



# The Victoria Unitarian

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

## SERVICES IN JUNE

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

Practices to Transform Our Selves and Our World



June's Theme

**PLAY!**  
THE PRACTICE OF HAVING FUN

### June 7 Play, Growth, and Transition

**Faye Mogensen and Rev. Melora Lynngood**

Family Choir

Play has a way of opening us up to growth, learning, and new connections. In so doing it also empowers us to walk through life's transitions with open-hearted strength. During this theme month of play, we celebrate the joyful transitions in our lives, welcoming new members as well as lifting up what the children and youth have learned this year through playful means. We will also make room for holding those transitions that are difficult, even painful. This is an intergenerational service. Children and youth are welcome in the sanctuary for the entire service. Child-minding will be available in the Dragonfly Room for our youngest and/or most restless youngsters.

### June 14 Mental Health, Atheism, and the Religious/Spiritual Dr. John Pullyblank

Chalice Choir

Chamber Choir

This homily will look at thinking and findings about the relative virtues of a theism or a more "religious" belief system for protecting our mental health. Dr. John Pullyblank is a member of Capital Congregation and offers this service as our yearly 'pulpit exchange' with Capital. Rev. Melora will be preaching at Capital. Dr. Pullyblank is a psychologist and managing partner in the M. Jackson Group, which does rehabilitation psychology, assessment and intervention.

### June 21 The Meaning of Masculinity Rev. Shana Lynngood

Men's Choir

This Fathers' Day we will explore the gender role assigned to men in 2015. How is it helpful? How is it limiting? How does it impact relationships between men and women? Since our monthly theme encourages us to play, we'll wonder about how different maleness might be if men had greater freedom to play with the gender stereotypes of what it means to be a man.

### June 21 Jazz Vespers 7:30pm Strings of Note

Close out Fathers' Day and this year's Spirited Jazz series with an evening of live music, words for reflection, and silence. Strings of Note, featuring our own Gary Theal on guitar and guest vibraphone player Doug Farr will swing us into summer. The evening's theme will be Good Vibrations and will feature the Beach Boys tune of the same name. Strings of Note are Bill Kent on bass, Rob Cheramy on alto sax, Gary Theal on guitar, and special guest Doug Farr on vibes.

### June 28 Play, Sabbath and Sabbatical Rev. Fran Dearman, AIM (Accredited Interim Minister) (See biographical statement on page 2)

The themes of Play, Sabbath and Sabbatical are close to the heart--the place where work and love, reverence and renewal come together and some new thing can be born.

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The deadline for submissions to the  
**July** issue of the newsletter is **June 16**.

## SELECTIONS ON PLAY

We often say that “play is children’s work” but, if you think about a good day at work, haven’t you been ‘playing’? Alan Watts writes that “the real secret of life [is] to be completely engaged with what you are doing in the here and now. And instead of calling it work, realize it is play.” In the early 2000’s, Google and other progressive corporations took the idea that ‘play is productive’ to heart, and allowed their employees 20% of their time to ‘play’ with new ideas. Many new innovations, including gmail, came out of that playtime.

The new “playground team” is using play as one technique to help design a natural playscape on our grounds. We envision a rambling path connecting a variety of theme areas that might be described as the city, the forest, the beach, the garden (and more). We have a cardboard cut-out of the playground space, miniature structures and natural objects that we will be playing with to help us envision the best layout. The Adventurers (K/1) loved doing this and, at the church picnic on June 7, you are invited to join the fun of playing with design ideas.

The question of ‘why make a nature playground’ ties in with the value of play. Research has shown that when children play in natural environments, their play is more diverse and likely to include the imaginative and creative play that fosters language development and collaborative skills. Over the next several years, the playground will slowly evolve. Our aim is to develop a natural space that will allow us to offer a ‘Nature Buddies’ program to inspire children who are too old for Wee Care and too young for regular programming.

### Spring Picnic

**Come and celebrate a good year!**  
Sunday-June 7 at 12 noon  
on the front lawn and the Lion Hall deck

Hotdogs and sundaes by donation...with activities for all ages, including a sing-along and a chance to thank our SEL-CY volunteers. The SEL-CY Team warmly welcomes everyone of all ages!

While play can be very productive, it offers far more than practical solutions. It is the exuberant expression of our being and has immense spiritual value. When I start taking life too seriously, I try to remind myself that “enlightenment is all about lightening up”. The sages have known this for eons—think of the many zen koans and playful sufi stories. June 14 and 21 are our last two Sundays of programming—we hope to do some serious playing! Who knows what practical solution or spiritual understanding play may enable. From June 28 through to the Labour Day Weekend, we’ll be offering a playful time in child minding for those children up to age 11 who come to church. (Older children can help out.)

