \$20 per person. Thirty spaces. Offered by the Pickup Sticks.

Airport Transportation. Prearrange with us for you to drive your car to the airport and leave us your car key. We will pick up your car when you leave and deliver it to the airport short term parking on your return. Offer available all year. All offers subject to your travel plans and our availability. \$50 per round trip. PAYABLE ON COMPLETION BY CHEQUE PAYABLE TO THE CHURCH. NO RECEIPT BECAUSE A SERVICE HAS BEEN RENDERED. Offered by Farrell and Penny Boyce.

Southern Fried Chicken Dinner for 18: Come and enjoy a fried chicken dinner (yes, fried) on Saturday May 9. Arrive at 5:30 or drinks followed by fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy and all the fixins including pie for dessert (Butterscotch, Key Lime, Chocolate Cream, Ambrosia Apple Pecan and Butter Tarts). \$60 per person. Offered by Lance and Jen Young as their last big dinner before they move to Kelowna.

Auction Fever Deadlines

April 7: Last day to submit an auction offer

April 10: Last chance to request childcare

April 12: Last day to submit an absentee bid form to the church office or to Jen Young (uujenyong@gmail.com)

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

Ministers

Reverend Melora Lynngood
 Office phone: 250-891-6330
 rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca

• Reverend Shana Lynngood
 Office phone: 250-891-6331
 rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca

Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat
 250-652-1272

Lay Chaplains

Oceanna Hall 250-886-1077

laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca
 Kjerstin Mackie 250-598-5975

Anne Vaasjo 250-385-1603

Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth

Faye Mogensen 250-744-2695
 FayeM@victoriaunitarian.ca

Children's Program Assistant

Anna Isaacs

Director of Music

Nick Fairbank
 music@victoriaunitarian.ca

Church Administrator

Karen Uldall-Ekman
 churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

Assistant Church Administrator

Sarah Verstege

Board of Trustees

Officers

President	Shirley Travis	778-433-2063
Past President	Mike Graham	250-384-4351
Vice-President	Linda Nicholson-Brown	250-857-1860
Treasurer	Bob Dobbs	250-652-5438
Secretary	Jennifer Young	250-370-5106

Council Representatives

Administration	John Worton	250-220-6258
Congregational Life	Suzanne Beauchamp	778-433-2829
Outreach	vacant	
Property Management	John Tiffany	778-432-0881
Spiritual Development	John Hopewell	250-721-3920

EVENT CALENDAR

Date	Time	Event	Location
4/2	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
4/5	9:00am to 1:00pm	OWL	Sunflower Room
	10:30am to 12:00pm	Family Chapel	Lion Hall
	10:30am to 11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	10:30am to 11:30am	Questors	Farmhouse Common Room
	12:15pm to 2:00pm	AHA, Atheists, Humanists, Agnostics	Library
4/6	12:00am	EASTER MONDAY	Office Closed
4/7	9:00am to 12:00pm	7th Principle Circle	Library
4/8	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Depression & Anxiety Support Circle	Library
	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	5:00pm to 9:30pm	OWL	Farmhouse Common Room
	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Community Dinner	Sanctuary (+1 more)
	12:45pm to 3:00pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
	9:00am to 1:00pm	OWL	Sunflower Room
	9:30am to 10:30am	Choir warm-up	Farmhouse Common Room
	10:30am to 11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	10:30am to 11:30am	Questors	Farmhouse Common Room
	11:30am to 1:00pm	Souper Lunch	Sanctuary
	4/14	9:00am to 12:00pm	7th Principle Circle
4/16	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
4/17	6:00pm to 9:00pm	Service Auction	Sanctuary
	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Jammers practice	Sanctuary
4/18	12:45pm to 3:00pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room

EVENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

Date	Time	Event	Location
4/19	9:00am to 1:00pm	OWL	Sunflower Room
	9:30am to 10:30am	Choir warm-up	Farmhouse Common Room
	10:30am to 11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	10:30am to 12:00pm	Parents Circle	Library
	10:30am to 11:30am	Questors	Farmhouse Common Room
	11:30am to 2:00pm	Earth Day Celebration	Lion Hall
	12:00pm to 1:00pm	Orientation	Farmhouse Common Room
	7:00pm to 9:00pm	UVicJazzVespers	University of Victoria
4/21	9:00am to 12:00pm	7th Principle Circle	Library
4/22	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Depression & Anxiety Support Circle	Library
4/23	9:00am to 12:00pm	Yoga Rental	Lion Hall
	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Soul Matters	Farmhouse Common Room
	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
4/25	12:45pm to 3:00pm	Meditation	Sunflower Room
4/26	9:00am to 1:00pm	OWL	Sunflower Room
	9:30am to 10:30am	Choir warm-up	Farmhouse Common Room
	10:30am to 11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	10:30am to 11:30am	Questors	Farmhouse Common Room
4/27	8:00am to 5:00pm	Co-Housing talk	Farmhouse Common Room
4/28	8:00am to 5:00pm	Co-Housing talk	Farmhouse Common Room
	9:00am to 12:00pm	7th Principle Circle	Library
	6:00pm to 8:30pm	Childminding	Library
	6:30pm to 8:30pm	Soul Matters	Farmhouse Common Room
4/30	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

NEW MEMBERS

Don & Eleanor Lloyd
 10 Hartland Avenue
 Victoria, BC V9E 1L7
778-433-5355
 Royal Oak West NG



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Earle Anthony
- 9 Martha McDougall
- 13 Maureen Sherlock
- 14 Jan Thomson
- 15 Nokuthula (Tuli) Porcher
- 16 Michael Fibiger-Crossman, Isabelle Grenon
- 17 Suzanne Beauchamp
- 18 Joyce Berry
- 19 Nille Fibiger-Crossman, Sue Thorne
- 21 Barbara Nyland, Luke Walrafen
- 23 Hugh Mackie
- 24 Barbara Boyle, Catherine Cardinal
- 25 Leslie O'Hagan, Chris Cook
- 28 LeAnn Andersen and Jamie Van Gessel



BOARD MEMBERS ON DUTY



- April 5 John Worton
- April 12 John Hopewell
- April 19 Suzanne Beauchamp
- April 26 Linda Nicholson-Brown

Reminder: Auction Fever Deadlines

April 7: Last day to submit an auction offer

April 10: Last chance to request childcare

April 12: Last day to submit an absentee bid form to the church office or to Jen Young (uujenyong@gmail.com)

Ads appearing in this section are not necessarily endorsed by the Church .

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DOWNTOWN CONDO FOR RENT

August 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

The Smiths are planning to travel this year, and are offering their condo for rent for eleven months. The condo is 1400 sq ft, 2 bedrooms and a den with a 900 sq ft roof top patio. It's a new building in Cook Street Village, fully furnished, cleaning provided, easy access to transit, shops, ocean, downtown and Beacon Hill Park. Well suited to a couple or two singles who wish to share. Perhaps there are people in your networks who want to transition to Victoria, to condo living, or who are here for a year who might be interested. Please contact us dianasmtih55@gmail.com or rfor-restsmith@gmail.com to talk more seriously about the opportunity.



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

Phone: 250-744-2665
E-mail: churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca
www.victoriaunitarian.ca

Postage paid at Victoria, BC
5575 West Saanich Road
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THE VICTORIA UNITARIAN

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

The **deadline** for submissions to the **May** issue is **April 14**.

Copy should 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 Events Highlights should 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).

Community Dinner

Friday, April 10 at 6 pm

Everyone is welcome at this multi generational event. An opportunity to meet new people or catch up with friends over a casual, fun, delicious meal.

At 6 pm we gather in the sanctuary for a joyful time together. Spaghetti will be served with a choice of two very yummy tomato sauces, meat or vegetarian, – plus garlic bread. Dinner is by donation. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.



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