



# The Victoria Unitarian

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

## SERVICES IN MARCH

March 4

**Out on a Limb (Deep into Life)**

Bell Choir

Reverend Shana Lynngood | WA Madeleine Clarke

As we begin our exploration of risk, we will look at how sometimes it is in the moments and places in our lives where we take a risk that we feel most in touch with what it means to be alive. When does taking a chance serve us well? When is risk needless, or even foolish? We will also pause for a moment during this service to honour International Women's Day.

March's Theme:

**RISK**



the practice of trying something  
that might not work

March 11

**The Risk of Reaching Out**

Chalice Choir

Reverend Melora Lynngood | WA Doug McGinnis

**PLEASE NOTE Daylight Savings Time Change:  
 Service will be at 11:30am, which will FEEL like 10:30am!**

When we think of "risk," we often think of physical risk – rock climbing, sky diving, and the like. But what about emotional risk? What about relational risk? When does reaching out to someone feel like a risk? What does it mean to take risks as a community? What if we, as a community, risked being more relational? A colleague spoke of a "circle of five" theory – that every kid, every person, needs five support people in their lives playing distinctly different roles (e.g. someone who would be there for you in a crisis, someone who encourages you to branch out, etc.). Who are your five people? How might we become a place in which people of all ages could find their circle of five?

March 11 at 7pm **Spirited Jazz Vespers**

Edie Daponte Quartet (see page 2) | Reverend Shana Lynngood

Local well-known vocalist Edie Daponte and accomplished musicians Damian Graham (drums), Karel Roessingh (piano) and Joey Smith (bass) will offer a musical reflection around the theme of making meaning. That is one of the most often-used descriptions of what religion is for, to help us take the raw materials of life and make sense or meaning of it. Join us for an evening of live jazz, a homily, and some silence for reflection.

March 18

**Childhaven Sunday**

Chamber Choir

Reverend Shana Lynngood | Worship Associate Shelley Motz

Back in 1985, Bonnie and Reverend Fred Cappuccino took a huge risk in founding Child Haven International. This is our annual service to raise awareness about and funds to support the mission of this organization, which serves women and children in India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Tibet. We will hear from member Mariko Matsumoto about her recent experience at one of the homes.

March 25

**ICAN and the Ban Treaty**

Chalice Choir

Dr. Mary-Wynne Ashford | Worship Associate Oliver Belisle

The Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons is so important that the Nobel Peace Prize went to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. Learn what we can do as ICAN members.

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**THE DEADLINE FOR  
 SUBMISSIONS TO THE  
 APRIL ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER IS  
 MARCH 20**

**SPIRITED JAZZ**

**Spring Unitarian Jazz Vespers**

**Enjoy Jazz with a Splash of Spiritual Inspiration!**

**Eddie Daponte Quartet**

**March 11, Sunday, 7-8pm**

*First Unitarian Church of Victoria, 5575 West Saanich Road (250)744-2665*

*By donation and greatly appreciated*

**Theme: “Making Meaning”**

Eddie Daponte – Vocals; Karel Roessingh – Piano; Damian Graham – Drums; Joey Smith – Bass



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 the Edie Daponte Quartet. Edie will be performing songs with an international scope including composers/songs from various countries representing English, Spanish, Portuguese and French songs.

Equally at home in an intimate lounge setting or an outdoor festival stage, Edie Daponte has established a reputation in the music scene of Vancouver Island and Western Canada as a dynamic and engaging performer. Edie brings passion, playfulness and an evident love of performance to her live shows. Vancouver Island Music Awards awarded Edie with "Jazz Recording of the Year" in 2017 for her original song "Island Rain" and nominated her as "Vocalist of the Year" in 2016. Edie's original song “Ride the Wind” has been nominated in the Traditional category for the 2017 International Portuguese Music Awards (IPMA). Emotive and passionate, Edie's voice lends itself perfectly to a wide range of jazz standards, seamlessly moving from jazz to Bossa Nova and back again, switching between English, Portuguese, Spanish and French numbers with ease.

A regular performer in her home town of Sidney as the house singer for the Beacon Landing, Edie has performed at festivals including the Victoria Jazz Festival and the Vancouver Latin Festival. You'll often find her accompanied by talented musicians Joey Smith on guitar and Karel Roessingh on piano. Together they create a wonderful atmosphere, engaging audiences large and small, drawing the audiences in and rewarding them with classic numbers they love to hear.

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.

## FROM YOUR MINISTER

REVEREND SHANA LYNGOOD

### Exploring Risk

When we first chose this theme, I thought it would be a hard one for me to relate to. I have never been a daredevil personality. Riding the occasional roller coaster is likely the riskiest thing I have ever done. And yet, I realized that there is more to risk than the physical leaps of faith we take in a lifetime. There are also the choices we make and paths we follow, thinking they are for the best even though we have no idea what the end result may be. We move to a new city. We start a new relationship, or end one. We decide to become a parent, or not. The more I think about it, I would wager that we have all undertaken some risky maneuvers as we have made our way. In part, this is true because in choosing one thing, we usually go away from something else. There is risk in both what we do and what we leave undone.

As you reflect on the relationship you have had with risk throughout your lifetime this month, see if any of these questions grab you and spend some time in conversation with it - even better, talk with someone else about it. Think about the dimension of risk that has to do with where you have placed the commitments of your life. Here are some questions from our colleague, Reverend Scott Taylar, and some quotations that evoked each one:

1. **How breakable is that heart of yours? Is it more “carefully wrapped” than you noticed? What one small risk this month might help it get some “air”?** (“Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to keep it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable.” - C.S. Lewis)
2. **How might that struggle of yours change if you took the risk of sitting down and listening rather than the risk of standing up and speaking?** (“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.” - Winston Churchill)
3. **What about the risks of letting go? What about the boldness of taking a pass?** Sometimes deciding to walk away from the cliff is as courageous and bold as jumping off.
4. **Are you (or someone you love) being reckless and calling it “freedom”?** (“We mistook violence for passion, indolence for leisure, and thought recklessness was freedom.” – Toni Morrison)
5. **When was the last time you referred to life using the phrase: “The thrill of it all?” Where is there room this month to make life a bit more thrilling?**

### ELDER RECOGNITION

**On March 18 for the Spring Equinox, Keith Jobson will light the Chalice as an Elder**

Keith was a professor of Law at Dalhousie, Halifax and later at U Vic until his retirement. He has been a strong advocate for First Nations Rights. He facilitated scholarships for First Nations students. He was on the Board of the Church as a Council Chair and also as President. He was responsible for linking our church in friendship with the Tsartlip First Nations Community on whose land we are located and encouraged an art display of their work in the Sanctuary for some years. We are grateful for all that Keith has done for the church.

