



The Victoria Unitarian

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

SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

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

Practices to
Transform Ourselves
and Our World
February's Theme



RECONCILIATION

The Practice of Healing
Broken Relationship

February 7 **Personal Reconciliation**
Rev. Melora Lynngood
Worship Associate: Lillie Lentz

Chamber
Choir

This Sunday, we introduce our spiritual practice of the month, "Reconciliation: The Practice of Healing Broken Relationships." What is reconciliation on a personal level? How does it differ from forgiveness? What are the challenges with which it requires us to wrestle? What blessings might result?

February 14 **How Forgiveness Changes Us**
Rev. Shana Lynngood
Worship Associate: Dar Gareau-Levy

Chalice
Choir

I was asked by this year's auction winner to explore the impact that forgiveness has on the person who offers forgiveness. What do we gain when we forgive someone? What, if anything, remains unresolved in spite of our being willing to forgive?

February 14 **Spirited Jazz Vespers**
7:00pm **My Funny Valentine**

Our Spirited Jazz Vespers series returns! Join Rev. Shana and the Craig Henderson Trio as they delve into the beauty, wisdom, and insight of the Great American Songbook. Craig is a 20-year-old singer/pianist who fronts a jazz trio, accompanied by his father, guitarist Gordon Henderson, and his first jazz piano teacher Bill Kent, on bass. Bring your Valentine for a magical evening of song and spiritual reflection. A recipe for love.

February 21 **First Nations and Reconciliation**
Rev. Melora Lynngood
Worship Associate: Dan Klimke

Today, we look at the troubling history and brokenness in the relationship between Native and Non-Native peoples living in Canada. Unitarian Universalists may not have had a direct hand in residential schools, but their legacy and the racism within our culture affects us all. How might we work toward meaningful reconciliation?

Stay after the Service to participate in

The Blanket Exercise: The Indigenous rights history we've never been taught

Fifteen years ago, the Aboriginal Rights Coalition worked with Indigenous elders and teachers to develop an interactive way of learning the history most Canadians are never taught. The Blanket Exercise was the result; it has since been offered thousands of times and was last completely updated in 2013. Janet Gray, of Kairos, will be our facilitator. For a video about the workshop, see <http://www.kairoscanada.org/what-we-do/indigenous-rights/blanket-exercise/>

Food: Stay for the Souper Lunch (by donation)

Ages: Youth and Adults

Time: 12:30-2:00pm, February 21

Childminding Available

Location: Farmhouse Common Room

Please RSVP to rev.melora@gmail.com 250-891-6330

February 28 **Are You Being Saved?**
Rev. Neal T. Anderson (see "About Our Speaker" on page 2)
Worship Associate: Liz Graham

Chalice
Choir

This Sunday, guest preacher Rev. Neal Anderson explores the concept of salvation. How can a Unitarian Universalist understanding of salvation inform our spiritual and religious commitments? We are a saving faith, let us celebrate this together.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

SElections.....	2
The Spiritual Practice of Reconciliation.....	3
Jazz Vespers.....	5
Lifeline List Project.....	6
The Refugee Report.....	7
Shared Ministry.....	7
Chalice Lighter of the Month.....	8
How Much Do You Care?.....	8
HOW 2016.....	9
FUCV Foundation--Call for Proposals.....	9
Music Notes.....	9
SRC Action of the Month.....	10
Green Corner.....	10
Artist of the Month.....	11
Notable UUs.....	11
Around the Neighbourhood.....	12
Event Highlights.....	14

The deadline for submissions to the **March** issue of the newsletter is **February 16**.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

We are fortunate to have guest minister, Rev. Neal Anderson visiting us this Sunday (February 28).

The Rev. Neal T. Anderson grew up in Saskatchewan and became a member of the Unitarian Congregation of Saskatoon while attending the University of Saskatchewan as a graduate student. After teaching elementary school in Saskatoon for 10 years he pursued UU ministry attending Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA. He has been the Senior Minister at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Nevada for the past eight years. The congregation recently took into sanctuary an undocumented immigrant and helped to win him a stay of deportation. He lives in Reno, NV with his wife Ruth and their boys Cruz and Bayard.

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

SELECTIONS FAYE MOGENSEN

Our services and programs will focus as best we can on "Reconciliation" this month. I feel very fortunate to be continuing my short sabbatical (from December 21 - February 23), and look forward to seeing everyone again at the end of the month.

Here are a few highlights of the month in the children's wing:

- Feb 7 - Chalice Chapel – for all children and youth.
Anna Isaacs is the service leader and Rev. Shanna is offering some inspirational thoughts.
- Feb 14, 21, 28 - usual programming for most
- Feb 21 - Junior Youth Group is visiting St. John the Divine Anglican Church
- Feb 26 (Friday) - Youth Group presents a Coffee House at 6:30 featuring delicious performances and scrumptious goodies (funds raised will go to the Ancient Forest Alliance, and to the Refugee Family Fund).**
- Feb 28 - OWL Parent and Child Orientation meeting - parents in the Common Room, children in the library.**

Much appreciation to Anna for steering the boat while I'm gone, and to LeAnn Andersen for keeping families informed of our plans through weekly emails. If you have questions or concerns, please be in touch with anna@victoriaunitarian.ca or 250-744-2695.

Warmly, Faye

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

Mark your calendars and get your creative juices flowing

"Unitarian Pirates"



Youth Coffee House
Friday February 26

Theme: Whatever your age, if you have a song/skit/story/poem you'd like to perform, please let Sam know at magnussamantha@gmail.com. *More details coming!*

This month we will explore both the personal and communal impact and implications of reconciliation. In our personal lives we know that finding a way to repair relationships that have been damaged or challenging (when possible) can be important for our ability to move forward. Communally we have seen the power of reconciliation both in the process undertaken with First Nations' people here in Canada, and in the work led by Archbishop Desmond Tutu in South Africa. We also know that reconciliation is hard. When hurt or harm has divided us, it can be very hard to find a way through our anger or sadness or resentment to a renewed connection. On rare occasions reconciliation isn't desirable or appropriate—how do we make peace with that? As we explore the spiritual practice of healing broken relationship look at these questions for reflection and find one to spend some time with.



