



The Victoria Unitarian

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

Growing in Spirit, Living with Compassion, Inspired to Serve

SERVICES IN APRIL

April 1 **The Transformative Power in Easter**
Rev Shana Lynngood | WA Doug McGinnis
Music by Erika Richards, Trumpet

We begin a month of exploring transformation with the Christian holiday which uplifts new life and change in a profound way. How can we hear the story of Jesus' resurrection with special attention to the change at its core? What transformations are you considering?

April 8 **The Hero's Journey**
Oliver Belisle w/ Coming of Age Group
WA Samantha Magnus

Throughout history, people from all walks of life have been mesmerized by tales of heroic deeds and adventure. From Gilgamesh, the first epic, to modern-day classics like Star Wars and Frozen, we find a familiar pattern of story-telling: what Joseph Campbell called the Monomyth or Hero's Journey. What about this pattern resonates so deeply and transcends era and culture? More importantly, what can we learn from these stories and how can we apply it to our lives? Join us for this Sunday as we embark on the hero's journey together.

April 8th—7pm **Spirited Jazz Vespers**
Brent Jarvis and Kristina Helene Duo
with Christopher Wulff, Ministerial Intern

This evening of jazz includes music composed by Brent and Kristina which sets the poetry of Canadian UU poet Dorothy Livesay to jazz. Come for the live music, homily, and silence for a unique opportunity for spiritual reflection.

April 15 **Space for Change**
Rev. Shana Lynngood
WA Dan Klimke

We will have special music from our Chalice Choir this morning under the guest conductor, DeReau Farrar, Music Director of the First Unitarian Church of Portland. In the service we'll explore the ways in which we have to make room (in our lives and our very beings) in order for transformation to take place. Change that is this deep won't just fit in around the edges—we will have to clear the way and open a path for the changes we seek.

April 22 **Earth Day: Hope and Action**
Rev. Melora Lynngood and Friends
WA Anna Isaacs

Our 7th Unitarian Universalist Principle calls us to care for "the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." In this service, we will consider the challenges in answering this call, and we will hear stories about how our members are caring for the earth, despite the challenges. We will consider ways in which we can all be a part of this transformation – how we can all care for the earth in ways large and small. Consider, for example, whether you could give up using plastic straws! Every little bit helps.

April 29 **A Meandering Path**
Rev. Shana Lynngood
WA Dan Klimke

Sometimes change and transformation in our lives takes a circuitous route. It is seldom a direct path between one way of being and another. How can we honour that process that change sometimes takes and notice and appreciate the shifts we have made over time?

April's Theme:
TRANSFORMATION



the practice of seeking
 meaningful growth

Chamber Choir

Chalice Choir

Men's Choir

Chalice Choir

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THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE MAY ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER IS APRIL 17



Photo Directory

Thank you to all Members and Friends who have been photographed for our first ever, secure on-line photo directory. There will be a photo session in the Sanctuary following the intergenerational service on April 8.

Information and permission forms will be available in the Sanctuary for signing before you are photographed.

The photo placement (alphabetical) and composition (singles and families) will follow the format of our church directory. The photos are intended to be clearly focused for identification purposes...not professional quality portraits.

The directory is an on-going project. Mary Cramer and her team of photographers will stay on the case until everyone who wishes is photographed. Please watch for e-weekly updates and an update in the May Newsletter. **Nancy Dobbs**

Connecting with Kids

A workshop for all grown-ups in our intergenerational community

Farmhouse Common Room, Noon – 2 pm Sunday, April 22

How do we make connections with children and youth that engage at a deeper level? How can we support them to develop in healthy spiritually engaged ways? In what ways can we, as individuals and as a community, nourish their gifts and energy to make our community a richer, more vibrant place to be for all?

Come and explore all this with us. Find out more: victoriaunitarian.ca/connecting-with-kids

APRIL'S THEME — TRANSFORMATION

This month, we are all invited to consider exploring our theme of **“Transformation: the practice of seeking meaningful growth,”** through our worship services, through the theme exploration session on April 15, and through contemplating the questions below. You may also consider sharing your thoughts, questions, feelings, and insights with family, friends, and/or your fellow congregants. May your experience be rich, meaningful, and sustaining. Thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Soul Matters Sharing Circle, from which many of our theme materials come.

Questions to Ponder

Choose one (or let one choose you). Write in a journal, doodle, or talk through your responses. See where the question takes you over the course of the month.

- What is Life inviting you to become?
- What were you taught in childhood about your ability to change yourself and/or the world? Are those lessons ones you need to remember or reject?
- What transformations have you already gone through in your life? Make a list.
- Which is the phase you find the most rich – curling up in the darkness of the cocoon, pushing out Through the chrysalis walls, or taking flight?
- The subtitle of our theme, transformation, is ‘the practice of seeking meaningful growth.’ What meaningful growth are you seeking these days?
- Have you been a catalyst, a coach, a cheerleader, in someone else’s transformation?
- Who needs you to quietly “sit with them among the shards and gently turn their face toward the light”? (Jan Richardson)
- If you could transform the world in one significant way, what would you change? Is there one thing--even a small thing--you could do toward that end?

TRANSFORMATION



*the practice of seeking
meaningful growth*

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Soul Matters Theme Exploration Workshop

Stand-alone, one-time, drop-in, open-to-anyone, after-church, sessions designed to help you explore our monthly themes in more depth. Introspective, interactive, and engaging. Based on the Soul Matters program, but single sessions.

April 15, Sunday

Transformation: the practice of seeking meaningful growth

Time: 12:15pm – 2:15pm

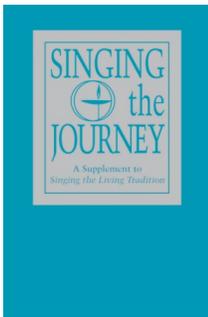
Kids? Open to Youth (teens) and Adults. Childminding for children available with advance notice.

Food: You are invited to partake in the “Souper Lunch” offered in the sanctuary after the service, before the program. Soupers are by donation – give what you can afford.

Location: Farmhouse Common Room (in building just north of sanctuary building, follow signs for office)

RSVP: rev.melora@gmail.com with “theme exploration” in the subject heading, or call/text Rev. Melora at 250-891-6330.

50 NEW TEAL HYMNALS



Our Congregation has been blessed with 50 new Teal Hymnals – 40 were donated through the Donna Greenberg Legacy and 10 were gifted to us by our Ministerial Intern, Chris Wulff. We have years of happy singing ahead thanks to their generosity.

Circles, Spirals and Centres

A day of retreat, renewal and source-seeking at FUCV

“Sometimes I wonder if we’re all feeling alone, together.” This comment from an FUCV member a little while back inspires this one-day-retreat to explore our deep yearnings to know and be known.



How do we bravely embrace vulnerability and make it possible for others to do the same?
Where do you long to surrender your self in service of the whole?
How do you do the creative work of connecting and reconnecting that fills you and feeds you?

Join FUCV Member Diana Smith and Ministerial Intern Christopher Wulff, for a day of listening to our own heart’s rhythms, finding the pulse of the community’s need, and hearing wisdom from within and without. In singing, writing, sharing and movement, we’ll journey together to sources of strength and hope, to sing your spirit home.

May 5, 9:30-4:30 at FUCV. Lunch by donation (seriously, whatever you can offer will be fine). Register online at <http://victoriaunitarian.ca/program/adult-programs/circles-spirals-and-centres/>

HOW 2018**DON VIPOND**

The HOW project: Helping Likhaan train community health workers in poor communities of Manila, Philippines. Target: \$4,000.

Meet Bridget Woods, who attended her second service at our church last month:

“I had the privilege of working with the Likhaan organization in 2015 and 2016. Likhaan operates in the depths of the Smokey Mountain Landfill slum, just outside of Manila. The slum houses tens of thousands of people who pick through waste in the landfill, hoping to find plastic that they then sell to recyclers.

“Likhaan operates a busy clinic that provides family planning and contraceptive services to families that call the slum home. The majority of the women that I met while visiting the clinic, were under or near the age of 15 and had at least one, if not two or three, children already. Many of them had been born in the slums themselves (transport and health costs to deliver at a hospital are prohibitive) and consequently had no birth certificate, which prevented them from accessing education.

“The women shared an intense desire to put an end to the cycle of poverty and teenage pregnancy, and so expressed great gratitude for the choices that Likhaan enabled them to make. For context, contraception was illegal in Manila just a few short years ago. Through a lot of hard work by Likhaan, and other passionate individuals, the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012, informally known as the reproductive health act, came into place in 2013. Unfortunately, there still exist numerous barriers to accessing reproductive health services. In addition to poverty, strict interpretations of Catholicism mean that some doctors and politicians refuse to follow the health act. This makes Likhaan’s hard work all the more impressive.

“The women who makes up Likhaan are nurses, community support workers, activists. They fill a whole slew of other roles in their dedication to women’s reproductive health and rights. They tackle every barrier that they face with optimism and determination.

“I am so overwhelming happy that First Unitarian can be a part of their work.”

- Bridget Woods

Please give generously. Make your cheque payable to First Unitarian Church of Victoria and on the memo line write: “HOW –Manila” If you would like your donation to be divided between our two HOW projects, just write: “HOW” Drop your cheque into the collection basket on a Sunday or deliver to the church office. Thank you.

This is inside of Likhaan's clinic. Each of these women were getting birth control implants in their upper arms. This is the most common form of birth control that Likhaan administers.



SEL – ECTIONS ON TRANSFORMATION**ARRAN LIDDEL**

Our challenge as a community of transformation is to remind each other to take a different approach than dominant culture promotes. More often than not, it's about breathing rather than becoming better; patience not perfection; depth not dominance; attention not improvement.

That part about attention instead of improvement is especially important. It's so easy to get transformation mixed up with fixing. And fixing is transformation's biggest foe. Trying to purify or prove ourselves is the surest way to stay stuck. The pursuit of perfection focuses us on our inadequacy and inferiority, causing us to overlook those unexpected 'seeds' that could find fertile ground in our hearts and minds. Seeds that could help us notice new paths, invite us to walk with a new step, transform our community.

Spring is the perfect time to take some space to reflect on what seeds can take root within us - after all there is inspiration blooming all around us!

Below is a brief overview for this month:

April 1 - End the last weekend of Spring Break at our annual Easter Egg Hunt! There will be stories, games and prizes for all.

April 8 - Our Coming of Age group will be leading the service in the Sanctuary - come and support them! G 4 & 5 are encouraged to stay in the Sanctuary and K-G3 will have a special session just for them.

April 15 - Regular programing resumes.

April 22 - We will host a workshop for adults "Connecting with kids: a workshop for all grown-ups in our intergenerational community" [link: <http://victoriaunitarian.ca/connecting-with-kids/>]

April 29 - regular programming

I hope to see you there!

Warmly,

Arran Liddel

Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning for Children and Youth

Memorial Team

When a member, friend or sometimes a family of a member, of our congregation dies, loved ones of the deceased usually desire a memorial gathering, and usually in our church building. Members of the neighborhood group (NG) that the deceased was part of, are the first ones to be asked to help facilitate the memorial and the reception following.

Our church also has a memorial team. It is made up of volunteers that are willing to step in on an ad hoc basis to help with the tasks necessary to host a memorial if a NG is unable to fulfill that role. The tasks include set up, clean up, ushers and greeters.

