



# The Victoria Unitarian

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

## SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

### February 4 Interdependence

Rev. Melora Lynngood  
 Worship Associate: Dan Klimke

Chalice Choir

This is our theme kick-off, the first Sunday in our exploration of “Interdependence: the practice of feeling our connection with the larger whole.” We’ll pay special homage to our connections with other Unitarian Universalists in Canada, other congregations with whom we make up the CUC, the Canadian Unitarian Council.

Practices to Transform  
 Ourselves & Our World

FEBRUARY'S THEME:

## INTERDEPENDENCE



*the practice of feeling our  
 connection with the larger whole*

### February 11 Finding Enough Strength

Sarah Kendall  
 Worship Associate: Samantha Magnus

Author Sarah Kendall shares wisdom learned reclaiming her life after a stroke. Discover what her journey has to teach us all.

### February 11 at 7pm Jazz Vespers

Rev. Shana Lynngood  
 Karel Roessingh – see page 9 for details.

### February 18 Bearing Witness

Rev. Shana Lynngood  
 Worship Associate: Doug McGinnis

Chamber Choir

I was asked by a member of our community to speak about why it matters when we bear witness to one another's lives. What difference does it make and what impact does it have when we take the time (and make the intentional effort) to truly see someone and be with them. Does bearing witness only matter in times of challenge or joy? How do we “show up” for one another? We will explore how bearing witness can be a key building block in appreciating our interdependence.

### February 25 Misery Poker and Other Comforting Connections to be Found in Common Suffering

Rev. Melora Lynngood  
 Worship Associate: Larry Boldt

Chalice Choir

As a result of our interdependence, we are often touched by the suffering of others – especially when we see, in that suffering, a reflection of our own experience. These connections can be felt across time, with people we have never met. Artists, for example, be they writers or painters, can convey something of a shared human experience, which, even when difficult or painful, can somehow bring comfort.

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**THE DEADLINE FOR  
 SUBMISSIONS TO THE  
 MARCH ISSUE OF THE  
 NEWSLETTER IS  
 FEBRUARY 13**

**Calling all Innovators**

Do you have an idea for doing things differently in our church community—a new program or service or a new way of doing an existing program?

We have a deal for you: the Ruth Humphreys Innovations Fund trustees are calling for proposals.

The Innovations Fund will provide funding for opportunities and new ideas that add value to our congregational life.

Applications will be received for time-limited grants to projects of up to \$10,000 per year that:

- Apply new and different methods to existing programs,
- scale up successful and innovative programs and services,
- “beta-test” or experiment with new ideas,
- offer collaborative approaches to address an issue or opportunity,
- improve the delivery of current programs and services.

Al Hoffman, John Tiffany, Betty Sherwood, Lynne Bonner and Lorna Anthony are the trustees. Rev. Shana serves as trustee *ex officio*. You can contact any of the trustees with your questions or email [innovationsfund@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:innovationsfund@victoriaunitarian.ca).

Further information and funding application forms are available from the Church website under “Innovations Fund” and the Church office. DEADLINE is Friday, March 30, 2018.

It's time to get those creative juices flowing and get those applications in. We are anxious to give you money. How often do you hear that?



## FROM YOUR MINISTER

## REVEREND MELORA LYNNGOOD

This month, we invite you to consider exploring our theme of “Interdependence: the practice of feeling our connection with the larger whole,” through trying one of two spiritual exercises and / or through contemplating the questions below. Consider sharing your experiences, thoughts, 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 most of these materials come.

**Questions.** 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 are the interdependencies in your daily life? What communities do you belong to, how do they enrich you, how do you enrich them? Who depends on your support and encouragement? Who do you nurture? Who do you rely upon for support, encouragement, and nurturing?

With whom or what do you need to connect or reconnect in your life? What keeps you from making this connection? What do you need in order to make these connections?

If you were to look at each of your actions today with glasses that allowed you to see your own ripple effect – the impact your actions might have on others – what would you see? Does heightening that awareness shift anything for you?

How is your connection with the Earth? Has despair or worry about climate change made the connection more complicated? What practices strengthen your connection to the earth (gardening, walking by the ocean)?

Have you ever felt connected to “a larger whole”? What is that larger whole for you – the web of life, human community, the ongoing history of time, the Spirit of Life, Power of Love, inner light, a Higher Power, god-however-you-define-it? How would it feel to lay back and be held in that larger whole? What might you do to deepen your sense of connection with the larger whole?

### Spiritual Exercise, Option A: Connect or Reconnect

Connect – or re-connect – with a person, place, or idea that helps you to Grow in Spirit, Live with Compassion, or Inspires you to Serve. (The words are from our congregation’s mission “tag line.”) Perhaps it’s an old friend or family member that always tells you the truth or has information to share. Maybe it’s a relationship that needs healing. Maybe it’s the writings of a philosopher you studied in high school that changed the course of your life. Maybe it’s the ocean. Whatever it is that is calling to you for connection or re-connection – follow it.

what are other  
words for  
interdependence?



interconnection, relationship,  
correlation, connection,  
interdependency,  
interrelationship, linkage



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### Spiritual Exercise, Option B: Loving Kindness Meditation

Every day, for at least 3 days in a row, practice a Loving Kindness Meditation.

Use the words below (or another favourite version), first for yourself, then picturing others in ever widening circles (e.g. self, loved one, acquaintance, someone you don't know at all, all humanity). Alternatively, you could say the words for yourself, and then for each member of your family, then "all beings."

Breathe in, breathe out...

Keep breathing deeply...

Let your senses pull you into the here and now of this moment...

When you are ready, repeat the metta phrases silently to yourself, finding a breath pattern that works for you—perhaps with the words "may I," taking an in breath that draws loving kindness inward; and breathing out on the "be safe," directing that sense of safety into every part of your being...

- May I be safe
- May I be well
- May I be content
- May I live with ease

Now, bring into your awareness, and hold in your mind's eye, the next person on your meditation list... Bring this person to mind, and repeat silently to that person the phrases:

- May you be safe
- May you be well
- May you be content
- May you live with ease

Turn your awareness to the next person/people in your meditation, and repeat the phrases above. Repeat until you end with "all beings."

You may wish to do this meditation the same time every day—for example, every morning or every evening before bed.



Where In The World Is...