Do you have any lingering grudges or resentments in your life that you would like to let go of? What would it take to do that?

What has your experience been with forgiveness? Have you ever forgiven someone when it was difficult to do so? Is there someone you wish to forgive but cannot? Someone you refuse to forgive? Have you ever asked for forgiveness? Have you ever been forgiven? Have you forgiven yourself?

What is the relationship between forgiveness and reconciliation?

What is the place of reparations or making amends in the reconciliation process? How well do you apologize? How well do you assert your needs, perspective, and opinion?

What would reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-aboriginal Canadians look like? What words, actions, or commitments would make that reconciliation feel meaningful? What have you done or could you do toward that end?

What role does power play in our capacity to reconcile?

These are rich and deep things to consider. As you ponder these things this month, I also want to invite you to consider joining me this spring in a conversation about Race, Racism, and the Ongoing Power of Difference. Many of the most divisive conflicts in our world still have the issue of race and racism at the heart of them. We'll read together, share some personal experiences with race, and work on building our multicultural competence. If you would like to join this conversation please email or call me (and let me know if you need childminding). We will meet on three consecutive Wednesdays—April 13, 20, and 27 from 7 to 8:30pm.

See you in church, Rev. Shana

Race, Racism, and the Ongoing Power of Difference

Adult spiritual development discussion group will meet with Rev. Shana on April 13, 20, and 27 from 7 to 8:30pm. In our world today issues of race and how differences amongst us are treated continue to play an outsize role. Whether we are looking at Islamophobia and treatment of Arab people, the legacy and continuing struggle of Aboriginal people in Canada, and the Black Lives Matter movement in the States—race and its perception still holds a great deal of sway. Come talk about this challenging and critically important topic.

Theme Material For Families of All Ages

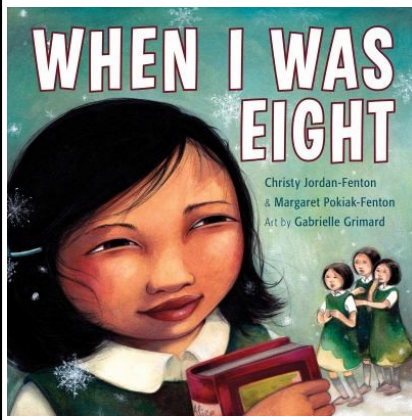
Reconciliation: the Practice of Healing Broken Relationship

It will likely be easy for you to come up with questions to discuss with the children in your life about this month's general theme--apologizing, making amends, and forgiveness. ("Have you ever felt bad about something you did? How did you try to make it better?")

It might be daunting to figure out how to talk with children about the our theme as it relates to First Nations people and history--the troubling history between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Canadians, Residential Schools, and the Truth and Reconciliation process. Many of our children will already have learned some things. You might begin the conversation by asking what they know about residential schools.

Below are some books you can read with your children as a way to continue the conversation. They are available in Victoria Public libraries.

Continued on next page...



Fatty Legs: a true story, by Christy Jordan-Fenton, for Grades 4-8
When I Was Eight, picture book adaptation of *Fatty Legs*, for Grades K- 4

“Margaret, an eight-year-old Inuvialuit girl, wants to learn how to read so badly that she's willing to leave home for residential school to make it happen. When she gets there a mean-spirited nun known as the Raven is intent on making Margaret's time at school difficult. But Margaret refuses to be defeated.”

A Stranger at Home: a true story, by Christy Jordan-Fenton, for Grades 3-6
Not My Girl, picture book adaptation of *A Stranger at Home*, for Grades 2-5

“In this sequel to *Fatty Legs*, Margaret Pokiak is now 10 years old and can hardly wait to return home from residential school. But her homecoming is not what she hopes for. “Not my girl,” is what her mother says when she arrives. The story follows Margaret as she moves through feelings of rejection and tries to reconnect with her family, language and culture.”

Here is an article from CBC about talking with your children about residential schools as well as eight more book suggestions. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/aboriginal/10-books-about-residential-schools-to-read-with-your-kids-1.3208021?cmp=abfb>

For Youth – Come to the Blanket Exercise!

If you have teenagers, or mature children in grade four or above, you might consider bringing them to the Blanket Exercise after church on Sunday, February 21 (12:30-2:30pm). A good experiential way to learn about Canadian First Nations history and a great opportunity to talk about it within your faith community. See page 1 for details. RSVP to rev.melora@gmail.com.

Acknowledging First Nations Territory and Protocol

Submitted by Kym Hines and Rev. Melora

At a congregational meeting in November, our congregation considered a question about whether to have a plaque made that acknowledges that our buildings are on traditional First Nations' land. All involved wanted to do what was most respectful. Over the course of conversation, it became clear that we had different ideas about what would be most respectful. One member, Kym Hines, who is Metis and Acadian, made the point that protocol within many First Nations circles is to verbally state such an acknowledgement, not necessarily to print it. Since Kym has fairly extensive knowledge of traditional protocol, Betty Sherwood, who was one of the people bringing forth the motion at the congregational meeting, asked him to share with us what he knows. This is what he wrote:

My name is Kim A. Hines. I am Métis and Acadian, born in Winnipeg. My Acadian ancestry goes back to 1650s New Brunswick. I am a visitor currently living under colonial duress within Lkwungen W̱SANEĆ Territories. I am actively engaged in supporting First Nations Sovereignty as well as my own decolonizing; I am aware it will be a lifetime work. I work to move past fear-based divisions and open my heart.