*-from Betty Sherwood*



# FIRST DAY OF SPRING INTERGENERATIONAL WALK

Swan Lake

Tuesday, March 20, 1:00pm

Come celebrate the Spring Equinox, with an Intergenerational Walk with Reverend Melora.

Many schools are on Spring Break this week, so we're hoping kids can come too!

**When:** Tuesday, March 20, 1:00pm

**Where:** Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary

Meet at the Nature House

Trail map here:

<http://www.swanlake.bc.ca/pdf/Website-Trail-Map.pdf.pdf>

Parking lot off of Ralph St and Swan Lake Rd

<https://goo.gl/maps/K88d79iUXNT2>

**Rain or shine;** dress for weather

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



Photo below was our Fall Intergenerational Walk (thank you, photographer, Sarah Harris!)

—

**Come Join the Spring Intergen Walk!!**



## 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, follow signs for office)

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

## GVAT UPDATES

Are you concerned about the Opioid Crisis in Victoria and elsewhere? There is still time to register for the Opioid Crisis workshop to be held on Monday, March 12 from 7:00pm – 8:30pm at the Shambhala Meditation Centre, 1-2033 Belmont Avenue, Victoria. Join other member organizations for an evening of learning, discussion and reflection. Hearing each other’s stories and educating ourselves will build cross sector relationships and lay important groundwork for potential action in the future. Please register at: [http://www.gvat.ca/opioid\\_crisis](http://www.gvat.ca/opioid_crisis)



### GVAT Listening Campaign to Begin in April!

A Listening 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. 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! Please join us for these stimulating conversations. There are several dates and locations to choose from – either one-on-one or small groups.

Please follow the link to sign up!

<http://victoriaunitarian.ca/program/gvat-listening-campaign/>

*-from Susan Layng*

This month our theme at church is RISK, and we are going to explore risking failure and change. We learn by trying new things, sometimes fail and then grow in what we know. Unitarian Universalists believe that it is important to continue to search and learn what is true and right. We also believe that your actions should be guided by what you believe. This month we will look at some risks we can take together.

- **Kindergarten and grade 1 children** are continuing their **OWL** program, talking about bodies, relationships and inclusivity with a bravery not often found in those older! They will be graduating the program on March 18 and will be jumping into new adventures.

- Our **Questors (grades 2 -5)** will be exploring being open and welcoming to others, and learning how to see their “inner light” through stories and art projects.

- The **Coming of Age** group (**grades 6-9**) is taking a risk - taking on the project of leading a service (on April 8) for the first time. In March they will be learning the components of a service and planning what they want to share with us. Mark your calendars to come on April 8 to see what they have created!

- **Youth (grade 9 - 12)** in our **mindfulness program** will be completing their program by having an afternoon retreat here in the church. We will be taking our practice outdoors to learn walking meditation - risking the March weather!

If you want to encourage your children to take more healthy risks, [find some simple ideas here](#).  
(link: <https://www.abundantmama.com/6-ways-to-encourage-children-to-take-risks/>)

Warmly,

Arran Liddel

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

[arran@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:arran@victoriaunitarian.ca)

## 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 and funding will be approved in June at the Foundation annual meeting.

*-from Fran Hancock*

**BOARD REPORT**

LORNA ANTHONY



Following is a snapshot of the Board meeting held on February 6, 2018. A full set of minutes is posted on the Lion Hall notice board and is available from the office.

**Strategic Planning** – Rebecca, Marion and Reverend Shana presented the findings of the survey plus the four planning sessions which saw a total of 147 people participating in the process. Based on the results, the Board chose the following top three priorities to focus on:

**Membership** (growing and retaining members, diversity, connection, care)

**Location** (looking at various options for outreach services, use of space, current site – possibly a task force needed)

**Family Ministry**

Some action is already underway on some of the top priorities identified by the congregation; for example, with regard to developing local networks for social action, the congregation has voted to join GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together).

**Coffee on Me** – Nancy will be chatting with the Coffee Team regarding re-introducing the program which has a member/friend donating a sum which will see a sign posted on the coffee table that says something like “Coffee this morning is in honour of Charlie Smith’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.” As well as bringing in a bit of revenue, the congregation is able to share in special celebrations.

**President’s Report** – A card and gift will be presented to Sarah Verstegen on February 18 by Reverend Shana in honour of the five years Sarah has worked in our church office. Sarah will be working full-time with her SeaChange Marine Conservation company. She remains a valued member of our church community so we are not saying good-bye.

The Board thanked Leslie Gillett for her service as Chair of the Social Responsibility Coalition as she stepped down.

**Treasurer’s Report** – All is well for the first month of the year. Income Tax Receipts, T4s and year-end reports are being prepared for distribution prior to the end of February. Jane has developed a plan for reducing the load on the Treasurer position. She will be sharing this with the Nominating Committee.

Our bookkeeper, Karen Potts, will be stepping down from her five hour/week position. These hours will be added to the new Administrative Assistant position which will be advertised to replace Sarah.

**Photo Directory** – Nancy reported there is a team in place to produce an updated photo directory.

**Motion for May CUC AGM** –The CUC is proposing an increase in per member assessments for 2019, to \$102.10 from \$100, based on 2017 CPI. Concern was expressed given the rates were increased from \$93 to \$100 per member in 2018. Board members decided to let our six delegates know their concerns but to leave it to them to engage in discussion at CUC AGM and to decide for themselves how to vote.