**EMMA LENTZ**

For those who wish to keep track of Emma Lentz and her partner's adventures, Emma sends this to her Neighbourhood Group:

"So, my partner Jeremy and I have started a blog to document our travels. We're getting to know Vancouver Island a bit better before we head off to India."

You can follow their blog and Instagram posts:

<http://bootsandpacks.com/#mobile-navigation>

<https://www.instagram.com/bootsandpacks/>

## Soul Matters Theme Exploration Workshops

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. Attend one or both.

### March 18, Sunday

**Risk:** the practice of trying something that might not work

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

### What about February?

**Interdependence:** the practice of feeling our connection with the larger whole

In lieu of our standard Soul Matters type of “theme exploration” session this month, you are invited to participate in any or all of the following:

**Walking in Spirit** with Rev. Melora, A Valentine to Nature, **February 14**, 1:00pm [See page 6 for details.](#)

**“Enriching our Ties”** workshop led by Rev. Shana, on **Sunday, February 25**. This gathering uses a powerful “circle of trust” sharing model very much in line with Soul Matters style sharing. And the program is all about deepening our connections with one another, which is very much in line with our February theme of Interdependence. [See page 7 for details.](#)

**“Difficult Conversations”** workshops led by Rev. Shana on Wednesday evenings, **Feb. 21 and 28**. Part of being interdependent, part of relating with other humans, requires learning how to have difficult conversations with integrity and grace. [See page 7 for details.](#)

Sunny, the young Iranian woman whom we sponsored, had New Year’s Day off and wanted to do something for the homeless. She spent all afternoon cooking a delicious Iranian meal of fragrant rice and tiny meatballs, enough for about 30 people. Her landlady drove Sunny and a friend downtown with the food, stopping at the Johnston Street Bridge and then Beacon Hill Park. Finding no one there to feed, they went to the homeless shelter at Rock Bay Landing and discovered the shelter welcomes deliveries of food between 5:00 & 6:00 p.m. The wonderful aroma attracted guests, staff, and drop-ins, and Sunny’s food was very popular. Sunny appreciates all that she has been given, and this was her way of giving back.



*Watch for this logo for occasional updates about Sunny.*

## Walking In Spirit with Rev. Melora

Valentine's Day

This month, we'll use our walk to explore our monthly theme, **“Interdependence: the practice of the practice of feeling our connection with the larger whole.”** It will be like offering a Valentine of love and appreciation to the Natural World.

Walk will include some mindfulness practices as well as some time to walk and chat.

**Wednesday, February 14, 1:00 pm**

**Mystic Vale**

UVic Alumni Chip Trail,

Across from Henderson Recreation Center



Rain or shine; dress for weather

Walk includes steep stairs

This walk is beautiful, but muddy when wet, wear mud boots

Meet on Cedar Hill Cross Road by the sign for Henderson Rec Center (2291 Cedar Hill Cross Rd, Victoria ) shown in this photo (look for tennis courts on the south side of the road)



Map link here: <https://goo.gl/maps/GueE55iG6yz>

(click to expand little map box in left bottom corner)

RSVP to [rev.melora@gmail.com](mailto:rev.melora@gmail.com) subject “walk” or text/call 250-891-6330

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**Share the Plate** donations will go this month to the highly respected Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), an international humanitarian charity best known for its projects in war-torn regions and developing countries infected by endemic diseases. Around over 30,000 personnel (mostly local doctors, nurses and other medical professionals, logistical experts, water and sanitation engineers and administrators) provide medical aid in over 70 countries. The vast majority of staff are volunteers. Private donors provide about 90% of the organization's funding, while corporate donations provide the rest. Three countries have a special focus this winter: the many thousands of Rohingya families who escaped to Pakistan from Burma/Myanmar (where children under 5 are the highest casualties of violence); the bombed children and families of Yemen under attack from Saudi Arabia; and the Congo where malnutrition and malaria are killing people daily. And not to forget Gaza and the West Bank.

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## Enriching Our Ties

This month we are going to try something new. Having heard many of you speak about trying to figure out the best ways to make connections (or re-connections if you have been a part of the congregation for a while), I thought that a new approach might be in order. After lots of conversation and consultation with many leaders in the congregation, I would like to throw open a wide and deep invitation to anyone feeling less connected than they would like to *Enriching Our Ties*. On **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** after service from **12:30 to 2:30**, we will spend some time in personal and small group reflection.



Who should come? Anyone who feels they have not found their niche in the congregation. Anyone who feels they used to be more engaged and at the center of things, but now feels on the edge of the community. Anyone who has some connections and involvement in the congregation, but feels they have not found the best “fit” or way to share their gifts and talents and skills in the church community. Please be in touch with me if you have questions or to sign up: [rev.shana@shaw.ca](mailto:rev.shana@shaw.ca) or 250-891-6331.

## Difficult Conversations

Often in life (within our congregational community and beyond), we find we have to engage in challenging conversations. We have to talk with someone with whom we disagree, or who we have a hard time understanding. Although these interactions can be a challenge, there are tools and approaches that we can take to ease the lines of communication. In this two-session adult spiritual deepening opportunity we will think about covenant, listening, intent and impact, and work to develop our skills in engaging one another in constructive ways. This course will meet on **February 21 and 28** from **5:30 to 7:30** in the **Farmhouse Common Room**. Please let me know if you plan to attend or have questions: [rev.shana@shaw.ca](mailto:rev.shana@shaw.ca) or 250-891-6331.



## DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS seeks CUC DELEGATES

The Canadian Unitarian Council Annual General Conference and meeting is being held at McMaster University in Hamilton Ontario from May 18-20. The theme is “An Invitation to Love and Justice.” We are still seeking those interested in being delegates though we have several already committed. This is usually a fun experience as well as being educational about national issues. We like to have a list of potential delegates to present at the congregational meeting in late January. We offer a small financial subsidy. So, anyone thinking of offering please contact [christine\\_johnston@telus.net](mailto:christine_johnston@telus.net) soon!