I voted recently to not make another plaque to acknowledge territory since we already have one (by the carving on the east wall of our sanctuary by Tsartlip carver, Charles Elliott,) that acknowledges territory and it's a beautiful and powerful educative gift.

I was taught that, when on traditional First Nations land, we are asked to learn and follow protocol. Protocol varies from nation to nation. It is generally a respectful way to honor the lands and people we are visiting by listening; it is also a respectful way to honor who we and who our ancestors are by sharing. We learn a particular Nation's protocol by asking each nation whose territory we enter.

Generally, protocol involves stating where we are from and our intentions, and acknowledging the territory we enter or in which we reside. For example, “I am [NAME], born in [PLACE]. My people are [ETHNICITY/CULTURE] from [PLACES of ancestral heritage]. I respectfully acknowledge that I currently inhabit [or am visiting, or am standing on] the traditional lands of [NAME of FIRST NATION].”

Learning and acknowledging the nation in whose territory we live is a big step towards healing. If we say it enough, we can know their nation's names and have them on the tip of our tongues. This helps to counter the ignorance of not knowing whose traditional lands we are on. It helps to counter the effect of the fact that, as lands were conquered, they were often re-named, in maps and books, by the conquerors.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

Each time we speak in public, we acknowledged the territory, introduce our ancestry, and ourselves. I was taught it's a two-way thing. We come from somewhere--where is that? And who are we? It gives honour to ourselves, our ancestors and our new friends. In the end, learning protocol helps counter the "us and them" divide.

I was honored to share.

Sincerely and in the spirit of healing within a reconciliation model, we do our part.

With respect,
Kym A Hines

What would your version be?

Inspired by Kym, I am taking this opportunity to practice the protocol: "I am Melora Crooker Lynngood, born and raised in Los Angeles, California, land that was traditionally inhabited by Tongva people, then colonized by Spain, and later, ruled by Mexico and then the United States. My mother's people are Caucasian, from Poland, Lithuania, and Czechoslovakia. My father's people are Caucasian from the British Isles. I currently inhabit the traditional land of the Coast Salish People. My home is on the traditional lands of the Songhees Nation, and I serve a congregation that resides on the traditional land of the Tsartlip."

Who are you and where are your people from? Whose lands do you inhabit? I could not find a map with western style boundaries marking various First Nations territories; however, you can look up what Nations you live near on this First People's Language Map: <http://maps.fphlcc.ca/fphlccmap/?zoom=10&lat=48.4500000&lon=-123.4200000> Click "street" in the right upper corner. Hover over the pink dots to see the names of the Nations. Click on the pink dots to get more info on a Nation.

JAZZ VESPERS 2016

JUNE WATERS

Enjoy jazz with a splash of spiritual inspiration

February 14, 7:00pm at First Unitarian Church of Victoria

The Craig Henderson Trio

Theme:

My Funny Valentine

Craig Henderson piano/vocals, Bill Kent bass, Gordon Henderson guitar

By donation and greatly appreciated

Enjoy jazz with a splash of spiritual inspiration in venues with exquisite sound and setting. These hour-long evening services are a unique blend of jazz and spirituality. Each service brings together live music from popular local jazz musicians, a brief meaningful message, and some information about the history of the music.

Valentine Sunday, February 14, is the first Spirited Jazz Vesper of 2016 and features the Craig Henderson Trio. Craig is a 20-year-old singer/pianist from Victoria. He fronts a jazz trio, accompanied by his father, guitarist Gordon Henderson, and his first jazz piano teacher Bill Kent, on bass.

They perform swinging tunes from timeless artists such as Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett and others who have shared the same love of the Great American Songbook. They played as the featured trio in the Fairmont Empress 2015 season, as well as a variety of other venues throughout Greater Victoria.

You and your Valentine will love the Craig Henderson Trio and the spiritual message as a Valentine's Day treat. This style of jazz vespers allows time and space for music to speak to the soul.



Got the winter blues?

Take heart!

Auction **FEVER** is Coming



April 15, 2016

Fun Friends Food Funds

Mark your calendar. Don't miss it!

No Access to Library Space

12:30-2:30pm, February 28

If you leave things in the library that you need to pick up after the service, please do so BEFORE 12:30. A Soul Matters group will be meeting in that space from 12:30-2:30pm. Thank you for supporting the group's need for uninterrupted privacy.

Thank you, everyone, for sharing our space with gracious consideration.

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

LIFELINE LIST PROJECT AND ETHEL MAY TRUST FUND

Always Running in the Background

The Ethel May Trust Fund and the Lifeline List Project were both busy throughout 2015. Over the year, the Trust Fund helped 21 adults and 25 children, in the total amount of \$12,435. The year also saw us say good-bye to Joyce Murphy as a trustee, with our thanks for her service, and hello to Ruth Pozer-Telford, who agreed to join Clare Vipond and Bert MacBain as our new trustee. Our thanks, as always, go to Ted Humphreys for making it possible for us to help so many in need in our community.

The Lifeline List Project helped 21 families over the course of the year, a total of 25 adults and 33 children, in the amount of \$6,850. Our thanks to the 75 sponsors, church members and friends, who made this help possible. Dollar numbers we all understand. What is less apparent but perhaps equally valuable is the psychological lift those in need get when helped by strangers. They are reminded that they are widely seen as worthy. It does good things for their self-esteem.

The year was notable for another retirement and here we would offer a heartfelt tribute to Margaret McKelvie. For 11 years, Margaret has served as an assessor for the Lifeline List Project and the Ethel May Trust, before retiring at the year end.

Assessors, always women because the vast majority people we help are woman, go out to meet face to face the people who have asked for help from our church community. Assessors ask questions, collect details, keep a sharp eye out and propose the form of any assistance. They are our firewall, assuring that the sponsors' contributions are well spent.