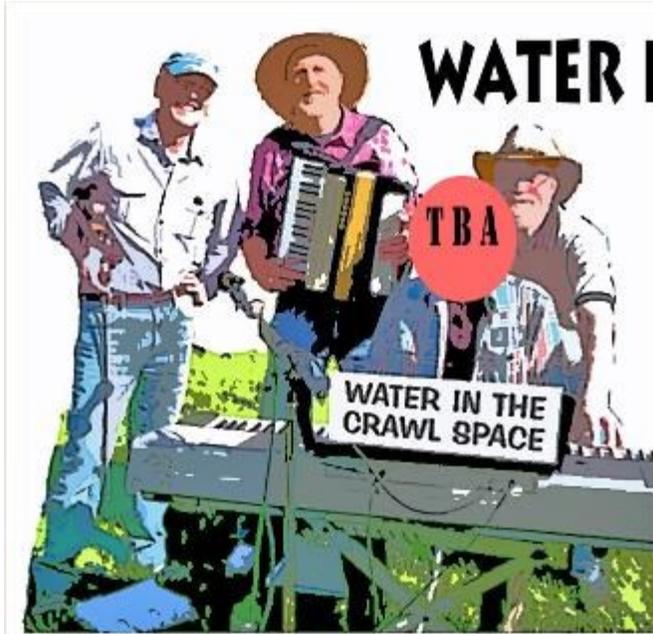
**Disclosure of salaries/wages** – Discussion took place as a result of a question from a member who felt church staff salaries should not be disclosed. The Board, with input from the Finance Chair, agreed to continue to include salaries/wages in the budget given salaries are the largest part of the budget and the importance of being transparent.

**Membership Changes** – The following changes were read into the minutes: New Members – Gary and Mary Theale; Death – Mertie Chilton

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.

# Community Dance

*featuring*



## WATER IN THE CRAWL SPACE

**MUSIC THAT MAKES YOU WANT TO MOP 'TILL YOU DROP!**

**Old Time Country & Fiddle Tunes, Western Swing & more**



# Saturday March 10 7-9pm

**First Unitarian Church of Victoria  
5575 West Saanich Road**

# Family Friendly Fun

*Invite all your Friends!*

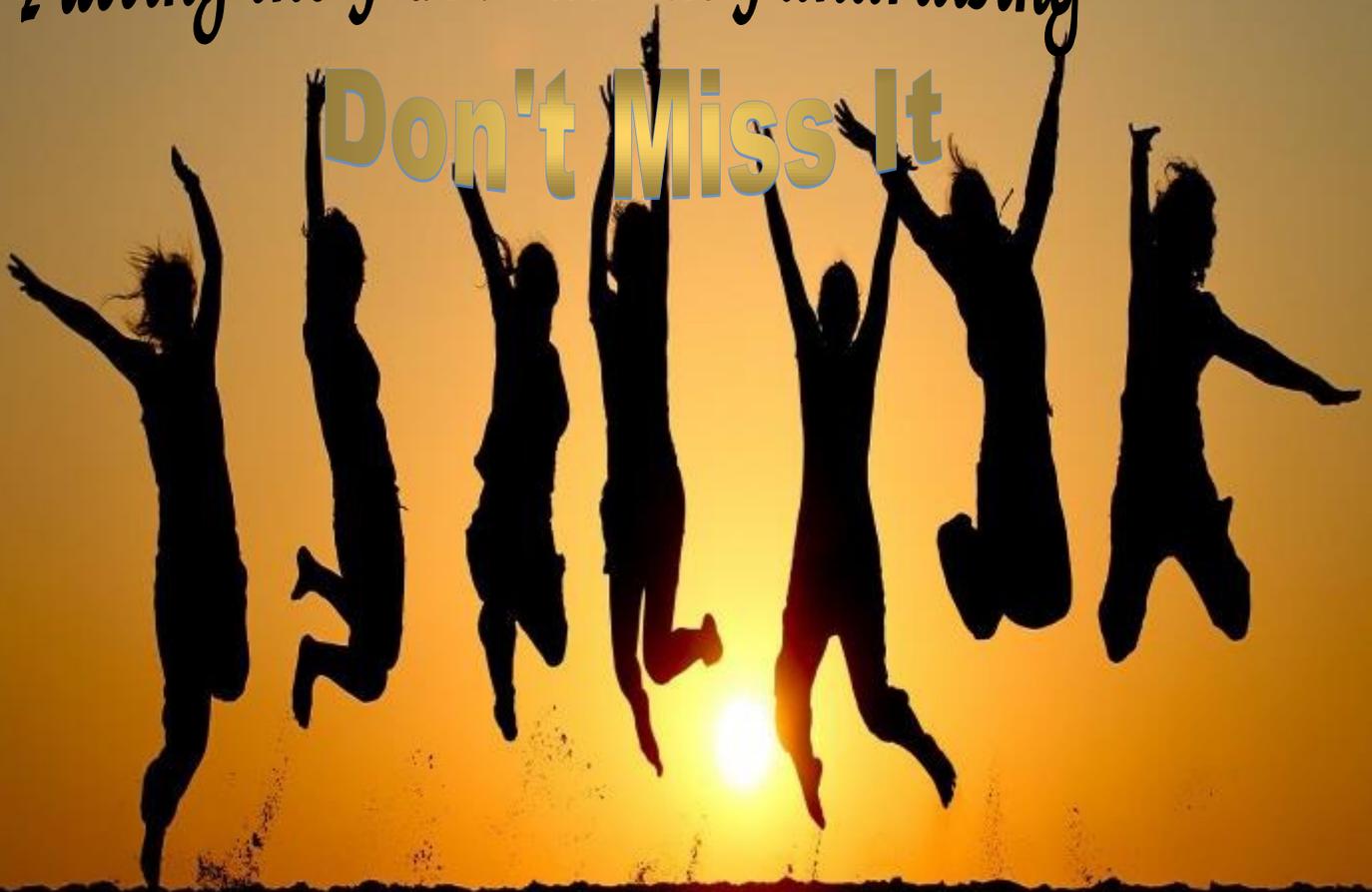
All donations will be used to support Braden Young's attendance at this year's UU Musicians Network Conference in Portland, Oregon (August 2018)

Cash Bar  
(Beer, Wine  
and Non-  
Alcoholic)  
&  
Free Snacks!

