

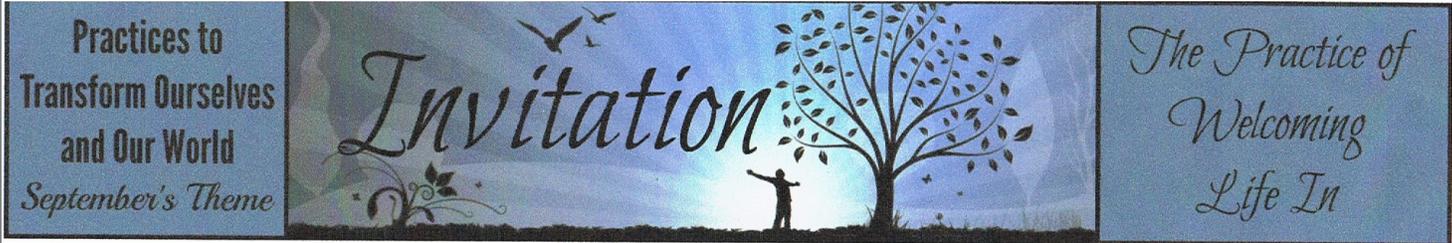


The Victoria Unitarian

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

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

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



September 4 Unemployed Poems
Farrell Boyce and Braden Young WA: Liz Graham

“We live not by things, but by the meaning of things” is a well-known mantra dear to the heart of Farrell Boyce, sometime environmental scientist and incorrigible dabbler in the arts. Farrell thanks the Church for the opportunity to present some of his poems which have hitherto lain unemployed. Farrell contends that to live a good and full life, one needs to commit to “Good Behaviour 101” as outlined by the seven UU principles (and many other philosophies and faiths) but with particular attention to article five of the UU principles – the search for truth and meaning, both of which we know are far from immutable. In this activity we all play the role of artists, albeit very rarely great. Art does not need to be a marketable commodity to be valuable. Farrell’s readings will be accompanied by piano improvisations by Braden Young.

September 11* Ingathering Sunday: Connect and Engage
Reverend Melora Lynngood WA: Larry Boldt

In keeping with our theme for September, in this service, we begin the ‘church year’ with an invitation to connect and engage - with your faith, with that which gives your life meaning, with your fellow seekers in our church community. This service will include a special introduction of our new ministerial intern, Chris Wulff!

Regular programming for children and youth begins this Sunday! Children start in the sanctuary, then go to their classes after the children’s message. See weekly email from Faye for details (if you are not on the Children and Youth program email list and would like to be, email Faye Mogensen, our Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth, at FayeM@victoriaunitarian.ca)

September 18 RSVP to Life
Reverend Shana Lynngood WA: Liz Graham

We often find ourselves feeling invited, or even pulled, by circumstances in our lives to respond. The invitation can be exciting or difficult, but being aware of (awake to) the invitation and making a conscious choice about how to respond can make a profound difference. We will explore the many invitations that are thrown our way, and those we extend beyond ourselves. Invitation goes both ways. How do you respond and what do you invite in?

WA= Worship Associate

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**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS
FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER IS
SEPTEMBER 13!**

September Services Continued -

September 25 Encourage us, strengthen us, through darkness and light
Reverend Jane Bramadat, Minister Emerita WA: Susan Layng

This month's topic on 'Invitation' asks for our attention as to how we are using our time and living out our values. It seems simple, but the request to make the most of ourselves can also be a very seductive request; or so my experience suggests.

Bio: Jane Bramadat is the Minister Emerita at the First Unitarian Church of Victoria and enjoys singing in the choir and listening to the ministers' sermons.

***On Sunday, September 11 at 7 PM, Jazz Vespers will start the Fall/Winter season of our Spirited Jazz concert series with the Barbara Blair Ensemble. The theme will be "The Faces of Love." The Barbara Blair Ensemble features Barbara Blair, vocals with Tom Vickery, piano and Joey Smith, bass.**

BOARD MEMBERS ON DUTY



Sep 04 John Worton
 Sep 11 John Tiffany
 Sep 18 Marion Sollazzo
 Sep 25 Jim Jordan

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

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

You are cordially invited to:

“Coffee and Conversation with the Ministers” after church on
Sunday, **September 18** (Sanctuary) and/or
Sunday, **October 23** (Farmhouse Common Room).

We'll gather from **12 noon to 1 pm**, for an hour of informal conversation – similar to the question and answer service we had in August, but more spontaneous. You can ask us questions and you can share your own insights and stories – about Unitarian Universalism, about our congregation in particular, whatever you'd like to discuss.

Why? Here's the background:

In our evaluation last spring, we heard from many of you that you wished you could connect with your ministers more. We, too, feel this strain. We chose ministry because we are interested in and care about people – we enjoy hearing your stories, experiences, and thoughts; we like to grapple with the big questions with you; we find it rewarding to walk with you, as you make your way through the stuff of life – the hard stuff as well as the good stuff. Both Reverend Shana and I have served smaller congregations in which we were able to do more of this.

For better or worse, the structure of ministry in a congregation of this size, puts constraints on this aspect of our ministry. As many of you have heard, our congregation is “program size” (150-350 members) not “pastoral size” (50-150). Doing ministry in a congregation of our size (around 300 members and friends) means that we don't get as much direct contact as we'd like. Ministers are warned about this by congregational life gurus – in a congregation of this size, we don't get to connect with everyone. The people who see us the most are the leaders who are working with us to create the programs and provide the services for the larger congregation. (e.g. Board Members, Worship Associates, Soul Matters Facilitators, etc.)

“Democratic organization and leadership by the laity are the keys to effective ministry in the program church. Due to the increase in size it will no longer be possible for the central leader to maintain pastoral contact with the whole congregation. The priest and church staff will be delegating more responsibility and authority to the laity. Team leadership will replace centralized leadership. The church staff and lay leadership will require more training and pastoral support for their expanded ministry. The central pastor becomes a pastor to the lay pastors.”

[http://www.episcopalchurch.org/files/CDR_series1\(1\).pdf](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/files/CDR_series1(1).pdf) p.17

“In essence the pastor must often step back from direct ministry with people to coordinate and support volunteers who offer this ministry.”

http://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/200702/200702_000_various_size.cfm

Over the years, we have tried different methods to offset this effect a bit. The first couple of years we were here, I (Reverend Melora) tried to call every member on (or around) their birthday. Last year, responding to feedback from you, we attended a gathering in each of the 12 neighbourhood groups. This year, we are trying, “coffee with the ministers,” an open time when any of you who wish to do so can come and join in a group conversation with us. We'll see how it goes – do tell us what you think.