Sometimes as a church community, we support a grieving family, and the deceased is known to very few or unknown in our congregation. This can happen when:

- ◆ an elderly member has been unable to attend or be active at church because of declining health and abilities;
- ◆ the deceased recently moved to the Victoria area;
- ◆ the grieving family is part of our community, but the deceased is not.

If you would like to consider joining our Memorial Team, please contact Nancy Dobbs at 250 652 5438 or nandobbs@shaw.ca.



April 8th, Sunday, 7-8 PM

Kristina Helene with the Brent Jarvis Trio

Theme: "Poetry in Motion"

Kristina Helene – Vocals; Brent Jarvis – Pianist & Composer

(Lyrics for the Music based on Canadian & U.U. Member Dorothy Livesay's poetry).

Location: First Unitarian Church of Victoria

By donation and greatly appreciated.

Those who have been appreciating the short trip on a country road to a beautiful setting with top jazz musicians, completed with the musings of Reverend Shana, will be sure not to miss this upcoming vespers featuring vocalist Kristina Helene. The poetry of Dorothy Livesay is put in motion through the music of Brent Jarvis with vocalist Kristina Helene and the trio.



Kristina is a Calgary born singer/songwriter. She wrote her first song at the age of eight and recorded for her first time in a little garage four years later. Kristina now resides in Victoria BC and has travelled back and forth to LA working with her producer CJ Vanston. In LA, she has had the honour of recording a couple of jazz cover songs at Capitol Records with legendary engineer and record producer Al Schmitt and Steve Genewick. She is now 25 years old and has recently shared the stage with award winning producer David Foster and one of the most influential figures in "nuevo flamenco" music, Jesse Cook.

Pianist and composer Brent Jarvis is a marvelous talent. His second CD, Solo Piano, showed off his remarkable technique as he paid homage to the likes of Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett. Ambitious and versatile, Jarvis can segue from introspective soloist to the ring master of a rollicking big band. Originally from Toronto, Jarvis moved here in 2002 and when not on tour, he teaches at the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

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 a little of the history of the music performed.

First Unitarian Church of Victoria 5575 West Saanich Road (250) 744-2665
Program of First Unitarian Church Victoria - www.victoriaunitarian.ca

GREEN CORNER

LOUISE COLE

The Future of the ALR

There are many concerns about the Agriculture Land Reserve and Agriculture Land Commission. Pressures on the ALR include other uses than food production such as residential development, controversial exclusions and most recently, cannabis production. Companies are gearing up to be ready for the legalization of Marijuana otherwise known as a “gold rush”.

As a result, Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, has appointed a nine-member panel to review the uses of the ALR and to receive public input from you. Until the end of April, the public can fill out a survey on-line at: <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve/>

Please take advantage of this opportunity and let Minister Popham and her panel know your opinions.

MINISTERIAL SURVEY



Every few years, your Committee on Ministry conducts a survey of the congregation to evaluate the performance and leadership of our ministers, Revs. Melora and Shana. It's time for another one! Your honest assessment will help the committee and the ministers evaluate how their ministry is meeting the needs of the congregation and it will also provide direction as they plan how to allocate their time and energy going forward.

The survey begins March 29 and concludes April 30 to give the committee and the ministers time to evaluate the results of the survey before they take their summer holidays and study leave. Please watch for the link to the survey in the E-Weekly. Hard copies of the survey will also be available in the church office and can be mailed to you upon request. Results of the survey will be available to the congregation in July. We value your opinion and we look forward to hearing from you!

VICTORIA MULTIFAITH SOCIETY



Victoria Multifaith Society

Victoria Multifaith Society is offering a most interesting volunteer job opening up this summer. The Unitarians have long been represented on the VMS Board which plans lots of exciting joint multi-faith activities in Victoria. Christine Johnston is finishing a 3 year stint and seeks a replacement. In the past Mac Elrod, Fran Pardee and Alan Dawson were the UU rep. Over the years you will have noticed a great variety of programming. Rev. Shana has participated in 3 of them this past year.

Contact Christine_johnston@Telus.net if you or some UU you know might be interested in this unique and learning experience.

Turn the World Around

with special guests

Calvin Cairns
and
Jeremy Walsh

Friday April 6
7pm

**Your hosts: The Chalice Choir
Featuring the Chamber Choir,
Men's Choir, JAMMers and
The Farmhouse Ringers**

**FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH — 5575 WEST SAANICH ROAD
ADMISSION BY DONATION
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW**

HELP YOUR FAVOURITE CHARITY

Do you have a favourite charity you would like to see receive about \$800?
Do you wonder how our charity recipients of Share the Plate are selected?

Share the Plate is the means whereby 50% of the open collection at each Sunday service is donated to a selected charity each month. There is the exception of three Sundays during year when 100% is donated to one of Canadian Unitarian Council, Child Haven, or the UU Office at the United Nations. The recipients are recommended by the Social Responsibility Coalition (SRC) to the Board for approval. In theory, any church member or friend can make a suggestion to the SRC but we seldom get any suggestions.

The SRC has created a new Share the Plate (STP) team. Part of our mandate is to involve more of the congregation in the selection and implementation of sharing the plate. So we are seeking suggestions of potential charities from you. Our preference is for small charities or at least a focus on a specific need. It should be one that is likely to have an appeal to a majority of the congregation. Federal law demands that since the church is a Registered Charity with a CRA charitable number, the same must be true of any charity to which we donate.

So get your thinking caps on. Think of a charity that you would like to share our plate. Fill out the Request Form that you can find on the SRC display shelf, or in the office, and soon to be on line. On the back of the form are detailed guidelines. You will be expected to contribute some time and energy toward creating an article for the newsletter, a display for the SRC shelf, the SRC Moment, and other means of publicity, but you will have a buddy from the STP Team to help you.

If you have any questions, contact
Margot Lods (convener) mlods@shaw.ca 250-920-3893 or
Christine Johnston christine_johnston@telus.net 250-385-5444

Community Dinner

**Friday April 13 is CHICKEN CURRY Night
in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm**



We will be serving a new entrée of Chicken Curry and Rice Pilaf! Vegetarian options will be available. Community Dinner 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 come join in lively conversation over a delicious dinner!! Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

**To help with clean-up please bring your own plate, cup and cutlery.
A rinsing station will be provided. We are also recruiting folks who might like to
help with set up and/or clean-up.**

**If you are interested in this opportunity please email Martha at
marthaj.mcdougall@gmail.com.**

Auction Fever 2018

Putting the FUN back in Fundraising

Don't Miss It



Friday April 20

Silent Auction — 6pm

Live Auction — 7pm

At the Church

Payment by cash/cheque only

Auction Fever 2018

How to Catch Auction Fever

Come on Friday at 6:00 p.m., sign in, and pick up your bidding number.

Cruise the Silent Auction to start catching the fever.

Check out the Early Bird Specials. They have limited spaces, set prices, and fill up quickly.

Check out the Unlimited Editions. They have set prices and many spaces.

Browse the services and handmade/homemade items in the Silent Auction.

Note that some have more than one winner. Make a bid for the items you want.

If an item has three winners, the three highest bids will each win.

Buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win the basket full of treasures.

Buy a ticket for the Cake Walk. The person on the winning number when the music stops, gets the cake!

If you are not on the winning number, pick up your consolation cookie.

Enjoy the complimentary refreshments and the cash bar.

Find a convenient place to sit.

Please keep the noise level down when the live bidding starts.

Live Auction starts at 7:00.

Watch the screen as each service is announced and the fever builds.

Hold up your number to bid on something you want.

If it is an item with several spaces, hold up your other hand with the number of spaces you want.

The person with the highest bid is the winner and gets the number of spaces they want.

If there are several spaces in the event, those willing to pay the same amount will also win, until the event is full.

Watch the screen to see the winning price and the winners' numbers.

If your number is missing, and you think you won, alert the auction staff at once.

Continue bidding in the Silent Auction during the live auction.

The Silent Auction is divided into Shops. Shops will begin closing at 7:30 p.m.

Bidding stops for the items in a shop when it closes, unless an item has no successful bids.

All shops in the Silent Auction are closed at 8:00 p.m.

The Winning Raffle Ticket will be drawn when the Live Auction ends. You must be present to win.

Wait for the announcement that envelopes are ready for pickup.

Pick up your envelope and go to one of the cashier stations. Slips for all your purchases will be inside.

Check your envelope to see if there is a slip inside for every item you won.

Pay for your items. Hand your paid slips to the Silent Auction staff and pick up any items or gift certificates you have won.

When you return home, your fever will begin to subside.

**Live and Silent Auction Samplers:
Check Pages 29 to 32**

AUCTION FEVER TIMELINE FRIDAY APRIL 20

6:00 Doors open. Silent Auction opens. Bar opens. Snacks available.

6:45 Cake Walk begins.

7:00 Live Auction begins.

8:00 Silent Auction closes.

8:20 Bar closes.

9:00 Raffle Basket draw.
Auction over.



Will You Help Fill a Raffle Basket?

We are preparing a raffle basket for the Auction on April 20 and we need your help. Could you contribute small decorative items, toiletries, wine or spirits, jams & preserves, chocolate, treats? What would you like to find in a raffle basket?

Please bring your items to the church office and put them in the container marked, Raffle Basket.

Help us fill an amazing basket with small treasures!

SHARE THE PLATE

SARAH VERSTEGEN

In honour of Earth Month 2018, The Environmental Action Team (EAT) chose to focus on plastic pollution of the marine environment. For the month of April, Share the Plate recipient will be SeaChange Marine Conservation Society. The offering each Sunday will be equally divided between SeaChange and the many ministries of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria.

SeaChange was founded 20 years ago with a triple mandate of education, conservation and restoration of the marine environment. Currently we incorporate debris removal into our conservation and restoration efforts to reduce the toxic load and create space for forage fish to spawn and clam and eelgrass beds to return. SeaChange covers areas from Sunshine Coast, Howe Sound, Burrard Inlet and the Gulf Islands through the Salish Sea Program.

Restoration work includes both terrestrial and subtidal habitat restoration. On land we remove invasive species and plant native ones before the invaders return. In the sea, we transplant eelgrass (*Zostera marina*).

Why would anyone endeavor to garden under water? Because eelgrass provides tremendous service to many marine species. If native plant species on land serve the WSÁNEĆ (Coast Salish) as grocery, hardware and drug stores, eelgrass habitat in near-shore water does similar service for over 80% of commercial fish species. Think salmon, crab and herring for starters.

Frustration led to our efforts regarding debris removal. While we were restoring eelgrass in Genoa Bay, the dive boat owner and a stalwart member of our dive team, Jamie, was really annoyed by how much space was taken up by junk on the bottom. This was not simple litter. This was industrial sized junk. The largest piece was a small tug boat on the bottom in about 20 feet of water. More industrial sized debris such as old floats took up space on shore.

Plastic has a large presence in the debris. Many boats are made of fiberglass which is yet another form of plastic. Plastic eventually breaks into smaller pieces but does not biodegrade; bits are eaten or ingested and create various problems. We have already removed several fiberglass runabouts from Genoa Bay, Tod Inlet and from Burgoyne Bay. More will come out as we work sites in Sunshine Coast, Howe Sound, Burrard Inlet and the Gulf Islands. We appreciate the support for the work we are doing both locally and throughout British Columbia.