We have been blessed with excellent assessors over the years and Margaret has the ideal set of skills to do this job effectively. She was a registered nurse, a health clinic operator, a mother who raised three boys on her own. And she has a compassionate soul. She probably did a third of the 300 plus interviews undertaken by our assessors over the past decade. Only the project administrator (Don) has been situated to see the skill and full scope of her work.

Margaret has said more than once that working as an assessor "is a privilege." Our gratitude, Margaret, and we speak for many others. You have given scores of needy families a step up and over some tough barricades.

--Don Vipond and Bert MacBain

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Refugee Fund! In just a few weeks, we raised \$65,055, with another \$7,300 pledged, for a total of \$72,355. This represents the generosity of 120 individuals or families and includes 20 or so people not connected to our church, as well as the Share the Plate donations. With these funds in place, we have applied to sponsor a refugee family.

Every group who wishes to sponsor refugees must work through a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH). Our SAH is the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) and we have submitted all the necessary paperwork. We are hoping to hear who we will be sponsoring very soon. We are exploring various options, including the extended family of a Syrian who lives in Victoria. This family of six have lived in a camp in Turkey for a long time and would like to come to Victoria to be with other family members. Their documents are in order, but they are just starting the Canadian immigration process, so we anticipate this may take some time. In the meantime, we have over 30 people who have volunteered to help with the 15 different kinds of practical support needed to prepare for our refugees and help them after they arrive!



Are you collecting Jamie Oliver Stamps at Thrifty's? Karla Thomson has agreed to manage the stamps and will redeem them for good knives for our refugee family. Please bring your stamps to the church office or give them to Karla.

You are invited: Christine has been able to arrange a special **Cultural Sensitivity Training Session** through the Inter-Cultural-Association for our church, and all church members and contributors to the project are invited to attend. It will be **Friday, February 5 at First Metropolitan United, from 2:00 to 3:30pm**. This session is required for anyone who will have one-on-one contact with our refugees.

Would you like to:

Offer practical support? Contact Christine Johnston: christine_johnston@telus.net.

Offer large items? Contact Terry Czyz: terrcz@gmail.com.

Offer linens or small household items? Contact Hanny Pannekoek: hannyhugo@shaw.ca

Offer ideas for housing? Contact Andy Lee: andrew.lee@firley.ca.

Donate or pledge money? Contact Bob Dobbs: bobdobbs@shaw.ca.

Questions? Our Steering Committee is Christine Johnston, Bob Dobbs, John Worton, Leslie Gillette, Susan Layng, Kristina Stevens, Andy Lee, Suellen Guenther and Colin Nelson from Capital UU Congregation (colin_nelson_2000@hotmail.com).

SHARED MINISTRY

LORNA ANTHONY

Engage and Connect

Shared ministry in our congregation is the way in which we work together to care for our congregation as well as the larger community. As Unitarians, we believe that ministry -- caring for our community and our world -- is not just for clergy.

Featured this month is the Sunday Coffee team. Hanny Pannekoek and Hugo Sutmoller make sure that members and friends have a cup of coffee or tea to enjoy while connecting after church. If you enjoy this time but haven't had a chance to take a turn making coffee, your help will be much appreciated. You will have terrific people to work with and will receive lots of smiles. Many hands lighten the load.

For more information on the Coffee Team, you are welcome to contact Hanny or Hugo at hannyhugo@shaw.ca or 250 385-2299.

If you would like to become more engaged with our Church community, there is something for everyone. Some of the connections are:



Worship Associate -- apply to Rev. Melora Lynngood

Building maintenance -- contact Tiff (johnniffany0705@gmail.com)

Gardening -- contact Earle (earleanthony@shaw.ca)

Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth (SEL-CY) -- contact Lesley (lesley.duthie@telus.net)

Becoming a sponsor with Lifeline -- contact Don or Clare (donaandclare@shaw.ca)

Look for our monthly information table and stop by for a chat or feel free to contact Lorna Anthony at lranthony@shaw.ca or 250 592-4831.

CHALICE LIGHTER OF THE MONTH



Bradley Clarke

"I first became involved with this congregation in December 1999 due to my wife Madelaine's encouragement to add my tenor voice to the choir, which was preparing for a Christmas concert under the direction of Sally Murphy. Although I could not stay with the choir, by February 2000 I was inducted as a church member and have been enjoying that privilege and responsibility since. Membership in the Gardens & Grounds Committee quickly followed, and by July 2000 Madelaine and I were the first member-tenants to live in the farmhouse residence above the church offices. Our role since that time has been primarily to provide a 'soft' security presence and emergency response.

"By January 2001, I accepted the Maintenance Contractor position which involved numerous infrastructure tasks associated with heat, light, well water management, septic system maintenance and minor building repairs. Since it began in 2002, I have also been involved with the Memorial Wall and Garden Committee helping to design and construct the brick-lined Memorial Wall path as well as the adjacent Cretan turf labyrinth.

My primary responsibility has been the mounting of Memorial Plaques onto the Memorial Wall.

"In addition to my involvement here, I work full-time as a gardener at The Butchart Gardens, part-time as a professional drummer/vocalist and, like many spouses, I also work for 'Honey-Do'! I am an actively engaged husband, son, father (of three), grandfather (of four—soon to be five) and, if you've never seen me before despite my living here, it's due in part to the nature of my church involvement and likely because Sunday mornings are often the only time I get to sleep in!

"I'm proud to say that "I'm a Unitarian-Universalist"—its principles and history speak volumes of its moral worth and dignity. Thank you Revs Shana and Melora for helping to keep this faith alive!"

Karen Uldall-Ekman says: "I have been working with Brad since I started in 2007. We liaise on a regular basis regarding property repairs, upkeep and occasional dilemmas. Through the years I have come to deeply appreciate and rely on Brad's knowledge of the history of our church property and his concern for property issues. As a fellow staff worker, he is calm, pragmatic and positive. He also has a much-appreciated flexibility and a generosity of spirit with a great sense of humour. I realize that many folks are not aware of his many tasks as our on-site Maintenance Technician as he often works outside of church hours. If you do see him in church, or on the property, please walk up and say thanks to him for taking such good care of our regular, but critical, maintenance tasks. We are very fortunate in having Brad."