We also got some questions about how to best reach us. If you have a **pastoral concern** or an issue that is **time sensitive**, the best way to reach us is by calling or texting our **cell phones**. Reverend Melora (250) 891-6330. Reverend Shana (250) 891-6331.

We get so much email that we cannot actually read it all – we have to scan subject titles and prioritize it. Very clear subject headings are much appreciated (eg., “meeting at 10am on Tuesday,” “pastoral issue”); it is especially helpful when a subject head specifies that something is not just for our information but needs something from us (eg., “need answer,” “need help,” “need input by Fri”).

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Co-Minister Portfolio Split
 First Unitarian Church of Victoria, 2016-2017

Rev. Melora and Rev. Shana both do:

Preaching and Worship

Teaching

Pastoral Care and Counselling

Rites of Passage

We both meet with: Board, Committee on Ministry, Staff

Rev. Melora is primarily responsible for ministry in these areas:	Rev. Shana is primarily responsible for ministry in these areas:
Worship & Worship Associates Program	Music and Choirs
Congregational Life: membership; recognition & awards	Congregational Life: care and concern, depression group, neighbourhood groups, fun and fellowship, coffee, etc.
Outreach: social responsibility coalition, interfaith leaders of Victoria	Outreach: lay chaplaincy, denominational affairs
Soul Matters Program	Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Adults (SELA): including chalice circles, AHA, spirituality, library, etc.
Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children & Youth (SEL-CY) : including children's programming, parent circle, intergenerational services	intergenerational services
Property Management Council	Finance
Administration: Chief of Staff (staff meetings, HR, staff compensation, etc.)	Administration: All Admin except HR; includes: church office, computers, dispute management resources, communications
Shared Ministry Team (Leadership Development)	

Continued on next page

Shared Ministry Portfolio Split Continued -

Rev. Melora

Rev. Shana

Denominational: UU Island Network, mentor one UU minister, Confluence Lecture 2016, attend UUMA, UUMOC, CUC meetings	Denominational: UUA Ministerial Fellowship Committee, mentor two UU ministers, attend UUMA, UUMOC, CUC meetings
Supervises:	Supervises:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth (who, in turn, supervises Sunday child-minders) · Bookkeeper · Ministerial Intern (2016-17) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Church Administrator (who, in turn, supervises office staff, custodians, and maintenance technician) · Director of Music (who in turn, supervises Accompanist) · Ministerial Intern (2017-18)

Contacting Your Co-Ministers

We, Reverend Melora and Reverend Shana, share one position. We split the areas of church work between us (see portfolio split above). We also split the minister’s work week.

When are Reverend Melora and Reverend Shana available to see me?

The simpler answer:

We are available for meetings Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. Friday is our sermon writing day, which we try to reserve for service preparation. Monday is our day off (a Sabbath from church business, but we are still on call for emergencies. Call our cell phones).

The more detailed answer:

Usually, our work week looks something like this:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9:30am–2:30pm	Day Off; available for emergencies	Rev. Melora & Rev. Shana	Rev. Melora & Rev. Shana	Rev. Melora & Rev. Shana	Worship Prep	Sometimes work special events – workshops, rites of passage, etc.	Rev. Melora & Rev. Shana
2:30pm–9:00pm		Rev. Melora	Preacher works until 5pm	Rev. Shana	Preacher continues worship prep.		Off except for Jazz Vespers

The bottom line:

We care about you. We want to be available and accessible to you! Please feel free to call our cell phones or email or set up a time to meet in person.

Rev. Melora (250) 891-6330 rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca
 Rev. Shana (250) 891-6331 rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca

Make Meaningful Connections, Talking About Things That Matter!

“Soul Matters” Theme Groups

Sign Up Now!

This Fall, we are launching five new “Soul Matters” theme groups. Each group of 8 to 10 people will meet once a month to listen to one another’s experiences and ponderings related to each month’s theme. Group members will be given thought-provoking resources to explore and intriguing practices to try out in advance of each monthly gathering. Most groups will run for 6 sessions, September - February. (One or two may launch in October, 5 sessions).

These are not ‘drop in’ groups – a full commitment to all 5-6 sessions is required to make the experience as rich as possible for everyone in the group. People who have attended all of their group gatherings and who have engaged deeply with the at home material have found the program deeply enriching – they report it makes a difference in their daily lives, while also helping them grow in their understanding of big-picture ethical, spiritual, and personal issues.

What works for you? Reserve a spot in the group of your choice by contacting Reverend Melora, rev.melora@gmail.com , text/phone (250)891-6330.

Time	Day of the month	Co-Facilitators	Location
1:30pm – 3:30pm	4 th Tuesday	Pat Kinrade & Brenda Pengelly	First Unitarian Church, Farmhouse Common Room
6:30pm – 8:30pm	4 th Tuesday	Fran Pardee & Rosemary Harrison	Fran’s home, 3018 Washington Ave. (near Gorge Rd intersection) Good bus access
7:00pm – 9:00pm	4 th Tuesday	Judy Gaylord & Anne Vaasjo	Judy’s home, 1692 Carnegie Crescent (Gordon Head near University Heights).
6:30pm – 8:30pm *Childminding available upon request	4 th Wednesday	Shelley Motz & Sarah-Mae Adam	First Unitarian Church, Farmhouse Common Room
6:30pm – 8:30pm	4 th Thursday	Donna Warrender & Mary Burcher	Mary's home (Foul Bay Rd. & Fort St. in Oak Bay)

Here is a preview of our upcoming themes--

Practices to Transform Ourselves and Our World Themes for 2016-2017	
September	Invitation: the practice of welcoming life in
October	Blessing: the practice of sharing what is good
November	Letting Go: the practice of facing limits and finding freedom
December	Expectation: the practice of watchful awareness
January	Creation: the practice of bringing something new into being
February	Love & Justice: the practice of caring for the world and those who share it

March-June, 2017 will be theme-free as we will have a variety of different preachers during Rev. Lynngoods’ sabbatical.