CHILD HAVEN

CHRISTINE JOHNSON

Child Haven International Fundraiser Dinner

Please join us for a multicourse gourmet Indian meal and a presentation by Dr. Surinder Kumar on behalf of Child Haven International.

Authentic Indian Dance will be performed by the lovely and talented, Nishi Lakhwara!

Date: April 28, 2018

Location: Ukrainian Cultural Centre
3277 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC
(Between Mayfair Mall & Uptown)

Time: 6:00 pm Doors open
6:30 pm Dinner (cash bar available)

Tickets: \$35/each (cash or cheque only)

To purchase tickets, please contact:
Christine Johnston at 250-385-5444 or

Ann Kumar at 250-532-3719 annskumar@hotmail.com

Net proceeds will be donated to

Child Haven International

www.childhaven.ca



Tickets are on sale from Marya Nijland, Hanny Pannekoek, Katherine Jones and Christine Johnston or after Sunday service.

Buy soon so not to be disappointed.

Choral Workshop



with

DeReau Farrar

Director of Music at First Unitarian Church of Portland. Vocal Teacher, Gospel Choir Director, Consultant, Arranger, Classical Singer. DeReau has worked in Theatre, Film and Television

Saturday April 14

10am to 3pm

First Unitarian Church of Victoria

5575 West Saanich Road

We will spend the day making wonderful music together.

Our focus will be Mark Miller's 'I Believe' and DeReau's own arrangement of 'Man in the Mirror' Working on rhythms, intonation and blending

AND

participants are welcome to join our choir on Sunday, April 15 to perform the pieces!

\$25 per UU person
\$35 for Others

Questions/Pre-registration required
at uujenyoung@gmail.com

Coffee, tea, and snacks provided.
Please bring your own lunch.

Who is DeReau Farrar?
Check out some links:

- Visit www.firstunitarianportland.org/director-music-dereau-farrar-offers-testimony, or [click here](#).
- Visit www.uua.org/braverwiser/wanting-break-free or [click here](#).
- Visit www.uua.org/braverwiser/change-world-wheels, or [click here](#).
- Visit youtube.com/watch?v=CbvnvweeSR8 or [click here](#)
- **Get Out** movie Main Theme ~ Sikiliza Kwa Wahenga. Chorus Directed by DeReau Farrar

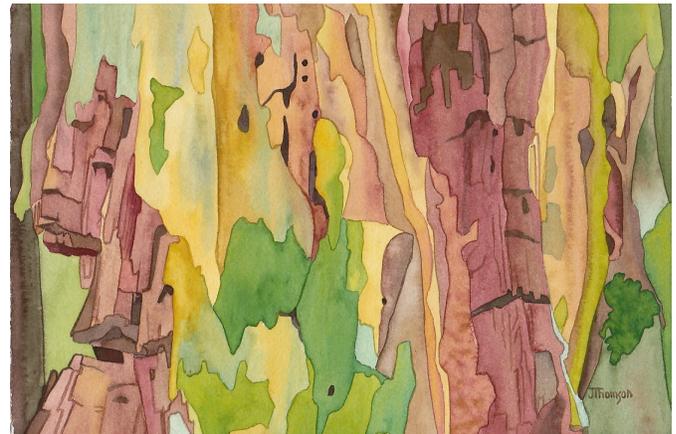
ARTIST OF THE MONTH

JOANNE THOMSON

Joanne Thomson shares selections from her “Wild Anticipation” series in this exhibition. The series pays homage to the active stewardship of the first peoples, organizations, and individuals, who anticipated the need to protect wild places and preserve them for all to witness and enjoy. “As an artist I have the opportunity to explore these wild places because of the wisdom of others.” Shaw community TV did a great little video of the full exhibition at the Martin Bachelor Gallery. [Click here to watch it.](#)

Joanne Thomson is a professional artist, specializing in watercolour—all of the works in this exhibition are watercolour on paper or canvas (the canvases are sealed with acrylic after the painting is complete). Thomson also teaches watercolour and does illustration work..

Visit her on the web at : www.wildanticipation.com and www.joannethomson.com



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA FOUNDATION: CALL FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

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 totaling approximately \$78,000. Income from approximately \$42,000 of these funds is dedicated to supporting First Nations post-secondary education through the Church. Income the remainder of these funds (approximately \$35,000) is directed by request of the donor to support the music program and/or social responsibility programs of the Church.

In 2017 the Foundation funded two \$750 bursaries for First Nations students attending Camosun College in 2018 and it granted \$600 to the Music Committee to assist in bringing musicians to the church for Sunday Services when the choir is not performing. Another \$600 was donated to the Vespers project. This year we anticipate around \$1,600 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 \$1,300 to fund church music or social action programs. 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, 2018

Funding will be approved in June at the Foundation annual meeting.

HONOURED VOLUNTEER**JEN YOUNG**

The President and Councils of the Board are asked to nominate volunteers who have made significant contributions to the life of the church and Unitarian community. Jen Young has been nominated by Rebecca Mellett, chair of the Spiritual Development Council.

I probably had my first volunteer job with the church before I ever joined. When Braden was hired as pianist for the church, he was only 15 years old and couldn't drive. We lived in Oak Bay and I had to drive him to church on Sunday to play piano. Our family soon found a spiritual community that we hadn't realized we were searching for.

It was Suellen Guenther who first approached me and asked about my interests and suggested areas of the church I could become involved with. Lance and I were already members of the Chalice Choir so I joined the Music Committee and am currently serving as its Chair. Music is such an enriching part of our worship and I am deeply committed to seeing the music program develop in different and exciting directions.

In addition, I spent four years on the Board, mostly in the role of Secretary. I designed the ABC logo for the pledge campaign and then found myself on the Team. This year, I was honoured to coordinate the ABC luncheon and worked with a fantastic volunteer crew to create an opportunity for church members to share a meal and each other's company as we kicked off the ABC Campaign. Lance and I enjoy our turns on the Coffee Crew as it is a great way to meet people and catch up after church. Barb Nyland and I share the role of newsletter editor, an activity that allows me to play with formatting and graphics.

By far the most satisfying volunteer position I hold is as a member of the Services Auction Committee. I have been working with this amazing core group since 2010 and they personify the best that our church community has to offer. Under the gentle guidance of Suellen, we all share our unique gifts to create a successful Auction Fever fundraiser every year. I hope everyone finds a wonderful team in which they can share their talents, learn from each other and work together for the greater good. It is a most gratifying and humbling experience.

Lorna Anthony said:

Yes, Jen Young is a worthy recipient. Here are a few thoughts to get started. She is a key person in our annual major fundraiser, the Service Auction. Jen handles everything to do with the computer -- keeping lists of donors and recipients of services, making lists, making signs, being at the helm with her computer on auction night, and providing wonderful baking for the refreshment table. She served on the ABC team keeping notes and putting on a delicious Octoberfest lunch for canvass Sunday. She chairs the Music committee. When Jen takes minutes, you find them on your computer when you get home. Did we mention her wonderful baking?

Penny Boyce said:

I am full of praise for Jen Young and her many commitments to our church. She is Chair of the Music Committee and is a calm presence and is extremely well organized. I look forward to our monthly meetings which she leads with grace and efficiency. She respects the opinions voiced by committee members and works well with Nick Fairbank, our Director of Music. It was her idea to send to all the church choirs a weekly update of choral events in the Victoria area, called "Put It In Your Calendar".



Continued on the next page

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Jen is involved in many aspects of the church. In April, the Goods and Services Auction benefits from her amazing ability to multi task.

We are very lucky to have her as Chair of our Music Committee and always look forward to the baking she brings to our meetings! I am delighted that she will be the Honoured Volunteer of the Month in April.

Suellen Guenther said:

Jen Young's organizational and computer skills have been a great asset to our church. She is also skilled at design and has created many posters for choir concerts, the Book Sale, and Auction Fever. The advertising, lists, bid sheets, and signs are all made by Jen. When I need a graphic to illustrate an article I have written, I turn to Jen. She willingly stepped in to do the newsletter with Barb Nyland, when Bob suddenly died. Jen records the notes for any committee she is on, as well as serving as Board secretary. Jen loves to cook and bake and contributes food generously for many church events. Jen loves to entertain and is a welcoming host for Neighbourhood Group gatherings. I could not continue as Special Events Fundraising coordinator without Jen's help!

SINGING ALL AROUND

One of the great pleasures of life for many of us is lifting our hearts in song. Sometimes we do that quietly on our morning walks, sometimes we do it loudly in the shower. In our lives we can be especially blessed by moments when we join in singing with others - around the dinner table, at the campfire under the stars, at vigils and marches with friends seeking justice. In these places, we almost always sing shorter, simpler songs - easy to follow, easy to remember and lots of fun. Rounds, like *Gathered Here*; zipper songs,

like *I've Got Peace Like a River*; chants, like *Return Again*; even multi-layered pieces like *Meditation on Breathing*. In the familiar and the clear, even those who are tentative in their singing can find a confident voice, and many start to find the freedom to explore new rhythms and new harmonies, and you'll likely even find some new friends for singing around a backyard fire.

Join community song leaders Nancy Dobbs and Jewel Spooner, as well as Ministerial Intern, Christopher Wulff, for a monthly afternoon of singing heart songs, circle songs, sacred songs and more in a community of joyful sharing. We'll meet from 2:30-4:00 at the church on March 2, March 30, May 4 and June 1. Come join us in making a joyful noise!

UUJME Young Adult Travel Scholarships Available Christine Johnson



UUJME is offering travel scholarships in 2018 to UU young adults aged 18-35 for trips to the Middle East to enable them to take part in activities that will help further UJME's mission and the cause of justice, peace, and human rights in Israel-Palestine. Look up the UJME website for further details.

Please forward this information to any UU young adults who might be interested!

NEW MEMBERS

MARTHA MCDUGALL

Sharon Flaherty

There came a time as a member of the Catholic Church that I knew in my heart I could no longer remain. But I needed that spiritual connection with others and, with my liberal outlook, I wondered if the Unitarian church could be a possibility.

I read the book 'A Chosen Faith', started attending services and went to a considering membership session.

I am happy to say that I feel that FUCV is what I have been looking for my entire life! Our values mesh, the vibe is authentic, the music is awesome and Rev. Melora and Rev. Shana are completely inspiring.

I have lived in Victoria for almost 16 years, a transplant from Ontario. Most of my family still lives in Ontario. I am single with no children.

I was a nurse for 35 years and worked mostly in obstetrics. I now work part-time at the Paper Chain at Mattick's Farm, my lovely retirement job.

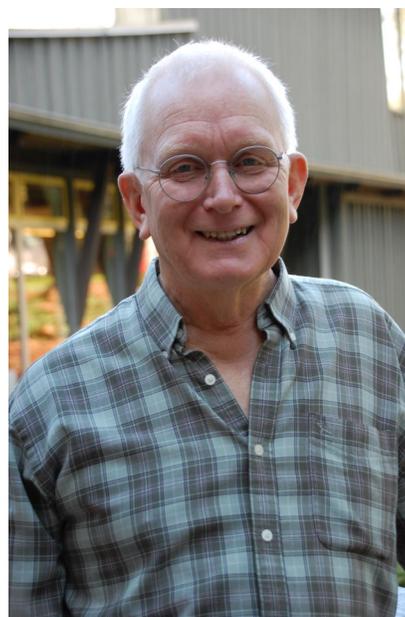
Kressa Sisu



I, Kressa, am of Finnish decent and have numerous interests and passions. The one that is foremost at this time in my life is my work in Africa. I work with the Maasai people in Tanzania with an organization called Maasai Friends 4Good. We are focused on sustainability and education. I have learned so much from these beautiful people and they feel like family. I Lead Team groups and we do builds together with the Maasai people. On one of our projects we built a classroom in 8 days. What an exhilarating and soul inspiring experience!