Warmly, Faye

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

## About Rev. Fran Dearman

Fran's family are long-time members at First Victoria where Fran likes to think of herself as a "founding toddler." Perhaps it was the Sunday School walks along Fisherman's Wharf near the old church building on Superior Street that led Fran to her career at sea with the Naval Reserve and also with Great Lakes freighters. Later Fran studied classics at the University of Victoria and then segued into divinity school at the Vancouver School of Theology. Since then Fran has served UU congregations at Edmonton as an intern minister and then settlement for five years at Anchorage, Alaska. Since returning to Canada, Fran has specialized in interim ministries at Winnipeg, Calgary, Halifax and Mississauga. This past year Fran has enjoyed sabbatical at home in Victoria and has enjoyed singing in the choir and worshipping with her home congregation.

## Time to Play

We have grown to think of play as frivolous. Something we do as kids and then have no time for as adults. Play is not worth our time. Believe it or not, however, there are academics who study play and its impact on our lives and they will tell you it is anything but a waste. In their work they have discovered that people who engage in purely enjoyable and purposeless activities tend to be less violent, more empathetic and trusting, and more adaptable to life's challenges. They have also discovered that play helps us express our exuberance and get in touch with our creativity. Play can also keep us humble--it reminds us to try things and do things that we have no expertise in. Play can be a wonderful teacher and a reminder of just how much we need room in our lives for the silly and the joyful. That is a long list of benefits! Clearly, play has a spiritual component--it can add to our sense of happiness and enjoyment in life. As we head into the summer months, we thought it the perfect time to take a serious (and laughing) look at play. Here are this month's questions for reflection. As is our new custom, choose one (or allow one to choose you) and spend the month contemplating it and the meaning it may have to offer:

1. What do you do for play in your adult life? How is it the same, similar to, or different from your play as a child? What experience(s) in your life do you call play? How has your sense of play evolved as you have grown through various ages and stages? How have the qualitative aspects of your play evolved for you?
2. What did you learn from the games you played as a child? What childhood games might be "playing out" for you in the present?
3. What in the way of play are you watching from the sidelines that you could be an active participant in? What are you missing by not actively participating? Obviously if we watch game-playing/sports on TV or from the bleachers, there's some aspect of it we enjoy and connect with; but what are we missing from our perch on the couch or the bench? Fresh air, exercise, and skill-building to be sure, but also camaraderie, new acquaintances, and always the chance for the thrill of a hole-in-one no matter who you are (and it doesn't count if you're playing alone)!
4. How and when does engaging in play give you a sense of free-spiritedness? Experts say that the most beneficial kind of play lends a sense of freedom and timelessness during the activity. Have you ever experienced this in your play? What elements of play must be present for you to have a freeing experience? Is it possible to be a free-spirit in a competitive game? Why or why not?
5. What do you have to say "no" to in order to say "yes" to more play in your life?



## Ministers' Summer Schedule

A note about the summer schedule for our ministers: Revs. Melora and Shana will be off on three weeks of study leave in preparation for the new program year in the church and for three weeks of family vacation. This means they will conclude their work before the summer hiatus on June 21 and return to work on August 11. The office will have emergency contact information for them throughout the summer. May the summer be full of rest and play for us all.

## Spirited Jazz Spring Jazz Vespers Series

**Enjoy jazz with a splash of spiritual inspiration by Reverend Shana**

**Strings of Note** is a unique quartet, "all strung out on acoustic jazz" and ready to bring in the summer on the spiritually enlightening theme of Good Vibrations. Complemented by the spoken word with Reverend Shana Lynngood, this Vespers promises to be an uplifting and swinging service.

For a special end to the 2014/2015 Spirited Jazz series, guest Vibraphonist Doug Farr joins Strings of Note.

**June 17 at 7:30pm,  
First Unitarian Church of Victoria  
By donation and greatly appreciated**



Margot is the sort of person that helps make the church hum. People have said of her:

“The primary quality I treasure about Margot is that she is always welcoming. She knows how to smile. You are moving through the crowd, you see her, she sees you and her smile says: "We're friends. What worthwhile thing are we working on today?"

“I remember her these days in particular for her tireless work promoting and encouraging our small local group, Choices in Dying, people dedicated to seeing our cruel and antiquated laws around end-of-life issues rewritten to reflect what most Canadians want.”