# Auction Fever 2018

*Putting the FUN back in Fundraising*

**Don't Miss It**



**Silent Auction — 6pm  
Live Auction — 7pm  
At the Church**

**Friday April 20**

**Payment by cash/cheque only**

# We all have Gifts to Share



## What will you donate to Auction Fever 2018?

### **AUCTION FEVER 2018** **FRIDAY APRIL 20**

Questions or Donations for the Live or Silent Auction  
Please contact Suellen Guenther [sguenther@shaw.ca](mailto:sguenther@shaw.ca)  
or Jen Young [uujenyoung@gmail.com](mailto:uujenyoung@gmail.com)

**HOW 2018****CLARE AND DON VIPOND****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:**

Kressa writes:

"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, Makuyuni, 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, 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."

**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 Suttmoller'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.**

## PHOTO DIRECTORY

NANCY DOBBS

Our most current church directory is dated 2012. A great deal has changed since then. Members, friends and staff have come and gone, children have grown up and a few of us look quite different. A current photo directory is a tremendous help for those new to our church, trying to remember the many faces.

There are now plans for a secure online photo directory (copies available on request), created by our own in-house photographers under the direction of Mary Cramer, and assembled by our computer techie, Oliver Belisle. This directory can be updated for the benefit of all, whenever we have new friends and members; changes in staff, elders and board members. 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.](#)

We will have photographers available in two or three TBA locations on Sundays after church in March. At that time, you are invited to fill out an information and permission form for you and your family, and be photographed:

### Sunday, March 4

If you and your family are listed in the A-H section of the church directory.

### Sunday, March 11

If you and your family are listed in the I-Z section of the church directory.

### Sunday, March 18

If you and your family have been missed.  
Watch your *E-weekly* for updates on our progress.

## 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!

## NEW MEMBERS

### Patricia Hofstrand

My husband Chris and I moved back to Victoria in August after living in Nanaimo for 22 years where I was a member of the First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo and sang in the choir. I grew up in Victoria and am very happy to be back. My interests include cycling, walking, yoga, playing the fiddle, singing in the Chalice Choir and Victoria Choral Society, reading, line dancing, circle dancing, and meditation. I'm happy to be a member of First Victoria and look forward to becoming more involved in the life of this community.



### Shannon Roberts

My five-year-old daughter Elizaveta and I arrived at First Unitarian in a roundabout way. Too late to register Elizaveta for French immersion at Campus View School, my next choice was Pacific Christian school. They said we had to attend a Christian church.

So, when looking for a church, a college friend in Edmonton recommended First Unitarian. Elizaveta and I attended a few sessions. And Reverend Melora kindly took the time to have a tea with us. Before our tea was over I was ready to stay at FUCV and so we found a new school – Ecole Victor-Brodeur!

I was amazed to find a group of people here similar to myself. I see strength and lessons in many religions but there is always a point where they lose me (animals don't have souls, gays/lesbians should not have the right to marriage, divorce is wrong, you must pray X amount of times per day to really believe). I love that we don't nitpick over exact beliefs but rather focus on a moral compass of doing well, supporting a community, and spreading love.

My family came to Victoria in 1991 and while I have moved away numerous times I always come back to this beautiful city. Eliza has lived here all her life. We're together in a nice townhouse; my brother lives in Victoria and my mother splits her time between Victoria and Salt Spring. My daughter's father and his family also live here.

I work part-time as the Child Minder Manager/Coordinator for VI Fitness Oak Bay, volunteer with the Men's Trauma Centre as a receptionist and try to make time to volunteer at least one afternoon a month at Elizaveta's school. I am also applying for a Master's degree at UVic for September, 2018 ... who knows if that will happen?!



## REMEMBERING MERTIE CHILTON *from Helen Hvozdzanski*

In 1978, Mertie Ann and Jim Chilton moved from Calgary to Victoria. They soon found their way to our church on Superior Street. Two geologists with unending energy and dedication to improving the human condition wherever they were—this was their faith statement.

They set to work to create a garden around the church. Every day one or both of them would be working there, chatting with the neighbours and strangers who passed by. They loved to golf. Jim had a serious heart condition and golfing was not what he should have been doing. He died on the golf course.

After his death Mertie continued for years working constantly for the church and the wider community. With her twinkling eyes, great sense of humour and willingness to tackle anything in her path that needed doing or improving, Mertie was there. She served as Secretary on the Church Board. She served on, as well as hosted, the Finance Committee. As assistant treasurer, she counted, recorded and deposited the Sunday collection for years. At any event requiring financial services, Mertie was there to count the money. No matter what the activity was Mertie brought her enthusiasm and laughter to the task. Norma Elrod and Mertie scrubbed the floors in the Farm House when we moved to West Saanich Road. They had a hectic day but it was filled with fun and laughter. When you worked with Mertie you had fun. She sparkled!

Mertie drove folks to church and attended to the wellbeing of many members. She was a modest person who worked in the back ground to bring her vast skills to the service of others and the broader community. She loved life. We were blessed to have her in our faith community as a beacon of love and stewardship.



**Mertie and Helen and the cake Helen made for her birthday one year.**

## MORE MEMORIES *from Emily Whitney*

Mertie Ann Chilton was born in Oklahoma and raised in West Texas. She graduated in 1942 from the University of Oklahoma with a BSc in Geology. While at University she met Jim Chilton. Soon after she graduated she travelled to Claresholm, Alberta, where she and Jim were married. Jim and Mertie retired to Victoria in 1978. Jim, a geologist, did a lot of field work in the Rockies. Mertie worked for a few years as a geologist, then became involved volunteering in Calgary.