My other joy is hanging out with grand kids and thanks to my time as a flight attendant with West Jet, I have flying privileges that I am so grateful for. My family is all out East. They bring out the playful side of me. I do love to play and have fun and see the lighter side of life, though I can get caught up in the outer experience, my intention is always to calm the antics of my mind and live life from the inside out. I am a strong believer in what you put out you get back. I also love the outdoors and am an avid camper, tent and sleeping bag, kind. It is so grounding to be in nature and it fills my heart with more joy.

My back ground is in social services, though I have had a varied career to say the least. I'm always reinventing myself and look forward to my next adventure! I am so happy to have found this community to call my spiritual home.



Mark Danley

I moved with my partner to Victoria from Kamloops four years ago.

Since I was new to town I was keeping my eyes open for some kind of spiritual connection, so I attended an inter-faith meeting at UVic. There were a number of speakers from different faiths but the one that really made the impression on me was Rev. Shana. I said to myself: "She's speaking my language."

So I attended a Sunday service. It turned out to be the last Sunday for Rev. Shana and Rev. Melora before their sabbatical break — and it was Rev. Melora who spoke. But I realized more than ever that I liked what I was hearing and I liked the experience.

I enjoy the openness and friendliness of the congregation. It's an opportunity to meet really interesting people who love to have spiritual conversations and who are looking for the Truth.

Retired now for a number of years, I was born and raised in B.C. and have lived on the coast for all but 15 years.

BOARD REPORT

LORNA ANTHONY

Following is a snapshot of the March 6th, 2018 Board meeting. A full set of minutes is posted on the Lion Hall bulletin board as well as being available in the office.

Pat Conroy, a member of the Legacy Team, was invited to the Board meeting to explain the Endowment Fund Policy. This was to give the Board more information as they prepare to attend the Finance forums in March and April. Also, the policy manual is to be updated to reflect any changes.

The Strategic Planning team is meeting to bring forward concrete options for our April Board meeting.

“Coffee on Me” will be reinstated in September. Anyone who wishes may sign up to sponsor a coffee hour. The \$30 will bring in some revenue but the main reason is for community building. The “coffee on me” is a way to recognize celebrations or events in the lives of our members and friends. R

Rev. Shana and Nadia are in the process of interviewing applicants for the role of Administrative Assistant.

Chris Wulff, our Ministerial Intern, will join us by skype for the next meeting. A reminder was given regarding the upcoming annual reports which will soon be due in the office.

Our treasurer, Jane Wilson, has finished compiling the year-end information to deliver to the accountants. T4 and T4A forms were completed for staff and contractors. In addition, the Income Tax receipts were distributed after church on two Sundays with the remainder being mailed on Feb. 28th. Jane also gave a breakdown of how investment income is applied to the operating fund.

John Worton reported on behalf of the Refugee committee that a lawyer will appeal the government’s decision not to admit the refugee family we chose to sponsor. Money for the legal challenge will be borrowed from the Refugee Fund and will be paid back by individuals who have committed to this.

A fire escape is to be built from the upper floor of the Montessori/SEL-CY wing during Spring Break so as not to interrupt the Montessori program. Children’s International Summer Village (CISV) has asked to rent space from us for two weeks this summer. Having a fire escape from the upper floor so that sleeping can happen in that space was one of the conditions. Rental from CISV will go to paying for the fire escape which has been seen as a priority for some time.

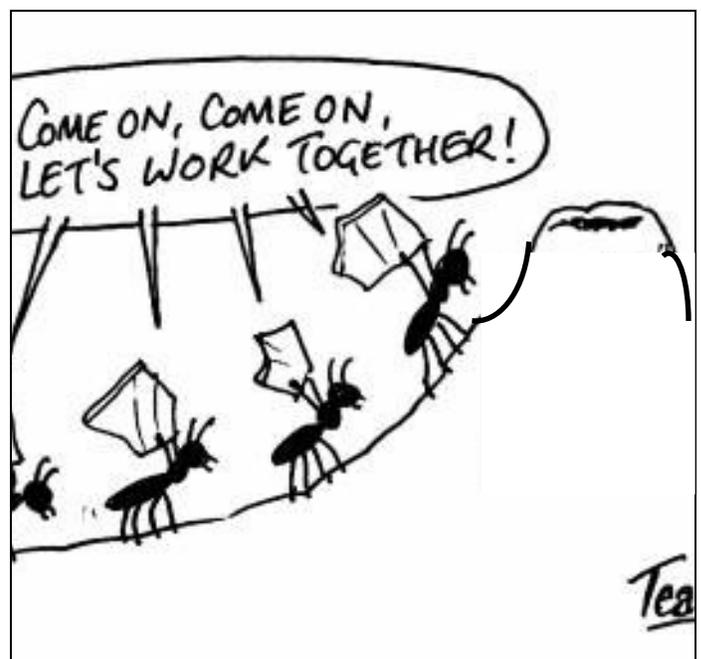
A motion was carried to revise changes to SEL-CY youth sleep-over plans. John Worton will advise Andy Lee and he will update the “Abuse Prevention Plan.”

We have learned that BC Transit is planning to provide transit 7 days/week along West Saanich Rd. Nancy and Rebecca attended the transit open house to promote the church’s needs. A follow-up letter from the Board will be written.

A thank-you card was signed by the Board for Karen Potts who will be leaving her position as part-time bookkeeper at the end of March.

Membership Changes: New Members – Dale Rasmussen, Barbara Rintoul, Robert Rintoul, Jim Willis and Glenyss Turner. Death – Daphne Dunbar

As always, if you have any questions/concerns/



REFUGEE REPORT

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE from the Refugee Steering Committee: As you are aware, our congregation has raised funds to support the settlement in Victoria of a Syrian refugee family - parents and four children (with another expected this March).

The family, currently resident in Turkey, received notice from the Canadian Government on February 6, 2018 that their application to enter Canada has been denied.

Based on information available to us about reasons for the refusal, the Committee is currently launching an appeal process. The Board has approved our wish to support and bear witness (as described by Rev. Shana in her recent sermon) to show our concern for the family.

Under government regulations, the appeal will be submitted by a Canadian relation (Ali Hamado who spoke at our church two years ago). To date, approximately 60% of legal costs have been donated independently of money raised by the congregation for the resettlement of the family. Additional donations are welcome from other refugee supporters.

Relatives of the family were also refused entry on identical grounds.

The Refugee Steering Committee is moving forward and will provide further updates as soon as possible.

GVAT REPORT

SUSAN LAYNG

FOR ALL FUCV MEMBERS!!

Are you interested in the training offered by GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together) and becoming more involved with this worthwhile group? There will be another opportunity to attend this incredible training day on Friday, April 6th from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm – BCGEU Hall, 2994 Douglas Street, Victoria. Please consider representing FUCV. We need more trained members and of course, as a member of GVAT, there will be no charge for this training. This will be the last opportunity for training until the Fall. Registration prior to this workshop is required. Kindly RSVP on the GVAT website: www.gvat.ca

Our Listening Campaign is starting this month! This Campaign is a focused effort to build unity and identify concerns and priorities within the communities in which we reside. As a result, it is hoped that this endeavour will assist our group, shape its vision and find out where it is now and where it wants to go in the future. “Listening” is accomplished through one-on-one house meetings or small group (five to six persons) sessions to be held at the church or in private homes. This is an exciting time to talk about the issues you care about and the challenges and pressures facing you, your loved ones and your broader community. You’ll also have an opportunity to share concerns and ideas that you would like the greater GVAT organization to address. You will be heard! There are several dates and locations to choose from. For those who are interested in becoming involved, follow this link to the FUCV website: <http://victoriaunitarian.ca/program/gvat-listening-campaign/> and enter your preference. Many thanks to those you have already signed up. This is for everyone! Please come and join us for these thought-provoking conversations!!

NATALIE BRAKE**COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT**

Natalie is new to the office team and will be working alongside Nadia on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Her role is to support and expand on communication efforts both internally at the church and externally, with social media and the website. She comes from a background in communications and has worked in the Tiny Home, Natural Health/Wellness, and Technology Industries.



When we met Natalie she shared with us that she was always drawn to the topics that we share on our outdoor signage as she drives along to her favorite hiking spots in the area. She has a passion for human connection and especially values environmental work, children/youth and education. She has taken several courses in Non-Violent Communication and loves how much the skills have enriched her life. She also likes the work of Joanna Macy and Deep Ecology. Overall, Natalie sees the many parallels between her personal interests and the values and mission of the First Unitarian Church of Victoria.

Apart from her time in the office, Natalie is a visual artist who paints out of her studio in Fairfield. She shows her work in galleries and cafes in Victoria, the United States, the UK, and Mexico. Her painting style is abstract expressionism and her inspiration is the dynamic and powerful energy of nature. To see her artwork, visit her website at: www.nataliebrake.com, [or click here](#).

Natalie likes people a lot and is always excited to see new faces and build relationships, so she invites you to say hello and chat if you see her at the church.

Would You Like to Serve as a Worship Associate Next Fall?

We are recruiting now for Worship Associates to start in September 2018. Do you have some stories to tell? Do you like writing? Are you good at organizing and responsible follow-through? Are you comfortable speaking clearly into a microphone? Would you like to help us co-create worship services? Are you not sure about some of this, but would like to learn how?

Mandatory training Saturday, September 8, 9:30-4pm. Monthly meetings with the team. Two to three year terms.

To apply, and for more information, get the 'information and application form' posted on our website.

[Click here to access the form.](#)

If you don't have web access or if you have further questions, contact Rev. Melora 250-891-6330 text/cell.

ART AND SPIRITUALITY

LEIGH WATERS

This series of three offerings in the newsletter on art works and spirituality is the idea of Anne Vaasjo. They emerge from our conversations about having more visual art about spirituality in our lives and at church. As an art student of visual art and art history, I spent many years in a darkened room with projections of art on the wall, and one of the strongest and most persistent ponderings from this very potent period of my life has left me with, is; what is spirituality in art?

Weekly at congregation we engage our hearts and minds with great choral works by historic and contemporary composers of classical to folk and jazz music. However, we do not, as congregations, participate in group consumption of visual art to express spirituality and support our UU values and this has created a craving for me. I am spurred on to fulfill this craving by the very musical works that we celebrate in our services.

The sublime, from the 15th century; nature is perceived as an overwhelming and possibly deadly force. In subsequent centuries of visual art we find the sublime painted not just in wilderness, but the passing of seasons or the peaceful sunset or sunrise and the cultivated fields. Max Ernst and the Surrealists challenged all definitions of the sublime, uprooting it completely when they conceived that man's dreams and unconscious represented the sublime as they are the force of nature within us, man and his mind is nature and a fierce and destructive one at times.