Allan Dakin says: "When I first found myself chairing the Building Maintenance Committee, I quickly realized I knew very little about the church infrastructure and its maintenance history. When introduced to Brad I quickly realized he was a fund of information and was very willing to show me around the facilities including the famous cavernous areas under the Children's RE wing! Brad is always cheerful, and over the past seven years I have appreciated how lucky we are to have Brad available to help look after our beloved church's facilities."

HOW MUCH DO YOU CARFE?

ID TEAM



In an effort to be more inclusive, would you like to change our name from "church" to "congregation?"

Do you want to add "universalist" so we become a UU?

What about a creative alternative; e.g. Cedars UU Church on Bainbridge Island?

Does our acronym FUCV really bug you?

At the church's congregational meeting on February 7, the ID Team will be asking for a show of hands to ask if you wish to change the church's name enough to participate in the process by attending a 2-hour creative workshop on Sunday, April 3 after church and also attend a focus group (several times/dates will be offered) before voting at our AGM in May. Or, should we stick with the current name for now?

Let us know. Your ID Team is more than happy to guide the process if there is sufficient interest. If you won't be at the February 7 meeting but want to be involved, please contact one of us.

Team members: Susan Bowers (bowers.susan@gmail.com); Isabelle Grenon (igrenon@hotmail.com); Lorna Anthony (lrAnthony@shaw.ca); Rev. Melora Lynngood

Let's not abandon this worthy tradition

Yes, we are going to support a refugee family, help them for a year to settle into a new life in Canada. That's huge. It will be a community effort and, we trust, a mighty soul-satisfying thing to do. But don't forget HOW—Healing Our World. It's also about helping people in great need.

What we need first to begin a HOW project is your idea! Your suggestion on what we might undertake together. What situation do you know of where a group of people are in need? And the deadline looms! HOW applications must be submitted by February 7. How many days away is that?

As part of our congregational mission of compassionate action, we have supported in the past 24 small but mighty projects around the world. Please see the HOW page on the church website for more information on past projects. Solar lights in Africa, support for young adult mental health in Victoria, preschool building in Jamaica - we cover the spectrum.

There are three changes for HOW 2016. Given the outreach work being done through the Refugee Sponsorship Program, we are going to have a maximum one or two projects, with a limit of \$5,000 each. We are also going to request a local or national focus to balance out our overseas work. To broaden our reach, we are asking that if you or your household have had a successful HOW project in the past, please wait three years before submitting another one for consideration.

Application forms are available in hard copy in the office or can be downloaded from the HOW page on the church website. Once again, the deadline for submission is February 7.

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA FOUNDATION

Call for Grant proposals: February, 2016

The First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation was established to promote the principles and values of our Church. Currently the Foundation has contributions invested with the Victoria Foundation totalling approximately \$70,000. Income from approximately \$38,000 of these funds is dedicated to supporting First Nations post-secondary education through the Church. Income from the approximately \$32,000, is directed by request of the donor to support the music programme and/or social responsibility programmes of the Church.

In 2015 the Foundation funded two \$600 bursaries for First Nations students attending Camosun College and granted \$1000 to the Music Committee to assist in bringing musicians to the church for Sunday Services when the choir is not performing. This year we anticipate around \$1,200 will be available to fund two ongoing First Nations bursaries at Camosun College from the First Nations Fund.

The Foundation is currently seeking proposals from church groups who need a grant of up to \$1,000 to fund church music or social action programmes. Applications must be for enhanced activities not normally supported by the church budget and must cover costs not yet incurred. An application form is available at the church office or from the church website under FUCV Foundation.

The deadline for submission is April 30 and funding will be approved in June at the Foundation annual meeting.

MUSIC NOTES

NICK FAIRBANK

The Bell Choir

The newly formed Handbell Choir, directed by Victoria Beauchesne (our collaborative pianist), had a wonderful autumn. In case you missed it, we debuted at a Sunday service in November, and played again at the December concert. We will be building on our skills when we return to regular Monday morning rehearsals in January. Would you like to ring with us? We welcome interest from would-be ringers. If this is for you, contact Victoria as soon as possible at murals@telus.net.

We also welcome your input as we discuss possibilities to build on fundraising started by Braden Young and Phil Hallman. The plan was to purchase a third octave of bells, which, once acquired, would involve more ringers, and open up our repertoire options. Some ideas under discussion include outreach (e.g. playing in retirement homes) and more bell use within our community. What ideas do you have for our bells?

The bell choir rehearses in the farmhouse common room on Monday mornings. This term we begin in mid-February, as follows:

Feb. 15, 22, 29, March 7, 14 and 21 with a Sunday performance on March 27 (Easter).

Then, after a one-week break we start up again in April:

April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 and 9 and performing at the Spring Concert on May 6 and ending with the May 15 Sunday service.



Victoria Native Friendship Centre Library

Reconciliation is the theme of the Action of the Month and Share the Plate. The Victoria Native Friendship Centre, situated not far from Tillicum Mall, is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Aboriginal people in the Victoria area. Its library has been open since June 2014 lending materials to adults, youth and children. It supports literacy programs, encourages a love of reading, and raises awareness of the impressive history, accomplishments, knowledge and skills of Aboriginal People, particularly Canadian First Nations, Métis and Inuit. Currently, this small, volunteer-run library has approximately 3900 items, 70% of Indigenous content or authorship, including a considerable number of items on the subject of residential schools and the process of Truth and Reconciliation. UVic students use the library for their research and the UVic library provides cataloguing without charge.