## SElections on Interdependence

Romantic relationships are often what come to mind in February, but our focus is broader this month. As we explore our theme of interconnectedness we look at our relations with each other, with the wider communities and the world around us. In the children and youth programs, we will be aiming to do this in many ways:

- ◆ **Kindergarten & grade 1 children** are in the middle of their **OWL** program, where they are learning about bodies, relationships and inclusivity. (K & gr. 1 children not enrolled in **OWL** will join **Wee Care** this month.)
- ◆ Did you know that there are an amazing number of children's books focused on interconnectedness? Our **Questors** (grade 2 -5) will be finding inspiration in them.
- ◆ The **Coming of Age** group (grade 6-9) are working on creating a Youtube video on UU community in Victoria to share with the world.
- ◆ **Introduction to Mindfulness for Youth** program starting for those in grade 9 - 12. Program will be offered Sunday afternoons from February 4 for 5 weeks. For more information and registration see: [victoriaunitarian.ca/children-youth/mindfulness/](http://victoriaunitarian.ca/children-youth/mindfulness/)

I also look forward to sharing my first “Story for All Ages” with you on February 4th!

Warmly,

Arran Liddel

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

arran@victoriaunitarian.ca

## Volunteers Needed for SEL-CY



There are many opportunities to support the children and youth in our community, from spending 20 minutes making snacks before service to strategizing for the future on the SEL\_CY committee.

If you are interested in contributing once or on an ongoing basis, contact Arran to have a chat about how your skills, interest and/or enthusiasm can make a difference.



## Spring Unitarian Jazz Vespers

Enjoy jazz with a splash of spiritual inspiration.

February 11<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, 7-8 PM

**Composer-Pianist, Karel Roessingh**

Theme: "Lovebirds" — a CD release event

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 with Karel Roessingh.

Back-story from Karel:

*Late on a Sunday night in August, a beautiful Steinway grand piano was rolled down to the lowest level of the View Street parkade in Victoria, and mysteriously left there overnight. A piano tuner appeared at about 10 PM, and Brenda and I took the camper loaded with recording gear. I played until 5 AM.*

*The sound was magnificent, like a grand cathedral! The tunes are all based on themes of bird songs, which I collected on our cross-Canada camping trip in the spring of 2016. The result is a brand new CD entitled **Birdsong In The Parkade**. This is by far the most ambitious and creative project I've done, and I'm extremely excited about the outcome. This is either the most brilliant or most idiotic project I've ever done.*

Born in Leiden, Holland, raised in Calgary, Canada, Karel began his professional musical career in 1970. He began his piano studies under Henry L. Peters, then jazz piano with Ray Petch. In 1973, he studied jazz arranging & composition at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, and completed a degree in secondary music & mathematics education at UVic in 1981.

Karel still loves to play the piano and plays in clubs, concert halls and in the studio whenever possible. He writes jazz tunes for his own and other groups, and has played with numerous jazz greats. He's regularly asked to play at jazz festivals as both leader and sideman.

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

## Coffee and Conversation with the Ministers



**Sunday, February 4, 12:00-1:00 in the Sanctuary**

**Bring your comments and questions for your first chance  
in 2018 to connect with our ministers for an hour of  
informal conversation.**

## FESTIVE FUN

## DECEMBER 25 POTLUCK



## MUSIC NOTES

NICHOLAS FAIRBANK

## Another chance to see the Vespers

It is an exciting time for the Vespers Project (*Vesperae Pro Serveto*)! The poetic Latin text has been written by the Reverend Frances Dearman. The tuneful and evocative music has been completed by Nicholas Fairbank and is being rehearsed by the Chalice Choir, the Chamber Choir, and Via Choralis.

The funding is in place: generous grants have been received from the First Unitarian Church of Victoria Foundation, the Canadian Unitarian Council, and the Unitarian Universalist Association, as well as generous donations from individual church members.

Accomplished musicians have been hired for the orchestral accompaniment: violin, viola, cello, contrabass, flute, clarinet, French horn as well as piano.

**The concert date is:**

**Sunday, January 28 at 7:00pm at the Cordova Bay United Church**

Many of you have been involved in this project, and all will be charmed by the lovely music and thoughtful text.

*Don't miss the chance to experience a beautiful performance of a uniquely Unitarian piece.*

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**OFFICE FAREWELL****SARAH VERSTEGEN**

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**Sarah's Transition to Full-time Environmental Work**

Dear First Unitarian Church of Victoria newsletter readers,

The time has come for me to let go of the part-time steady work you have provided me and be full-time in body and spirit with the charity I have been associated with for 20 years, SeaChange Marine Conservation Society. My last day available for Assistant Administrator work is February 15.

When I first attended a service here in 2010, I had just arrived back from mapping habitat near Hartley Bay on the North Coast of BC in GitGa'at territory. Despite seeing glorious wildlife and beauty above and below water, I was in despair.

I was in despair because the enormities of climate change and ocean acidification were a backdrop to the mission of the work in Hartley Bay. We weren't just making a record for the joy of the work and celebration of a place that retained such phenomenally rich diversity and abundance. We were making sure that the GitGa'at Nation could prove that if Northern Gateway were approved, a spill would take out substantial portions of their livelihood and culture. Every time we saw a creature in the underwater drop camera monitor, one or both of the GitGa'at technicians would make some sort of quip about how tasty it was. The closest grocery store was about 4 hours away by water taxi or a quicker but more expensive float plane. Buying food requires money compared to hunting or gathering. It further adds to economic and health woes when people are deprived of their sustenance.

The second reason for the work was that if the Northern Gateway project were to go forward, when a spill happened, the GitGa'at would need to be able to prove what had been lost for recompense. Once there, it was easy for me to see that recompense would not be possible. Recovery from a spill could not happen within the time that would allow a new generation to learn from the elders and carry on. Continuity in some area of their cultural heritage so highly dependent on the marine environment would be broken.

The more I learned about First Nations after moving to Canada, the more I understood that cultural genocide is a current process, not just a historic one. Social and environmental justice are entwined. The magnitude of risk and inevitable damage involved with tar sands transit and broader issues such as climate change weighed heavily on me. When I showed up at the Northern Gateway hearings, I was happy to see several Unitarians there. The hearing results came out approving of the tar sands transport. It did not surprise me. What did surprise me is that in the long run, Northern Gateway did not succeed. I have found that spiritual solace in these struggles is essential. I was able to find a measure of it here. Thank you.

Over time, I took the part-time position of Assistant Administrator and had the privilege of serving this community in that capacity. And I had a steady pay cheque. This is a huge service to someone who was otherwise self-employed. Thank you.