A German, Ernst fought on two fronts in the First World War and was severely traumatized by it. To cope with his experiences, he developed spiritual images from his dreams with an edge of discomfort, which were meant to cause reactions. The Surrealists did not write about the spiritual; they created images. Looking back at his work it also speaks of the therapeutic value of art making, how as a spiritual expression Ernst was able to not only come to terms with his traumas but have stability of character to later resist the Nazi pressure in Germany to destroy Modern Art and artists, and, to live in relationships with both men and women. To survive he fled Germany to Paris and eventually to Arizona.

My first memory of the concept of sublime having impact on me was with a Max Ernst painting shown in a History of Modern Art class. I immediately related to his landscapes with orb or circle symbolizing the sublime. Max Ernst's painting was a revelation for me- the spiritual representing nature and the nature of man. I did not focus at that time much on his surrealistic paintings, which seem to me a little bizarre, and choose to remember his work as about nature. Perhaps I eschewed from my mind the complex and disturbing scenes in his painting to block out my own traumas.

I often hear Unitarians say they seek or feel the spiritual in nature, and I do as well. After seeing Ernst's work I used the disc in some of my work, combining with the triangle as symbol of the feminine. The triangle is also a symbol of valley and mountain in Taoism, a non-theistic philosophy. The disc expressed my attachment to the prairie and mountain wilderness of Alberta. This relationship began by playing in the woods before I was 5 years old. Working in the back country trails for Banff Park further cemented both my love of wilderness, finding comfort in its immensity, a secure feeling of my insignificance in it and non separateness of me as a human being from nature. And fear, every time I go for a hike or ski I felt fear but it keeps me prepared and aware. The nature of man, both great and destructive, also found its way to me in the therapeutic work of art with mentally ill people, those who experienced trauma and those with disabilities. Discomforting images were made tolerable and safe by the Surrealists, much as people find healing from trauma and spiritual wholeness in the making of images, how to create safety from images that are uncomfortable, or to express hope and healing.



With Surrealism's advent art became not only divorced from having a distinct religious function, it challenged people to express in a personal theology both difficult experiences and their sense of belonging to nature and man.

HOW PROJECTS 2018

Opportunities to Change Lives in Tanzania and the Philippines

Once again church members have stepped forward with Healing Our World projects, this year to help school children in Tanzania, and young women living in the slums of Manila, the Philippines.

Kressa Sisu's idea:

"In 2012, a group of us from a spiritual center in Victoria decided to do an outreach project in a developing country and through synchronistic events we were led to a small village of Maasai people, Makuyni, in Tanzania. We asked the people there how we could help and their desire was to provide education for their children. We raised funds and a school was built in 2013. In 2015, we met Adrian Bohach from Enterprise 4Good (then called The Ability Society) and learned about its international involvement in community projects and voluntourism. We formed Maasai Friends4Good and have been working with them on this project since.

To date we have four classrooms, latrines, a kitchen, a jewelry shop, outbuildings to begin a chicken farm and a Mamas' sewing shop.

Our next project is to build a dormitory to house children who are unable to travel long distances to go to school. The unique thing about our school is we teach English and Swahili to Maasai children who only speak Maa. Going to the government schools is very challenging for them as they don't speak the language. At this moment we have 116 kids going to our school. Our mandate is to keep class sizes to 40 and have approximately 70 percent girls attending school. In addition to providing education to Maasai children who live a distance away, this overall development also creates some income to assist with sustaining our school.

Life for the Maasai people has changed dramatically with global warming. Many of the village's cows have died and they know that education is the key to a better life and they want this for themselves and their children.

Our church would partner with the Ability Society (a registered Canadian charity) to help build the school dormitory. Our target is \$5,000. Overall cost is \$21,330." - Kressa.

To make a donation to this project, please make your cheque payable to First Unitarian Church of Victoria and on the memo line write – "HOW – Maasai." If you want your donation to be shared between our two projects, just write "HOW." You can drop your donation into the collection basket Sundays or leave it at the church office marked "attention, Treasurer." - Thank you.

Hugo Sutmoller's idea:

The Likhaan Centre for Women's Health is based in the Philippines, operating family planning clinics in poor and marginalized communities around Manila with support from Inter Pares and other funders. They deliver comprehensive primary health care with an emphasis on women's health. Likhaan's clinics serve over 30,000 patients annually.

The Centre provides poor women in the slums of Manila with quality primary health care and access to family planning through local clinics. The clinic staff is made up of women who are trusted leaders from the communities where they work and who have trained as community health workers. Likhaan educates poor women and youth in the slum areas about sexual and reproductive health.

Likhaan also works to change government policies that prevent women from having access to these services. Likhaan was a leader in the struggle for the Reproductive Health Law, which was approved in 2014, making the provision of reproductive health services for women a responsibility for local governments. They also pushed, successfully, for the government to invest in a public health insurance program for the poor.

To help in this work, our church would partner with Inter Pares, a registered Canadian charity which has been assisting this health initiative for many years. Our target is \$4,000 in support of a women's health clinic. Overall cost is \$9,790.

To make a donation to this project, please make your cheque payable to First Unitarian Church of Victoria and on the memo line write – "HOW – Manila." If you want your donation to be shared between our two projects, just write "HOW." You can drop your donation into the collection basket Sundays or leave it at the church office marked "attention, Treasurer." - Thank you.

AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**SUELLEN GUENTHER**

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

Cadboro Bay: This NG will be partnering with James Bay to serve the April 15 Souper Lunch. They will also be working as a group to offer the very popular “Beer, Bocce, & Burgers” in the Services Auction on April 20.

Esquimalt: Maureen Sherlock writes, “Esquimalt Neighbourhood Group had a potluck on February 23rd at Cedar Shores hosted by Barbara Boyle. Fourteen people attended. We enjoyed meeting Steve’s son, Jason, who was visiting from Edmonton, and hearing about Emma's plans for her upcoming trip to India. We are busy preparing for Souper Sunday on March 18, for which we will be teamed up with Western.” This busy group will also be offering a progressive dinner in the April 20 auction.

Fairfield: Approximately 15 people attended the Feb. 18 potluck at Catherine Ramsay’s. As planned, guests discussed the effect books they had read recently had had on them and why. A list of the books was compiled for members who were unable to attend. Fairfield will be gearing up to provide goodies for the church for coffee time in April.

Far Out: Phyllis Aherne writes, “The Far-Out group met on Feb. 24, 4 to 6 pm, at Penny and Farrell Boyce’s lovely home for a gathering with finger foods and beverages. 17 people attended and we welcomed back a former member, Pam Harte, who has moved back to Sydney. Announcements were made about the memorial for Renate Herberger’s son on March 23 and also about Clare Vipond stepping-up to relieve Penny Boyce of the Convener back-up position, which Penny has held for many years. Thank you, Clare. Farrell provided music for a sing-a-long before we dispersed.”

Gordon Head: From Mary Cramer we hear, “Gordon Head, with Grand Central NG, hosted a successful and very busy Souper Sunday the last Sunday in February. We received donations of \$566.50 and we fed over 105 folks! Thanks to everyone for their support, whether cooking, preparing, cleaning or joining us to eat lunch! We will now look for a date and a location for a spring potluck.”

Grand Central: Marya Nijland sent out this invitation, “Our UU Edmonton Snowbirds, Sylvia & Alan, will be hosting a Green Tea Party at Spencer Castle on St Patrick's Day, Sat. March 17. We are expecting about a dozen adults and children and we hope to go for a walk to Summit Park prior to our gathering, to enjoy the spectacular spring flowers there! We are warmly welcoming several new members to our UU NG, such as Naida Hyde who is a transfer from Royal Oak East.” Grand Central worked with Gordon Head to host the very successful Souper Lunch on Feb. 25.

James Bay: This NG will be busy hosting the Souper Lunch with Cadboro Bay on April 15. Lynn Hunter writes, “I am pleased to report that Carol Smith has stepped forward to take the place of Daphne Dunbar as Care and Concern coordinator for our neighbourhood group.”

Nearby: This crew kept the church in goodies in February for coffee time.

Oak Bay: John Tiffany writes, “OBNG will have a pre-auction potluck on April 14th, Saturday, at Jany's & Tiff's home. The theme will be: your best pet story. OBNG will also be holding our monthly luncheon at the Fern Cafe on the third Wednesday of the month (April 18). Spring has sprung and so are we!”

Royal Oak East: The next appetizers and dessert gathering for this group will be Tuesday, March 20. They have been the busy bakers who have provided coffee time goodies in March.

Continued from previous page...

Royal Oak West: Martha McDougall writes, “Nineteen members of the ROW NG met for a potluck supper at the home of Jen and Lance Young on Saturday, 17 February. There was lively discussion and, of course, delicious food! The group discussed plans to support the church at the Auction on 20 April. Creative ideas were tossed around and the group will be hosting a Jazz Vespers Salad Sampler evening on June 10, games night, and many other smaller events.

Western: Susan Lean and her group will be working with Esquimalt to provide the Souper Lunch on March 18.



SRC DEMOCRACY TEAM

PHILIP SYMONS / SONYA IGNATIEFF

Proportional representation systems, general

If you completed the government’s questionnaire on electoral reform in February you may remember that the questionnaire asked, “*If the government offers a choice of more than one proportional representation system [in the referendum next fall], which [of the given choices] do you prefer?*” Fair Vote Canada recommended that “*voters rank-order their support for all the proposed systems.*”

Fine, but how are you to rank-order PR systems if you know little or nothing about them? In forthcoming months, the two major PR systems and some hybrids will be described in this column, but here are some things to remember in the meantime.

1. The good news: it doesn’t really matter which PR system you choose! Every system will bring the proportion of parties in the legislature closer to the proportion of votes they received in the election than does First Past the Post, and that’s what we want.
2. More good news: all PR systems are easy for voters to use. Each allows you to mark your ballot with an X, or (in some cases explained in later columns) will allow you to rank-order candidates. If you can write X or count to ten, you can vote!
3. All systems have their advantages and disadvantages. The system you prefer will depend on your personal priorities such as a) the size of ridings (with all the systems the government is considering, riding sizes will probably increase a little); b) whether you prefer the number of Members in the Legislature to remain the same or to increase; c) whether you have a local representative (you will always have a local representative under the systems being considered), and whether you have a representative whom you can meet from the party you prefer.
4. Don’t worry about how votes are analysed. Analyses can get complicated, but they are perfectly logical and involve nothing more than simple arithmetic—there’s no magic involved. A caller to CBC radio swore to vote against PR because he couldn’t vote for a system he did not understand. We hope he doesn’t drive a car, because almost certainly he won’t understand exactly how it works—and you can kill with one of those things, which isn’t possible with voting systems!

SRC ACTION OF THE MONTH

SRC Action of the Month: Protect our Oceans from Plastic Pollution

Most of us were, until recently, unaware of the true dimensions of the plastic contamination of our oceans. An illustration of the sheer magnitude of the problem is that as much as 51 trillion microplastic particles – 500 times more than stars in our galaxy – litter the seas. Each year, more than eight million metric tonnes of plastic end up in oceans, wreaking havoc on marine wildlife, fisheries and tourism, and cost at least \$8 billion in damage to marine ecosystems.

[Read more about the story here.](#)

The Guardian has the following suggestions for individual action:

Say goodbye to bottled water. A million plastic bottles of water [are bought around the world every minute](#) – most of which end up in landfill or the oceans. By 2050, the ocean will contain more plastic by weight than fish, according to [research](#) by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. Buy a reusable water bottle. Fill it up from a tap.