To help raise awareness about the Library, volunteers host documentary film nights. The next one is the excellent *The Making of an Elder*, in affiliation with the Eric Martin Pavilion. They hope to be able to purchase the film and so that afterwards the DVD can be lent out to local organizations. Also, two extra special events are being planned: a talk by award-winning Indigenous author Richard Wagamese (June 14) and a book fair (June 7) featuring local Aboriginal authors.

Funds are needed to increase their holdings, extend their programs and reach out into the larger community.

GREEN CORNER

JUDY GAYLORD

Divestment: Putting our money where our values are

Last May 2015 at the CUC Annual General Meeting in Ottawa two environmentally-focused resolutions were passed asking members 1) to review their congregation's investments and **divest** from the top 200 companies based on their holdings of carbon reserves (Coal, Oil and Natural Gas); and 2) to engage with and support others in their community to first have municipalities, and subsequently their provincial and the federal government establish for all, the **rights to clean air, water, and soil** along with the right to know what pollutants are being released. To view the divestment resolution and background material go to <http://cuc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Fossil-Fuel-Divestment.pdf>.

Your FUCV Environmental Action Team (EAT) has been quite active on the environmental rights front and has helped to get many local municipalities on side by supporting the Blue Dot campaign. We are now turning our attention to the divestment issue.

Especially since the UN Paris climate change summit it is becoming more and more evident that most of our fossil fuel reserves must remain in the ground if we are to achieve the necessary reductions in carbon emissions to prevent catastrophic temperature increases. There are now good economic arguments to be made for not investing in resources which should not be developed. Even Mark Carney, former governor of the Bank of Canada and now head of the Bank of England, has expressed concern about these possible "stranded assets". Moral and political pressure can also be applied by removing investments from fossil fuel corporations.

EAT is pleased to report that our church currently has no such investments. However there are more steps that can be taken by individual congregation members, who are encouraged to review their own investments for fossil fuel content. You may also wish to enquire about the portfolio of your pension fund and consider supporting or even initiating motions about divestment. An excellent article on the whole issue was published by the Guardian newspaper at <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jun/23/a-beginners-guide-to-fossil-fuel-divestment>.

CARE & CONCERN

Daily Check-in

Do you live alone? If you were to have a fall and couldn't get to a phone, would someone find you or could you lie there for days?

If you answer 'yes' to these questions, perhaps you should consider making arrangements for a daily check-in arrangement with a friend, neighbour or family member.

I live alone and have an agreement with a friend. We phone every morning. One month I phone her, the next she phones me; we each have the emergency numbers for the other.

Some people in apartment blocks phone if their neighbour hasn't brought in their daily paper. There are all sorts of ways of doing this, but it is worthwhile making some arrangement especially for older people who are more likely to fall.

Daphne Dunbar

NEW MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

New Members

Rowland Mak with children
Raine and Willow
4479 Majestic Drive
Saanich, BC V8N 3H7
250-721-2500
rowlandiam@yahoo.ca
Gordon Head NG



Edith Jasechko-Burton
406-2080 Oak Bay Avenue
Oak Bay, BC V8R 6W2
250-598-6060
edithl.2014@gmail.com
Oak Bay NG

Sandra McMullen with daughter Fiona O'Dell
3243 Linwood Avenue
Saanich, BC V8X 1E5
250-216-8551
weeziemcmullen@yahoo.ca
Grand Central NG

Sarah Kendall & Gene Furbee
Suite 502 - 614 Fernhill Place
Esquimalt, BC V9A 4Z1
250-598-8574
sarahkendall321@gmail.com
Esquimalt NG

Caroline-Tashish Rentz
#104-10230 Bowerbank Road
Sidney, BC V8L 0C1
778-678-3301
ctashish@gmail.com

Russell (Russ) Mellett
651 Cornwall Street
Victoria, BC V8V 4L2
250-483-6900
Russ is joining his wife Rebecca (Becky) and son Natnael (Natty)
Fairfield NG

Victoria Gray
301-332 Michigan Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1R5
250-386-4643
vmazo@hotmail.com
James Bay NG

New Friend

Sharyn Alexander
1-828 Verdier Ave.
Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1C5
778-533-8884
sharyn.alexander1@gmail.com
Nearby NG

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Our artist for the month of February is Roger Tucker. Roger lives in Brentwood Bay. His work has been exhibited in the Sidney Fine Art Show and his one man show at the Tulista Arts Centre was very successful. Here is what Roger has to say about the paintings he will be exhibiting:



Artist's Statement: *"My palette is people. Sometimes a single person but more often, interacting with others. The reality of the dramas depicted is merely a point of view as each drama is manipulated in its presentation.*

"The added imagery of location, architectural setting, colour and gestures tell a story at a moment in time. Often ambiguous, sometimes chaotic, the visual effect becomes personal to the viewer alone."

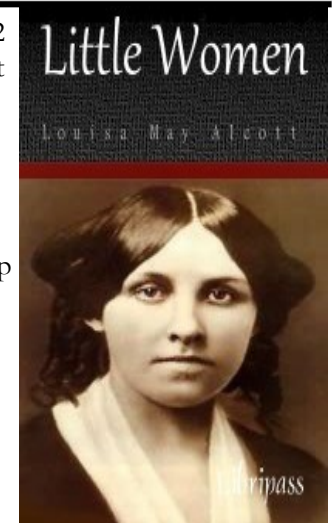
--Roger Tucker

(submitted by Mary Theal, Art and Aesthetics Committee)

NOTABLE UUS

Louisa May Alcott (1832 –1888) was an American novelist and poet, best known as the author of the novel *Little Women* and its sequels *Little Men* and *Jo's Boys*. She was raised by her Transcendentalist Unitarian parents in New England, growing up among many of the well-known intellectuals of the day such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry David Thoreau.

Her family suffered severe financial difficulties and Alcott worked to help support the family from an early age. She began to receive critical success for her writing in the 1860s. *Little Women* is set in the Alcott family home in Concord, Massachusetts, and is loosely based on Alcott's own life experiences. She was an abolitionist, a feminist and remained unmarried throughout her life.