Soon after they arrived in Victoria she and Jim joined the church which was then on Superior Street where they carefully tended the small church gardens. Mertie became active as a volunteer and served on the church board for a number of years, starting about 30 years ago on Superior Street.

Mertie was on the Finance Committee with John Hopewell in the early '80s and again in the '90s. John remembers her as “easy to work with, had a great sense of humor, and was generous both with her time and money.”

Mertie and I shared production of the bulletin when it was done on a gestetner in the Superior Street office. When her husband died in 1987, Mertie started a computer fund in Jim’s memory. Soon the church operation was totally computerized.

The church on Superior Street was becoming very crowded and the congregation decided to move. A Property Search Committee was formed. Mertie was on that committee and they recommended our present rural location.

During the transition from old to new premises Mertie hosted board and finance committee meetings at her condo in James Bay. Mertie was always willing to roll up her sleeves and pitch in to help. She and Norma Elrod joined forces to clean the floors in the Farmhouse office at the newly acquired Saanich Road property until the janitorial contract was signed.

When we moved into the building funds were tight for landscaping, Mertie was there to help with work parties both gardening and providing lunches for gardeners. She also paid for top soil and plants for the bed in the front parking lot which is affectionately referred to as “Mertie’s garden.”

Kristina Stevens, John Hopewell and Earle Anthony praised her work on the finance committee, “Easy to work with and meticulous.” For many years Mertie and Myra Yarwood counted the money at fund raising events and Sunday collections. Mertie made the bank deposits.

She was elected as Church Elder in 2002.

Mertie had a full and happy life. She kept her sense of humour to the end. We are fortunate to have had her in our midst.

**GREEN CORNER****MAUREEN SHERLOCK****Spring Is Almost Here!**

The daffodils are ready to bloom, and though the nights are still cool it's time to think about planting a garden. Pick up a free West Coast Seed Catalogue and breeze through the pages to see which plants inspire you. It is full of useful information about each variety of seed and contains a planting chart which tells you what you can plant each month of the year.



You may wish to give heritage varieties a try. Maybe you have some seeds left over from last year which did well and you enjoyed planting. Or had a chance to see the exhibits and exchange seeds at Victoria's annual Seedy Saturday event (February 17). If not, you could always exchange seeds with your friends or church friends, or at the library.

First of all, make sure your tools are sharp. Then, as soon as it can be worked, you should improve the soil. You may want to test it first to find out what nutrients are missing. Then add a good organic fertilizer mix which will work for the variety you intend to plant. Is it alkaline or acid-loving? If you don't have a gardening guru you can find lots of great info at the library, online or at a good gardening supply store (some offer free or cheap mini workshops). Then you should be ready to get started. Gardening can be a spiritual exercise and a physical one too, but, if you are not the solitary garden type you may want to have a garden buddy. My friend and I have planted a garden together for the last five years and it is the highlight of the spring season for me. So many great memories and lots of shared produce too.

So now it's time to plant. You can direct seed cold hardy vegetables (like kale, chives, onion and garlic sets, and snow peas) in early spring, then plant every couple of weeks for a successive harvest. You can start heat-loving plants inside a few weeks before you want to set them out in order to get a head start on the season. If so, you will want to use a starter mix, preferably one with added nutrients. If you only have space for a small garden, it's a good idea to sketch out a garden plan so that you can make maximum use of your space. Even a few pots on a small balcony can yield salad greens and tomatoes and herbs.

Whatever you do, relax and enjoy yourself. Touch the earth. Feel connected to your surroundings. Live our Seventh Principle which is: "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are all a part."

**ABOUT CHARLES ELLIOTT'S CARVING**

You may notice something new in the Sanctuary: a small brass plaque that tells the significance of the imagery in the carving that hangs on the east wall above the window. The renowned First Nations carver and friend of our church, Charles Elliott, identified the meaning of the symbols he used in the carving that we named "The Interconnected Web of All Life." He chose living beings from this area where we are located, the home of the Tsartlip nation. Have a look; I think you will find it interesting.

*-Betty Sherwood*

## ARTIST OF THE MONTH

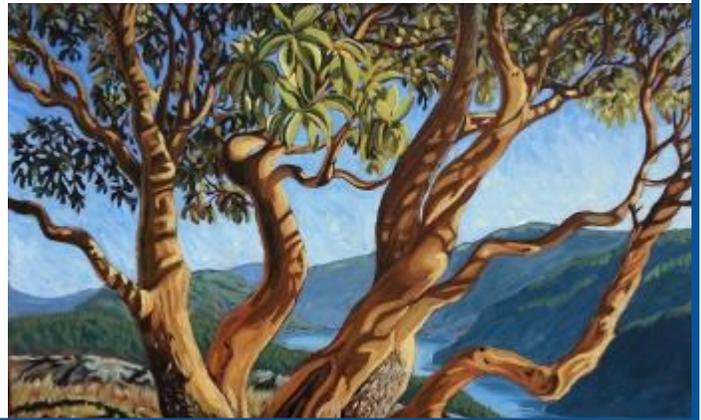
## PEGGY FLETCHER



I am an avid hiker and lover of nature and Vancouver Island landscapes are my favourite subjects to paint. My hope is, through my art, to allow the viewer to experience the wonder of our many local landscapes and to have the viewer experience my paintings as if they were a window to the outside world. Whether walking my dog in Mt. Douglas Park, skiing at Mt. Washington or hiking on an oceanside trail, I am always on the lookout and can always find beautiful scenes of nature close to home. I work with oils on canvas or board either in my studio or out in the field and arbutus trees are my most popular subject.

I also work part time as a physiotherapist, am a mother of three and an artist at heart. I have been drawing and painting since my childhood and have supplemented my mostly self-taught knowledge and high school art education with continuing education courses at Camosun College, the University of Victoria and the Victoria College of Art.