SElections and Invitations

Welcome to a new church year and a renewed approach to the children's program! Our invitation this month, and throughout the year, is for the children to help create the curriculum. As we engage them in exploring our monthly themes and Unitarian Principles, we very much intend to attend to your children's musings - we want to help them explore whatever they are most curious about. During this month of "Invitation", perhaps the children will ask 'how do we invite more animals into the forest?' or 'what kinds of invitations make us feel comfortable?' or 'how do we invite more playfulness into our sessions?' In so doing, they'll be exploring principles 7, 2 and 3.

Some wonderful volunteer leaders (who many of you know) are prepared to guide our groups. As well, I am very pleased to announce the hiring of two very part time staff members, Barbara Willson and Cheryl Cameron. Barbara has her B.Ed, has taught several years and is working on her M.Ed. Cheryl has worked with children of all ages, and is currently working on her ECE degree. Both are new to Victoria, mothers of young children, familiar with UUism and full of enthusiasm. They will be true assets to the program, leading the two younger children's groups and helping with some background administrative duties.

When you visit our website at <http://victoriaunitarian.ca/children-youth/our-programs/> and click on 'curriculum' to find details about this coming year, you'll notice that we are offering options to children in the age-range of 4 to grade 4. They are invited to choose between the all outdoor "Forest Guardians" and the arts focused "Spirit Explorers" or, if they are 4, they can also choose "Wee Care". The gr. 5-7 Questors will explore the big questions while the gr. 8-9 are being offered OWL sexuality education and the gr. 9-12 group continue their self-directed gatherings, all with excellent and experienced leadership teams.

September 11 is "Homecoming Sunday," when children have the opportunity to share stories of summer and to get to know one another better. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you then!

Warmly,

Faye Mogensen

Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning (SEL) for Children and Youth

Sean Rodman writes: The SEL-CY Program (and all the church) is fueled mainly by volunteers! Volunteers are a critical part of our community, not just because of all the work they put into making things happen. Rather, that volunteer spirit makes it a community that grows together, and supports one-another. As a volunteer, I've loved being a part of the culture of volunteers that is so strong here: I feel supported, and feel proud to support everyone else.

Adults who wish to explore spirituality with the children of the church by helping out in the program are most welcome, whether it be a one-off or a regular commitment. If you're interested, please contact fayem@victoriaunitarian.ca or call Faye at 250-744-2695.

Wisdom Tales Book Launch Ancient Stories for Modern Times

Friday September 30

Doors open 7 pm, begins 7:30

Free admission and Refreshments

Come and celebrate with Faye Mogensen, Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth at First Unitarian Church of Victoria. In sharing her story of writing the book, Faye will tell a selection of the folktales that are included in it. Musical interludes by Kristina Stevens, on her many flutes.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

A portion of the proceeds will go towards our nature playground project.

Virginia Hutzuliak

I have had a life-long interest in art, but have only been able to pursue it fully in the past eight years since retiring from 27 years as a Primary School Educator. I have exhibited in many venues in Victoria and belong to various art related organizations on the Saanich Peninsula, as well as being a member of the Federation of Canadian Artists-Active Status.

My inspiration comes from my deep love of nature and what it continually has to teach us. I am also drawn to the disciplines of anthropology, philosophy, science, astronomy and spirituality. These interests inform my art in some way, shape, or form.

My paintings, are often symbolic and can be visual metaphors for abstract ideas and concepts..... hinted at within the context of much....or little realism – as well as sometimes in the title of the piece. It is my attempt to show that we can look deeper into what we call “reality” and see the “everyday world” with greater consciousness - at a level that is beyond the senses.... and which enlarges its profound beauty. Our “first impression” is often not the whole of the story, and more meaning can be found upon deeper engagement, which takes us on a journey beyond the visual, beyond the names and labels, and beyond our pre-conceived and often limited ideas of what “is.”

I work both intuitively and conventionally in acrylics and oils.

I am a member of many local art groups – Federation of Canadian Artists-Active Status, Victoria Sketch Club, Saanich Penn. Arts & Crafts, CACGV, and I teach classes at home.

I've shown my work at the above art club shows, and also at the Sidney Fine Arts Annual Show and the Arts Victoria Now Annual Show.

Studio visits welcome.

www.VirginiasArt.ca (250) 360 – 2839 hutzuliak.virginia@gmail.com



GREEN CORNER**JIM JORDAN**

Terra Preta: How the World's Most Fertile Soil Can Reverse Climate Change & Reduce World Hunger

(A Review of a book by H. Scheub, H. Pieplow, H. Schmidt, and K. Draper – Greystone Books, Publisher)

Terra Preta is a Portuguese term that means “black soil”, which was an ancient soil building technique used by the original inhabitants of the Amazon region 2500 years ago, recently rediscovered by archaeologists and scientists. The key ingredient of Terra Preta is Biochar, charcoal from organic residues, produced by means of climate-neutral pyrolysis, involving exposure to heat in a low-oxygen environment. If organic waste is pyrolyzed, up to 50% of the carbon which plants have extracted from the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, is converted into a highly stable form of carbon, which can persist in soils for thousands of years. Biochar, which is extremely porous, can serve as a store of nutrients and water, improving fertility and alleviating drought. Terra Preta therefore provides the basis for solving two of mankind's largest problems, extracting/reducing CO2 in the atmosphere and providing rich soil to grow food for the world's population. It is noted that soil stores more carbon than all the oceans and forests combined.

This book describes ways of producing biochar for oneself or industrially. It also provides information on producing compost to be used in making Terra Preta. Fundamentally, it describes a method of making compost using lactic fermentation of organic wastes which minimizes the production of methane, a greenhouse gas, which is approximately 30 times more potent than carbon dioxide. A blend of some 80 species of micro-organisms containing mostly lactic acid bacteria and yeasts, has been developed by a Japanese scientist to create “effective micro-organisms” (EMS). The book also describes a method of composting called “Bokashi”, which involves placing compressed organic kitchen wastes in an airtight container to encourage lactic acid fermentation. Production of Terra Preta can be combined by directly adding powdered biochar to the bokashi mixture. Our Church buddy gardeners have been burying bokashi compost in their garden soil directly.

Stewardship – Talking about Money

Stewardship is the act of taking care of something we value. That's what we do in our church community, through the gifts of our caring time and energy as well as with our money. We are all stewards here. Our gifts of time, energy and money make all the difference.