“She has written a wonderful article on the evolution of Unitarianism and its commitment to Dying with Dignity for the outside community.”

“Margot not only understands the principles of Unitarianism intellectually but she lives them on a daily basis and she truly tries to understand people from their point-of-view, demonstrating respect for the others even when there are major differences. She has a logical mind and much wisdom, intelligence and experience to share with others. She is a model to me for what a true Unitarian is, and my respect for her continually grows.”

“Margot has always been very enthusiastic about Unitarian Universalism. Her commitment stems from a strong belief in our principles. Her interest in theology started with her studies in the Anglican church, now she is a member of the AHA (Atheists, Humanists and Agnostics) group.”

The first year Margot joined the church her enthusiasm quickly led her to become a member of the Board of Trustees, as chair of the Congregational Life Council. Since then she has volunteered in many other ways. She chaired the Religious Education Committee for four years and then remained on as a committee member for three more years. For five years she coordinated Circle Dinners. During the last nine years she was a Service Leader at Sunday services. Margot has been an Usher for the last ten years and is a member of the Committee on Ministry.

She was Workshop Coordinator for three conferences: the Cascadia Conference in 2003, the CUC-ACM held in Vancouver in 2007, and the CUC Fall Gathering at FUCV in 2009. She coordinated the greeters for the CUC-ACM held at UVic in 2010, and at the 2014 CUC Fall Gathering, she co-led a workshop and organized the information table.

Margot founded, with others, Choices in Dying Victoria (CIDV) that started in 2010 and she serves on its steering team, which is now part of SRC.

Margot says, “It was theological diversity that attracted me first to the church. I appreciated the freedom to say what I really believed or didn’t believe. Since then I have learned the value of the church community, our principles, social responsibility, and have made many friends”.

### Vancouver Island Unitarian Summer Camp August 21-23, 2015

*“Live in the sunshine, swim in the sea, drink in the wild air”*

~Ralph Waldo Emerson~

Friends new and old are waiting to meet you at camp on the shores of beautiful Shawnigan Lake.

Easter Seals Camp Shawnigan offers a lovely outdoor setting to have fun, relax, deepen friendships, explore spirituality and feel part of the larger Unitarian community. Take part in campfire, a Friday BBQ, variety show and family dance. As well, Saturday morning offers great programming for all ages, and the fabulous waterfront will be open in the afternoon. Hike up Mt. Baldy for a 360-degree view of Shawnigan Lake, explore the Kinsol Trestle, board games and crafts are other offerings for you to explore.

Vancouver Island Unitarian Camp has something to offer everyone. Whether you are part of a family, single, senior or young adult, you are welcome here, and are sure to have a wonderful and enriching experience.

This year there are three streams of adult programming to choose from:

- Compassionate Communication with Selinde Krayenhoff
- Music for Joy with Barb Slater and Kevin Wilkie
- Spiritual Workshop with Penelope Hagan

There will be a youth “play” shop program, children’s program, as well as wee care on Saturday morning.

PLEASE note the new location and date this year. To find out more details about the programs, registration forms and brochures, please check out the website at: <http://viuc.unitariancongregation.org>

### A HOW project funded by you

We are helping farmers in Rwanda to rise above subsistence level by beekeeping. Over 20 farmers, previously trained in very basic beekeeping techniques, have recently (February 2015) had more detailed teaching (by a master beekeeper from Victoria); eight of these receiving instruction in advanced beekeeping techniques. This will give them the ability to adapt to abnormal/adverse weather conditions and to enhance productivity. (They lost about 50 percent of their hives due to abnormal amounts of rain in 2014). Funding this project will enhance viability of their co-operative and increase the quantity and quality of their honey for better marketability. Supplies that will be purchased from these funds include hives, centrifuge for honey extraction and stainless steel storage tanks. As soon as this project is funded, new, more advanced hives will be made. A local seamstress has already started making protective gear. A payback scheme will ensure sustainability. The project will be closely supervised by John Jordan, Victoria, who spends two months each year in Rwanda. There is no overhead. Our donation is made through an accredited Canadian charity.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

## HOW (2013) PROJECT UPDATE

FRAN PARDEE

### Drapers Basic School in Jamaica

When I visited Jamaica in 2013, I was struck by the level of poverty and despair in the rural community that my brother John lives in. I thought of HOW and asked him to consider a project that our church might become involved in. John immediately thought of the Drapers Basic School, which is one of the few 'bright lights' in the village. The school moved to its current location in 2010, a dilapidated two-room house. Working together with members of the community, the principal, Norene Pollock, transformed the building into a school.