Take your own cutlery. If you are going to pop out for a takeaway meal or a soup at lunchtime, don't use a plastic knife, fork or spoon. Bring your own from the cutlery drawer at home. (You may get a few odd looks, but don't worry; you are right and they are wrong.)

Take your own mug. If you are getting coffee on the go, bring your own cup (fancy reusable ones are available but a mug from home will suffice – especially if you are not planning on drinking and walking at the same time).

Use your own, non-plastic bags when shopping. (Congratulations to the City of Victoria for their legislation.) Avoid buying products with excessive plastic packaging and other superfluous plastic items, from coffee stirrers to plastic-wrapped bananas and single-portion coffee pods. Also choose products without microbeads.

[Read more about plastic and solutions to this problem here.](#)

Locally, the [Surfrider Foundation](#) is **campaigning against single use plastic straws**. Start refusing them in restaurants and/or request paper or other compostable straws.

Even more locally, help prevent contamination of Tod Inlet by assisting with an after service cleanup of the part of the Interurban Trail close to the church which drains into Tod Creek. Details TBA in the e-weekly.

Finally, please support the Sea Change Marine Conservation Society which is this month's Share The Plate.



Path to Membership



Are you new to our church?

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

Would you like to know more?

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

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

STEP TWO: *Newcomer Orientation, dates to be announced*

This is a gathering for all newcomers, whether you've just walked through the door or have 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.

STEP THREE: *Considering Membership, May 13, 12:15—2:15pm, Common Room*

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.

Events are held Sundays after church. A light lunch is available and child minding is provided on request.

To sign up for either or both of these events, or if you have questions, please contact

Reverend Shana Lynngood at rev.shana@victoriaunitarian.ca or cell (250) 891-6330.

STEP FOUR: *Application for Membership*. Fill out the application found in the membership packet. Submit the application and a financial pledge or contribution to the 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.

Another event to watch for:

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

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

Auction Fever Sampler

lots more to come...

Don't Miss It!
Friday April 20
Silent Auction: 6pm
Live Auction: 7pm

Grey Cup Party. Sunday, November 25 @ 3 p.m. Football, food, fun for eight people. Donated by Earle and Lorna Anthony.

Authentic Chinese Food. Six lucky people will have the unique opportunity to spend an evening with Jany and Tiff, enjoying a meal of homemade Chinese soup and dumplings, both savoury and sweet. Tiff says he never orders dumplings in a Chinese restaurant because Jany's are so much better! 6:00 on Nov.17.

Handyman Services: Three hours doing cleanup, gardening, hedge pruning, or small household repairs for each of three different bidders. Minimum bid is \$75. Offered by Andy Lee.

SoBo Sampler. Jen Young will serve an array of delicious gourmet dishes, using recipes from Chef Lisa Ahier's cookbook from the famous SoBo Restaurant in Tofino. Tantalizing West Coast cuisine featuring fresh ingredients and complex flavours. Wine and Beer included. 10 guests on Saturday June 16 at 6pm. Offered by the Youngs.

Barbecue on the Deck. Come to a soirée to celebrate the last warm nights of summer. Join the Young family for dinner on the deck featuring barbecued kebabs and a refined menu of side dishes and desserts to tempt your palate. Dairy Free, Gluten Free and Veggie options available. Popular musical offerings performed by Braden. Beer and wine included. Room for 14 guests on Friday September 7 at 5pm.

Sermon: Rev. Melora will offer a 'sermon on a topic of your choice'. Offer includes a meeting with the minister to discuss the topic chosen.

Sermon: Rev. Shana will offer a 'sermon on a topic of your choice'. Offer includes a meeting with the minister to discuss the topic chosen.

Picnic in East Sooke Park. An old-fashioned picnic of deviled eggs, chicken, potato salad, watermelon, cookies, and more on a weekday in July or August. Carpool to the picnic site at Aylard Farm in East Sooke Park. Five minute level walk from the parking lot to the picnic tables and easy access to the sand beach. Hiking trails to explore. 10 spaces. Offered by Suellen Guenther with dessert by Jen Young.

Peninsula BBQ: Join Nancy Dobbs, Francois Duruisseau and Isabelle Grenon for a chicken BBQ, with peninsula corn, salads and dessert, Saturday, July 28. Available for 8 guests. Perhaps there will be a sing-a-long? Offered at Nancy's home in Brentwood Bay.

Paint a Room: Have brushes, will travel. Pat and Mike are again this year offering to paint a room. You supply the paint and room. We supply the equipment. No height over nine feet please. Offered by Pat Conroy, Mike Graham and new apprentice Lance Young.

Dinner at the Union Club: Join Karen and Steve Sharlow as their guests for a classy dinner at the Union Club on a mutually agreeable evening. Delicious menu featuring fresh, locally sourced food. Drinks included. Play billiards, if tables are free. Also includes a tour of the facility, which is in a historic part of Victoria. Offered for four guests.

Pulled Pork Dinner with Homemade Ice Cream: Dinner for 14 featuring pulled pork sandwiches with coleslaw, baked beans and dessert including homemade ice cream. Saturday, June 2nd. Hosted by Mary Cramer, Pat Conroy, Mike and Lisa Greenly.

History Tour of Victoria: presented by Peter Scales, MA. Two hours. Three spaces available. Value \$50 each.

Hornby Island is a great place to visit: swim at sandy beaches, walk, bike or kayak in many beautiful areas. Stay on our treed acre, near the ocean, for a week in the summer of 2018. There is electricity, an outhouse and a simple one room cabin (queen hide-a-bed, but no indoor plumbing). Also, there is a 23-ft travel trailer (sleeps two adults and two kids) and a grassy area to set up tents. To find out more, contact the Dakins at 250 744-1357. Offered by Elaine and Allan Dakin.

Death By Chocolate. Celebrate a special occasion, treat your friends, or indulge your family with this rich and delicious chocolate cake. Offered by Ruth Telford.

Auction Fever Sampler cont'd

Bed & Breakfast: Be a tourist in your own town! Lynn Hunter and Don Armstrong are offering two nights in their beautiful waterfront condo on the harbour, with easy walking distance to nearby restaurants, the Museum, the Legislature, and downtown shopping. Queen size Murphy bed and your own bathroom. Put up your out-of-town guests or treat yourself to a unique experience close to home. Congenial hosts and no travel costs!

Dinner from the Dordogne: Liz and Mike will create a five course dinner using menus featured in Martin Walker's 'Bruno, Chief of Police' novel series set in France's Dordogne Valley. Wines to match! Think of pate, cheeses, duck, walnuts, strawberries and other tasty treats. Yum! Saturday, July 14. 8 spaces. Offered by Liz and Mike Graham.

Progressive Dinner: Enjoy appetizers while gazing at the dramatic waterfront view from Betty Sherwood's home; move on for the main course to John & Gloria Hopewell's beautiful waterside condo; and finish with dessert at Marion Pape's environmentally-designed condo in Docksides Green. Saturday, May 19. 10 spaces. Sponsored by the Esquimalt NG.

Handmade Quilt: Custom Quilt by Liz Graham. Liz offers either a baby quilt, a table runner or mats or equivalent size project made especially for you after consulting with you about colours and style. Value \$100+

Swiss Dinner: Would you like to join us for a five course meal featuring totally Swiss Cuisine? Saturday afternoon, Nov. 10. 1:00 p.m. 8 spaces. Hosted in Oak Bay. Offered by chefs Karla Thomson and Betty Sherwood.

Custom Made Quilt: A custom made lap or sofa quilt, approximately 4'X5'. You pick the colours you would like. I will do the design/pattern. Minimum bid: \$100. Offered by Karla Thomson.

Victoria B & B. Accommodation and breakfast, conveniently located in James Bay, walking distance to downtown, Beacon Hill Park, the Museum, and two blocks from Fisherman's Wharf. Queen bedroom with ensuite bathroom. Stairs from foyer to bedroom and from bedroom to living area (four flights). Treat yourself to a downtown get-away or book it for your out-of-town guests. Two nights at a mutually agreed upon time. Offered by Carol and David Smith.

Spring Has Sprung. Treat yourself to a fresh new makeover for a room, closet, or ____ in your home by letting go of those unloved and unused items in your midst! Using items that you already have, I will help you create a more welcoming and comfortable environment for your pleasure and relaxation. Ahhh. Four hours. Offered by Sandra Jacobsen.

Julia Child Dinner. Appies and Wine: Light Hors d'oeuvres and wine. First Course: Charcuterie plate 'Terrines and Pâtés', mostly homemade (similar to Chou-Chou Charcuterie or Fol Épi). Entrée: Bœuf Bourguignon, Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable. Salad: Fresh Greens from the garden. Dessert: "Œufs à la Neige", Floating Islands. Coffee, tea. Saturday, Nov. 10. 7 guests max. Offered by Isabelle Grenon and Francois Duruisseau.

Progressive Dinner. Enjoy a mid-day three course gourmet dinner on a Saturday in late October. 6 spaces. Hosted by Marya Nijland, Sandra Jacobsen and Jane Wilson and sponsored by the Grand Central Neighbourhood Group.

Beer and Brats. A German BBQ featuring craft beer, a selection of bratwurst sausages, German-style salads, and dessert in a country setting. 6:00 Saturday, August 25. 10 spaces. Offered by Astrid Firley Eaton and Andy Lee.

Edmonton Getaway. Sylvia and Alan will book the party room in their centrally located apartment complex for your stay. Includes kitchenette, bathroom, and beds for up to 6 people. Available mid-April to end of Oct. for up to 5 days. Dates are negotiable. Sylvia Krogh and Alan Boyle, Apt. 101 The Woodcroft Condo, [11561 – 136 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta](#), phone [780-454-6216](#).

Hand Knit Cardigan. Hand knit washable women's cardigan, medium size. Minimum bid: \$100. Offered by Marya Nijland.

Beaded Necklace. Gorgeous colourful beaded necklace from CHI-India. Minimum bid \$35. Donated by Mary Nijland-

Greeting Cards: A set of 3 greeting cards featuring Mary Cramer's beautiful photographs. \$12 value. Two identical sets; one set each to the 2 highest bids. Offered by Mary Cramer.

Red and White Cotton Scarf: Washable. [Hand Woven by Thea Revoy.](#)

Pink Acrylic Scarf: Hand Woven by Thea Revoy.

Dressy Beaded Scarf: Hand Woven by Thea Revoy.

Hand Knitted Vest: Donated by Astrid Firley-Eaton.

Gorgeous Creamer/Sugar Set: Signed by the artist. Donated by Liz Graham.

Indoor-Outdoor Mosaic by Anne Swannell: Measures 2 feet x 2 feet. Minimum Bid: \$100. Donated by Anne Swannell. (see photo)

Brushed Mohair Scarf: Lilac. Hand Woven by Thea Revoy.

Auction Fever Sampler cont'd

Lunch at Becher Bay Marina. We will pick you up for a scenic drive to Becher Bay Marina. Lunch at the Smokin Tuna Cafe with delicious food, reasonable prices, and a stunning waterfront view of the marina. June, July, or early August. We'll provide the transportation and you pay for your lunch. 9 spaces. \$10 each. Offered by Nancy Dobbs, Jen Young, and Suellen Guenther.