Personally I have never been that comfortable talking about money. There wasn't much talk about it at home when I was growing up. As I have become more involved in my Unitarian church community, I am more aware of just how much is involved in keeping our community and the programs we value going. Volunteer time, energy and money are what keep the doors open here.

The annual budget of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria is around \$430,000. Seventy-five percent of this amount comes from the financial contributions of members and friends. As a steward, I want to support this community and our values. The annual cost of operating our church and its programs works out to about \$1,500 per member. We are entirely self-supporting. As one member has said, in the Unitarian denomination there is no "Rome" and there is no "Pope".

Like others on a fixed income, I have become more intentional about where my money goes. Making a financial commitment or pledge each year is what enables our church community and its programs to make a difference both at home and in the wider world. As Unitarian Universalists, we support many good causes. As stewards in our church community, each of us is asked to decide how much we are able to give based on our individual circumstance. Pledging is often spoken of in terms of a percentage of income. In consideration of the range of economic diversity in our congregation, a suggested pledge amount for those of us who are able is 5% to the congregation and 5% to other charitable causes.

Our church's annual budget campaign (ABC) begins this October. As a member of the ABC team, I ask you to please take some time now to reflect on your role in the stewardship of our church community. Your contribution can make a big difference. We hope that you will consider making a financial pledge that feels generous to you.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM YOUR ANNUAL BUDGET CAMPAIGN (ABC) TEAM!

Please save the following date!

**Family and Fellowship Luncheon
Pledge Sunday October 16, 2016, Noon**



Free Lunch !



Speakers!



Fun for the Kids!



**“The Year in Review”
Photo Presentation!**

WATCH FOR YOUR EMAIL INVITATION!



Path to Membership

Are you new to our church?

Have you just discovered our church or are you a Unitarian from elsewhere?

Would you like to know more?

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

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

STEP TWO: Church Orientation – October 2, 12noon–1pm

This is a gathering for all newcomers, whether you have just walked through the door or been coming for several months and want to know more about us, whether you eventually become a member, or choose to be a friend of the church. The Orientation provides basic information about our congregation and ways to make connections

If you miss the Orientation, you are still welcome to attend any or all of STEPS THREE AND FOUR below.

STEP THREE: Introduction to Unitarian Universalism, Part 1, November 6, 12noon–2pm **Introduction to Unitarian Universalism, Part 2, November 13, 12noon–2pm**

This two-part event is designed to give more in-depth information about UUism. Everyone is welcome to come to this event: those who are not members, new members, or those who have been members for a long time. If you wish to know more about our denomination, this is for you.

STEP FOUR: Considering Membership, November 27, 12noon–2pm.

This session will help you determine whether you would like to officially become a member of our church. Whether you join right away, not yet, or not at all, the session will be informative and enjoyable, as we will be talking about things that matter in a small group setting with warm and interesting people.

All events will be held on Sundays, after the church service, in the Farmhouse Common Room, in the building just north of the main sanctuary building. A light lunch will be available and child minding is provided on request.

To sign up for any or all of these sessions, or if you have questions, please contact Reverend Melora at rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca or Cell (250) 891-6330.

STEP FIVE: Application for Membership. Fill out the application found in the membership packet. Submit the application and a financial pledge or contribution to the office. Your name will be read into the membership records at the next board meeting. Voting privileges commence 60 days after and you will be recognized at the next New Member Ceremony.

The next New Member Ceremony will be on January 15, 2017

We are so glad you have found us and we are looking forward to getting to know you.

Beyond our Walls: A Congregational Dialogue about Possibilities for a UU Community Presence

Join us at noon on September 18 in the Farmhouse Common Room.

We are congregants who have been discussing the possibilities for an expanded UU community presence, beyond our membership, our building: an outreach, an offering to the public that embodies our principles and invites dialogue and reflection on topics/matters of broad interest. Our intention:

- Create a community presence beyond our walls/membership
- Share learning and offerings from members of the congregation
- Provide outreach with a purpose...in service to our principles
- Create connections and engagement across boundaries

Examples [for discussion – this is a beginning of some topics that invite dialogue and reflection]: Healing Truth and Reconciliation Reflection [it's being developed by CUC as a guide]

- Aging to Saging
- Magic Mystical Spiritual mystery tour
- Arts as an Expression of Who We Are
- Interfaith initiatives e.g. GVAT
- Environmental Psychology – e.g. building on a sermon topic
- Social Justice in Action

Why: Our principles embody values shared by many individuals and groups in the larger community, who are seeking spaces and places to engage, to explore their perspectives and beliefs in a non-judgmental open way. We have many 'resources' in the congregation as a whole that we might draw upon to offer to the public.

First Step: We'd like to invite you to share your ideas and wisdom about this opportunity/possibility. Do you share this vision? What would you like to see? What do you have energy for?

On Sunday September 18 in the Farmhouse Common Room, noon -1:30 we are convening a dialogue to explore ideas and get a sense of who is interested and how you might want to be involved.

Please join us and feel welcome to share your thoughts and ideas by email at:

Nancy Gray-Hemstock nancygrayhemstock@shaw.ca

Diana Smith dianasmith55@gmail.com

SHARED MINISTRY OUTREACH PROJECTS

JOHN TIFFANY

As part of the church's Shared Ministry outreach, the Building Maintenance Committee is looking for folks to work on some short term [one day] projects to help brighten our buildings.

Here's the current set of tasks we really could use your input on:

[1] In the Sanctuary, repair plaster gouges especially around the choir door and all the walls mostly around chair height.

[2] In the Sanctuary, touch up the paint or repaint whole sections of walls e.g. behind the piano.

[3] In the hallway by the library, touch up the paint on the doors / walls.

[4] In the Sanctuary, the window ledge on the east side needs to be sanded and varnished.

[5] In the Sanctuary, the baseboard needs to be re-stained.

[6] Clean the Lion Hall and Sanctuary kitchen fridges.

Please stop by the Shared Ministry's table to sign up on Sunday, September 11th during coffee hour in the Lion Hall, or contact John Tiffany (Tiff) at johntiffany0705@gmail.com or johntiffany0705@gmail.com

SPRUCE UP THE BUILDING PROPERTY DAY!