The 2013 HOW project which our congregation approved was to fund the building of much needed office space for the preschool. There was no private space for parents and teachers to meet, nowhere to store supplies, nowhere to keep children's health and family information, nowhere for staff to plan lessons or hold staff meetings. The church contributed over \$2000 to the building of this general purpose space and the money arrived last fall. Construction began in February of this year, but the sporadic water supply has slowed progress. I am attaching a couple of recent photos sent by my brother to show what's been accomplished so far. In the first, Mrs. Pollock is standing in front of the new space. In the second, the children are playing in the school yard at recess time. Thank you again for your generosity.



# CELEBRATING OUR NEW 25- AND 50-YEAR MEMBERS

## 25-Year Members

### Pat Kinrade

Pat says "The reason I was happy to come to Victoria with my job transfer in 1989 was because I knew that there was a welcoming Unitarian congregation here. I chose to live in James Bay because I could walk to church, and I did for a few years. I also enjoyed the chalice walk to our new church on West Saanich Road. We walked the chalice from the old church to the new church in a relay, then had a welcome 'home' BBQ on our grassy grounds.

"I have enjoyed many opportunities to become a more "spiritually aware person" thanks to the groups, courses and committees that have been available to me through my church association: teaching RE in the basement on Superior Street and the Sunshine room at our new church, making coffee everywhere, ushering, canvassing, doing Art shows and Worship. I am delighted that my family also value our church community like I do"



### Norma Elrod

Norma writes "After moving to Metchosin, my husband and I attended our first worship service at the Unitarian Church situated on Superior Street. We were anticipating making new Unitarian friends and renewing acquaintances with some members we had already met.

"When invited, Mac stood to announce our names and state our intention of joining the church when there would be an opportunity to do so.



"After the service we stayed for the most sacred ritual of Unitarian worship—the coffee hour. We took visitors' mugs, got our coffee and prepared to be greeted warmly as prospective new members.

"My gregarious husband plunged into the crowd and was immediately engaged in conversation with a number of individuals. I placed myself on the outer edge and politely waited to be made welcomed by friendly members. After standing alone, and being generally ignored, holding my mug up for all to see, I made my way into the throng, murmuring, "excuse me" and "pardon me" as I went. Again, I waited to be approached, pretending to show great fascination with the room's decor, including a painting hanging over the fireplace.

"It finally happened. A woman approached me and introduced herself with the added information that she was the chair person of the Board. I felt very flattered, of course, that such an important and busy person would take the time to come over to speak with me. After stating my name, I waited for her expressions of delight that we had chosen to move to Victoria and to join their church. Instead, she immediately turned to her companion and they began to make plans for lunch, failing to notice that I had wandered away. As I recall, no other person spoke to me before we finished our coffee and I pulled my husband away from his new friends so that we could go home.

"I am happy to report that the members of the first Unitarian Church of Victoria developed greater skills in welcoming visitors and I often heard such visitor's remark that ours was a very friendly congregation and they were made to feel very much at home there, even on a brief visit.

"Over the twenty-five years of my association with this church, I have always been made to feel that I was a part of a very warm faith community. I had many opportunities to employ any skills I might possess, to explore new interests and to feel that my contributions were valued. For that, I am exceedingly grateful."

## 50-Year Members

### Myra Rippón

"I remember working with the minister to get Neighbourhood Groups started. He and I sat with a huge map, pins and thread and planned the groups. I was on the Board and the Library committee but I remember that planning time being most interesting. Generally I prefer to 'fly under the radar' at church."



### Ruth Ralston

"I remember playing the autoharp while the children sang. I loved singing and sang in the choir from its beginning until a few years ago. In contrast I also remember many stories from my more than 30 years of being the Buildings and Grounds Committee chair. I have found fulfillment in different ways through my membership in this church and from working with other Unitarians".



## Those CRA people: What do they want of us?

The federal government has written rules for the 86,000 registered Canadian charities such as our church. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is charged with enforcing these rules and of late has launched an increased enforcement effort.

The regulations are somewhat opaque in places but they do prohibit partisan political activity by registered charities and they require all registered charities to report on their non-partisan political activity. Our church board and our Social Responsibility Coalition are striving to understand the subtleties of these new rules and to keep safe our status as a registered charity, with its tax advantages. Our concern as we do so is in also seeing that our church traditions of outreach and advocacy remain undiminished. Here are some aspects of the new regulations:

A registered charity must adhere to its Purpose when involved in non-partisan political activity. Our Purpose, as currently registered under the BC Society Act, reads: 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.