I have been an artist participant at the 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2017 Moss Street Paint-ins and have had paintings exhibited at Coast Collective Art Gallery, Saanich Municipal Hall, the Eclectic Gallery on Oak Bay Avenue and the 2014 and 2016 Sidney Fine Art Shows.

**Contact Information:**

[PVfletch@gmail.com](mailto:PVfletch@gmail.com)

Website: [Arbypeggyfletcher.com](http://Arbypeggyfletcher.com)

**COMMUNITY DINNER**

**Friday March 9 is Spaghetti Night in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm.**

**We will be serving spaghetti and meatballs! 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, delicious meal.**

**Everyone is welcome! 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.**

## 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.

Reverend 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?



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR KNIGHT AWARD

At the Annual Conference and Meeting of the Canadian Unitarian Council in Hamilton, Ontario next May, the Knight Award will be presented to a living person who has, as a volunteer, contributed at the national level to furthering the principles of Unitarianism in Canada. The award honours the ideals exemplified by the lives and work of Victor and Nancy Knight.

Nominations may be submitted by any member or friend of a Canadian UU congregation, and must be accompanied by a citation describing what the nominee has done at the national level to promote liberal religious principles in Canada and why she or he should be considered for the award. The citation should be at least 200 words in length and may be submitted to Mary Lu MacDonald ([jbmlmac@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:jbmlmac@ns.sympatico.ca)) or by mail to her at 2677 Gladstone Street, Halifax NS, B3K 0A3. Nominations must be received by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

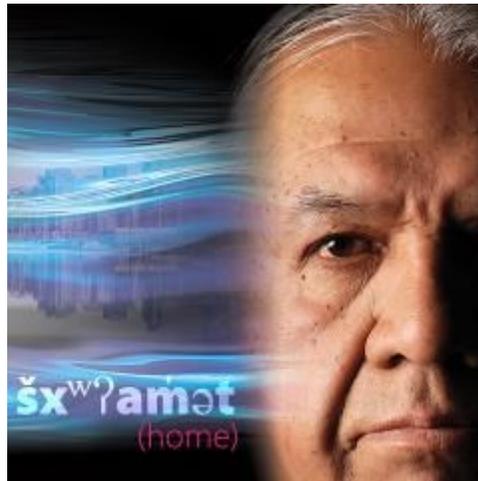


## LOOKING TO HOUSE SIT!

*For all of May and/or June!*

**CONTACT KRESSA AT 250-588-8605**

## WHAT DOES RECONCILIATION MEAN TO YOU/US – News



Here's an update on actions in our congregation relating to truth, healing and reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous people.

Through the Ruth Humphreys Innovations Fund we were able to cosponsor **šxw?amət (home)**, an interactive forum play about issues of reconciliation in Victoria on January 19-20, 2018, in collaboration with Cadboro Bay United Church and the Vancouver-based touring professional theatre company, Theatre for Living. We intended that this experience create a deeper understanding of the issues among and beyond our congregation and honour our interdependence, and it did for many.

The experience has served to “build greater readiness and engagement among the congregation for more in-depth discussion and reflection on our understanding of truth, healing and reconciliation.” Over 600 individuals

**DON'T MISS** The final performance of **šxw?amət (home)** will be live streamed on Saturday, March 10 (preshow 7:15, curtain 7:30 pm) and you can interact from wherever you are in the world using a “webactor” as your intervener. More information will be available on the TFL [website](#) closer to the webcast date. We know that several groups are convening to watch it together and have a followup dialogue.

attended the two performances, of which more than 150 came from Unitarian networks. The community dialogue following on January 31 generated many personal and collective insights, shared in circle, reflecting a continuing/renewed commitment to listening and learning, building “right relationships” and the quest for justice.

100 people who otherwise would not have been able to attend, attended with complimentary passes from First People's House, U Vic, Hulitan Family Services, Indigenous Perspectives Society, Island Metis Family and Community Services, Mindfuel Films, Belfry Theatre, MCFD, Our Place, Sooke School District (Aboriginal Education Program), Tsarslip Nation, Tsawout First Nation, Songhees Nation and the Victoria Native Friendship Centre.

The core committee of Diana Smith, Lynn Beak, Forrest Smith, Mark Green and Lynne Crawshaw (at CBUC) thanks Jennifer Girard, Jacy Morissette, volunteers during the weekend (you know who you are!), and Mary-Ellen Nichols, Stephanie Ippen, Pat Kinrade and Nancy Dobbs for their delicious food, set up and clean up at the community dialogue.

We now have a network of 10 to 15 individuals in the congregation who are contributing to the next steps in our quest for honorable truth, healing and reconciliation. We are continuing the planning for an Indigenous Artist in Residence initiative; watch for further details in the next few weeks. Be in touch at [THReconciliation@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:THReconciliation@victoriaunitarian.ca) to get involved.

## SRC DEMOCRACY TEAM

## PHILIP SYMONS/SONYA IGNATIEFF



## Myths, and more Myths!

Last month this column described three myths about proportional representation:

- 1) that PR leads to unstable minority governments, as, e.g., Italy and Israel,
- 2) that PR allows extremists to be elected, and
- 3) that PR allows political parties to multiply like rabbits! Here are three

more myths you may hear before next fall's referendum:

**Myth 4.** *Proportional representation doesn't have a local representative whom we can hold responsible for government's actions.* There is one form of PR, the "List" form, that has no local representatives. Opponents of PR seize on this to create the myth that no PR system has local representatives. However, all but the List form of PR (which will never be used in B.C. or Canada) allow for at least one, and sometimes more than one local representative.

**Myth 5.** *Proportional Representation means we will have constant coalition governments.* Our current large political parties are coalitions of groups with different ideas and ideals. With PR these groups may form their own party and support other parties' policies on particular issues. This may occur through a formal coalition, but at other times, as currently in B.C., one party may support another on bills that would cause the government to fall if they fail to pass, but otherwise may vote against the ruling party.