SEPTEMBER 10, SATURDAY, 8:30 AM - 1 PM; ALL INVITED

On September 10, Saturday, from 8:30 AM - 1 PM, all members and friends of FUCV are invited to an annual cleaning-up of various parts of our buildings (our fourth annual cleaning).

Work that needs to be done includes:

- Outside and inside window washing of windows that are easily reached (not the tall or awkward ones - as we hire people to do those). Also the outside and inside office windows.
- Clearing out the storage rooms, especially under the Sanctuary and Lion Hall.
- Dusting off tops of shelves; ledges; baseboards; lights; etc.
- Checking out all of the chairs, to make sure they're all in good shape for us to sit on.
- Cleaning out window wells in the Lion Hall kitchen.
- Paint touch-ups.
- Mopping /cleaning all bathroom floors and walls and sinks and toilets.
- Cleaning out floor vents.
- Vacuuming carpets (please bring extra vacuums).
- Suggestions [?]; please feel free to contact me with more ideas at johntiffany0705@gmail.com

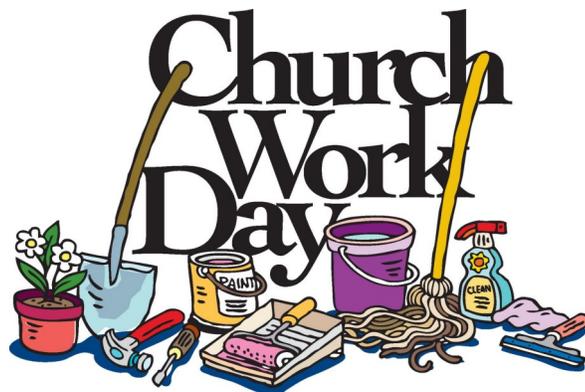
We will need some volunteers to set up the coffee/tea ahead of time. We also need some baked goodies to be provided by volunteers, to keep the work gang refreshed. Plus we need lots of rags for cleaning and four vacuums.

Any people/committees with items stored in any of the basement storage areas are asked to label those items for what they want kept before September 9 (so we can quickly toss out unwanted stuff on the actual day and not wait around to see what's what in these areas).

This is an important opportunity to take care of a number of items that are just too much for the Building Maintenance Committee to take care of themselves. The more hands on deck the more we can do! Hope to see as many of you as possible. Feel free to come by for only one hour, as a lot can get done in that time with a bunch of us.

Property Management Council Chair

John Tiffany (Tiff)



BEING AN INTERNSHIP SITE

At our AGM in May, our congregation agreed to be a teaching church and welcome an intern to our beloved church community. Christopher Wulff is going to join us in September. As an internship site, FUCV has certain responsibilities that are outlined in the UUA intern manual. I've highlighted some of these responsibilities below.

Our congregation is expected to give Christopher direct ministerial responsibilities and engage him in a wide range of ministerial duties, including worship, religious education, pastoral care and counseling, programming, institutional management and finance, program development, and community and social action.

Being a good teaching site means that FUCV:

- is dedicated to excellence in ministry
- perceives the formation of ministerial interns as part of its mission
- gives an intern the opportunity to make a significant contribution
- enables an intern to pursue learning goals in a supportive atmosphere
- provides opportunities for a variety of professional experiences
- understands the value of Unitarian Universalism in the larger community

If you have questions or ideas regarding the internship, please contact one of the members of the internship committee: Shirley Travis, Sean Rodman, Margaret McKelvie, Barry Wiebe, Fran Pardee, and Reverend Shana.

MEET OUR INTERN

Greetings and Salutations! My name is Christopher Wulff and I am over-the-moon excited to be your Intern Minister for the next two years.

In my conversations with folks both at the congregation and in the wider UU community I have found so many reasons already for being thankful to be coming to First Victoria: a congregation that's a leader in small group ministry, in communications and membership, in denominational leadership and social action; Supervising Ministers who exhibit theological rigour, practice pastoral compassion and support innovative worship; a lifespan learning program that nurtures intergenerational community, OWL and creative programs for families. These are all compelling to me, which is part of why practicing priority management will probably need to be a learning goal.

As Fran's column from the intern committee notes, being a teaching congregation asks a lot of any community. Forming new and temporary relationships, providing valuable feedback, being an incubator for an Intern's learning – all of these can encourage us to look at where we're going and challenge us to consider new ways. There is a fine line being walked in every internship context as Interns seek to serve the congregation and our own learning needs. I am so appreciative that you've agreed to take that path with me.

Some of you may know my wife Ariel Hunt-Brondwin from her work at the Canadian Unitarian Council or perhaps from the three years when she attended First Victoria when she was at UVic. We've had an eventful year already with the birth of our first child, Rowan, and getting married in June at Unicamp. In Toronto we write this column as we are in the midst of packing up our belongings and getting ready to trek cross-country.

I am so looking forward to journeying with you for the next two years.

VICTORIA MULTIFAITH SOCIETY

This is one of our Outreach organizations that periodically organizes inter-faith events for anyone in the community to enjoy. If you are able to help too, please let Christine Johnston know.

The International Day of Peace, is connected to the UN and is a day of connecting. We will have a table in Centennial Square Wednesday, 21 September 11 – 5 pm..

A movie on the topic will be shown in the evening.

Saturday Evening of Dinner and Multifaith songs and stories will be held at the Hindu Temple, 7-10 pm, Saturday, 24 September. The Temple is at 1934 Cultra Ave., Saanichton.

Thursday Lunch and Learn series at Christchurch Cathedral: “World Religions at a Glance”, to take place every Thursday from 29 September, with a break in December, resuming January. Venue: Chapter Room, Christ Church Cathedral, 930 Burdett St. Bring your lunch (tea and coffee will be served). Each week a different presenter will give an overview on each of the world’s major religions, followed by Q&A. Schedule to be announced.