At our annual general meeting May 31, we considered updating the wording of our Purpose. A motion proposed that our church amend its constitution by a rewording of Article II: Purposes, to read: The purposes of the Society are: a) to promote Unitarianism in the area of Greater Victoria, British Columbia, Canada; b) to teach Unitarian principles to members, youth, children and the public at large and to encourage community participation that reflects these principles; c) to act in furtherance of these principles and to cooperate with like-minded individuals and organizations in the furtherance of these principles and on mutual concerns for the benefit of the community on Vancouver Island, in Canada and in the world; d) to provide a place of worship, contemplation, discernment, music, celebration, fellowship and meeting for Unitarians

As this is being written well before that meeting, we cannot report the outcome of that debate. But any revision will need to be acceptable to the CRA if we are to retain our registered charity status.

As noted, CRA regulations prohibit partisan political activity. Examples: activity which supports or opposes a political party or candidate, endorses or opposes a party platform, encourages supporters to vote for or against a party or candidate, and unequal treatment of candidates during an election period.

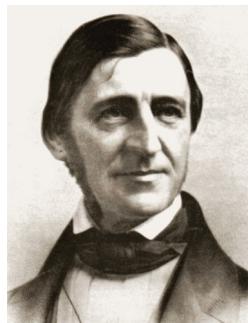
We can engage in non-partisan political activities but no more than ten percent of our church's total resources each year - staff, volunteers, premises - may be devoted to political non-partisan activities. An example of non-partisan political activity: encouraging the public to contact an elected representative or public official and urging them to retain, oppose, or change the law, policy, or decision of any level of government in Canada or a foreign country.

We think it is important for church members and friends to be aware of these government-imposed constraints on registered charities. We will keep you posted on new aspects of this issue as they surface in our church activities.

## NOTABLE UNITARIANS

### Ralph Waldo Emerson

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882) was a very popular Boston-born preacher, philosopher, writer and poet who led the Transcendental movement of the mid-19th century Unitarians. He was a graduate of Harvard and an intellectual, writing many essays, poems and delivering over 1,500 public lectures.



He was seen as a champion of individualism and freedom, and espoused a pantheist approach to the Divine, declaring that the Universe is composed of Nature and the Soul. He was a mentor and friend of fellow Transcendentalist, Henry David Thoreau, author of Walden Pond.

### Tell us your Story

The Generosity Team wants to hear how this congregation has impacted your life. How would your life be different if our congregation never existed? Please tell us your story in no more than 100 words by August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Submissions to Bob Dobbs at [bobdobbs@shaw.ca](mailto:bobdobbs@shaw.ca)

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)

**Water, A Basic Human Right or a Commodity?**

For those who believe in social justice, water is clearly a human right. Free market believers claim that it has to be treated as a commodity, especially now that climate change and associated drought are making it unavailable in the profligate ways of the past.

Consider California where, despite four years of severe drought, the pools of the elite are still full and their lawns are green. They could afford water as a commodity and have had no hesitation to ignore the requests for voluntary cutbacks. However, treating water as a commodity would result in severe hardship, even death for the poor and indigent.

But what about the farmers of the Central Valley of California? They require now scarce water for irrigation of their crops. Should their needs come before the needs of people and could the problem be settled by making water a commodity?

In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly stated that water and sanitation should be a human right. However, the right to water is not specifically mentioned in The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Clearly, without access to water, other rights could not be exercised such as the "right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being" and the fact that "motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance." Article 6 of the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights also guarantees the right to life. Articles 11 and 12 of the International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights guarantee an adequate standard of living. So how can water availability be a commodity?<sup>1</sup>.

This year, the snow pack in BC is only 69 percent of the average. As climate change proceeds and droughts grow common, BC and Vancouver Island may face water shortages in summer. If so, how should it be rationed? This cannot be done by treating it as a commodity. If it were a commodity, BC would already be facing pressure to export water south to the USA. But how to differentiate the rights of those who use dishwashers, water green lawns, fill swimming pools, wash their cars weekly, and are otherwise profligate from the rights of the rest of us?

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/human\\_right\\_to\\_water.shtml](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/human_right_to_water.shtml)

**OUR MEMORIAL GARDEN****DON VIPOND****Expansion and a rededication on June 14**

Out at the northern edge of the church property, beyond the labyrinth, stands our Memorial Garden, which features the Memorial Wall. Bronze plaques on that wall recall the names of earlier members and friends of this faith community, some of the people whose shoulders we are standing on today.