**Myth 6.** *Proportional representation may allow small parties to have all the power—"the tail will wag the dog."* Any major party "blackmailed" into adopting a policy not favoured by its own support base will be severely punished at the next election! Two or more parties that form a coalition focusing on areas of policy agreement usually indicates majority public support for those policies - which is more like the dog wagging the tail that fits. Coalition governments do better than single-party governments at producing legislation more in-line with public thinking.

Beware of half-truths and false generalizations!

## CONTACT CHANGES

Pam Harte no longer uses e-mail.

**New Members:**

Gary & Mary Theal  
 #202 - 6880 Wallace Dr  
 Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1N8  
 250-656-6989  
[gtt.jazzed@gmail.com](mailto:gtt.jazzed@gmail.com)  
[m.g.theal@gmail.com](mailto:m.g.theal@gmail.com)  
 Nearby NG

**Deceased Members**

Mertie Chilton, 24 January 2018  
 Daphne Dunbar, 13 February 2018

## BOARD MEMBERS ON DUTY

<b>Mar 04</b>	<b>Karen Furnes</b>
<b>Mar 11</b>	<b>Lorna Anthony</b>
<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>Nancy Dobbs</b>
<b>Mar 25</b>	<b>Lynn Hunter</b>

## 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 held a coffee get-together at Anne and John's home in late January. Four people attended. We are planning to have a potluck dinner on February 23 at 6 pm. We will be sharing the Souper duties with Western on March 18.”

**Fairfield:** Lynn Beak reports, “Our next gathering is February 18 and Catherine Ramsay has graciously invited the Fairfield Neighbourhood Group to her home for a February gathering. The theme for discussion will be about books, since this is the time of year that is wonderful to curl up and read while listening to the patter of raindrops everywhere outside. Discussion will be about a book that you have read recently that influenced you and why it had that effect. We will also jot down the names of the books to share with others who cannot be there.”

**Far Out:** We hear from Phyllis Aherne that Far Out is having a wine and cheese at the Boyce's on February 24.

**Gordon Head:** Mary Cramer writes, “Gordon Head is working with Grand Central to prepare for the Souper Sunday at the end of February. In March, we hope to have our next NG potluck to celebrate completing our commitments for the year! It will be time to relax!”

**Grand Central:** Like Mary Cramer, Marya Nijland notes that “Our Grand Central UU NG will be busy with the Souper Sunday on February 25.”

**James Bay:** Lynn Hunter is disappointed to report, “The James Bay group was invited to a potluck lunch at the home of Myra Rippon on February 1 but the event was cancelled as only three people were able to attend. We will have another event, yet to be determined, in the weeks ahead.”

**Nearby:** Nancy Dobbs reminds us, “After church goodies were brought to you in the month of February by Nearby NG. Thanks for the treats, Nearby.”

**Oak Bay:** Books are in the air! John Tiffany writes, “OBNG had our first potluck of the new year on February 10 at Karla and Jim Thomson's home. During dessert, the twenty-one attendees discussed ‘books I have enjoyed in the past while (the theme for this potluck). We will be having our next potluck in April (before the April 20 Auction). As usual, OBNG will be having a monthly luncheon on the third Wednesday of the month (March 21) in the Fern Cafe at Monterey Rec Centre.”

**Royal Oak East:** Hanny Pannekoek writes, “The Royal Oak East neighbourhood group offered their auction item ‘Jazz and Chocolate Dessert Extravaganza’ on Sunday, February 11. The working group consisting of Suzanne, Glenys, Mary-ellen, Jean and Hanny prepared the event and did the baking, while Ross, Bruce and Hugo assisted at the event itself. Together we succeeded in making it look very attractive and inviting, using a Valentine theme. Our 18 guests seemed to enjoy the variety of chocolate desserts, including the chocolate fountain, as well as the ambiance and each other's company. Other ROE members will support this group service by making a contribution of \$5.00 towards the cost of the decorations. Our next appetizers and dessert gathering will be on Tuesday March 20. ROE will also be busy proving goodies for coffee time in March.

**Royal Oak West:** Now that their long-time convenor, Fran Hancock, has moved to the Cadboro Bay NG, Royal Oak West is pleased to welcome their new convenor, Martha McDougall. Martha has hit the ground running and writes, “The ROW NG will be meeting for a potluck supper at the home of Jen and Lance Young on Saturday 17 February at 5:00. There have been a few folks who have joined ROW in the past six months and this is a wonderful opportunity for us all to get to know each other a bit better. We will be planning a spectacular auction offering which is another fabulous way to get to know each other a bit better.”

**Western:** This group will be busy working with Esquimalt to host the Souper on March 18.

## BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

- 1 John Tiffany
- 3 Wally du Temple, Eleanor Lloyd,  
Todd Webber
- 4 Elijah and Jasper Motz Fox
- 5 John Hopewell
- 6 Caroline Startin
- 9 Fiona O'Dell
- 12 Andrew Niven, Gabriel Adam
- 14 Isabel Jones
- 15 Sandra Jacobsen
- 16 Victoria Gray
- 17 Nancy Gray-Hemstock
- 18 Kjerstin Mackie
- 19 Roger Sandford, Julia Webber
- 20 Phyllis Girard, Margot Lods
- 21 Michael Ramsey
- 22 Bill Gaylord, Kressa Sisú
- 24 Gary Theal
- 26 Shirley Travis, Donald (Don) Lloyd
- 27 John Hall, Athena Lynngood
- 29 Curran Dobbs

### FORMER FARMHOUSE RESIDENT!

This is Jeannette Maule (nee Filleul). She was in town from Ontario and stopped by First Unitarian for a visit on February 4. Why? Jeannette spent a memorable part of her youth in the Farmhouse! Her father bought the property in 1949, and Jeannette lived here with her family from age 14 to 21, when her father sold the property.

At that time, it was 26 acres! Jeannette showed us where the old oil and septic tanks were dropped, and reminisced about picking blackberries and taking the bus into town for school until she was old enough to drive. She says the main floor of the Farmhouse, which is now First Unitarian's offices, was the "basement" of the house when she lived here.