BOARD MEMBERS ON DUTY



February 7	Jane Wilson
February 14	Marion Sollazzo
February 21	Jim Jordan
February 28	Lorna Anthony

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 has kept us in treats for coffee time in January.

Esquimalt: Pat McMahon writes, "Esquimalt NG will gather Friday, February 5 at 6:00pm for a potluck dinner at Cedar Shores hospitality building, hosted by Barbara Boyle."

Fairfield: Lynn Beak writes, "There were nine members at Forrest and Diana's home in December. We had a book exchange plus some treats and beverages. We also donated money for the Refugee Fund. Conversation was lively and interesting. We met new members Heather and Andrew, who recently moved back from Saltspring Island." Fairfield also helped host the Souper on January 17.

Far Out: This NG met at the home of Farrell and Penny Boyce on January 16. They will be co-hosting a Souper Sunday on February 21 with Royal Oak West.

Gordon Head: Mary Cramer is recruiting members of her group to provide the goodies for coffee time in February. They are also planning a NG potluck in February or March.

Grand Central: Marya Nijland invites, "I am planning a tea party for Sunday, February 28 from 2:00-4:00pm at our house, especially to welcome the new members into the Grand Central NG. We will have a jigsaw puzzle for everyone to work on while chatting and having fun. The theme is the from the song: '*Gettin' to know you, gettin' to know all about you*'. Everyone is welcome to this **D-N-B-A-B-Y-S** (Do-Not-Bring-Anything-But-Your-Smiles) event."

James Bay: Lynn Hunter writes, "The next James Bay Neighbourhood Group potluck dinner will occur on Tuesday, February 2 at the home of Lynn Hunter and Don Armstrong at 6:00pm at 636 Montreal Street, #500. We have a number of new members of the neighbourhood. Ed and Virginia Daniel have recently moved from another neighbourhood and Victoria Gray is a new member of our congregation. Welcome to all of them and I hope these neighbourhood gatherings will allow us to get to know them better. It seems that a couple of our group will be having dinner together in Tuscon as Adeleine Morris and Wade Raafilaab will both be in that sunny city later this month. Perhaps we could ask them to send us some of that sunshine!"

Nearby: Nancy Dobbs reports, "Nearby Neighborhood's next scheduled activity is to provide after-church goodies in April. This spring we're hoping to have a couple of potluck gatherings at homes where we can sit outside and soak in our beautiful west coast weather. Details to follow."

Oak Bay: Karla Thomson writes, "The OBNG is getting ready for their monthly lunch on Wednesday at the Oaks. Also we are looking forward to our next pot luck on February 6 at new member Doug McGinnis' home. The topic will require thought for most of us as we remember negative events in our lives that turned into positive changes for our futures."

Royal Oak East: Hanny Pannekoek sends this report on the Souper lunch they hosted with Fairfield: "It was an amazing performance. Everyone arrived at the 'right' time and went to it. As the food was brought into the kitchen it was taken care of so everything we could do before the lunch was done and ready to go. After the service the tables and chairs were set up, followed by the tablecloths, food and drinks; all done in 20 minutes--a record! All of our guests were served soup. Most of us, as is tradition, sat down to have our lunch together before the cleanup crew got into action. Everything was done with such care, co-operation and cheerfulness that it just flowed...it was absolutely impressive! The ticket team handed out 100 tickets, but my guess is that we served well over 120 people. The soup ran out, so did the bread and only a few desserts were left. However, apart from bread, all those who had a ticket got lunch. And we made \$571.10. I would like to thank all of you for all the work you did, including those members of the Fairfield group. We did it and we did it very well."

Royal Oak West: Fran Hancock announces, "Royal Oak West will be hosting a Souper Sunday with Far Out on February 21 which will be an opportunity to meet new people and to be able to get to know others better from another neighbourhood group. Newcomer, Ann Widdowson, has moved into our NG and we would like to welcome her at our next gathering. If there are any volunteers who would like to host the next potluck in either the afternoon or evening, please let me know of a convenient date and time. It's so enjoyable to socialize with friends and to welcome newcomers."

Western: Mac Elrod writes, "On January 9, a dozen of us enjoyed the hospitality of Oz and Joel at a beautifully set table including tea in heirloom china. Susan and John will be away for the next two potlucks. Her tasty main dishes will be sorely missed! I hope to see some of you next month at Emily and Stu's, and in March back here on Blinkhorn Mountain. A former attendee said he no longer comes in part because his place was not large enough to reciprocate. I hope that is not stopping anyone else. I very much enjoy hosting the pot-lucks here."

Call for CUC Annual Meeting Delegates

CUC annual meeting will be held in Vancouver on May 20-22, 2016.

If you are interested in being a delegate for our congregation, please let Christine_johnston@telus.net know before our February 7 congregational meeting.

If you are new to CUC conferences, all the better to get really involved. Pros include a deeper understanding of the CUC, a vote on resolutions and some financial benefits. But you do have to come a day early and read up on the issues.

Overall the experience is well worth it, so let me know.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jean Mihell, Koba ter Neuzen
- 2 Brenda Pengelly
- 4 Nanw Cariad, Kieran Domney, Anne Swannell
- 6 Clara Buttemer
- 7 Laura Anderson, Sandra McMullen
- 8 Jerrelyn Dause, Marcy Calberry, Katrin van der Leeden
- 9 John Stewart, Maggie Nixon
- 10 Yvonne Bonderchuk, Forest Sterling
- 11 John Lancaster
- 12 Phyllis Gardiner, Anna Isaacs, Dan Klimke
- 13 Ben and Teo Smith
- 16 Kellina Dyer, Robin Sacker-van Gessel, Jon Taylor
- 17 Larry Boldt
- 20 Ted Humphreys, Penelope Hagan
- 21 Leslie Gillett, Mary-Ellen Nicol, Ryan Adam
- 22 Sheila Drew, Marie Horncastle, Ruth Ralston
- 26 Sandra Haywood
- 27 Thane Waldie
- 28 Jean Wallace

Community Dinner



February 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.