Interesting things are happening there. The site, which at present has a single wall, will expand eventually into several segments, shaped in a semi-circle. A new stone walkway (in the centre) is in place; in the next phase, two new wall segments and a central flower bed will be added. There will be a screen of shrubbery flanking the site on the west side, screening the unpaved parking lot and mitigating traffic noise from West Saanich Road.

In the year 2000, the congregation voted to create a memorial garden, including a memorial wall, to honour the memory of deceased members and friends. The wall was built by Gerry Peters in 2001.

"We all have sacred spaces and places in our lives, Rev. Shana writes. "On June 14, after the service, we will have an opportunity to re-hallow one of our shared sacred spaces, the Memorial Wall.

"A re-dedication ritual is a chance to mark the significance of the names on the plaques and the importance of having a place to remember those whose lives have meant a great deal to us. Rituals serve as a way to enact meaning, for us to do something together that marks a time and place as holding a special place in our lives. I hope many of you will join me as we bless this space again and honour the lives remembered on the wall."

The Memorial Garden Committee, charged with this work, is also asking for your help in designing an archway. At the rededication, there will be three design proposals on display and you will be asked to indicate which you favour.

In the longer term, the committee also proposes a complementary place on the church website where there will be some history on deceased members named on the plaques. As well, people planning to have a plaque on the wall at their deaths will be invited to tell some of their personal history, for posting after their death, answering questions such as: "how did you make your way to this faith community? Who or what attracted you? What kept you here? What treasures did you find? What barriers did you overcome? What do you have to say about your experience here to those who are coming after you?"

That will make interesting reading for new members in the years ahead.

*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 group will be gathering at Chris and Shirley's for a potluck on June 14. This will be the last Cadboro Bay event before Marguerite and Richard move out of the neighbourhood.

**Esquimalt:** Pat McMahon writes, "Esquimalt has supplied goodies for coffee hour during April. Thanks to Jan Thomson for organizing. Our next potluck dinner is June 5 at Betty Sherwood's home."

**Fairfield:** Here's the word from Fairfield: "The Fairfield Neighbourhood Group held an afternoon potluck last month at the home of Herb and Phyllis Girard. It was wonderful to have Rev. Shana with us and we spent much of our time getting to know one another. Eating, too!"

**Far Out:** Oceanna writes, "On May 16 the Farout Group had a lovely lunch at Beechwood Village followed by a delicious glass of wine from his own "Ted Humphreys private stash Vineyard" - the group hopes to meet again in the fall to explore the cuisine of other area senior residences or the ever popular 'wine and cheese' at Phyllis's. Hope everyone has a great summer--see you in the fall."

This was also Oceanna's last event as NG convenor, as she is stepping down due to health concerns.

**Gordon Head:** Mary Cramer reports they are still hoping to gather in June. If that doesn't work out, they will look at late August or September.

**Grand Central:** There were 18 adults and four children present when Grand Central gathered at Philip and Marya's on Mother's Day weekend. Marya says they had a wonderful time. On June 20 the group will be heading to Tyler's and Christine's at 5:00pm for a solstice celebration, which may include a paper lantern parade around the backyard.

**James Bay:** Lynn Hunter writes, "The James Bay Neighbourhood Group had a lively potluck lunch at the home of Myra Rippon on April 13.

Ten people attended including new member, David Van Stolk. Topics of conversation ranged from politics, the use of swear words to personal information including an announcement of a new romance. We look forward to updating all of these topics at the next gathering that will occur on the evening of June 9 for a potluck dinner at the home of Don Armstrong and Lynn Hunter."

**Nearby:** Nancy Dobbs reports, "After-church goodies were brought to you by the Nearby NG in May. Thanks to the Youth Group for contributing a yummy baked snack for additional treats on Mother's Day. On May 24, Jane Bramadat and Sylvia McDonald hosted NG potluck with special guest, Rev. Shana. About 17 of us gathered on Jane's beautiful deck overlooking Brentwood Bay, enjoying the company of Shawna and each other. Thank you Jane and Sylvia.

**Oak Bay:** This NG is trying something new. Karla Thomson writes, " The OBNG is in the early stages of meeting once each month at the 'Oaks' restaurant for lunch. This is a quieter occasion with no agenda, just a chance to chat and get to know each other better. Also, we are looking forward to a garden potluck at Tiff and Jan Li's near the end of June, with fingers crossed for a beautiful evening."