We had a little tour of the grounds and showed Jeannette the Sanctuary, where she met John Hvoz-danski and had a nice chat. Jeanette left her and her brother's contact information in case we have questions about the property that they might help answer.

The last time Jeanette visited is when the Farmhouse was a medical centre, before First Unitarian purchased it. She is delighted by the new life her childhood home has taken and very happy the space is being put to good use by and in the community. She even says that she just might visit her local Unitarian congregation when she returns to Ontario: "Stranger things have happened!"



## ART AND SPIRITUALITY

## LEIGH WATERS



West Coast painter Jack Wise became a transplanted American after meeting BC painter Toni Only in Mexico. He tried to homestead for a couple of years in the BC interior but unsuccessful he went back to his training and trade, art and teaching. He was educated in the arts and was a designer and painter. A trip to India, Tibet and Japan on a Canada Council Grant changed the focus of his subject matter, which quickly cascaded into abstract images from Eastern philosophies.

Like Kandinsky, the artist I wrote about last month, he was free to chose and develop his spiritual inspiration, What he chose had centuries of development in Tibetan Buddhist imagery, Taoist philosophy and oriental calligraphy, as opposed to Kandinsky who found personal expression of the spiritual in an abstract form from his soul's reflection of harmony. Wise became part of the Western School of Modern art in Seattle. Mark Tobey, one of the school's leaders, particularly influenced Wise. Modern composer John Cage said of his first interaction with Tobey: "It was the first time that someone else had given me a lesson in looking without prejudice, someone who didn't compare what he was seeing with something before." Tobey's influence on painters like Jack Wise also was a result of Tobey's conversion to Ba'hai faith; whose followers believe in the unity of all religions and all beings.

The macro and micro universe, found ordered in the circular form of the mandala, became the persistent theme for the rest of Wise's art career. Many Americans and Canadians gravitated to Eastern philosophies and art after the time of free love in the 60s. Jack Wise was one artist whose conversion lasted his lifetime; it was a sincere pursuit of the spiritual, by making external the perceived interior world of the micro cosmos (our brain's neural pathways for example) or of the macro cosmos (the vast external sky). His training in mandalas by refugee Tibetan monks was spiritual truth finding, which contrasts with the psychedelic artwork from hallucinogenic trips by many of his artistic contemporaries.

Watching Tibetan Monks create a sand mandala at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria a few decades ago, I was reminded by the sweeping up the sand once the mandala was finished of Buddhists' acceptance of the impermanent nature of our lives. In Taoism, the processes of nature are where beauty lies, be it in the formation of gems or the decompositions of organic matter. When on an art study course in Taiwan I spent time with the large collection of calligraphy scrolls in the Tai Pei National Art Museum. Chinese scroll painting has a poem and often a landscape of mountain and gorge amongst clouds; the artists, it seemed to me, were not concerned with perspective. After the museum we visited Taroko Gorge, and I saw how perspective is lost as clouds float around the old, old mountains (which have been worn into high mounds) and only snatches of the scene are visible: rocks, trees, a bit of road or trail with a person and cart traversing it or a small mountainside temple float in those clouds. The whole is not revealed and the mind must fill in the missing information we sense but cannot see. How we live in the world and make order and meaning as sentient beings is expressly found in the mandalas, calligraphy and contemporary mark making of Jack Wise's work.

Jack Wise's students described him as a patient and generous art teacher.

**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  
 778-917-3377  
 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

**Officers**

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<b>Past President</b>	Shirley Travis
<b>Vice President</b>	Marion Pape
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jane Wilson
<b>Secretary</b>	Karen Furnes

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



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 of a ceremony?**

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**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

# Calendar Highlights March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:00   Chamber Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	2 2:30   Singing All Around	3 10:30   Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45   Buddhist Meditation
4 10:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 12:00   AHA Meeting	5 7:30   FUCV Pub Night (Canoe Brewpub)	6 12:30   Board Meeting	7	8 6:30   Men's Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	9 6:00   Community Dinner	10 9:00   Adult OWL 12:45   Buddhist Meditation 7:00   Community Dance
11 11:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 1:00   Youth Meditation Retreat 7:00   Spirited Jazz (Jazz Vespers)	12 7:00   GVAT Opioid Crisis Forum (2033 Belmont Ave)	13 11:00   Committee on Ministry Mtg 12:30   Music Committee Mtg 2:00   SRC Meeting	14 11:00   Staff Meeting 1:00   Care & Concern Meeting	15 6:00   Chamber Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	16	17 10:30   Depression & Anxiety Support 12:45   Buddhist Meditation <i>Coming of Age Sleepover</i>
18 10:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 11:30   Souper 12:15   Newcomer Orientation 12:15   Theme Exploration Session: Risk	19 10:00   Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal	20 1:00   Intergenerational Walk with Rev. Melora (Swan Lake)	21	22 6:30   Men's Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	23	24 12:45   Buddhist Meditation
25 8:30   Church Breakfast 10:30   <b>Sunday Service*</b> 12:15   Finance Forum	26 10:00   Farmhouse Ringers Rehearsal	27	28	29 5:45   Worship Associates' Meeting 6:00   Chamber Choir 7:30   Chalice Choir	30 2:30   Singing All Around	31 12:45   Buddhist Meditation

*\*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).

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

**Astrid Firley-Eaton**  
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## 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: \_\_\_\_\_ .

BID- DING

### 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.

<b>Item #*</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>How Many?</b>	<b>Maximum Bid Unit Price</b>
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*\* 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**

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## *THE VICTORIA UNITARIAN*

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Copy should be sent to  
[newsletter@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:newsletter@victoriaunitarian.ca).



For those without e-mail, copy may be left at the church  
office. All copy is subject to editing.

Information for Events Highlights should be sent to  
[calendar@victoriaunitarian.ca](mailto:calendar@victoriaunitarian.ca) or left at the church  
office. Feedback is welcomed.

### **Staff**

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(production, distribution and paid advertisements).