The Victoria Multifaith Society presents
The 2016 Family Faith Fair

The Victoria Multifaith Society has decided to combine World Interfaith Harmony Week with a fundraising effort for the Syrian refugee program, to welcome families who will be starting a new life here in Victoria.

The event is free of charge, with a nominal fee for treats at the World Cafe. All donations to the refugee program will be rewarded with automatic entry in a Prize Draw for prizes of interest to the whole family. In addition to the World Cafe, the event will feature multicultural dance performances and colourful exhibits by a wide variety of religions.

Keynote presentation by educator Dan Vaillancourt on *The Soul of Education*

Sunday 7 February 2016
1:30 - 4:30 pm
Cadboro Bay United Church
2625 Arbutus Road, Victoria

Several members of our church are signed up to help make the **MULTIFAITH FAMILY FAIR** a fun event.

**Sunday February 7 from 1:30 to 4:30pm
at Cadboro Bay United Church (on Arbutus)**

Drop-in Is OK . Lots of parking.

The programme includes:

- International snacks (samosas, Turkish Cheese cake, and so forth)
- Jewish Storytelling
- Hindu and Sikh Dancers
- Scavenger Hunt through the religions (Gita John-lyam is manning our UU table)
- First Nations drummer
- Talk on religious education for children

Queer as Funk Spring Fling Dance

in support of

**CHILD HAVEN INTERNATIONAL
and SYRIAN REFUGEES**

Friday March 18 and Saturday March 19

The Syrian Refugees are a lesbian woman and her family. Saturday night sold out in about 24 hours and Sales for Friday night are going well, so move quickly if interested.

BUY TICKETS HERE:

www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2488547

Jenny Farkas is well known to our Child Haven team as she has helped us greatly in past years.

Details: www.facebook.com/events/575902085893135/

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 - Wednesday 9:30am - 4:00pm • Thursday 8:30am - 1:00pm • 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

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 Versteegen

Board of Trustees

Officers

President	Shirley Travis	778-433-2063
Vice-President	Lorna Anthony	250-592-4831
Treasurer	Robertta 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

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Feb. 7	10:30-11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	Noon-2:00pm	Congregational meeting	Sanctuary
Feb. 8	FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY		
Feb. 12	6:00-8:30pm	Community Dinner	Sanctuary
Feb. 14	10:30-11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	7:00-9:00pm	Jazz Vespers	Sanctuary
Feb. 16	6:00-8:00pm	Tuesday Potluck Dinners	Offsite location
Feb. 21	10:30-11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	Noon-1:00pm	Souper Sunday	Sanctuary
Feb. 26	6:30-9:00pm	Youth Coffee House	Sanctuary
Feb. 28	10:30-11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary

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

Your ad here

Call the office at
250-744-2665



island
montessori

Accepting Enrollment

Book now for a tour!

5575 West Saanich Rd (across from Red Barn Market)
250 592 4411 imhs@telus.net
www.islandmontessori.com

- preschool to grade 2
- before and after school care
- small class sizes
- supportive and caring staff
- excellent academic foundation
- Kodaly music program
- lovely rural location connecting children to nature

Astrid Firley-Eaton
Design



interior design
colour consultation

250-394-3405
afedesign@shaw.ca

John A Tiffany, M.S.
Indoor Environmental Quality Consulting

Senior Industrial Hygienist
John A Tiffany
johnntiffany0705@gmail.com

Specializing in
Mould / Moisture Issues

Greater Victoria Capital Region

(250) 884-6812 [Cell]
(778) 432-0881 [Tel]

June Fukushima, M.Sc.
Somatic Experiencing Practitioner



Balance • Heal • Awaken
Embodied Mindfulness Meditation
Somatic Experiencing

info@junefukushima.com
250 208 2954
4013 Magdelin St.
Victoria, BC V8N 3M5
JuneFukushima.com

Downsize with Ms. Daisy
GAIN MORE SPACE AND PEACE OF MIND

Sandra Jacobsen, MA
HOME & OFFICE ORGANIZER
samvic@shaw.ca

VICTORIA BC
(250) 370-1207



OVERWHELMED WITH TOO MUCH STUFF?

In-home technology service and training.



iTutor

- Setup your new device/AV system.
- Update or upgrade your computer.
- Get advice on new purchases.
- Learn to borrow books and media.
- Fix hardware and software.

Ryan Kinrade rkinrade@gmail.com 250.217.4507

▪ THANK **UU** FOR YOUR BUSINESS ▪



AN ADDITION for you

ConstructoGroup *Renovating for You*
Stephen | 250-884-4340 | www.constructogroup.ca



PATRICK T. CONROY CD
ACCOUNTANT
AUTHORIZED EFILER
PERSONAL BUSINESS & ESTATE RETURNS

4455 Fairmont Place, Victoria BC V8N4R2
C: 250-888-9715 H: 250-477-1615
patricktconroy74@gmail.com

**Home and Garden
Care and Repair**



Michael Ramsey
250 544-1600

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
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 **March** issue is **February 16**.
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.

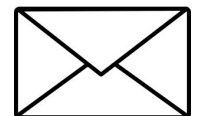
Staff

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

CONTACT CHANGES

New Addresses

Cedar Thokme, Kyunje Thokme, Cavina Thokme
3224 Harriet Road
Victoria, BC V8Z 3S2
Phone 778-977-7103
Esquimalt NG



Ed & Virginia Daniel
507-250 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8V 2P4
Phone 778-433-3535
James Bay NG

New Email Addresses

Leslie Duthie
lcduthie2016@gmail.com

Linda Nicholson-Brown
lnbrown7777@gmail.com

Andy Lee
andrew.lee@firley.ca