**Royal Oak East:** Hanny Pannekoek notes, "Royal Oak East will be responsible for offering hospitality cake for the month of June. Several members have already let me know that they will bring something. Our next neighbourhood potluck will be on June 9. Elaine and Allan Dakin have generously made their home available."

**Royal Oak West:** Fran Hancock writes, " Sandy and Dennis Jaques graciously hosted a very successful potluck dinner on May 2 for Royal Oak West, which included Rev. Melora, and was much appreciated. It was so nice to see Brenda Pengelly after a long absence as well as Susie and Simon Williams, who spend a lot of time in Hawaii. They kindly offered to host a potluck once their renovations are completed."

**Western:** This group met at Mac's on May 16 and they plan to meet at Mac's again in June.

### 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

## News of Ron and Wilma



Ron and Wilma Neilson send their regards to their beloved church community, at this time both are doing well. Dad remains at his home while Mom resides in a residential care facility. Both Mom and Dad are aware of the special place they hold in people's hearts, and because they have immediate family who are able to meet all their needs their request for no outside visitors remains.

Mom and Dad are full of gratitude, they have many wonderful memories that we discuss often. On behalf of my siblings I thank you for your continued good wishes.

Mary Kelly (Ron & Wilma's daughter)

## Fall Book Sale

**Yes!** There will be a **Book Sale**—the last Saturday in September. Save your books and mark the date: September 26.



If you cannot store your books until September, please put them with the other books in the storage space under the sanctuary.

**Please do not donate textbooks, encyclopaedias, Reader's Digest Condensed books, computer books, or magazines.** They don't sell, so please put them in your recycling.

## BOARD MEMBERS ON DUTY



Not yet determined.



Photos by Mary Cramer



## Just Married!

Ryan Guenther, son of Suellen Guenther, and member of our church for many years married Raji Mangat in a Sikh wedding in Surrey on May 23. The wedding was attended by about 600 guests, including several members of our church.

## ARTIST OF THE MONTH

**Judi MacLeod** is a full time fibre artist who has spent most of her life working with fibre. Her tremendous curiosity about the world around her has led her to explore and develop ways of expressing her ideas using vibrant colours and textures evident in her many hangings. Each piece is unique and original, mostly influenced by nature and her travels. These fibre art pieces are made from constructed fabric, hand dyed and painted fabric, handmade paper, silk-paper, leather and metal.

Mary Theal, Arts & Aesthetics Committee

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dar Gareau-Levy; Jonah Barr-Hoadley
- 2 Jean Simpson, Maddie Hepburn
- 4 Bridget Barr-Hoadley, Matea Branch, Jean Foxall,
- 6 Bruce Bennett
- 7 Jane Bramadat
- 8 Marion Irish
- 9 Allan Dakin, June Waters
- 10 Kathryn Saunders, Mike Thorne
- 12 Rene Taylor-Lowen
- 13 Sevanna Grunwald
- 14 Gita John-Iyam
- 15 Andrew Beak-Taylor
- 17 Jan Van Gessel, Anne Percival, Mae Adam
- 19 Brad Clarke, Emilia Quibell
- 20 Elizabeth McGugan
- 24 Joe Girard
- 25 Eunice Fast
- 27 Keiran Marrett-Hitch
- 28 Vera Tudor, Adrian Fine
- 29 Kieran Hall Locklin, Jonas Van Tol
- 30 Marian Foucault

## Community Dinner



### Friday, June 12 is Fiesta Night!

We will be serving tacos with all the fixings, chili and much more! Vegetarian options available. Fiesta Night is a multi generational event and an opportunity to meet new people or catch up with friends over a casual, fun, delicious meal.

Everyone is welcome!! Please join us!!

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

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

## Suggested Video

The Environmental Action Team suggests you watch the 7 minute video 'Effects of War on the Environment' [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wW\\_1JVZ6RWw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wW_1JVZ6RWw)

## Innovations Fund Grants

The Ruth Humphreys Innovations Fund trustees have reviewed grant applications and awarded grants for 2015. The successful proposals are:

Nature Playground	\$3,500
Chamber Choir	\$3,000
Memorial Garden	\$2,000
Summer Family Camp	\$1,000
Computer for overhead projector	\$500
Total	\$10,000

All proposals were evaluated using the criteria which was developed for the submission which include:

- Apply new and different methods to existing programs
- Scale up successful and innovative programs and services
- Experiment with New Ideas
- Foster collaborative approaches to address an issue or opportunity
- Improve the delivery of current programs and services.