VMS now has a Facebook page as well as our website where you can be kept up-to-date on these and other events. Please “friend” us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/VictoriaMultifaithSociety/>

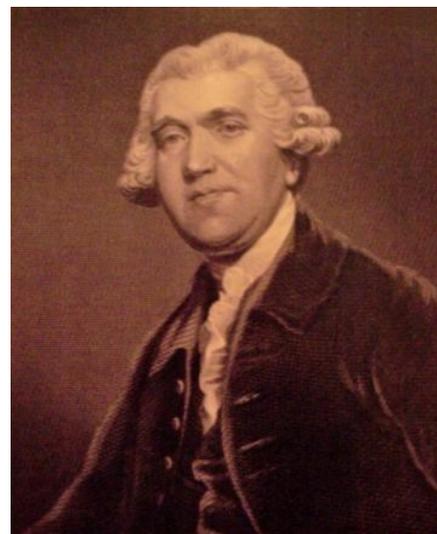
NOTABLE UU

CHRISTINE JOHNSTON

Josiah Wedgwood (1730 – 1795) was an English potter who founded the world famous Wedgwood company in Staffordshire, England. He came from a well-known Unitarian family and remained in that faith. He survived a childhood bout of smallpox which left him with a permanently weakened knee. This made him unable to work the foot pedal of a potter’s wheel so he concentrated from an early age on design which built his reputation.

Josiah is also credited with the industrialization of the manufacture of pottery, especially elegant china. Every new invention that Wedgwood produced - green glaze, cream-ware, black basalt and jasper - was quickly copied. Having once achieved perfection in production, he achieved perfection in sales and distribution. Catherine the Great and Queen Charlotte of England were among his customers.

A prominent abolitionist, Wedgwood is remembered too for his “am I not a man and a brother” anti-slavery medallion. He became friends with the Darwin family and later this led to his being grandfather of the famous Charles Darwin, who was supported in his research by the large family inheritance.



WHAT ARE MONTHLY CIRCLE DINNERS ANYHOW??

The Circle Dinners were conceived to enable small groups of church members to gather for the evening meal (assemble 6-ish and eat whenever) in a home environment with conversation following until all are satiated. The meal is not a Pot Luck but rather a Planned Menu to the extent that the host/hostess attempts to have the guests contribute a balanced menu. A great way for new comers to meet old-timers.

The dinners are the last Friday of each month September to May. Around the 15th of each month, the conveners mix, match and notify interested guests and hosts.

Stu and Emily Whitney were the conveners of this group last year. We have a few observations to place before churchgoers, prior to embarking on a second term as co- conveners.

First and foremost is the number of participants, regular and occasional. The activity is open to all church members and a chosen partner. Thus there could easily be 150 to 200 people on the roster. However last year we had much fewer than that , ranging from 32 to 6. And as you might imagine these were largely the same people.

Another problem was transportation, especially. during 4 to 6 pm in January and February. Carpooling with younger drivers would help.

So we are asking now for a show of intended commitment for participation in circle dinners for this fall and early 2017. There would be 8 dinners in all and if we had at least 60 participants they could be mixed and matched to various hosts without tiresome repetition. It is difficult to organise when people are not committed.

If you are an interested conversational gourmandising and are willing to commit to all or some of the last Friday of Sept., Oct , and Nov. and of Jan. Feb., Mar., Apr., or would like more information, please contact Stu or Emily Whitney at stuwhitney@shaw.ca or by phone on 250-477-5546. We will gladly do the organising chores again this year but we must know by Sept 15th what interest (commitment) is out there.

Thank you, Stu and Emily



ARE YOU READY TO TAKE A STAND ON ISSUES THAT CONCERN WOMEN LIKE YOU?

Good news: the early bird rate for the Third International Women's Convocation (February 16-19, 2017, Monterey Peninsula, CA) has been extended one last time. You can still save \$100 on registration – but only through September 30! The Convocation will bring together U*U women from around the world to connect, share, celebrate, and empower in the beautiful, inspirational setting of Asilomar, “a refuge by the sea.” An additional \$50 discount is available for UU ministers. Young adults aged 18-40 can register at a special rate of \$490, covering accommodation and all meals in addition to the reduced registration fee. Are you interested in offering a workshop at the Convocation? If so, please submit a proposal. Visit IntlWomensConvo.org for all details.

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 meeting in the fall.

Esquimalt: Pat McMahon writes, "Twenty-two people gathered at Gloria and John Hopewell's condo on Friday, August 5 for potluck dinner. The kids enjoyed a game of ladderball on the lawn. We plan to resume monthly coffee shop get-togethers in September. The first one will be September 13 (second Tuesday of September) 2:30 - 3:30 at Cafe Fantastico (Fol Epi)."

Fairfield: This NG planned a picnic in August.

Far Out: Phyllis Aherne is hosting Far Out for a potluck lunch on Saturday, September 10, where they will be able to welcome long-time church member, Penny Furnes, who has moved into their neighbourhood after living 24 years in the Nearby NG. Far Out will also be providing treats for coffee hour in September.

Gordon Head: Plans are in the works for Gordon Head to gather in the fall.

Grand Central: Marya Nijland invited her group to a "UU TEA & TELL TALES" EVENT on SUNDAY AUGUST 28 FROM 3-5 to get to know each other, welcome new members and friends and have fun telling stories about your summer adventures and hearing from others!" She adds, "Our place is small, but if the weather is good-- we will spill over into the tiny back garden."

James Bay: Lynn Hunter writes, "Members of the James Bay Neighbourhood Group will be hosting a progressive dinner on September 11 to coincide with the James Bay art walk. This was our offering at the church auction. The dinner will start with appetizers at the home of Pat Kinrade followed by the main course at the home of Don Armstrong and Lynn Hunter followed by dessert at the home of Carol and David Smith". There is still one space left for this progressive dinner on September 11. The cost is \$65 to the church, so please contact Lynn Hunter, if you would like to attend.