As I leave this position, I am heartened to see the truth and reconciliation activity unfold and GVAT coalition being suggested and presented for a vote. I remain a member of this community committed to our mission of striving to transform ourselves and our world through compassionate action. May we continue to grow together in community.

Sarah Verstegen

**GREEN CORNER****EDWIN E. DANIEL****LNG EXPORT AND THE SITE C DAM**

Attempts to export liquefied natural gas have damaged British Columbia ever since they were put into play by previous governments. Let's start with the biggest damage in terms of cost and the environment: the Site C dam, now expected to cost \$10.7 billion and flood valuable farm land and land belonging to First Nations.

Its initial purpose was to provide electrical energy for the transport and liquefaction of natural gas for export. The gas was to be derived from fracking, in which high pressure fluids are inserted into shale to release its gas and leak methane. The fluid then contaminates aquifers, and residue is deposited in wells which leak more methane and contaminated fluid into the environment.

All this was put in play without consideration of the fact that LNG projects all over the world were bringing cheaper LNG gas to market before BC's projects were completed. Our environment is lucky this project mostly failed. But we are stuck with a dam which will produce electricity at a price that no one will buy, except the BC government. As Dermod Travis sarcastically pointed out in the January 13 issue of the Times Colonist, it will have to sell at a loss to all markets now or as soon as available.

Now we have a new government. Have they learned anything from the past experience with LNG? Apparently not, as the Premier is reported to be in Asia looking for markets and financing for a new LNG export facility in BC. If built, such a facility would make it impossible to meet greenhouse gas reduction goals in BC.



### **Introduction to Mindfulness Program for Youth grade 9-12**

Have you ever said something you have regretted? Felt angry or out of control? Wanted everyone to leave you alone? Felt like you are on "auto-pilot" ? Been anxious or stressed out? Mindfulness can help!

In this class, you will learn how to apply mindful practices in daily life, which will help you deal with difficult emotions, increase focus and concentration, and relax and ground yourself.

Each group will include guided mindfulness practices and opportunities to connect with other youth. No experience required! Queer, trans, and POC youth, and youth living with a disability are especially welcome.

**Dates & Location:**

Four Sundays 1—2 pm at Saanich Commonwealth Youth Centre:

- \* February 4, 11, & 25
- \* March 4

Plus a half day retreat at First Unitarian Church of Victoria

- \* March 11: 1 pm—4 pm

For more information and registration see: [victoriaunitarian.ca/children-youth/mindfulness/](http://victoriaunitarian.ca/children-youth/mindfulness/)

**HOW 2018****DON VIPOND****HOW 2018 – Time is flying**

At the point of writing (Jan. 14), two people have indicated they will be submitting proposals for some healing in our world this year. But that's it. So far, words only. The deadline is Feb. 15. What's needed are ideas committed to paper, completed HOW application forms.

Our HOW projects always begin the same way, with an idea from someone in our congregation. And for the past 12 years, someone with a good HOW idea has come forward. Our church's Healing Our World (HOW) projects have built an impressive record; we've supported 27 projects that have educated, protected, fed, employed and nurtured children and adults in need, close by and far away.

Here are the HOW Committee's criteria when it assesses proposals:

- Projects will apply U-U principles in responding to local, national or international problems.
- Projects will involve an initiative that is new, has not before been considered by the congregation and will have one clearly defined goal.
- Projects must be administered by a registered Canadian charity or affiliated with an organization which has Canadian registered charitable status.
- Projects must be put forward by a member or friend of our congregation. To encourage wide participation, three years must elapse between proposals from an applicant/household.
- Application forms must be submitted by Feb. 15, 2018.
- A report on the project must be submitted within a year of being funded.

This is not hard work; it is soul-satisfying work. Take a look at the framed results hanging on the hallway wall in the Farm house. They tell of compassionate ideas converted to healing action on the ground, nearby and far away. Give us a call to talk over ideas: 250-652-5491 and/or to have an application forwarded to you.

**Clare and Don Vipond for the HOW committee, a sub-committee of our Social Responsibility Coalition**



# Community Dinner

**Friday February 9 is Fiesta Night  
in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm**

We will be serving tacos and wraps with loads of toppings!  
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 us!! Please bring a salad or dessert to share. This month there will be a table set up with some card and board games if you want to come a bit early or stay a bit after dinner (as long as all the dishes are done!).

**BOARD REPORT****LORNA ANTHONY**

Following is a snapshot of the Board meeting held on January 2, 2018. A full set of minutes is posted on the Lion Hall notice board.

Strategic Planning – The feedback is currently being tabulated with the results to be provided at the January 21<sup>st</sup> Congregational meeting. They will be discussed at our February Board meeting.

Together the SRC and Board approved the wording “donation appreciated but not required” to be displayed at church events where a donation basket is provided. A laminated sign will be provided for use.

The 2018 CUC AGM is in Hamilton May 19 – 21<sup>st</sup>. Our church is allowed 6 delegates. Those interested should contact Christine Johnston.

Treasurer’s Report – We are still in good shape financially with some items still to be recorded for the year-end.

Nancy, Chair of Congregational Life, will be discussing with Hugo and Hanny the reinstatement of “Coffee on Me” for Sunday coffee.

The 2018 Budget was discussed in camera. The draft was approved for presentation at the General Meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Membership changes: New Friends – Lynne Bonner, Shirley Marcuse; Resignation – Jasmine Taylor; Death: Bob Thompson

I welcome your questions or comments. Feel free to chat with me at church, email [loranthy@shaw.ca](mailto:loranthy@shaw.ca), or phone 250-592-4831.

Lorna Anthony, President

**Jazz & Chocolate****Jazz & Chocolate - want to join us?**

On **Sunday, February 11, 2018**, the Royal Oak East neighbourhood group is offering a *pre-jazz vespers chocolate dessert extravaganza*.

It will include a chocolate fountain, various desserts, coffee and tea.

This event was offered as an auction item to raise money for our church. Eleven people have signed on, but those who wished they had also done so are lucky because we have several spaces left. The price is \$15 per person. It will be held in the Lion hall, starting

at 5:30.

Please contact Hanny Pannekoek at [hannyhugo@shaw.ca](mailto:hannyhugo@shaw.ca). Or telephone 250-385-2299.