Watch for exciting developments as the funded projects move ahead this year!

Trustees are Al Hoffman, John Hopewell, Lynn Hunter, Linda Nicholson-Brown and Gerry Brimacombe, with Rev. Shana as trustee *ex officio*.

## Contact Changes

Jennifer & Lance Young  
2450 Lago Vista Street  
Kelowna, BC V1P 1R9  
Jen: [250-888-4746](tel:250-888-4746)  
Lance: [250-893-3214](tel:250-893-3214)  
[ujenyoung@gmail.com](mailto:ujenyoung@gmail.com)  
[hellojenyoung@gmail.com](mailto:hellojenyoung@gmail.com)

Deanna Hutchings  
#214 - 405 Quebec Street  
Victoria, BC V8V 4Z2  
[250-598-0171](tel:250-598-0171)  
[marnell@telus.net](mailto:marnell@telus.net)

## New Email

Pam Harte  
[plharte180@gmail.com](mailto:plharte180@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: 250-744-2601  
rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca

• Reverend Shana Lynngood  
Office phone: 250-744-2601  
rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca

## Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat  
250-652-1272

Oceanna Hall 250-886-1077

**Lay Chaplains**  
laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca  
Kjerstin Mackie 250-598-5975

Anne Vaasio 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 Verstegen

## Board of Trustees

### Officers

President	Shirley Travis	778-433-2063
Vice-President	Lorna Anthony	250-592-4831
Treasurer	Roberta Clair	250-532-1973
Secretary	Jane Wilson	250-598-4348

### Council Representatives

Administration	John Worton	250-220-6258
Congregational Life	Suzanne Beauchamp	778-433-2829
Outreach	Jim Jordan	250-654-0672
Property Management	John Tiffany	778-432-0881
Spiritual Development	Marion Sollazzo	250-721-1741

Welcome, New Board

## New Members

Erin Kinrade  
with her twins Ben and Teo Smith  
1048A - Lyall Street  
Victoria, BC V9A 5E9  
[250-508-1738](tel:250-508-1738)  
[ekinrade@gmail.com](mailto:ekinrade@gmail.com)  
Esquimalt NG



Laurel Westinghouse  
with her children Desmond and Lucas de Schepper  
5174 Beckton Road  
Victoria, BC V8Y 2C1  
[250-889-6240](tel:250-889-6240) (cell)  
[laurelwestinghouse@gmail.com](mailto:laurelwestinghouse@gmail.com)  
Royal Oak East NG



## From Members to Friends

Lance and Jen Young have become Friends with their move to Kelowna.

## Handbell Choir

Looking ahead to the autumn, we are planning to start a handbell choir here at FUCV. We already have a few interested people, and would like to hear from anyone who would like to try ringing handbells.

Over the summer, we'll decide on the rehearsal commitment, including day, time and frequency. If you would like to hear more about ringing handbells, or if you already know you'd like to join, please contact our accompanist, Victoria Beauchesne, either in person, or by email (preferably by mid-July) at [murals@telus.net](mailto:murals@telus.net). Not sure it is for you? Ability to read music is helpful, but not essential. Desire to have fun and reliability are required!



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

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250-208-2954

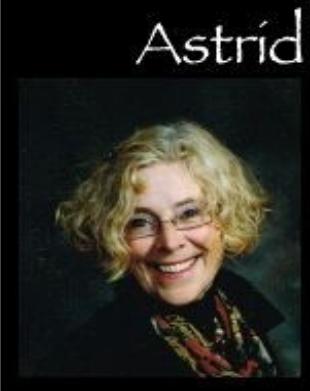
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Postage paid at Victoria, BC  
5575 West Saanich Road  
Canadian Publications Mail  
Sales Product Agreement No. 40010260

## THE VICTORIA UNITARIAN

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

The **deadline** for submissions to  
the **July** issue is **June 16**.  
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 Events Highlights should be sent to  
[calendar@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:calendar@victoriaunitarian.ca) or left at the church office.

Feedback is welcomed.

### Staff

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

## Legacies Received

The Legacy Circle Team (formerly the Planned Giving Committee) greatly appreciates the bequests to the church that were received in the past year from ...

**Senga Stirling, Grace Mersereau & Belsonia Paul.**



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

6/12	6:00pm to 10:00pm	Community Dinner	Sanctuary
6/21	8:30am to 10:00am 7:30pm to 9:00pm	Pancake breakfast Jazz Vespers	Lion Hall Sanctuary