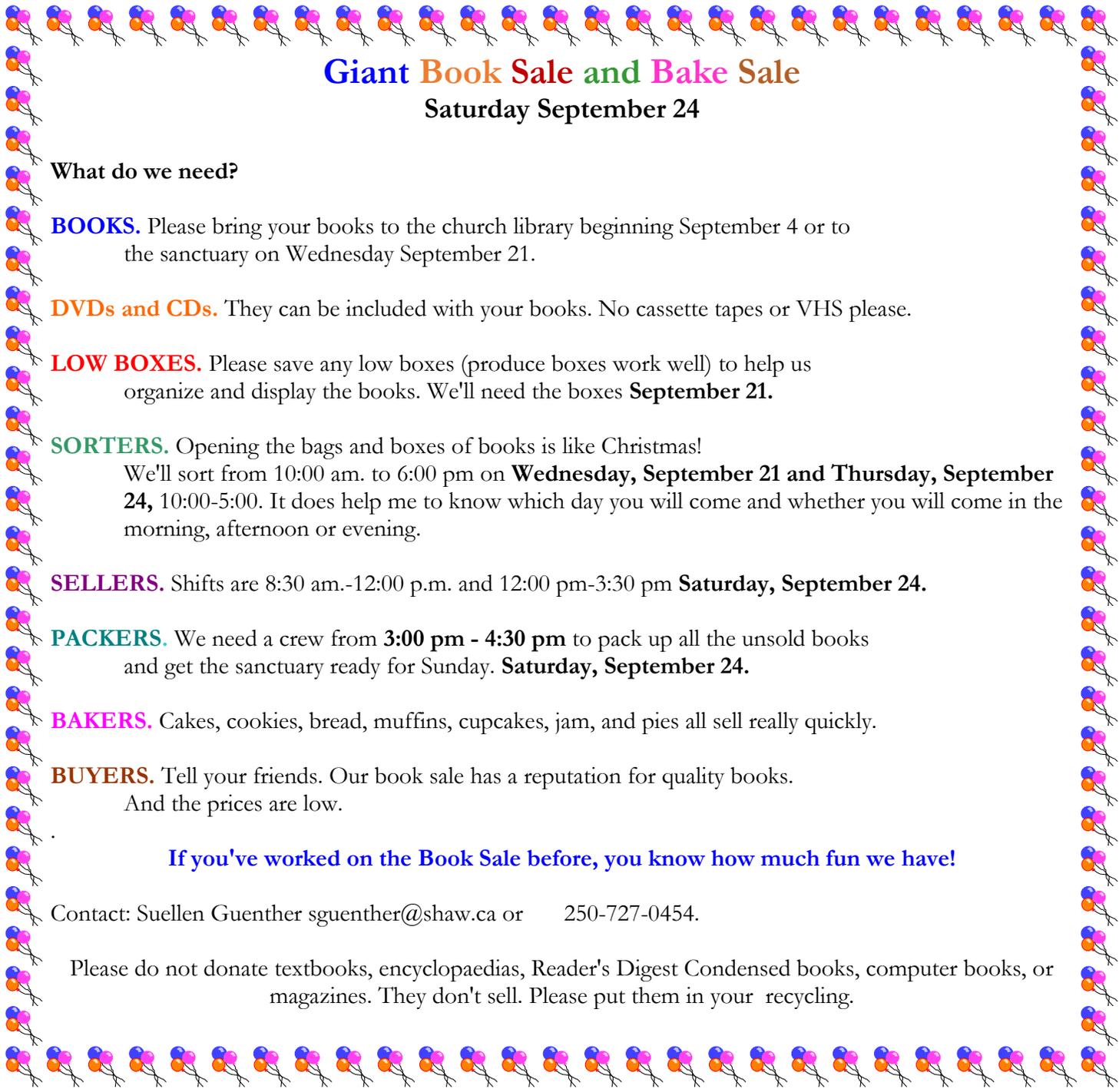
Nearby: New convenor, Elaine Klimke, and her husband, Dan, have invited their NG for a potluck on August 27. Elaine writes that potlucks "give the group a chance to get to know one another and enjoy interesting discussions."

Oak Bay: Jan Li writes, "The Oak Bay NG had a potluck at Jim & Karla Thomson's on August 21, celebrating Karla's birthday. Of course, birthday cake was served to all, so no desserts were needed! OBNG will have our next potluck in mid-October. And we will continue to meet for lunch at The Fern Cafe every third Wednesday of the month. OBNG provided coffee hour treats for the month of August."

Royal Oak East: Hanny Pannekoek reports, "We did have an afternoon to welcome 'our' new baby Lavina at the home of her parents, Bekki and Paul. We gave her the series of Anne of Green Gables, which was carefully unwrapped and stacked by her sister Bridgette. We all brought finger food, Paul served wine and all together it was a lovely celebration. Of course, many of the women had to hold the baby, a heart warming sight. Our next gathering will be on September 6.

Royal Oak West: Fran Hancock has issued this invitation to her NG, "Please let me know if you are willing to host a gathering in the fall so that we may officially welcome church members who have recently purchased homes in our NG: Chris Cook and Shirley Travis as well as Jennifer and Lance Young. It would be delightful if two new visitors to the church, Sharon Bool and Herman Bakker, would be able to attend as well. WELCOME TO YOUR NEW NG EVERYONE!"

Western: This group traditionally meets on the second Saturday of every month.



Giant Book Sale and Bake Sale Saturday September 24

What do we need?

BOOKS. Please bring your books to the church library beginning September 4 or to the sanctuary on Wednesday September 21.

DVDs and CDs. They can be included with your books. No cassette tapes or VHS please.

LOW BOXES. Please save any low boxes (produce boxes work well) to help us organize and display the books. We'll need the boxes **September 21.**

SORTERS. Opening the bags and boxes of books is like Christmas!
We'll sort from 10:00 am. to 6:00 pm on **Wednesday, September 21 and Thursday, September 24, 10:00-5:00.** It does help me to know which day you will come and whether you will come in the morning, afternoon or evening.

SELLERS. Shifts are 8:30 am.-12:00 p.m. and 12:00 pm-3:30 pm **Saturday, September 24.**

PACKERS. We need a crew from **3:00 pm - 4:30 pm** to pack up all the unsold books and get the sanctuary ready for Sunday. **Saturday, September 24.**

BAKERS. Cakes, cookies, bread, muffins, cupcakes, jam, and pies all sell really quickly.

BUYERS. Tell your friends. Our book sale has a reputation for quality books.
And the prices are low.

If you've worked on the Book Sale before, you know how much fun we have!

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

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

New Members

Jen and Lance Young returning as Members

760 Genevieve Street, Victoria, V8X 3R5

250-888-4746

Jen: hellojenyoung@gmail.com

Lance: young4ever@shawbiz.ca

New Contacts

Pat McMahon & John Lancaster

John: 250-885-6700

Pat: 250-885-6290

Henry Amick

email: amick@uvic.ca

734-994-1004 (Portland, Oregon)

One half of our long wait is over. On August 15, Sanaz, the Iranian woman we are sponsoring, arrived in the evening at the Victoria airport, after being in transit from Turkey for 24 hours. She was met by five members of our church, including Shelagh McCormick, who had made a welcome sign for her in Farsi and English. During her long journey, Sanaz had a five hour layover in Vancouver, so Kristina's daughter, Cecilia, was able to meet Sanaz in the Vancouver airport and welcome her on our behalf. They spent some of the time sharing pictures of their cats! Fortunately, Sanaz speaks surprisingly good English.