Art Tour & Tea. Rev. Fran Dearman is offering a tour of her art collection, gathered in the course of her various ministries from coast to coast. Come enjoy the art pieces and the stories that go with them. Relax in the garden with a cup of tea and a slice of Suzanne's famous carrot cake. Saturday, August 25. 2:00-4:00 p.m. 10 spaces. \$12 per person.

Tea and Poetry. Tea and poetry go together like milk and cookies, like wine and cheese, like women and friendship. The Wednesday Women's Group will be reading contemporary and traditional poems accompanied by tea and culinary delights. Sunday, May 27, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Lion Hall. 20 spaces. Minimum 12 guests to proceed. \$15 per person. Offered by the Wednesday Women's Group. Contact: Suzanne Beauchamp.

Bridge and Lunch: Four spaces at the table on Saturday, May 12 at 12:00. \$25 per person. Offered by Myra Rippon.

Oak Bay Tea Party: Gather at Suzanne Dearman's heritage house at 10:30am on Saturday, June 2 for a front row place to watch the Oak Bay Tea Party Parade. After the parade, Suzanne will serve a delicious lunch of homemade soup and sandwiches. 6 people at \$15 each.

Sunday Supper at Suzanne's. Roast chicken dinner, English dessert. Each guest leaves with a jar of jam. Sunday, September 23 at 5:30. 6 spaces. \$18 per person. Offered by Suzanne Dearman.

Naturopathic Discussion. Cecilia Stevens, daughter of Kristina Stevens, is in her final year of naturopathic medical training. She will lead a discussion on chronic conditions, aging, and the naturopathic approach to managing health and achieving wellness. Information and time for questions. Saturday, June 9, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. in Lion Hall. 12 spaces. \$20 per person. Offered by Cecilia Stevens.

Frozen Smoked Salmon. Ten 1/2 pound packages of cold smoked lox salmon, frozen and vacuum sealed. One per person. \$20 each. Available for pickup at the end of the auction. Offered by Peter Hancock.

Euchre and Snacks. Do you miss playing Euchre or want to learn how? Euchre is a very simple and very fun card game slightly related to Bridge that four people can play. We will teach you how, provide enough snacks that you will not need dinner, and provide enough drinks that you should car pool. Saturday, May 12. 5:00 p.m.-9:00 pm. 13 spaces at \$30 per person. Winners get to come back and play again. Offered by Kent Haden, Leslie Duthie, and Martha McDougall.

Chemainus Getaway. Enjoy the scenery on the way to Chemainus and wander around looking at the famous murals. Relax over lunch. I'll do the driving; we each buy our own lunch. A Sunday in July. Three spaces. \$30 per person. Offered by Jan Thomson.

Homemade Bread. Six loaves of 60% wholewheat bread, freshly baked today. \$5 per loaf. Offered by Mark Danley.

Jazzy Salad Sampler. Enjoy a light summer supper in Lion Hall before Jazz Vespers. Sample many delicious salads, and take home the recipe for the ones you particularly like. Meal includes appies and sparkling wine, many different salads, recipes, and dessert. June 10 at 5:00 pm. 50 spaces. \$20 per person. Offered by the Royal Oak West NG.

Beer, Bocce, and Burgers. Play Bocce followed by dinner with an array of drinks, appetizers, salads, desserts and burgers (vegetarian and vegan upon request). Saturday, August 11 at 3:00 p.m.

Hosted by Fran and Peter Hancock at their new home: 2411 Queenswood Drive. Sponsored by Cadboro Bay NG and Royal Oak West NG. 16 spaces. \$40 per person.

Echoes From Viet Nam. Living history. Twelve of our members will tell us how their lives were deeply affected by the Viet Nam war. We will hear personal stories from many perspectives: coming to Canada because of the war, serving in Viet Nam, assisting draft dodgers, protesting the war, losing friends or family in the war, and traces of the war in modern-day Viet Nam. Refreshments will be served. May 25 in Lion Hall. 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. \$15 per person. Hosted by Suellen Guenther and Astrid Firley-Eaton.

Landscaping Advice. Horticulturist Val Roberts will give you two hours of expert advice on how to design your garden and which plants to choose. After the work is done, she will do a follow-up consultation.

Alterations: 2 items of clothing (hemming, mending or taking in or out etc). Zipper replacements or repairs not included. Services offered to the top two bidders. Offered by Thea Revoy.

Voice Instruction: A gift certificate for two hours of individual voice instruction. Can be taken as one two-hour session or 4 half-hour sessions in the September-December period. Any age welcome. \$120 value. Offered by Vocal Coach Melaney Black.

Neurofeedback Sessions: Three sessions of neurofeedback offered to one person. Neurofeedback, also called neurotherapy or neurobiofeedback, is a type of biofeedback that uses real-time displays of brain activity, via electroencephalography, to teach self-regulation of brain function. Excellent for stress, anxiety, depression, cognitive function, performance and many other conditions. A usual course of treatment is 20 sessions over 10 weeks. Value of this offer: \$240. Minimum bid: \$80. Offered by Elinor Bazar, Registered Clinical Counsellor and Neurofeedback Practitioner.

Closet Magic. Jan will help you transform one of your cluttered closets from chaos to order. She will help you decide what to keep and what to do with the things you don't want to keep. Minimum bid: \$50. Offered by Jan Thomson.

Paediatric Occupational Therapy. One sixty minute OT consultation by an experienced, licensed Occupational Therapist, with a child and their caregiver/family, to assess and provide a few strategies and resources to manage a child's sensory, visual-perceptual, coordination, attention or handwriting challenges. (Does not include full written assessment report). Value: \$100. Expires September 1, 2018. Offered by Pam Hood Szivek, Occupational Therapist, canadianchildrenstherapy.ca, 250-818-2034.

The Butchart Gardens. Three pairs of tickets for one-time complimentary admission to The Butchart Gardens. Not valid on Firework Saturdays or Special Events. Adult admission value: \$66 during Summer season, \$55 during Christmas season, and +/- \$60 during shoulder seasons. Three pairs of tickets available. One pair of tickets to each of the three highest bidders. Donated by Bradley and Madelaine Clarke, both long-time employees of The Gardens.

Goldstream Wine & Beer Making: \$180 Gift Certificate for a batch of wine at Goldstream Wine & Beer Making

Glo Hair & Body. Two \$25 gift certificates. Salon in Brentwood Bay. One each to the two highest bids.

Flying Fish Winery. \$50 gift certificate for any wine made on the Flying Fish Winery premises.

Borden Mercantile. Get your spring garden supplies with a \$20 gift certificate from Borden Mercantile. Donated by Borden Mercantile.

Sugared Nuts. A tin of my delicious sugared nuts (filberts, almonds & walnuts) from an old family recipe. Minimum bid: \$20. One tin each to the 2 highest bidders. Offered by Suellen Guenther.

Homemade Ice Cream or Sorbet: I will make a batch (approximately 14 half cup servings) of ice cream or sorbet (dairy free) in the flavour you choose. I have made vanilla, chocolate and mint chocolate chip ice cream and several fruit sorbets, but am willing to attempt other flavours. I can prepare this for your special occasion with approximately 2 weeks notice. Offered by Mary Cramer.

Christmas Pudding: Traditional English Christmas Pudding in a 6" bowl with hard rum sauce delivered in December. The purchaser will need to steam it for about 3 hours the day it's eaten. One pudding each to the two highest bidders. Offered by John Hopewell.

Cold Comfort Ice Cream: A custom-made pint and delivery of Cold Comfort Ice Cream. Treat yourself or give it as a unique gift. Cold Comfort Ice Cream is made in small batches with local, natural, organic ingredients. Dairy-free also available. \$25 value. Offered by Autumn Maxwell (daughter of Karen Furnes)

Homemade Preserves. A round basket stuffed with jam from Suzanne Dearman's kitchen.

Suzanne's Famous Carrot Cake: Suzanne will make three of her famous carrot cakes for your special occasion. Each cake serves 25. One cake each to the three highest bids. \$25 minimum bid. Offered by Suzanne Dearman.

Dutch Apple Pie. Two of Marya's popular large Dutch Apple pies with apples, walnuts and cranberries. Pie serves 12-16. One pie each to the two highest bids. Offered by Marya Nijland.

**More to come! What are you willing to offer?
Contact Suellen Guenther (sguenther@shaw.ca)
or Jen Young (uujenyong@gmail.com)
with your donations. Deadline is April 16.**

**Watch for the complete list in your inbox on April 17
Printed lists will be available at the Auction**

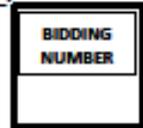
Turn into the Office by April 15 OR
 Email to: uujenyoung@gmail.com

2018 AUCTION FEVER ABSENTEE BID FORM

You don't have to be at AUCTION FEVER to bid on the items you want. Use THIS FORM to enter your bids for items in both the Live and Silent Auctions.

This form must be turned into the church office by Sunday April 15.

Name: _____ Email: _____
 Phone: _____



Regular Bid Items

Enter your bids here for the items you want. You will pay the final bid amount as long as your maximum bid is higher. If the bidding goes above your maximum, you lose. If you want it, you should bid "WIT" (whatever it takes). You will only pay what everyone else pays.

Item #*	Brief Description	How Many?	Maximum Bid Unit Price

** We will fill in the list number of the item you have described and assign your bidding number.*

PAYMENT PLAN – Please make arrangements before the auction.

- I will send a cheque or cash with someone who will be attending the auction.
- I will ask someone who is attending the auction to pay for my purchases that night.
- I will retrieve my envelop and pay for my purchases at the office as soon after the auction as possible.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR BIDS

the
Avalon

S I N G E R S

present



special guests

Royal Bay Concert Choir
Director: Karen Snowsell

Laurie Walker, Director
Kathy Russell, Accompanist
with Brad Hawkes, Percussionist

Location: **St. Aidan's United Church**
3703 St. Aidan's St.