## VICTORIA MULTIFAITH SOCIETY

## CHRISTINE JOHNSON

Christ Church Cathedral & Victoria Multifaith Society  
present

**LUNCH AND LEARN**



**Multifaith Perspectives  
on Modern Issues**

Faith community leaders will present perspectives on issues based on reflections on their sacred texts.

**Thursdays from January 18 - February 15, 2018, noon - 1.00 p.m.**  
in the Chapter Room. Bring your own lunch. Coffee & tea provided

January 18: Reconciliation | January 25: Caring for the environment  
February 1: Care of the vulnerable | February 8: Education of children  
February 15: The afterlife

Christ Church Cathedral  
311 Cordova Street, Victoria, BC  
Quadra @ Rockland Victoria BC  
250.383.2714 www.christchurchcathedral.bc.ca

**VICTORIA MULTIFAITH SOCIETY is presenting 3 free events coming up soon:**

1) **The Thursday Cathedral Lunch and Learn Series** is returning this winter. It continues until Feb 15, noon to 1pm in the Chapter Room. Bring your own lunch. Coffee & tea provided.

February 1: Care of the vulnerable

February 8: Education of children

February 15: The afterlife

Rev. Shana is one of the speakers on Feb. 1 & 8. Last year several Unitarians went to this well-worth attending series.

2) **UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINS and the MULTI-FAITH SOCIETY** present on Sunday Feb. 4 at 1:30pm at the David Lam Auditorium, McLaurin Building, UVIC  
**“Creating Our Future: Visioning a Sustainable Compassionate World”**

**In Honour of the UN Multifaith Day**

Panel of around 8 plus a choir and refreshments.

Last year at this time around 180 people attended this rich event which was so full of energy and positive ideas.

Rev. Shana is representing the Unitarians on the panel and key leaders in Victoria represented the other key faiths.



## Visioning a Sustainable, Compassionate World

3) **Living Well Dying Well Community Conversations** – small group discussion

Sundays, 2 – 4:30pm, 5 monthly sessions continuing into May 2018

1600 Cook St., corner of Mason

Feb. 18 “Role of the Elder”

Kim Holl of the Centre for Earth and Spirit: “In many communities and families, aging, death and dying are often topics we avoid. In the absence of these meaningful conversations, there is a good chance that we will face end of life issues in crisis, with fear, anxiety and isolation. What if we could talk openly about aging, death and dying as part of living vibrantly?”

Free Registration at: LWDW Eventbrite

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**ARTIST OF THE MONTH DANIEL/PETER BRIMACOMBE**


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**FATHER & SON EXHIBITION**
**Photography and Digital Art**
**DANIEL Brimacombe (Son) - Photography**

Diagnosed at a young age with autism, Daniel, now 27, has channeled his energy into photography and videography, specializing in local seascapes. Two of his photos are featured in the 2018 Sidney Calendar (available in stores), including the front cover. Dan spends countless hours late at night and in the wee hours of the morning on our local shores to capture nature's beauty, especially at sunrise and sunset.

**PETER Brimacombe (Father) - Digital Sketches**

Also a photographer, Peter specializes in local, old buildings and boats. Once he loads his photos into his computer, he creates digital sketches from them using a variety of techniques, resulting in beautiful and unique interpretations and effects. Peter also does digital sketches of houses, boats and planes on request.

As well, Peter has kindly offered to lead a short discussion in the Sanctuary after church on February 11 entitled "The Blessings of Autism in Art." All are welcome.


**Request for Ministerial Survey Questions**

The Committee on Ministry is a Standing Committee of the Board whose function is to promote the optimal functioning of the professional ministry of the church. The CoM is neither a personal support group nor an advocate for the minister.

One of our tasks is to facilitate a congregational evaluation of the ministry offered by the Revs. Lynngoods every 2-3 years. We did an initial evaluation after the first year of their ministry with us in 2011, then a full scale evaluation in 2014, and a smaller scale evaluation in 2016. Our next evaluation will be conducted this spring (2018).

The Committee on Ministry is beginning to create the questions we will ask the congregation to elicit feedback on the ministry of the Revs. Lynngoods.

**Please let us know if you have questions you'd like us to consider including in the evaluation survey. Please send your suggestions to Margot Lods [mlods@shaw.ca](mailto:mlods@shaw.ca) or 250- 920-3893.**

And, at any time, please feel free to approach the ministers with any feedback on their ministry; you may also approach any one of us if you would like our assistance in conveying your input.

Our names and contact info: Kent Haden [kent@hadensoftware.com](mailto:kent@hadensoftware.com), John Hopewell [hopewell@telus.net](mailto:hopewell@telus.net), Margot Lods [mlods@shaw.ca](mailto:mlods@shaw.ca), Mary-Ellen Nicol [nicolme@yahoo.com](mailto:nicolme@yahoo.com), Suellen Guenther [sguenther@shaw.ca](mailto:sguenther@shaw.ca), Mark Danley [markdanleyb@shaw.ca](mailto:markdanleyb@shaw.ca).

**HONOURED VOLUNTEER****PETER SCALES**

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. Peter Scales has been nominated by Lynn Hunter, co-chair of the Outreach Council.

**Peter Scales**

In 2002 at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, I helped to organize a Unitarian Club. One of our reasons was because only student clubs had a voice in student council debates like keeping open the Women's Health Centre, an issue many UU's were concerned about.

In April 2004 I moved from Kingston to Victoria to attend UVic full-time. In early 2005, ministerial intern Antonia Won, under the supervision of Rev. Jane Bramadat, convened a UU Young Adult group. Five or six YAs came to a handful of events. When Antonia left Victoria, I decided to use the UVic students from the FUCV YA group as a base for a UVic UU club. I started and ran the UVic Unitarian Club for ten years, September 2005 to June 2016. I believe that the UVic Unitarian Club has helped dozens of UUs and new-to-UUs to have a safe place at UVic, to discuss moral and news issues openly and deeply.



At FUCV, I briefly ran a dinner club "Born in the Sixties" for church members; helped with the book sale a few times; offered a History Tour for each year's Goods & Services Auction; am an active supporter of Neighbourhood Group and Community Dinners; and was canvass co-chair one year. I speak a homilies at least once a year; I co-lead the Remembrance Day service each Nov. 11; I was on the CUC Board for two years, representing Vancouver Island congregations; I started an annual tradition of joint board meetings between FUCV and CUUC.