She is staying, initially, in James Bay with Christine and Mel Johnston, while she takes care of legal and financial matters and becomes acquainted with Victoria and Canadian customs. She is 27 and is described as lively, independent, energetic, bright, and interested in everything. People who attended the Unitarian camp at Shawnigan Lake in August were able to meet her when she came with Christine and Mel. Sanaz worked in Turkey as a waitress for a year after she left Iran, while waiting for her refugee claim to be processed, so Christine has talked to a restaurant in James Bay that is willing to give her a few shifts while she decides what she wants to do. Sanaz is very appreciative of the support we are giving her.

Meanwhile, our suite for the Sari family is ready and waiting, but we have no further word on when they may arrive. This is what we hear from their relative, Ali, "Lebanon and Jordan seem to be very efficient in getting the refugees processed and on their way; however, Turkey has been chronically slow even before the political unrest."

Because of the long delay, the Steering Committee has discussed the possibility of subletting the suite to recover some of the rent we are paying, but we concluded that short term stays, such as Air B&B, would be too complicated, and the landlord was not in favour. However, we would consider stays of a minimum of 30 days, so if you have friends or relatives who would like a place to stay in Victoria for a month in the near future, please contact Andy Lee: andrew.lee@firley.ca.

To help our new immigrants recognize the people who will be helping them, Mary Cramer and Lisa Greenly have created a photo directory for Sanaz and a different one for the Sari family, giving them the relevant photos, names, and contact information for the volunteers and drivers who will be supporting them. A big thank you to Mary and Lisa for undertaking this complicated project!

We are a very generous congregation, and we are still receiving offers of furniture and household goods. However, our volunteers are wearing out, so here is their request:

"Do you have household goods you would like to contribute to a refugee family? We appreciate financial contributions, but please consider contacting the Inter-Cultural Association to offer any actual goods. We feel we have more than enough for our needs and would like to take a rest. However, we would once again like to send a heart-felt **thank you** to everyone for your incredible generosity!"

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|----|-----------------|
| 2 | Stephen Lentz | 14 | Jean Evans |
| 3 | Zahira North | 15 | Tobin McTaggart |
| 4 | Sam Harris, Caleb Tilson | 17 | Suzanne Garmsen |
| 7 | Louise Cole, Sarah Versteegen | 18 | Peter Hancock |
| 8 | Andrea Pite, John Waters | 20 | June Fukushima |
| 9 | Sam Tilson | 22 | Lini Henderson |
| 10 | Christine Petronis, Bruce Stirling | 23 | Ed Daniel |
| 11 | Shirley d'Estrube | 24 | Bert MacBain |
| 12 | Sheldon Crisp | 25 | Clare Vipond |
| 13 | Anne Vaasjo | | |

INTRODUCING FUCV RIDE SHARING MEETUP GROUP!

FUCV Ride Sharing Meet-up group is an exciting new project funded by the Ruth Humphrey's Innovations Fund, and endorsed by EAT (our Social Responsibility Coalition's Environmental Action Team). The group's objective is to encourage ride-sharing to First Unitarian Church of Victoria events by providing a convenient way for all those looking for rides and those willing to offer them to meet up, while at the same time, lessening our carbon footprint, and fostering community connection.

You don't have to be a Member or Friend of the church to join this group, but participation is encouraged, in fact, it is the only way it will work. If you are going to an event, or even if you're not,

please RSVP, so that you can then receive any comments that are made to the event's posting, as this is the way we will be making our requests and offers for rides. If you have room in your vehicle, please consider offering a ride, or two, in the comments section of the relevant event's listing, and if you are looking for a ride, you can also do so by posting there as well.

Subsequent communication between drivers and riders can continue in the comments thread, or can take place through the group's private messaging feature. All we ask, is that you update your request so that all members will know when you have found a ride, or your vehicle is full.

While member participation is encouraged, you get to choose your own level of participation by adjusting your personal notification settings. If you need help doing this, or have any other technical questions, look for the page, [How to Use This Group](#) on the Groups Webpage, or message, or email me, Dar Gareau-Levy at: darlevy@gmail.com and I will do my best to help. As the Initiating operator of the group, I will soon be updating this page regularly as I learn how to make the best use of the tools available.

At this point, dated Church events that are sent to the e-weekly will be posted to the FUCV Ride Sharing group, and I am also trying out the idea of giving Event Organizer status to members who would be regularly wanting to post events; enabling them to create and share their own posts, following an established set of guidelines.



HELP BUILD A SCHOOL IN HONDURAS

Savour the World

“I arise in the morning torn between a desire to save the world and a desire to savour the world. This makes it hard to plan the day.” ~ E.B. White

The First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto, in partnership with World Accord, invites you to help build a school in the mountains of Honduras. This is a hands-on opportunity to make a difference in the lives of subsistence farmers and their families. Please join a two-week **trip, beginning: January 7, February 4 or March 4, 2017. Construction and Spanish language skills are not required but would be welcomed. For more information contact Richard Kirsh (416-767-5837 or richardkirsh@sympatico.ca) or see our poster on your congregation's bulletin board.**

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 rev.melora@victoriaunitarian.ca

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

Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat
 250-652-1272

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laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca
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Anne Vaasjo 250-385-1603

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

Director of Music

Nick Fairbank
 music@victoriaunitarian.ca

Church Administrator

Karen Uldall-Ekman
 churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

Assistant Church Administrator

Sarah Verstegen

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EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
9/4	10:30-11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
9/9	6-9pm	Community Dinner	Sanctuary
9/10	8:30am - 1:00pm	Spruce Up the Building Day (Everyone's help welcome!!)	Everywhere
9/11	10:30-11:30am	INGATHERING SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
	7-9pm	JAZZ VESPERS	Sanctuary
9/18	10:30-11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary
9/24	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM?	Church Book Sale	Sanctuary
9/25	10:30-11:30am	SUNDAY SERVICE	Sanctuary

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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

Barbara Nyland and Jen Young (editors); Doreen Burgess
and Myra Rippon (proof-readers); and Karen Uldall-Ekman
(production, distribution and paid advertisements).

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