Date: **Saturday, April 21, 2018**

Time: **7:00 pm**

Admission: **\$15.00**

www.avalonsingers.com



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LEELA GILDAY BAND ★ CRIS DERKSEN ★ LINDA MCRAE
RAE SPOON ★ DEER AND COYOTE ★ LAUREN MANN ★ WHITEBIRD
WASHINGTON & COOK ★ DECADES AFTER PARIS ★ THE LAKE MEN
BENEDICT BEATTIE ★ HOPE BAY COMMON ★ LIZ DIELEMAN

FRANCES LITMAN ★ IAN HINKLE ★ DR. CATHERINE NOLIN ★ DANNY BROCK ★ STAR WEISS ★ HENRI LOCK
 GREG MARCHAND ★ TANYA TAFT ★ MATT JACKSON ★ YVONNE BLOMER ★ BARBARA PELMAN ★ MARGO MCLOUGHLIN
 DAN MACISAAC ★ PHILIP KEVIN PAUL ★ FR. KARAM ALRABAN ★ HENRI LOCK ★ SHOSHANA LITMAN

TICKETS: Munro's Books 250.382.2264, Ivy's 250.598.2713, or www.starfields.ticketleap.com
Artists Subject To Change



SEE PAGE 36 FOR DETAILS AND EVENTS



STARFIELDS AT A GLANCE

ARTISTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Friday April 13	7:00 pm at First Church of Christ, Scientist (1205 Pandora Ave.) TICKETS \$20 Munro's Books ph 250 382 2464 Ivy's Bookstore ph 250 598 2713 online www.starfields.ticketleap.com • Hope Bay Common (contemporary folk) • Cris Derksen (roots cellist) • Leela Gilday Band (roots)				
Sat- urday April 14	ALL SATURDAY WORKSHOPS FREE [m] = musicians				
Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Workshop 4	Workshop 5	
Open Mic "Changing Minds and Hearts" 10:30-11:45 am Metro Studio (1411 Quadra St.) Led by musicians J.D. Edwards (The Small Glories) and Cris Derksen	"Artists for Change" 10:30-11:45 am Our Place (919 Pandora Ave.) with musicians Linda MacRae, Deer and Coyote, Rae Spoon, Bened- ict Beattie	"Caring For Our Common Home" 10:00-12:00 am Christ Church Cathed- ral (930 Burdett Ave.) Dr. Catherine Nolin, Decades After Paris [m], Frances Litman, Ian Hinkle	Workshop 4 "Visions" Poetic Inspirations 10:30-12:00 am Metro Theatre (1411 Quadra St.) Yvonne Blomer, Barb Pelman, Dan MacIsaac, Philip Kevin Paul, Cara Luft [m]	The Kairos Button Blanket Exercise 10:00 am -1:00 pm First Metropolitan United (932 Balmoral Rd.) Watch this space online for Registration details	
Lunch Break					
Workshop 6	Workshop 7	Workshop 8	CONCERT	Workshop 9	
Open Mic "Changing Minds and Hearts" 1:15-2:30 pm Metro Studio led by musicians Tom Landa (The Paperboys) Washington and Cook	"Artists for Change" 1:15-2:30 pm Our Place with musicians Leela Gilday, Whitebird, Lauren Mann, Cara Luft	"Finding Meaning in Life" 1:15-2:30 pm Christ Church Cathed- ral • authors Danny Brock, Star Weiss, Greg Marchand, Matt Jackson, Rae Spoon [m]	2:45-4:00 pm Metro Theatre Decades After Paris Linda McRae Keynote Tearing Down the Walls 4:15-5:00 pm Metro Theatre Shane Claiborne	"We Are Made of Stardust" Why is Science im- portant for People of Faith and Hope? 1:15-2:30 pm Library - Central Community Room (735 Broughton St.) Tanya Taft, Phillipp Gawthrop [m]	
Saturday Evening Concert 7:00 pm First Church of Christ, Scientist (1205 Pandora Ave.) TICKETS \$20 Munro's Books ph 250 382 2464 Ivy's Bookstore ph 250 598 2713 online www.starfields.ticketleap.com • The Paperboys [world] • The Small Glories [roots] • Linda McRae [folk] Maureen Washington mcee					
Sun- day April 15	ALL SUNDAY EVENTS FREE [m] = musicians				
UVIC Interfaith Chapel, Parking Lot 6, Outer Ring Road (free parking on Sundays) Morning Meditation 9:00 - 9:30 am Chapel • Henri Lock Morning Meditative Walk 9:30-10:30 am Finnerty Gardens • Henri Lock Songs and Stories of Transformation 10:30- 12:00 am - Chapel • The Lake Men [m], Shoshana Litman, Jewish story teller, Margo MacLoughlin, Buddhist story teller and hang player					
Holy Cross Church - 4049 Gordon Head Road "The Scandal of Grace" 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm • Shane Claiborne "Another World is Possible" 2:15 - 3:30 pm panel discussion • Danny Brock, Dr. Catherine Nolin, Shane Claiborne, Fr. Karam Alraban, Linda McRae [m]					
St Matthias Church - 600 Richmond Ave. Concert 4:15-5:45 pm • Hope Bay Common, The Lake Men, Liz Dieleman, Washington and Cook Closing Inclusive Worship 7:00 pm • homily by Shane Claiborne ARTISTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE					

NEW MEMBERS, RESIGNATIONS, CONTACT CHANGES

New address:

Sheri Tromp

305 - 2000 Goldsmith Street
Victoria, BC V8R 0A2

Neighbourhood Group remains the same (Oak Bay).

Phone number remains the same ([250-598-3671](tel:250-598-3671)).

New address and phone number:

Reese Willis

7 - 744 Miller Avenue
Victoria, BC V8Z 3C8

Moves to Royal Oak West Neighbourhood Group (from Grand Central).

New phone number is [250-360-6386](tel:250-360-6386) (cell).

New address:

Naida Hyde

205 - 1270 Johnson Street
Victoria, BC V8V 3P1

Moves to Grand Central Neighbourhood Group (from Royal Oak East).

Phone number remains the same ([250-658-4474](tel:250-658-4474)).

Phone number change:

Andy Lee and Astrid Firley-Eaton have given up their land line.

Andy's cell number remains the same ([250-858-5155](tel:250-858-5155)).

Astrid's cell number remains the same ([250-384-3405](tel:250-384-3405)).

Email address change:

Dolores Appleton's new email address is dolores.appleton2@shaw.ca.

New Care and Concern contact for James Bay Neighbourhood Group:

Carol Smith

Phone: [604-961-5381](tel:604-961-5381) (cell)

Email: nuagesail@gmail.com

4) NEW MEMBERS

Barbara and Robert Rintoul

Nearby Neighbourhood Group

826 - 6880 Wallace Drive

Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1N8

Phone: [250-652-3757](tel:250-652-3757) (home)

Barbara: [250-532-3454](tel:250-532-3454) (cell)

Barbara's email: mbrintoul@telus.net

Robert: [250-888-9490](tel:250-888-9490)

Robert's email: rntoul@telus.net

Dale Rasmussen

Gordon Head Neighbourhood Group

4434 Valmont Place

Saanich, BC V8N 5R6

Phone: [778-533-0406](tel:778-533-0406) (cell)

Email: razzmusic@shaw.ca

Glenyss Turner and James (Jim) Willis

568 Caselton Place

Victoria, BC V8Z 7Y5

Glenyss' and Jim's phone: [250-686-2902](tel:250-686-2902) (cell) / [250-686-2902](tel:250-686-2902) (home)

Glenyss' email: glenyss.turner@hotmail.com

Jim's email: jimwillis568@gmail.com

BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

- 2 Sarah Kendall, Ross Beauchamp
- 5 Earle Anthony
- 6 Barbara (Bobby) Kovar
- 9 Martha McDougall
- 13 Maureen Sherlock, Desmond de Schepper
- 14 Jan Thomson
- 15 Nokuthula (Tuli) Porcher
- 16 Michael Fibiger-Crossman, Isabelle Grenon
- 17 Suzanne Beauchamp
- 18 Joyce Berry
- 19 Nille Fibiger-Crossman, Sue Thorne
- 21 Barbara Nyland, Luke Walrafen
- 24 Barbara Boyle, Catherine Cardinal
- 25 Leslie O'Hagan, Chris Cook
- 28 LeAnn Andersen
- 30 Erin Kinrade

BOARD MEMBERS ON DUTY

- April 1 Susan Layng
- April 8 Marion Pape
- April 15 John Tiffany
- April 22 John Worton
- April 29 Karen Furnes

Calendar Highlights April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30 Sunday Service* 12:00 AHA Meeting	2 1:00 Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal (tentative) 7:30 FUCV Pub Night (Canoe Brewpub)	3	4	5 10:00 Board Executive Meeting (offsite) 6:00 Chamber Choir 6:40 Men's Choir 7:30 Chalice Choir	6 7:00 Spring Concert: "Turn the World Around"	7 10:00 Lay Chaplains' Workshop 10:30 Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45 Buddhist Meditation
8 10:30 Sunday Service* 11:45 Directory Photo Session 12:00 GVAT Small Group Listening Session 12:15 Share the Plate Meeting 7:00 Spirited Jazz (Jazz Vespers)	9 10:00 Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal	10 12:30 Board Meeting 12:30 Music Committee Meeting 2:15 SRC Meeting 6:00 GVAT Small Group Listening Session	11 11:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Care & Concern Meeting	12 6:00 Chamber Choir 7:30 Chalice Choir	13 6:00 Community Dinner	14 9:00 Adult OWL 10:00 DuReau Farrar Choral Workshop 12:45 Buddhist Meditation
15 10:30 Sunday Service* 11:30 Souper 12:15 Garden & Grounds Committee Mtg 12:15 Theme Exploration Session: Transformation	16 10:00 Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal	17 11:00 Committee on Ministry Meeting 4:00 May Newsletter Deadline	18 2:00 GVAT Small Group Listening Session (offsite)	19 10:00 GVAT Small Group Listening Session (offsite) 6:30 Men's Choir 7:30 Chalice Choir	20 7:00 Service Auction	21 10:30 Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45 Buddhist Meditation 2:00 Mertie Chilton Memorial Tea
22 10:30 Sunday Service* (Earth Day) 12:00 Connecting With Kids 12:15 Memorial Garden Committee Mtg 12:15 Finance Forum Part II	23 10:00 Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal	24	25	26 5:45 Worship Associates' Meeting 7:30 Chalice Choir	27	28 12:45 Buddhist Meditation 3:00 Daphne Dunbar Memorial
29 10:30 Sunday Service* 12:00 GVAT Small Group Listening Session	30 10:00 Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal					

*Children and youth programs run concurrently with the service.

For a comprehensive listing of First Unitarian Church of Victoria events and locations, please visit www.victoriaunitarian.ca/members/events.

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 thru Thursday 11 - 4; Sunday 9 - 1; closed statutory holidays on weekends

Ministers

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

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

The ministers' day off is Monday.

Intern Minister

Chris Wulff
 647-708-2622 cell/text
 chris@victoriaunitarian.ca

Minister Emerita

Reverend Jane Bramadat
 250-652-1272

Lay Chaplains

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

Oceanna Hall 250-886-1077

Anne Vaasjo 250-385-1603

**Director of Spiritual Exploration and Learning
 for Children and Youth**

Arran Liddel 250-744-2695
 arran@victoriaunitarian.ca

Arran is in the office Tue, Wed, Thu and Sun.

Director of Music

Nick Fairbank
 music@victoriaunitarian.ca

Church Administrator

Nadia Kozak
 churchoffice@victoriaunitarian.ca

Communications Assistant

Natalie Brake
 communications@victoriaunitarian.ca

Officers

President	Lorna Anthony
Past President	Shirley Travis
Vice President	Marion Pape
Treasurer	Jane Wilson
Secretary	Karen Furnes

Board Members

Trustee	John Worton
Trustee	Nancy Dobbs
Trustee	Lynn Hunter
Trustee	Rebecca Mellett
Trustee	Susan Layng
Trustee	John Tiffany

Do you have a friend in need ... of a ceremony?

A wedding, child dedication or memorial?



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It's what we do!

Email: laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca

We Care!

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

Barbara Boyle at 250-381-0264

Val Roberts at 250-477-7192

or your Neighbourhood Group Care & Concern person

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Oh! Hi, Emma here. Sorry, didn't see you there. It's been a while, eh? So, my partner Jeremy and I've started a blog to document our travels.

We're getting to know Vancouver Island a bit better before we head off to India. Here's a link to our blog

Boots & Packs – are we there yet?
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A Note from Braden Young

Thank you to everyone who organized and supported the Body and Soul Dance. Your generosity raised over \$1000 to help me attend the UUMN Conference in Portland Oregon this summer.

I promise I will learn a lot and bring it back to share with you all.

Thank You!

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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.

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