I have trained as a historian, and I'm currently working on an independent research effort, "Experienced Clergy Oral History Project." I am a Community Fellow of the UVic Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, which is led by Paul Bramadat.

**Jenni Woodcock writes:**

I met Peter at UVic's club days the year he first started the UVic Unitarian Club, a discussion group for students to talk about a variety of Unitarian-minded topics in a safe and structured space. Peter kept the club running, bringing discussion topics each week with well-researched talking points to enliven the discussion and keep it moving forward, facilitating the discussions to maintain respectful and inclusive discourse, and advertising the club by continuing to host a table at club days at the start of each semester and inviting students he met to come and join in the conversations. He also represented the club at many interfaith events on campus. I credit the club for helping me to form some dear friendships due, I'm certain, to the respectful, interesting, and open-hearted discussions guided by Peter's Unitarianism.

Peter is also a dedicated and supportive friend. When my Mum was in hospital and hospice he was willing to come and speak to her using his skills as a chaplain to support her in a Unitarian way that she was needing and wasn't able to find from the hospital chaplain. He supported me through her death and helped plan and MC her celebration of life. More recently I was hospitalized suddenly for major surgery and Peter again provided support and experienced advice. If my experiences are anything to go on (I have no doubt they are!), Peter's support to everyone who is lucky enough to call him a friend or share in community with him is invaluable and unwavering.

*Continued on the next page*

*HONOURED VOLUNTEER continued***Kevin Dueck MD writes:**

I met Peter about 10 years ago at the University of Victoria. He was running the Unitarian club there and I was a microbiology/biochem student. I was in a stage of exploring my values and beliefs, having departed from a fundamentalist Christian upbringing. The club was a safe place to discuss and explore and Peter was happy to listen and provide perspective. We met many times outside of the club and he was always kind with his time and thoughtful. I graduated in 2008 and we have kept in touch through my pursuit of graduate training and now medicine. Recently, we have talked of lessons that might be drawn from chaplaincy and applied to the practice of medicine.

**Samantha Magnus writes:**

I had the opportunity to shadow Peter through lay chaplaincy training and so can speak to the quality of his contributions as a lay chaplain from more than one perspective. My first impression of Peter as a helpful, practical and generous person has definitely held up over time. Peter has been a positive and steady influence in the lives of many. He facilitated the UVic Unitarian Universalist Club starting in September 2005, when I was an undergrad and founding member. I met my first spouse there; it was Peter who married us. Through the club, many students found an open-minded place to discuss issues that mattered to them. Peter's contribution to a space that was safe and accepting is one of his great gifts to the Victoria community and beyond, as students who benefited from the club have scattered across the globe.

I'm grateful to be among the many people who have been comforted and delighted by Peter's reliable gifts to the community, whether it be a friendly ear and sage advice on our church's Monday Pub Night, touching words on Remembrance Day, strong voice in nearly every local choir, including president and board member of the Linden Singers. I'm very pleased to see his contributions recognized by this church community.

**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 Russian painter Vladimir Kandinsky is the first artist that comes to my mind with the topic of art and spirituality. Early in his career Kandinsky stopped making paintings of people and scenes, and chose to express his spirituality in abstract forms. Kandinsky's work is free from representative images of European religious symbols of previous centuries. His paintings are devoid of any reference to one religion or spiritual belief. Like Unitarians, he was free to develop his own theology and ritual, and to choose his religious path. Kandinsky wrote in his journal:

“In each picture is a whole lifetime imprisoned, a whole lifetime of fears, doubts, hopes, and joys. Whither is this lifetime tending? What is the message of the competent artist? ... To harmonize the whole is the task of art.”

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Is Kandinsky's work beautiful? Is the harmony he paints in accord with the harmony that can be the result of respecting others personal beliefs?

“But everything which adequately expresses the inner need is beautiful... That is beautiful which is produced by the inner need, which springs from the soul.”

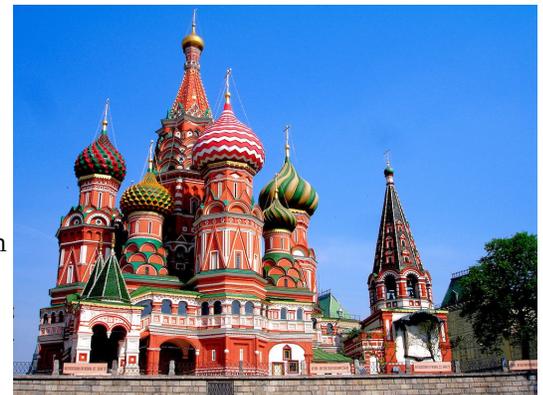
I first saw Kandinsky's work in the famous Tetryakov Gallery in Moscow; I was on a spring break trip in high school. My group was paraded past modern and centuries-old art paintings including a whole gallery of Kandinsky.

I wanted to linger over them and the budding artist in me raged against the tour guide for giving us so little time in this museum. The previous day we had been to St Basil's Cathedral in Red Square. I was fascinated by the juxtaposition of the cathedral's Byzantine paintings, the repeating organic lines covering the interior and its external 18<sup>th</sup> century renovations, against the modern art of Kandinsky. However, his abstract paintings seem a natural progression from the exterior shapes and colors of this cathedral as well as interior abstract designs. Both architecture and painting reach for beauty to express the divine.



However, beauty for Kandinsky was not a convention of a particular time and his writing expresses such acceptance of others:

“ ‘Outer need’ ... never goes beyond conventional limits, nor produces other than conventional beauty. The ‘inner need’ knows no such limits, and often produces results conventionally considered ‘ugly.’ But ‘ugly’ itself is a conventional term, and only means ‘spiritually unsympathetic,’ being applied to some expression of an inner need, either outgrown or not yet attained. But everything which adequately expresses the inner need is beautiful. ... That is beautiful which is produced by the inner need, which springs from the soul.”



Kandinsky worked in the time after the Industrial Revolution and before Capitalism. He created within the framework that art can transcend religion and borders, and he wrote in his diary that, “maybe even borders will disappear.” Borders between countries still exist and there is much in our media about lack of freedom in Russia. With the border-defying Internet, perhaps Kandinsky's anticipation of borderless countries is partly true. His assessment was prescient:

“The various arts of today learn from each other and often resemble each other... The greatest freedom of all, the freedom of an unfettered art, can never be absolute. Every age achieves a certain measure of this freedom, but beyond the boundaries of its freedom the mightiest genius can never go. But the measure of freedom of each age must be constantly enlarged.”

When Western artists diverged from expressing spirituality in depictions of god, expressions of divine beauty and illustrating stories from religious texts, the spiritual in art became a very open and broad topic for artists. When artists such as Kandinsky made a commitment to express their personal beliefs of spirituality and beauty through art, much social change began, along with the acceptance that “belief is personal.”

### Around The Neighbourhood

*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.*

**Esquimalt:** Maureen Sherlock writes, "Esquimalt Neighbourhood Group supplied the goodies for coffee time after Sunday services in January. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help! We will be having a coffee get-together on January 23rd at 2:00 pm, hosted by Anne Vaasjo and John Stewart."

**Far Out:** This NG worked with Royal Oak West to host the very successful Souper lunch on January 14. Far Out is very pleased that Pam Harte has moved into their neighbourhood!

**Gordon Head:** Mary Cramer reports that their NG is preparing to co-host the Souper Sunday on February 25th with Grand Central. Mary adds, "We continue to have more new visitors to the church from our area. Busy times!"

**Grand Central:** Marya Nijland writes, "Our Grand Central NG will be 'super busy' with putting on the Souper Sunday Lunch on Sunday February 25, together with Gordon Head. We will have our plates full, so to speak!"

**James Bay:** Lynn Hunter writes, "The James Bay Neighbourhood Group will be gathering at the home of Myra Rippon on February 1st for a potluck lunch. Myra looks forward to welcoming everyone -- a great way to start a new month."

**Nearby:** This NG will be firing up their ovens to provide coffee time goodies in February.

**Oak Bay:** Tiff writes, "OBNG will be hosting our first potluck of the new year on Saturday, February 10th at 5:30 PM at Karla & Jim Thomson's home. The theme for this potluck will be, 'Books I have enjoyed in the past while.' There is a limit of a short description of two or three books per person. As usual, OBNG will be having a monthly luncheon on the third Wednesday of the month (February 21) in the Fern Cafe at Monterey Rec Centre."

**Royal Oak East:** Hanny Pannekoek writes, "The first gathering in the new year, January 13, was very well attended; 20 of us turned up. This was an appetizers and dessert event and it was yet another feast and much enjoyed. Some of our members have moved into retirement or care homes, but we have agreed to stay in touch with them and include them in our gatherings. Four of them actually joined us this time. One of the topics we discussed was the upcoming chocolate extravaganza, which we had offered as an auction item. It will take place on February 11, before the Jazz Vespers. An organizing group of 5 of us was formed. We continue to meet four times a year. Our next gathering is on March 20th."

**Royal Oak West:** Outgoing convenor, Fran Hancock, writes, "Dolores Appleton graciously hosted a delightful Neighbourhood Group luncheon on Jan.7 for 15 people on short notice, inviting children as well. As the former convenors, Peter and I appreciated the send-off as we move to another NG. The gift of the lovely house plant will provide many years of warm memories of our friends. We are grateful to have been part of this community who were so supportive and helpful. Newcomers Lynn and Evan Guengerich were welcomed, as they had visited the church and expressed an interest in meeting members of the NG. As a parting gift, Fran coordinated Royal Oak West in hosting the Souper on Jan. 14 with Far Out, which was enjoyed by about 100 people and received \$615 in donations for the church."

**Western:** Susan Lean is back in the saddle and writes, "We will be having a potluck on Jan. 20 at Marilyn & Alex's home."



## Myths, and completing the Government's survey

Pundits railing against electoral reform—prominent on TV and in the news—circulate myths or half-truths about proportional representation (PR) in an attempt to scare voters from voting for it.

These myths are often repeated in letters to newspapers and by news reporters who should know better. They have even infiltrated the Government's survey on electoral reform. It is important, therefore, to consult Fair Vote Canada's guide to the survey, summarized in a hand-out available on the SRC Shelf or at <http://victoriaunitarian.ca/program/social-responsibility-coalition/>.

Here's a sample of myths.

**Myth 1.** *Proportional representation leads to unstable minority governments, for example Italy and Israel.* In actual fact, Canada is now the most unstable of the major democracies, with 21 elections since World War II to Italy's 18. Israel uses a PR system that would never be used in B.C. or Canada.

**Myth 2.** *PR allows extremists to be elected.* PR systems in most countries require a candidate or party to get at least 5% of the votes before it can have any representation in government. Extremist parties become popular when voters feel threatened, for instance by an influx of large numbers of refugees. We may regret the rise of extremist parties, but why should fearful voters not have a voice?

**Myth 3.** *Parties will multiply like rabbits with PR!* Indeed, new parties might form and old ones restructure to reflect a range of viewpoints, but voters won't be forced, as some now are, to vote for broad-tent parties to have their vote count.

You will find more myths at <http://www.fairvote.ca/about/>. The government's survey on electoral reform is at <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/howwевote/> and the deadline for completing it is Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

**March 10**  
**7-9pm**  
**In the Sanctuary**

### **The Body and Soul Community Dance**

Featuring "Water in the Crawlspace" with Farrell Boyce  
and co-sponsored by Red Barn Market

**Free**  **Family Friendly**  **Fun**

*Invite all your Friends!*

All donations will be used to support Braden Young's attendance at this year's  
UU Musicians Network Conference in Portland, Oregon (August 2018)

## *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, March 18, 12:15—1:15pm, Fireside Room**

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, February 18 and 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](mailto: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.***

# New Member Events

## Considering Membership

**February 18 in the Farmhouse Common Room 12:15 – 2:15**  
 (the orientation was offered early December 2017)

## Orientation

**March 18 in the Fireside Room 12:15 – 1:15**

## Considering Membership

**May 13 in the Farmhouse Common Room 12:15 – 2:15**

**New Member Ceremony – June 3 during the service**



## Calendar Highlights

## February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:00   Chamber Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	2	3 10:30   Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45   Buddhist Meditation
4 10:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 12:00   Coffee with the Ministers 12:00   AHA Meeting	5 10:00   Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal 7:30   FUCV Pub Night (Canoe Brewpub)	6 12:30   Board Meeting	7 12:30   Staff Meeting	8 6:30   Men's Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	9 6:00   Community Dinner	10 12:45   Buddhist Meditation
11 10:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 12:00   The Blessings of Autism in Art 4:00   Chocolate Extravaganza 7:00   Spirited Jazz (Jazz Vespers)	12 <b>Family Day</b>  <i>office closed</i>	13 12:30   Music Committee Mtg 2:00   SRC Meeting	14 1:00   Care & Concern Meeting	15 6:00   Chamber Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	16	17 9:00   Adult OWL 10:30   Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45   Buddhist Meditation
18 10:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 12:15   Considering Membership 1:00   Share the Plate Meeting	19 10:00   Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal	20 11:00   Committee on Ministry Mtg	21 5:30   Difficult Conversations (Part I)	22 5:45   Worship Associates' Meeting 6:30   Men's Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	23	24 12:45   Buddhist Meditation
25 10:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 11:30   Souper 12:30   Winter Connection Session: Enriching Our Ties	26 10:00   Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal	27	28 5:30   Difficult Conversations (Part II)			

\*Children and youth programs run concurrently with the service.

For a comprehensive listing of First Unitarian Church of Victoria events, please visit [www.victoriaunitarian.ca/members/events](http://www.victoriaunitarian.ca/members/events).



# WhaleCoast Alaska 2018

Four Unitarian Universalist Fellowships in Alaska invite you to our awe-inspiring, 25<sup>th</sup> annual Alaska tour program.

TOUR #1: National Park Tour, June 9 to 19 -- \$3,135

TOUR #2: All-Alaska Tour, July 6 to 18 -- \$3,843

WHERE: From the coastal waters to the sunny Interior, from wilderness to modern cities. We experience the best of Alaska: Fairbanks, Denali Park, Anchorage, Juneau, Sitka, Seward.

- SEE:
- Wildlife: whales, seals, bears, moose, caribou, & more.
  - Glaciers, islands, fjords, and mountain ranges.
  - Native American artists and dancers.
  - Alaska's finest museums.
  - Spectacular travel by train, plane, and boat.

STAY: Real Alaska! UU homestays, meals, & dinner parties with Alaska UUs who treat you like friends.

Director: Dave Frey, longtime Fairbanks UU

Email: [dfrey@WhaleCoastAK.org](mailto:dfrey@WhaleCoastAK.org)

Save \$\$\$! - \$100/person discount for group of 8

More information: [www.WhaleCoastAK.org](http://www.WhaleCoastAK.org)

Telephone: 907-322-4966

Hurry! Each tour sells out when 40 guests register.

*Set your Social Calendar on FIRE!*  
*AUCTION FEVER IS COMING!*

**APRIL 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Tue	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY**

- 1 Jean Mihell, Koba ter Neuzen
- 4 Nanw Cariad, Anne Swannell
- 7 Laura Anderson, Sandra McMullen
- 8 Jerrelyn Dause, Marcy Calberry,  
Katrin van der Leeden
- 9 John Stewart, Maggie Nixon
- 10 Forest Sterling
- 12 Phyllis Gardiner, Anna Isaacs, Dan Klimke
- 13 Ben and Teo Smith
- 15 Morgan McCallum
- 16 Kellina Dyer, Robin Sacker-van Gessel,  
Jon Taylor
- 17 Larry Boldt
- 19 Shana Lynngood
- 20 Ted Humphreys, Penelope Hagan
- 21 Leslie Gillett, Mary-Ellen Nicol, Ryan Adam,  
Cyrus Belisle
- 22 Sheila Drew, Ruth Ralston
- 26 Sandra Haywood
- 27 Thane Waldie
- 28 Jean Wallace

**NEW MEMBERS, RESIGNATIONS,  
CONTACT CHANGES**

Pam Harte, c/o Amica  
[2315 Mills Rd](#)  
 Sidney, BC V8L 5W6  
 250-656-4893  
[plharte180@gmail.com](mailto:plharte180@gmail.com)  
 NG Far Out

Helen & Thane Waldie  
 Carlton House  
[402 - 2080 Oak Bay Ave](#)  
 Oak Bay, BC V8R 6W2  
[250-658-4258](tel:250-658-4258)  
[Thwaldie@shaw.ca](mailto:Thwaldie@shaw.ca)  
 Oak Bay NG

Phone updates:  
 Astrid Firley-Eaton: [250-384-3405](tel:250-384-3405)  
 Andy Lee: [250-858-5155](tel:250-858-5155)  
 They have given up their land line.

Lynn Bonner: [250-208-3663](tel:250-208-3663)

Correction:  
 In the last edition of the newsletter Lynne Bonner was incorrectly listed as a Member. Lynne is a Friend of First Unitarian. Sorry for any confusion created.

**BOARD MEMBERS ON DUTY**

February 04	Susan Layng
February 11	Marion Pape
February 18	John Tiffany
February 25	John Worton

**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

**Assistant Church Administrator**

Sarah Versteegen

**Officers**

<b>President</b>	Lorna Anthony
<b>Past President</b>	Shirley Travis
<b>Vice President</b>	Marion Pape
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jane Wilson
<b>Secretary</b>	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?



Tell them about FUCV's  
**Lay Chaplains**

It's what we do!

Email: [laychaplains@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto: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

Ads appearing in this issue are not necessarily endorsed by the church.



**Astrid Firley-Eaton**  
Design

interior design  
colour consultation

250-384-3405  
afe.design@firley.ca

**NEWSLETTER ADS**

Ads are business-card sized; please submit in pdf format. Rates are as follows:

**Members & Friends:**

**\$80/year \$50/6 months \$30/3 months \$12/month**

**Others are 50% more than prices above:**

**\$120/year \$75/6 months \$45/3 months \$18/month**

**Double-sized ad (wider or taller) is 50% extra i.e. non-member:**

**\$180/year \$112.50/6 months \$67.50/3 months \$27/month**



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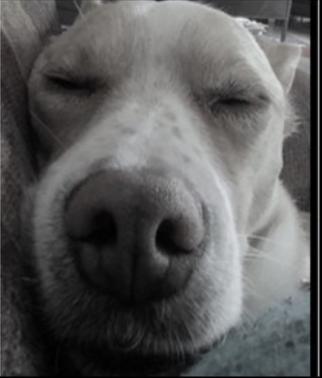
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